

FIGS AND THISTLES.



IN repeated puts out the eye of conscience. There are many religions, but only one Christ. Our place in eternity is to be decided by whom we love. If dust settles on your Bible, sin will get into your heart.

Thinkers have their hands on the wheels of the world. Our weakness becomes strength when we take it to God. Tact wins where great gifts without it would fall flat. If we are afflicted, it is because God sees a good reason for it. Is the burden heavy? Don't try to bear it. Give it to Christ. God can say a good deal in a flower to those who know Him. The less we have, the more angels wonder when we give. Gold never stops looking bright because somebody calls it brass. The money made on whisky and vice is the devil's working capital. The preacher may be locked up, but his Bible can't be kept in prison. While Joseph was wearing the iron chain his golden one was being made. When the church is cold it can only be warmed by fire that comes from God. God needs every man who knows Him, and knows every man who needs Him. The lazier a man is the greater things he is going to do when to-morrow comes. Make your life a ministry of love, and angels will take an interest in your work. You take something from the burden of sorrow when you give it something to do. If God gives you a rose, thank Him for it. If He gives you a thorn, do the same. The Bible begins to grow the moment we begin to live up to the Bible we know. It is only the man who can rejoice in the Lord always, who has a mountain-moving faith. Satisfy one desire, and you will find that it has brought a large and hungry family along. Every dart the devil aims at the man who bears the shield of faith is pointed with a doubt. We don't have to open the New Testament very wide to find out that God loves sunshine. When God's Word is made a lamp to the feet, the walk will be in the paths of righteousness. The devil will have to go out of business on the day that he can't make a lie look like the truth. Looking at the crowd no doubt entertained Zacheus, but hearing Jesus speak transformed him. A stereotyped prayer may possibly be better than none, but it never brings down fire from heaven. The dangerous thing about putting off repenting until to-morrow, is that we may be putting it off forever. The man who is running before the chariot of Ahab to-day will be running for the Juniper tree to-morrow. It is more needful to be able to suffer long and be kind, than it is to preach with the tongue of an angel. Had the serpent in Eden been as ignorant of human nature as some preachers, there would have been no fall. A revival meeting is sure to drag when people can see clear across the house that the preacher is not expecting much. The reason all things work together for good to them that love God is because love is always the galley by being tested. There is something wrong with the piety of a Christian whose religion never attracts any attention outside the church. The Lord is not helped any by the shouting of a man who only pays twenty-five cents a year to help take the world for Christ.

Big Forgery.

The largest steel plate ever rolled, not only in this country but in the world, was turned out recently by the Wellman Iron and Steel Works at Chester, Pa. The dimensions of the plate are 450 inches long by 150 inches wide, and 1 1/4 inches thick. It is intended as a rudder plate for one of the new "ocean greyhounds" contracted for by the International Navigation Company with the Messrs. Cramp, the Philadelphia shipbuilders.

No Wonder.

When a man is informed there are triplets in his family, he can hardly believe his own census.—Richmond Dispatch.

GOV. RICH IN A PULPIT.

Michigan's Executive's Ideas Upon "Applied Christianity" in Politics. At the Lansing (Mich.) Universalist Church recently, Gov. Rich discussed "Applied Christianity." It was declared to be the duty of every good citizen not only to attend caucuses and vote at the polls, but to use his influence in favor of good government and the enforcement of the laws. A law, in the opinion of the Governor, should either be enforced or repealed. It was also declared to be the duty of every citizen to openly and publicly encourage officers in the discharge of their official duties. After a citizen has done all in his power to select a proper man for office, he is as much obliged to acquiesce in the result, whatever it may be, as he is to add in the choice.

As those who possess the most of this world's goods are required to contribute most from their substance, so may they who, by reason of natural ability or education, are able to accomplish the most good, be required to make the largest contribution of effort and influence. The Governor maintained that the college professor or president owes more to society than the man who has none of the advantage they have enjoyed.

Gov. Rich maintained that any person who in any unfair or improper manner attempts to influence voters, or who, upon any pretext whatever, makes an incorrect canvass of votes cast at an election, is morally as much guilty of treason as he who gives aid and comfort to the public enemy. There is something wrong in public sentiment, he declared, when men who are the personification of honor in any business transaction will do or permit to be done in politics that, which under the very laws which give them the protection of every right they hold dear, is a misdemeanor, and in many cases a felony. Attention was called to the fact that it is difficult to convict anyone of what is popularly known as a political offense, although those offenses strike at and undermine the very foundations of the Government.

