

When the New York *Independent*, in an able editorial on "Power," states that the success of the apostles of Christ in converting the people was largely due to the aid of the Holy Spirit to bring all things to their remembrance and to guide them into all truth, we have no disposition to call it in question. But when it draws the conclusion that preachers must now be endowed in like manner in order to be successful in their ministry, we think the assertion is entirely without scriptural evidence. The miraculous gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the apostles to qualify them for their work it is true; but the sign of an apostle differed from that of an ordinary preacher of the nineteenth century. The apostles, as a result of the out-pouring of the Divine Spirit, could speak with foreign tongues and work miracles as well as infallibly preach the gospel of Christ. But the day of miracles has passed. Neither was this special promise of the Father extended to all preachers for all ages; and the man who expects the direct gift of his Spirit from heaven to put words into his mouth and thus compel him to be an efficient minister of the gospel, will most certainly be a failure himself and a stumbling-stone for the people. While we believe with the *Independent* that the presence of the Holy Spirit is necessary in the conversion of all men, we also hold that this Spirit invariably operates through the truth; and that this truth is found in the revealed word of God called the Bible. So then the minister who fills his mind and soul with this precious Spiritual truth, and speaks it forth with soberness and earnestness is simply speaking as the Spirit through the word guides him. He who expects more than this is hoping against hope.

The *Catholic Sentinel* is still after us. This time in a column and a half reply to our brief paragraph. We are asked for the proof that the "HERALD'S" denomination was founded by Christ and existed hundreds of years before a Pope was thought of, etc. We made no such assertion. We did assert however in substance that the Church of Christ to which we belong was founded by Him and existed hundreds of years before either the Pope or the Catholic Church was heard of, and we here take occasion to repeat that assertion with em-

phasis. This proposition is self-evident and needs no proof. Does the *Sentinel* deny it. If a Pope of Rome or the Catholic Church existed in the days of Christ or any of his apostles and for hundreds of years after their death, will the *Sentinel* please tell us where these are to be found, inasmuch as the Bible is as silent as the grave about them? Our brother ought to know that the *HERALD* has no denomination, neither does it belong to any. We profess simply to belong to the Church which Christ set up in the beginning through his inspired apostles, and we believe that this Church was and is the breadth of the heavens from the Roman Catholic Church with her infallible popes, practices and superstitions. We do not believe that this Church has ever been prevailed against or destroyed; and furthermore, we believe that faith in the Son of God and obedience to his will constitutes one a member of this Church independently of all the Popes, creeds and denominations of earth. Hence, we assert nothing of modern denominationalism, but only that the Church of Christ existed before the church of Rome. If this assertion is not true, and the Catholic Church is identical with the Church that our Savior set up, it is the business of the *Sentinel* to show that, not ours. Will he try it? Perhaps it can all be cleared up in the light of "Tradition."

We have received the second number of *The Home Guard*, a new temperance paper published at Corvallis, Oregon, and edited by Will C. King. The motto of the *Home Guard* is "Total Abstinence for the Individual and Prohibition for the State." The paper is well filled with wholesome temperance food and we hope it will be extensively circulated and read by the people of Oregon. We have heard brother King lecture, and so far as our knowledge of his course as a temperance advocate goes, we do not regard him as an extremist or a fanatic in the temperance work. If his paper, therefore, is wisely managed, we think he will be able to do much good for the people of Oregon. While able, good and conscientious men may differ in their ideas as to the most effective mode of warfare against intemperance, there can be no question among them as to the fact that, not only the whisky traffic, but all forms of intemperance should be

suppressed as far as possible. So we always hail with delight any good enterprise set for the overthrow of this monstrous evil in our land. We regard temperance an element of religion itself, and that man's religion is vain who does not advocate and practice it. The temperance cause, then, to be a success, must be advocated and defended upon Bible principles. The idea that the temperance work can be divorced from the work of the church is an incorrect one, and that man who places the temperance cause on other ground than that of the Bible, is unconsciously pursuing the course that will defeat the very end he has in view. We presume there is no good cause which is not abused; and so the temperance cause is no exception to the rule. We think when anyone becomes so temperate, as a few good people on this coast have done, that he will refuse to partake of the wine in the communion at the Lord's table, though it be the unfermented juice of the grape, on the ground of total abstinence and the evil effect it may have on "old drunkards," that man's temperance has developed itself into one of the worst forms of intemperance itself. Such extremes should be carefully avoided, and the temperance cause thus placed on a firm basis. The *Home Guard* is published on the 1st and 15th of each month at \$1 per year.

PERSONAL MENTION.

We are glad to print a letter this week from our State Evangelist.

Bro. Morrison, our associate editor, is with us this week conducting our meeting. At this writing the meeting continues with good interest. Bro. M. is a workman who needs not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Bro. W. H. Adams sends us some missionary notes for next week.

Bro. N. B. Sherman, of Acton, Canada, writes us in behalf of Bro. Geo. N. Culp who, he says, will be in Monmouth soon. Bro. Sherman has recently baptized him and recommends him as an excellent teacher in the school, and from the best of families, etc. We will be glad to see this brother, and will have more to say of him when he reaches us.

Had I read as much as others, I might have been as ignorant.—*Hobbes.*

THE TENDENCY OF THE AGE.

Last week we wrote on idolatry in the churches, and endeavored to show that covetousness is a form of idolatry as heinous in the sight of God and as clearly condemned by the New Testament Scriptures as the worship of the heavenly bodies or the beasts and creeping things of the earth. It is our present purpose to show that the tendency of the ages is to unite the true worship with this species of idolatry and carry them both along in such a way as to please God and save themselves. The devotees of this system of things do not like the idea of wholly forsaking the true God, and thus become avowed idolaters; neither are they willing, on the other hand, to completely give up their idolatry in all its forms and cleave unto the living God with all their heart. Their object is to unite the two and thus occupy neutral ground. They are willing to serve God, in their sense of acceptable service, provided they are allowed to serve their idols also. They try to carry Christianity in one hand and the world in the other. They wish to go to heaven with the cross of Christ in their hand and a large sack of gold and worldly pleasures on their back. And this idea is not a new one; but as human nature is the same in all ages, we naturally expect to find it at an early day in the history of man. Accordingly, when we turn our attention to the history of the Jews, we find the idea in question prevailing among them. When the people at the foot of Sinai, during the absence of Moses on the mount to receive the law, prevailed on Aaron to make for them the golden calf, it was not their purpose to wholly give up the true God of Israel. They missed their leader and mediator; hence when Moses delayed to come down from the mount they said, "For as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him." Therefore they wanted gods to go before them or to be their leader; and instead of wishing to give up their God of heaven altogether, they only designed to worship Him through their golden idol. This then was a direct attempt to blend the true worship with the false—to worship the God of Israel on the one hand and the gods of this world on the other. Another striking example is found