Kavid Stump

CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

"Peace on Earth---Good Will among Men."

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

Monmouth Lodge No. 181, I. O. G. T. Meets every Friday evening, at 7½ o'clock.

The Philomathean [illegible] every Wednesday evening, in the College Building, up stairs, at 7½ o'clock.

The Hesperian Literary Society Meets every Monday evening, in the College Building, up stairs, at 7½ o'clock.

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Poet's Corner.

AUTUMN.

OWEN MEREDITH.

O now, then, Summer's over by degrees!
Hark! [illegible] the wind on your [illegible]
Who says the world grows better, grows more old?
See! what [illegible] on these [illegible] trees,
That cannot keep for all their [illegible] gold leaves
Their last bird from the cold.

This is [illegible] Nature, [illegible], pinch'd, and sore,

Of all the charms, her poet's praised [illegible],
Scorning, and sobbing [illegible], there!
Like that of [illegible]
When Spenser, [illegible] ing left
But wrinkles, and [illegible]

Home Contributions.

WORDS.

[illegible] Sept. [illegible] 1871.

Never since our first parents were in the garden of Eden has man wielded a more potent instrument than words. Truly are they the "sword of the spirit." And more, they are the whole panoply of the soul by which it moves and accomplishes its wonders. Nor can we well conceive of the change that would come over this world should man be deprived of speech.

The forces of nature, which are now subservient to his will, would be of little avail. All associations of labor would cease. Nor could men unite their energies in any enterprise. Look for a moment at the dwellers in the plain of Shinar, who with high hopes were rearing a tower upon which they might mount, and escape the horrors of a deluge, or even clamber into Heaven, when suddenly confused by diversity of speech, they were compelled in sorrow to abandon the idol of their hopes. And should this power be forever withdrawn, the world would be thrown into utter confusion. Trouble and gloom would envelope the earth. [illegible] be removed, [illegible] over the land, till the [illegible] shrouded in [illegible].

Say not they [illegible] substituted, for until translated into words they would have [illegible] means would [illegible] Fair Science would [illegible] solitude on the [illegible] words have ever been the [illegible] that which urged advancement onward. To their influence may be attributed all the great achievements of earth. To them must be referred all mental improvement, and all moral excellence. They form the potent instrument by which all its purposes are accomplished. 'Tis the scythe by which it mows down the weeds of vice, and the sword by which its fights its battles against ignorance and error. 'Tis the means by which are brought about the great improvements of earth.

Take for example the Atlantic cable or the Pacific railroad, and question if they could ever have been constructed, had not words done their work. True, physical labor was required, but in words was the primordial force that sent the iron-horse across the desert plains to drink at the fountains of the West.

Of all the instrumentalities to which man is subject, none exercise a greater influence than words. They will in a moment send the "crimson current hurrying to the cheek," or cause it to recede and leave the countenance as colorless as a marble statue.

When they speak of mirth and joy, they will cause the bright smile to play o'er the face, and makes it to beam with gladness. If ladened with sorrow, they will distort it with grief and cause the fountains of anguish to o'erflow.

When characterized by hatred, their satanic influence will cause the blood to boil in anger, and the teeth to grind with rage. Yet we read that "a soft answer turneth away wrath;" that words fitly spoken, are like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

But who can count the cost of a word improperly spoken? By the words of the serpent, those few spoken in the garden of Eden, were our first parents induced to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and thus o'erwhelm themselves in sin and shame, and bring sorrow and death into the world. And since that time, words have been used as the most potent instrument for good and for evil. Sometimes they sweep o'er the land like the angry Simoon, laden with venom, rousing men to deadly combat with his fellow man, scattering death far and wide, deluging nations in blood, and causing mourning to enter every dwelling in the land; or like the balmy breeze from southern climes which cause winter's icy chains to relax, and the streamlets released from their frozen cells to course through the blooming valleys. [illegible] the [illegible] den and [illegible], causing grief to relinquish its chilling grasp and the fountains of joy again to flow. They are the foundation upon which the statesman builds all his hopes of rising to eminence. They are the rock upon which the proclaimer of the gospel places all his hope of leading the sinner back to God, and thus winning for himself a crown that will shine as the stars of the firmament.

