

THE FORUM.

The people's column for the discussion of questions pertaining to the public good.

The Editor must know the names of the contributors, and will guard these names carefully.

He does not hold himself responsible for any views expressed, and reserves the right to reject any communication.

HIGHER SALARIES, LARGER CHARGES.

For The Commercial.

We have heard and read a good deal of late about higher salaries for ministers. The correct solution of that question depends upon conditions. The laborer is worthy of his hire, and the hire or salary should be graduated according to the labor performed. The church at large is suffering from lack of sufficient preaching. Most denominations have either not enough preachers or they do not do enough preaching. Many churches are vacant within the denominational limits and these limits could easily be extended if more preaching could be had. How is this shortage to be remedied? Is it only feasible by raising the salaries of ministers? We believe that higher salaries and more preaching should go together, and properly combined will apply the demand.

Look at the churches as now constituted! Some of the ministers serve but one congregation and rarely more than two. There are many charges consisting of but two congregations that are not numerically or financially able to pay a big salary; but if two other small congregations could be attached they could afford to pay a larger salary and get all the preaching they want or need.

These weak congregations which are not able to raise as much money as the stronger congregations are satisfied with services every two weeks. A minister having four preaching points could preach the same sermon at three different churches every Sunday, and in that way he could give two of his stronger churches preaching every Sunday and to his two weak congregations once every two weeks. If the charge were composed of three congregations he could preach to each every Sunday. To reach the three preaching points and return would not require more than ten or fifteen miles travel and one sermon would do for the three places. Surely no minister, who wants to do his full duty, would say that that would require too much labor.

Look at Mr. Sunday. He preaches two sermons every day of the week, which are twice the length of the average minister's sermon. The average charges as now constituted are too small. No congregation, however large, needs to have two sermons on every Lord's Day; one good sermon furnishes as much spiritual food as can be thoroughly digested and appropriated. Now, then, as there is a scarcity of ministers, why should their field of labor be extended or enlarged, as by so doing the borders of the church could be proportionately enlarged? If the charges were enlarged the ministers' salaries could be increased without increasing the burdens of the members, and 50 per cent. more territory could be covered by the present ministerial force.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

DOES IT PAY?

Incited by the reception of a former article; that your readers, pupils with mine, and pupils of mine in the common schools of several states have accorded it, I have the honor to supply another as evidence of my 'presence for duty.' Hoping that this article may prove helpful in directing thought, in summing up conclusions, or encouraging those who are making an up-hill fight.

Among the many factors making up the scheme of things social, I can think of none more potent for good or ill than the question, "Does It Pay?" to hold allegiance to "John Barleycorn?" or to retain the friendship of those who are aligned with him.

If not then cut the acquaintance at once. Not on New Year's Day, but with the thought and determination. Americans the world over are known as money-makers; a few accuse us of being "money-mad."

The latest departure in latter day business methods is found to have fully and sanely answered that question, "Does It Pay?" with a big NO. Before making an investment or choosing an occupation, the question, "Does It Pay?" stands before all others. The composition of the human is an alchemy so complex, so profoundly deep, that none may fathom the motives stirring men to action. Given friendship, sociability, fashion, habit or hereditary learning, these have each to bear their share of the blame as the reason for this allegiance to "J.B."

But we of the modern school desire

freedom of choice and would question personal advantages. Great enterprises from individual incentive have sprung, and a demand from the public for this product, has eliminated all personal ties, personal feeling between capital and labor. This has given the first and far reaching answer to the question—"NO."

No one may now occupy a position of responsibility, be it property or life who will allow his sane judgment or trained body to be dominated by a stimulus that will chouse his powers, augment daring and minimize danger, shortly to leave it exhausted, weak and incapable for part of a duty assumed. A mere chuff. Round one and "J.B." is a loser by a vast per cent. Continuing from one corporation to another spreads the slogan. To lumberman, mill, factory, and farm, would you be reasonably sure of dividends, eschew the consumer of strong drink.

