

Poetry.

Stillness.

Be silent to God, let Him mould thee. LUTHER.

Thy lesson art thou learning. O tried and weary soul? His ways art thou discerning...

The vessel must be shapen. For the joys of Paradise. The soul must have her training...

From vicinities of sorrow. Are dearest joys distilled. And the cup outstretched for healing...

Such silence is communion. Such stillness is a shrine; The fellowship of suffering...

For Resurrection stillness. There is Resurrection Power; And the prayer and praise of trusting...

SUNDAY READING.

HELP FOR YOUR SICKNESS

A New Sermon by Pastor C. H. Spurgeon.

"When the even was come, they brought unto Him many that were possessed with devils..."

It was the evening; in all probability it was the evening of a Sabbath-day. The Jews were so tender not to break the Sabbath...

Whether it was a Sabbath evening or not, the day has been spent in diligent labor; for our Saviour took care...

BROUGHT THE SICK TO HIM

to heal, and He must close up a weary day by a yet more arduous task. Until darkness had covered the earth...

What a strange sight that evening saw! They brought forth to the Saviour those that were possessed of evil spirits...

A PITIFUL SIGHT.

to look upon; and as far as Christ's eye could see, every nook and corner were occupied with these sick people...

I. Let us notice, first, our Lord's works of healing. On that occasion, and on others, he cured

ALL SORTS OF SICKNESS.

I think I am right in saying that there is, in the whole list of diseases, one

which the Saviour did not heal. They may be known by new names, for they say the doctors have invented a dozen new diseases lately...

Now the parallel of that is this—Jesus Christ can forgive sins of all sorts. There are different grades of sin. Some are exceedingly defiling and loathsome...

YOUR CHIEF SIN

is the forgetting of God, and living without love to Christ—a deadly sin, let me tell you; but bring it to the Saviour. Have you been idle? Have you been proud? Have you been lascivious? Have you been untruthful? Have you been profane? Have you been malicious? I cannot tell but God knoweth—who can read your heart as readily as we read a book...

Note, next, that Jesus can deal with special cases of devilry. Possession with evil spirits was probably peculiar to that age. I sometimes think that, when the Saviour came down on earth, the devil had the impudence to ask to be let loose...

The parallel to that is this. There are some men that we meet with, in whom the devil evidently reigns; and there are such women, too—for when women are bad, they can be bad, and there can be no mistake about it. The devil can make more mischief out of a woman than out of a man...

"THE DEVIL'S OWN."

One man is a drunkard; there is no holding him; he must drink on; he seems to be infatuated by it. He takes the pledge, and abstains for a little while; but by and by the devil gets hold of him again, and he goes back to his taps...

We know persons who seem to have a devil in them in the matter of passion. They are but a little provoked, and they lose all command of themselves, and you would think that they ought to be put in a padded room in Bethlehem Hospital, and kept there till they cooled down. Otherwise they might do mischief to themselves and to others. Surely some men, who can scarcely speak without swearing, have the devil in them...

I could tell you to-night of lions that have been turned to lambs, men of furious passions who have become gentle, and quiet, and loving, men of profane speech who would be shocked at the very remembrance of what they once said, and whose voices have been often heard in prayer; men and women, too, who loved the wages of iniquity, and lost their character, and defiled themselves; but they are washed and they are sanctified. I have blessed the name of God when giving the right hand of Christian fellowship to ransomed ones to whom we could not have given our right hand a little while ago...

THERE WAS NO FAILURE.

The remarkable point about this miracle-working was that all were healed, and

of cases, and he advertises them. I suppose they are genuine. I should not like to be hanged if they were not. I suppose, therefore, they are all accurate and authentic. But there is one thing which you never knew a medicine advertiser do: he never advertises the failures of the medicine—the number of persons that have been induced to buy the remedy, and have derived no good from it...

Notice, that His word was the sole medicine He used: "He cast out the spirits with His word." No other medicine, no charms, no long performances, no striking of His hand over the place; but He spake, and it was done. He said to the devil, "Come out of him," and it came out. He said to the disease, "Go," and away it went. In that way the Lord saves men to-day—by His word. While I am speaking it to-night, or when you shall be reading it, His word will be the power of God unto salvation. I am glad that you are here to hear it, for faith cometh by hearing...

THE SECRET OF HIS POWER

by these words, "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias, the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." Christ was able to heal the diseases of men because He bare them Himself. Do not think that our Lord Jesus was actually diseased: He suffered greatly, but I read not that any disease was upon Him. Probably there was no man in whom there was less tendency to natural disease than in Him...

First, He bare our sicknesses by intense sympathy. When Christ looked at all those sick people, He did, as it were, take all their sickness upon Himself. You know what I mean. If you talk with a person who is very ill, and you feel for him, you seem to lay his pains upon yourself, and then you have power to comfort him. When I am seeing troubled people, I enter into one sorrowful case after another till I am more sad than any of them. I try as hard as I can to have fellowship with the case of each one, in order to be able to speak a word of comfort to him; and I can say, from personal experience, that I know of nothing that wears the soul down so fast as the outflow of sincere sympathy with the sorrowing, desponding, depressed ones. I have sometimes been the means in God's hand of helping a man who suffered with a desponding spirit; but the help I have rendered has cost me dearly. Hours after, I have been myself depressed, and I have felt an inability to shake it off. You and I have not the thousandth part of the sympathy that was in Christ. He sympathized with all the aggregate of human woe, and so sympathized that He made His heart a great reservoir, into which all streams of grief poured themselves...

