

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Gadby carries a hen around with her so as to have fresh eggs. When you begin to think that every fool thing in the world has been done somebody thinks of something else.

The postoffice department at Washington is sending out display cards urging early mailing of holiday parcels. When Uncle Sam considers the value of advertising, it is time, Mr. Express Company, to get busy.

Secretary Garrison of the war department wants his share of that new revenue from the income tax. He asks an appropriation for the army of \$10,000,000 in excess of that of last year.

President Elliot declares that the wage system must give way to the profit-sharing plan. How about those businesses which are not making any money? Wouldn't it be unjust to the wage-earner to make him take his pay out of a deficit?

Keeping the boys and girls out of school to help do the work at home is just as foolish now as when we were young. There may be some cases where there are good reasons why some boy or girl cannot finish the eighth grade before their school days are ended, but parents should do their best to see that they are not the reason.

A referendum on whether turkey or sardines should be served for Thanksgiving was taken in the Mississippi penitentiary. The 800 white convicts voted for turkey, but the 4,200 negroes voted for sardines. The negroes merely wanted to prove that imprisonment had given them a contrite spirit.

Don't let the good roads proposition die out, even in winter time. If it is possible to use the road drag at any time use it, and keep the roads as good as you can until spring opens. By doing a little work along at this season of the year they won't be so hard to get in shape when spring does open up.

There is a great deal more liberty and freedom in this country than folks suppose. Most of the hysterical movements and crusades pinch out before reaching maturity or the fat statute book. For instance, hat pins that were so dangerous and stirred the country so deeply for a time last summer still are on the free-to-wear list because the turkey trot had to be swatted. What a peevish people we are.

Every democrat in congress who desires to make a record for the present administration should support President Wilson's policy. The president is looked upon as the one responsible for the acts of congress. It is presumed, and correctly, too, that President Wilson is doing everything in his power to carry out the full intent of the democratic platform, and in this he should be supported by every democratic senator and congressman. We believe in President Wilson; we believe he will do right and for the best interest of the country. He is a man in whom the American people have great confidence that he will do right and we do not believe any democratic senator or congressman should let selfishness interfere in his support of the president.

Tom Edison is the only man in the country who really wants to work, and the doctors are trying to make him quit.

Plattsmouth presents unusually good shopping advantages this year. Do your Christmas shopping in Plattsmouth, and do it now.

The child who does not develop angelic qualities at this season needs to be sent to a reformatory. The parents can never hope to do anything with him.

The currency bill is to be kept to the fore until it is either enacted or defeated. And if President Wilson is to have his way it is not going to be defeated, and ought not to be.

It seems a trifle to hang out the sign "shop early," but the early shopper gets the most satisfactory results as a rule. The time between now and Christmas is none too early to permit the prudent ones to delay in giving the gift subject some attention.

And now many local papers are warning the ladies against a smooth corset agent who masquerades in ladies' clothing, but is a man. It is right to warn the ladies. Of corset is. If a man tries to fit a corset on our symmetrical form we'll put the map of Ireland on his face. But if a woman should try it—now quit your kidding.

The boycott of eggs is amusing when we remember that eggs are always scarce at this season for the reason that hens never lay in late fall and early winter. We may make a big fuss, but we will get no more eggs. In addition to the great scarcity of fresh eggs, cold storage eggs are very scarce; the hot summer lately passed resulted in the hens taking a vacation. Cold storage men are abused, but lately the best authorities agree that cold storage is one of our greatest blessings.

If there is any chance to boom business, boom it. Don't pull a long face and look as though you had a sour stomach. Hold up your head, smile, and look for better things. Hide your little hammer and try to speak well of others, no matters how small you may really know yourself to be. When a stranger drops in, jolly him. Tell him this is the greatest town on earth—and it is. Don't discourage him by speaking ill of your neighbors. Lead him to believe that he has at last struck a place where white people live.

There is nothing that speaks better for a child than to hear him speak in praise of his teacher. Little differences will always arise among the school children, which when left for them to settle usually are soon forgotten, but when carried beyond that and parents attempt to interfere, the trouble becomes magnified and often very unpleasant for teacher and all concerned. Old heads should let school children's differences alone, because no two ever quarreled without both being in fault to some degree. The teacher's work is tedious at best, although it can be made much lighter by the pupils uniting with the teacher and each other—in fact, a unit. What a pleasant sight to see a band of merry, happy, well-behaved school children! Such are a teacher's pride.