Again and now properly aligned we see the second power gaining an unconquerable army. In the past and especially in other lands beyond the sea, misdirected, to-wit:—"Universal Suffrage."

Accomplished. It will once for all seal the doom of "J.B." along with opium, cocaine, etc., it will be found together with arsenate, strychnine, prussic acid, and all drugs of a dangerous character, whence no one may fear their poison save through the action of a reputable physician.

To Universal Suffrage, I am not a convert. First, in the case of "J.B." I've found it did not pay. Again in relation to Female Suffrage, I have concluded that the Mises who has waited 21 years shall be to me as good a political judge as to voting a proper sentiment, as the foreigner who has been given the franchise in five.

Avant, though leech of dividends; Disturber of the social structure of a prosperous commonwealth. Let us educate the foreigner's wife to a knowledge of the fact, that she will have it in her own hands to stop wife-beating and many of the other practices brought from a land where the weak are a prey for the bully, and womanhood no better than the cattle in the fields. Soon will dawn the day when there will always be plenty for every christian charity. Be born the pity that holds coin in its hands with the commiseration expressed; a clean community and each citizen, a man of honor and honored.

Respectfully submitted,
FRED COLEMAN.

Decide Yourself.

The Opportunity is Here Backed by Meyersdale Testimony.

Don't take our word for it.

Don't depend on a stranger's statement.

Read Meyersdale endorsement.

Read the statements of Meyersdale citizens.

And decide for yourself.

Here is one case of it.

W. H. Blume, carpenter, 221 Bushley St., Meyersdale, Pa., says:—"About three months ago I was troubled by my kidneys. Sharp pains darted through the small of my back and I didn't know what to do. I couldn't sleep at night. My druggist, Dr. Thomas, suggested that I get a box of Doan's Kidney Pills and I did so. I want to say that they are all right. I used about three boxes and am now much better. I always recommended Doan's Kidney Pills to my friends and keep them on hand at all times."

Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills the same that Mr. Blume recommends. Foster-Milburn Co. Prop., Buffalo, N. Y., ad.

HARDY TUSCAN WOMEN.

One Vigorous Old Dame Who Acted as a Mountain Guide.

Illustrative of the hardness of women in Tuscany, Sir Francis Vane relates in "Walks and People in Tuscany" the experiences of two Englishmen who were traveling in Italy and who appealed to a village innkeeper for a trustworthy guide to conduct them over the pass between the mountains of Rondinajo and Tre Potenze. To their surprise an old woman appeared and announced that she had come to make arrangements for the journey. They concluded she must be the mother of their guide.

"What was our amazement to learn that this elderly dame was our destined leader, and indeed she was got up for the fray in long boots and short skirts.

"On we tramped, she always ahead, walking with a fine military swing which a life-guardsmen might have envied. The path was difficult and could not be used by vehicles. Our guide led us up the steep way which follows a small and rushing stream issuing from out the side of Rondinajo, and up it we ascended for an hour or more until the pass was reached.

"We here had the merciful intention of sending the old woman back, an intention, however, she very strongly opposed. It was only by allowing her to come some few miles farther on that we could induce her to leave us before she had seen us safely to the end of the journey."

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR MARCH 8

WATCHFULNESS.

(Temperance Lesson.)

LESSON TEXT—"Blessed are those servants who are watching, for the Lord will find them when he cometh."—Luke 12:37.

The words of Jesus are the greatest authority the believer has upon which to found his belief in the Second Coming. Some refuse to have much to do with this important theme because others have perverted it or else "overly emphasized it" yet in the 260 chapters in the New Testament there are 118 distinct references to this theme, a far greater proportion than is placed upon some of the doctrines upon which whole denominations have been founded.

Relative Value.

