













that he was a humbug, and many people knew that he was a rascal; and yet, sheer effrontery he carried everything before him, and grave bankers and experienced road men opened their vaults to him and their business in his hands. Never was there a more astonishing example of the power of "cheek."

distinctly what you call the human element in them, with other writings of their own age or of the next—writings in which confessedly there is no element but the human. In the light of such comparison, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to resist the conviction that inspiration held this element in one case in its hand no less of guidance and correction than of support, as it did not in the other.—Christian Index.

WHEN ALL IS SAID.

When all is said—when all our words Of love and pleasure, one by one, Have taken wing and flown like birds That seek the southern sun,—

AVOID TRASHY BOOKS

Avoid all books which try to excuse crime. It is too bad that so much fine binding is wasted to make sin attractive. When you paint crime, paint it writing in the pains of the hospital. Cursed be the books that make iniquity decent, cursed be the authors who write them.

DR. HITCHCOCK AS A HYMNOLOGIST.

In the articles that have appeared in the various religious and secular journals concerning the late President R. D. Hitchcock, D. D., while appropriate mention has been made of the chief work of his life, no adequate testimony has been borne to the debt due to him by the church at large for his indefatigable researches in hymnology and his labors to elevate the service of song to its true place and dignity in the worship of the sanctuary.

THE HUMAN ELEMENT.

An object to the plenary inspiration of scriptures, on the ground that inspiration of this kind is inconsistent with the varieties of thought and style which the writers preserve throughout. We think that this very preservation of personal peculiarities is a fruit, and therefore a proof, of plenary inspiration. It requires but words to show this. As every one who analyzes any kind of inspiration must admit the sacred writers were called to speak for themselves simply, but for God—to speak for God with this authority the nations through all the ages.

FAILURE OF HEATHENISM.

We are thankful to see indication of the light which is given to all—when the cry of any human heart seeks its lost Father, to see the Spirit working. We believe that the death of the Lord Jesus Christ has not only a moral influence, but that it has changed the relation of the human race to God. The old belief held by our fathers has not to be modified, that, apart from the Christian gospel, men do not find God. But those who plead for heathen religions do so in two ways: they defend them by saying either that there is so much truth in these religions that the heathen are led to be moral, or that, as their darkness is so great in this world, the heathen will have another chance in the next and that they are not responsible for their vices.

TAKE THE SAFEST PATH.

A father tells us how he once started alone to climb a steep and perilous hill, purposely choosing a time when his children were at play, and when he thought they would not notice his absence. He was climbing a precipitous path, when he was startled by hearing a little voice shout, "Father, take the safest path, for I am following you."

CONCERNING FEET.

"How beautiful are thy feet in shoes, O prince's daughter!" sang Solomon nearly 3,000 years ago. But time works wondrous changes, and we fear the wise king could not repeat his compliment were he living in the midst of us now without doing violence to his conscience. There is no beauty left in the feet of the princess after she has tortured them for years in the narrow leather case raised up at one end, which we miscall shoes.

THE ENTIRE MOTIVE FORCE OF THE WORLD.—From a note published by the Bureau of Statistics in Berlin the following very interesting figures are taken. Four-fifths of the engines now working in the world have been constructed during the last five lustra (25 years). France has actually 49,590 stationary or locomotive boilers, 7,000 locomotives, and 1,850 boats' boilers; Germany has 59,000 boilers, 10,000 locomotives, and 1,700 ships' boilers; Austria, 12,000 boilers and 2,800 locomotives.

THE SCIENTIFIC IMPORTANCE OF EXPLORING THE ACCESSIBLE REGIONS ABOUT THE SOUTH POLE IS urged by Sir Erasmus Omman, of the British navy, who remarks that no man has ever wintered in Antarctic Zone.

of some sort of a balloon attachment with electrical devices by means of which the aim can be regulated.

THE AMERICAN ARTISAN says that graphite is an excellent substitute for red lead in making joints and connections in steam and gas fittings. The graphite mixed with the best boiled oil makes a much better joint, and it is claimed will remain tight three months or three years, and will then yield to the ordinary pressure of the tongs, whereas, the red lead once set, it is next to impossible to open the joint without damage to the pipe or tongs. The graphite should be pure and of the right grade of fineness.

TOO DAZZLING A SIGHT.—A Persian priest was asked by one of his pupils in a tone that savored of vexation: "Why can we not see God?" The venerable priest took the young student outside the tent in which they were accustomed to study, and, pointing to the sun, said: "Could you gaze steadfastly on that orb of light for one hour?" The pupil confessed that his vision was too weak for such a task; then the priest replied: "If one of God's works dazzles you to blindness, how can you expect to look on God?"—The Friend.

USE OF OPIUM.—Dr. Boynton is authority for the statement that Woodstock, Vt., consumes a large quantity of opium. There are four druggists in the town, and they report that their sales of opium, in a single year, are sufficient to make one hundred gallons of laudanum, equivalent to one hundred and sixty-seven ounces of morphine. Of this only five per cent is sold to physicians. It can hardly be possible that there is any greater demand for opium in Woodstock than in other towns of the same size, and yet we can hardly believe that this represents the true condition of things in our New England towns. If so, the thought is a startling one, and should receive more than a passing notice.—Science.

A GARDEN BAROMETER.—One of the simplest of barometers is a spider's web. When there is a prospect of rain or wind, the spider shortens the filaments from which its web is suspended and leaves things in this state as long as the weather is variable. If the insect elongates its threads, it is a sign of fine, calm weather, the duration of which may be judged of by the length to which the threads are let out. If the spider remains inactive, it is a sign of rain; but if, on the contrary, it keeps at work during a rain, the latter will not last long, and will be followed by fine weather.

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