The voter is sometimes met with the alternative of voting for the principles represented by a man personally objectionable, while the opposing candidate, although personally unobjectionable, represents principles antagonistic to his views. In such cases no rule of action can be laid down, but that each individual must decide what his duty is for himself. It was advocated that even in a campaign only respectful language should be used, and when the election is determined the successful candidate is entitled to the loyal support of all good citizens. To speak disrespectfully of the President of the United States is to speak disrespectfully of the country and the Government, and the tendency is to create disrespect for all law.

In conclusion the Governor said that everything possible should be done to improve the condition of those who must labor for their living. They should be permitted to organize in accordance with law, and if labor organizations demand things impracticable or unwise they should be met by fair argument and convinced that all is done for them that is possible. No man should surrender to any organization his rights and obligations as a citizen.

The government of some organizations was declared to be more tyrannical than any people will long submit to. With labor organizations authorized by law and given a standing in court, and the elective franchise undivided, man has means in his own hands for the redress of injustice on the part of the Government.

A Hen's Brood of Quail.

While Mr. J. T. Stuart, a prosperous farmer living near Knoxville, Tenn., was mowing his grass this summer, the machine cut off the head of a hen quail, which was setting on her nest. A broken egg showed that the eggs would have been hatched in a few days. A little daughter of Mr. Stuart's took the eggs and carefully put them under a hen, whose eggs were to hatch in a day or two. Fourteen of the quail eggs hatched and sixteen of the hen's. For a week or two the young quail went under the hen at night, as the chickens did; after that they roosted in one corner of the coop by themselves.

The little girl fed and looked after them, and they seemed to have no fear of her, but would come and jump in her hand. The moment anyone else came about they would run and hide. Their favorite hiding place was under the chickens, and sometimes two or three would try to get under one chicken, and in their efforts to hide would completely upset it. After they could fly fairly well they took up their abode in the garden, but would always come to the little girl's call of "Chick, chick, chick," and if at a distance would fly and alight at her feet. When they were quite small an old cock quail came for several days and tried to toll them away, but they would not go with him. They are now full grown, and all are living but one, which killed itself against a wire gate only a few days ago.—Forest and Stream.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

JUDGE INGRAHAM, of New York City, was quite right in recommending to the workhouse a woman who had money in eight banks, yet had been found begging. The judge said that a person wandering about and begging is a vagrant, even if worth a million.

The Russian government has taken entire charge of the sale of intoxicating liquors in the four eastern provinces of the empire. To prevent moderate consumption of drink, a new experiment is being tried, which consists in attracting people away from the gin palaces by organizing other recreations and amusements for them.

A GREAT deal depends upon the point of view. The king of Butaritari, one of the Gilbert Islands in the Pacific, recently annexed by England, made an edict that everybody should go to church on Sunday under penalty of a fine of \$5 for absence. The English commissioner repeated this, but made a similar law looking toward compulsory education.

It is announced that Japan has ordered two modern first class battle ships of English make. The news is significant as an intimation of the position which Japan expects to take as one of the world's great naval powers. Japan has the advantage of being able to afford these luxuries inasmuch as, we presume, as China will be expected to pay for them.

An American in Germany was surprised to find a number of cripples among the celebrated college professors, men whose high standard of learning makes them famous the world over. One Berlin professor is wheeled into his lecture room every day, and there are others similarly though for the most part less painfully afflicted. This is due partly to the fact that under the military regime of Germany when a boy is disqualified for the army he is trained for science or the law.

ACCORDING to the Electric Review the Western Union Telegraph company collected about \$1,500,000 last year for telling the time of day. The company has a telegraph desk in the naval observatory at Washington. Four minutes before noon the wires of the system all over the country are cleared of business, and the instant the sun passes the seventy-fifth meridian electricity carries the news to every city. It is only in trying to realize a fact like this in all its bearings that we can get some idea of the way modern life is being regulated by science.

