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tain. The highest order of talents cannot be secured for these institutions, and re- their finances. The present condition of the Union would be the best for them. III. A word here as to location. Inas- much as both the editors of the Banner, as well as your present correspondent, are all Alumni of Jefferson College, we might have no difficulty in deciding the question of location in favor of Canonsburg. And the people of Canonsburg would agree with us, that their own village is the best pos- sible place for the one college of this region. On the other hand, the people of Washing- ton and the Alumni of their College, are all probably fully convinced that no other spot presents so many advantages for an institution like the one in question, as the borough of Washington. But let me sug- gest that the great people who look on at a distance may take a different view of the matter. What the people want is one first- class college; and the location is to them, at most, but a secondary matter. And if Canonsburg possesses any overwhelming advantage over Washington, or Washing- ton over Canonsburg, it is too much to suppose that such overwhelming advantage would be discovered by a judicious and dis- interested committee, such as would be selected by the trustees of both institutions, to decide upon the site of the united Col- lege?

But we contend that it is not necessary to locate the whole establishment in one place or the other. Why not situate the matter that we will have a first-rate classical school, and a school for the study of modern languages at the one place, and the College proper at the other? It is our opinion, that a first-rate classical school is not only necessary in this region, as even a first-class College of Uni- versity. It might be determined that the College proper should be located at the one place, and at the other a first-rate classical school, and an agricultural school in which, along with husbandry, the students might be taught mathematics, natural sciences, and the modern languages. Then, if after such a division as this, the two towns do not otherwise agree as to which part each would have, we see no reason why they might not refer the matter solemnly to God, and determine it by lot.

The fact that the two branches of an in- stitution, controlled by one Board of Trus- tees, and under the direction of one Presi- dent, would be seven miles apart, so far from being an insuperable objection, is nothing unusual. IV. But supposing every attempt at uniting these two institutions fail: what then? Answers to this question have already been attempted. Your correspondent, "John," has there appeared to no different conclu- sion. The excellent President of Washing- ton, with a disinterestedness which is di- tiable to his heart, warmly seconded a scheme; although he could not help but think that its success might deprive him the exalted position which he now fills. We have indubitable evidence that the interest and unanimity previously ex- pressed on the subject was present in the mind of Pittsburgh. Nor are we permit- ted to doubt that the Synod of Allegheny would have entered into the movement with a zeal not to be surpassed by her sis- ters. Then when we consider that the sisters and elders composing the three Boards in this region, are all well, and measure the wishes of the masses of the ends of the Institutions in a vast region, country who can doubt that the Pres- byterian population from which both Col- leges must expect their support, both as to money and as to students, is overwhelmingly in favor of their union?

Now the point we make here is, that a true responsibility will rest upon the heads of those who, in total disregard of the will of an interested people so unanimously ex- pressed, will lend their influence to defeat a movement so universally desired, and prom- ising results of such incalculable advantage. And if this much-to-be desired union should be defeated, we are sure that the friends of these Colleges, who are charged with its defeat, shall not be made to feel to their sorrow, against themselves and their college, whose interests they have so sin- gularly misunderstood, the crushing weight of a public opinion which they have so un- wisely disregarded.

II. But we do not urge the union merely because it is earnestly demanded by the great bulk of the friends of the two Insti- tutions. We are ready to show that the union would cure great evils and be produc- tive of great good, and that hence the de- mand is reasonable. Let us suppose that Presbyterians and others in this region were able and willing to fully endow the two Institutions, so that they could be manned with able Pro- fessors so amply supported that they could be permanently retained, thus putting each College on an equal footing with Yale Col- lege, or Union College in the State of New- York. Who does not see that this would be a useless, if not a reckless, waste of money and the time and labor of able and useful men; all of which could in many other ways be expended with greater ad- vantage to the cause of God and humanity? Yet this, and nothing less, must be done, if they remain in their separate capacity, and the cause of sound education in this region must suffer. For it is certain that two starving colleges, struggling along in precarious existence, can never fill the place of one well-endowed, permanent and efficient institution.

