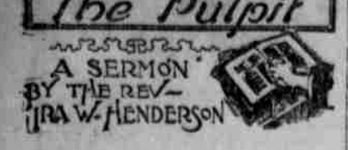
The Pulpit



Subject: Receiving the Spirit.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—Preaching at the Irving Square Presbyterian Church, Hamburg avenue and Weirfield street, on the above theme, the pastor, Rev. I. W. Henderson, took as his text Jno. 20:22, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit."

He said: The reception of the Holy Spirt in the inner sanctuary of the human heart is the condition of entrance into the kingdom of God. The possibility of the immediate and present incoming and welcoming of the Spirit is reason enough for us to believe that the kingdom begins in this life and at once, if you will. The fact that the coming of the Spirit into the heart is contemporaneous with the entrance of the individual into the privileges of divine citizenship is sufficient demonstration that spirituality is the key to, and the essence of, and the first requirement of admission to the kingdom. The one and only way to participate in the joys and blessings of the Spirit filled life is to cease from hardness of heart, and from intellectual self-glorification and self-trust, and to become as little children in humility and receptivity to truth. Spirituality and divine citizenship are one and the same thing. Growth in spirituality is the test of efficient citizenship. The man who has stopped depending upon his own strength, his own wisdom, and has opened his heart and eyes and ears and mind to the influences and manifestations of the Spirit in his life is ready to receive, and in all conscience will get, the papers and rights of a citizen of the kingdom of the God of Jesus Christ. And that soul only is being sanctified unto God-likeness and fashioned into the image of Jesus Christ who is growing daily, hourly, momently, in the gifts and graces of the spiritual life. To be spiritual is to become child-like. To attain spiritual development is the aim and the calling of those who are Christ's.

The Holy Spirit, the personal, purifying, propelling presence of God in the life of man, is the means unto the spiritualizing of human natures according to the divine decrees. The entrance of the Spirit spells death to sin. The yielding of self to the gentle ministrations of the Holy Ghost is the first step toward individual transformation. The communion of the spirit of man with the Spirit of God brings peace, contentment, rest and a wisdom and energy which are more than sufficient to meet the demands and the opposition of the world. No mere impersonal, unreal, unattainable something is this Spirit which Christ bade His disciples receive, and of which at a later time they received a fuller measure. It is the real, helpful, personal presence of God in the life. The spirit of man is a prey to all sin save the Spirit of God as a constructive, controlling force comes in. The transfusion of the soul with the vitality of the Spirit fills the dying heart of man with life.

There are three characteristics of the Holy Spirit to which I wish to direct your thought. The Holy Spirit is a constant presence in the life of the world, a controlling energy, a soul satisfying comforter.

The Holy Spirit is a constant presence and factor in the life of the world. The entire list of graces and gifts and blessings which are ours at the hands of our heavenly Father are constant. The gift of the Spirit is no exception to the rule. When God promises to men the presence and uplift of the Holy Spirit upon the fulfilment of certain conditions upon their part He means just what He says. Our Father is not fickle or changeable or inconstant. He is the same to-day, yesterday and forever. And His Spirit, which is His own real, personal presence in the hearts of men, is as constant as is all else with which He has anything to do. When we were far away from duty and were serving sin the Spirit of the living God was knocking ever at our hearts. And though we hated ourselves and the depth of our own iniquity, though the world may have despised us and forsaken us, though everything in life may have held us as "unclean" with the leprosy of sin, still the Spirit of the living, loving Father of us all stood waiting to reveal to us the wealth and beauty of the love of God and to revive our dying souls with the fullness of power unto eternal life.

The constancy of the Spirit as a factor in life is nowhere better illustrated than in the experience of Christian men who have given themselves up, in less or greater measure, to His dominion. What a joy, what a comfort, what a stay it is to know that whenever and wheresoever we may turn to the Spirit for the portion of refreshment that our souls so sorely need we shall always find Him ready to supply our wants.

