

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Topic For the Week Beginning Jan. 6. Comment by Rev. S. H. Doyle.

The month of January derives its name from Janus, an old Italian god that had two faces pointing in opposite directions. The month is well named, for it also points two ways, for at the beginning of the year, while we look forward, we also look backward. It is well at times in our lives to look both ways. Paul realized that, as we can see from the references which we have before us, and at no time in life is it more fitting and appropriate to follow Paul's example in this respect than at the beginning of the year. Let us, then, carefully and prayerfully take a backward and a forward look, with the hope and prayer that the future may be a constant improvement upon the past.

1. A backward look. "Forgetting those things which are behind." Paul recalls the past and concludes that the best thing to do is to forget it. He was probably influenced to this decision by reason of the fact that too much contemplation of the past would be injurious to future advancement. The man who lives in the past makes no progress. The man who keeps his face toward the radiance of the setting sun does not receive the inspiration that comes to the one who beholds the beauty and glory of the rising sun. Past attainments are well forgotten, lest they fill us with pride and self-satisfaction and deprive us of the ability to go forward to still greater deeds of sacrifice and of love. Past sins and failures are to be forgotten. Many dwarf their present usefulness by idly dwelling upon the failures and mistakes of the past. They are gone, and gone forever. No voice can call them back again, no cement of human device put them together again. Let them therefore be buried with the past, lest they impair future usefulness, and let our only anxiety be for that we do not repeat them.

2. A forward look. "Reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." This figure of the runner is an inspiring one. He looks forward. He has the goal and the prize before him. But he not only looks forward, but he presses forward with all his powers and energies that he may reach the goal and obtain the prize. So should every Christian and every Christian Endeavorer. We should look forward. "The eye must precede the foot. If our hearts are not already in heaven, our souls cannot be traveling thither." But we must also press forward. A forward look is suggestive of a forward movement. We cannot stand still, for that is stagnation; we dare not turn aside, for that is danger and delay, and we cannot go back, for that is treason and destruction. We must then go forward—forward to Christ, who is both our goal and our prize. Let us make a fresh start at the beginning of this, another new year, and let us keep steadily on in face of all temptations until, like Paul, we shall have finished our course and have in view the crown of righteousness which is to be our reward.

THE PRAYER MEETING. Arrange a special New Year's service that will be fitting. A personal consecration meeting would be most appropriate.

BIBLE READINGS. Ps. lxxvii, 1-7; cxli, 1-8; Prov. iv, 25-27; Math. v, 48; Mt. 21:29; Luke ix, 62; I Cor. ix, 24-27; II Cor. iv, 18; Titus ii, 11-15; I Tim. iv, 7, 8; Rev. ii, 10.

Confession Before Conversion. I never knew any man to be converted until he confessed. Cain felt bad enough over his sin, but he did not confess. Saul was greatly tormented in his mind, but he went to the witch of Endor rather than to the Lord. Judas felt so bad over the betrayal of his Master that he went out and hanged himself, but he did not confess—that is, he did not confess to God. He came back and confessed to the priests, saying, "I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood." It was of no use to confess to them. They could not forgive him. What he should have done was to confess to God, but instead of that he went right away and hanged himself.—Moody.

Coming to Love People. We come to love people through what we do for them rather than through what they do for us. God has gone far beyond our thinking in what He has done for us, but we take His gifts as a matter of course until we can induce us to do something for Him. This is why He throws on us the burden of working where He might have wrought and giving where He might have given. It is for our sakes that we thereby may learn to love the Doer and Giver of all good.

And so a wise mother instead of doing everything for her child herself teaches it love by setting it to do for her.—Sunday School Times.

Faithful Unto Death. John Elliot on the day of his death, in his eightieth year, was found teaching the alphabet to an Indian child at his bedside.

"Why not rest from your labors?" "Because," said the venerable man, "I have prayed to God to make me useful in my sphere, and He has heard my prayer, for now that I can no longer preach He leaves me strength enough to teach this poor child his alphabet."

After such an example of obedience to the command, "Be ye faithful until death," who can plead inability to serve the Master?—Lutheran Observer.

