

SUNDAY READING.

Is there a Hell?—Why Men do not go to Church—Selections from Chicago Sermons.

To an audience composed of almost as many men as women, Dr. Calvin S. Blackwell, at the Central Church of Christ, spoke the other evening in substance as follows: Last week the "Tribune" presented to me three questions.

1. Why do fewer men go to church than women? 2. Do you believe in Hell? 3. Is orthodoxy dying out?

They make an interesting trio. To the first a facetious answer might be given—Because more men go to the penitentiary. I am told there are 1,700 men at Joliet and only nineteen women. The answer is not merely facetious, it is philosophical.

Another reason, of course, is business. The whip of competition makes many men drive themselves down by Saturday night. They may be morally clean men but their physical and nervous natures demand Sabbath quietness.

The increase of Sunday work is also an important factor. Employments which engage men over Sunday are multiplying. These workers not only stay away but the fact that they are putting the Sabbath to a business use has its effect on others.

Then there is another kind of man—a sort of so-so man—with a thin veneer of supposed intellectual life—indifferent to everything but himself. He stays at home to read the Sunday newspapers.

A great many well-meaning men stay away from church because they happen to be on some committee of one of the benevolent societies. As these societies are increasing the class is growing. The committee usually meets for a few minutes on Sunday.

They, moreover, notice their wives, mother, and sisters getting ready every Sunday morning to go to church, and they are apt to reflect about it in their masculine way. The unspoken form of the reflection usually is: "This thing isn't suited to my colossal intellect—my four-square mind."

At this point the speaker delivered an eulogy on women, in which he said that he regarded it as the highest proof of the divinity of Christ and religion that more women than men attend church. He then took up the second question: "Is there a Hell?"

The Bible says so. I believe it. There at least ought to be. If for no other reason than to give some of the great sensual punishment in the other world who escape it in this.

"What's it for?" he asked. "To found a society to keep people from going to Hell." "Not a cent."

There are too many people who ought to go there not to believe in it. I do not believe in a material hell, for the simple reason that flesh and blood are things of this life.

Here the speaker sketched the terrible torments of the hell of conscience.

"Is orthodoxy dying out?" "I hope so. The sooner it goes the better. Orthodoxy is a set of formulas gotten up in the past by men who had no more sense than men of to-day. It is a sort of monopoly of dogma. Mental and spiritual monopolies are as bad as other sorts. All progress, every reform, has been made by heterodoxy. Christ was heterodox to the orthodox Jews. Luther and Wesley and so on down—all have been heterodox to the special orthodoxy of their day. The best hope for the future is in continuing to throw off all forms of orthodoxy as rapidly as it can. It is upon true Christianity that spiritual advancement must depend."

REPLY OF DR. LAWRENCE. Every seat in the Second Baptist Church at Monroe and Morgan streets was occupied last night to hear the reply of the pastor, the Rev. Dr. William M. Lawrence, to the questions propounded by "The Tribune" to the clergymen. Dr. Lawrence said he did not believe in the first place that there was a great disparity between the male and female attendance at church. At least that was not the case in his church. But coming to the question, "Why do not men attend church?" he said the explanation would be found in the fact that men had not the courage of their consciences. Young men coming from Christian homes in the East did not have the courage to stand up against the scoff of unbelievers. They went to church at first openly. The sneers of companions in boarding-houses caused them to steal to church and after a while they abandoned the practice of devotion altogether. A stronger reason would be found in the fact that men are obliged to work too hard during the week. They are not in physical condition to attend religious devotions Sunday.

The Sunday newspaper was also to blame. He was of the opinion that a way could be found to make a Sunday newspaper so as not to conflict with the fourth commandment. But the Sunday newspaper as it existed was the product of the state of things which de-

manded a change. It was a disgraceful and deplorable fact that 20 per cent of those who are employed in Chicago have to work Sunday. He had no doubt that if the question was tested before the Supreme Court of the Nation it would be pronounced unconstitutional. He thought that intermeddling of religious women in matters of Statecraft had something to do with the lax piety of men. When women ceased to be women they lost their influence over men.

He believed in a place of punishment cause he believed in the New Testament, because he believed in good, and because it was a logical deduction from the observation of human life. If there was a place of reward, as the Scripture taught, there must be a place of punishment. A future place of punishment should be preached with all solemnity, not declared as a threat, but as an awful fact. But a belief in God was logically followed by a belief in a future state of punishment.

Most certainly orthodoxy was not on the decline. It was on the increase aggressive and progressive. The impression that it is on the decline arises from the fact that heterodoxy is assertive. Just as crimes receive wide publication while virtues are passed over unnoticed, so the negative in matters relating to religion is always in evidence in the public prints. Orthodoxy is taken for granted and does not receive publication. This was especially the case in this city, where heterodoxy when it asserted itself was made the topic of wide and general discussion, while orthodoxy was passed over with a joke or a sneer.