There is no sense and no reason in much of our constant petitions to God to infill us with His Spirit. The influences of types of thought and of prayer are hardly escapable. We have grown so accustomed to ask God to fill us with His Spirit of power. But I submit, would we not pray better and more to the point if we thanked our Father for the favors of His love and acknowledge to Him in person, what He already knows, our shortcomings and our lack of appropriation of the gift of His Spirit. The showers of spiritual blessings are forever falling free, full and sufficient upon human souls everywhere. Our prayers should be not of petition that God may give us showers, but rather of thanksgiving for past, present and future blessings and of dedication of self, through the riches of His grace and powers to a finer and more fruitful life for Him. The presence and influence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the world is a constant gratuity. If you are not the deeply grounded spiritual man that you should be the fault lies not with the Spirit, of whom there is abundance unto all men's necessity, but with you who have refused that wealth of spiritual power which, under God, might be yours if you would. Everywhere and continually the Spirit of the Lord is active. He knocks ever at the door of the sinner's heart. He is forever pouring out the inexhaustible waters of spiritual life upon the parched souls of men. But neither God nor His Spirit can fill an inverted cup. The showers of blessing can not flood a closed heart.

Then, too, the Holy Spirit is a controlling energy in the life of the man who is susceptible to His influence. Christ tells us that His Spirit shall lead us into all truth; that He shall be our Guide, our Teacher and our Helper. The catalog of the activities of the Spirit in the life of man is strengthening and sustaining. By Him we are led into the entirety of divine self-revelation and of eternal truth. Under the guidance of the Spirit of the living God we may progress from truth to truth as the wonders of God's universe are revealed to us and the application of everlasting verities brought home to our hearts. May no man flinch to follow the Spirit withersoever He may direct. As Dante went through hell and heaven and the intermediate regions of the world beyond, and told in allegory and song the wonders that he witnessed and the sights he saw, so may we, with the Spirit as our guide, be given grace to look truth squarely in the face and portray it faithfully to the world. And if we as Dante, or beyond him Christ, shall be hounded by those who fear the light of truth we shall yet be certain that the truth, the truth alone, is worth men's fealty and shall make them free.

The Spirit as the Comforter appeals to the heart of every Christian. Who of us does not joy in the fact that above us and within us is this comforting Spirit of the Lord our God? The human heart cries out for comfort when distress and danger and destruction come upon it. When our hearts are bowed in anguish and our souls are crushed with grief, when every human tie is severed and no mortal hand may avail to dispel our utter darkness, then the spirit of the loving God strengthens, sustains, sanctifies the soul. "Save me, O God, for the waters are come into my soul," we cry out with the Psalmist. In the Judah wilderness of the world our souls thirst for Him, our flesh longs for Him as in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is. Then the Spirit comes, and with His entrance the live springs of refreshment minister to our souls' deep need. The Spirit as the Comforter is God in His presence ministering to the humanest of mortal needs. No man can live happily without Him. No man can weather the trials of tribulation and the temptations of prosperity without Him. Lending the sorrowing light hearts He keeps the successful level headed.

The sense of the constant presence of the Spirit of God in the individual and world life is the certain indication of a true religious experience. No man who lives near to God is without it. It is elemental in Christian experience. And this consciousness of God's abiding and guiding is the mainstay of the soul. Without it progress is impossible in the truest sense. With it we may fight with fearlessness, with hope unquenchable, against principalities and powers, against the wickedness of high places and the sins of mighty men. For the abiding Spirit of the living God is the controlling energy in the life of humanity. Bad men may defeat Him temporarily; evil policies may frustrate His purposes and hurl themselves against His plans: but the Spirit of God is unconquerable. He is the controlling, the overruling energy in the world. In this Spirit we should find our strength. From Him we should derive the comfort of our souls.

Let not your heart be troubled. Come what may, be the storms of life what they will, God will not leave us comfortless. He will not leave us orphans. He is with us. He will abide with every soul who bids Him enter. He will constantly refresh us all. He will give us courage and be our strength. He will suffuse us. He will comfort us. And He does.

The Great Lesson of Life.

What a vast proportion of our lives is spent in anxious and useless forebodings concerning the future—either our own or those of our dear ones. Present joys, present blessings slip by and we miss half their favor, and all for want of faith in Him who provides for the tiniest sunbeam.

