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I hold it truth, with him who sings
To one clear harp in divers tones,
That men may rise on stepping stones
Of their dead selves to higher things.
—Tennyson.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The spirit of sacrifice and service needs to be called out and exercised constantly if we would develop in our spiritual life. There is tremendous truth in the words of Illingsworth: "The pleasures of each generation evaporate in air; it is their pains that increase the spiritual momentum of the world." Mazzini once declared that the highest call that comes to young men is, "Go and suffer!"

Suppose you were asked to tell of the happiest day you ever spent. What would your answer be? It is said that Livingstone declared, "The happiest day of my life was the day I decided to give myself to Africa." Garibaldi said: "The happiest night I ever spent was the night after I made up my mind, let what would come, my life should be spent in the cause of Italy's liberation." Geraldine Guinness Taylor tells that one of the happiest moments in her life was when, on her way to China as a missionary, God seemed to come nearer than ever before in her life as she thought of the lovely home she had given up in England to carry the glad news of salvation to China's Christless homes.

Laymen of the Southern Presbyterian Church who did not have the privilege of attending the Laymen's Missionary Convention at Lexington, Kentucky, in February, will lose a great blessing if they fail to attend the New Orleans Convention, March 13-15. Some changes have been made in the program as previously published, but the general theme will remain the same as for the Lexington Convention: "America Must Not Fail." In these critical days Christian men owe a duty to both Church and country. The fires of patriotism are at white heat. Shall not the fires of Christian loyalty to Christ glow with the same fervor? The program arranged for the New Orleans Convention is a comprehensive one and will furnish a tremendous inspiration to the men who attend. The wisdom of the plan of holding a convention in duplicate in two sections of the Church has been abundantly justified. Every church should send a delegate. Mr. Ernest T. George, New Orleans, Louisiana, is chairman of the local convention committee. Write to him at once for hotel reservation, enclosing registration fee of one dollar. Will New Orleans be able to report a larger enrollment than Lexington?

The Protestant Episcopal Church of America has achieved a splendid goal in raising \$6,500,000 for the pensioning of aged clergymen, their widows and orphans. During the past year, under the leadership of Bishop Lawrence, of Massachusetts, a concerted campaign has been conducted throughout the United States for the purpose of raising a fund of \$5,000,000. The time limit was March 1, 1917, and if the amount was not secured by that time the subscriptions were not to be binding. On that date Bishop Lawrence announced that at least \$6,500,000 had been subscribed, although final statement of the exact sum cannot be made for two weeks. This

newly created pension system will permit every active clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church on reaching the age of sixty-eight years to receive a retirement allowance of a minimum of \$600 a year. Widows will receive one-half the sum to which their husbands would have been entitled, and allowance will be made to all dependent orphans of deceased clergymen at the rate of \$100 a year for each child under seven years, and \$200 a year for each child between the ages of seven and fourteen.

Our own General Assembly has directed that the endowment fund for Ministerial Relief should be increased to at least \$1,000,000 as soon as possible. It is now somewhat beyond the half-million mark. This cause should appeal very strongly to all the members of our Church. Especially ought its importance to be appreciated by those to whom God has given large means. There will be great joy in using some of one's wealth to provide a fund to care for the aged and infirm ministers and their widows and orphans. To supply the needs of those who have given their lives in the service of the Church is a great privilege. One ruling elder writes us that he will be glad to be one of a number who will give at least \$100 a year for ten years, unless providentially hindered, to increase the endowment fund to a million dollars. Rev. Henry H. Sweets, D. D., 122 South Fourth Street, Louisville, Ky., Executive Secretary of the Committee on Ministerial Relief, will be glad to hear from those who will agree to make annual contributions to this fund.

In our Assembly's scheme of Systematic Beneficence, March is the month devoted to the cause of Publication and Sabbath School Extension Work. Since Mr. R. E. Magill has been Secretary of this Committee, he has not asked the privilege of making a financial appeal from a single pulpit in our whole Church. The thirty-four field workers have visited churches, Presbyteries and Synods for the sole purpose of rendering aid, and their appeal has been for an opportunity to be helpful and not for a collection. The method of the Committee leaves the presentation of the financial needs of this cause in the hands of sessions and pastors of the churches where it properly belongs. If your church is using the "Assembly's Financial Plan" in an effective manner, you have arranged that this Committee shall get an adequate offering from your people. If your share in our work has not been provided for, the Committee asks that you present this cause during March and secure an offering for Sunday School Extension worthy of your people.

