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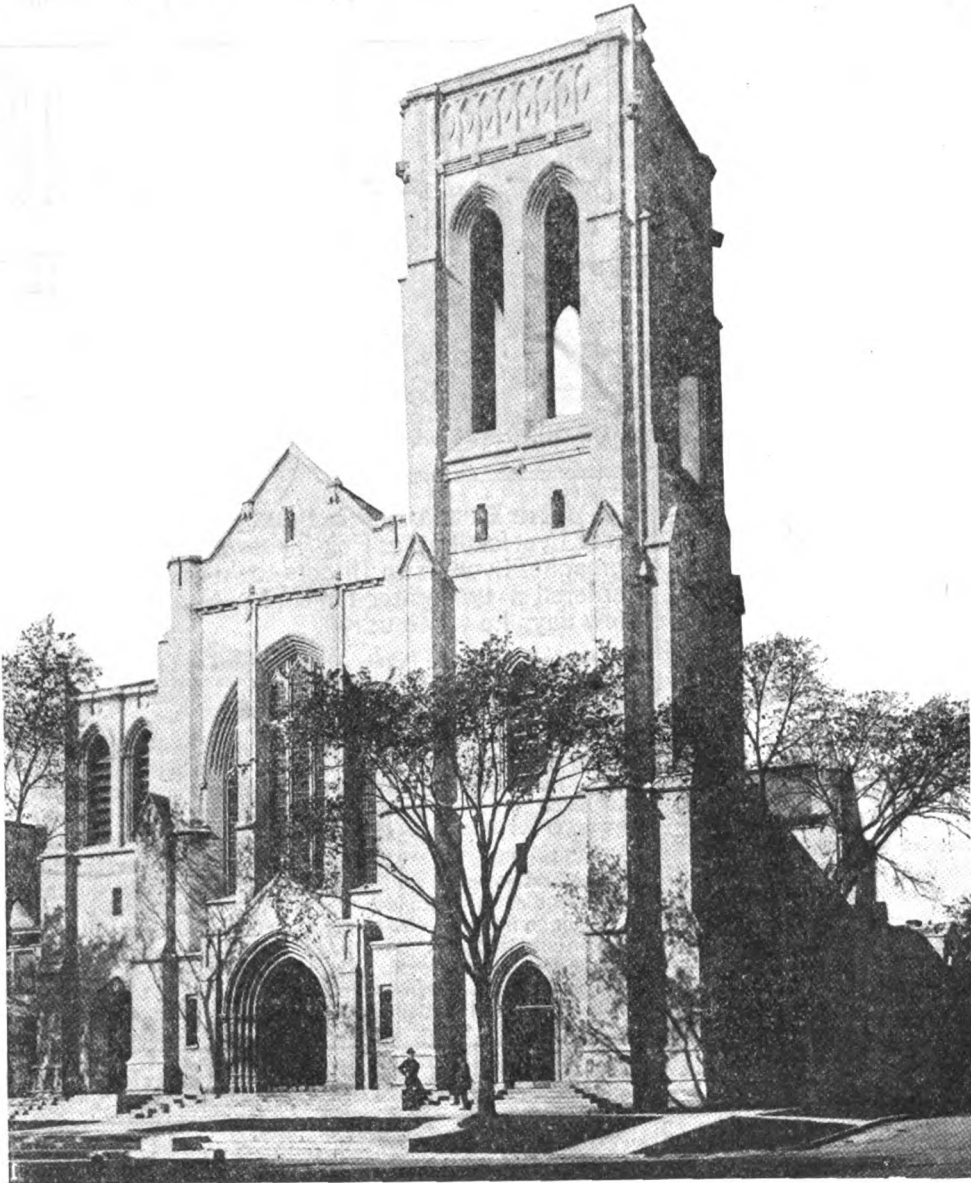
# Northwestern Christian Advocate.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

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# Northwestern Christian Advocate.

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CHARLES M. STUART,  
Editor.

CHICAGO, OCTOBER 25, 1911.

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## Editorial Note and Comment.

HERE IS A PLAIN MAN'S ART CRITICISM OF MILLET'S FAMILIAR picture of "The Gleaners:" "It does not make you cry; but it makes your back ache."

IT WAS A FRENCH OBSERVER WHO WITTLY HIT OFF AMERICAN newspaper enterprise by saying that the up-to-date daily was "printed to-day, dated to-morrow, and contained the news of the day before yesterday."

A CITY CHURCH FOUND ITSELF HEMMED IN BY A FOREIGN POPULATION. Whereupon the congregation sold the property and sent the proceeds—to the foreign mission field! And nobody saw the humor of the situation.

IN RELIGIOUS TEACHING, AS HAS BEEN SAID, IT IS WELL TO REMEMBER that the law of conversion is not the law of war. In war it is equipment, in conversion it is character. The teacher is to be a point of contact between God and the souls of his hearers.