It is notorious, however, that the friends of these Institutions are either not able or not willing to give either one of them an ample endowment. We could have no bet- ter evidence of this, than that at this late day of their history, such is the extreme poverty of both, that each may be said to be struggling for a bare existence. And thus will it ever be, unless they are united so as to concentrate on one Institu- tion the energies and liberality which are now divided between the two, but for the most part lost to both. The friends of either Institution living contiguous to it, have not endowed it; and if we seek aid from abroad for the endowment of either, we are instead of giving us their money, be- gin to ply us with that puzzling question: "What is the need for two Colleges, under Presbyterian influence, within seven miles of each other?" The difficulties against which both of the Colleges are struggling, and must ever struggle unless they are united, are palpa- ble to the most casual observer. Lord Bacon lamented that in his day such was the poverty of the Universities of Great Brit- ain that it was difficult to retain distin- guished men as Professors, because they could obtain a compensation much more liberal for their labor's other employments. But not only is there a continual drain upon the professional talent of these two Colleges flowing toward other and better endowed institutions; it is even worse than this. If I mistake not, the friends in the possession of the editors of the Banner, which bear me out in saying, that Profes- sors have been compelled to leave one or perhaps both of these Colleges, because of the prospect of a comfortable livelihood for themselves and families far from ex-

manifestations of gratitude that any one cares for his soul, as to beget a joyful countenance that the bread cast upon the waters shall be found after many days. In re- turn for such questions and counsels, also for the gift of Testaments, Hymn Books, and other little books for soldiers, and religious papers, I have heard, "Thank you, thank you sir," with a frequency and warmth of utterance surpassing my experience in all the previous years of life. To no other class of persons is it more easy and deligh- tful work to preach, than the glorious Gospel of the Lord God, to the soldier, whether in the barracks, camp, or even in the military prison. In the last named place, generally the attendance is so numerous, and the attention so close and respectful, as anywhere else. An incident in my experience there, may be admitted in record, by way of showing the high esti- mation in which our Commission is held by those who receive its benefactions and blessings.

At the close of a discourse in the prison, one day, a very portly inmate, of fine countenance, and with a bandaged neck, stepped forward and presented me with five dollars for the Christian Commission. When I said, "I trust I may be able to do you some good," he replied, "No; I did not profess religion when a boy, but afterward had time to believe myself mistaken as to my experience: but for a good while past I have made no pretensions that way. But my mind has been during the past three weeks more deeply impressed with the conviction that nothing else than the dis- cipline of Jesus can reach and relieve the wretchedness and sin of man, and that no other organization is doing so much to help it where it is most needed, as the Christian Commission." Just as he said this, an armed guard approached him and said, "Captain, your case has been reviewed; we will go to Court." I found that he was Capt. J. A. Thornhill, of the 9th Tennessee Cavalry, and had got into a quarrel with his Colonel, in which they had mutually shot each other.

In the Penitentiary where convicts are confined, and in the prison, we were allowed to meet and address the convicts on the Sabbath. Every one who was permit- ted and able, would come out and listen with an eagerness that seemed awful, and receive the papers and other reading mat- ter as cordially as soldiers do. Not one of them seemed dissatisfied with the work we have the privilege of doing, and we are by the hand and thanking him for his interest in them, and also for his message. Having addressed them only two days, when they learned that I would be there no more, they seemed as sorry as would have been reasonable to expect, had my stay been among them for many years. In the House of Correction, we were deeply stirred by the distresses of brave men who suffer so much for the support of their Government. And yet it is highly gratifying to find that in almost every instance it is borne without a murmur or a word of regret for having engaged in a war which brought such troubles upon them. If anything like regret was expressed, it was only because they were so long pre- vented from taking part in the glorious work of their country's deliverance from rebellious usurpations; or that they had not improved their time of health and com- fort in securing peace with God and laying hold on eternal life.

A soldier, of great frame, from Rich- mond, severely ill, and evidently at the door of death, said, in broken accents, "My father and mother, my wife and daughter, are all in glory, and I am a poor, wretched, miserable sinner, lingering here on the borders of earth, where I have just died, she told me to meet her with Jesus, but still I have no interest in him." As he grasped my hand with almost convulsive strength, on being asked if I should pray with him, he exclaimed, "O, I would like it very much;" and while I prayed, the out- come was, "I have quivered like an aspen- leaf."

But it is among the thousands of refugees from East Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi, that the delegate sees wretchedness of the very darkest type. Persecuted at home for their political views, and stripped of all their property, unable to buy provisions at the famine prices, many died of starvation. Others by the thousand have struggled through to Nashville, and some still further on in a Northern direction. When they are crowd- ed into such houses as can be obtained for them, in the proportion of ten to one that could with safety breathe the air, they are largely made up of women, who are suf- fering from a general decline, from which very few recover. Whole families of from five to ten persons have thus been carried to the grave in the course of a few weeks, and scarcely one has not been constrained to bury the dead out of sight. O, with what untold, untellable wails of agony does the soul of the Christian, who has seen the death of his loved ones, and the loss of his cov- ered nationality as it dies in the very act of struggling into birth!