Obedient God. Man loses nothing by obeying God. Providence and grace work in conjunction for the good of those who keep God's commandments.—Presbyterian.

When threatened by pneumonia or any other lung trouble, prompt relief is necessary, as it is liable to delay. We would like to see you at Thompson's Eye Water.

THE LEADERS IN THE COMING STRUGGLE

Graphic Pen Pictures of the Men of Three Parties Who Will Conduct Affairs At Harrisburg.

STRIKING ROMANCES IN REAL LIFE.

How These Leaders Rose From the Ranks to Positions of Command.

Their Characteristics and Traits as Seen Apart From Partisanship—Life Stories and Struggles of Men Whose Names Are Political Household Words.

The approaching session of the Pennsylvania legislature promises to be one of the most interesting held in recent years. In most interest to the work of electing a United States senator a great deal of important legislation will come before it.

The real work of a session, its arrangement and direction, is always in the hands of a few men who are leaders by virtue of selection, experience or natural ability. The coming session will be no exception to this established rule, the only difference being that with three parties in the field there will be a greater display of ability, sagacity and generalship than has ever been seen in the history of house or senate.

The three parties referred to are the "Stalwart" Republicans, the "Independent" Republicans, and the Democrats. A study of the field on the eve of the assembling indicates that the active leadership in each of these parties will devolve upon a very few men. They will be generals, and a study of the men at the head of each division indicates that this leadership will be in most competent hands.

A conspicuous feature in the lives of this handful of men is that with one or two exceptions they have carved their way to political, professional or financial eminence by hard work. They are men from the ranks, and, therefore, best fitted to direct and lead.

The following sketch of their lives is purely biographical, and has been prepared without partisan bias. These leaders are described as they appear in social life, and to those who know them best.

Commissioner Durham.

On the part of the "Stalwart" Republican State Insurance Commissioner Israel W. Durham, ex-state senator, ex-magistrate of Philadelphia, stands as the undisputed head of that element in Philadelphia. Commissioner Durham is 44 years of age, having been born Oct. 24, 1856. He comes of an old Quaker City family, and in personal appearance is of medium height and build, light mustache and complexion and a slight tendency to stoutness.

In a personal and social way Commissioner Durham is one of the most affable and companionable of men, whose most striking characteristic is his perfect frankness. In his political affiliations this trait is marked together with a disposition to grasp all the details of a situation at once and act accordingly. The secret of Commissioner Durham's success is his affability, his frankness and his thorough knowledge of Philadelphia, where he has spent all his life. The companionable traits of Mr. Durham's nature attract and hold men.

Whatever Israel W. Durham has achieved in politics is due entirely to his own efforts, backed by an indomitable will. Immediately on graduating from the Philadelphia high school he learned the brickmaking trade, which he deserted to enter the flour and feed business. His popularity led to his entrance into politics, and in 1885, when not yet 30 years of age, he was elected by the Republicans one of the police magistrates of Philadelphia. He was re-elected in 1890, and was urged for re-election in '95, but declined a third nomination.

He became a state senator in 1897, when he was elected from the Sixth district, with practically no opposition, to fill the unexpired term of his personal friend, Hon. Boies Penrose, who had been elected United States senator. In 1888 Mr. Durham was a delegate to the Republican national convention at Chicago, and from this time dates his rise from ward politics into the broader domain of city and state politics. It was largely due to Mr. Durham that State Senator Penrose was chosen a United States senator in '97, and on each legislative session since 1895 Commissioner Durham has been a potent factor in protecting and directing the interests of Hon. M. S. Quay and the stalwart element of the Republican party.

He was one of the first of the state leaders to espouse the cause of Hon. William A. Stone as a gubernatorial candidate, and so earnestly and effectively did he work for success that he was rewarded by Governor Stone with appointment as State Insurance Commissioner.

In the legislative session of 1899 the fact was universally recognized that the manning of the Quay contest at that session had its power in the personality of Israel W. Durham and John P. Elkin. In the approaching session these two men will occupy the place of leadership at the head of the "Stalwart" column. Commissioner Durham is a bachelor.

