

# Evangelist.

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PELHAM  
MANOR  
N. Y.

## OUR NEW GOVERNOR.



So far as in me lies I shall see that every branch of the Government under me is administered with integrity and capacity, and when I deal with any public servant I shall not be very patient with him if he lacks capacity, and short, indeed, will be his shrift if he lacks integrity. . . . If we promptly punish men who misbehave, and sternly refuse to let any consideration either of political or personal friendship be treated as an offset to wrongdoing, it is not very difficult to secure that honest administration which is indispensable if our Republic is to endure.



There is one thing, one test, on which I shall insist in every public officer with whom I ever have anything whatsoever to do, and that is rigid honesty. I feel that the two great principles for this Nation nowadays are these: First, to uphold the National honor abroad, and, second, and even more important, to insist upon the highest standard of honesty at home. As for the course that I intend to pursue, it will be modelled upon those very ancient rules of conduct which you will find in the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule. And loyal though I shall be to the principles for which I stand, the party principles, there are one or two rules of conduct that stand above any party principles, and they are included in the command, Thou shalt not steal, nor shalt thou let any one else steal if thou canst help it.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.



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# The Evangelist.

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Vol. LXX.—No. 1.

NEW YORK: JANUARY 5, 1899.

Whole No. 3769

## THE EVANGELIST.

A RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY PAPER,

ISSUED WEEKLY.

156 Fifth Ave., New York City.

TERMS \$3.00 A YEAR.

HENRY M. FIELD, Editor.

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## All Round the Horizon.

Peace and Prosperity! Such is the prospect that rises before us with the opening of the New Year. It is all the more welcome because of the anxieties of the year that is past. When the war began we were by no means sure how it would end. Many of our good people were badly frightened. Those living on the seaboard looked out for the appearance of a Spanish fleet. Even the harbor of New York was sown with torpedoes lest the enemy should steal in by night and we should find them some morning anchored off the Battery! Yet in four months of active warfare the dreaded foe has not only disappeared from our Southern coasts, but we may almost say, from all the seas and oceans of the world.

The brevity of the contest is one of our special reasons for gratitude. War at the best is a terrible alternative from peace. But if it must come the shorter the better:

"If when done 'twere well done,  
'Twere well 'twere done quickly."

Now it is all over. The treaty of peace is signed, and only awaits confirmation by the Senate at Washington, and by the Cortes in Madrid, when the two nations, whose previous relations had been so painfully interrupted, will be no longer enemies but friends!

Few events in history are more striking to the imagination than that which transpired in Havana on the first day of this week, when the Spanish authorities formally delivered up the city to the army of the United States. Painful as it must have been to the proud Castilians, they bore it with the stern dignity with which brave men face the terrible chances of war, while on the part of our own troops nothing could be more honorable than their generous bearing at the moment of surrender. There was no wild cheering—loud and long—but a respectful silence in the presence of their fallen enemies, as of men who knew that this fate might have been their own.

But with all the restraint on one side and the other, it could not but be a thrilling moment when the Spanish flag came down from the Morro Castle, over which it had floated for centuries. The garrison is now embarking as fast as ships are ready to transport them, and in a few weeks all will be again on the soil of their native country, which they will not care to leave again. There are no more worlds to conquer; no other hemisphere far down in the West, to be discovered as the seat of foreign dependencies, to take the place of Mexico and Peru; of Chili and Brazil.

But now that the United States has taken possession of Havana, its work is not finished; it is only just begun. To drive out the Spanish army was not the hardest task that could be set before our American invaders: after that was done, they had still left an enemy more deadly

than the Spaniards in the yellow fever—which comes regularly every year, and has been a perpetual terror in Cuba, like the plague in the populous but uncleaned cities of Asia.