Of the gratifications enjoyed in our work, that of Christian brotherhood among the delegates, notwithstanding the great variety of their denominational connections, is far from being the least. Never before had we so good an opportunity to "behold the good and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Many a brother whose acquaintance was formed within the brief period will be viewed again and again on a bright spot of the tableau of memory while she performs her office. Nor brethren only. Sisters, too, in appropriate departments of the same blessed work, vie with the delegates, and even excel them in their self-denying devo- tion to toil, and in their happy influence on the grateful recipients of their services.

With Mrs. Dr. John Harris, a Philadel- phian of wide-world reputation for self- sacrificing zeal, devotion, and the man- ners of a paragon, and of the noblest tem- per, and spiritual, of soldiers and all others who suffer in any way in consequence of "this cruel war," I formed an acquaint- ance that will be regarded as one of the joys of life. Also a gratifying acquaint- ance was formed with Misses M. E. Moor- head, H. E. Lathrop, and H. I. Shaw, of Pittsburgh, Pa. (who were admitted to the privy room in the "diet kitchen" of the Cumberland hospital) and with Mrs. Capt. Horner, accredited agent from the State of Iowa. With some of these a few of us had the pleasure of a hasty drive to "the Hermitage," and saw with no common emotions, the great mansions, the man- sion, the parlor, and portrait (taken eight days before death) of that heroic man, who, in the opinion of all loyal Americans, would have crashed in the bud this fearful rebel- lion, had it been his lot to have filled the Presidential chair just before the incoming of the present administration. A lady of our number, by special appointment by the Presbytery, went the previous day, and their successors, elected three each year by Presbytery, perpetuate by the terms of the charter the existence of this Board. The charter also provides for the higher judiciary of the Church taking charge of the Institution, should they be able to do so. Since the charter was ob- tained, a new edifice, forty by sixty feet,

brick, has been erected, and is now finished. It contains one large chapel room, two large school-rooms, two recitation rooms, an apparatus and library room, and a commodious entrance hall. We have also, mainly through the liberality of Mr. Len- noc, of New-York, an apparatus worth nearly a hundred dollars, and the In- stitution is unencumbered with debt. This was written more than two years ago. Times since have been terribly try- ing, and especially on institutions of learn- ing. Some have been crushed out, while many have been suspended; but this in- fant college has, with the good hand of God upon it, been able to keep above water, and even make some improvement. The Board of Education has lent an helping hand. The school during the year past has num- bered as many as sixty students at a time. Under the Divine Blessing, we confidently look for a bright future for this young in- stitution. It may be long after its present founders and friends are dead, and after many trials, and perhaps reverses, but its success cannot be reasonably doubted.

From this Mission as a starting point, and through the agencies employed here, two other Missions, and improve- ments for manual labor boarding schools, were commenced. One among the Kick- apoo and one among the Shawnee. These improvements still stand, though the Mission and school work has been suspended; but we may venture to hope they have been in some way an advantage to those tribes. From the Mission, preaching has been ex- tended to the whites in different directions, both north and south. A church in Oregon, Mo., was organized by an agency from this Mission. The church in Savan- nah, Mo., and the church in Richardson County, Nebraska, have been strengthened from here, and the church at Bellevue was organized and is now ministered to by a sister connected sixteen years with this Mission. Many other churches have received a help and encouragement.

The Highland Presbytery, now extend- ing over Kansas and part of Nebraska, had its origin in this Mission, and was made up entirely of missionaries of our Board.

"Now, if in view of these small com- munitarianisms, as they may be at the present—we consider it as a duty to be in- yet in its infancy; that it is in a formative condition; that it is early seed time with us; that as yet not one hundredth part of the resources of Kansas and Nebraska are developed, and that a dense and busy popu- lation must one day swarm over these fer- tile plains and general regions, our Church and her people may be thankful for what has been permitted to do."

"When peace and security shall have returned to our nation, as they will one day, and when nations shall learn war no more, but shall 'beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning-hooks,' this little band of men, who have been raised up to a power and influence not inferior to any on earth. And now we venture to hope that then it will be seen that the grain of mustard seed planted at the Iowa Mission shall have become a 'tree so that the fowls of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.' S. M. LEVIN.