I. The exhortation to watch, vv. 35-40. This is the beginning of a new paragraph. Jesus has been showing the relative value of material possessions and the Kingdom of God and epitomizes his teaching in v. 34. He now sets before his disciples what shall their attitude towards him during his absence (II. Pet. 3:11, 12 R. V., Titus 2:13; II. Tim. 4:8). Thus to be watchful seems to contradict his suggestions about anxiety. We need to remember, however, that the child of the Kingdom is in entirely new relationship with the world. His desire is not for self enrichment but rather to be in such relations with God as his rights demand and thus to bring to others their highest good. This parable epitomizes opportunity. Rightly to make use of none's opportunities spells happiness for the disciple when he the king shall appear. The evidence that we are watching for his appearing consists of the readiness of the individual who is or is not watching, v. 35; I. Pet. 1:13. Jesus knocks at the individual heart (Rev. 3:20) but when he comes 'twill be to present at a feast, v. 36. We cannot contract this time and there is no call to service tomorrow. Lions girt, ready for the battle or for the race, and lamps burning (light is always the result of something being consumed), are today's visible evidence of continuous service.

Peter's Question.

II. The explanation to Peter, vv. 41-48. Between this parable and the one which follows, Peter interrupts by asking the question, "Lord, speak thou this parable unto us, or open it to us?" That which follows is his answer to that question but it is also a continuance of the teaching just given. In this part Jesus refers to stewards (bond-servants) that it is their supreme business to seek the Kingdom by selling in order to give. The one work of a servant is to give to the members of a household, each in due season his portion of the father's household goods. John 21:15-17; I. Pet. 5:2; Jer. 3:15. There are many deceitful servants who first feed themselves, or feed only a portion of the household, or who feed bread of life, I. Pet. 2:2; 4:10, 11. Jesus teaches us that each bond-servant shall likewise be judged and that suddenly.

III. The exhortation. Jesus Christ here presents to us the fact that we shall all be judged. That the measure of our reward or of our punishment is dependent upon the measure of our knowledge and of our opportunity, James 4:17. To him to whom much is given, of him shall much be required. Our present responsibility is that of being ready for the coming of the King and of his Kingdom. The expression of that readiness is evidenced by our lives of service. There are of course many other phases of service not included in this parable, but our Lord is emphasizing opportunity, stewardship, service, watchfulness. In order to fulfill our service we must enter into fellowship with the King in his reign, and those who enter into that fellowship, who are faithful, he will reward, v. 37, 43. The measure of our punishment is conditioned upon the measure of our knowledge (v. 48) and our knowledge can be enlarged as we use our opportunities.

IV. The Golden Text, (v. 37). Is intended to fix our attention upon the acts of our Lord when he shall return. It seems astonishing that he shall compel those whom he finds watching to seat themselves that he may gird himself and serve them. Here we gird ourselves that we may serve him by serving others (Matt. 25:40). But in that tomorrow the day of his victory, he will gird himself and serve those who have been watchfulness and obedient servants. This is a suggestion of the exceeding grace mentioned by the Apostle Paul, Rom. 11:33.

V. The Temperance Lesson is suggested by the conduct of those who are not watching for the King's appearing (v. 45). They were indulging in the animal pleasures of the moment. The Kingdom of God is not in eating and drinking but consists of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, Rom. 14:17. The effect of intemperance on the death rates, on the next generation, from an economic standpoint or viewed from any angle, is only the result of the most criminal shortsightedness. A clear apprehension of the fact of the imminence of his return would change all lives.

For Her Convenience

Just inside our entrance is a room for the especial comfort and convenience of our lady customers, and, as ladies have proven themselves shrewd buyers, they can greatly aid themselves by having an account of their own. The very act of paying your bills by check gives you positive protection and an exact record, which is very useful as a protectograph against little extravagances.

SECOND NATIONAL BANK, MEYERSDALE, PA.

Resources Over Six Hundred Thousand Dollars.

"Waverly" Oils and Gasolines

Cost More—Worth Most
Gasolines—Illuminants—Lubricants—Wax—Specialties
Waverly Oil Works Co. Pittsburgh

NEWS OF THE COURT

FEBRUARY 24th.