Oh, when shall we learn the sweet trust in God that our little children show us every day by their confiding faith in us? We, who are so mutable, so faulty, so irritable, so unjust; and He who is so watchful, so pitiful, so loving, so forgiving? Why can not we, slipping our hand into His every day, walk trustingly over that day's appointed path, thorny or flowery, crooked or straight, knowing that evening will bring us sleep, peace and home?—Phillips Brooks.

Events Are God's

God hath a thousand keys to open a thousand doors for the deliverance of His own, when it has come to the extremity, once said Samuel Rutherford. Let us be faithful and care for our part, which is to do and suffer with Him, and lay God's part on Himself and leave it there; duties are ours, events are the Lord's.

When our faith goes to meddle with events, and to hold a court (if so to speak) upon God's providence, and beginneth to say, "How will Thou do this or that?" we lose ground. We have nothing to do there. It is our part to let the Almighty exercise His own office and steer His own helm.

The Cross.

In our days there are many who would leave the cross out of Christianity. They want an unsuffering Christ, a teacher, an example, a friend, yet not an atoning Saviour. But the cross is at the heart of the Gospel. We can be saved only by the One who suffered for us. Without shedding of blood there is no remission. Then in our lives, too, we must accept the law of the cross. We must die if we wish to live. We must lose if we would gain. We must suffer if we would reign. We can help others only through self-denial and cost.

A French Murderess.

One of the most remarkable criminals who ever baffled justice is a cunning Frenchwoman of the farming class named Bobillier. In October, 1905, this good woman lost her husband, as the doctor certified, from fracture of the jaw and skull caused by the kick of a horse inflicted twenty-four hours before death. Then the widow placed all her confidence in her foreman, a man named Gouret, who developed drinking ways, and a few days ago he was found dead in the granary with a shattered skull and a pistol in his hand. Unluckily for the widow it was observed that the pistol had never been discharged, and a blood-stained axe was found which fitted only too well with the injuries to the dead man's skull. Confronted by these evidences the woman confessed that the man had staggered to the granary to sleep off a drunken bout, and that she had killed him with the axe. She also confessed that she had murdered her husband with the same weapon as he lay on his bed in a drunken sleep. He survived a day without recovering consciousness.—London Globe.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NOTES

AUGUST ELEVENTH.

The teachings of the trees. Ps. 104: 16-18; 1: 1-6.

The trees teach praise. 1 Chron. 16: 29-34.

They teach God's care. Num. 24: 5-9.

They teach probation. Matt. 3: 5-10.

Hypocrisy a sin. Mark 11: 12-14.

"A green tree." Ps. 37: 29-36.

"Grafted on." Rom. 11: 16-24.

Shall God prepare a place for a bird's nest and not prepare a place for an immortal soul? (Ps. 104: 17.)

In lives, as in trees, there is a season for fruit-bearing; and it is foolish to expect the fruit in the time of blossoms (Ps. 1: 3).

When leaves wither, the trouble is usually not in the leaf, but in the trunk. So a man need not work about the exteriors of his life if his heart is right (Ps. 1: 3).

Suggestions.

The more we find of God in the Bible, the more we shall find in nature; and the more we see God in nature, the better we shall understand our Bibles.

Trees, the greatest of the plant world, will have many lessons for man, the greatest of the animal world.

A Christian is the stronger for the reverent study of any natural science and botany is one of the most convenient and useful sciences for the purpose.

Whoever habitually regards with reverence the stars by night and the trees by day can hardly live a mean life.

Illustrations.

All parts of the tree—trunk, branches, roots, blossoms—are only modified leaves. So let our lives be formed upon Christ.

To one who understands natural laws, the winter's barrenness is but a clear prophecy of the summer's luxuriance. Thus shall we interpret our hardships.

A noble old age is like a healthy tree in autumn; an ignoble old age is like a worm-eaten tree in spring.

When a tree ceases to grow, in that year it begins to die. So with a man.

EPWORTH LEAGUE LESSONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11.

Enduring Persecution—Matt. 5: 10.

Passages for reference: Rom. 5: 3; 8: 17, 18; 2 Cor. 12: 10; Phil. 1: 29; Rev. 7: 13-17.