One of the great reviews of the country had given itself up to the promulgation of heterodoxy—through a spirit of sensationalism perhaps. When Timothy Dwight connected himself with Yale College eighty years ago there was but one communicant among the students. To-day Yale College is the home of orthodoxy. In Harvard College Unitarianism has lost its ascendancy. The Episcopalians, Baptists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians are in the overwhelming majority. The orthodox schools and colleges throughout the land are in a flourishing condition. Heterodoxy has only one college of any note.

DR. THOMAS' VIEW OF REST. "Rest" was Dr. Hiram W. Thomas' subject at McVicker's.

Rest means enjoyment, contentment, in their higher sense, said Dr. Thomas. Contrary to the general notion, the class of people who get least true rest are those who are raised up in plenty and begin to be supplied with everything they want the moment appetite and taste are awakened in them. They early become pampered beyond the possibility of fresh pleasure. The defect at the bottom of their life is that they do not pay in work for what they get. It takes a Lincoln, a Cass, or a Garfield, tramping over a prairie or along a canal path in search of a higher life, getting knowledge after hungering for it, to achieve that enjoyment which is rest. One must go to the patriot to learn what "flag" means, and to the man who has doubted for illustration of "faith." In the same way those only who have toiled know rest.

The physical activities of this age are in no danger of straining its workers. But the intellectual forces behind need a high rest than they get. This is to be found in the cultivation of the spiritual side of mind. Men must throw off the idea that the burdens of life are altogether on their shoulders, and leave the outcomes of things to the Creator of all energy. In this is rest.

After the service Dr. Thomas stated that he would take as a subject next Sunday, "A Religion for Men." He had been struck by "The Sunday Tribune's" investigations into "Why Men Don't Attend Church." The article, he said, with its carefully collected data of male and female church attendance, opened up the most remarkably interesting subject of inquiry that had been brought to his attention in a long time. The religious conclusions to be drawn from "The Sunday Tribune's" material would form the text for his study of the subject.

THE WICKED ACTORS. The Rev. Mr. Goss preached to a large congregation at the Chicago Avenue Church the other night on "The Theatre." He had nothing to say about the theatre as an educator, about the drama from a literary standpoint, nor of the art of the actor. The only question he wished to ask his hearers was, "Does the theatre develop Christian character?" Mr. Goss had no interest in anything which did not tend to develop Christian character, and he was opposed to anything that exerted an influence in the opposite direction.

"It is hard enough to be good," he said, "when you are being paid for it, as I am." Though he could not speak from experience, the pastor still believed himself competent to discuss the question. Was it necessary for a man to be drowned in order for him to be aware that it was dangerous for him to plunge into the sea if he couldn't swim? From what he had learned from reliable sources and judging by results passing under his own observation the influence exerted on society by the theatre was pernicious. He understood that there were several young people in the congregation who were looking forward to adopting a theatrical career. He wished to warn them that there were several reasons why such a course would probably result disastrously with them. It must be that there existed behind the scenes of a theatre a lack of restraint that could not be most injurious to the moral character of a young man or woman. Then the nature of the actor's duties were such as to exhaust his vitality and nerve force to a degree that speedily drove him to the use of stimulants. He was in danger of becoming a drunkard.

More than this, it was necessary that the actor should be a migratory personage with no fixed habitation, and this everybody knew was, whenever it was found, a fruitful source of loose conduct. When a man got away from home restraints he was sure to yield to temptations. In proof of this was the notorious fact that a few years ago, when commercial travelers made extended trips over large territory, they were regarded as a most reckless and immoral class of people; whereas, since the custom had so changed as to enable them to have homes and families and return to them every Saturday night, the verdict regarding them was wholly different. The pastor could not explain how it was that the theatre had lived and thrived for so many centuries. It had apparently entrenched itself with society like the gambling den, the saloon, and the Sunday paper, which, by the way, did not prove that it was not harmful in its influence.

PAIN'S CELEBY COMPOUND. ACTS AT THE SAME TIME ON THE NERVES, THE LIVER, THE BOWELS, and the KIDNEYS. Why Are We Sick? Because we allow the nerves to remain weakened and irritated, and these great organs to become clogged or torpid, and poisonous humors are therefore forced into the blood that should be expelled naturally.

MONEY TO LOAN. FRANCO-CANADIEN CREDIT FONCIER. CAPITAL, \$5,000,000. HEAD OFFICE, MONTRÉAL. OFFICE ONTARIO DIVISION, WELLINGTON ST., TORONTO.

Allan Line Royal Mail Steamships. Sailing during winter from Portland every Thursday and Halifax every Saturday to Liverpool, and in summer from Quebec every Saturday to Liverpool, calling at London.