REV. C. SILVESTER HORNE IS PASTOR OF WHITEFIELD'S TABERNACLE in London. During his recent visit to this country Mr. Horne took occasion to make a pilgrimage to Newburyport, Mass., where Whitefield is buried and where his life and work are suitably memorialized.

AT THE ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE THE MULTIPLICATION OF ACADEMIC degrees in connection with American speakers provoked the comment that every American is either a doctor or a colonel. Would it not be well on occasions not academic to suppress the degrees? In university communities plain "Mister" is the rule among the academes themselves and serves every purpose.

THE RECENT NATIONAL CONSERVATION CONGRESS AT KANSAS City showed its interest in our human as well as our natural resources. Dr. Wiley argued for a national board of health and the protection of the children. Judge Lindsay advocated a children's bureau in the Department of Commerce and Labor, declaring that the child is the state, and the state must be the over-parent.

ACCORDING TO THE *Christian World* A NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL expedition has left England for Jerusalem to continue the work on the site of ancient Zion, with a view to discovering the birth-places of David and Solomon. Captain Parker, brother of the earl of Morley, is in charge, and has taken with him some English laborers, who will resume the work in the underground passages on Mount Ophel, a cabbage garden which now supplies Jerusalem with vegetables, and is supposed to be the site of the ancient Zion.

THE NATIONAL PRISON ASSOCIATION MET IN CONVENTION this year at Omaha, Neb., October 14-19. The association meets annually to discuss matters relating to crime, its origin and prevention; criminals, their treatment and reformation; laws for regulating the punishment of crime and the treatment of criminals and many other questions covered in the general field of criminology. The object of the general meeting is to bring together experts from the various fields of work to discuss methods and systems and to exchange experiences. The membership is composed of prison and reformatory officials, members of boards of managers, physicians, chaplains, judges, lawyers, and others interested in or connected with the administration of criminal law and penal and reformatory institutions. Criminology is relatively a new science, but already its

researches have been responsible for the creation of our probation system, juvenile courts, and the George Junior Republic. The deliberations of this body are of the utmost importance for all who are interested in the welfare of the human family. An account of the proceedings will appear an early issue of the NORTHWESTERN.

DR. BEECHING, THE NEW DEAN OF NORWICH, HAS PRONOUNCED in favor of a fresh revision of the English Bible, one which will adhere more closely to the Authorized Version than the present Revised Version. His idea has been carried out in thoroughly satisfactory fashion by the editors of the "1911" Version just published by the Oxford Press. This version was the work of American scholars.

A PROMINENT LAYMAN IN BRITISH CONGREGATIONALISM said in a representative meeting of his coreligionists that if nonconformity has stood still during the last ten years while Roman Catholicism has increased greatly "it is due to the greater sympathy the Roman Catholic Church takes in the daily life of the people and the way in which they look after the children." The criticism is worth thinking about.

THERE ARE THREE CLAIMANTS TO THE CHIEFTAINSHIP OF THE Clan Macdonald. There is also a good deal of human nature in that same clan. The clan was wearing itself out in a vain endeavor to determine which of the three should sit at the head of the table. A flash of hard sense found its way to the clan and now it has been agreed that the matter is to be determined by the flip of a coin. A very rational but an altogether un-Mac-like way of doing things.

ORDINARILY, PUNNING IS RATHER TIRE SOME. BUT A CERTAIN Dr. Leach—an Englishman at that—has come very near vindicating the pun as a form of wit. He had succeeded in interesting an audience of men in a talk about the manly art and when the time allotted to him was up he made as if to sit down. "Go on," cried the crowd. "But," said the doctor, "it's not safe to tell a Leach to go on—it'll stick." Which, just as a witticism, comes very near drawing blood.

AN ENGLISH VISITOR TO BROOKLYN IN SEARCH OF BEECHER memorabilia was rewarded with the following: Beecher was trying to interest his father in art. One day he brought home a fresh picture, representing a lake and some ducks scared by a hunter. To his delight, he saw his father absorbed in the painting and murmuring to himself. He drew up softly to listen, when he was cruelly disillusioned by hearing his old father say: "I guess he has hit two, and possibly three."

REV. F. B. MEYER, WELL KNOWN ON THIS SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC as a standard attraction at Northfield, has been greatly moved by his experiences with the recent railroad strike in England. He declares now that until he had been confronted with the facts he never knew "so many people were so rascally underpaid." In his judgment, before there can ever be a widespread revival "there will have to be a squaring and a settling-up of the relations between employers and employees, between master and man. We cannot expect sweated people, whose governors and paymasters attend a place of worship, to go to a place of worship as long as they feel they do not get a fair wage and a due recompense for their work." The situation is perhaps not quite so bad in this country but the comment has its application even here.

## THE HIGHER LIFE.

### DEDICATION HYMN.

A. J. SHAW.

Great God! the power and strength are thine,  
Worlds to create; at thy command  
The towering rocks and hills combine  
To form primeval temples grand.

And what is man; proud, sinful man  
That thou shouldst visit such as he,  
And bliss prepare, by gospel plan,  
For him through all eternity?

