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worlds into space, and kindles up new suns, and rolls among the white robed anthems of the redeemed a greater hallelujah, while with a voice that reverberates among the mountains of frankincense and is echoed back from the everlasting gates, he cries: "This, my son, was dead, and he is alive again."-

At the opening of the exposition in New Orieans, 1 saw a Mexican flutist, and he played the solo, and then afterward the eight or ten bands of music, accompanied by the great organ, came in; but the sound of that one flute as compared with all the orchestra was greater than all the combined joy of the universe when compared with the resounding heart of Almighty God.

. For ten years a father went three times a day to the depot. His son went off in aggravating circumstances, but the father said: "He will come back." The strain was too much, and his mind parted, and three times a day the father went. In the early morning he watched the train, its arrival, the stepping out of the passengers, and then the departure of the train. At noon he was there again watching the advance of the train, watching the departure. At night, there again; watching the coming, watching the going, for ten years. He was sure his son would come back. God has been watching and waiting for some of you, my brothers, ten years, twenty years, thirty years, forty years, perhaps fifty years-waiting, waiting, watching, watching; and if this morning the prodigal should come home, what a scene of gladness and festivity, and how the great Father's heart would rejoice at your coming home. You will come, some of you, will you not? You will, you will! MINISTERS OF RIGHT REJOICE WHEN THE PRODIGAL COMES HOME.

III. I notice also that when a prodigal comes home there is the joy of the ministers of religion. Oh, it is a grand thing to preach this Gespel! I know there has been a great deal said about the trials and the hardships of the Christian ministry. I wish somebody would write a good, rousing book about the joys of the Christian ministry. Since I entered the profession I have seen more of the goodness of God than I will be able to celebrate in all eternity. I know some boast about racir equilibrium, and they do not rise into enthusiasm, and they do not break down with emotion; but I confess to you plainly that when I see a man coming to God and giving up his sin, I feel in body, mind and soul a transport. When I see a man who is bound hand and foot in evil habit emancipated, I rejoice over it as though it were my own emancipation. When today in our communion service such throngs of young and old stand at these altars, and in the presence of heaven and earth and hell attest, their allegiance to Jesus Christ, I feel a joy something akin to that which the apostle describes when he says: "Whether in the body I cannot tell, or out of the body I cannot tell; God knoweth."

Oh, have not ministers a right to rejoice when a prodical comes home? They blew the trumpet, and ought they not to be glad at the gathering of the host? They pointed to the full supply, and ought they not to rejoice when souls pant as the hart for the water brooks? They came forth saying: "All things are now ready;" ought they not to rejoice when the prodigal sits down at the ban-

Life insurance men will all tell you that ministers of religion, as a class, live longer than any other. It is confirmed by the statistics of all those who calculate upon human longevity. Why is it! There is more draft upon the nervous system than in any other profession, and their toil is more exhausting. I have seen reinisters kept on miserable stipends by parsimonious congregations, who wondered at the dallness of the sermons; when the men of God were perplexed almost to death by questions of livelihood, and had not enough nutritious food to keep any fire in their temperament. No fuel, no fire. I have sometimes seen the inside of the life of many of the American clergymennever accepting their hospitality, because they cannot afford it; but I have seen them struggle on with salaries of five and six hundred dollars a year-the average less than that-their struggle well depicted by the western missionary who says in a letter; "Thank you for your last remittance; until it came we had not any meat in our house for one year, and all last winter, although it was a severe winter, our c'aldren wore their summer clothes." And these men of God I find in different parts of the land, struggling against amovances and exasperations innumerable; some of them week after week entertaining agents who have maps to sell, and submitting themselves to all styles of annovance, and yet without complaint, and cheerful of soul. How do you account for the fact that these life insurance men tell us that ministers as a class live longer than any others! It is because of the joy of their work, the joy of the harvest field, the joy of greeting prodigals home to their Father's house.

Oh, we are in sympathy with all innocent hilarities. We can enjoy a hearty song, and we can be merry with the merriest; but those of us who have toiled in the service are reasy to testify that all these joys are tame compared with the satisfaction of seeing men enter the kingdom of God. The great eras of every minister are the outpourings of the Holy Ghost, and I thank God I have seen eighteen of them. Thank God, thank God! CHRISTIANS RECEIVE A CONVERTED SOUL WITH OPEN ARMS.

IV. I notice also when the predigal comes back all earnest Christians rejoice. If you stood on Montauk Point and there was a hurricane at sea, and it was blowing toward the shore, and a vessel crashed into the rocks, and you saw people get ashore in the lifeboats, and the very last man got, on the rocks in safety, you could not control your joy. And it is a glad time when the Church of God sees men who are tossed on the ocean of their time plant their feet on the rock Christ

Oh, when prodigals come home just hear those Christians sing. Just hear those Christions pray. It is not a stereotyped supplication we have heard over and over again for twenty years, but a putility of the case in the hands of God with an importunate pleading. No long preyers. Men never pray at great length unless they have nothing to say and their hearts are hard and cold. All the prayers in the Bible that were answered were thert prayers: "God be merciful to me a sinner." "Lord, that I may receive my sight," "Lord, save me or I perish." The longest prayer, Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple, less than eight minutes in length, according to the ordinary rate of enuncia-

