

Correspondence on current subjects is invited, but we do not agree to publish communications containing more than 300 words, and no responsibility is assumed for the views of correspondents.

JUNE 6, 1900.

The general conference of the Northern Methodist Church, which was in session in Chicago a few days ago, departed from one of the ancient landmarks of Methodism—the time limit of pastorates.

The sun is one of the mighty riddles of human life. What feeds the fires of the sun? Whence the endless and increasing fuel that feeds the gigantic fire? Is the sun growing old and weak? Will his fires ever die down? Whence came the sun? The only reasonable theory ever advanced to account for the sun's heat is that his body contracts—about six miles in 100 years—and the contraction of his gases produces the heat.

It is the time of strength and ripeness and production and value, for middle age must be the help for the young and the prop for the old. It is the time, too, of struggle and weariness and discouragement when the first impulse and eager, sanguine hope of youth have gone and the restfulness and resignation of age have not yet come.

It is all right. It is just that in the time when our strength is greatest the burdens should be heaviest and that we should be the helpers of those who are coming after us and the props of those who have gone before us, and some of whom bore burdens for us in their day.

Light at Eventide.

Below we publish one of the beautiful prose poems that has made A. B. Williams, editor of the Greenville News, famous. Read it, and then cut it out and put it in your scrap book.

When we grow beyond the freshness of youth and have not yet begun to know the decay of old age we are in the land and time of prose. No poet sings of us, no painter paints us—except portraits for which we are required to pay—no novelist puts us in his stories except as filling and background.

It will be good in that time to know that the knees bending beneath our own weight have been strong and willing to bear the burdens of many and swift to answer where there was need. It will be comforting to know that the hands trembling impotently have in their time done much work and builded well and been powerful to lift and raise and hold and prop.

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and helpers. Surely there is no place more honorable. Let us do our work staunchly and sturdily and with cheerful and hopeful and clean and wholesome hearts.

For the summer will begin to wane presently and glide gently but swiftly into autumn and from autumn to winter. Little by little the light of the sun and the moon and the stars shall be darkened and the clouds gather after the rain and those that look out of the windows shall see dimly and the strong men bow themselves and the keepers of the house shall tremble, and fall more and more and the grasshopper be a burden intolerable on the backs now broad and strong.

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The Character of Bryan.

It is now generally conceded that the Kansas City convention will merely ratify the popular choice of the rank and file of the Democracy and nominate Colonel Bryan for the Presidency. The events of the past four years have revealed the political character of this distinguished statesman as it was little understood at the time of his first nomination.

Four years have passed—to Mr. Bryan years of intense activity. As the recognized leader of a great political party, believing in the political education of the people, he need make no apology for his active course. Never perhaps since the marvelous leadership of Henry Clay has any one man exercised such influence over a party as has the brilliant tribune of the people.

him from the path of wisdom. He does not "lack stability of purpose." He has gleaned his political science from the declaration of independence and the sermon on the mount, and every act or declaration of his political career has been entirely considered. Not even the most bitter partisan has of late charged him with being a master of expediency. He has a fixed purpose—to protect the people and preserve our institutions—and he has never deviated one particle from that purpose.

Nor is he "superficial." Certainly he is no theorist, nor is he a scholastic drawing finespun theories from governments unlike our own. Neither was Lincoln such. Both are profound, in that both grasp hold of bed-rock. In view of the persistent charge by Republicans to the effect that Bryan is an absolute tyrant in his party, we take it that they have dropped the bugbear of 1896 which made him a puppet for the management of bosses.

Cause of the Indian Famine.

India is a country not quite half as large as the United States, with four times its population. These 300,000,000 people must be fed from their own crops, as there is, relatively, no manufacturing resource to buy food with. There are parts of India with a population of 1,000 people to the square mile; and there are millions of farm laborers, vagrants, gypsies, and nondescript classes, whose means of living, even in time of plenty, are inscrutable.

Political Potpourri.

One of the incidents that will last in American history was the treatment of Puerto Rico by the present Congress, says the Saturday Evening Post. Spain allowed the 800,000 people of this island free trade, manhood suffrage, sixteen full deputies and four senators to the Cortez at Madrid, and twelve representatives in the local municipal assemblies.

and Puerto Rico and give her products free access to our markets." On January 8 last, General Davila, the Governor-General of Puerto Rico, appeared before a committee of the House of Representatives.

Quite able to support themselves," he replied, "and besides, to contribute much to the wealth of the United States whenever the island is put upon a sound basis." Three weeks after this there was an unexpected change. A tariff was proposed, and then followed those well-remembered developments which ended in the driving through both houses of Congress of a new measure.

The nation was humiliated and aroused to protest by this Puerto Rican incident. Almost the entire press of the country declared its opposition, and one of the extraordinary facts was that some of the staid scientific journals which never touched politics before in all their careers could not resist the temptation to express themselves.

Hon. Frank B. Gary, the Abbeville county candidate for governor, in a recent letter to the Columbia State defines his views of the liquor question as follows: The Dispensary plan, when properly and strictly carried out, is the best method of controlling the liquor traffic and of curtailing the evils of liquor.

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Nothing is so distinctive in a gentleman as his linen. Be it broadcloth or homespun in which a man is dressed, it is his linen—his collars, cuffs, and shirts which display his individuality to the observing—and who are so quietly observing as women? Curtains, blankets, table linen, bed linen, &c. We also clean, press, and dye suits at moderate rates.

she desires it; on the other hand no county should desire to force any other county to accept a Dispensary against the will of its qualified voters. I am opposed to open barrooms in any form, and believe that the Dispensaries should be run with a view to curtailing the evils of whiskey drinking and not with a view to making money out of the traffic.

Representative Bellamy, of North Carolina, is an advocate of the McClellan vice-Presidential boom, says the Washington Post. "I intend to go to Kansas City," said he, "and I strongly believe in Mr. McClellan's availability."

"In the first place, Mr. McClellan is a young man with a clean record. His nomination would be popular with young men and also with many older men in New York and New Jersey, who revere the memory of General McClellan, his father. Representative McClellan has been conservative as a legislator and at the same time has stood with his party in Congress.

NOTICE.—A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fort Mill Public School will be held on Friday, June 8, 1900, for the purpose of electing a principal and two assistant teachers to conduct said school from September 1, 1900, to June 1, 1901.

W. B. MEACHAM, Secretary of Board.

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