

# CHRISTIAN NATION

"**RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION.**"

"Our Banner" was merged in CHRISTIAN NATION June, 1894.

Vol. XXIII

NEW YORK, July 10, 1895.

Whole No. 562

## ... CONTENTS ...

### Editorial.

#### Facta Actaque

Thoughts of Odd Moments

The Boston Convention

Oberlin School of Sociology

#### Woman's Work for Missions.

Reception of Women Delegates and Visitors at Denver

Address of Welcome and Response

Communion at the Indian Mission

#### Synodical Missionary Conference.

Addresses, Discussions, and Proceedings

Provision for Organization in 1896

#### In the World of Reform.

A Digest of Recent Legislation and other matters

pertaining to Current Reforms

#### Religious and Devotional.

Sabbath School Lesson No. IV., for July 28, 1895.

#### Among the Churches.

Star Notes . . . . .

Winchester L. M. S.

W. M. S. Second Philadelphia

Cincinnati Jewish Mission

An Opportunity in Denver

Corrections.

#### Around the Old Arm Chair.

How Short the Space!—A Poem

From Dan to Beersheba—A Story

Loyalty to Christ in the Realm of Citizenship.

Dr. A. J. McFarland in Colorado

Prof. J. M. Coleman in Ohio

MY BARK is wafted to the strand  
By breath divine,  
And on the helm there rests  
a hand  
Other than mine.

One who has known in storms to sail  
I have on board;  
Above the raving of the gale  
I hear my Lord.  
He holds me when the billows smite;  
I shall not fall;  
If short, 'tis sharp; if long, 'tis light;  
He tempers all.

—DEAN ALFORD.



# Pears' Soap

responds to water instantly; washes off in a twinkling.



# CHRISTIAN NATION

"RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION."

NEW YORK, JULY 10, 1895.



## Facta Actaque.

Ex-Consul Waller is ill in a French prison.

The season's religious services at Ocean Grove began July 1st.

Robert Maclay has been made President of the Board of Education of New York City.

Heavy rain on the Fourth interfered seriously with public exercises that had been arranged.

The National Educational Association began its annual session on Saturday last in Denver.

Bismarck, whose illness was reported serious, is pronounced to be out of immediate danger.

Gladstone has formally announced to his Midlothian constituents his retirement from political life.

Mrs. Henry D. Polhemus has given half a million dollars to the Long Island Hospital College.

The annual National Christian Endeavor Convention begins in Boston today and will close on Monday.

E. B. Harper, founder and President of the New York Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association, is dead.

A new city charter has gone into effect in Boston, and improved conditions in municipal housekeeping are anticipated.

On Sabbath the Excise Law was more rigidly enforced in this city than on any of the preceding Sabbaths. Commissioner Roosevelt says the way to enforce a law is to enforce it.

George Muller, of London, whose life of trust is known throughout the world, said recently that during the last sixty four years, since he began his habit of referring all of his needs to the Lord directly instead of to men, he has received in answer to prayer £1,373,826. He has spent this amount in schools—day, Sabbath and adult—in which 120,938 pupils have been taught. He has also spent large sums in the circulation of the Scriptures, tracts, etc., besides receiving and distributing £250,000 for missions. He has built one orphanage after another until he has five now, and he has been enabled to take under their care 9,416 orphans, some of whom have been in his homes as many as seventeen years. Many of these orphans, he says, are now preachers of the Gospel, others are converted grandparents, having converted children who are parents, and very many are occupying responsible positions in life.

## Thoughts of Odd Moments.

If we truly love the Lord who gave us the Commandments, He will not need to command us to show our love in the keeping of them; and our keeping of them will not be merely a pleasure to us, but a great blessing to others, for "by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."

The papers of July first and second were full of assurances from Forecaster Dunn that the Fourth would be fair and dry; but the rain fell all day and at times in torrents. The Bible tells us how to forecast the weather from evening until the next morning; beyond that it is largely guess work. It still remains true, even as to the weather, that we know not what a day may bring forth.