The man of ease is as tender as a hothouse plant. Life's storms are as necessary for sturdiness in character as for the steel ribbing of giant oaks. President Cassatt of the great Pennsylvania Railroad system, recently deceased, though wealthy, began as a surveying rodman and worked to the top. Because of this experience he became the finest railroad manager in the country. One of the Vanderbilts on graduating from Yale began as an apprentice in the machine shop and toiled on through every department so that he might understand railroading. We learn dangers by experience. Values are alone appreciated when hunger or cold comes as a result of waste. "Hard times" in the land always teach people how to save. A shining goal puts men on their mettle. Many a student learns the joy and enrichment of study by working for a medal. The baseball player practices until all latent powers are awake so that he may get on the team that represents the college. Mothers dig and slave so that the son can glow with pride and power on graduation day. We shall at the end, when we have "fought a good fight" and have "kept the faith," receive a "crown of life" at God's right hand. What matter about the storms and trials if these all contribute to our upbuilding and we reach the glorious goal at the end?

The persecution specified is for righteousness' sake. Otherwise we cannot be sure of the "Blessed." Self-righteousness does not count. It is easy to wrap home-woven garments about us and ignore others. Many criticisms are fair and wise. We would be bigger if we noticed them and made corrections in our lives. Other times our crude personalities, stubborn, unteachable self-will, and ugly tempers make us enemies who retaliate by mistreatment. We need to inspect ourselves closely. Motives, spirit and deeds must be scrutinized. Be sure the heart and hand are good. Persecutions will then be Satan's recognition of our Christliness.

Electric Steel.

The advantage of the electric steel over the steel manufactured by the old system is its superior purity, and permits the introduction of from twenty to thirty per cent. more carbon than in the crucible steel. It can be more easily forged, is not easily affected, like the crucible steel, by the damaging influence of overheating; it is stronger and more firm, and offers a much greater resistance to wear and tear. The new system also gives added independence on account of the very ordinary material used for producing the steel. Such advantages have never been reached by any other system, and it has only recently been given to the public. This is accounted for by the fact that the inventor, Dr. Engineer Paul Heroult, a Frenchman, has kept the success a secret until he was able to demonstrate to the public a complete, successful working plant.

The electric process is based on scientific metallurgical principles which are, of course, the secret of the invention, while the old crucible method was a resmelting system, and dependent upon the use of only the most expensive ores. This new process should be of great interest to the American steel industry.—Harper's Weekly.

A WOMAN'S VIEW OF IT.

Mrs. Highflyer—"I am going to South Dakota."

Mrs. Wigwag—"Business or pleasure?"

Mrs. Highflyer—"Both; I am going to get a divorce."—Philadelphia Record.

The Farm

Care of Young Chickens.

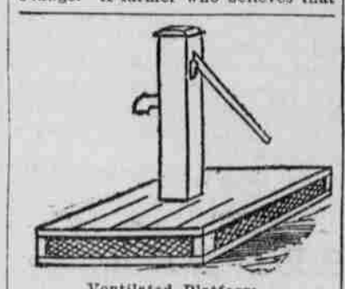
Take care of your young chickens. They should not be let out of their coops too early in the morning, or when the dew is on the ground; still less should they be suffered to range over the wet grass, which is a common cause of disease and death. They should also be guarded against sudden unfavorable changes of weather, more particularly if attended with rain. Nearly all the diseases of gallinaceous fowls arise from cold moisture. The period at which chicks are left to shift for themselves depends upon the disposition of the hen. Some will continue their attentions to their chickens till they are nearly full-grown, while others will cast them off much earlier. In the latter case an eye should be kept upon them for a few days, for chickens in this half-grown state are much more liable to disease than when they were apparently tender little weaklings.

Weather and Turkeys.

