

dance is, there will be no longer found professed Christians to ask, "Where is the harm in dancing?"

As to the "valid objections" to dancing, we state ours in a question: "Why don't the sexes dance apart?" Why don't men dance with men, and women with women, or each person dance by himself or herself? This is dancing, and we never heard that anybody was turned out of church for it. The trouble with the dancing business appears to be that its advocates defend under the name of dance that which is not dancing, and which if it passed under its true name, we might discuss with more satisfaction. We danced ourselves, and therefore can not define it. Will some advocate of the dance please give us a name for the whatever-it-is which they want us to commend under the name of dancing, and which is not to be found in solitary caperings to music, or in the harmonious steps of those of the same sex?

The following from the (Texas) Christian Messenger, expresses our sentiments on the subject:

Bro. Garrison, of the Christian, says that to be an editor is to be a servant—a poorly-paid, over-worked, over-burdened, over-scolded servant. True. But we all like to be editors, and would not exchange the business for any other profession in the world. Editors should not work too hard, and as for the scolding, well—that is mere pastime. We are proof against it: If the scoldist could even ruffle our temper, we'd quit to-morrow.

The Archangel (Catholic) College paper of St. Michael's College, and the College News Letter, have been having a little round on religious matters. The News Letter has this to say:

"The Archangel says 'Protestantism is a failure.' The Catholics have been crying 'failure' for the last six hundred years, when anything progressive made its appearance. Does the 'Holy Father' yet admit that Galileo might have been right when he said the earth moved?"

This is rather a heavy blow at the infallibility of his "holiness," if a school boy did make it. The Archangel's defense against this is rather amusing to those who know anything of the history of the case. Here it is:

Concerning the question of Galileo, we answer, that the Holy Father knew that the earth moved, and therefore did not doubt the truth of Galileo's system. The News Letter has it wrong. Galileo was not arraigned as an astronomer, but as a bad theologian; for having pretended to impute to the Bible, dogmas of his own invention. He, trying to prove the Copernican system from the Bible, was the real cause of his being summoned to Rome. His being brought to Rome and examined as a bad theologian does not show that the Holy Father doubted the truth that the earth moves. Here the News Letter displayed a bad logic. We advise it to try again and better its situation.

Ordination.

BRO. DUNTON TO BRO. WALLER.

Bro. Waller:

I have seen your review of my article in the P. C. MESSENGER, have noted your inquiries, questions and inferential affirmations, etc., etc. I will try and comply with your reasonable and brotherly request, so soon as circumstances will permit, and to the best of my ability, will examine the matters of ordination of church officers, in a manner commensurate with its importance.

I believe that I stated in my former communication, that we based our action of ordination upon the meaning of the word "ordain," which we understand to be *hand-vote*.

In your friendly review of our communication, you call in question our manner of ordaining, and project considerable Scripture at us.

Now, Bro. Waller, we believe that churches of Christ should have officers, and that they should be ordained. I presume that there is no difference between us thus far, there is authority for this. We have as yet, been unable to find a single example where the inspired founders, and advisers of the early churches ever ordained persons by the imposition of hands, or where they ever constituted elders thus.

Perhaps you can help us out in our searches. As you say that there must be examples same where in the book of God, in relation to a matter of such importance. Now, Bro. Waller, this short communication is to tell you that I will write upon this question soon. And now let me ask you a few questions, inasmuch as you assume that there must be examples somewhere for ordination, and as soon as you forward your answers, in the P. C. MESSENGER, I will also be ready soon thereafter to write my understanding of the whole question.

Will you please answer the following questions:

- 1. How is a Church of Christ constituted?
2. How are its officers constituted?
3. Should they be ordained?
4. If so, how?
5. And by whom?

Now, Bro. Waller, at the last two points, please let your answers be sharp and clear. Now, Bro. Waller, we are aware, that not only you, but many of our brethren, entertain views upon this subject, which are adverse to those views which we hold, and I am willing that the whole subject should be examined by the light of the New Testament Scriptures. Now, is this a fair proposition. Possibly we are wrong in our views of the manner of ordination; if so, we want to know it. So please write your answers to the five questions propounded, and in the meantime we will examine the Word, and respond, the best that we can.