So prompt was our government to recognize this danger that hardly had our troops been encamped in the suburbs of Havana, before experts were sent down to study the conditions of the city which made the Yellow Fever so constant a visitor and so fatal. The problem was "to destroy the destroyer" by stamping out the Causes that might come here and there, but that it should be no more a regular visitor of Havana than of New York. For this perilous duty the President selected the best man in the country, Colonel Waring, who undertook it as a duty, and was so eager to search out all the causes of the pestilence, that he exposed himself, and inhaled the poison, and had hardly been brought back to New York before he died, a sacrifice to humanity, and to his country as truly as if he had fallen in battle!

But in war when a soldier falls in the ranks another steps into his place, and the work of Colonel Waring was immediately taken up by General Greene, who completed the task of making a thorough survey of the city—not only along the Prado and the fashionable streets, but in all the by-ways and narrow passages, and the wharves, where the wretched drains pour their filth into the bay. A single extract from his report will be quite sufficient:

"For more than 300 years the people of Havana have discharged all their house drainage into cesspools. These are placed sometimes under the kitchen, but more frequently in the *patio*, or open courtyard, which is usually found in the centre of each house. They vary in size from three to ten feet in diameter, and in depth from four to eight feet. They are usually closed on top by a heavy stone, with an iron ring for lifting it. The duty of cleaning these cesspools rests primarily upon the tenant, and secondly upon the landlord, and the city designates certain people who alone are authorized to clean and disinfect them and remove the contents at night. While the sanitary regulations on this subject are quite elaborate, they are seldom enforced, and the work is done in the most filthy manner, the contents being frequently dropped on the floors and halls of the house as they are being removed. Sometimes they are not cleaned for periods as long as five years. The cesspool being open at the bottom, the liquid contents drain off through the limestone, or coral rock, which underlies Havana, and gradually find their way to the waters of the bay or the Gulf, the capacity of absorption of this coral rock being stated to be about one inch vertical per day.

"It will be several years before any system of sewerage can be completed and put in operation, and one of the first steps toward the sanitation of the city will be the appointment of a competent Board of Health to draw up health ordinances suited to this locality, and then have them enforced by the police with the utmost rigor. The present condition of the cesspools, particularly in the crowded houses of the poor, is the most fruitful source of yellow fever and other diseases in Havana."

Can all these impurities, which are the sources

of disease and death, be removed? It seems almost as if a miracle must be wrought; as if the gates of heaven must be opened and the rains pour down forty days and forty nights before such abominations can be swept away. But what has been done once can be done again, and the task in Havana is only the same that has been undertaken at the other end of the island. The battle of Santiago has directed attention to that old city, whose harbor was first entered by Christopher Columbus four hundred years ago, and at the beginning seemed destined to be as important at one end of Cuba as Havana is at the other. Indeed it boasts to this day of having the most imposing cathedral on the island, but which, if it looked towards heaven above, looked down upon all conceivable vileness below. Indeed man and nature seem to have striven together to make it almost uninhabitable. Its healthful position is thus neatly described in the "American Encyclopedia": "*The city is supplied with bad water through an aqueduct, and as it is shut in from the Northern breezes the suffocating heat and the miasmatic effluvia from adjacent marshes, render it the most unhealthy abode in the Antilles!*"

From the reports of its condition when captured by our army, it would be hardly too much to say that the place had never been cleaned since the days of Columbus! But when taken by our troops, it was put in charge of an officer who was not a Spaniard, and who undertook a task like that of Hercules cleaning the Augean stables. Four months have passed and so marvelous has been the change that Santiago is pronounced by visitors from the North to be not only the cleanest spot in Cuba but need not shrink from comparison with the best of our New England cities. Here is at least one good result that has come to the island from a change of masters.