Our Church stresses religious instruction of the youth of the land as does no other body, and urges the wide dissemination of truth in printed form. No work she undertakes is more fruitful in immediate results, and the ultimate outcome cannot be measured by statistics. Our people will give this cause an adequate support if the matter is brought to their attention in an effective way. The Committee hopes to have the hearty co-operation of every pastor in securing the \$48,000 asked for by the General Assembly. Leaflets and envelopes for distribution in your congrega-

The Observer

For the Christian Observer.

RECOLLECTIONS OF DR. GIRARDEAU.

By Rev. Thos. H. Law, D. D.

The recent publication of the interesting volume, "The Life Work of John L. Girardeau, D. D., LL. D.," noticed at length in the columns of the "Christian Observer," has brought vividly to mind some of my personal recollections of Dr. Girardeau, with whom I was very closely and tenderly associated many years ago.

From 1856 to 1859 I was a student in the Citadel—the South Carolina Military College, located in Charleston; and Dr. Girardeau was then prosecuting his notable work among the colored people of that city under the auspices of Charleston Presbytery. For some time I did not come in contact with him, but after a while I began to hear reports of the eloquent young Presbyterian preacher who was laboring among the negroes; and once or twice I chanced to hear him preach outside his own pulpit. Later I learned where his negro church was located—in a back street—and that white people also attended his services. Therefore, I sought out his Anson Street Chapel, which was built in the shape of a cross, the wings on the right and left of the pulpit being assigned to whites, while the colored people occupied the main part of the auditorium in front of the pulpit.

I was at once captivated with his preaching, which was marked by great simplicity of language, clearness of logic and eloquence of delivery. I had never heard preaching which pleased and attracted me so much, and after that I became a frequent attendant on his services.

In 1858, when the memorable revival of religion swept over our country, the Holy Spirit's power was widely and deeply felt in Charleston. The whole city seemed to be moved; union meetings, very largely attended, were held daily, and special services in many churches. Dr. Girardeau, who was very evangelistic in his spirit, was now in his element and immense congregations packed his church night after night during the week as well as on the Sabbath for a number of weeks. I myself attended as often as I could. And such preaching it would be hard for me adequately to describe. My records of those days show how deeply I was impressed by it.

Meantime I had become personally acquainted with Dr. Girardeau, had him to visit the Citadel and address the prayer meetings which some of us were holding daily in the special interests of the cadets, and I became very much attracted to him.

The outcome of this noted revival, through which large numbers were added to his church, was the introduction of a white element, the organization of Zion church, of which he became the regular pastor, and the erection on a more eligible site of a large church seating two or three thousand people, which still stands as a monument of the zeal and liberality of the white slave holders for the spiritual welfare of the negroes. I was present at the dedication of this immense building, the largest church in the city, when the house was packed, even to standing, with whites and blacks, hundreds being turned away for lack of room. And Dr. Girardeau preached a noble sermon from the text: "Go ye out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in."

The next Sunday evening to my great joy, he preached the commencement sermon before my class. And a few days later having now graduated at the Citadel, I left Charleston, to enter upon my special preparation for the Gospel ministry. In my "Journal" I find this record in a survey of my course in the Citadel: "I must not here fail to mention the inestimable benefit I have received from that most devoted and faithful servant of God, Rev. John L. Girardeau. When I now look back upon my course, I am firmly convinced that eternity alone can reveal the good which my soul has derived at his hands. Would that I could be such a pattern of Christian devotion and zeal in the cause of my Master as he is!"

Our paths now parted for a time. But at the close of the Confederate War and his return from the prison at Johnson's Island, where he had been held till late in June, 1865, his family being still refugees near Timmonsville and not far from my pastoral charge at Florence, S. C., our close intercourse was resumed. I saw him frequently and again had the delightful privilege of hearing him preach quite often. And in 1867, I received from him, as Chairman of Domestic Missions, a cordial and urgent invitation to become the evangelist of Charleston Presbytery. I accepted and again took up my abode in Charleston, where I was very closely and pleasantly associated with Dr. Girardeau. As chairman of the committee, I consulted him constantly and freely about my work, which was pursued largely under his counsel. His church, now Zion church, Globe street, a white congregation, bore chiefly the burden of my evangelistic work. And as my family belonged to his church, I heard him preach as often as I could. Two and a half years these relations continued and of those delightful days of personal intercourse, of ministerial fellowship,

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P. O.....
Express Office.....

