

Religious.

PRaising GOD.

A writer in the Central Christian Advocate says:—Christians praise God too little. They grow barren and wither, unless they cultivate the spirit of praise. The Psalms are full of praise. It is good exercise to recount the mercies of God, to think of His loving kindness. What makes these thoughts more forcible at this time, is the fact that we were once indirectly and rather curtly rebuked for uttering praise in prayer. A minister said that it was unbecoming in us to rejoice over the goodness of God and the mercies we had received; that instead of this we should mourn and confess our sins, and bewail our want of faith and our failures and shortcomings. We felt the censure, and tried to feel bad and to call up the spirit of sadness, thinking perhaps we had been too jubilant, but after all, what Christ had done was so prominent and so overwhelming that we could scarcely refrain from praising Him. Is the spirit of praise inconsistent with the spirit of humility? We cannot always be sure of our own spiritual state, but we know that some Christians, who always confess, and always mourn, and always belittle themselves, do but little good. A man's example is infectious, and a Christian can live so sadly that he will never make a favorable report of Christ.

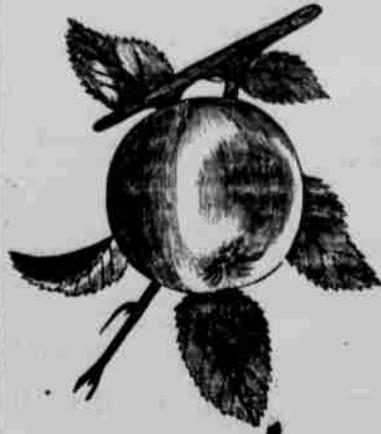
THE POVERTY OF PROSPERITY.

Beecher, in a recent sermon, says:—"I verily believe that men who prosper by wickedness lose their capacity of enjoyment; so that there are thousands and thousands of overgrown prosperous men who are not one-tenth as happy as the men who have almost nothing. Why, there are poor working men in yonder city with such pitiful stipends that they can scarcely make the ends meet, who are yet a great deal happier than the millionaire whom they serve. There are men that have gone through the prosperity of what are called secular things in this world, who look out enviously, and sometimes almost sadly, upon the swart laborer, and say, 'O! if I had no more anxiety than he has; if I could whistle and sing as he does; if I had his lungs, and such arms as he has; if I were as happy as he is, I think I would be willing to give up all my wealth.' Oh! the heart-aching cares, the rust and biting, the envies and jealousies, the competitions and rivalries, the attritions, of a life keyed in the lower range of the human faculties! These miseries belong to such men; and if you could look into them you would not be deceived nor seduced, nor persuaded to take their place."

SHROUDING MOURNERS IN BLACK.—We are glad to see that the religious papers are opposing this custom, and confirming the popular feeling against it, which seems to be gaining strength. The *United Presbyterian*, of Pittsburg, say: "A family will shroud itself in black for years, as an expression of sorrow for one of its dead. That one may be in heaven rejoicing with a joy unspeakable while relatives on earth are moving about in heavy and sombre garments, making their lives as gloomy as they can. There is no fitness in the thing. It is often a mere mockery of sorrow. But that to which we now specially direct attention is its wastefulness. Whole wardrobes of families will be thrown away, and many unable to bear the expense will procure and put on their mourning dresses, all because they have not courage to disregard a prevalent but foolish custom. There is much need of reformation here, especially in the interest of the poor."

BRYANT'S NURSERY.

Derby Center, Vt.



Peach Apple, 1-8 its Natural Size.

To the Editor of the Vermont Farmer:

SIR:—Having had such success in the growing of Fruit Trees in this northern climate, from the Nursery of B. Bryant, Derby Center, Vt., I feel it my duty as well as a pleasure, for the benefit of the public generally, to say a few words in regard to trees from this nursery, and give below a few names with statements of success, &c.

I think it is the only Nursery in New England where you can obtain Choice, Hardy, Grafted Apple Trees, either Crab or English varieties, adapted to this northern climate. The trees grow upon the ground where the Nursery is located, as thousands can and will testify to. There is 24 acres in cultivation. Beware of these small nurseries that are springing up and advertising in Big Letters by inexperienced men in the business, and who sow a few seeds and engraft them with anything that they can get, "no matter what," and sell you any variety you may want. In short when you get the Trees of them they are nine-tenths if not ten-tenths New York or southern grown trees. I warn you to beware of such persons. If you really want to grow an Orchard in this cold climate, (or, in fact, in any climate,) you had better go to the Derby Nursery on foot (if it were necessary to do so) where you can have the benefit of a man who has spent sixteen years time in propagating Apple and Crab Apple Trees of unequalled quality and hardiness, and adapted to this northern climate.

Hear what the People say about the hardiness of these Trees in the vicinity of the White Mountains, N. H.:

"I hereby certify that in the spring of 1867, I brought from the Nursery of B. Bryant, Derby Center, Vt., four apple trees, one Queen's Choice Crab, one Montreal Beauty Crab and one Gold Drop Crab, and one English apple tree they call the Peach Apple. All the Crab Apple trees have borne for two years, and the Fruit is first rate. The Peach Apple tree bore this year for the first time, and the apples measured eleven inches in circumference, and were the best eating apples I ever tasted. The tree has proved as hardy and thrifty as any of the crab apples.

HENRY A. JOSLYN."

Lancaster, N. H., Nov. 17, 1870.

"In May, 1867, I brought seven Crab Apples of James Huntoon, Agent of Mr. B. Bryant of Derby Center, Vt., and set them in my garden at Northumberland Falls, N. H. Every one lived for three years, when they were destroyed by fire. Five out of the seven bore the second year, and the third year all had apples on at the time of the fire. They were of several varieties, the Queen's Choice, Montreal Beauty, Ladies' Favorite and others. My neighborhood also had trees of Mr. Huntoon at the same time. All lived, and have borne and done nicely. I was very much pleased with mine, and could cheerfully recommend others to do as I did, and I think they will find their account in so doing.

The above statements I take from the *Northern Sentinel*, which is published at Colebrook, N. H.

Mr. O. Smith, of Smith's Mills, Stanstead, P. Q., has an orchard of several hundred trees that he bought at Bryant's Nursery, and some of them have been set out eight or ten years. In the lot there are fifty Peach Apple trees that have been set four years. All of them but two have lived and done finely, and some of them have borne fruit. He says the fruit is large, and of unequalled quality, and will bring the highest price in market of any apple he has ever tried. I could give you hundreds of names of people who have tried and praise these trees.

D. L. HOUSE.

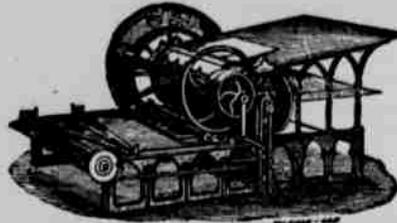
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R. CUMMINGS.

Newport, Vt., Dec. 9, 1870.

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