The power of words has ever been a talisman by which those skilled in their use have won the admiration of their fellows. Look, for a moment, at the orators of Greece and Rome, as with thrilling eloquence, they delivered their orations before the public assemblies, while at the close of their rounded periods peal after peal of applause arose from the enraptured multitudes. Words were the material of which London and Hemans, Pollock and Milton, constructed the everlasting monuments which stand to their memory. They are the material of which the leading spirits of the present age may rear for themselves monuments which will remain as long after the builders have passed away, as have the Egyptian Pyramids.

The most conclusive evidence of the potency of words, the all-wise Creator has placed in [illegible] power for the [illegible] "In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God. By him all things were made that were made." By the power of words, therefore, [illegible] which [illegible] the deep. [illegible] fountains of [illegible] [illegible] the word of God [illegible]

By [illegible] in the Word of God [illegible] earth and ocean, proclaim that time is no more. By the word of [illegible], in the day of judgment, shall man be welcomed to the joys of the eternal world, or sentenced to depart into regions of darkness and of [illegible] to writhe forever in remorse and agony.

GRANULATED THOUGHT.—The purest gold is found in granules, and out of which the best [illegible] is wrought.—Vast [illegible] are [illegible] by means of [illegible] dants. One of these [illegible] of black tin, and an [illegible] to dyers. The tin is [illegible] granulated before [illegible] in the acid. The melted tin is granulated by being brought slowly and [illegible] into contact with cold water. So with thought; it is best for all [illegible] in grains. The realities of life require the [illegible] thought to harmonize them, and [illegible] make them available for the great service of [illegible]. It is well to be all aglow with great thoughts, but the trouble is, they all run together. You see a mass of something rather brilliant, but no well defined, clearly rounded pieces. The cold water of calm reflection and sound judgment is needful to give clearness and definiteness. Once in possession of these grains, a good workman soon has fine settings and valuable jewelry of thought.—*Times*.

INTERESTING TO POSTMASTERS.—The salaries of Postmasters, throughout the Union are to be re-adjusted on the basis of their receipts during the months of July and August of the present year, and the new schedule of salaries will date from July 1st.

Mrs. Sallie Ward Hunt, a noted woman of fashion, of Louisville, Ky., now a widow, has sued Mr. Newcomb, of that city, for breaking his promise of marriage to her. Price fixed at $300,000. It must have been a big promise.

A Baltimore oysterman contemplates planting an oyster bed at Salt Lake.

Correspondence.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN PORTLAND.

Written for the Christian Messenger.

ED. MESSENGER:—In my communication of last week I omitted saying that I would write [illegible] relative to a matter which might present itself for our consideration so soon as money is raised and a house of worship built in this city, viz: "How could a minister be supported?"

While I am willing [illegible] there is a shadow of a reason for this interrogatory, I hold that such an one is a question which the christian should not stop to ask. The promise is, "He that preacheth the Gospel shall live of the Gospel."

Again, "Go ye into my vineyard and work, and whatsoever is right I will pay thee." Give me the qualifications of many that I could name, with a [illegible] at my command, surrounded by just such brethren as we have here, and in such a community as this; and I should be no more afraid of failing in getting a support (and a good one—too) than I should fear lest a crop of wheat would not grow, after I had prepared the ground and sown the grain after the most approved style of husbandry. I well remember a remark made by Elder A. B. Earle, a celebrated revivalist who some years ago visited Salem, where I then resided. Said he:

"Brethren, I know souls will be converted at this meeting." And illustrated by saying, "had God commanded me to go to your cemetery here, and sing 'Old Hundred' a specified number of hours, and that thereby the dead should all rise, the first thing I should do would be to invite all who had friends buried there, to go along with me to meet their friends." But said he, "God did not command me to do this, but he did command me to preach the word, with the promise that I should receive souls for my hire, therefore I know it will be so."