NEW LIGHT SUGGESTED.

The germs of immortality, John D. Rockefeller has just declared would be utterly stamped out if sunlight were let in, just as disease germs are. And so he suggests every nook and corner of our cities should be flooded with all-night sunlight. Well, why not let the sun itself paint our houses with a bright glow, so that after dark they may radiate it brilliantly through the streets? Thus our city will be spontaneously illuminated, and we won't have any expense for artificial cars and gas jets. This suggestion is not flighty fantasy. It is the latest seriously considered project for utilizing that boundless energy of the sun which is poured down upon us almost daily—and almost daily allowed to go to waste, simply for lack of appliances to convert it into power. Now, after seven years of experiment, a Philadelphia engineer, Frank Shuman, has perfected, and set up on the edge of the desert near Cairo, Egypt, a profitable irrigation plant whose pumps are run by sun-heated steam! Now that the great problem of using the sun's energy for power has thus been, in one instance, solved at last, the Scientific American suggests, in a recent number, a new problem—the above mentioned fantasy of storing sunlight on the walls of the buildings and using it for illumination at night. To make this a reality, the Scientific American says, it would be only necessary to paint the buildings with some phosphorescent material which possessed to a high degree the property known as "insolation." Certain substances such as the sulphides of calcium, are known to possess this power. For a considerable time after exposure to bright sunlight they give off a marked luminosity. But the light thus obtained is too feeble for practical use. So that the problem connected with this scheme is that of finding a new compound which will have a much greater capacity for storing and radiating the sun's light. The necessary research for this substance in chemical and physical fields will be long and tedious. But we all know how Edison labored over the problem of electric lighting, and how he made a world-tour just to find the best filament-material for his lamp. And he found it!

The claim is made for one of the leaders of "society" at a popular summer colony that she has 65 outing dresses. Supposedly away for recreation and rest, she is burdened with the annoyance of keeping an assortment of gowns that in numbers and variety would do credit to a girls' boarding school. Poor thing. Nothing to do but wear clothes. A butterfly without the butterfly's freedom from worry about its coloring and down. Did you once make the mistake of envying the rich? Don't repeat it, please. Rather pity them for the emptiness, vanity and isolation of the lives of most of them; for the crushing burden which their having to live up to a socially established standard puts upon their better nature; for the barriers which their dollars build round them to interrupt and distort the natural play of human brotherhood. Sallie Ann, the carpenter's daughter, with one ging-ham gown and her toes peeping out, is closer happiness, closer to the loving heart of old Mother Nature, far more to be envied for her possibilities of true human fellowship, than this gilded society "bud." Despite her 65 dresses, at least 60 of them must be a nuisance and bore.

A school teacher in New York has just received a verdict of \$25,000 for breach of promise. Evidently the new tariff has not lowered the price of affections.

President Wilson refused to give the suffragists any encouragement. The leaders in the raid should have had better judgment than to endeavor to get the president of the United States to commit himself to their cause.

There were eleven times as many persons killed by automobiles in New York this year as in London. London is considerably larger and always will be if New York doesn't do something to protect its population.

pealed to the law to protect her. A Pittsburg woman has appeared from a husband who has whipped her 2,080 times. That's an example of what all this woman's rights discussion is bringing the country to.

Don't shun a business man and refuse to trade with him when you have the cash simply because you owe him for past accommodations. The way to get even with him for his kindness is to patronize him when you have the money and pay for what you want.

Fresh country eggs are now bringing 30 cents to the Cass county farmer. Storage eggs are bringing 75 cents to the New York dealer. Forty-five cents for the middleman and only 30 cents to the producer? Who should worry about the fact that the middleman cannot organize into a trust under the Sherman law which it would not be unlawful for the farmers to unite?

Probably every normal boy who has loafed along the railroad track on his way to the swimming hole, has wished the railroad company a little hard luck; that a bridge might burn or a tree fall across the track, that he might flag the limited with his hickory shirt, and become a hero, first, in the hearts of those of his countrymen who were saved. Up in Wisconsin the other day, that happened; two boys found the broken rail at a dangerous curve and brought the fast train to a stop in the nick of time. The dispatch was brief; but it may be better to leave something to the imagination. How the passengers rallied around Our Heroes, and showered them with gold and other legal tender; how the soulless corporation came across with life passes and other emoluments; also the Fair Maidens, who should find in this rescue the beginning of a romance. That was according to the boyish hope of heroism, and it was kind of the correspondent to let a waiting world believe it happened that way.