Attorney General Elkin. Attorney General John P. Elkin, another of the "Stalwart" Republican leaders, comes of distinguished parentage. He is the son of the man, Francis Elkin, who erected and operated the first tin plate mill in the United States. This was at Willsville, O., in 1874, and Attorney General Elkin, then a lad of 14, was one of the first helpers employed around this establishment, which was the forerunner of one of the greatest of America's industries.

He is six feet high and built in proportion. He is a fluent, graceful talker, with a turn for the practical and exact rather than for the eloquent in public address. His home is in Indiana, where his political and official duties cannot win him from a freestone adorer to a wife, two young daughters and a son.

John P. Elkin is of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He was educated in the public schools, and graduated from the Indiana Normal school. He was a school teacher at 15 years of age. In 1882 he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and two years later, in 1884, he was graduated with honor from his law department. In the same year he returned to Pennsylvania, he was called to the bar of Indiana county, and in the fall election was chosen one of Indiana's representatives on the legislature of 1885. At this time he was but 24 years of age, one of the youngest men who had ever sat in the house.

The vigor of youth inspired him to conspicuous efforts at this session, and in 1887 he was re-elected and made chairman of the important Committee on Constitutional Reform. Among the many positions of trust and honor in politics and out of it which he has held was that of chairman of the Republican state convention which nominated Gregg and Morrison in 1891; for years was president of the Indiana school board; a member of the board of trustees of the Indiana Normal school; president of the Farmers' bank of Indiana and Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania for nearly three years under Attorney General McCormick.

He was chairman of the Republican State Committee through three campaigns, leading his party to victory, and immediately upon his induction into office Governor Stone appointed him Attorney General, which position he has held ever since. In his personal contact with men of all classes Attorney General Elkin is an agreeable, pleasant and kind, and his impulses and unaffected manner. He is a staunch partisan and personal friend of Hon. M. S. Quay, his only son being named Stanley Quay Elkin.

United States Senator Penrose.

An unwritten law in American politics is that the representative of any party from any state in the senate of the United States is regarded as the titular if not the actual head of the party in that state. By reason of his position, therefore, of his youth and of his friendships United States Senator Boies Penrose is regarded as one of the men who will exercise the greatest influence in deciding questions that must come before the next legislature, so far as his party is concerned. From his first entrance into political arena Senator Penrose has been identified with the stalwarts, or what has later been designated the Quay element in the Republican party. Of illustrious ancestry, the founders of his family have been identified with the government of Pennsylvania since the days of Penn. Through the Biddles, the Kinseys and Penroses he has inherited an Americanism stretching through six generations.

Boies Penrose entered Harvard at the early age of 16, and graduated with high honors in 1881. He was born Nov. 18, 1860, at 1331 Spruce street, the house in which he still resides when in Philadelphia. His father was R. A. F. Penrose, M. D., LL. D. Since 1885 the tall, strongly built form of Boies Penrose has been a familiar one in Harrisburg, where he served successively as member of the house in 1885 and member of the state senate from 1886 to 1896.

By profession Senator Penrose is a lawyer, having studied under Wayne MacVeach and George Tucker Bishop, being admitted to the Philadelphia bar in 1883. In connection with his law partner, Mr. Allison, he is the author of "A History of the City Government of Philadelphia," a volume entitled "Philadelphia 1681-1887" and a "History of Ground Rents in Philadelphia." He was elected to the United States senate to succeed J. David Cameron in 1896, and today is Pennsylvania's only representative in that distinguished body.

The marked characteristic of Senator Penrose's public life is the fluency and command of language in his public utterances. He is one of the most polished speakers that ever sat in the State Senate of Pennsylvania. He also is a bachelor.

Col. James M. Guffey. The controlling power in Democratic councils at Harrisburg the coming session will be, just as he was last session, Col. James McClurg Guffey, Democratic National Committeeman from Pennsylvania, and the recognized head of the party in this state. The story of Col. Guffey's life has been one long romance. He is not only the largest oil producer in the United States, but employs more men in his Idaho than any single individual.