Yours brotherly, S. B. DUNTON.

Winters, Cal., March 9, 1878.

Ordination.

BRO. WALLER TO BRO. DUNTON.

Bro. Dunton, in your reply to our review of your article in the P. C. MESSENGER, you admit that my request is reasonable, and brotherly, I am pleased that you regarded my review of your article in a proper light. The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, is what we want. I am somewhat disappointed that you have dodged the answer to the questions propounded in my former communication, by asking five other questions. I will, however, try to answer according to the Scriptures. 1. The congregation or church of Christ is constituted of baptized believers. 2. The officers of the congregation are chosen by the congregation, and ordained by the evangelist; Ordination was performed by fasting, prayer, and the laying on of hands. Choosing and ordaining are not the same; the church at Jerusalem chose their deacons, but the apostles set them apart to their work, and they did it by fasting, prayer, and the laying on of hands. See Acts vi. 1-6; and Acts xiii. 3, and viv. 23. Question 5th, "and by whom?" Answer, by the evangelist. We are plainly told that Titus was left in Crete to ordain elders in every city. Tit. i. 5. To Timothy Paul said, "Lay hands suddenly on no man." 1 Tim. v. 22. This must have reference to ordination; it could not mean to lay on hands to heal. In that case there should be no delay. It could not refer to laying on hands, to impart spiritual gifts, for none but the apostles possessed that power; therefore we conclude that it must refer to ordaining officers in the church.

The suggestion that in the days of the apostles, hands were only imposed in order to impart miraculous gifts, is a mistake. Hands were laid on to heal, Mark xvi. 18, to impart spiritual gifts, and to ordain or set apart, persons to special church work. When they laid on hands to heal, they healed the sick and did no more. When they laid hands on a person to bestow miraculous gifts, they imparted the proposed gift and did no more. Acts viii. 17, and xix. 6. And when they laid on hands to ordain, they simply set apart persons to office, and impart-

ed no miraculous gift. Acts vi. 6; and xiii. 3. In conclusion we will say to Bro. Dunton, that if he can find any other mode in the Scriptures for setting apart officers in the church, he will find something that we have not learned, and we verily believe that all things necessary for life and salvation, are contained in the Scriptures, that there should be unity of practice among us. May the Father of our spirits smile upon all who love God and his word supremely, is the prayer of your brother.

H. M. WALLER.

Monmouth, Or., March 29, 1878.

SALEM, April 8, 1878.

EDITOR MESSENGER.

Dear Sir:

Some of the brethren from Aumsville have requested me to say through your paper that Bro. R. H. Moss will hold a meeting at Turner's Station, in this county, on the fourth Saturday and Sunday of this month, to which they request the several congregations of Marion county, to send delegates to take into consideration and make arrangements for the holding a county annual meeting sometime during the coming summer.

Yours as ever,

H. A. JOHNSON.

For the Jews as a class we feel great sympathy. Living in darkness in the midst of light, cutting themselves off by their disbelief from the protection of him who with his mighty hand led them out from the bondage of Egypt, rejecting the Savior before whom it is the highest honor to bow, surely they are to be pitied. The logic of this preamble is very fine and yet very simple. Its conclusion must be inevitable. The object of this convention is worthy of profound attention. If the Jews can be brought to an acknowledgement of the Savior, if they can be made willing to accept the "New Testament Scriptures as the statute and law of the nation," they will doubtless become a mighty power in the hand of God for revolutionizing and converting the world. Who knows but that God will soon take back to his love and bosom his once favored people, and make them the instruments in his hand for evangelizing the world. Let us wait and see. May the day soon dawn when "all shall know him from the least to the greatest." Surely this call is one of the "signs of the times."—Apostolic Times.

Matthew XIX. 24.