"Turkeys' condition depends on the weather," said a poultry farmer, quoted by The Dundee Advertiser. "I'll tell you why. If it's mild weather the turkeys go trudging about from morning till night, up hill and down dale, hunting worms and grubs and bugs. They cover twenty or thirty miles a day, and get muscular and hard with exercise. They become athletes. And, of course, to eat athletic turkeys you need an axe. In cold, snowy weather the ground freezes, and the worms and grubs and bugs all disappear. The turkeys, therefore, cease their all-day jaunts, and, loafing in the farmyard, eat corn and those other fattening foods that they won't look at if bugs are to be had. So, taking no exercise, gorging themselves on starchy food, they become fat and soft. They are all out of condition from the football standpoint, but, from the culinary standpoint, they are prime. That is why a warm autumn means tough, scraggy turkeys, while a cold one means fat, tender, juicy ones."

Improving the Well.

Those who remember how pure the water used to taste when it was drawn up from the old open stone walled well will welcome any plan of improving our present wells. The sweet, satisfying taste which it possessed is not now very characteristic of much of the farm well water. The fact is that people, as a rule, are very careless nowadays about the source of drinking water. Wooden curbing, absolutely no ventilation in many cases and poor soils for the purification of water have brought about the change. A farmer who believes that



Ventilated Platform.

plenty of pure air in the well will aid much in the purity of the water gave us the following plan: The frame for the support of the platform is made of two by fours, allowing a space of four to six inches between the top and bottom parts of the sides. This space is covered on the inside with two screens. The first is a large mesh, to keep out large vermin. Over this is a fly screen, to keep out dirt, insects, etc. The well never becomes foul. In winter the platform is covered with straw and snow.—Iowa Homestead.

How to Detect Swarming.

The first indication of swarming is the laying of eggs in the drone comb. While the presence of eggs in the drone-cells is not a sure sign that a swarm will issue, yet as far as I have observed swarms never do issue without eggs being laid therein. If the weather is propitious the next step is the building of queen-cells, soon after which the queen deposits eggs in them. In three days these eggs hatch into larvae and these larvae are fed an abundance of food by the nurse bees for six days, when the cells containing the embryo queens are sealed over.

If no bad weather intervenes the swarm issues the next day, the old queen going with the swarm. Bear in mind that this is the rule with the black or German bees and generally with other races; still, the Italians often swarm when the eggs are first laid in the queen-cells and some without the least preparation except drones in a time when swarming runs high in an apiary. I find, as a rule, that the first queen emerges from her cell from six to seven days after the swarm issues. If more swarms are allowed, they come forth two days later, or from the eighth to ninth day after the first and never later than the sixteenth day.

As soon as it is decided that no more swarms shall issue, all queens in the cells are destroyed, when in from five to nine days the young queen goes out to be fertilized, two days after which she commences to lay. If the apiarists stops all after swarming by the cutting of the queen cells, or by other means that keeps all of the bees in the old hive together after the first issue, I find that the young queen is much slower in going out on her wedding trip and often does not commence to lay till from the twelfth to the sixteenth day.

Taking one season with another the bulk of surplus honey is gathered by the first or prime-swarm. This being true, it is best to allow only one swarm to issue from each hive. To prevent after swarms, place the newly hived swarm on its original stand and move the hive from which the swarm has issued to a new location. It is from this old hive, of course, that after-swarms may be expected to issue.

About the time the queen cells are to hatch affix an entrance guard of perforated zinc to the hive. After a few days several dead queens will be found at the hive entrance. Now remove the entrance guard and you have remaining undoubtedly the best queen of the lot, after the plan of the survival of the fittest. Putting on sections is an important part of apiary work. If the first lot of sections is not placed on the hives at the proper time the amount of honey secured from any given colony will be greatly reduced. If put on too late the bees will have begun making preparations to swarm. It is better on the whole to put them on a little too early than too late. A colony with abundant entrance for air is less inclined to swarm than it otherwise would be. Raising the hive by putting an inch block under each corner, leaving the hive open all around, can hardly be beaten for giving plenty of air. But do not hope that the plan of giving plenty of air will suffice to keep bees from swarming entirely. —F. G. Herman, in The Epitomist.

Modern Farming.

One of the farm papers states that modern methods of farming are now so perfect that the farmers may mow peas, take them to a cannery and in two and a half hours from the time the vines are pitchforked to the receiving platform, the peas have been hulled, washed, sifted, blanched, placed in cans, brined, the cans capped, processed, labeled, boxed and the peas made ready for consumers; all at the cost of a dime per can and without having been touched by human hands at any stage of the process.