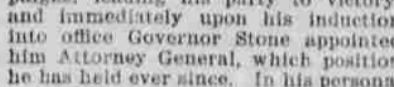
Col. Guffey comes from one of the oldest families in Pennsylvania. On his mother's side he is descended from the historic Clan Campbell of Scotland, while on his paternal side the Guffey family has for generations past been prominent in the State of Louisiana, in the Scottish lowlands. The first Guffey arrived in this country in 1738, settled in Philadelphia and subsequently penetrated the then wilderness to what is now Westmoreland county,

where he established the first English settlement in that county and the second west of the Alleghenies. James M. Guffey passed his early days on his father's farm and attending the district school. At the age of 18 he became a clerk in the superintendent's office of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, at Louisville, Ky. He subsequently resigned to accept a more responsible position at Nashville, Tenn., with the Adams Express company. It was while here that Col. James M. Guffey, his attention was directed to the oil fields of his native state. He returned to Pennsylvania and immediately entered upon a career as a producer and operator which has had few parallels in the phenomenal story of the oil region.

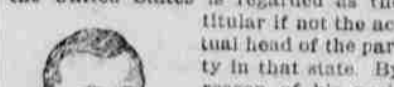
Within a few years his operations covered five counties. He drilled the celebrated Matthews well, one of the greatest of its time. When the discovery of natural gas was made he entered this field with the same success that had attended him in the oil region. Then he branched out into the development of coal areas in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and this was followed by his venture into gold and silver mining in Idaho and Colorado. He is president of the Trade Dollar Mining and Milling company, of Silver City, Idaho. The town of Guffey in that state is named after him.

Col. Guffey, in connection with his party that he has held, especially in the Westmoreland county, has always taken an interest in politics. At the Democratic county convention in August, 1897, Col. Guffey was elected a member of the Democratic national committee from Pennsylvania, which position he has held ever since. It is the only office in the gift of his party that he has held, and he has repeatedly declared that he is not a candidate for any other office.

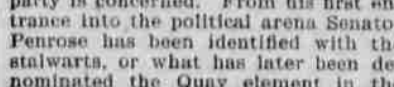
The striking feature of Col. Guffey's political career has been his control of men. He is a keen student of human nature and reads men intuitively. To this fact and the wide experience of his life in the business world is due the remarkable hold he has upon his party and its leaders. Col. Guffey is a striking figure. He is tall and slender, with wavy gray hair and iron gray mustache. His features are clear cut and expressive. In his quick, instantly grasping a point, a ready conversationalist, and one of the most agreeable of men. He resides with his wife and four children in a beautiful home in the East End of Pittsburgh. His hospitality and geniality are the dominant features of his social life. He is a prominent member of the Manhattan club of New York, the Duquesne club of Pittsburgh, a trustee of Washington and Jefferson colleges and of many other social and educational institutions. Col. Guffey has just completed his 60th year of life.



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At the national convention of 1896 he was one of the six Pennsylvania delegates who voted for Major McKinley, declining to join the rest of the delegation in voting for Senator Quay for president. He was a delegate to the national convention at Minneapolis and also a delegate to the national convention in '88 which nominated Harrison for president.

The senatorial district which Mr. Martin represents gave him the distinction two years ago of the largest majority ever given a senatorial candidate in the state, he having defeated the Democratic nominee by over 21,000 votes in a poll of about 37,000.

Senator Martin holds a high place in the councils of the independent Republican organization, as his position in Philadelphia entitles him to such distinction. His manner is not effusive, and though agreeable and entertaining in private conversation he carefully chooses his words in discussing affairs of state or politics.

As a farmer's son, his love for country life has always remained supreme, and he resides with his wife, sister and brother-in-law, the latter William J. Honey, Receiver of Taxes of Philadelphia, on the old farm in a beautiful modern mansion near Holmesburg, Philadelphia, where the hospitality of himself and his wife are proverbial. Of late Senator Martin has come to the front as a public speaker when occasion demanded it, and at such times has expressed himself with freedom and force. Senator Martin is 56 years of age.

