

### WAX CANDLES IN DEMAND.

But They Are Not Made of Wax at All, Onocrite Being the Composition.

There is a popular impression that wax candles are manufactured from beeswax. No doubt some of those on the market can be traced to the busy little insects, but not many. Onocrite, a product of the earth, is the composition of which the bulk of them are formed. In the United States the mineral is dug in Utah and in California, the European beds being located in Wales and Galicia and Roumania. When found in its natural state onocrite appears in translucent, dark brown, thin films, which, upon being refined, resembles beeswax closely.

The wax mines of Eastern Galicia, leased and operated by a syndicate of American capitalists, form one of the most curious fields of industry imaginable. They are located around Boryslaw, which is also the center of the eastern oil district of that part of Austria. The entire wax fields are but fifty acres in extent, but more than a thousand shafts have been sunk in that limited area, and almost 6,000 men are at work on the tract. The veins of the mineral frequently are sixteen inches thick and it is dug with shovels and hoisted from the shafts by windlasses. Many uses are made of this wax besides molding it into candles and fortunes have been made by the men interested in these curious mines, the value of the crude product being 8 cents a pound at the mouth of a shaft.

The wax candle—or, speaking more correctly, the onocrite candle—is again becoming fashionable in the homes of the wealthy. In the mansions of the poverty stricken, candles may be found to-day, though for widely different reasons. To the poor candles are indispensable because science never has discovered a cheaper mode of lighting. And to the rich the flood of light emitted by a forest of candles is a boon because science has not and probably never will discover a softer and more mellow light than that shed by the yellow flame at the end of the ancient wax cylinder.

Both health and comfort are other points taken into consideration by many city folks who burn candles in their bedrooms and in other places where brilliant light is not essential. In the first place, what little odor is caused by a candle flame is neither injurious nor disagreeable, and in the second, the flame requires but little oxygen to keep it going, nor does it heat a room to an appreciable degree, a double advantage too obvious to be dwelt upon.

But outside of our big cities the candle is used extensively. In country homes where gas is not available and where oil lamps must be used the candle is found frequently as an agreeable and safe substitute. The wax candle of to-day, however, is a widely different thing from that of olden times. The busy bee may hum and collect honey and turn out all the wax she likes, except that her product is used for the candles in Roman Catholic and "high" churches, she contributes little or nothing to those found in the markets.—Chicago Chronicle.

### There Was No Encore.

No right-thinking person can have any admiration for a "smart trick" that smacks of rascality, but there may be cases in which sympathy for the victims of such a trick would be wasted.

A traveling dramatic troupe announced a performance in a certain audacious young city. It was expressly stated on all the bills that "Owing to the great length of the program and the many specialty performances, no encores will be permitted."

The evening of the entertainment found the house well filled, the audience consisting largely of young men and boys bent on having a good time.

The first song was the occasion for a prolonged outburst of cheering. After it had continued several minutes the manager came to the front of the curtain to ask them to desist. They only howled the louder, and he retired, discomfited.

But the cheering, stamping and whistling went on, and continued for half an hour, the curtain remaining obstinately down.

At the end of that time the enthusiasm had spent itself and the din ceased, but the curtain did not rise.

Then a young man ventured to go behind the scenes. He returned presently with the announcement that the company had left the building, bag and baggage.

It was true. They had packed up everything, paid their bill at the hotel, caught a train out of town, and got safely away; and the general verdict of the townspeople was that they had served their unruly audience just right.

### Interpreted.

"Father," said the youth, "what is your understanding of the saying: 'The race is not always to the swift'?"

"Practically, my son," replied the wise father, "it means that in the race of life the fast men don't usually come out ahead."—Philadelphia Press.

Every thief would like to keep himself unspotted.

## THE POPULAR PULPIT



### BUILDING A CHRISTIAN HOME.

By Rev. Theodore L. Carter, D. D.

"I never let fools or bairns see my work until it is done," said a famous Scotch painter; he knew that no production of human art could be rightly judged until it was completed. I remember that when I first saw Cologne Cathedral nearly fifty years ago, it had a stumpy and unimpressive appearance, for it was lowerless. The next time I saw the edifice it was disfigured by scaffolding on which workmen were busy. But when, in the summer of 1894, I beheld the completed towers in their flashing splendor, I felt that it was a mighty and magnificent poem written in marble.