At today's session of criminal court A. J. Lowry of Confluence, charged with violating the State mining laws by Mine Inspector Fletcher W. Cunningham of Somerset, entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to serve 60 days in jail pay a fine of \$50 and costs of prosecution. Lowry is a mine foreman and neglected to provide shelter holes along the mine headings and properly protect electric wires. Inspector Cunningham is waging an energetic campaign against all violators of the mining laws in order to reduce the number of fatalities.

Edward Kuchinsky and John Svish of Boswell, charged with violating the mining laws pleaded guilty to a charge of endangering their lives by carelessly jumping on a trip of loaded cars in the mines of the United Coal company. They were sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 each and costs of prosecution and paroled for one year.

In the case of Alexander Ches and Sidney Ches of Windber, charged with aggravated assault and battery by Martin Votosky, a jury rendered a verdict of "not guilty, but pay the costs."

Frank Kesinoski of Acosta, prosecuted for assault and battery by Martin Warznak, was convicted, but has not yet been sentenced.

"Not guilty, prosecutor pay half the costs and the defendant half the costs" was the verdict returned in the assault and battery suit of Frank Churneski against Martin Warznak. Charles Gabor of Windber, charged with maintaining a gambling house by Policeman Samuel W. McMullen, was paroled on payment of a \$50 fine and the costs of prosecution.

The grand jury returned true bills today in the following cases:—Michael Harmely, larceny, Frank Tarr, prosecutor; John G. Miller, larceny, Albert H. Henry, prosecutor; August Krause, assault and battery, Ellen Krause, prosecutor.

The grand jury ignored the bill of indictment and placed the costs on the county in the case of David Shapiro and A. A. Shapiro of Meyersdale, charged with receiving stolen goods by Constable Harvey E. Bittner. Harvey Dummeyer pleaded guilty to a charge of adultery preferred against him by Edward A. Shaulis, and was paroled on payment of the costs of prosecution and a fine of \$50.

FEBRUARY 25th.

In criminal court today the second true bill was returned by the grand jury in the perjury case against Fred Rowe of Meyersdale, in which the prosecutor is Levi Deol of Grove City. The suit is an echo of the failure of the Farmers Bank of Meyersdale nine years ago, of which S. D. Livengood was president. At that time Rowe had 50 shares of the capital stock of the Erie Coal & Coke company in the bank as collateral on a loan. Livengood failed and made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, naming Attorney Harvey M. Berkley as assignee. Berkley disappeared last summer and the stock was sold to Deal. Rowe it is alleged, made an affidavit last September that he owned the stock in order to prevent Deal from voting the same at an annual election. It so happened, it seems, that the disputed stock controlled the election, two factions of stockholders being so evenly divided as to give Deal a controlling interest if he were allowed to vote the disputed stock. To prevent Deal's success Rowe, it is claimed, swore that he owned the stock. Deal, the prosecutor, claims that Rowe swore falsely in that affidavit. Yesterday a motion to quash the first indictment made by the grand jury resulted in an amended

bill of indictment being presented today.

A continuance was announced in the case of Michael Harmely, charged with larceny by Frank Tarr of Windber.

It was announced that John G. Miller, charged with larceny by Albert H. Henry, is a fugitive from justice.

A verdict of not guilty was rendered in the case in which W. B. Kasmerick was charged with impersonating an officer and larceny by Meritoth of Acosta.

The grand jury ignored the bills of indictment in the following cases and placed the costs on the prosecutors: Benjamin Eseski, assault and battery, Blasko Poplaski, prosecutor; Benjamin Poplosky, assault and battery, Bozto Fukopsky, prosecutor.

"Not guilty, but pay the costs," was the verdict rendered in the case of August Krause, of Elk Lick township, charged with assault and battery by Ellen Krause. James Yustano of Acosta, pleaded guilty to a charge of carrying concealed weapons preferred against him by Deputy Sheriff Andrew J. Coleman, but has not yet been sentenced.

A settlement has been effected in the case of James Tyreny and John Thomas, charged with cruelty to animals by Walde Buechley.

Special "Health Warning" for March.