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FILL OUT THE COUPON TODAY.

and of co-operation in the church's work, it would require too much space to write as I would like. Only those who experienced the charms of his personality, the warmth and brightness of his companionship and the marvelous eloquence and attractiveness of his preaching can appreciate what Dr. John L. Girardeau was.

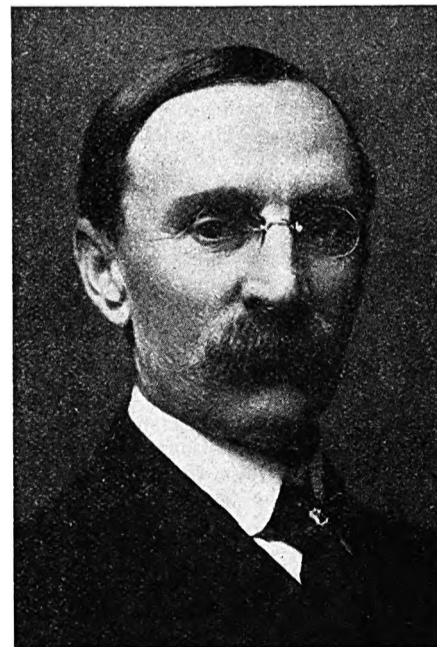
Spartanburg, S. C.

For the Christian Observer.

NEW PRESIDENT OF QUEENS COLLEGE,

Rev. Henry Clay Evans, D. D.

The friends of Christian education in general, and the friends and patrons, both present and prospective, of Queens College, located at Charlotte, N. C., find great satisfaction in the announcement that Rev. Henry Clay Evans, D. D., has been called to the presidency



Rev. H. G. Evans, D. D., Newly Elected President of Queens College, Charlotte, N. C.

of Queens College and has signified his acceptance of the call.

The members of the Board of Trustees of Queens College feel that in securing Dr. Evans for this important position they are not making an experiment. Dr. Evans is a man of tried

and proved ability in the field of Christian education for young women.

The Bulletin of Texas Presbyterian College at Milford, Texas, under date of December 1, 1916, gives an interesting sketch of the life and labors of Dr. Evans. Dr. Evans is a native of Kentucky, having been born near Maysville in that state. He was graduated from Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., in 1881. He continued his studies and became a Master of Arts of Westminster in 1884, and ten years later, in 1894, the same institution bestowed upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In the meantime, in 1883, he had been ordained a minister of the Presbyterian Church.

Equipped as Queens College is, with a splendid new plant, ideally located to serve a large area, and with an increasing number of friends and patrons, a man of Dr. Evans' ability is the final necessary element to assure a future of the largest usefulness for the college.

Dr. Evans visited the college and carefully looked over the field before accepting the call. He will visit the institution again before the close of the present session and will assume the full responsibilities of the office with the beginning of the next college year.

Charlotte, N. C.

For the Christian Observer.

THORNWELL ORPHANAGE.

We received in January last the report of the Spurgeon Orphanage in London, England, for the year 1916, and were very much pleased to notice that notwithstanding the bitter fight that England was carrying on with the great Central Powers of Europe, the Orphanage had not only suffered no decrease of contribution, but the receipts had risen proportionately to the rise in price of all the necessities of life. The various missionary societies of Great Britain also report the usual income, with sufficient increase to meet the increased cost of administration.

This leads us to hope that the present anxious state of mind about the break with Germany will lead our people to realize that there is apt to be a much greater pressure brought to bear upon Thornwell Orphanage, and that this will lead them all to a very quick and liberal response to the appeals sent out from the Home. Many persons, through an undefinable fear of what is to come, will shut up their hearts against all appeals of every kind, even that of the fatherless and motherless children. But we believe, kind friend, that you are not one of these, but that your gift though it be small, will be sure to find its way to the treasury of this institution. May God bless you for the splendid work you have done in the past, and may He give you both the

ability and willing mind to keep on helping, that whatever else comes to pass your orphans will not suffer.

Send gifts as usual to Rev. W. P. Jacobs, Thornwell Orphanage, Clinton, S. C.

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