

Our contemporary, the *Catholic Sentinel*, has been dwelling at some length on our allusion to the popes and the Roman Catholic Church as Paul's "Man of Sin," etc., and would have us believe that the popes have been a remarkably good class of fellows. We have no disposition to affirm that all the popes were intentionally bad men; but it always seemed a little strange to us that an infallible Church with an infallible head made such by an infallible council should contain a list of popes of whom Archbishop Purcell could justly use such language as the following. In his great debate with A. Campbell he says: "Now in this chain there were some bad popes; we weep over the fact, my friends, and lament it." Again he says in the same speech: "I have no special apology to offer for a pope who is a bad man. He should be the pattern of the flock from the heart. He should be the salt of the earth—the light of the world. He should remember that the mighty shall be mightily tormented; and that a most severe judgment shall be for them that bear rule if they walk not according to the law. I should not be surprised if these bad popes were at this moment expiating their crimes in the penal fires of hell." We hope to be able to give our brother another lesson or two from Archbishop Parcell in the near future.

We have a letter from a sister asking information on the subject of family worship—a very important, and, we are sorry to say, much neglected subject. She wants to know what is to be done in case the wife feels it both a pleasure and a duty to have family prayers and whose husband does not conduct it; and especially in view of the fact the Bible teaches that the woman should not "usurp authority over the man." We think in the first place if that husband is a professed Christian that the wife should be frank to make known to him her feeling and conviction of right on the subject and lovingly point out to him the benefit of family worship both to themselves and their children, and we think in most cases he will readily consent to her request and thus act in harmony with what he knows to be in accordance with the will of God. If, on the other hand, the husband is unqualified in speech or otherwise for taking the lead to the edification of all or is not a church member, then let the wife in the

spirit of true womanly devotion to him and with a keen sense of duty to God, modestly request that the worship be conducted by herself or some other member of the family, and if we are not mistaken, in nine cases out of every ten, his true manly principle and the respect for his wife, if nothing more, will readily lead him to yield to her request. In such a mutual arrangement, all things may be done to edification and there is no "usurping authority over the husband." We believe God ordained from the beginning that the husband should be the lawful head of the family, and that this is true in a spiritual as well as in a fleshly sense. Hence, if he has never supplied that spiritual head, or has ceased to do so, why, if the wife is a devoted Christian, we think that household is not necessarily to be left without a spiritual head; and under these circumstances, we know of no better substitute than the loving wife. The wife is only obligated to obey the husband in that which is right. But inasmuch as the custom under consideration, as such, is not specifically commanded in the Scriptures, wives should see that all things are done to the peace and harmony of the family, and to the best interest of the cause of Christ. We say then, if it is the best that can be done, let the wife by all means conduct the devotional exercises at the family altar.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Bro. H. T. Morrison is spending most of his time holding protracted meetings in Lane county.

Bro. F. M. Rains, of Leavenworth, Kan., becomes the State Evangelist of that State. That was a good appointment.

Bro. J. W. Caldwell, editor of our Kentucky Department, removes from West Union to Corinth, Ky., and becomes principal of the Corinth Academy. We wish him all success in his new field of labor.

We are sorry to learn that Bro. J. M. Shepherd, of the *Faithful Witness* has been sick. Hope he is better by this time.

Bro. J. Durham's article this week on Church Music is well worth a careful reading.

Seek to make thy course regular, that men may know beforehand what to expect.—Bacon.

WORK FOR THE SISTERS.

There is no higher calling within the reach of man or woman than to be a humble follower of Jesus—a Christian; and it is a source of great joy to know that in this respect there is neither male nor female, but all are one in Christ Jesus. But discipleship implies work—active work in the vineyard of the Master. This work is not all to be done by the men, but the women have their share also.

Every sister, as well as every brother, is to be a preacher of the gospel, a constant and faithful laborer for Christ and his cause. God never intended that woman should be an idler—a kind of ornament to be admired rather than a real and indispensable part of humanity and a noble instrument in His hand in working out His glorious purposes in the redemption of the world. The very first declaration we have of woman is that she was to be a help-meet for man. This implies that she was to do something; and so it is we find woman all along down the ages from the creation, filling a high and holy sphere of usefulness in the plans and purposes of her Maker.

But it remains for the gospel dispensation to show the real worth of woman in the service of God. They were among the first to behold and worship the babe in the manger. They were in the great school of Christ learning lessons of wisdom by humbly sitting at his feet. It has been often said, and truly said, that women were first at the sepulchre and last at the cross of Christ. They were the first to announce the risen Lord, and hence the first to preach in a quiet and simple way the great cardinal facts of the gospel. They were among the hundred and twenty disciples who were assembled in an upper room in Jerusalem worshipping God and awaiting the promise of the Father. They were among the recipients of the Holy Spirit and the prophets of the Lord. They were ever ready to entertain strangers, to assist the apostles in their work and even to instruct some preachers in the way of the Lord more perfectly; and all this outside of the pulpit and the public and authoritative ministrations of the assembly of the Saints.

We believe that woman's sphere in the Church of Christ is not only as high and useful as that of man, but equally comprehensive, and includes a variety of necessary duties

that man is utterly incapable of accomplishing. Let no sister then conclude that she has nothing to do. There is the cup of cold water to be given in the name of a disciple, the sick to be visited and the poor and needy to be fed and clothed. There are the Sunday-school and the social meetings in which her peculiar talent and influence is needed. In fact when properly aroused and directed there is no measuring her influence for good. Indeed she is capable of taking her place behind the throne and thus ruling both the Church and the nation; and here, we hold, lies the secret of her power. In short there are a thousand ways in which every true woman can do efficient work for the Lord, and we trust none will be satisfied till her full strength and influence is developed in his cause.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE CHRISTIAN HERALD.

I desire to say to the many friends of the *CHRISTIAN HERALD* that its editor has made arrangements with me to assist him in editing the paper. I have accepted the position of co-editor, and in this issue make my *debut*, and commence my labors. In accepting this position I am not insensible to the fact that it is a responsible one, and that it will greatly add to my other labors. But my strong desire to do all the good I can during my short stay in this world has induced me to undertake this extra labor. And, just here, in the beginning of my work, I would like to say a few things to the readers of the *HERALD* that I think ought to be said.

You, dear brethren, no doubt, will agree with me when I say that it is of the utmost importance that our growing brotherhood on this coast have a first-class religious paper of their own, one that they can justly be proud of, and that will in every way fitly represent the noble cause for which we plead. To make the *CHRISTIAN HERALD* such a paper will be my constant aim while I am connected with it.

The press is, perhaps, the greatest power in the world to-day, and there is no more successful way of preaching the gospel and of counteracting evil in the world than by the circulation of good religious newspapers. This is emphatically the age of newspapers. Books, to a very large extent, have been crowded out, and papers have taken their place. All classes read papers; and if the young do not get those