



EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

The Ministry.

Of the 20,000 men and women who graduated from our universities and colleges last month only 1,500 aspire to preach the gospel. As there are some 74,000 engaged in preaching in the United States this contribution is insufficient to keep up the supply. Here and there are men and women who have never had a college or theological training who are discharging the duties of the pulpit, but they are few compared to those who have had these advantages, so that virtually the number of aspirants is a correct measure of the extent of the ministerial ambition.

The principal reasons why the number of candidates for the clergy is growing less relatively year by year are that congregations are getting more exacting, that the pay is small and the occupation the least attractive of the professions. This is the selfish point of view. Then, the conscientious student who may be religiously inclined and who sees great opportunities for doing good in the calling, sometimes is deterred because he cannot satisfy his conscience of the truth of some of the doctrines of Christianity. Sooner than preach something which he cannot believe in he turns his talents to another calling.

Another hindrance is that the religious unrest, so palpable in the world, is much more pronounced in the higher halls of learning. Here agnosticism, materialism, indifference, are at work sapping the early religious training and turning the mind in its formative stage against the pulpit. Much harm is wrought here by the scoffer and the unbeliever who are never so happy as when reviling Christianity and everything pertaining to its missional advancement.

The world was never so generous in its support of Christian churches and charities as it is today and nowhere else is this extended with the generosity of that of the United States. Yet the disposition to preach is not keeping abreast of this sentiment. If it were, the candidates for the priesthood this year would number 4,000 or 5,000 instead of 1,500.—Utica Globe.

The Profit of Good Roads.

NOW that the country is remarkably well supplied with railroads which haul the farmer's products to market at an average rate of a half a cent a ton per mile, it begins to be of prime importance that the average cost of hauling from the farm to the railway station, which is about twenty-five cents per ton per mile, should be reduced. The Department of Agriculture claims that this cost could be reduced two-thirds by the simple substitution of good macadamized roads for the ordinary dirt highways now in use.

Pennsylvania's new road law, which divides the cost of making permanent roads between the State, county and township, was inspired by a desire to begin the solution of this problem in a way that would prove least burdensome to the farmers themselves. So far, however, its provisions have not been taken advantage of as widely as was anticipated. It seems worth while to call attention to the fact that practically similar laws are already in operation, with excellent results, in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, California and elsewhere. In the State like New Jersey, where the law has been in operation longest, the benefits are marked.

It is the first step that costs, however, in road-making as in everything else. When a few experimental sections of really good highways have been provided as object lessons, it is to be hoped that Pennsylvania farmers will fall in line with those of other States, where permanent road laws have been longer in force.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Our Illiterate Citizens.

THERE is food for thought in the figures of the United States census report dealing with education. Thus we learn that in 1900 there were 2,325,000 men of the age of 21 or over who were unable to read or write. This great army of illiterates constituted 11 per cent of the voting strength of the nation—an electorate in itself sufficiently strong, if suitably distributed, to determine national principles and policies.

Of the total 877,000 were negroes and 1,254,000 whites, a percentage which when compared with that of thirty

years before shows up to the manifest disadvantage of the dominant race. Thus in 1870 the excess of illiterate negroes over illiterate whites was 90,000, while now, thirty years later, the latter outnumber the former by 277,000.

Nor can we justly retort that these illiterate whites are aliens dumped upon our shores through the agency of immigration. Of the total number of white illiterates only 565,000 are foreign born, while the native born number 688,000, or an excess of 113,000. Nor is this the worst of it. The report shows that the percentage of illiterates among the native born sons of American parents is nearly three times as great as among the native born sons of foreign parents. Evidently our foreign born citizens have a higher appreciation of the advantages of education than many of the native stock.

At no time in our history has the percentage of illiterates been as great as to-day. During the past sixty years the percentage of this class of citizens has increased from 6.15 to 6.60, despite our free school system and the earnest efforts to popularize education. The State having the largest number of illiterates is Georgia, as might be expected, with its great negro population and its large number of struggling whites. Pennsylvania is next, having 139,982 illiterates, as compared with 158,247 for Georgia. The percentage of illiterates among the native born voters of New Mexico is 25.—Utica Globe.