THE TORONTO SILVER PLATE CO. Manufacturers of the High Grade SILVER-PLATED WARES. TRADE MARK.

DELICIOUS AND NOURISHING. ROYAL Dandelion COFFEE, Manufactured only by Ellis & Keighley, - Toronto.

SCOTT'S EMULSION. OF PURE COD LIVER OIL AND HYPOPHOSPHITES. Almost as Palatable as Milk. So disguised that the most delicate stomach can take it.

Young Men. SUFFERING from the effects of early evil habits, the result of ignorance and folly, who find themselves weak, nervous and exhausted; also MIDDLE-AGED and Old Men who are broken down from the effects of abuse or over work, and in advanced life feel the consequences of youthful excess.

ROGERS' CARBON SAFETY OIL. ILLUMINATING CARBON SAFETY OIL. HAS NO EQUAL. FOR BEST FAMILY USE, CARBON SAFETY OIL.

RELY ON HOP BITTERS. A WONDERFUL NERVE TONIC. A Medicine, not a Drink. Cure All Diseases of the Stomach, Bowels, Blood, Liver, Kidneys, Urinary Organs, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Female Complaints, DRUNKENNESS. It may Save Your Life.

SAUSAGE CASINGS—Season 1888—New Importations of English Sheep, Finest American Hog Casings.

ALMA, THE LEADING CANADIAN COLLEGE FOR YOUNG WOMEN. St. Thomas, Ont. Seventeen graduates and certificated teachers in the Faculty.

MERCHANTS, BUTCHERS, and Traders generally. We want a GOOD MAN in your locality to pick up CALFSKINS.

H. WILLIAMS & CO. Slates and Felt ROOFERS. Roofing Felt, Slates' Felt, Desanizing Felt, Carpet Paper, Building Paper, Roofing Pitch, Coal Tar, Lake Gravel.

YOU MAY HAVE ONE!! Just send your name and address, and for postage, and receive by Mail a HANDSOME SILK HANKERCHIEF and The Magic Needle!

"The Racer" Thin Back, Lance-Tooth, Cross-Cut Saw.

THE RACER SHURLY & DIETRICH SILVER-STEEL SAW MANUFACTURERS, Galt, Ont.

The Maple Leaf Racer and Lance Cross-cut saw are now sold in all parts of the world. The quality of these saws is unequalled. Their excellence is wholly due to their superior temper.

SHURLY & DIETRICH, SAW MANUFACTURERS, Galt, Ont.

To the Convalescent Patient and the Emaciated Invalid. It is of Vital Importance to know what ingredient in our daily food is needed to repair our nerve tissue, strengthen the blood and restore exhausted vitality.

JOHNSTON'S FLUID BEEF. possesses these qualities, which has been positively demonstrated by the highest scientific authorities. It contains over 55 per cent. of flesh-forming material.

FOR BEST FAMILY USE, CARBON SAFETY OIL. ASK DEALERS FOR IT. Wholesale Depots: ONTARIO—Toronto, 30 Front street east.

Confederation Life ASSOCIATION. Capital and Funds now over \$3,000,000. HEAD OFFICE: 15 TORONTO STREET, TORONTO, ONT.

To the date, October 31st, 1887, there has been returned: To the heirs of Policy-holders (death claims) \$649,949 00. To the holders of matured Endowment Policies 28,492 60.

RELY ON HOP BITTERS. A WONDERFUL NERVE TONIC. A Medicine, not a Drink. Cure All Diseases of the Stomach, Bowels, Blood, Liver, Kidneys, Urinary Organs, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Female Complaints, DRUNKENNESS. It may Save Your Life.

Stained Glass FOR CHURCHES, DWELLINGS, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

M'CAUSLAND & SON, 76 King St. W., Toronto.

ST. PAUL MINNEAPOLIS AND MANITOBA RAILWAY.

Commencing on Saturday, Nov. 12th, there will be a daily first-class through train service between St. Paul and Butte, Montana, comprised of Drawing-room, Sleeping Car, Day Coaches, Dining Car, and Free Colorist Sleeper.