So begins the new rule in Cuba, with reform everywhere, cleanliness without and justice within. Strange to say, the only source of danger appears to be from the Cubans themselves who, now that the fighting is over, push to the front, but we are sorry to say that our troops who have fought the battles that have wrested Cuba from Spain, have not formed so high an opinion of the natives as we had hoped. No doubt they are a mixed lot. While there have been some noble men among them, who would fill any positions with honor to themselves and to their race, yet hanging on their skirts is a large contingent of idle creatures that were good for nothing in war and are worth little in peace. They are not by any means to be outlawed, but they must go through a course of education, that will take some years, and the discipline of hard work, to fit them to be worthy of citizenship. Some of them are as full blooded negroes as when they or their fathers were imported from the shores of Africa. Others are half-breeds. All these elements thrown together make a very miscellaneous population. But our African friends need not fear that they will be forgotten. They will be recognized at their full value. If they are idle and lazy, expecting to live on others, they will have to take the place that such creatures have in every country as the dregs of population, who have not, and *should* not have any share in the government, even to the casting of a ballot. This is not oppression: it is simply adopting a law in our new possessions which we should have been a great deal better off if it had always been enforced here. Our city of New York is cursed to-day by the tens of thousands of ignorant men who cannot even read the vote they cast!

But this is no time for lamentations over the past when we are looking forward to the future. Here then beginneth the first lesson in the history of "the ever faithful island of Cuba,"

a title but too true, though its fidelity was given to a power that was not worthy of it. That power is now gone. But the island remains as fair and beautiful as ever, the pride of the tropical seas! May it be "faithful" still, but not to a foreign potentate, but to a Union of which it may be a part. But all this will be revealed by time. Whatever may be its place in the century that is to come, may it be worthy of the name of "faithful," faithful to all that is good, and so reap in all the ages the immeasurable blessings of justice and of peace!

H. M. F.

#### DR. NEWMAN HALL'S LIFE-STORY.

By Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

This remarkable narrative of a remarkable career is worthy to be laid alongside of the Autobiography of Spurgeon which is now being issued; they were near neighbors, intimate friends, intensely evangelical in their theology, and their combined influence for the "truth as it is in Jesus" has been incalculable over Britain and the whole civilized world. Nearly two years ago, when my beloved friend, Newman Hall, suggested to me that he might prepare his Autobiography, I said to him, "Do it by all means. You are the last survivor of a great group of British preachers; you have known the eminent men of the last sixty years, and taken part in most of the great religious movements and reforms; you have helped to make history; now sit down and write such part of it as God has enabled you to perform."

Dr. Hall has done this—done it rapidly, gracefully and modestly; it is about the raciest religious biography that has appeared in many a day. While it is full of spiritual unction, yet—like Spurgeon's autobiography, it has in its pages many a hearty and wholesome laugh. Newman Hall was born on the twenty-second of May, 1816, and was eighty-one years old when he prepared this vivacious narrative; he has done it while preaching three or four times every week! He came of excellent parentage. His father, Mr. John Vine Hall, (whom I once saw, with his beautiful white head, presiding at a Temperance meeting,) was an editor in Maidstone, and the author of the once famous tract, "The Sinner's Friend," which circulated by the millions. His mother was a woman of rare piety and loveliness, and Newman—her fourth son—regarded her with an affection that bordered on idolatry. This volume is dedicated to her "memory." The description it gives of his childhood, when his mother stayed home from church to read the Bible and Pilgrim's Progress aloud to her children, in the evening—is a charming picture of a Christian home that I fear is not as common now as it ought to be on either side of the ocean. Newman was a precocious lad, devoured books greedily, pushed through a crowd to see Wellington who rewarded him with a shake of the hand, and he says "at nine years old I began to smoke, and at nine years old I left off for good." He never touched tobacco or wine through all his after life, and has been one of Britain's great leaders in the Temperance reform. At eighteen he was assistant editor of his father's newspaper and reported the last speech ever delivered by the immortal Wilberforce; it was an appeal for immediate and entire emancipation of the slaves in the West Indies. Newman took the report to Wilberforce for correction and revision, and he says that he found the great philanthropist "sitting askew in an armchair, exactly in the attitude represented in his admirable statue in Westminster Abbey." It was also at eighteen that Newman began to try his preaching gifts by exhortation to crowds of hod-gatherers in the neighborhood of Maidstone. He was licensed to preach while a student of divinity, and at twenty he had a call to a Congregationalist Church in Oxford.