[illegible] should always inspire the mind of the christian minister, and did christians always thus feel and act, we should find the resistance of Satan far less formidable. All [illegible] Christians look forward with great interest to their great [illegible] [illegible] Why so? Because [illegible] up [illegible] and unitedly [illegible]

[illegible] in the glorious hope,

[illegible]

[illegible] It is plain enough, in the first place, that the Lord did not mean to save men all trouble or uncertainty in finding the truth. They must use their own minds, must search, and study, and take their chance of mistake. There is no more superseding of human [illegible] by divine interposition, in respect to [illegible] than in any other department of life. And this difficulty of [illegible] truth in its completeness [illegible] to deter men from [illegible] correctness of belief as of absolutely vital moment.

But the difficulty of agreeing in the interpretation of God's revelations has been greatly increased by false methods, from some of which we are beginning to escape. The Bible has been and is woefully maltreated. The most universal and injurious form of maltreatment consists in building upon detached passages, interpreted in disregard of the general considerations essential to their right understanding. This has been one of the crying sins of Theology. By wrenching single texts from their connection and surroundings, one can find support for any notion. By just this process has been propped and buttressed every variety of doctrine, including those most utterly foreign to the spirit of the Gospel. Ideas wrought out in human fancy, diseased and distorted, have found specious support in Biblical phrases torn from their setting and misapplied. And the extent to which this vicious process has been carried, its influence in creating and still more in perpetuating mischievous systems, is incalculable.—*Presbyterian*.

People who are always fishing for compliments do not need very long lines. They will get their best bites in shallow water.

Selected Reading.

THE NOBLE REVENGE.

The coffin was a plain one—a poor, miserable pine coffin. No flowers on the top; no lining of white satin for the the pale brow; no smooth ribbons about the coarse shroud. The brown hair was laid decently back, but there was no crimped cap with neat tie beneath the chin. The sufferer from cruel poverty smiled in her sleep; she had found bread, rest and health.

"I want to see my mother," sobbed a poor little child, as the undertaker screwed down the top.

"You can not, get out of the way, boy; why don't somebody take the brat?"

"Only let me see her one minute!" cried the helpless orphan, clutching the side of the charity box, and as he gazed upon the rough box agonized tears streamed down the cheeks on which no childish bloom ever lingered. Oh! it was painful to hear him cry the words: "Only once, let me see mother, only once!"

Quickly and brutally the heartless monster struck the boy away, so that he reeled with the blow. For a moment the boy stood panting with grief and rage—his blue eyes distended, his lips sprang apart, fire glittered through his eyes as he raised his little arm with a most unchildish laugh and screamed—"When I am a man I'll kill you for that!"

There was a coffin and a heap of earth between the mother and the poor forsaken child—a monument much stronger than granite, built in the boy's heart, the memory of the heartless deed.

The court-house was crowded to suffocation.

"Does any one appear as this man's counsel?" asked the judge.

There was a silence when he had finished, until with lips tightly pressed together, a look of strange intelligence, [illegible] features, a young man stepped forward with a firm tread and kindly eye, to plead for the erring friendless. He was a stranger, but at the first sentence there was silence. The splendor of his genius entranced—convinced.

The man who could not find a friend was acquitted.

"May God bless you, sir, I can not," he said.

"I want no thanks," replied the stranger.

"I—I—I believe you are unknown to me."

"Man, I will refresh your memory. Twenty years ago this day you struck a broken-hearted little boy away from his dear mother's coffin. I was that boy."

The man turned livid.

"Have you rescued me, then, to take my life?"

"No, I have a sweeter revenge. I have saved the life of a man whose brutal conduct has rankled in my breast for the last twenty years. Go, then, and remember the tears of a friendless child."

The man bowed his head in shame and went form the presence of magnanimity as grand to him as incomprehensible.