That illustrates the way in which the Master builds a true Christian. The Bible declares that the Christian is "Christ's workmanship created anew unto good works." Any one who looked at a company of church members in a prayer meeting or at a sacramental table might say that some of them were quite imperfect specimens of workmanship, as he could testify from intimate acquaintance. Very true; but if that same person wished to purchase a melodeon he would not go into the manufactory where the different parts were being fashioned; he would go into the salesroom and inspect the completed instrument. This world is the great workshop in which Jesus Christ by his Spirit constructs Christian character. "Ye are God's building," wrote the Apostle Paul to his brethren at Corinth. Of himself he wrote at another time, "Not as though I have already attained, either one already perfect." He was still in the hands of his divine and loving Architect. The scaffolds were not yet taken down, and the work of grace was not yet completed.

It is easy to discover some flaws in even the best men and women; but the critic must consider what materials our Master has to work with in frail and fallen human nature, so often disfigured and defaced by innate depravity. Napoleon used to say that "he had to make his marshals out of mud." Certainly no power less than that of the Holy Spirit could have constructed such a conscientious and effective Christian as John Newton out of so hardened and desperate a sinner. A very eloquent and spiritually minded minister once said to me, "Before I was converted I wonder how any one could live in the house with me." During my forty-four years of pastorate, when I received converts into the church, I often recognized the fact that one candidate for membership had been reared in a frivolous and worldly family—and another had a naturally violent temper—and another was constitutionally timid and irritable—and still another had to contend with hereditary sensualities of temperament or practice. Some of the overhasty had to be held back and tested, and some desponding doubtless had to be encouraged. A study of the experience of our blessed Lord in building twelve disciples out of the material that came to his hand is full of solemn suggestion, and one of those twelve tumbled into ruin under the very eyes of the Master Builder.

Character building is like cathedral building—a gradual process. No Christian is born full grown, else there would be no sense in the divine injunction to "grow in grace" and to "press towards the goal of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." The cornerstone of every truly regenerated character is the Lord Jesus; other foundation can no one build on without risking a wreck in this world and eternal ruin in the next world. The first act of saving faith is the joining of the new convert to the atoning Savior. Then upon that solid foundation must be added the courage, the meekness, the patience, the conscientiousness, the honesty, the loving kindness and the other graces that make for godliness. Let no young beginner be disheartened. Oaks do not grow like hollyhocks. A solid Christian character cannot be reared in a day—nor is it to be done simply by Sabbath services or by sacraments. Some poor pumice stone has to be thrown out, and not a little bad timber rejected in spite of its varnish on it.

The Bible is the only plumb-line to build by; and it must be used constantly. All the showy ornamentation that a man can put on his edifice amounts to nothing, if his walls are not perpendicular. Sometimes we see a flimsy structure whose bulging walls are shored up by props and skids to keep them from tumbling into the street. I am afraid that there are thousands of reputations in trade, in politics, in social life, and even in church life, that are shored up by various devices. No

Christian can defy God's inexorable law of gravitation. It is a mere question of time how soon every character will "fall in," if it is not based on the rock, and built according to Jesus Christ's plumb-line. It may go down in this world; it is sure to go down in the next. Let every one, therefore, take heed how he or she buildeth; for the last great day will test the work, of what sort it is.

Finally, let us all bear in mind that if we are Christ's workmanship, we must let our wise and loving Master take his own way. We must allow him to use his own tools. Oh, how much cutting and chiseling we often need! How keen, too, and sharp is the chisel which he sometimes uses! The sound of his hammers is constantly heard; and with it are also heard the wondering cries of some sufferer who exclaims, "Why are you applying to me the file, the saw and the hammers?" Be still and know that whom he loveth he chasteneth! If we are Christ's building, then let him fashion us according to his divine ideal of beauty, at whatever cost to our selfishness or pride, or indolence, or vainglory. Christ working in us, and upon us—and we working with Christ and for him—that is the process that produces such structures as he will present before his father and the holy angels.

Nothing is too small—and nothing is too great, that involves a Christian's influence before a sharp-eyed world. We are to be his witnesses; Jesus Christ builds Christians to be looked at and to be studied. He rears us to be spiritual lighthouses in a sin-darkened world. Michael Angelo said that he "carved for eternity." In an infinitely higher sense is every blood-red-deemed Christian carved and fashioned and upheld to be a habitation of God through his Spirit, to his praise, and unto his everlasting glory.

### AN UNSOLVED WORLD.

By Rev. W. A. Bartlett, D. D.

We keep hearing this word problem until we are impressed that ours is an unsolved world. There is the problem of the negro, and the problem of the trusts, and the problem of municipal government and clean streets. No two voices suggest the same solution, although the dominating tone is recourse to the law.

But Jesus solved all these problems there by that little Lake of Galilee. When 5,000 people intruded on His privacy He had "compassion on them." To His sympathetic vision they were not wolves, but sheep unsheltered.

