

Religions...

THE NORTHEASTERN Central Pennsylvania division of the Luther League of America, representing principally leagues of several Lutheran churches of Scranton, Pittston and Wilkes-Barre, held its annual convention Wednesday in Christ Evangelical Lutheran church, corner of Beaumont and Washington streets, Wilkes-Barre. Six churches were represented and twenty-six delegates were present, besides the visiting pastors and others, making in all an attendance of about fifty. The delegates from Scranton were: Trinity Church—Emma Schuler, Bessie Schuler, Lydia Huber, Clyde Kresley, William Lamping. St. Mark's Church—A. L. Ramer, Lillian Gross, Emma Walther, George Krager. Zion Church—Margaret Foster, Anna Behling, William Nesley, John Gohn. Rev. L. Ramer, pastor of St. Mark's church, this city, gave an illustrated talk on foreign missions. He stated the good results derived from this work and the great need of more of this work in foreign lands.

A song service will be conducted by Director J. M. Chance in Guernsey's music hall next Sunday afternoon at 8.45, to which all men are invited. The programme will consist of selections by the Young Men's Christian association orchestra, and songs by the male chorists, and hearty singing by all. The family meeting at the Railroad Y. M. C. A. will be addressed by Mr. Gus Niebell at 2.45 p. m. Good music led by organ and piano. Everybody welcome.

Don't forget to hear Rev. Dr. A. B. Leonard, secretary of the Methodist Missionary society at Elm Park church next Sabbath morning and evening. Dr. Leonard is a man of ability and strong conviction, and a great traveler and has been in most of the lands in which the Methodist church has missions. He was at one time a candidate for the governor's chair in the state of Ohio.

A regular meeting of the Methodist ministers of Scranton and vicinity will be held Monday morning at 10:30 in the Park church parlors. There will be election of officers and a paper on "Work of the Wyoming Conference for the Last Decade; Its Results," by Rev. V. P. Doty.

Mr. Peabody, formerly Y. M. C. A. secretary for the state of New Jersey, will conduct the gospel services at the Y. M. C. A. Sunday at 3.45. Mrs. Peabody will sing. All women and girls are most cordially invited to attend this service.

Tomorrow's Services

Methodist Episcopal.
Elm Park church—Prayer and praise service at 9.30. Preaching by the Rev. Dr. A. B. Leonard, secretary of the Missionary society. At 12 m. half hour Bible study in Sunday school room. Sunday school at 2 and Epworth league at 6.30 p. m. At 7.30 an address by Dr. Leonard.
At the Mission, 1519 Pine street, Sunday school at 9 a. m. and Epworth league at 6.30 p. m.
Swampkill Methodist Episcopal church—Rev. J. B. Sweet, D. D., pastor. Morning prayers at 8.30; preaching service, sermon by the pastor, at 10.30; Sunday school, 9. L. P. Smith, superintendent, at 11; Epworth league, Miss Crawford, superintendent, at 2.45; Epworth league, address by Mayor Moir, at 6.30; preaching service, sermon by the pastor, at 7.30. Singing by the singing quartette and full choir. All seats are free.

Evangelical Lutheran.
Evangelical Lutheran—Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity. Gospel, John 4:41-51; Epistle, 2nd Cor. 13:1-11. Preaching at 10.30 a. m. by Rev. A. L. Ramer, Ph. D., pastor. Services at 10.30 a. m., 7.30 p. m.; Luther league, 6.30 p. m.

Sunday School Lesson for November 4.
INTRODUCTION.—Many expositors have found much difficulty in attempting to interpret the Scripture applied for this lesson. Some of them, Cajetan for example, have declared that the sense was obscure and have abandoned all hope of solution. These scholars fell into one common mistake—they supposed that the parable was related by Jesus to set forth something in the steward which He desired to commend to His disciples. Whereas, His object was just the reverse—to exhibit a course of life from which He would deliver them. The passage must be divided into two parts. The first part, Verses 1 to 8, the parable, exhibits a man who is unfaithful in the second part, Verses 9 to 13, contains the practical advice or instruction of Jesus, suggested by the parable, designed to secure faithfulness in business on the part of His followers. The concrete negative is followed by the abstract positive. The two taken together make an admirable address on a Christian man's obligation to be upright in secular matters. Probably the subject is treated here more completely than in any other portion of God's word.