My master is just the same now. Though He is in heaven, He is just as tender as He was on earth. I never heard of anybody losing tenderness by going to heaven. People get better by going there; and so is Christ, if it were possible, even more tender than when on earth. Think of this. Somebody might not sympathize with you poor sinner, but Jesus does. You would not like to tell some people what you have done, for they would turn upon your heel and give you a wide berth, but it is not so with Jesus. He looks upon sin, not with the eye of a judge, but with the eye of a physician. He looks at it as a disease, and He deals with it that He may heal it. He has great sympathy with sinners, though He has no sympathy with sin. He takes the sinner's sorrows to Himself.

THE INVITATION.

"Ah!" says one, "no man careth for my soul." Dear friend, man or woman, whoever you may be, One greatly cares for you, and He speaks to you to-night by these lips. Oh, that these lips were better fitted to be used by him! He says, "Come unto Me, and I will give you rest." He bids you take of the water of life freely. He is ready at this moment to bestow salvation. "Nobody knows my case!" cries one. But Jesus knows it. He knows that dark spot in it. He knows that dark spot which will not come away. He knows that filthy thing which you remember to-night, and shiver as you remember it. He knows it all, and yet he says, "Return, thou backsliding daughter." He bids the vilest of the vile come to Him, for he has sympathy with them still.

Jesus took upon Himself our sicknesses by His championship of our humanity. Satan misled our first parents, and the powers of darkness held us captive. In consequence of sin we have become sick and infirm, and liable to suffer. Now when our Lord Jesus came on earth, he was good as said, "I am the Seed of the woman, and I have come to bruise the head

of man's adversary." So Christ, in that respect, took upon Himself all the consequences which come of sin. He stood forth as the champion of fallen manhood, to fight Satan and cast him out of men's bodies; to battle with disease and to overthrow the evil which lies at the root of it, that men might be made healthy.

He is our Champion still. I delight to preach Him to you, ye suffering, ye sorrowing, ye sinful, ye lost, ye castaways! One has come who has taken up your cause, the sinner's Redeemer, next-of-kin to man, who has come to avenge Him of His adversary, and to buy back his lost inheritance. Behold in Jesus the Champion of sinners, the David who comes and defeats the Goliath that has long afflicted men.

Oh, I wish you would trust our glorious Champion! But here is the pith of the whole matter. The reason why Jesus is able to heal all the mischief that sin has wrought in this—because He Himself took our sin upon Him by His

SACRED SUBSTITUTION.

Sin is the root of our infirmities and diseases; and so, in taking the root, He took all the bitter fruit which that root did bear. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Hearken, then, ye guilty ones! Hear how freely God can forgive, and yet not injure His justice. If you trust God, you may be sure that you are among the number of those whose sins were laid on Christ.

"But did He suffer in my stead?" I must answer this question by another, "Dost thou believe that Jesus is the Christ? Wilt thou trust thy soul with Him?" Well if thou dost, thy transgressions are not thine, for they were laid on Him. They are not on thee, for like everything else, they cannot be in two places at the one time, and if they were laid on Christ, they are not laid on you. But what did Jesus do with the sins that were laid on Him? Can they not come back to us? No, never; for he took them to the sepulchre, and there he buried them for ever. And now, what saith the Scripture? "In those days and in that time, saith the Lord, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah and they shall not be found." "I have blotted out as a thick cloud, thy transgressions; and as a cloud, thy sins." "Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." Our sins are gone. Christ has carried them away. "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us."

Believers are the seed for whom the victory has been gained. They are the seed to whom the promise is sure. It is not to those who are of works, but to those who are of faith. Those that are born again, of the Spirit of God, through faith which is in Christ Jesus—these are "redeemed from among men." Suppose I owed ten thousand pounds; if a friend should call on my creditor, and pay that ten thousand pounds for me, I should then owe the creditor nothing. I could meet him with a smiling face. He may to-morrow morning bring his account books if he likes, and say, "There, you see, there are ten thousand pounds down there against you." I would joyfully answer, "Yes; but look on the other side. You have been paid. Here are

THE WORDS AT THE FOOT OF YOUR BILL, "Received in full of all demands." Now when Jesus took the sins of believers upon Himself, He discharged them by His death; and every man that believes has the receipt in full of our Lords resurrection. "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God." Yea, those that believe in Christ have the complete forgiveness of every sin. As for me, I like to sing with Kent—

Here's pardon for transgressions past, It matters not how black their cast; And O my soul, with wonder view, For sins to come here's pardon too!

All blotted out at once with one stroke of the sacred pen—obliterated once for all. God does not again lay to the charge of men what he has once forgiven them. He does not forgive them half their sins, and visit them for the rest; but, once given the blessing is irrevocable; as it is written: "The gifts and calling of God are without repentance." He never draws back, nor repents of what He has done. He saves, and the salvation which saves is everlasting salvation.