For a long time the learned have thought the words of Jesus in Matt. xix. 24 referred to a small gate in the wall of Jerusalem. Of late the view is being confirmed. It is common for all the large and heavy gates of oriental towns to have opening through them a smaller door. Kolla Floyd, the well known traveler in Palestine, says the gates or doors still exist, and are called in the Arabic tongue the "Needle's Eye." Formerly it was the custom to close the large gates of Jerusalem from 12 to 2 on Friday, during the season of Mohammedan worship. When this was done, only the small door through the great gate could be used for ingress. Floyd says that on one such an occasion, while waiting for some travelers outside the Jerusalem gate leading to Jaffa, a train of camels came. To enter the city it was necessary to unload each animal, and take it separately from its burden of baggage through the "Needle's Eye." I am inclined to think this is the true view of the disputed passage. And if so, how strikingly it illustrates, how forcibly it points the Savior's words. Better unload some of your burden, O ye rich men, ere you reach the narrow gate.

TRY AND CAN'T DO IT.—Can't do it sticks in the mud, but Try soon drags the cart out of the rut. The fox said Try, and he got away from the hounds when they almost snapped at him. The bees said Try, and turned flowers into honey. The squirrel said Try, and up he went to the top of a beech tree. The snowdrop said Try, and bloomed in the cold snows of Winter. The sun said Try, and the Spring soon threw Jack Frost out of the saddle. The young lark said Try, and he found that his new wings took him over hedges and ditches, and up where his father was singing. The ox said Try, and plowed the field from end to end. No hill too steep for Try to climb, no clay too stiff for Try to plow, no field too wet for Try to drain, no hole too big for Try to mend.

HEADQUARTERS FOR CHRISTIAN HYMNALS, CHRISTIAN HYMN BOOK, PUBLICATIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, PREACHERS' SUPPLIES, SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES, PAPERS, REWARD CARDS, MAPS, and everything needed for Sunday-school or Church furnished at Publishers' prices. JOHN BURNS, 717 Olive Street, ST. LOUIS.

8-13-4m

Books bound neat and Cheap.

A Sign of the Times.

The Eastern War which has recently closed, was a subject of profound study by many classes. Some studied it from a financial stand point, seeking to discover its effects on the markets, with the hopes of profiting thereby; others looking at the aggrandizing spirit of the nation of Europe have studied it, expecting therefrom a great revolution; others again studied it from the stand-point of prophecy, and to these the downfall of the Ottoman Empire seems clear; others think that "the conflict in the East indicates that the day of the Lord is at hand," as will be observed in the extract from the New York Herald, which we are requested to publish. We publish this with pleasure, and desiring to give it prominence, make it the subject of this short editorial:

CALL FOR A NATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALL WHO ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT JESUS CHRIST AS THE PROMISED MESSIAH.

"New York Herald: 'A call for a National Convention of all Israelites who are willing to accept Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah of the world, with all who accept of him during the past ages of their identity of belonging to the stock of Israel by name or otherwise, is hereby called. God says in Gen. xlix: 10. 'The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a law-giver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.' The scepter and the law-giver departed from Judah about one thousand eight hundred seventy-eight years ago. Therefore Shiloh has come, and we know him not." The object of this convention shall be:—

"First, to form an alliance of all the converted Jews and of Israel throughout the world, and to appoint a set time to confess the sin of the nation in rejecting Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and crucifying him, thereby bringing the wrath of God upon the nation. Therefore God hath said the nation shall be dispersed throughout the world till the fulness of the gentiles is come. God has promised that, 'if we confess our sins; he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.'"

"Second: To form a basis for a National Existence, upon the New Testament Scripture as the statute of the Nation."

"Third: To implore the powers of the world to restore Palestine to the people of God; for this is the day of grace. The conflict in the East indicates that the day of the Lord is at hand."

"Correspondence by every one is solicited, fixing an early day and place to hold the Convention."