DISMISSED (Verse 1 and 2).—The steward of a rich man was summarily discharged for dishonesty. Evidently he had been greatly trusted. As was customary in eastern countries he had general charge of all things, acting freely without direction of his master. His great was the confidence imposed that no supervision was exercised and it was a long time before the wrong doing became known. He had taken advantage of his opportunity and used the property of his employer in a prodigal way, so that the attention of the servants and friends was attracted. It may be assumed that he was not so badly off as he appeared, but at last prompted by a meddlesome spirit, by malice or by a sincere love for justice, they made known what to them was a case of scandal. The proprietor called his faithful employees, openly accused him of his fault, required a settlement of affairs, and announced his dismissal from service. The guilty man had been overjoyed by this dismissal. His sin always brings a man to grief (Prov. xi: 31).

RESOLVED (Verse 3 and 4).—Out of position, deprived of his support, how shall the steward obtain a livelihood? The question was involved in much difficulty because of his career. A man's record is a large part of his capital. He knew that he was not to be trusted in a place requiring honesty, and he was aware that because of his former mode of life he was unable to engage as a common laborer, where he could start afresh. He was in a place that of being, was not entertained for a moment, he was ashamed to descend to that degraded station. He does not appear to have considered the act of stealing—he was in no danger of becoming a criminal. But after some reflection he resolved upon his course. He would make friends of the neighbors round about those who had business relations with his old master, so that their sympathies would be with him and not with their creditor. In this way he would be able to enter into the homes of the rich and there to work out a plan of a device devised in a time of great adversity.

DECEASED (Verse 5 to 7).—But how shall the steward make friends with the old debtor?

p. m.; Sunday school, 11 m. Preparatory service Saturday, 7.30 p. m. Morning subject, "The Festivities of an Italian Festival." The following Sunday school will participate in the evening service. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the morning service.
Holy Trinity, 10th and Mulberry streets—Rev. C. G. Spieker, pastor. Services, 10.30 a. m., 7.30 p. m.; Luther league, 6.30 p. m.; Sunday school, 11 m. Both morning and evening sermons will be by Rev. J. H. Thompson. The Sunday school will take part in the evening service.

St. Paul's, Short avenue—Rev. W. C. L. Lauer, pastor. Services at 10.30 a. m., 7.30 p. m.; Sunday school, 2.30 p. m. At 7.30 p. m. a service will be held at the home of Mrs. J. H. Thompson, 7.30, basement of Welsh Baptist church. All are welcome.

St. David's Parish—Rev. Edward James Henry, pastor. Celebrations of Holy Eucharist, 7.30 and 10.30; evening and sermon, 7.30; Sunday school, 2.30.
Christ Church, Cedar avenue and Beech street—Rev. James Witke, pastor. Services at 10.30 a. m., 7.30 p. m.; Sunday school, 2 p. m. The Reformation festival will be observed. Holy Communion at 10.30 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. The Young People's society will render a programme in the evening.
St. Peter's, Prescott avenue—Rev. J. W. Randolph, pastor. Services at 10.30 a. m., 7.30 p. m.; Sunday school, 2 p. m. The Lutheran churches will celebrate the Reformation festival at tomorrow's services.

Episcopal.
Grace church (Reformed Episcopal)—Services at 10.30 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Bishop Nicholson will preach at both services and administer the rite of confirmation. Sunday school at noon.
Calvary Reformed church, Monroe avenue and Gilroy street—Rev. M. L. Fior, pastor. Service Sunday morning, 10.30 p. m.; evening, 7.30 p. m. Morning services conducted by Rev. George G. Sanborn, of the Rescue mission. Evening prayer service, Sunday school, 11.45; prayer meeting, Wednesday, 8 p. m.
All Souls' Episcopal church, Pine street, between Adams and Jefferson avenues—Rev. O. R. Beardsley, pastor. Residence, 629 Adams avenue. Morning service, 10.30; subject, "From the Shambles Into the Light of the Gospel," 7.30, subject, "The Complete Life." Sunday school at 11.50. Mrs. S. Benjamin, superintendent. You will find a welcome to all our services.