We agree with the women that the price of eggs is too high, and that something should be done. Perhaps the predatory plutes who control the cold storage business is to blame, and in attacking such a sinful combine, what method could be more effective than the boycott? In theory, it is a howling success, but we doubt that it will get very far in fact. It recalls a meat boycott of several years ago, when the plain people arose in their might and threatened to live on kippered oats, shredded hay and other vegetarian delicacies until the beef barons were humbled and padded prices punctured. But it didn't work, because the people didn't work it, and the egg embargo in American homes doubtless will fail for the same reason. To foreswear the cold storage egg is no example in Great Restrain, but the product of the helpful hen is a delightful breakfast food when reasonably recent, and those who have the price will continue to pay it. So long as the hens are on a strike for grievances of their own a boycott won't help much.

CONSIDER THE FIELD LILIES

Significance of the Great Teacher's Parabolic Discourse.

THE MASTER INTERPRETED.

Lessons From the Sparrows—Lessons From the Lilies—Lessons of Divine, Providential Care—Lessons For the World—Lessons For the Church—Lessons In Patience—Lessons In Hope—Lessons In Contentment.



PASTOR RUSSELL

New York, Dec. 14.—Pastor Russell spoke in The Temple today from the text, "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven [as fuel], shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?" (Matthew 6:28-33.)

The great Teacher, we are told, taught in parables and in dark sayings (not easily comprehended). Even our Lord's disciples were in the dark concerning the meaning of many of His statements until the Holy Spirit at Pentecost gave them enlightenment, as Jesus had promised. This being true, we are not surprised that many have misapprehended some of the Master's dark sayings respecting the cutting off of a hand or a foot, the plucking out of an eye, respecting undying worms and quenchless fires, and even in respect to the text of today.

There are people of fair intelligence who interpret the Master to mean that His followers are not to labor as do the remainder of mankind for the necessities of life; that they should expect to be supported by others who do labor with sweat of face—that they should be maintained by tithes, collections, etc., and toil and spin not at all. We believe that such are making a great mistake, as did the man recently reported in the press as having cut off his hand in what he thought was obedience to the Master's instruction. We can sympathize with those errors of judgment, but should avoid them and seek to have the spirit of the Master's teaching, which was always the spirit of a sound mind.

In His discourse Jesus had called the attention of His hearers to the fact that the Gentiles—the heathen—were continually praying about these things: "What shall we eat? What shall we drink? Wherewithal shall we be clothed?" "But your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask Him." Let your worry, therefore, if you have worries, be for something higher and nobler than merely the necessities of life. Considering that all their affairs are placed in the hands of the Heavenly Father through Christ, and that all the Heavenly powers are pledged to make all things work together for good to them, because they love God and have been called according to His purpose.

If we have the faith to believe that God through Christ has accepted us as His children, we should as children trust our Parent in respect to all the affairs of life—great and small—food and raiment—everything. But here comes the important point—the crucial test. Are we the children of God? Is He our Heavenly Father? Has He begotten us of the Holy Spirit? Are our sins forgiven? Are we reconciled to God through the death of His Son? Are we children—and if children, then heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ our Lord?

Upon the answers to these questions being in the affirmative is the strength of the basis of all our faith and hope. If we are not God's children, if we have not come in His appointed way, through Christ, then we are still aliens and strangers. Then our affairs are not under His supervision; but we are with the world sharers in the sentence of death, each doing for himself according to his ability in battling against death and like all Gentiles, giving our chief concern to food, raiment and hollow earthly ambitions—knowing not, appreciating not, the higher, the Heavenly, privileges in Christ.

The Heart of the Lesson.