The Disappearance of the Male Teacher.

NO one will deny that many of the best school teachers in the country are women. There are parts of the delicate and highly important task of training the young which can best be done by tactful and gentle women. But it is also the serious opinion of experts that growing boys should very largely be under the care of men. There is a certain inspiration of manly leadership which a boy greatly needs, and which he can only get from a manly man. The influence of a thoroughly robust school teacher upon his class of boys cannot be calculated. He puts before them constantly a model of manliness, and high honor, and attractive industry, and clean courage, which leaves its stamp upon their forming minds through all the rest of their lives.

The generation of boys which must always go to school to women, and to no one else, will lose something very valuable out of their school-day training. They may get as much arithmetic and grammar and history and the rest of it from the women as from the men, but they can no more get the quality of manliness from women than they can get the quality of refinement from men. Our schools should be "manned" with men as well as women, and if we have permitted the financial attractions of the profession to fall so far behind the increasing attractions of competitive callings as to allow all the young men to be drawn away from this profession, we have been guilty of a serious betrayal of trust to the generation which is now growing up. Our fathers did not so misuse us.—Montreal Star.

Wireless Telegraphy in War.

THE question of the value of wireless telegraphy in war has already been considered. Now it is supplemented by that of its legality. The Russian Government has practically served notice that it regards it as illegal. At any rate, the use of such a device at the seat of war will be treated as a breach of neutrality. Correspondents telegraphing without wires will be shot as spies, and vessels equipped with wireless telegraphic apparatus venturing near the scene of war will, if caught, be confiscated as contraband of war. So far as correspondents accompanying the Russian army are concerned, we may unhesitatingly concede the Russian the right of censorship. That is a matter of course. A belligerent power has the undoubted right to decide whether it will permit correspondents to accompany its army at all and if it does let them do so it can, of course, prescribe what matter they may send through the lines, and how. Similarly, it may exercise a censorship over news vessels entering its territorial waters, or the waters implicated in the sphere of belligerent action. But a general outlawing of wireless telegraphy in that part of the world would be a much more extreme matter.—New York Tribune.

lem of the living of physical life is too obscure to have escaped his varied experience. You may travel with Indians for years, and learn every summer something new and delightful about how to take care of yourself.

Some Amusement Schemes.

The railway companies of the country are engaged in all kinds of amusement schemes, with the idea of attracting patronage, and the latest innovation of this character has taken place in Cleveland, where the manager of a street railway company has organized a baseball league. Each of the towns along the line has a nine, and a regular schedule has been arranged. The railway company has supplied the uniforms and offered other substantial assistance besides undertaking to carry the players free of charge to and from the games. The company, however, does not participate in the profits of the team, but is repaid merely by the increased business resulting from the games.

Learned Them from Papa.

Mamma—They tell me you've been saying naughty words, Johnny. What do you suppose papa will say when I tell him?

Johnny—P'raps he'll say them. I learnt them of him, you know.—Boston Transcript.

What mean brothers like girls can have.

OLD FAVORITES

The Better Land.

I hear thee speak of the better land,
Thou callest its children a happy band;
Mother, oh, where is that radiant shore?
Shall we not seek it and weep no more?
Is it where the flower of the orange
blows,
And the fireflies glance through the
myrtle boughs?"
—"Not there, not there, my child!"

"Is it where the feathery palm-trees rise,
And the date grows ripe under sunny
skies?
Or 'midst the green islands of glittering
seas,
Where fragrant forests perfume the
breeze,
And strange, bright birds, on their starry
wings,
Bear the rich hues of all glorious
things?"
—"Not there, not there, my child!"

"Is it far away, in some region old,
Where the rivers wander o'er sands of
gold?"
Where the burning rays of the ruby
shine,
And the diamond lights up the secret
mine,
And the pearl gleams forth from the
coral strand?"
Is it there, sweet mother, that better
land?"
—"Not there, not there, my child!"

"Eye hath not seen it, my gentle boy!
Ear hath not heard its deep songs of joy;
Dreams cannot picture a world so fair—
Sorrow and death may not enter there;
Time doth not breathe on its fadeless
bloom,
'Tis beyond the clouds, and beyond the
tomb,
—It is there, it is there, my child!"
—Mrs. Hemans.