Secretary Van Valkenburg.

For nearly four years the executive management of the affairs of the Business Men's Republican League of Pennsylvania and its Philadelphia branch has been under the personal direction of its secretary, Frederick A. Van Valkenburg. He was a prominently identified with the senatorial contest in the legislature two years ago, was one of the directing powers in the John F. A. Van Valkenburg, a senatorial contest at Harrisburg four years ago, and will be in charge of the League's work in connection with the independent Republican movement the coming session. Associated with him will be Hon. A. D. Fetterolf, former chief clerk of the house and one of the independent leaders of eastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Van Valkenburg is one of the youngest men in active politics in the state, having been born April 3, 1867, in Tioga county. He comes of an old family and revolutionary ancestry. The only office he has ever held was that of assistant postmaster at Willsboro in 1890 and 1892. He is a man of medium height, stoutly built, of jovial disposition and with a keen sense of humor. Prior to his entrance into state politics he had been active in Tioga county Republican affairs.

Politics, however, do not engross all of his time, for he is general manager of the Bangor Star State company, and is identified with the development of the new famous Tioga county oil fields. Prior to his election as secretary of the Business Men's League he was a contractor for the building of highway bridges. The peculiarity about Mr. Van Valkenburg is that he has no desire to hold office and would not accept political preferment, as he has frequently declared.

He is a part owner of the Willsboro Republican Advocate. He lives at the Manufacturers' club, in Philadelphia, and is noted for his collection of curios and editions of rare works. This is the only hobby he indulges in. He is one of the best known of the younger club men in Philadelphia. Like all men who exercise executive or directing power in politics or business, he is straightforward in his utterances and does not leave anybody in doubt as to his ideas on any subject. His friends are carefully selected and are of the kind who are steadfast under all circumstances.

A SLEEPY GUEST.

Why the Lady of the House Was Indignant Over His Conduct.

There is a well known legal light of Chicago who is in deep disgrace without the shadow of an excuse for himself to bolster up his sinking spirits. He went out to Hyde Park the other night to dine informally with some friends, and his hostess, who had been married but a short time, put herself out to entertain him. The dinner was excellent, and the judge did full justice to it. The best coffee in the library, and the biggest, most padded leather chair was put at the guest's disposal. With a sigh he sank into its envied depths and prepared for a luxurious evening with a good cigar ahead of him. Brilliantly his hostess rambled on. She told stories that were witty, and she gently deferred to his views, but presently he let her to do all the talking. In the midst of a striking account of a theater party she stopped with a jerk. There was no response and a dead silence punctuated only by a gentle and regular breathing. The judge was fast asleep in his big chair. There was no doubt of it. Nothing could conceal the fact. With one indignant and comprehensive glance at her plaid, delighted husband she arose and tactically swept up stairs. And she did not go down again.

It was some time later when her husband and wife together came up after her. He had not expected her wrath to last. "Did—did you think you were badly treated?" he asked.

"How long did it sleep?" asked the still insulted wife.

"Again the grin overspread her husband's face, but he spoke in a sad tone, as belittled the occasion. "Nearly an hour," he breathed. "I wouldn't mind," he replied.

"Then it was the worst turned. "Mind" she stormed. "Of course I wouldn't only you have grounds now for the rest of your life for saying I talk so much it puts people to sleep!" And she went—Chicago News.

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Reisner's Store News.

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Then, of course, we can sell you a hat, necktie, collar, gloves, handkerchief—anything you need and at prices that are right.

Dozens of styles and thousands of pairs is what you will find in our stock of

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Everything from the finest dress shoes for Men, Women and Children to the strong, heavy shoe for hard service.

Geo. W. Reisner & Co.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY TIME TABLE—Nov. 29, 1900.

Table with columns: Leave, Arrive, and various station names like Washington, Harrisburg, etc.

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There is the State and National, News, War News, a Department for the Farmer and Mechanic, Latest Fashions for the Ladies. The latest New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia Markets. The Sunday School Lesson, Helps for Christian Endeavorers, and a Good Sermon for everybody.

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