His first pastorate was in the "Albion

Church" in the large town of Hull. It was during his ministry at Hull that he wrote the world known booklet, "*Come to Jesus,*" which has had a circulation of four millions of copies, and has been translated into forty languages! Probably no single production in this century has been blessed to the conversion of so many souls. Every young minister ought to study it as a model of condensed presentation of the marrow of the Gospel. This Autobiography gives some wonderful narratives of cases of conversion, and answers to prayer. Especially remarkable is the account of an incident while he was the pastor of Surrey Chapel in London. He was delivering a solemn sermon on Temptation, and in the course of it he said, "Perhaps among those pressing in at yonder door there may be some one so miserable as to think of throwing himself over yonder bridge, saying, 'It is too late, there is no hope for me.' Stop, stop! there is hope. Christ died for thee and He will save thee!" A few weeks afterwards he learned that a wretched woman who was intending to throw herself over Blackfriar's Bridge that night, stopped in the vestibule of Surrey Chapel, heard the appeal, and instead of committing the intended suicide, went back to her home to pray, and she told one of Dr. Hall's district visitors that she had been converted to Christ!

It was during his fruitful ministry in the Surrey Chapel—built by Rowland Hill—that my dear Brother Hall made that first remarkable visit to America where he was received with such honors by the President, by Congress and various public bodies, and where he preached to such crowded assemblies. During that visit and his two subsequent visits, he made my house, and that of his beloved friend, the late Hon. William E. Dodge, his two "American homes." In 1876, he completed his new and noble "Christ Church" on the Westminster Road—with its lofty "Lincoln Tower," which was built by the joint contributions of Englishmen and Americans. In that Christ Church, Dr. Hall preached with great power and success until 1892; and then at the age of seventy-six he resigned his pastoral charge, and entered on his wide and Heaven-blessed ministry at large. As all my readers know, the Rev. F. B. Meyer is his successful successor.

This Autobiography not only abounds in striking facts and spiritual experiences, but in most amusing anecdotes. He tells us of his visit to a family where a sagacious dog attended the family-worship and always kept very quiet until he heard the word "Amen." Dr. Hall in conducting the household-devotions, read the fifth chapter of Revelation, and when he came to that verse, "And the four beasts said Amen," the dog jumped from his chair, and began barking as if the service was already concluded! There are several other piquant dog-stories; for my good brother has a keen canine enthusiasm. One of his first marriage ceremonies was for a very verdant couple. He told the raw youth to repeat the marriage-declaration after him and when he said in a low tone, "take her right hand," the bridegroom shouted out, "tak' er roight and!" to the amusement of the company. The ring proved to be a tight fit, and the bride whispered, "wat it!" and after this affectionate hint, he put her finger into his mouth, and after the lubrication succeeded in his clumsy operation. These are only specimens of the humorous phases of the book which have given me abundant amusement. Dr. Hall has been quite a prolific composer of hymns—some of them excellent; and being disgusted with that absurd juvenile hymn, "I want to be an angel," he wrote one that ought to go into our Sunday-school books that begins with the verse:

"I want to live and be a man  
Both good and useful as I can,  
To speak the truth, be kind and brave,  
My fellow-men to help and save."

One chapter of this intensely interesting vol-

use is devoted to most valuable reminiscences of Mr. Gladstone with whom Dr. Hall was intimate for over thirty years. In another chapter are many recollections of John Bright, and of his intimate friend Spurgeon. How well I recall the delightful visits that I have often made with Brother Hall to the great preacher in his lovely home on "Beulah Hill!" To these sketches of eminent statesmen are added many reminiscences of Shaftesbury, Dean Stanley, Dr. Guthrie, Mrs. Charles, Edward White and other celebrities. The beautiful account of his own happy home and the tribute to his beloved and accomplished wife make one of the most delightful chapters of the volume. I hardly know where to stop; but I can only say that those who send to Thomas Y. Crowell and Company in New York—who are its American publishers—will secure a rare treat for a winter evening at their firesides, and a quickener of their inmost spiritual lives. A fine portrait faces the title-page, and there is an excellent view of Christ Church and its Lincoln Tower.