"All papers of the world are requested to publish this notice. Address 'DAVID ROSENBERG, M. D., Columbus Ohio.'"

Opportunity.

There is a tide in the affairs of men, Which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;

Omitted, all the voyage of their life Is bound in shadows and in miseries. On such a full sea are we now afloat; And we must take the current when it serves, Or lose our venture.

[Shakespeare.]

Tortures that Need not be Endured.

People suffer a great deal of pain unnecessarily. Among tortures that need not be endured are those inflicted by the rheumatism and gout, since the acrid element in the blood which produces them by contact with the sensitive coverings of the feet of the muscles and joints may be eliminated by the use of that matchless depurative, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, before the inflammatory symptoms are developed to any great extent. When it is considered what excruciating tortures rheumatism inflicts, and what a tendency it has, when fully developed, to attack the heart, the advisability of an early use of such a reliable antidote becomes at once apparent. The rheumatic virus is expelled from the blood by the increased action of the kidneys—which act as strainers—produced by the Bitters, and the sufferer will find, if he uses this supreme defensive agent, that he will be protected against a return of the agonizing complaint. Dyspepsia, fever and ague, liver and bowel complaints and other maladies, are also cured by this admirable remedy.

Charming Pictures.

To introduce their goods, J. L. Patten & Co., 162 William St., N. Y., will send a package of Decalcomania Pictures with illustrated catalogue, to every reader of this paper who will send eight cents (stamps taken) for mailing expenses; these pictures are highly colored, beautiful, and are easily transferred to any object so as to imitate the most beautiful painting.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

HAVING been duly appointed Administrator to the Estate of Reuben P. Pigg, late of Polk County, Oregon, deceased, all persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to me; and all persons having claims against said Estate will present the same, duly authenticated, to me at my residence in said county.

C. B. GRAVES, Administrator.

J. L. COLLINS, Attorney. 17-46

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOW, LOOK HERE! COME TO

KENEDY THE BLACKSMITH,

Who would hereby inform the people of Monmouth and surrounding country, that he is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line promptly and in workmanlike manner.

A GOOD STOCK OF IRON

Is kept on hand.

An A 1 Horse Shoer,

Will do this class of work in the most satisfactory manner.

Repairing Machinery of all kinds a specialty. Monmouth, Or., April 10, 1878.



Sixteen Different Varieties of Choice

HIGH CLASS

PURE BRED POULTRY,

ALSO

Shepherd, Bird and Terrier Dogs.

Send Stamp for Descriptive Circular and Price List.

Address, LUTHER MYERS, SALEM, OREGON.

8-15-44

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.

A VALUABLE Farm, partly within the town plot of the town of Monmouth, Polk County, Oregon, is now offered for Sale on easy and reasonable terms. Being situated within

One-Half Mile of Christian College,

One of the best Literary Institutions of the State, in one of the best counties of the Willamette Valley, only

TEN MILES FROM THE CAPITAL

Of the State, and on a line of a railway now building. It is one of the most desirable places for a home, as well as its real and prospective

VALUE AS A GRAIN AND FRUIT FARM,

And for Residence Lots. It is one mile from the largest town in the county on the Willamette river, the prospective county seat of Polk County.

It contains about 480 acres, and will be sold together or in tracts to suit purchasers.

For terms and particulars address G. M. Beeler, Independence, Oregon, or Mrs. A. Beeler, Los Angeles, California. 7-10-1m

NOW READY! Bright! New! Sweet Cheerful GOSPEL ECHOES R. G. Staples.

Do not supply your school with new singing books, until you have examined and tested this book. It is by far the best for SUNDAY SCHOOLS, PRAYER-MEETINGS, and HOME CIRCLES. It is full of contributions from ALL THE BEST authors of Sunday-school music in the country. All say they want it. For sale everywhere. Sample pages free. Sample copies, 25 cents, or \$1.00 per dozen, by mail. Address, CENTRAL BOOK CONCERN, Oskaloosa, Iowa, or G. FITSON & CO., Boston, and New York.