

Special Notices.

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The Independent.

THE INQUIRY-MEETING.

In many a community where this copy of The Independent shall be read, the Spirit of God is sending many an awakened soul to the inquiry-meeting.

Every genuine prayer-meeting is a gathering of inquirers after God; but it is well to have other gatherings exclusively for those anxious hearts who are inquiring the way of eternal life.

Among many such that we have attended, we recall one now that left its impression on us and on our ministry for a long period afterward. It was held in a large private house, which had been thought that night with a prayer-meeting of unusual fervor and earnestness.

There are two questions which we always find pertinent at an inquiry-meeting: "Have you ever given your heart to Jesus?" "What is the hindrance that stands in your way?"

At the end of a fortnight—one of our daily and nightly anguish for her struggling soul—that weeping face was overspread with the serenity of the peace that passeth understanding.

We called upon her at once, and found her in a state of despair. She told us that she had joined the church under a false hope of conversion; and she lived to do her duty.

It is impossible, in one brief paragraph, to narrate a title of all the interesting cases that discovered themselves to us in that searching and arousing interview.

Another, who had made but small headway for some time, inquired what was the next step to take.

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"But as we were allowed of God to be put in Trust with the Gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men but God, which trieth our Hearts."

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lieu of the pulpit as now generally constructed, would it not be well to have on the platform a frame, similar to a music-stand, consisting of a small iron rod, topped with a board of a size sufficient to hold the Bible and hymn-book?

Such a stand would doubtless at first seem somewhat asked to eyes accustomed to massive pulpits of elaborate workmanship, and might not appear very desirable to those who, wont to speak partially concealed from their audiences, would be called to step forth into open view.

EMOTION IN PREACHING.

EMOTION naturally produces emotion. The Roman poet was never truer to human nature than when he said: "If you wish me to weep, you must first weep yourself."

In all human probability, we are approaching the end of a great and terrible Civil War. Appearances may deceive; expectations may be disappointed, as were those so confidently entertained one year ago; but there is nothing in view to justify a hope or fear that the Slaveholders' Rebellion can outlast the present year.

And this principle prevails as well in sacred as in secular discourse, for the laws of the human mind are not contrived when we pass from the one to the other. The method of persuasion must therefore be the same in both.

But deep feeling on the part of the sacred orator is not the only thing that is needed in order to give the truth which he presents most power over his hearers. He may have strong emotion, and yet have a very imperfect way of expressing it.

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distinctly reiterated its refusal to extend the Missouri line to the Pacific—and the Senate was compelled to recede. Years 29; Nays 25—and the Missouri line was extended to the Pacific, without a stipulation that the Missouri line should be extended indefinitely westward.

And now the refusal of a party based distinctly and formally on the principle of Slavery Restriction to make itself clearly a party to systematic and comprehensive Slavery Extension is cited by Northern politicians as a pre-emption of and in some sense an excuse for the 'Slaveholders' Rebellion.

Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1861. In his Inaugural Address, he thus held out the olive-branch to those in the Slave States who might have been misled into fears of danger to their social order from his administration.

The apprehensions seem to exist, among the people of the Southern States, that by the accession of a Republican Administration, their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension.

Such is a brief and hasty resume of the conciliatory overtures, explanations, proffers, and disclaimers, whereby the Republicans signaled their advent to power, in the vain but earnest hope of thereby dissipating the prejudices and groundless alarms, and thus averting the storm of Civil War.

—This, it will be seen, was Kentucky's own project; yet Kentucky in the "Peace Congress" voted against it, as did every other Slaveholding and "conservative" State—thirteen in all. The Republicans supported it and gave it the votes of eight States, but it was lost.

Mr. Amos Tuck, of N. H. moved a Union Address to the People, closing as follows: "Resolved, That this Conference recognizes the well-entrenched proposition that the Constitution of the United States is a compact between the States and the Federal Government, to interfere in any manner with slavery is to violate the compact."

Resolved, That the Constitution of the United States, and the laws made in pursuance thereof, shall be so interpreted and administered as to preserve to every citizen the full enjoyment of the rights of life, liberty, and property, and that no law shall be enacted which shall deprive any citizen of his life, liberty, or property without due process of law.

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General News.

THE WAR.

THE FIELD.

The armies of the Union are, on the whole, in good condition, in good spirits, and as well officered as could be expected.

THE NAVY.

The steamer North American brought a few days ago from Liverpool to Portland seventeen American merchant captives.

FOREIGN.

The European news is to April 12. It contains nothing of remarkable interest.

THE ARMY PAID UP.

The paymasters received on the 24th, and the soldiers have received in a day or two, their whole pay up to April 30.

THE MARYLAND.

The steamer North American brought a few days ago from Liverpool to Portland seventeen American merchant captives.

THE POLISH CENSORSHIP.

Secretary Stanton seems to be possessed with the foulest spleen.

THE SIEGE OF WASHINGTON, N. C.

We give a brief account of this exceedingly creditable and successful military operation.