#### DEFENCE OF THE HYMNAL.

We take great pleasure in giving to our readers the following letter from the Chairman of the Committee to which was committed the work of preparing The Hymnal for the use of the Presbyterian Church.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31, 1898.

REV. HENRY M. FIELD, D.D.—*My dear Sir:*

As one of those who took part in the preparation of The Hymnal, I have been somewhat interested, as well as amused, by the criticisms which have lately appeared in The Evangelist in regard to some of the hymns in the book, and those, hymns of noted authors. It is not my purpose to discuss them.

A very cursory examination of any hymn book will show an abundance of imperfect rhymes, even in the most familiar hymns, and of what will strike somebody or other as "infelicities."

The Hymnal was intended to be, not only highly devotional, but, also, the most finished and exact compilation of hymns from a literary standpoint that is to be found. I believe that it is such a book.

There is no egotism in such a remark on my part because, after the hymns were selected, the details of the literary work were left principally to the editor, Rev. Dr. Benson, whose refined taste and special scholarship in that line are thoroughly recognized. His work on The Hymnal has received the highest commendation in this country and in England, and from no sources more heartily and earnestly than from pastors and people who have read the book.

The Hymnal was prepared by those who labored upon it, out of love for the church and a special interest in the expression of sacred praise, and it has been a cause of great gratification to them, and to the Board of Publication, that the result of their work has been so favorably received and so extensively adopted.

Perhaps it may surprise some, and especially your correspondent, who recently seemed to cast a slur upon the old Presbyterian Hymnal—to have it stated that nearly a half million copies of that book have been sold. It is pleasant to be able to say that, from present indications, the new Hymnal bids fair to have no smaller success. Whether the past and present demand for the new book is owing to a healthy loyalty to our church, or to the inherent superior merits of the book, or to both reasons, the churches ought to know, if they do not already, that what has been done for them has met, and is meeting, the approval of the most discriminating, as well as of plain and practical people.

In making such claims for The Hymnal, I have no inclination to deny that there are great merits in other Hymnals. The question of rela-

tive merit is a matter of opinion, which each one must decide for himself. There is no disposition to withhold The Hymnal from such a test. Indeed, the large and growing success which the book has obtained, has been won against the most vigorous competition of outside publishers.

It strikes me, however, as an officer of one of the boards of the church who has for several years past devoted a great amount of time and labor to this particular subject, that Presbyterians would do well to follow the example of other denominations in supporting what belongs to them and is everywhere conceded to be of a high order, rather than to discredit their own interests by taking an antagonistic attitude of independence and minute criticism.

Yours very truly, ROBERT N. WILLSON.

#### ROBERT R. MCBURNEY.

Robert R. McBurney was born March 31st, 1837, in Castle Blaney, Ireland. He came to this country and city, an unfriended young man, in the summer of 1854, and on the evening of his arrival sought the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, then located on an upper floor in the Stuyvesant Institute, No. 659 Broadway.

In 1862 he became the employed officer, (the only one then employed) of the association, in care of its rooms, library and work, holding the office which has since received the name of the General Secretary. The association was then in its infancy, a comparatively feeble organization, occupying one set of rented rooms, and without any permanent property.