Balancing Cornmeal.

As long as cornmeal exists it will be used as a food for chicks, and while it has been used for many decades and found excellent yet it should and can be improved. It is deficient in mineral matter, and does not provide lime for the growth of bones. First, always scald the cornmeal and feed it as a stiff dough, or feed it dry, in a little trough (never on the ground). To a quart of the cornmeal add one gill of linseed meal, one gill of ground meat and a teaspoonful of salt and bread soda mixed. Then mix all the substances well before scalding or feeding.

Roots For Breeding Ewes.

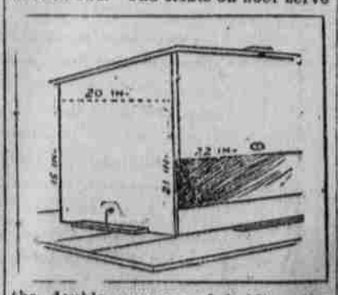
Among well-informed stock-breeders, it is generally accepted as true that the feeding of roots, either carrots or beets or even potatoes, to breeding ewes during the lambing season and until the new grass is plentiful produces most beneficial results in the way of increasing the flow of milk. It is a good plan to commence the feeding of roots a month at least before lambing. In feeding them, sprinkle on a liberal supply of bran and meal mixed in equal quantities. As well as roots, always feed the best of hay; and feed regularly, three times each day, if your sheep are not out to pasture.

The Foot of a Horse.

The foot of a horse is one of the most ingenious and unexampled pieces of mechanism in animal structure. The hoof contains a series of verticles and thin laminae of horn, amounting to about 500, and forming a complete lining to it. In this are fitted as many laminae belonging to the coffin-bone, while both sets are elastic and adherent. The edge of a quire of paper, inserted leaf by leaf into another, will convey a sufficient idea of the arrangement. Thus the weight of the animal is supported by as many elastic springs as there are laminae in all the feet, amounting to about 4000, distributed in the most secure manner, since every spring is acted on in an oblique direction.

Brood Coop.

The accompanying sketch shows a very convenient brood coop which can be built any size desired. I find that twenty inches square on the inside is about right for one hen and chickens. It should be made of lumber seven-eighth-inch thick. For the slope of the roof take a one by twelve of the desired length and cut as shown in sketch. It can be made with or without the floor. Door can be hinged on, but I prefer to have the door separate as it is easier to turn the coop over to let in the sunshine or to let the rain wash it out. By nailing a cleat on as shown in illustration and placing a button above, the door can be held in place. The bottom is attached by means of a hook and staple at each end. The cleats on floor serve



the double purpose of holding the floor together and also helps to hold the coop in place. The floor can be easily cleaned with a broom and water. The two cover planks should be left a little apart and a strip nailed over them in order that the foul air may escape. Cleats should be nailed on the inside wherever needed to strengthen the coop. A coop of this kind can be carried from place to place with ease, which, together with being easily cleaned, makes it the coop to have where insects are abundant. Holes can be bored wherever desired for ventilation or a small crack may be left in door. In hot weather a screen door can be made which will let in plenty of air and shut out all vermin.—J. L. Carroll, in The Epitomist.

Although South America has about twice the area of the United States, it has only half the population.

POPULAR SCIENCE

The use of nitrogen gas has been tried in France for inflating tires.

The North Star is estimated to shine with a light 190 times that of the sun.

Peat artificially dried is being made into wood under heavy hydraulic pressure.

Arrangements are being discussed for an electrical exposition at Niagara Falls in 1908.

Electrolysis is the only practical method known for manufacturing aluminum. All attempts to make aluminum in the electric furnace by reduction of aluminum with carbon have proved unsuccessful. The product thus obtained is almost exclusively aluminum carbide.

One of the last contributions to science made by Henri Moissan, the French chemist, recently deceased, was a classification of the boiling-point of metals. His experiments with the electric furnace demonstrated that there exists no known solid which cannot be volatilized in the laboratory. In the meantime other experimenters have shown that every gas, except perhaps helium, can be liquefied, and even solidified. Moissan found that certain families of metals are peculiar with regard to volatilization. The platinum family, for instance, has a very high boiling-point, much higher than that of gold. Manganese is the most volatile; nickel comes next; iron is refractory to a high degree; and molybdenum and tungsten have the highest boiling-points in the entire list.