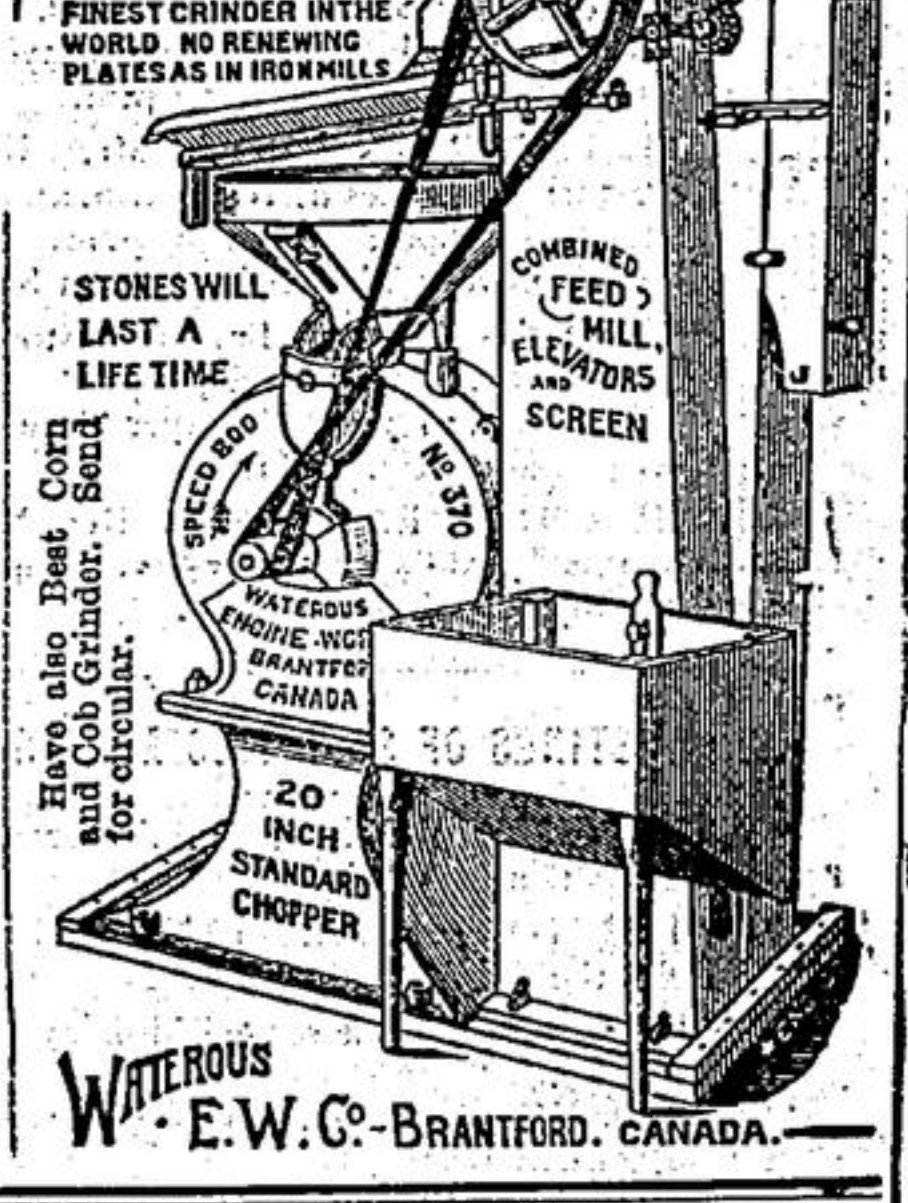
We are children who cheerfully join in the chorus. "Cause her bread is the whitest her hands come. And we are the ones who dare set before us."

CANADA PERMANENT Loan & Savings Company. INCORPORATED 1855. Head Office: Toronto St., Toronto.

Subscribed Capital, \$4,500,000. Paid Up Capital, 2,500,000. Total Assets, 10,000,000.

The enlarged capital and resources of this Company, together with the increased facilities it has recently acquired for supplying land owners with cheap money, enable the Directors to meet with promptness and at the lowest current rate of interest all requirements for loans upon satisfactory real estate security.

STANDARD CHOPPING MILLS. USES BEST FRENCH BURR MILLSTONES.



TO THE CONVALESCENT PATIENT AND THE EMACIATED INVALID. It is of vital importance to know what ingredient in our daily food is needed to repair our nerve tissue, strengthen the blood and restore exhausted vitality.

JOHNSTON'S FLUID BEEF. possesses these qualities, which has been positively demonstrated by the highest scientific authorities.

FOR BEST FAMILY USE, CARBON SAFETY OIL. ASK DEALERS FOR IT. Wholesale Depots: ONTARIO—Toronto, 30 Front street east.

Confederation Life ASSOCIATION. Capital and Funds now over \$3,000,000. HEAD OFFICE: 15 TORONTO STREET, TORONTO, ONT.

To the date, October 31st, 1887, there has been returned: To the heirs of Policy-holders (death claims) \$649,949 00. To the holders of matured Endowment Policies 28,492 60.

RELY ON HOP BITTERS. A WONDERFUL NERVE TONIC. A Medicine, not a Drink. Cure All Diseases of the Stomach, Bowels, Blood, Liver, Kidneys, Urinary Organs, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Female Complaints, DRUNKENNESS. It may Save Your Life.