When men have compassion on the multitude and use their enormous powers to bring coal and bread and meat cheaply to all who need them the trust problem will be solved. When city officials take the view of Jesus and forget their politics and their own sordid ambitions, and tax dodgers pay what is their debt, and there is a common civic pride, the problem of good government and clean streets will be solved—but not till then.

The disciples said: "Send the multitude away to buy food." Jesus said: "Give ye them to eat." Then He showed them how it could be done. Selfishness sends the negro away, send the poor away, send anyone away who troubles us and makes a problem. Jesus says teach them and feed them, and those you have thought were wolves will appear to be sheep after all.

### SERMONETTES

Suicide.—We are living in an age of suicide. Old and young, for cause and without cause, are laying violent hands on themselves. Every day witnesses a new tragedy, and prognostics are favorable to forebodings concerning our moral condition in the immediate future.—Rev. G. C. Lorimer, Baptist, New York City.

Two Types of Religion.—History has been a struggle between two types of religion—one which makes the Deity a convenience, and the other which makes him a sovereign. The time is come for some stout, open denying of these superstitious notions, which have gathered like barnacles around Christianity.—Rev. W. B. Thorp, Congregationalist, Chicago, Ill.

The True Revival.—A true revival of religion would mean the smashing of many programs, the breaking up of many cherished places, the sacrificing of many personal interests. Theaters and card parties would have to be abandoned and business now conducted upon dishonest principles would have to be given up. There would have to be a general cleaning up in all our churches and all the ritualistic tomfooleries and red tape religion would have to go. God wants none of these things. All these things are in the way of a true revival of religion.—Rev. A. R. Holderby, Baptist, Atlanta, Ga.

## HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

### WHERE ARE THE GUIDE BOARDS?

Law Says Road Supervisors Shall Place Them.

There is an action of the road law which is more imperative in its requirements and which is more disregarded than that which makes it a duty of road supervisors to erect guide boards at the forks of every highway. If the law were strictly followed no supervisor could draw his salary until he had erected guideboards wherever roads unite or cross, yet it is remarked by everyone who travels in the country that there are very few such boards in evidence. Newcomers in particular notice the absence of signboards. The law on the subject is section 30 of the latest edition of Oregon road laws and reads as follows:

Every supervisor shall erect and keep up at the forks of every highway and every crossing of public roads within his road district a guide or finger-board, containing an inscription in legible letters directing the way and specifying the distance to the next town or public place situated on each road respectively; provided, that the road supervisors shall not be paid after submitting their report to the county court until they have shown to the satisfaction of the court that the provisions of this section have been complied with.

### HARVEST PROSPECTS EXCELLENT.

Linn County Crops Have Been Helped by the Showers.

Linn county farmers are elated over the excellent prospects for good crops. The damage done by the few days of hot weather early in June has been overcome by the cool weather and rains of the past week and the indications are that almost a full crop will be harvested.

Just now the rain is doing some damage to hay. A considerable amount of clover hay has been cut and will be injured some by the rain. A week's good weather would see a large portion of the hay crop safely harvested.

The fruit outlook is excellent, although the crop of apples and pears will be light, there will be an extraordinary yield of prunes, which constitute by far the greater portion of most orchards. The prune trees in this section will be loaded with all the fruit they can possibly bear. In some instances a part of the fruit will have to be shaken off to save the trees.

### Lands in a Tangle.

A large stack of disapprovals of lieu land selections which lay on the desk of the state land agent a few days ago shows the wholesale manner in which the general land office and the department of the interior are turning down Oregon lieu lands. Thousands of acres which have been selected by the state and sold after approval by local land offices have been rejected recently by the general land office, and the end is not yet. Appeals are being taken to the secretary of the interior, but if that official adheres to his present policy there is small chance of a change in the decisions. Beyond question the state land department is involved in the worst tangle ever known in its history, and it will be a long time before the kinks are straightened out.

### Crook's Population Increases.

Crook county is getting its share of the newcomers into the state. Four hundred and forty-eight claims of different kinds have been proved up since July 1, 1902. Beginning about July 1 the land commissioner says that there will be made at his office here from 10 to 12 proofs a day until October 1. More than 1,000 settlers have come into the county in the last year and every stage from Sahniko to Primville is crowded with people looking for land.

### Scarcity in Brick and Masons.

The state board of capital building Commissioners has recently let contracts for three new brick buildings, an addition to the prison, a new industrial building at the reform school and a closed cottage at the asylum. As a consequence, there is immediate demand for a large quantity of brick and the prison brickyard will be kept working at its full capacity for nearly two months to supply them. The contractors all wish to begin work at once, and hence each wants brick first.

