

He must grow greater; I grow less and less, like the mist which o'er that mountain lies...

His name upon the nations shall go forth, above all names that earth has ever known...

His love the more than smiling for all things, and above or below, shall be upon an everlasting wing...

His throne, before whose majesty so few our earthlings bow, shall be of thrones the throne...

From the Wisconsin State Journal. THE SABBATH QUESTION.

Reply to Rev. O. H. Richards on Enforcing the Sunday Law—A Plea for Tolerance and Free Discussion.

Gentlemen,—There has appeared in your weekly issue of Saturday the 23rd, an abstract of two discourses delivered by Rev. C. H. Richards on the Sunday question, and editorially commended to public favor...

Let it be distinctly understood, however, that in what has been said, we by no means intend to express the personal character or the Christian integrity of the author of these discourses...

The first point in these discourses, to which we desire to call attention, is this: After reading several paragraphs in which the author expresses the impression that the fourth commandment of the decalogue, as a positive enactment, is not now obligatory...

address, in which he defined and laid down the great fundamental and immutable principles, in statutory form, which were to govern all the subjects of the kingdom...

reads. God is not guilty of the absurdity of some modern lawyers who hold that a statute may pass laws to ornament the statute book...

Now, if the Rev. Mr. Richards is what he professes to be a true and honest true Christian man, and ready to conform to the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, wherever that authority is plainly expressed...

When we say, then, that the State ought to have an obligation to abstain from their usual occupations on each week, and abstaining so far as possible, that is, abstaining from the country, it is not that Christians may enjoy their religious day on the whole nation, in itself Sunday is no more sacred than any other day.

ceive the thought that they and their fathers could, by any possibility, be keeping the wrong day, look in every possible direction but the right one for a solution of the difficulty...

Now, if the Rev. Mr. Richards is what he professes to be a true and honest true Christian man, and ready to conform to the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, wherever that authority is plainly expressed...

We have been watching with most profound interest the recent movement for securing the religious amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in which is involved the better observance of the weekly Sabbath.

Now, if the friends of the temperance cause will divorce the Sunday question from the religious day, and agree upon a proper equitable measure to adopt, that measure shall be the Graham liquor law, a prohibitory law, or any other equitable measure that they can devise...

Now, Messrs. Editors, in view of the great probability that our Legislature, at its coming session, will be called upon to deal with this Sabbath question—to such an extent that it will be the order of the day...

There will be then no piety to assail, no sorrow to pierce the heart, no pain to afflict, no death to terrify...

Much skill is required to lead a prayer-meeting. Many good preachers are unable to do it well; they blaze in the pulpit, but kindle no flame in the prayer-room.

Some pastors merely preside at the prayer-meeting, moderate it, ride it; others lead it with "remarks," long hymns, and a few dictated prayers, cold and dry.

They are generally very rich in lands and stock and barns. Their dwellings wear an affection of humility bearing closely on sordidness. Very few of them are grand; few remain in their condition in our times...

THE SUNDAY-KEEPER.—In the undogmatic, the unconverted, there is no conflict, no warfare. The strong man armed keepeth his goods in peace until a stronger than he comes.

THE WINE-CUP STORY. Could the wine-cup tell its story, it would tell of dark hours dreary, when revel hours were done, it would tell of shame and sorrow, it would tell of dark hours dreary, when revel hours were done...

A GANNON BALL IN THE HAT. A writer, after describing how, when a boy, he stole a cannon ball from the Navy Yard at Charlestown, Mass., and with much trepidation and more headache, carried it away in that universal pocket of youths—his hat—winds up with the following reflection:

AMATEUR THEOLOGY. It would be curious to inquire how it is that theology, of all branches of knowledge, has thus come, in our time, to be the special field for amateurs...

DISCOURAGED MINISTERS. There are too many promising young ministers whose faith fails them, as did that of John Mark, in the first apostolic missionary tour. They are discouraged by the numerous obstacles always lying in their way...

DRAW NEAR WITH A TRUE HEART. We are not sincere. We profess all horror at wickedness, but we seem to mean wickedness in general, not anything we have really done in particular and in person.

CHRISTIAN USEFULNESS.

God prolongs the Christian's life that he may do good to others, as well as increase in meekness for heaven. The grace of God in his experience is to be exhibited—His light is to shine for the benefit of men.

Prayer in its fullest exercise, and most intimate approach to God, is the positive root of the desires of a wholly consecrated heart.

What would Saul of Tarsus have been with his mental vigor, with all his capabilities and opportunities, without the grace of God?

THE POWER OF SILENT INFLUENCE.

Some time ago a man at a prayer meeting was telling of a man who came here of mere curiosity. I had no belief in the existence of God.

After the sermon was over he approached him and entered into conversation with him. The lawyer seemed quite eager to unshum himself to the kindly old minister.

SINCERITY IN THE MINISTRY.

Are ministers under any peculiar temptation to insincerity? Our professional success, but loss his spiritual life and enjoyment.

WORKING.—We talk much of working, but working is better than talking about working; to get really working, we need to get right to it, and to do something for souls.

Miscellaneous.

FOUND DEAD.—Found dead—dead and alone. There was nobody near, nobody near. When the outcast died on his pillow of woe.

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