Now I see why Christ can heal. Dear heart, you have come here to-night full of the disease of sin, and you are saying, "Will He heal me?" Look to Him! Look to Him! The morning that I found Christ I did not think to find Him. I went to hear the word as I had heard it before, but I did not hope to find Jesus there and then. Yet I did find Him. When I heard that there was nothing to be done but simply to look to Jesus; and when the exhortation came so sharp, and shrill, and clear, "Look! look! look!" I looked, and I bear witness to the change that passed over me—such a change as though I died and rose again. And such a change my hearer, shall pass over thee if thou believest.

There is life for a look at the Crucified One; There is life at this moment for thee.

God give thee the look, and give thee the life, even now, for Jesus Christ's sake! Amen.

The Hamilton Oddfellows are preparing for an anniversary celebration of the order to be held in that city shortly. Ex-Governor Foraker, of Ohio, said on Saturday that during the strained relations of 1887 over the Canadian fisheries question, he was asked by the War Department how many men he could rush upon the Canadian frontier in case of an emergency. The Washington correspondent of the Mail says the information Governor Foraker refers to was asked by circular sent to all the governors, and was for the purpose of acquiring statistical knowledge regarding the new militia force, and had no connection whatever with the fisheries question.

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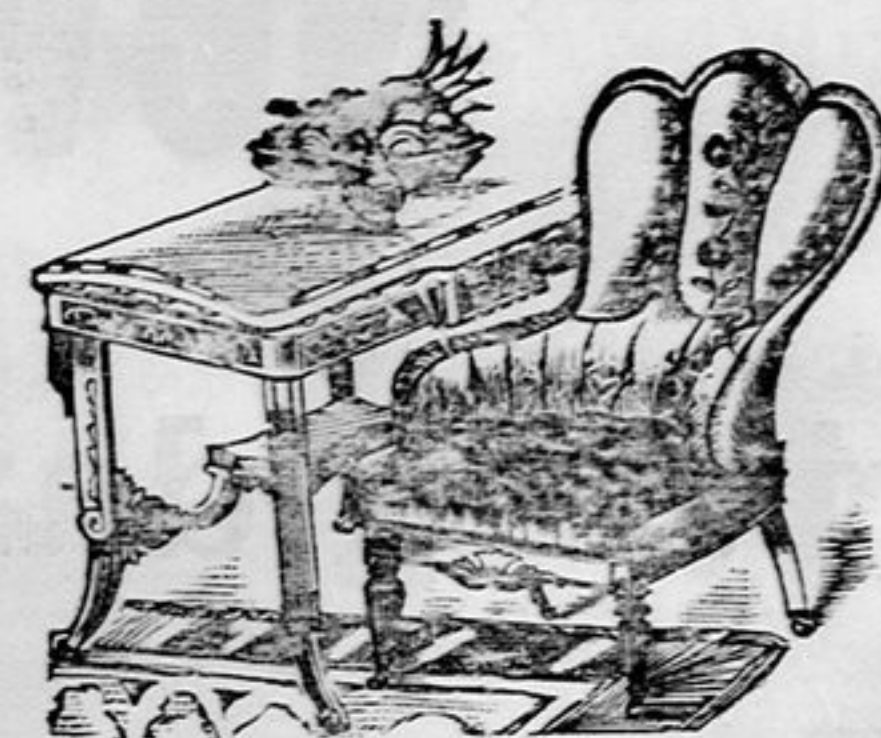
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RESULTS FROM THE COLINDRIES.

It is exceedingly rare to find English journals noticing the

MANUFACTURES OF CANADA

in any form, and certainly unusual that a special pictorial illustration should be made and inserted in the reading columns of such a paper as the Cabinet maker and Art Furnisher, of

Canadian Made Furniture

Exhibited at the

LATE COLINDRIES.

When such a surprising step is taken it may be unquestionably assumed that the articles so treated possess merits far above the ordinary. From a copy of the journal mentioned we find that a portion of the exhibit of

Owen McGarvey & Son,

of Montreal, has been so favored, a

DRAWING-ROOM CHAIR

and centre table, of which the above cut is a fac simile, being selected for commendation and praise. The table is made of ebony, with sides of free monumental scrollwork carving; the leg, similarly treated, to which brass claws are attached, and the chair is of that kind known as wire-backed, upholstered very richly in

Crimson and Old Gold Brocatelle.

Both of these articles, as we have already stated, formed part of Messrs McGarvey's large exhibit, which, by the way, has received several other eulogiums from both English and Canadian newspapers, and both were manufactured here under the personal supervision of the firm. Two of such tables are now in their showrooms, as well as specimens of similar chairs in various styles of covering. They are, in short, examples of that high class furniture which has been made by them for some years, and which can be seen every day in their

SPACIOUS WAREHOUSES.

Messrs. McGARVEY may well be heartily congratulated at the special prominence thus given to their goods by those critics of high art manufactures on the other side of the Atlantic, and upon the honor conferred on their house by such complimentary notice as that herein instanced.

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