### Articles of Incorporation Filed.

Only two new companies filed articles of incorporation in the office of the secretary of state last week. They were: Davis Lake Irrigation company, Roseburg, \$25,000; Saitro Lumber company, Linnton, \$25,000.

### Baker Will Pay the Taxes.

Sheriff Colbath, of Marion county, has been notified that ex-State Printer Frank Baker will pay the taxes due on the state printing plant. The sheriff had advertised the sale of the property to take place this week.

### ARID LAND NOT IN DEMAND.

Department of the Interior Approved Two Applications for Reclamation.

The rush which was made a year ago for land under the arid land law is not in evidence this year. Only a very few applications for arid land contracts have been received in the last six months, and all of these are for small tracts which will be occupied, reclaimed and cultivated by the applicants. Only two of the applications for large tracts have been approved by the department of the interior. One of these is the application of the Portland company, organized by W. E. Burke, which company has a contract for the reclamation of about 8,000 acres northeast of Malheur lake. This tract is entirely included within the region recently withdrawn from entry by the department with a view to examining it to ascertain whether a suitable site exists for the construction of large irrigation works by the government.

The other application approved is that of the Pilot Butte development company, which has secured some 87,000 acres near the headwaters of the Deschutes, from which streams the water for irrigating the land will be taken. This is the company organized by A. M. Drake. Among the applications pending are those of the Oregon development company for 78,000 acres near the headwaters of the Deschutes; the Three Sisters company, for 27,500 acres between the Deschutes and the Cascade mountains, and the Harney valley improvement company, for 69,999 acres near Malheur lake, in Harney county. A part of the application of the Oregon development company has been rejected on the ground that the land is timbered and cannot be properly classed as arid land.

### Mrs. Geer Made President.

The Oregon federation of women's clubs completed a most successful three days' session at Astoria last week by the election of the following officers to serve during the ensuing year: President, Mrs. T. T. Geer, Salem; first vice president, Mrs. Samuel Elmore, Astoria; second vice president, Mrs. A. B. Bernstein, Portland; recording secretary, Mrs. Hattie Young, Grants Pass; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Samuel White, Baker City; treasurer, Miss Olive Slater, La Grande; auditor, Mrs. Florence Sheldon, Eugene. The federation will meet at Baker City next year.

### Horses Sent to Canada.

A shipment of 25 cars of horses of all sizes and kinds went from La Grande last week. They will go via Spokane to Cut Bank, Mont., and be driven from there to McLeod, Alberta. There are about 700 horses, and the purchase price is about \$23,000, of which \$17,000 was paid to the horse growers of Eastern Oregon. With freight and 25 percent duty, the purchasers will be in about \$30,000, and will sell out to the local dealers of their section, and come again, should the venture pay. Prices ranged from \$10 to \$125 dollars.

### Christian Convention a Success.

The convention of the Christian churches of Oregon, held at Turner last week, was a great success. There were nearly 40 ministers in attendance and over 200 delegates and very many visitors.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 70@74c; valley, 77c.  
Barley—Feed, \$20.00 per ton; brewing, \$21.  
Flour—Best grades, \$5.95 @ 4.50; graham \$3.45 @ 3.55.  
Millstuffs—Bran, \$23 per ton; middlings, \$27; shorts, \$23; chop, \$18.  
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.10 @ 1.15; gray, \$1.05 per cwt.  
Hay—Timothy, \$20@21; clover, nominal; chest, \$16@18 per ton.  
Potatoes—Best Burpinks, 50@65c per sack; ordinary, 35@45c per cental, growers' prices; Merced sweets, \$3 @ 3.50 per cental.  
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 10@11c; young, 13@14c; hens, 12c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; dressed, 20@22c; ducks, \$7.00 @ 7.50 per dozen; geese, \$6.00 @ 6.50.  
Cheese—Full cream, twins, 15 1/2 @ 16c; Young America, 15 @ 15 1/2 c; factory prices, 1 @ 1 1/2 c less.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 30 @ 22 1/2 c per pound; extras, 28c; dairy, 20 @ 22 1/2 c; store, 16 @ 18.  
Eggs—17 @ 20c per dozen.  
Hops—Choice, 18 @ 20c per pound.  
Wool—Valley, 12 1/2 @ 17c; Eastern Oregon, 8 @ 14c; mohair, 35 @ 37 1/2 c.  
Beef—Gross, cows, 3 1/2 @ 4c, per pound; steers, 6 @ 5 1/2 c; dressed, 8 1/2 c.  
Veal—7 1/2 @ 8c.  
Mutton—Gross, \$3.50 per pound; dressed, 6 @ 6 1/2 c.  
Lamb—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7 1/2 c.  
Hogs—Gross, 6 @ 6 1/2 c per pound; dressed, 7 @ 8c.