A WRITER in the New England Kitchen is of the opinion that the teaching of cooking in the future will be in the hands of specialists, that is, the work will be divided into branches as cooking for the sick, the preparing of meats, making of bread, or the like. The writer further states that "the demand for teachers of the household arts seems to be greater than the supply. There have been many calls recently for teachers of cookery who are also qualified to teach sewing and millinery, and good salaries have been offered ranging from \$900 to \$1,300 per year.

AN insurance journal has recently collected statistics of suicide in the United States. Many of the facts gathered are surprising, but the most singular and perplexing is the fact that "the classification by condition shows a greater proportion of suicides among the married men than among the unmarried, which is contrary to the accepted theory." Contrary it certainly is to the statistics of Europe, where the fact that more bachelors than bachelors shuffle off their mortal coil voluntarily has long been cited as one of the most obvious reasons for entering the holy state of matrimony.

A WASHINGTON dispatch recently noted that Japan had given contracts for two new battle ships. The ship-building programme of last year provided for two battle ships, one protected cruiser and one dispatch vessel, and negotiations were begun looking to their construction. The cruiser is to be built at the home navy yard, at Yokosuka, and work has already begun upon her. She is to be of the English Apollo type and of 2,700 tons displacement. The two battle ships are to be of 12,250 tons displacement each and of the type of the English battle ship Royal Sovereign. The contract for one has been given to the Thames Iron Works and Ship Building company, Blackwall; and the contract for the other has been awarded to the Armstrongs, of Elswick, England.

WILLIAM R. CROWDER lives in Greencastle, Ind. So does William Fisher; and so does a hog, valued at \$7, owned by Crowder. One day Crowder let his hog out. Almost simultaneously Fisher left the gate of a nice new hogpen on his place open. As it was the hog's day off it determined to see all that was to be seen and so it strayed into Fisher's hogpen. Just afterward Fisher decided to close his pen, which he did, remarking: "Great Scott, I've got a hog! Well, findin's is keepin's." Pretty soon Crowder demanded his hog. Fisher replied: "I ain't got yer hog;" and the hog, with that ingratitude characteristic of his species, granted approval. Then Crowder went to law; but the jury was hung. Costs on Crowder, \$80. Nothing daunted he brought suit again. Several lawyers and about a hundred witnesses on both sides; also thumping big costs. The trial lasted three days. Finally the jury brought in a verdict of one cent and the hog for Crowder. Fisher and his friends are mad; so also are Crowder and his friends. The only being that seems to be contented is the hog.

In the filer room and document rooms at the nation's capitol, secreted under piles of useless government publications and the accumulated dust of years, lie many precious papers and books, whose existence is forgotten, or at least is unknown. Not long ago one of the file clerks of the House of Representatives found eight autograph letters of Washington in the midst of a pile of old records which his superior officer thought he "might just as well get rid of." At another time he discovered in a pigeonhole the original of the letter Martha Washington wrote in response to a resolution declaring it to be the sense of Congress that the father of his country should be buried in the crypt of the capitol, in which she gives her objections to that plan. Last summer the assistant librarian of the Senate discovered on the top of a bookcase in a dark store room a dozen volumes of official reports that could not be duplicated for love or money, and were supposed to be out of existence. There are doubtless other books and manuscripts of equal value in the dust and dark that should be carefully preserved, writes a Washington correspondent. It would be a good thing for Congress to employ some man who knows all about such things to go through the files and select the chaff from the wheat. The rubbish can go to the paper mill, but the important records should be arranged for preservation. As it is now every new clerk that comes in, and changes are made frequently, overhauls the files and makes the room he needs by throwing out what he considers useless.

An Unexpected Gift.

Major Bundy, member of the House of Representatives, father in law of ex-Governor Foraker, and a millionaire, was treated to a slight indignity in one of the House corridors. It was warm inside, and the major had taken his hat in his left hand and was mopping his brow and bald head with a handkerchief, when along came a young college dude with a last year's chrysanthemum head of hair and a long overcoat—a handsome boy, and as brimful of mischief as a playful colt. Seeing the major holding his hat in one hand it seemed to occur to the young sophomore that here was a chance to display his sense of humor. He suddenly stopped in front of the old major, plunged his hand into his pocket and pulled out a copper cent like a cart wheel, which he dropped into the major's hat with the remark: "Here, old man, is something for you."