Old Dog Tray.

The morn of life is past,
And ev'ning comes at last;
It brings me a dream of a once happy
day,
Of merry forms I've seen
Upon the village green,
Sporting with my old dog Tray,
Old dog Tray's ever faithful,
Grief cannot drive him away;
He's gentle, he is kind;
I'll never, never find
A better friend than old dog Tray.

The forms I called my own
Have vanished one by one;
The loved ones, the dear ones, have all
passed away;
Their happy smiles have flown;
Their gentle voices gone;
I've nothing left but old dog Tray,
Old dog Tray's ever faithful,
Grief cannot drive him away;
He's gentle, he is kind;
I'll never, never find
A better friend than old dog Tray.

When thoughts recall the past
His eyes are on me cast;
I know that he feels what my breaking
heart would say,
Although he cannot speak,
I'll vainly, vainly seek
A better friend than old dog Tray,
Old dog Tray's ever faithful,
Grief cannot drive him away;
He's gentle, he is kind;
I'll never, never find
A better friend than old dog Tray.
—Stephen Foster.

HOW TO TAKE PAPER TRIPS.

Take Honeymoon Tours While the Newly Weds Are in Seclusion.

Lack of money with which to buy the necessary tickets and pay hotel bills need no longer hamper bridal couples who desire to impress their friends with the fact that they are traveling in Europe, Asia, Africa or any other place which issues picture post cards, says the Minneapolis Tribune.

If John and Mary want to go to Honolulu and are unable to buy a railroad ticket which will take them farther than one of the trolley suburbs, they can engage board at \$4 a week and recuperate from the pre-nuptial functions with a serene mind and a consciousness that everybody in their set knows they are in the Hawaiian Islands. How can they think otherwise when every mail brings a souvenir post card in John or Mary's writing, neatly stamped with the Hawaiian stamp, and telling how balmy the climate is and what a perfect disposition John has? They would be skeptical, indeed, in the face of this evidence, to harbor the suspicion that Jayville, not Honolulu, is the destination of the bridal couple.

It is the Honeymoon Club, in an Eastern city, which has made this possible, and several Minneapolis young people have been much amused to receive, shortly after their engagements were formally announced, circulars which had on the letter head, in addition to the name of the organization, the impressive phrase: "We furnish the trip; you remain at home, the envy of your friends." This is balanced on the other side by the words, "World's fair trip, St. Louis, our specialty," in large type.

"Our method of operating," the general manager says, "is as follows: You and your prospective husband map out a trip you would like to take,

naming such towns and places of interest you would visit. Send us an itemized list of these places, the number of friends you desire to have notified and we will advise you as to the cost of the supposed trip. When satisfactory arrangements are completed we mail you a set of souvenir cards illustrated in colors. On these cards you write the names and addresses of your friends to whom you desire to make it known that you are in that town, with a message, and then return the cards to us. We forward them to our correspondents with instructions to mail them on the date designated, when it is supposed you will be in said town. Naturally these cards when mailed will bear the postmark of the town and with the fact that you have addressed them will be sufficient evidence that you are in reality perhaps at no great distance from home and friends. Our price is moderate and is based upon the trip you outline and the amount of labor necessary for its preparation and completion."

The advantage of being the envy of your friends is supposed to compensate, in the opinion of the general manager, for the time spent in hiding near "home and friends" and running to cover if one of the aforesaid friends comes in sight.

"For you would be sure to run across some one you knew," laughed one of the prospective brides who received the circular. "Just imagine the string of stories you would have to tell to make things straight! A wedding trip under ordinary circumstances is something of an ordeal, but I can't imagine anything more appalling in regard to what it might lead to than one under the auspices of the Honeymoon Club. Think of showing souvenirs brought by some one else, of answering all of the questions you would be sure to be asked and having your suit cases and bags covered with labels forwarded from a New York office and pasted on within ten miles of home! It may be a modern method, strictly up to date and cheap, but what would be the pleasure?"

EXPANDING BULLETS.

Those Found in Cronje's Lager Had Belonged to English.