With Solomon, Mrs. Matilda B. Carse will, not long hence, be able to say: "I have surely built Thee an house to dwell in, a settled place for Thee to abide in forever." Within the past few days she has received a half dozen gifts aggregating about twenty-five thousand dollars, the smallest gift a thousand dollars, for the Women's Temperance Temple. Mrs. Carse trusts God in business in that simple unquestioning way in which honest men trust one another, and of course He won't disappoint her.

The announcement was sent over the world on July 3d, that Gladstone had addressed a farewell letter to the Midlothian Liberal Association. His long life is certainly rounding out, and will scarcely see the dawn of the new century to pave the way for the betterment of which he has done so much. Although Irish Presbyterians are not all ready at once to forgive his attitude toward home rule, and will be ready to count its failure a wise providence, they will with all intelligent people rejoice in the truth of this sentence from his farewell address: "It is beyond question that the century now expiring has exhibited since the close of its first quarter a period of unexampled activity, the changes of which, taken in the mass, have been in the direction of true and beneficial progress."

It is difficult to believe the character of men to be sincere who profess faith in God and salvation through Christ, and yet fight one another to the death over a difference of conviction as to doctrine. Yet a fatal riot occurred in Boston on July 4th, precipitated by the sight of the yellow in an Orange lodge parade. Both sides were at fault—the one for proudly displaying the hated yellow, and the other for being only too ready to take an occasion for a fight. Protestant Christians (?) who unnecessarily provoke a quarrel are no better than those whose passions they seek to arouse. Christ is not in any of their hearts.

## The Boston Convention.

THE *Christian Instructor* of June 13 shows the same diversity of views in the United Presbyterian church as prevails with us. Rev. Dr. W. H. McMillan, of Allegheny, writes: "Many persons who have never heard the Psalms sung, or, if they have heard them, have only heard them rendered in an antiquated version to equally antiquated tunes, will hear them welling up from ten thousand hearts in the magnificent strains of our Bible Songs. It has all along been urged in our Church that those who associated with the Christian Endeavor Society were at least endangering their fidelity to the Scripture Psalms. Is it not manifest that the singing of our Psalms in one of those great meetings, as they will be sung there, will do more to commend our Scripture Psalms to the general public than all the separate testifying we could do in a lifetime? And those Psalms would not be sung there if all United Presbyterians and other Psalm singers had stood aloof from the Christian Endeavor Society. Every young United Presbyterian ought to go to Boston, whether a Christian Endeavorer or a Christian Unionist. Send delegates to Boston to get the benefit of that great gathering, and then to Columbus also, to rally round the denominational flag there. Go to both and get the benefit of both."

We have no denominational organization such as he refers to, as convening at Columbus. The *Christian Instructor* however says: "Dr. McMillan, in writing in this issue of the Boston convention of Christian Endeavor, refers to the fact that one day is to be given to the use of Bible Songs in the praise services, and he expresses the opinion that a great impetus is likely to be given to Psalm-singing thereby. We very much question the Doctor's conclusion. The probability, we think, is that the education will be mainly the other way. United Presbyterians will become accustomed to the use of hymns, and the transition to hymn-singing churches will be all the easier for the experience of those occasions. When we depend upon sound more than sense to convert men to the truth we are reckoning without our host. Perhaps our fathers went to an extreme when they followed occasional hearing with ecclesiastical censure, but certain it is that going heart and soul into these mixed conven-

a *moving* impression, and that is the kind pastors don't generally like.

You have a most delightful climate. The experience of us all who are visitors is about the same, so intoxicated have we become that it seems possible to do almost any thing of an ordinary character. Indeed, one feels like running and jumping and laughing just through excess of life. And then what grand scenery! Who can describe it! The sight of these mountains with their heads wrapped in snow is an inspiration. We are glad you encouraged us to come and see for ourselves this rich, productive and progressive State.

Have you thought how much good will result from this meeting? We who gather here today will know one another now. We will know something of your work. The forces here in operation, the difficulties with which you have to contend, and the incentives you have to labor. You will have our sympathy and an interest in our prayers as never before. A new impulse will be given to our efforts to help one another and to promote the cause so dear to us all.