A. D. E. R.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

The Reflex Influence of the Mission on the Whites.

In a former communication I endeavored to show that good had resulted to the Iowa Indians from what was long known as the "Iowa and Sio Mission." We will now pursue the work of the Mission a little further, and show how it has benefited the surrounding whites. These are a part of its good fruits, and a pleasing return to the Church and people of God. True goodness and philanthropy are like "leaven": they diffuse themselves in every direction, and are as valuable in one direction as another. In every nation, he that sows the seed of his own righteousness, shall reap a harvest of the same.

The Mission was established long before the Territory, or State of Kansas, was organized, and it turned out to be in the north-east corner of that State, about five miles from the eastern and ten from the northern boundaries. Hence it is only four miles south of the fortieth parallel. There is perhaps no finer farming country located a soil unsurpassed in fertility—high and dry, with springs of living water. The prairies are large, but interspersed with timber. The Missouri River is near for commerce, and the country is tapped by a railroad landing at St. Joseph, Mo., and Atchison in Kansas. Over this region the great line of travel westward to Oregon and California—commencing in 1849 and more recently to Pike's Peak lay, bringing to the view of the enterprising traveler this inviting country. Like a city set on an hill, it could not be hid. As soon as the Indian titles to the land were extin- guished in 1855-6, these lands were ex- plored, and taken up by an enterpris- ing and resolute class of people. The Mission was a point of attraction to which the more thoughtful and pious, who had regard for churches and schools, drew as near as they could.

A church had been organized as early as the year 1842, made up of the Mission family, and a few of the natives who had become pious. The Mission has always been favored with regular ministrations of the Gospel, and white neighbors, like minded, soon swelled the church to over fifty members. Not content with these advantages, and, in accordance with the spirit of the times, they had an eye to education, and a view to the good of coming generations. Encouraged by influences from the Mission, they took the idea of laying early and deep the foundation of a literary institution which, with God's blessing, may be a vast benefit to this whole region. The following notice and history of this young institution is found in the Home and Foreign Record for 1861, pages 222-3:

As early as the Spring of 1857, a school was commenced in a log cabin, and has since been kept up with increasing strength and success. Our log cabin soon became a frame building, and in 1860, a new and more commodious building in the Fall of the same year. This building, with the grounds (about ten acres), and all pertaining to it, was tendered to the Highland Presbytery. Presbytery accepted the offer, and styled it "The Highland Presbyterial Academy." The first person originally appointed by the Presbytery, was the personal incorporation; and their successors, elected three each year by Presbytery, perpetuate by the terms of the charter the existence of this Board. The charter also provides for the higher judiciary of the Church taking charge of the Institution, should they be able to do so. Since the charter was ob- tained, a new edifice, forty by sixty feet,

style worthy of its grand and venerable as- sociations. In the introduction to his address, at the recent Anniversary of the French Protestant Bible Society, Mr. Guizot, the dis- tinguished statesman and author, said: "GENTLEMEN: Your Society, and all the Bible Societies in the Christian world, are in our day put to a severe test, and present a grand spectacle. Everywhere, in Germany, in England, in France, the attacks against the Bible renew and multiply themselves. The authenticity of the greater part of the writings of which it is composed, their dates and their authors, are contested. What is of still greater gravity, their divine inspiration is called in question. What is the effect produced by these attacks upon Bible Societies in general, and upon you included? Are they discouraged, or rendered lukewarm, or even embarrassed by them? Not in the least. On the contrary, they redouble their zeal and activity. Look at what is now taking place in Germany, in England, in France, in Switzerland, in the United States; and in Prussia. Every day the labors of the Bible Societies take a more extended de- velopment; every day their numbers in- crease; every day their publications are spread more widely abroad. The more the Bible is contested, the greater the number of devoted defend- ers who arise to affirm it and to send it forth. The Bible renews itself through its trials, and its battles lead but to new conquests. This is not a fact, peculiar to our times. For nineteen centuries the Bible has sustained attack after attack, and has passed through crisis after crisis, which have always had the same results. In the fifteenth century, at the time the revival of pagan antiquity filled the world with surprise and admiration, the Bible was neglected and almost forgotten. At that period withal, those who wished to awake faith and a Christian spirit in the souls of men, arm themselves? With the Bible! A second time Rome and Greece were conquered by the Bible. It was in the name of the Bible, that the reform of the sixteenth cen- tury was brought about, and the spirit of Biblical faith had a still greater part in this reform than the spirit of liberty. Two centuries later, at the close of the eighteenth century and in the commencement of the nineteenth, the Bible was again subject to fierce attacks; it was dinned and seemed greatly weakened. What then occurred? Bible Societies were formed; Bible mis- sions were spread all over the earth; treas- ures of life and of money were spent for the Bible cause; and it has reappeared more powerful than it was before it received those shocks."

