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All matter intended for publication in this paper should be written:

1. On one side of the sheet only.
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EDITORIAL NOTES.

Let our readers please remember that all orders for tracts on Modern Dancing and all other books should be sent to Albany, and not to Monmouth.

The editor of the Texas *Christian Messenger* is in trouble. Hear him: "One brother says if we will stop saying anything about tobacco and whisky, and Dr. Ray, Dr. Price, and missionary plans, he will make up a club of subscribers for the *Messenger*. It is probable that if we would stop saying anything about sin and Satan, Old Nick would make up a club."

Sisters and brethren coming on to this coast from the East should immediately take membership with a church of disciples where they locate. This matter should also be promptly looked after by the churches here. There is entirely too much negligence and looseness in these matters. Christian people have no right to stand aloft from their brethren where they are living.

In one short article in the last number of the *Christian Standard* under the heading, "The Question of Division," we note the following eloquent words and phrases: "Snuff out this light by pronouncing it a bit of gossip." "It can not be pooh-poohed away as a bit of gossip." "He is not dealing out mere tittle-tattle." "Great bluster over it." "The awful spiritual condition of our churches." "Great gusto." It is to be hoped that this article will now close the division question.

"A convent in Italy has recently been devoted to secular uses. Among other things belonging to the convent were the bones, so esteemed, of St. Peter, St. Clement and St. Anastasius. The commissioners appointed to fix the value of the articles found in the convent, estimated the bones of St. Peter to be worth eighty cents; the bones of other saints were rated at forty and sixty cents respectively!"—*Zion's Herald*. Our friend of the *Catholic Sentinel* ought to have bought these bones to assist him in establishing his theory of papal infallibility!

The Sunday-school of the Christian church at Albany was organized last week, in the Court House, with 52 scholars enrolled. It will meet every Sunday at 2 P. M. The following are the officers: J. F. Floyd, Superintendent; Dr. J. W. Cole, Ast. Supt.; Miss Flora Cowan, Secretary; Miss Irene Powell, Ast. Secy.; Miss Ada Hayes, Treasurer; Miss Maggie Barker, Librarian; Dr. J. W. Cole, Chorister; J. F. Floyd, Ast. Chorister. The school is well supplied with literature. It is now among the largest and best in the city and the prospects are fine for a forward movement in Sunday-school and church work.

The *Christian at Work* says: "The pew-rentals of Mr. Beecher's church are some \$3,000 less this year than last; and any minister inclined to draw unlovely inferences may pause a moment as he reflects that just such a time will probably come for him—unless he is indeed already afloat on an ebb tide and

far out at sea." Mr. Beecher was evidently "far out at sea" during his recent visit to the Pacific coast, and had he remained much longer his pew-rentals would hardly have supplied his table salt. This is a practical demonstration of his theory of evolution down grade!

The Week of Prayer is over. Some churches will get benefit from it and some will not. So with individuals. If you want to get any benefit from the prayer week it must be followed by fifty-one weeks of consecrated faith and work. In that way every man in the church helps answer his own prayers. Heaven helps those who help themselves. If your wagon gets mired call upon your neighbors for help. But don't forget to put your own shoulder to the wheel. Because of this forgetfulness many cries sent heavenward for help scarcely get as high as the cirrus clouds. What wonder that they are not answered!—*Christian at Work*.

We wish to say now, once for all, that we can not as a rule print long obituary notices free of charge. They are of no special interest to the great body of our readers and are intended, usually, for only the limited number of relatives and friends. Besides, being set in small type, they cost us extra time and labor to set them. We are willing to print ten lines free, and in case of some person generally known to the brotherhood, as a minister of the gospel, even more. But in ordinary cases, all over ten lines should be accompanied with the money to pay for it, at the rate of ten cents for each line. Please remember this. What we most need is more earnest work for Christ in our churches and more frequent reports of this work to our paper—something that will the better prepare us for death.

Mr. Kidder has been trying to show that the Christian religion is on the decline, especially among the more thinking class of people. This has led Dr. A. A. Hodge to make a reply in which he brings forward

these overwhelming facts: "Never before has Christianity, nominal and real, advanced as during the present century. The best approximate estimates give as the whole number of nominal Christians on earth at the end of the first century, 400,000; at the end of the seventh century, 25,000,000; at the end of the fourteenth century, 80,000,000; at the end of the seventeenth century, 155,000,000; at the end of the eighteenth century, 200,000,000, and in 1880, 410,000,000. As to the relative political influence of these Christians, we have 100,000,000 of population subject to Christian government in A. D. 1500, as compared with 685,459,000 in A. D. 1876."

The *Christian Index* says: "A Kentucky Baptist minister recently immersed 58 persons in 15 minutes; and it was not hard or hurried work. This sheds some light on the Pentecostal baptisms, even if the 3,000 were immersed in a single day by the eleven apostles." We can give the *Index* another case: On the first day of April 1877 one man in the city of Louisville, Ky., baptized 131 persons within an hour. These and many other like facts prove conclusively that the apostles themselves could have easily baptized the 3,000 in the time they had. Besides, this would have required no more time than to lead each one into the water and then pour a handfull of water on his head, as we are told the eunuch was baptized! But after all, if baptism has nothing to do with the remission of sins as the *Index* teaches, then we do not see the necessity of being in such a hurry about it.

The *Signs of the Times*, Oakland, Cal., thinks that most Christian people are doing as much to undermine the Bible as Robert Ingersoll because they do not obey the command of God to keep the Sabbath. When the *Signs* succeeds in proving that the command of the decalogue respecting the Jewish Sabbath was ever given to Christian people under the reign of Christ, it will be