The major's wrath burst its vial at once. He stamped the marble floor with his feet and his face grew red with excitement. "What do you mean, sir? Do you know that I am a member of Congress?" he exclaimed. "That's all right, old man," said the collegian, "you may keep it. I don't want your thanks." The major started after him, but the boy was too fast.

In Havana.

There are other reminders as soon as we are in the streets of Havana. Dark faces abound. There is little hurry. Men predominate to such an extent that the sight of a woman, unless one of the lower classes going to or from her work, or a black eyed vendor of lottery tickets, is almost a novelty. There is much noise made by the sellers of all sorts of wares, who cry them up and down the streets. There is an abundance of color in the dress of the people, in the accoutrements of the horses and mules that draw the varied traffic, in the tints of the buildings, in the uniforms of the soldiers who are everywhere, in the blues of the morning sky above it all.

The military are in evidence at every turn. At the wharf so many soldiers are pacing to and fro or lounging listlessly about that it gives one the impression of having landed at a military post, rather than a commercial seaport of some 250,000 people. It requires some time to get away from this impression. Almost every fifth man that one meets wears a military dress of some sort; barracks and fortresses are strewn about the city and its outskirts ad libitum, and bands of marching men and the sounds of martial music are encountered from morning to night.

A Question of Costume.

They object to the new woman in certain quarters because she imitates man. She tries to dress like him. Well there was a time when men imitated women and did it very thoroughly too. A little research into the history of costume, into the ebb and flow of fashion, sometimes throws flash light glimpses into the hidden causes of great social movements.

After the fall of the Roman empire the sexes started about fair in the matter of clothes. Our Teutonic ancestors adopted a costume which was almost the same for men and women, and consisted of two main garments, the Roman tunica and toga. The tunica was virtually a shirt with long sleeves and was buckled at the waist. The men wore it reaching to the knees and the women to the ankles. In colder northern latitudes the men, as a great innovation, added trousers, but these were looked upon in the light of a distinct extra and were not considered obligatory in hot weather. There seems to be no doubt that the blouse of the modern European peasant is a direct descendant of the tunica.

Spring Medicine

It is so important that you should be sure to get THE BEST. Hood's Sarsaparilla has proven its unequalled merit by its thousands of remarkable cures, and the fact that it has a larger sale than any other sarsaparilla or blood purifier shows the great confidence the people have in it. In fact it is the Spring Medicine. It cures all blood diseases, builds up the nerves and gives such strength to the whole system that, as one lady puts it, "It seemed to make me anew."

If you decide to take Hood's Sarsaparilla for your Spring Medicine do not buy any substitute. Be sure to get

HOOD'S Sarsaparilla

Bicycling is becoming very popular in Mexico, Brazil and Argentina. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, soothes the gums, reduces inflammation, always pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle. Gold is being withdrawn from the banks in San Francisco. After physicians had given me up, I was saved by Piso's Cure.—RALPH EARLE, Williamsport, Pa., Nov. 22, 1893. Lack of desire is one of the greatest riches.



ONE ENJOYS Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N. Y.

Advertisement for W. L. Douglas's \$3 shoe, featuring an illustration of the shoe and descriptive text.

Advertisement for PISO'S CURE FOR GOUT, featuring an illustration of a person and descriptive text.

Advertisement for There's Hard Work on Hand, featuring an illustration of a hand and descriptive text.

Last year we commenced an elaborate plan of advertising, but before we were half through, OUR ADVERTISING EXPENSES were so great that we were obliged to discontinue the plan. We have now adopted a more economical plan, and we are now advertising in a more judicious manner. We are now advertising in a more judicious manner. We are now advertising in a more judicious manner.

Advertisement for SYRUP OF FIGS, featuring an illustration of a woman and child, and descriptive text.

Advertisement for There is no Mystery Here: RIPANS TABLETS, featuring descriptive text.

Advertisement for THE VITAL DIFFERENCE, featuring descriptive text.

Advertisement for LINEN COLLARS, featuring an illustration of a collar and descriptive text.

Advertisement for DROPSY, featuring descriptive text.

Advertisement for THE U. S. Government officially reports ROYAL Baking Powder superior to all others in leavening strength. It is the best and most economical.