INSTIGATED, perhaps, by the example of France, in her recent efforts "to restore the Latin race to power in Mexico," England seems disposed to erect a foothold for the Anglo-Saxon in Central America. She has long desired a cotton-producing re- gion, more promising of results and more accessible than her Indian possessions, whilst she also covets a good transit route across the western continent to her domain on the Pacific coast, and to her Australian colonies. Captain Lynch, of the Royal Navy, has just secured from the Govern- ment of Nicaragua the right to construct a railroad across the isthmus, the funds for which are already in the hands of the British Government. The British Govern- ment will soon prove to be rivals also in the effort to effect a lodgment upon the Ameri- can continent, and to secure the largest share of the rich commerce of the Pacific.

THE POPE addressed an Allocution to the Emperor and Empress of Mexico, in the chapel of the Vatican, before giving them the communion, in which he says: "Great are the sins of the people, and they must be satisfied; but greater and more sacred are the rights of the Church, the spotless spouse of Jesus Christ. You will therefore respect the rights of the people and of the Church, and thus labor for the temporal and spiritual welfare of your subjects."

For the Presbyterian Banner.

Army Chaplains.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Some time ago, there was an article in Army and Navy Journal, in which the editor treated this subject kindly, but acknowledged himself puzzled by the "flat contradictions" of the authorities which he quoted. He is not alone in his perplexity. I think I un- derstand the occasion of the haze which surrounds some honest minds, attempting to judge of this subject. In courts and in inquiries, weighing the evidence is generally thought necessary and helpful to a just decision. This process embraces the weighing of the witnesses too; that is, their opportunities for obser- vation, and their disposition toward the parties, are items which must be thrown into the scales. A general may not know half as much about a chaplain as many other men do; and his title conveys no weight to his opinion, if his judgment, like Fal- staff's discernment in the dark, springs from "instinct."

The editor says: "A General officer, in conversation with me not long since, de- clared that the chaplains in his Army were a set of time-serving rascals, fonder of luxurious ease, more grasping, not only of less use, but far more injurious to good order and good morals, than any other men in his command." The editor adds: "Upon repeating this statement to another gentleman who had seen a great deal of army chaplains, he expressed his disap- pointment, declaring that those with whom he had come in contact were holy men, the magnitude of whose labors would never be known, till the last day reveals their mercy, loving kindness, and Christ-like self- sacrifice."

Though modesty might disclaim some- what of the glowing armor of this eulogy, yet any one with half an eye can see that the fabric of the General's statement, warp and wool, is libelous and false.

"Look on this picture, and on that." The General is, like those of Japanese artists, innocent of perspective, very decided in its outlines, and very dark in its filling up, without a ray of light, or a tint fairer than India ink. The "flat contradictions" between the General and the gentleman, need not have puzzled the editor. They looked with different eyes. Hence caricature and monstrosity in the picture of one, and the "human face divine" in that of the other, are drawn from the same original. Weigh the witnesses.

And the honorable title of General will draw attention to his unhandsome utter- ances, and perhaps gain for them some credence. It is not a Colonel—he might be mistaken; not a Captain—he might pre- varicate; not a private—he might lie; it is nothing less than a General. Still, it is general consent to know that this is the only General who has spoken such hard things. And, besides, there is internal evidence in his speech to convince any candid mind that it is not the expression of a calm and sober conviction, but the excited utterance of intonation, either through anger or drink.

I presume there are no persons who feel more than I do the delinquencies of chaplains to the church, the country, and the Sa- viour's cause, will not allow them to ap- propriate the untrue and discourteous epithets of this anonymous officer.

Yours, truly,
J. F. McLAUREN.

Re Strong.
Be strong to hope, O Heart!
Though day is bright,
The stars can only shine
In dark and gloomy night.
Be strong, O Heart of mine,
Look toward the light!

Be strong to REAR, O Heart!
Nothing is vain;
Strive not, for life is care
And God sends pain;
Heaven is above, and there
Rest will remain!