And just hear them pray, now that the prodigals are coming home. Just see them shake hands. No putting forth of the four tips of the fingers in a formal way, but a hearty grasp, where the muscles of the heart seem to clench the fingers of one hand around the other hand. And then see those Christian faces, how illumined they are. And see that old rean get up, and with the same voice that he sang fifty years ago in the old country meeting house, say: "Now, Lord, lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." There was a man of Keith who was hurled into prison in time of persecution, and one day he got off his shackles and he came and stood by the prison door, and when the jailer was opening the door, with one stroke he struck down the man who had incarcerated him. Passing thong the streets of London, he wondered where his family was. He did not dare to ask lest he excite suspicion, but, passing along a little way from the prison, he saw a Keith tankard, a cup that belonged to the family from generation to generation-he saw it in a window. His family, hoping that some day he would get clear, came and lived as near as they could to the prison house, and they set that Keith tankard in the window, hoping he would see it; and he came along and saw it, and knocked at the door, and went in, and the long absent family were all together again. Oh, if you would start for the kingdom of God today, I think some or you would find nearly all your friends and nearly all your families around the holy tankard of the holy communion-fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters around that sacred tankard which commemorates the love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Oh, it will be a great communion day when your whole family sits around the sacred tankard. One on earth. one in heaven.

FOR THE RETURN OF PRODIGALS LET EVERY

ONE PRAY. V. Once more I remark, that when the prodigal sets back the inhabitants of heaven keep festival. I am very certain of it. 34you have never seen a telegraphic chart you have no idea how many cities are connected together and how many lands. Nearly all the neighborhoods of the earth seem articulated, and news flies from city to city, and from continent to continent. But more rapfully go the tidings from earth to heaven, and when a prodigal returns it is announced before the throne of God. And if these souls this morning should enter the kingdom there would be some one in the heavenly kingdom to say: "That's my father," "That's my mother," "That's my son," "That's my daughter," "That's my friend," "That's the one I used to pray for," 'That's the one for where I wept so many tears," and one soul yould say, "Hosanna;" and another soul

would say, "Hallelujah!" Pleased with the news, the saints below In songs their tongues employ: Beyond the skies the talings go, And Heaven is filled with joy.

> Nor angels can their joy contain, But kindle with new fire: The sinner lost is found, they sing, And strike the sounding lyre.

At the banquet of Lurullus sat Cicero the orator, at the Macedonian feetiveleat 'Philipthe conqueror, at the Greenen Languet sat Socrates the philosopher; but at our Father's table sit all the returned prodigals, more than conquerors. The table is so wide its leaves reach across seas and acress lands. Its guests are the redeemed of earth and the glorifled of Heaven. The ring of God's fergiveness on every hand, the robe of a Saviour's righteousness adroop from every shoulder. The wine that glows in the cups is from the bowls of ten thousand sacraments. Let all the redeemed of earth and all the glorified of heaven rise, and with gleaming chalice drink to the return of a thousand prodigals. Sing! sing! "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive blessing and riches and honor and glory and power, world without end?"

Copyright in Judicial Opinions.

The supreme court of the United States has rendered a decision in reference to the copyrighting of judicial opinions, in the case of Callaghan et al. vs. Myers. The appellee brought suit against the appellants for infringing upon a copyright secured to him by the reporter of the supreme court of Ellinois by publishing certain volumes of the Illinois reports. The court decided in favor of the appellee, holding that while copyright cannot be secured for the text of the opinions of the judges, the reporter of the court has the right, in the absence of any legislation forbidding him to do so, to secure a copyright for the title, headings, notes, syllabi, and arrangement of the opinions, and that as the book would be of no value without these copyrighted portions, the whole book may be copyrighted. The court said, however, that this copyright will not hold good where it is sought to be procured in behalf of the state. -Scientific American.

Have a System.

Whoever you are, whatever your lines of action, reduce your life to a system. This is the open secret of all smooth and rapid work. It is always the systematic people who get over the most ground with the least friction. Watch this successful business man; observe that thrifty housewife; mark yonder pastor as he manipulates a hundred interests. Full of affairs, how do they contrive to clutch from the grinding whiri so many serene intervals of leisure! The answer is, system. "Tis a sad thing, and a common, when one would sit down and draw a long breath, or when one might enjoy some otherwise legitimate pleasure, to be clamored upon by duties undone. Why make a lumber room of your life, full of odds and ends of unassorted things? Some folks are animated confusion. -Clergyman in St. Louis Republic.

What Shall She Call Him?

"C. L. M." asks: "What is a good name for the gentleman to whom one is engaged. Shall I say my 'intended? That sounds stiff. Shall I say 'the gentleman I am engaged to?' That is very long. What is the best form? and is there not a better phrase than 'keeping company' or courting?"

Our language is very poor in these equivalents. In France a gentleman who aspires to a lady's hand is called "a pietendant," but we have no exact name for the "beau." As for courting, it is a good, old fashioned, fretty word, much better than "keeping company." -Mrs. Sherwood in St. Louis Republic.

Wholly contrary to popular belief the color of the eyes indicates in no instance any moral characteristic.



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