We know the little child who prays  
May trust thy gracious promise given,  
To guide him through life's devious ways  
To his eternal home in heaven.

We come with hymns of joyful praise  
For all thy goodness doth bestow,  
The blessings which have crowned our days  
To they protecting care we owe.

To dedicate thy house to-day,  
From worldly thoughts we turn aside  
We bow with grateful hearts and pray;  
O, let thy presence here abide!

Omaha, Neb.

### OUR UNANSWERED PRAYERS.

REV. J. R. MILLER, D.D.

In one of our hymns there is a line which runs, "Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer." The writer's thought is, patience in waiting when our prayer seems not to be answered. The answer may be only delayed. Sometimes it takes a long time for God to give us the answer we seek. We can think of several possible reasons.

Perhaps the thing we seek cannot be prepared for us at once. God does not work unnecessary miracles. The economy of supernatural acts is to be noted in our Lord's life. He had all power and could do anything. Nature's limitations set no trammels for him. He could have changed water into wine whenever he wished to do so, but he did it only once. He could have made bread from stones, but he never did. He wrought a number of miracles, but he did thousands of deeds of common kindness when there

was no necessity for supernatural acts. Some of the prayers we make could be answered at once only by miracle. It is not the will of God to give us the answer in that way, and so he requires us to wait while he prepares it for us in a natural way.

If you want an oak tree to grow on your lawn and pray for it, God will not cause it to spring up overnight. He will bid you drop an acorn in the place where you want to have the tree, and it will grow as trees always grow and your prayer will be answered, but not fully for a long time. You will need the patience of unanswered prayer. A young man has a desire to do great things. He has high ideals and is ambitious to achieve noble things. God may be willing to give him what he wishes, but not instantaneously. The young man needs to have his mental faculties developed and trained in order that he may be able to accomplish the great things he desires to do. Away on, in the years of maturity, he may achieve the thing he prayed in youth to be able to do. But now the prayer offered so importunately seems not to be answered. Really, however, it is answered as soon as God could answer it. We need the patience of unanswered prayer while we do not seem to be receiving at all the thing we long for and ask for.

You pray to have the Christian graces in your life. You want to have joy, patience, gentleness, humility, mercifulness. But these

heavenly qualities cannot be put into your life at once; they have to grow from small beginnings to perfection—"first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear"—and that requires a long time. It needs "the patience of unanswered prayer" in your heart that you may not be discouraged while you wait.

Another reason for slowness in the answering of prayer may be in ourselves. We are not yet ready to receive the thing we seek. There must be a work done in us, a work of preparation before the thing we seek can be given to us. A young man has a strong desire to go into a certain calling or business and prays earnestly and persistently that the way may be opened for him. But he has not now the qualification to make him successful in that business. Only by a long experience can he be made ready for it. His prayer may seem long to be unanswered, but it needs only patience and continuance in work and prayer combined. Prayer without work would never be answered. Many prayers wait for answer for something that must be done first in us.—From "The Beauty of Self-Control."

### THE KEY TO COURAGE.

Every man's business is God's business. If not, what have we children of God to do with it? Christ has taught us that we are to seek enlargement in our work. If expansion is impossible without, at least we may deepen and enlarge within. We may transfigure drudgeries by the sense of God's presence, transform motives by experience of love, put ourselves in the spirit of witness, even though we find no opportunity of speech. Once we have given ourselves to do the will of God we have a right to reckon on subsidies of strength and joy out of his hid treasures. "What of our failures, then?" May they not be failures of our will, not tokens of God's reluctance? The key to courage is to seek God's kingdom first. Our success is in the venturing of faith, not the attainment of a particular desire. The Father of

the Faithful owned no more of the Promised Land than a grave. The Lawgiver of Israel died upon the journey. The most influential life ended upon the cross. Let God judge of failure and success; it is for us to venture, confident in his reserves of power.—*The Congregationalist.*

### GOLD DUST.

A brain might as well be stuffed with sawdust as with unused knowledge.—*Great Thoughts.*

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"We talk about the sleep of death. How much deeper, how much sadder, is the sleep of life—the unresponsive heart, the unawakened mind, the hand palsied by lack of will to do!"

\*

"The philosophy of hard knocks is hard to understand, yet everyone who looks squarely at life recognizes its wisdom. The pampered boy often comes to uselessness, if nothing worse, while his companion, who has received rigorous treatment at the hands of the world, attains strength and effectiveness."

\*

"Evil dreams and fears assault him  
Who the worst is ever thinking;  
Who looks sourly on the world  
Gall and wormwood has for drinking;  
Therefore, let thy spirit thirst,  
Be not swift to think the worst."

\*

"Criticism is so easy a task that anyone, no matter how unskilled, can do it without effort. The man in the gutter can criticize the saint—but that does not lift him an inch out of the gutter. When Thales, away back in classic times, was asked what was most difficult, he replied, 'To know one's self;' but when he was asked what was most easy, he answered, 'To advise another!'"