Be strong to LOVE, O Heart!
Love knows not wrong;
Didst thou love—sufferest even,
A life would be given,
Didst thou love God's heaven,
Thou wouldst be strong!

ABELAINE A. PROCTOR.

BREVITIES.

We may well regard the first stirrings of human emotions as holy—regard them as the fringes for the altar of God.

The book of Psalms is a chamber of holy voices, each answering echo, deep calling unto deep, with the enthusiasm and rapture of adoring ecstasy and fearful love.

Decision of Character.—A strong will deals with the hard facts of life as a sculptor with his marble; making them yield to his purposes, and conquering their stubbornness by a greater stubbornness of his own.

Humility.—In the school of Christ the first lesson of all is self-denial and humili- ty; yes, it is written above the door, as the rule of entry or admission, "Learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart." And out of all question, that is truly the hum- blest heart that has the most of Christ in it.—Leigham.

God out of Evil.—God suffers a Christian to be wronged, that he may increase his patience, and commands the Christian to forgive the wrong, that he may exercise his charity; so that a wrong done him, may do him a double courtesy. Thus evil works for good.

Aspirations.—Oh, how I long for that blessed moment, when this poor, unworthy creature, the last of all his Master's servants, shall be called to put on this load of sin and corruption, and to mingle with that harmonious host above, doing homage with them in the blessed presence of my glorious Lord!

Value of Moments.—Spare moments are like the gold dust of time; and Young was writing a true as well as a striking line, when he taught that "Sands make the mountain, moments make the year." Of the portions of our life, spare moments are the most precious; and it is in these are the gaps through which temptations find the easiest access to the garden of the soul.

Influence.—One pound of gold may be drawn into a wire that would extend round the globe, and cast its influence into eternity. Though done in the first flush of youth, it may glid the last hours of a long life, and form the brightest spot in it. Work while it is day. The night cometh.

Holiness Essential.—Holiness is that which God supremely requires in all his commands. If there were any thing more noble or morally excellent than holiness, we might have expected that God would have required it to precede holiness, and holiness subordinately. But he has expressly commanded us to pursue holiness supremely, and every thing else in subordination to it.

Reputation in life.—The two most precious things on this side of the grave are our reputation and our life. But it is to be lamented that the most contemptible whisper may deprive us of the one and the weakest weapon of the other. A wise man will therefore, be more anxious to deserve a fair name than to possess all that it will teach him so to live as not to be afraid to die.

Life in Eternity.—It is a serious thing to live. It is the course of an endless existence whose future will be influenced by the present and the past. It is that which must receive a shape and perform its work by us. "To be or not to be?" is not the question. We are, and must exist forever. The life that is within us will continue, and develop itself, and we must then be of momentous consequence to us how we live.

Trust in God.—To trust in God when our warehouses and bags are full, and our tables spread, is no hard thing; but to trust him when our purses are empty, but a handful of meal and a crust of oil left, and all the ways of relief stopped, herein lies the wisdom of a Christian's grace. Yet none are cramped for trust in Him; for he is ready to have it in their cupboards as well as those who want it; the richest prince as well as the meanest beggar. Whatever your wants are, want not faith, and you cannot want supplies.—Charnock.

Our Work.—If we would do much for the welfare of our fellow-men, or if we wish to be useful in our Master's service, we must do our work as we pass along in life. Each hour has its appropriate duty, and if that duty is neglected, the opportunity of usefulness is generally lost forever; for each succeeding hour brings also its appropriate work, the doing of which demands for itself all our power of action. And yet how often do we defer present duty, vainly hoping for a more favorable time, or for more propitious circumstances—forgetting that the duty deferred is seldom done, and a more favorable opportunity can never come. To the Christian there is always some present work to be done for the Sa- viour, and he will never be so well pre- pared to do it as he is now, just when Providence places the work before him.

Heaven's Attractions.—The wheels of na- ture are not made to roll backward; every- thing presses on toward eternity; from the birth of time an impetuous current has set in, which bears all the sons of men to- ward that inscrutable ocean. Meanwhile, Heaven is attracting to itself whatever is congenial to its nature, is enriching itself by the spoils of earth, and collecting within its spacious bosom whatever is pure, permanent and divine, leaving nothing for the last fire to consume but the objects and the slaves of concupiscence, while every thing which grace has prepared and beautified shall be gathered from the ruins of the world, to adorn the eternal city, "which hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon to shine in it; for the glory of God doth enlighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."—Robert Hall.