March is a trying month for the very young and for elderly people. Croup, bronchial colds, lagrippe and pneumonia are to be feared and avoided. Foley's Honey and Tar is a great family medicine that will quickly stop a cough, check the progress of a cold and relieve inflammation and congested air passages. It is safe, pure and always reliable. Sold by all Dealers Everywhere.

CANING THE CULPRIT.

The Marks It Leaves Look Worse Than the Whaling Feels.

In a London police court recently a teacher in a public school was prosecuted for assaulting a pupil by caning him. The magistrate decided that he had not used undue violence and therefore discharged the master.

In this case the father of the boy who had been caned took him to a physician on the evening of the day of his caning and this doctor found about fifteen wheals on the lad's back. This was evidence of severe punishment, but the magistrate considered it was not too severe for the offense, which had caused it, and said that opinion of the amount of force that had been used.

Commenting on this the London Lancet says:—"A blow from a cane causes at the time an appreciable amount of pain (which, by the way, is what it is intended to do), but it leaves behind a mark quite out of proportion in its formidable character to the amount of suffering which it causes after the first sting has been endured. If any one doubts this, having perhaps avoided the opportunity to observe it in the course of an exemplary boyhood, the experiment is easily made. Any small boy will be willing to do his share by inflicting upon the seeker after truth a sharp cut or two. The results of which will no doubt be distinctly felt for a time, but only for about an hour while there will be visible on the well-protected and tender skin of the back for some days wheals which would harrow the heart of any mother."

In other words, a boy's back after a caning looks far worse than it feels.

An Eternal One.

Tough Looking Customer—I'm tired of this blamed town, and I'm going to leave it. I want the longest journey I can get for 45 cents. Ticket Seller—Go and spend it for chloroform.—Chicago Tribune.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Methodist Episcopal church service, Rev. G. A. Neeld pastor.—Services at 10:30 a. m., Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Epworth League at 6:55 p. m. Evening service at 7:30.

SS. Philip and James Catholic church, Rev. J. J. Brady, pastor.—Mass. Sunday 9 and 11 a. m. Vespers and Benediction at 7:30 p. m. Church of the Brethren—Preaching 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School, 9:20 a. m. Christian Workers Meeting at 6:50 p. m. Bible Class, Saturday evening, 7:30 p. m. Teacher Training classes meet Monday evening, 7 and 8 o'clock, respectively. Sunday School Workers Meeting, Friday evening, 30th inst., at 7:30.

Brethren Church, H. L. Goughnour pastor—Services on Sunday, March 8, at Summit Mills in the morning, in the afternoon at Salisbury and in the evening in the Meyersdale church. Sunday School and Christian Endeavor at usual hours. All are cordially invited.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY, & Co., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney, for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by his firm. NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

Sold by all Druggists, 75 cents per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for Constipation.

Clean Hands.

Keep your hands clean! It is not without reason that the expression "his hands are clean" has grown to be a synonym for moral as well as physical cleanliness.

The hands are the part of our body most frequently in contact with infected and unclean materials. Unless precautions are observed until they become a habit this will lead to the conveying of disease germs to the mouth either directly or by the handling of food or anything we put into the mouth.

Keep soap and stiff bristle brush always convenient and make it a rule to wash your hands thoroughly before each meal. Before preparing food or serving it.

After the necessary toilet attentions. After attentions to the sick and the handling of articles in a sick room.

It is a common thing to find secondary cases of typhoid and other diseases which have resulted from the failure to observe the latter precautions. And if the nurse must act as cook some disinfectant such as a 2 per cent carbolic solution should be used as well as thoroughly scrubbing the hand with plenty of soap and warm water. The nails should receive particular attention.

Washing the hands is one of the simplest yet most important of the precautions which one can take to insure avoiding disease.

A baby food for baby chicks. Greatest advance in scientific chick feeding in the past century. Pratt's Baby Chick Food saves chicks, money, worry. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Sold on money back guarantee by Habel & Phillips and Cover & Son.