We perceive then that the lesson is not for the world in general, except indirectly. The world, learning that these words are applicable only to the consecrated people of God, might properly be desirous that they might apply also to themselves. And if they are thus desirous of having God for their Father and His providential care in all of their affairs, the lesson to them would be that they should come into relationship with God through Christ, that they should become His children. In order to enjoy the privileges and favors which belong to none others at the present time. The heart of the lesson is that the Heavenly Father is most gracious; and that His tender mercies are over all His creatures who are in harmony

with Him. We may be sure that amongst all the Heavenly host there is neither hunger nor want, neither suffering nor pain, nor any disadvantage whatever. Their Heavenly Father knoweth what things they need, and provides bountifully for them. The Church is to learn this same lesson and to joyfully work by faith, enjoying full confidence and trust in Him who loved us and bought us with the precious blood of His Son.

These children of God need not feel harassed respecting life's experiences. They have a Heavenly Father, and He knows their needs better than they do, and is both able and willing to give what is best for them. And if their experiences in the family of God shall bring them less prosperity and more adversity, more trials, more difficulties, and necessitate more economies than before they became His children, they are instructed that, walking by faith and not by sight, they shall firmly trust Him, come what may.

Learning Lessons of Faith.

All who can lay claim to being children of God by faith can surely believe that He who is able to provide for the birds and the lilies is no less able and no less willing to provide for those who have become His children through Christ—those for whom He gave His Only Begotten Son. Would He redeem them with that precious Sacrifice and then have no care for their future welfare? Would He beget children with His Holy Spirit and then be negligent in providing for their necessities? Nay! God will not overlook the interests of His consecrated children, and whatever may seem to be an oversight and lack of provision is to be understood to be in reality the reverse—that which the Heavenly Father sees to be for their highest and best interests.

"So Clothe the Grass."

The Master called attention to the beauty of the lily. Much is discernible to the natural eye, and still more when we examine the perfections of the flower microscopically. Wonderful indeed is the raiment of the lily! Solomon in all his glory had no such seamless robe, and no such perfect texture for his raiment.

Perhaps the Master had a deeper thought respecting raiment than appears on the surface by His words, "Shall He not much more clothe you?" While He assuredly meant that we are to trust Heavenly provision for our natural clothing, it would appear that He may have meant a clothing for us as New Creatures—the spotless, seamless robe of Christ's righteousness, granted to us as a wedding garment, in the merit of which we have access to all the riches of God's grace in the present life and, if faithful, shall be granted an abundant entrance into His everlasting Kingdom.

"Take No Anxious Thought."

God takes thought respecting the Divine plans and arrangements. Jesus thought out carefully the course He pursued; and He instructed those who were desirous of being His disciples to sit down and carefully count the cost. All these things show us that the Master would not have His followers thoughtless, living merely moment by moment, failing to make provision for the seasons, the weather, the table, etc.

What He meant, what the Greek text fully bears out, is that His followers should have no worry respecting temporalities. Having exercised thought, prudence, care, having done to the best of their judgment and ability, not slothfully, but energetically, they are to rest the matter, realizing that all their affairs are placed in the hands of the Heavenly Father through Christ, and that all the Heavenly powers are pledged to make all things work together for good to them, because they love God and have been called according to His purpose.

"Seek Ye Chiefly the Kingdom."

While anxious care was not to be exercised respecting temporalities, great care was to be exercised in respect to anything appertaining to the Kingdom. The call of the Church is to membership in the great Kingdom of God, of which Christ is the Head, the Chief King; we may be under kings and under priests, associated with our Redeemer in His great Messianic work of a thousand years. It was to attain a share in that Kingdom that we made consecration of our lives, our wills, our all, to the Lord; and only through great tribulation can we enter that Kingdom. As God is pleased to see our restfulness respecting temporalities of life when He has agreed to provide for us according to His Wisdom and in response to our efforts, so He is pleased to see, on the contrary, our zeal, our perseverance, our almost worrying that the great prize of the Kingdom should not be lost by us.

The reason for wishing us to thus worry for the Kingdom, and not to worry for earthly things, is evident on reflection. To worry about earthly things would be to show a faithlessness and doubt in respect to God and His promised care. But our attaining the Kingdom or our failing to attain it is made dependent only on ourselves. God has already done His part. He has provided the Redeemer and the forgiveness of sins. He has opened up the way whereby we might return into His family. When we came unto Him through Jesus, He accepted us and gave us the begetting of the Spirit and with it a right to all the great and precious promises, and joint-heirship with Jesus on condition of our faithfulness.—Romans 8:17; 2 Peter 1:12.