Miscellaneous.
Catholic Reformed church, Monroe avenue and Gilroy street—Rev. M. L. Fior, pastor. Service Sunday morning, 10.30 p. m.; evening, 7.30 p. m. Morning services conducted by Rev. George G. Sanborn, of the Rescue mission. Evening prayer service, Sunday school, 11.45; prayer meeting, Wednesday, 8 p. m.
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MUSICAL GOSSIP.
Miss Fanchon Thompson made her American debut as Carmen at the Metropolitan Opera house on Tuesday evening. The raising of the curtain was delayed until 8.30 o'clock, as she was said to be suffering from a nervous chill, but she showed no evidence of nervousness in her performance. She did not, however, appear as announced in the same opera on Thursday night, her place being taken by Selma Kronold. On Wednesday "Faust" was sung, with Lloyd W. Austin, Miss Ethel, Marguerite, and William Whitehill as Mephistopheles, and William Clark as Valentine. This was much the best representation this opera has had by this company. Next week the "Nightingale" will be sung every evening, and at the Wednesday and Saturday matinees, a double cast alternating during the week. "The little maids from Arden" will be Zella De Lanza, Grace Golden and Louise Metcalfe, and for the part of Koko Digby Bell has been specially engaged.

He Had Been Caught.
From the Philadelphia Press.
Willie (glancing up from his book)—Pa, what is a "man-trap"?
I know, my son, the most effective man-trap I've seen is an old-fashioned rocking chair in a dark room.

The Unjust Steward.
Luke xvi, 1-13.
BY J. E. Gilbert, D.D.
Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

TRUSTED (Verses 10 to 13).—That the foregoing is the true meaning of Jesus in Verse 9 will appear to those who read the parable in Verse 10, 11 and 12. He comes out here in the plainest terms and commends faithfulness by several allusions. First, one must be careful not to suppose that Jesus intended to say that there he will be untrue in great things. Here is advice touching the secret of most temptations. Second, these earthly or temporal things bear a direct relation to heavenly and eternal things. Falling in the handling of the former prevents the securing of the latter. Man's condition is such that he blunts those powers that look upward when he wrings out those that look downward. Who will be able to correct the injury thus effected? Third, faithfulness in regard to what belongs to another man prevents a due estimate of what belongs to one's self, and therefore diminishes the value of one's possessions. Who will be able to overcome this law in human nature? All these three directions strike at the very secret springs of action, and suggest what is of supreme importance in all intercourse with men. The elaboration of the instruction would be attended with much profit.

COMMENDED (Verse 8).—Now comes into the narrative a surprising element, over which some have stumbled. The lord, that is the rich man who had been entrusted with the property, is relating the incident, as some suppose, on learning what the steward had done, commended the act, and Jesus adds that the children of this world are wiser than the children of light. The sense would be better expressed if the word wiser were translated more cunning. The rich man acknowledged that his unfaithful steward was prudent and shrewd in his conduct. It was all the more offensive, because it was done solely in his own interest. He robbed his master, whose goods he had squandered, and did this in the face of his master's rebuke. He might thereby gain for himself some consideration in the minds of the men whom he had favored. That the plan would work there could be no doubt, for the shrewdness of the men that they readily take advantage of such pecuniary gains. It may be that the steward made a definite bargain by which to secure his end.

CONCLUSION.—Our lesson pertains to the every day life of a follower of Christ. It enjoins faithfulness to worldly trusts and honesty in money transactions. It commends the earnest seeking of friendship among the ungodly by such noble character and innocent conduct as will win approval. It asserts that danger lies in disregarding little things, and that the earthly and temporal involve the heavenly and eternal. It shows that the heart is the seat and source of the outward life and must be single in its aims and purposes. It that a divided heart, resulting in an attempt at double service, will bring disaster. Hereafter let us not say, as some have said, that the religion of Jesus has no more to do with the world and relations that He all about us in this world. Jesus came to set up here a kingdom of righteousness and he invites men to become his disciples. They may know how to live as they follow him. His words are full of wisdom, and, if applied, human society would be speedily re-constructed and men would become good and blessed.