This the first women's meeting of this character will not be the last.

Again, Mrs. Chairman, let me assure you we reciprocate most heartily the kind and cordial welcome extended to us. Our prayer is that God may bless our meeting with you, that good and only good may result. "In the name of the Lord we wish you to be blessed."

*Address by Mrs. Dr. R. J. George.*

Mrs. Sproull was followed by Mrs. Dr. R. J. George, who, in a brief but pointed manner, presented the need and helpfulness of "Home Missions," treating the subject under the following headings and presenting the following facts. In substance she said:

The subject "Our Home Missions" is truly a broad field.

1st. Our Synod's home missions which reaches all over this land. This home and pleasant surroundings result from the call to J. M. Wylie as missionary in this field. He and Mrs. Wylie made sacrifices in leaving the East, and we should bear them on our spirits in prayer at this time. This is but one of the results.

2d. Our church home mission work is evangelistic, by which we seek to gather the unsaved into our churches. I will give one instance here of a timely word from a home missionary, bringing an entire family into the church, and the triumphant entrance of the father into the heavenly home soon after. Oh, how different that home would be today if that word of warning had not been given.

3d. Our personal home mission work. Go home to your friends and tell them what great things God has done for you. The privileges of thus coming together are great. We represent different churches, but meet as sisters in Christ Jesus. What shall we render to the Lord for all his gifts?

*Address by Mrs. W. W. Carithers.*

Mrs. W. W. Carithers, of our Indian Mission, delivered the following eloquent address, which was so impressive as to move almost every one present to tears. The self-forgetfulness of this noble and consecrated worker in this part of the Lord's vineyard, affected us all the more since we could not but remember that she had sacrificed home, friends, social relations, and every comfort, undergoing the greatest privations and hardships, with her babe but three years of age, to help her husband carry the glad tidings of salvation to the poor unenlightened Indians. The success of the work is so great that we really *cried for joy*, as we listened to her description of their *first communion*. We had no doubt that the loving Saviour, Jesus Christ, was a willing guest on that occasion. She said:

It is more pleasant to tell of joyful days than of sorrowful nights. There has been so much sunshine that it is not needful to dwell long under the shadow of the clouds that have sometimes passed over the

Indian Mission; but perhaps there is nothing that binds us closer to the Saviour than to remember the dark places through which He has led the way.

When it was decided to enlarge the work among the Indians by establishing a branch mission, an effort was made to plant a church in one of the darkest parts of the Indian Territory. This effort met with a determined opposition by a few old chiefs.

They had long indulged in sins which they loved, and as they intended to follow these sins they desired to shut out all condemnation.

The plan must have failed "had not the Lord been on our side." We made our prayer to the One who holds the hearts of all people in his hand and turneth them whithersoever he will, and we expect the work will begin in the new field early in July.

The friends of the Mission have for years looked with longing to the time when the Lord's Supper would be dispensed at the Indian Mission. During the past year some of the children in school expressed a desire to be baptised.

The workers in the field felt that the parents of the children who have attended the services on the Sabbath during the past years had made sufficient progress in the Christian life to be admitted to membership in the church. Some of the older Indians were filled with dread lest that the punishments of God would follow the taking of vows if the obligations of the vows were not *perfectly fulfilled*. Many of the Carlisle students have died soon after they returned to their homes, and some of the Indians believe death is the penalty for broken baptismal vows.

Two old men expressed a great desire to follow Jesus, but they asked, "Is there no safer way." They said they spent whole nights talking on this subject, and asking that God would show them what they should do, but yet they dared not make this near approach to God. They not only refused to come themselves but they warned others of the danger of being baptised. It was pitiful to hear them say, "It is only a little while since it was as dark as midnight, and even now we cannot read the Bible, and when those who read to us are absent we do not know what God commands us to do, and we may break our vows without intending to do so."

They said their children could read the Bible, and they would allow the children to decide for themselves, but when one of the sons decided that he would be baptised they held him back.

