

"influence" of the Holy Spirit, as so many do, but for the Holy Spirit direct. In regard to pure Christian fellowship...

General Intelligence.

RELIGIOUS SUMMARY.

PRESENTATION OF CARDINALS' HATS.—Paris, Jan. 9.—President MacMahon to-day performed the ceremony of delivering hats to the newly appointed Cardinals.

CONFESSION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—This subject is still exciting considerable attention. A large meeting was recently held in the city of York, at which Earl Fitzwilliam presided.

Great Britain appears to be growing really alarmed at the remarkable progress which Roman Catholicism is making in that country.

IS THE OFFICIAL HEAD OF THE PAPAL CHURCH ANTI-CHRIST?—Archbishop Manning, of London, does not shrink from stating the pretensions of the Pope in the strongest and plainest language.

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE LOST?—One of Newman Hall's recent tracts is on the question, "What must I do to be lost?"

NEW METHODS OF BEARING ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS.—The State street Baptist church, of Springfield has started a mutual relief association, the object of which is to "render assistance to families or friends of the dead at a time when the expenses of sickness and the additional expenses of a funeral are often so great as to impose burdens too heavy for many to bear alone."

DINING IN SOLITARY STATE.—There is an old English play in which thirteen members of a club dine together once a year. One by one their places become vacant, until the last surviving member takes his seat and goes through all the forms of speech-making and toasting.

CHURCH CHOIRS.—Rev. Mr. Hepworth, of New York, says: "Choirs, as a general thing, are a nuisance. They are the bane of a minister's life."

FIRE.—Jacob Stiner, a wealthy tea merchant of New York, with his wife and child were burned to death in their home, which was burned on Madison avenue, Monday night, Jan 12.

Tuesday was a day of fires in Boston and vicinity, and the alarms continued far into the evening. Within sixteen hours no less than eleven alarms were given from eight boxes, the first being at 5.50 A.M.

The fire at Natick (17 miles from Boston) originated in a druggists' store at about 3 o'clock, and destroyed nearly all the business portion of that town.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.—The Boston Journal, in a brief review of the year which has just closed, enumerates the following among other accidents and evils:—"The English ship Northfleet was run into by a Spanish ship and 350

persons drowned; the Atlantic was sunk off Halifax, causing the terrible loss of 535 lives; the Wawaset was burned on the Potomac with the sacrifice of 70 lives; the Indus, a coal-carrying ship, went down, taking 418 of her miserable passengers; and the Ville du Havre, run into by the Loch Earn recently, caused 226 persons to perish.

LIBERAL BEQUESTS.—The will of the late Seth Adams, of Newton, Mass., is especially munificent in the direction of bequests to public institutions.

"DEFAULTERS AND DEFALCATIONS."—Under this head the Journal of Jan. 12th says: "We have had during the present year but ten business days, and yet in that brief space of time frauds, embezzlements, speculations and breaches of trust have come to light sufficient in number to make a dark record for a whole year."

THE FAMINE.—Calcutta, Jan. 12. The famine is already causing great distress in Behar and Benares.

THE GREATEST CALAMITY OF THE VILLE DU HAVRE disaster was not that which befell the immediate victims. It made 110 widows and 500 orphans in the city of Havre alone, all left in destitute circumstances.

There are those who can tell the very place, and the very day, hour, and minute of their conversion. There are others who can do no such thing, and such persons are apt to doubt the reality of a Christian experience just because they cannot fix the date of its commencement.

YOU WISH YOU COULD SPEAK AS CONFIDENTLY; you mourn because you cannot fix the date, and you almost doubt whether you are reborn at all.

Now, it is a good thing for a Christian to know his birthday, and ever after to commemorate it as the anniversary of the soul. But suppose a man should take you into his orchard; the trees are thrifty, and the fruit is plump and ruddy. You ask him, "When was this tree set out?"

"By their fruits ye shall know them," and not by the time when they were planted.

Now then a person comes forward for church-membership who can tell nothing about the when, or the how, of conversion. Perhaps from forgotten childhood the dear name of Jesus has been spoken with affection, and the heart cannot recall the time when it did not love and trust.

ABOUT 8 O'CLOCK the entire interior of Codman Building on Sudbury Street in this city was destroyed, involving a loss of nearly \$150,000.

able to say, "My heart, O God, is fixed." It is not the past experience that makes you a Christian, but the present faith. And to argue that a man is not a Christian because he cannot tell just the hour when he passed the dividing-line and rested in Jesus—why, you might as well say to a man who has forgotten, or never knew his birthday, "I don't believe you were ever born at all."