Hence, to agonize for the Kingdom, to strive for the Kingdom, to run with patience, to fight a good fight, to endure hardness—all these expressions indicate the great zeal and earnestness necessary on the part of those who would be accounted conquerors—yes, "more than conquerors, through Him

who loved us and bought us with His precious blood."

Is it any wonder that God should expect us to be very zealous in striving to attain the Kingdom? Would He give so great an honor to any who valued it lightly? Surely angels and cherubim would be glad to accept positions in the Kingdom if offered to them! But God has passed by the angels, and invited members of the fallen race, whose hearts have turned to Him, that they might become, not only justified, from their sins, but sanctified through Christ and heirs of the Kingdom.

Is it any wonder that the Lord has provided that only through much tribulation shall any enter the Kingdom? Whoever is not willing to endure tribulation for the Kingdom's sake would thereby show that he had not the proper appreciation and that he is not worthy of it. If the Master endured even unto death, how could we expect that we might be joint-heirs with Him unless we possessed His spirit, His zeal? Thus the Lord tells us that all who will attain the Kingdom shall be copies of His Son.

What Must We Endure?

Here the question properly arises, What is to be endured, what kind of sufferings? And what is the real object of these sufferings? Why should God delight to make us suffer before he would give us a place in the Kingdom?

The Bible answers these questions satisfactorily. It admonishes that only by trials and difficulties can character be really developed; for character is not merely a preference for that which is good, but a fixed determination, a loyalty to that which is right. God seeketh such as have firm characters to be His children on the Divine plane—of the New Creation. He has a great work for them to do for the world of mankind; and unless their own characters were properly formed, crystallized, established, they would not be in proper condition to be the rulers, instructors and sippers of the world. Then He has a future work for them to all eternity.

We can readily see that this class must demonstrate their loyalty beyond peradventure, must show their zeal for righteousness; as was written of our Savior, "Because Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity, therefore God hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows." The "Laws of Jesus are the members of His Body, His elect Church, of every nation and denomination. He is their Head.

The Character to Be Formed.

The kind of character which God seeks in His people is that which is like His own. He seeks the fruits of the Holy Spirit: meekness, gentleness, patience, long suffering, brotherly kindness, love. "If these things be in you and abound, they will make you that ye shall be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of the Lord, and thus an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.—2 Peter 1:5, 11.

The Cultivation of the Graces.

If everything were perfect in ourselves and surroundings, there would be no real opportunity for cultivating these fruits and graces of the Spirit—for developing and crystallizing character and for showing our zeal for right and opposition to wrong. God, therefore, has taken advantage of the existence of sin, and of imperfection in others and in ourselves, to use these for the cultivation of the graces in our hearts and the establishment of character in us.

For instance, if there were nothing to try our patience, how could we grow in patience? If, therefore, we feel that we need more patience and pray for it, let us expect the answer to come in an increase of trials and difficulties which would tend to increase patience in our hearts and lives. If we pray for more meekness, we should expect our prayers to be answered by adverse conditions tending to show us our weaknesses and make us more teachable, more humble.

If we pray for more brotherly kindness, we should expect more trials and difficulties from the brethren, testing our love, patience, brotherly kindness. And so by the cultivation of all these various parts of love, we are gradually growing into God-likeness of character, becoming copies of God's dear Son, who is the express image of the Father's person and His character-likeness; for God is Love!

These Things Shall Be Added.

The realities with God's people are the spiritual, Heavenly things. For these they seek, hunger, thirst. To them the earthly things in comparison have no value; for these were consecrated, given up, at the very beginning of the Christian way. But although all earthly rights have been surrendered, and all their interests are Heavenly, yet the Lord's promise is that those who seek first the Kingdom shall have all other needed things added to them. God will care for their temporal as well as their Heavenly interests. And to His praise be it said that He generally gives them abundantly more than they could have asked or thought.

Bread and water are the only things guaranteed; but how often in the Christian's experiences many comforts and luxuries are added, even though not asked, and while he is seeking with all his heart the interests and blessings of the Kingdom! May these Heavenly things more and more be our portion! Let us look less and less at the temporary things, and with the eye of faith look more and more to the things not seen, which are eternal, and to the Church heavenly.—2 Corinthians 4:18.

"O for a faith that will not shrink. Thy prayer by every foe. That will not tremble on the brink Of any earthly woe."