It is impossible to give any conception of the struggle of the days that followed. Faces grew pale and cheeks became thin. So many interests of the future seemed to hang on the issue of the conflict. We could only watch it with breathless interest, and pray that God who with mighty hand led his people from the bondage of Egypt would loosen the chains of superstition that have bound this people. God has already shown that he is able to deliver those who trust in him. A little company followed the leadings of the Spirit, and came over to the side of the Lord of hosts.

"When Zion's bondage God turned back,  
As men that dreamed were we,  
Then filled with laughter was our mouth,  
Our tongue with melody."

It was only happy faces that gathered around the sacred desk seeking to have the name of Christ named upon them.

The two old men who were *almost persuaded* did not stand in the circle, but they watched the company with eager wistful faces, and one young man who sat with them said he loved the Lord Jesus Christ, and wished to enlist under His banner. He was ready to follow Christ wherever He would show him the way. He cut loose from the companions of youth and put on the "armor of God." He joined the company who stood at the altar, and with them received the symbol of cleansing in his forehead.

May 26, 1895, was a day never to be forgotten by those present in the Indian Mission chapel. Twenty-

nine communicants gathered on the top of the mount to commemorate the dying love of the Saviour in a land where that love has been almost unknown. More than half the number who sat at the table first heard of the love of the Saviour in the Indian Mission.

There are some here who have made sacrifices for the Indian Mission. It has cost time and money and labor. The Lord is now giving the reward. What is it worth to know that this little company have set their feet on the ladder that leads to the heavenly home? If there are those present who wish for a greater reward, to them we would say, wait; wait till we stand at the top of the ladder, and perhaps we will see those who are now taking the first faltering steps, before the throne of God, and that they are surrounded by a circle of friends to whom they have pointed out the way. They have said, "The Lord is my Shepherd," and the Master answers "Fear not, little flock, it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

This picture that is so full of brightness has a dark background. The old men are still sitting in darkness.

Ah, friends, it is our fault more than theirs that they are still bound with the chains of superstition. We have allowed them to grow old without a single voice to tell them of the only One who can make them free. Without a single beckoning hand to point them to the land of light and rest.

How shall we repair the wrong we have done? Let us continually bear on our spirits in prayer those to whom the gospel call has come so late in life that they may yet heed the Spirit's call; Come!

Let us ask God to forgive us for our neglect to hasten with the gospel message, and pray that God would make us more faithful in the future.

"Help us that we falter not  
Though the fields be white and wide,  
And the reapers sorely pressed  
Call for aid on every side.  
Guide us that with swifter feet  
We may speed us on our way,  
Leading darkened nations forth  
Into bright eternal day.  
It may be little we can do  
To help another it is true,  
But better is a little spark  
Of kindness when the way is dark,  
Than one should miss the path to heaven  
For want of light we might have given."

*Address by Mrs. Rev. J. R. W. Stevenson.*

Mrs. Rev. J. R. W. Stevenson, who went out a few years ago to Cyprus with her husband to do missionary work, but who was compelled to return soon afterwards owing to the dangerous condition of Mr. Stevenson who was accidentally poisoned, but has since recovered, spoke in an earnest manner upon Foreign Missions. Mrs. Stevenson is still an enthusiastic advocate of the Foreign Mission work, and although so dreadfully disappointed, may yet go where her heart evidently remains, to Cyprus, to lead the heathen to Christ.

It is often asked, Do Foreign Missions pay? Does it pay to use time, energy, precious lives and vast sums of money to evangelize the heathen Chinese or the greedy, selfish Turk? Is it not all in vain to use money for such a purpose as this?

It is much easier to believe that missions "at Home" pay. To evangelize New York applies healing to the body politic, protects our homes, lives and liberties. Men who are not interested in the cause of Christ will reason thus. But to them it is mercifully for men and women to sacrifice themselves on the altars of heathen ignorance, daring climate and disease for those who do not appreciate or desire their efforts.

The hope that inspires missionary effort is not the hope of "pay" or self-advancement, but obedience to the command of the Master who said, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel." And the desire, the supreme hope of the true missionary, is that he may witness for Christ so faithfully that his Master himself may say, "Well done."