The fashion of painting the face is actually getting to be almost universally practiced in "good society." There was a time when the flashy enamel, the glaring rouge, the India ink for the eyebrows, and the crimson lip-salve, were left to the exclusive use of women who are never seen or mentioned among decent people; but with the general adoption of false hair, the art of frescoing the human countenance seems to have become legitimated among persons who deem themselves the best of the human family.

OTHER MINOR irregularities have been recorded, sufficient to indicate that we have not opened the year in the United States in a manner indicative of any surplus of honesty.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRTHDAY OF FAITH.

We have a friend twenty-four years old, who stoutly maintains that he was born on the 21st of October, 1866. On that glorious Sabbath evening he began to live. When the seraphic Summerfield was asked where he was born, he replied, "In Liverpool and Dublin." May the generation of twice-born men be multiplied.

GOD BLESSES VERY slender things to the conversion of souls. It is very humbling sometimes to a preacher who thinks, "Well, I did preach a pretty fair sermon that time," to find God does not care a pin about him or his sermon, and that a stray remark he made in the street, which he hardly thought was of any value whatever, was what God had blessed; that when he had thought he succeeded best he had done nothing, and when he thought he had succeeded worst then God blessed him.

IF PERFECTION IS UNATTAINABLE IN THIS life, why does Paul say to the Corinthians, "Be ye perfect?" The word means to set to rights, to restore, or prepare, or put in order. It is used, for example, in Matt. 4: 21, "mending their nets," and in Gal. 6: 1, "Ye which are spiritual, restore such a one."

ON PERFECTION. If perfection is unattainable in this life, why does Paul say to the Corinthians, "Be ye perfect?"

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men who look upon the horse as an instrument chiefly of gambling gains or of mere physical pleasure." The announcement of this new and "remote" department of the ministerial profession was greeted with a general horse laugh, especially around the stables where the thorough-breds are in training for the August meetings.

ENAMELLED FACES. The fashion of painting the face is actually getting to be almost universally practiced in "good society."

BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD. There is a great danger that you may be. There cling to our natures elements of depravity, even after our introduction into the church of Christ, by which this world may draw us into affinity with itself too close for eminent spirituality.

When I observe a professor of religion seeking and enjoying the society of ungodly men more than that of the saints, more punctual and cheerful in his attendance at the social and convivial party than at prayer meeting and the sanctuary, I should like to kindly whisper in his ear—be not conformed to this world.

When I observe a professor of religion decorated with the gaudy trappings of fashion, eager to catch the gaze and admiration of the vain and thoughtless, imitating the glitter of the dissolute, and exciting the envy of the poor, I want to thunder in her ear; so loudly as to startle and awaken her conscience—be not conformed to this world.

When I observe a Christian female decorated with the gaudy trappings of fashion, eager to catch the gaze and admiration of the vain and thoughtless, imitating the glitter of the dissolute, and exciting the envy of the poor, I want to thunder in her ear; so loudly as to startle and awaken her conscience—be not conformed to this world.

When I observe a Christian mother sending her children to the ball-room and the theatre, the fashionable assembly, and the festive party among the profligate and licentious, to perfect their education and polish their manners, whilst I weep for her children, I want to repeat to the misguided parent the charge of Paul—be not conformed to this world.

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the world as he had been. It is a very different lesson he is inculcating. In the preceding verse we read, "And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind?"

TAKING CHURCH PROPERTY. An "amendment" is proposed to the Constitution of New Jersey, whereby all church property will become liable to taxation.

STRIKING THOUGHTS. It is ever to be borne in mind that while the gospel has shallows through which a child may wade and walk on his way to heaven, it has deep, dark, unfathomable pools which no eye can penetrate, and where the first step takes a giant beyond his depth.

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS. J. N. BARSTOW.—Please give us the address of Mrs. J. Yocum.

LETTERS RECEIVED. All communications, orders and remittances for the ADVOKER HERALD should be addressed to J. M. ORROCK, 46 Kneeland Street, Boston, Mass.

PIN-FEATHERED COLLECTIONS. We are indebted to Rev. Dr. Matlack, recently of New Orleans, for the following good story: In 1869 a series of missionary meetings was projected among the colored Methodist Episcopal Churches of that city.

TO THE A. M. ASSOCIATION. Joseph Read, 3.00

DONATIONS. TO THE HARRISBURG MISSION. Mrs. C. Gabriel, Charlestown, Mass.

FOR ELDER N. STOKELY'S CHURCH. Mrs. C. Gabriel, Charlestown, Mass.

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Turning to the congregation, now up to the white heat of excitement he continued: "Children, you may tank your stars and de good Lord dat dis angel come dis way to-day and he's gwine to stay awhile now. He's foldin' his wings and lookin' right at you now. He wants to see what we's gwine to do to send dis eberlasting gospel round de world."

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