SHUN EVIL SPEAKERS.—Deal tenderly with the absent; say nothing to inflict a wound on their reputation. They may be wrong and wicked, yet your knowledge of it does not oblige you to disclose their character, except to save others from injury. Then do it in a way that bespeaks a spirit of kindness to the absent offender. Be not hasty to credit evil reports. They are often the result of misunderstanding, or evil design, or they proceed from an exaggerated or partial disclosure of facts. Wait and learn the whole history before you decide; then beleive what evidence compels you to, and no more. But, even then, take heed not to indulge the least unkindess, else you dissipate all the spirit of your prayer for them and unreserve yourself for doing them good.

Cost of impeachment trial of Gov. Holden, of California, foots up $61,898. The trial lasted forty-four days, and in the items of expense is one of forty-four cords of wood—one cord for each day $165. The printed report of the trial cost $12,700. The largest item was the pay of 270 members at $5 a day, amounting to $37,400.

NEW DEFINITIONS.

That old fashioned gentleman, Noah Webster, is just a little behind the age; and, in view of his general revision in these reconstruction days, the following are offered as a few corrections needed:

BENEVOLENCE.—Giving a beggar the old coat of which you cannot possibly make any other use.

END.—Something a "bore" never had.

FAME.—A bird that sings over a man's grave, after he has broken his neck trying to catch it.

FASHION.—A modern Juggernaut to which thousands of victims are immolated annually.

FRIENDSHIP.—A sun dial faithfully serving you while the sun shines, but becoming a meaningless blank when clouds obscure your sky.

GENEROSITY.—Buying your mother a paste diamond every way as large as your own real one.

GOLD.—A god worshiped by the ancients now merely a tradition.

HOTEL.—A place where the chambermaid carries your keys, and the waiter gives you cold buckwheat cakes every time you displease him.

HATE.—A very small snapping-turtle that bites his owner oftener than any one else.

IMPORTANCE.—Clerks in general, especially hotel clerks.

JEALOUSY.—A home made bugaboo.

KIN.—The people who scold you gratuitously and charge you double for everything else they do for you.

KISS.—A disguise adopted by Judas Iscariot, and worn by traitors ever since.

OGRE.—The gentleman who smiles at the pretty misses, and slams the door when his wife reproves him for swearing before the children.

PARTNERSHIP.—Keeping the purse to yourself, and telling your wife it is as much hers as yours.

QUARREL.—A Conversation carried on between two or more persons who are demented.

REPUTATION.—The character which they "say" gives you.

[illegible] "who will care for mother now?" at his club room: while his dear mamma, at home, splits kindling for the morning fire.

SUICIDE.—Ridding the world of a fool.

TRADE.—A swap in which each man thinks he is cheating the other.

UNDERTAKER.—A man who charges you double the worth of his sevices; because he knows you dare not grumble at the price on pain of being called mean by your neighbors.

YES.—The easiest word in the English language to say, and sometimes the hardest to say.—*Saturday Evening Post.*

UNKINDNESS AT HOME.—We were struck with the remark of a writer, that there is nothing more cowardly than the practice of some fathers, husbands and brothers, who go home in a bad humor and rent their spleen upon the affectionate inmates of that sacred place. Business has not gone well with them, something has turned up to make them cross; and home is made the escape place of their pent up feelings. This is contemptible—it is sheer cruelty; it is a mean temper; it is a cowardice meaner than that which causes a man to take to his heels in a street difficulty, meaner because the mother, the wife, and the sister, are helpless to resist his bad humor. Strange that many men exhibit true politeness only away from home! Strange that people for whom they care little—from whom they get all the hard knocks and sneers and unkind words in the world—that these alone are the recipients of their soft tones and polite attentions. Those at home who love them and work for them—whose "eyes grow brighter when they come," and whose hands are ever ready to perform some unselfish act of kindness—must be contented with snappish greetings, with ill-natured criticism, or with a cold indifference that is even worse than crossness.

How many homes could be made brighter and happier with a little more politeness and feeling on the part of men who are models of propriety and chivalry in business and social circles.

J. N. Flowers, a wealthy Roxbury, Ct., farmer, while at work in the field last week, cut his throat with a scythe and is no mower.

Thirty persons were poisoned at Atlantic City, N. J., by eating corn starch pudding.