Great expectations are entertained concerning the future development of the "telephoto" invented by Professor Korn, of Munich. This instrument, with the aid of selenium, a substance possessing the peculiar property of varying its electric resistance in proportion to the amount of light falling upon it, transmits a photographic image over ordinary telegraph wire. One of the most successful experiments of Professor Korn during last winter was the transmission of a photograph of the King of England over a circuit connecting Munich and Nuremberg. The photographs appear crossed with fine lines, but these hardly interfere with the distinctness of the picture. The photograph of King Edward was transmitted in eleven and one-half minutes, but Professor Korn hopes to render the process virtually instantaneous.

LONELY DOUGHERTY ISLAND.

No Landing Ever Made There and Sighted Only Twice in a Century.

Which is the loneliest, most desolate and most inaccessible island on the face of the globe? Many people would doubtless plump for one of the Crozets, which were recently brought into notice owing to the wreck thereon of the Norwegian exploring ship Catherine, and the subsequent rescue of the castaway crew by the Turakina, a British steamer dispatched from Cape Town for that purpose.

But Hog Island, the westernmost of the group, and the one whereon the wrecked men spent most of their time, is by no means an undesirable place of residence, abounding as it does in hares and rabbits, penguins, albatrosses and sea elephants.

Heard Island, in the same seas, is far more isolated, as well as more barren; but it possesses, as does Hog, a shelter hut for castaways, and it is visited by whalers occasionally. So, too, is South Georgia, but it has no shelter hut, and as it is right out of the track of shipping, any one unlucky enough to be cast away thereon would stand a very poor chance of ever getting off alive.

Bouvet Island, in the same seas, is visited ever more rarely, and on the last occasion when a ship touched there five corpses were found frozen on the beach, grim memento of some unrecorded tragedy of the sea. Possession Island, in its turn, is still lonelier and more inhospitable than Bouvet.

But probably the palm in this direction must be ascribed to Dougherty Island, on which, so far as is known, no landing has ever yet been effected. It has only been sighted twice in a century, and is officially described in the admiralty sailing directions as "the most remote and isolated spot on earth."—Pearson's Weekly.

Anthracite Coal's Centenary.

Just a hundred years ago the first shipment of anthracite coal ever made went from Plymouth, Luzerne County, to Columbia, Lancaster County, and a number of citizens of Plymouth are now arousing enthusiasm for a celebration of this heroic event. Abijah Smith shipped the first cargo of the black diamonds in an ark, floating down the Susquehanna River. The discovery by Jesse Fell, of Wilkes-Barre, about six months after this shipment, that the new fuel would burn in his grate with intense heat without an air blast caused many orders to come into Plymouth for fuel, and the chief business of the town ever since has been the mining and shipping of coal.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Hereditary Names.

According to the invariable custom of the Duke of Richmond's family, it is prescribed that the eldest son and the eldest son of the eldest son shall be named after King Charles II., to whom they owe so much. The same principle is preserved in Lord Salisbury's family, where the eldest sons are named James, after James I., who bestowed the earldom of Salisbury and viscounty of Cranborne on the original founder of the house.—London Graphic.

From the hawksbill turtle of the Carribean Sea comes the tortoise shell of commerce.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR AUG. 11 BY THE REV. I. W. HENDERSON.

Subject: The Sin of Nadab and Abihu, Lev. 10:1-11 — Golden Text, Prov. 20:1 — Memory Verse, 8.

Nadab and Abihu furnish the groundwork for the temperance lesson of the day. Evidently they were drunk when they went to perform their usual duties before the altar. At least it would so appear since immediately following the recital of their foolish actions and grievous disobedience to the commands of God we have the record that the Lord specifically commanded Aaron and his other sons that they should refrain from following after strong drink.

What God expected of Aaron as a priest He expects of every one of us as His children, especially of those of us who are sealed to Him in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. For, as the Proverb says, "wine is a mocker." It is a sign not of a man's sense but of his lack of it when he fools with liquor. It not only makes fools of men but it makes beasts of them. It not only makes monkeys of them, but it also makes raging, vicious brutes of them. It is a delusion and a snare.