From the time of his official connection with it, the organization entered upon a very quiet but steady development. After moving more than once from one set of rooms to another and always to better quarters, it entered its first Association building at the corner of Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue—a building which was the first one ever carefully planned and erected to accommodate the whole work of the Association, physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual. Mr. McBurney served with the President, Mr. William E. Dodge, and Mr. Cephas Brainerd and Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan upon the building committee, and the structure thus planned and erected has been the type and model upon which the three hundred American Association buildings, at an aggregate cost of eighteen million dollars, have been erected, and these American buildings have given shape and model to those erected in other parts of the world. In that new building Mr. McBurney organized what we now know as the broad and comprehensive work of the Young Men's Christian Association.

In the year 1870, when that building was completed, the New York Association stood alone in the possession of so many points of advantage in its leadership and building.

Since that year, the work of the Association in New York City, exclusive of Brooklyn, has been extended to sixteen points, at ten of which the association own the building which it occupies, the ten being valued at two millions of dollars; its aggregate membership has grown from 150 to 7,500 young men, and it expends annually in this diversified work, \$175,000. The tenth of these buildings was completed in the year 1897, at a cost of half a million of dollars, under the careful superintendence of Mr. McBurney, and embodies in its structure and appointments all the improvements which had been realized in the association building movement between 1870 and 1897.

During all this period, Mr. McBurney has not only been a leader in the association work of New York City and in its development, but in the International Convention of the brotherhood he has also been a leading and prominent figure,

making use of the experience accumulated in his successful work in the metropolis of the country to influence the deliberations and action of the Convention and of its Committee. Of this Committee, which has presided over the growth of the entire association movement, he was for nearly thirty years an active member and leader.

In 1866, when Mr. McBurney became connected with this Committee, it had no employed officer and only a few hundred dollars yearly for its work. Now it requires the services of nearly fifty secretaries, ten of whom are upon the foreign field, and the expenditure necessary to carry on its work during 1898, including the large amount required for the army and navy work, was \$160,000.

Mr. McBurney was also connected as founder and leader with the New York State Convention and its committee.

Since 1872, he has attended regularly, as a prominent American delegate, the World's Conference of the Associations as it has met triennially in the various capitals of Europe. There the influence of the American associations, which form the largest and strongest group of the brotherhood, has always been felt. Of the American delegation, Mr. McBurney has been a wise leader. In this World's Conference delegates assemble from over twenty nations in all parts of the globe.

His relation to the general secretaries and the employed officers of the American Young Men's Christian Associations has been one of great influence. When these officers first met for conference in 1871, they numbered barely a dozen, and he was easily the leader among them. And now that they have grown in numbers to over 1,300 administering the work of the Young Men's Christian Association in all the towns and cities of the Continent, he has been in these later years as easily first among them as in 1871.

For thirty-six years Mr. McBurney has been the executive officer of the New York Association, covering the whole period of the remarkable growth of the organization in this city and throughout the country and the world. He gave the entire energy of his faculties and life to the welfare of young men. Without father or mother, brother or sister, wife or child, or even remoter kindred on this side of the sea, he also unselfishly denied himself to social and all other calls, "keeping himself only unto" this work for Christ among young men, declining even the proffer of membership in one of the foremost social clubs in the city and the country.

The whole association brotherhood has greatly profited by this rare Pauline singleness of life purpose, and this whole-hearted life activity.

He has been in himself a sort of embodiment or impersonation of the work. Always companionable with young men, every department of work for them has had his practical sympathy. He highly appreciated the value of all the machinery necessary in carrying on the work of the organization. But he estimated machinery at its right value, and did not give it first place in his affection and efforts. His heart and his hand were more engaged in that part of the association work that consists, not so much in the appointment of committees, in the organizing of workers and conventions, and in the construction of buildings, as in the hand-to-hand work wrought out in personal intercourse, Bible study, and teaching, and in all those quiet, spiritual, personal activities which grow out of a living faith in Christ and which constitute the heart and life blood of the Association work.

His personal influence, exerted incessantly these many years upon the lives of young men one by one, has endeared him to a great multitude of them, many of whom are now honored and useful in professional, business and church life, and all of whom value him as a friend associated with what is best in their character, their lives and their future.

R. C. M.