AS VIEWED IN WASHINGTON.

An Estimate of the Services of Congressman Connell.
The following personal letter, received by the editor of this paper from a well-known correspondent at the national capital, not being intended for publication, sheds all the more light upon the subject of which it treats:

Washington, D. C., Oct. 25.—To the people in Washington who know Representative Connell, his defeat in the pending election, happily not regarded possible, would seem little short of a miracle. From the moment that he is entitled to the earnest support of every Republican voter and every other voter, independently of party affiliation, in the Eleventh Congressional District, he is entitled to their confidence and respect. His private and public life in Washington has been above reproach as a citizen, conscientious, loyal, as a representative, he has been diligent, untiring, prompt in the discharge of his official duties. The most exacting committee work always found him, whether sick or well, at his post.

It was inadvisable in this sphere of usefulness he was always at work, and people ought to understand that committee work, when conscientiously performed, is the most arduous and vexatious of all congressional work. It is an obligation that very few representatives in Congress respect, because it does not count with the people. The average member of Congress wants to make a speech and he wants to make several speeches. He seeks time through the broad columns of the Congressional Record. He may spend his days and nights in riotous living. He may be an exemplar in everything that discredits private or public life, but a speech in the Record covers a multitude of flagrant transgressions.

Mr. Connell was not of this sort. His days and nights were spent in studying public questions and in unceasingly that committee work, in his constituency. People here who knew him intimately say that he never knew an idle moment. No man in Congress has been more punctual in his attendance at the Capitol than he. Whatever the weather, whatever the occasion, whatever the condition of his health, he was in his seat in the house or employed in important and vexatious committee work.

Fidelity to duty was the first consideration with him. For that reason he found no idle moments. That he has discharged conscientiously every obligation as a representative cannot be disputed.

So well it is known in Washington that his defeat would be accepted as a public calamity. His high character and his culture, his broad-mindedness, his catholic spirit, his unselfishness, his excellent judgment attracted the personal friendship of President McKinley. He trusted him with his confidence, sought his opinion, relied upon his judgment and he was an oft invited and always welcome guest at the White House.

Mr. Connell's real usefulness in public life has just begun. The Eleventh district ought to send him back to Congress without opposition. The interests of the people, it seems to one who knows Mr. Connell, demand his re-election. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," should be a platform enough for every voter in his district next Tuesday.

Vote for Thomas P. Daniels for clerk of the courts.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW MONUMENT

Circular Letter Issued by the Committees in Charge with Reference to the Celebration.
The Grand Army of the Republic committees which have in charge the arrangements for the dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument on the Court House square, on Nov. 15, has issued the following circular letter: Headquarters Committee on Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, Scranton, Pa., Oct. 30, 1900.

A most earnest and cordial invitation is hereby extended to you to participate in the exercises incident to the unveiling and dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' monument in Scranton, Pa., on November 15.

The monument stands in Court House square, Scranton, Pa., and is the finest memorial shaft in this state. It was erected by the county of Lackawanna. The committee will be under the immediate direction of the Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Veterans of Lackawanna county.

It is intended that this shall be one of the most impressive occasions in the military history of Lackawanna county, and the committee would be more than pleased to have you participate in making it such.

A grand military parade will be held at 1 p. m. on day of dedication, November 15, 1900, and in addition to the Grand Army of the Republic division other divisions composed of Sons of Veterans and National Guards. The committee feel safe in stating that the Ninth and Thirtieth regiments, National Guard of Pennsylvania, will be in line on that day.

The day is to be one of general reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Sons of Veterans. Prominent orators will be present: Governor James H. Smith; Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, Charles Miller and staff, and division commander of the Sons of Veterans, S. S. Horn and staff, are expected to be with us and review the grand parade.

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