If it was a good thing for Aaron and his sons to let the sort of wine they used in their day alone, it is certainly wise that we should let the stuff that is sold to-day alone. If the wine of Israel could make idiots of the priests of the tabernacle no man can accurately predict what the alcoholic drinks of to-day will do with men. For the likelihood is that the wine of that primitive time as used by the priesthood was as good as can be procured. But the vile stuff that is sold to-day is generally as bad as can be procured. The average man to-day when he does buy wine, or beer, or liquors of any sort cannot even be certain that he is purchasing what he wants. Much of the alcoholic drinks that are served to the public to-day is poison flaunting itself under the black flag of subterfuge.

But whether they be pure or poisonous alcoholic beverages had best be left alone. No man can afford to fool with them. We see daily instances of the folly of even strong, intelligent, moral men tampering with liquor. It is as sensible to tamper with liquor as it is to tease a rattlesnake. Statistics will never record the number of the bright, industrious, brainy, useful men who tampered with liquor and met defeat. God alone knows the awful list of those who have gone down into the drunkard's grave because they felt competent to curb and control about as fierce a monster as ever mastered man. Alcohol as a beverage is a fraud. It is even questionable whether it is useful as a medicine. For its chief medicinal value is as a preservative and solvent. Its nutritive value is so negligible as to be easily dispensed with, and as easily replaced. As a stimulant it is a sham. For its retroactive properties are too thoroughly pronounced.

There is nothing whatever to be gained by the use of alcohol as a beverage. First of all it is an unnatural acquirement. Water is the natural beverage. Water slakes and satisfies the thirst. Alcohol intensifies and excites the thirst. It creates an abnormal desire. It is unsatisfying. Secondly, alcohol is expensive. None of us though he have the riches of Rockefeller is rich enough to spend a dollar on alcoholic drinks. And the poorer we are the more we need the money for valid necessities. The man who has money to spend on drinks had better spend the money on his family, charity, or himself. For practically all the money spent on liquor is an economic loss. Alcohol as a beverage takes the money of the drinker without affording society commensurate return. In the measure that its return is incommensurate it is an economic loss. Thirdly, alcohol as a beverage is dangerous. It is the hand maiden of hell. It is the devil's hangman.

The strange thing is that, while the Church of Jesus Christ and the courts of the land recognize that the beverage liquor traffic is at the source of the vilest and most hopeless miseries of this country to-day, the church takes no more decided and defiant and aggressive attitude against it than she does and the courts of the land permit it to exist in open defiance of the unconstitutional guarantees to the public at large of undisturbed and equal opportunity to pursue a peaceful existence in liberty and happiness before the law. The strange thing is that it is so unpopular even in the church to arraign the citizenship that palliates and endorses and permits the saloon to exist for a consideration—even the Christian citizenship of America. The strange thing is that the courts permit such a business to exist. For every child of a drunken father is denied the elemental opportunity for wholesome life, liberty and happiness that makes us equal before the law. Every child born out of drunken wedlock is handicapped inevitably in the race of life. Every weak willed sot is aided on towards misery and sorrow by the consent of the State. Every mother in a half furnished home, deprived of the necessaries of life, is a standing argument for the intervention of the church and State. You can't make men moral by law, to be sure. But you can remove the legalized invitation and suggestion to immorality by law. That is a duty of the church and of the State.

An Immense Telescope.

John D. Hooker, of Los Angeles, has provided the necessary funds for the purchase of a reflecting telescope, of which the mirror will be 100 inches in diameter and the focal length fifty feet. The enormous stride contemplated by the erection of such a telescope will be best apprehended if we compare its dimensions with the largest instruments of the kind yet completed. Hitherto sixty inches has been the limit of diameter. —Engineering.

A Feeler.

"But," asked the young doctor, "why do you always order champagne for every new patient that comes to you?"

"Because, my boy," replied the old practitioner, "I can judge by what the patient says whether or not he can afford it. That helps me when I come to make out my bill."—Philadelphia Press.