Perhaps in some respects the most extraordinary revelations in detail concern our ammunition. We learn from the evidence that at one time we were reduced to two or three boxes of Mark II, ammunition, so that if there had been a war with a continental power we should have been obliged to fight with expanding bullets, a proceeding all the powers had condemned as barbarous. We made 66,000,000 rounds of explosive bullets, and then had to condemn them because they were dangerous to our own troops.

These revelations, by the way, raise a moral issue of some importance to Lord Roberts' reputation. Sir Henry Brackenbury explained that Mark IV, ammunition was abandoned because it was found to be dangerous to the user in a hot climate. "We had every intention of using this bullet and making it, in fact, the bullet for the British army all over the world; and I think 66,000,000 of it up to March 21, 1897, had been delivered. * * * The reason why we did not use the expanding bullet in South Africa was not The Hague convention, however, but because the Mark IV, ammunition, our expanding ammunition, had proved unfit to be used in war."

Now Lord Roberts, as commander in chief in South Africa, must surely have been acquainted with these facts. Yet on March 11, 1900, he wrote to President Steyn to complain of two things—the abuse of the white flag and the discovery of explosive bullets. (Parl. Paper, Cd. 122, 1900.) "A large quantity of explosive bullets of three different kinds was found in Cronje's lager and after every engagement with your honor's troops. Such breaches of the recognized usages of war and of the Geneva convention are a disgrace to any civilized power. A copy of this telegram has been sent to my government, with a request that it may be communicated to all neutral powers."

President Steyn replied that the bullets had been taken from British troops, and it has been officially admitted that some of these bullets had been used in South Africa. But what is to be said of a field marshal who describes "as a disgrace to any civilized power" the use of bullets which he had only been prevented from using because they were dangerous to the user?—London Speaker.

A Sledge-Hammer Blow.

"That's my latest canvas," said D'Auber. "I started that six months ago. You see, some days I paint away feverishly, forcefully, absorbedly, while on other days I can't paint at all."
"I see," said Crittiek. "You painted this on one of the other days."—Philadelphia Press.

Fertility of Sparrow.

In the United States the sparrow has six broods a year; in Britain seldom more than three.

Does it ever occur to you that your feet are too large?

WOODS INDIANS.

The Woods Indians, as Stewart Edward White calls the Ojibways and Woods Crees north of Lake Superior, are distinctly nomadic. They search out new trapping grounds and new fisheries, they pay visits, and seem even to enjoy travel for the sake of exploration. This life, says the author of "The Forest," inevitably develops and fosters an expertness of woodcraft almost beyond belief.

Another phase of this almost perfect correspondence to environment is the readiness with which an Indian will meet an emergency. We are accustomed to rely first of all on the skilled labor of some one we can hire; second, if we undertake the job ourselves, on the tools made for us by skilled labor; and third, on the shops to supply us with the materials we need. Hardly once in a lifetime are we thrown entirely on our own resources. Then we bunglingly improvise a makeshift.

The Woods Indian possesses his knife and his light ax. He never improvises makeshifts. No matter what the exigency or how complicated the demand, his experience answers with accuracy. Utensils and tools he knows exactly where to find. His job is neat and workmanlike, whether it is the

construction of a bark receptacle, water-tight or not; the making of a pair of snow shoes, the repairing of a badly smashed canoe, the building of a shelter, or the fashioning of a paddle.

About noon one day Tawabinisay broke his ax-helve square off. This to us would have been a serious affair. Probably if left to ourselves, we should have stuck in some sort of a rough handle made of a straight sapling, which would have answered well enough until we could have bought another. By the time we had cooked dinner that Indian had fashioned another helve. We compared it with a manufactured helve. It was as well shaped, as smooth, as nicely balanced. In fact, as we laid the new and the old side by side, we could not have selected, from any evidence of the workmanship, which had been made by machine and which by hand.

Tawabinisay then burned out the wood from the ax, retempered the steel, set the new helve, and wedged it neatly with ironwood wedges. The whole affair, including the cutting of the timber, consumed perhaps half an hour.

To travel with a Woods Indian is a constant source of delight on this account. The Indian rarely needs to hunt for the materials he requires. He knows exactly where they grow, and he turns as directly to them as a clerk would turn to his shelves. No profes-