

The Hand THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE rules the world. But few appreciate the danger to which the expectant mother is exposed, and the foreboding with which she looks forward to the hour of approaching motherhood. By the use of "Mother's Friend" the body is made to yield pleasantly to the change. Headache and nausea are dispelled, the depressed and nervous feeling yields to one of hopeful expectation. Danger to life of mother is avoided, and she passes through the trial quickly and her recovery is rapid.

"Mother's Friend" the body is made to yield pleasantly to the change. Headache and nausea are dispelled, the depressed and nervous feeling yields to one of hopeful expectation. Danger to life of mother is avoided, and she passes through the trial quickly and her recovery is rapid.

CONVERSION. The Distinguishing Feature of Every Religion.

To the Editor of The Times—It was with a timid hand that I presented the former article on the above subject, not knowing whether it would be accepted or rejected. I knew, I would be coming before giants, so to speak, before men who have, perhaps, given it double the thought that I have. In the face of all this I would do—in short, they cannot do my work. To say the least, some reader may give this subject a more thorough study than he has heretofore. I am aware of my own insufficiency and my own unworthiness, but in the face of all this, I do not know that it should deter me.

I have received mercy and grace from Him alone who is able to bestow it, and it remains a question as to whether I continue therein, or grow unmindful of my high privileges and mingle again with the dissipated and sinful.

It will be seen, then, that the object of last week's article was to ascertain from a Bible standpoint what a Christian conversion, in its full sense, implies. Conversion means, as Webster has it: "In a general sense a turning or changing from one state to another," but one of his definitions of the word "convert" is very suggestive and worthy of a place just here—"To turn from a bad life to a good one; to change the heart and moral character from enmity to God and from vicious habits, to love of God and a holy life." So we see that it is not only renouncing a former course and acquiescing in another, but it implies a life of obedience as well. He that grounds the arms of his rebellion, forsakes the devil's ranks and joins the army of the Lord, if he fails to equip himself and fight the Lord's battles, is hardly half converted, to say the least of it. Two of the most fearful warnings in the Bible are "the handles of the plow," and "Lot's wife." The Lord have mercy upon and save us weak, indifferent and forgetful Christians.

During the World's Fair a conference was held, if I mistake not, representing the different leading religions of the world to ascertain whether they could not be made to harmonize. It was said that R. G. Ingersoll was among them, and yet confronted him with the Christian religion and he opposes it. Why? Because there is something in it that hits at the very roots of sin. Did you ever notice that infidels and men of "liberal thought," so called, are ready to attack the doctrines of the Bible. The devil hates conversion, for he well knows that when it is genuine that it means much more than a mere turning and a change of the mind. He knows that the convert is no longer held by him in the chains of sin, that he has lost one of his faithful subjects, and that his cause is weakened. Here is and always will be the hottest battle ground between religion and the world, Christ and the devil. Every earnest and faithful pastor knows this well. They have seen that when the Spirit of the Lord was present to convict and turn men, then it was that the battle grew strong between the army of the Lord and the hosts of sin.

At the outset I had a purpose in writing on the present subject, but it now seems that I am rather slow in completing it. I think that it will be plainly seen that to be a truly converted person that it implies a complete and entire surrender of soul, body and mind to the cause of Christ. This requires the full extent of every faculty of mind and soul of which the individual is capable. Having done this, he is saved from all sin, he is renewed by the blood of the everlasting covenant and his feet placed in the path that leads to heaven. But he is only a babe in Christ and must grow stronger day by day, by receiving "the sincere milk of the word." This is the plan of Christian growth. As to any one special blessing in accomplishing this I am wholly unprepared to give anything bearing on the subject.

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12-inch Rowlet's Champion Lawn Mower . . . 2.50

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Among the Churches

Christ Church—Regular services at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sunday-school at 9:30 a. m.
St. John's Church—Sunday services, 11 a. m., Holy Communion and sermon; 7 p. m., twilight prayers.
Second Presbyterian—Services at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by the pastor, Rev. R. C. Anderson, Jr. Sunday-school at 3:30 p. m.

St. Paul's Reformed—Services at 11 a. m. by the pastor, Rev. Lewis Reiter. No services at night. Sunday school at 3 p. m.
Woodside Presbyterian—Sermon at 3:30 p. m. by Rev. A. S. Rachal. Sunday-school at 2:30 p. m., D. K. Ammen, superintendent.

Bethany Reformed—Sermon at 11 a. m. by Rev. A. S. Rachal. Sunday-school at 3 p. m., J. A. Timberlake, superintendent.
Jefferson Street Baptist Church—Services at Sheridan's hall at 11 a. m. and 8:15 p. m. by the pastor, Rev. Wm. Lunsford. Sunday-school at 9:30 a. m.
Robert Moorman Mission—This Sunday-school meets at Melrose hall on Park street at 3 p. m. Mr. W. R. Hesser is superintendent. All are cordially invited.

Railroad Y. M. C. A.—Jesse Blanton will speak to railroad men and their families this afternoon at 3:30 in the grove north of the Railroad Y. M. C. A. building. All are cordially invited.
First Presbyterian—Preaching at 11 a. m. by Rev. S. M. Firey, and at 8 p. m. by Rev. A. S. Rachal. Sunday-school meets at 9:30 a. m., W. S. McClanahan, superintendent.

St. Mark's—Services at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, corner Commerce and Church streets, at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Christian Endeavor service at 7:15 p. m. Sunday-school at 9:30 a. m. Strangers specially welcome. Seats free.
Calvary Baptist—Dr. Henry W. Battle, of Petersburg, will preach at Calvary Baptist Church morning and night at the usual hours. Dr. Battle comes to Roanoke highly recommended as a pulpit orator, and it is hoped that he will be greeted by a large congregation.

First Baptist Church—The pastor, Rev. Thomas J. Shipman, will preach morning and evening at the usual hours. This is the pastor's first anniversary. At the morning service an account of the year's work will be submitted. The pastor desires to meet every member of the church and congregation at the morning service specially.
St. James—Preaching at St. James M. E. Church, South, at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by the pastor, Rev. H. I. Stephens. Morning subject, "Two Men Who Turned the World Upside Down," evening subject, "The Despised Birthright." Sunday-school at 9:30 a. m., E. S. McNamee, superintendent. The pastor has a special class for strangers.

United Brethren—At the United Brethren Church at 11 a. m. the pastor, Rev. S. L. Rice, will preach a special sermon to the church on "Loyalty to Church, God and Self." At 8 p. m. the sermon will be a special one on "Modes of Christian Baptism." Sunday-school at 9:45 a. m., M. L. Avis, superintendent.
Y. P. C. U. gospel meeting at 6:45 p. m. Lee Street Church—The following is the programme of services at Lee Street M. E. Church to-day: At 10 a. m. class meeting; 11 a. m. preaching by the pastor, Rev. E. G. Hutchinson, subject, "Justification." Also services at 8 p. m., subject, "Ground of the Christian's Joy." Sunday-school at 2:30 p. m., H. F. Roberts, superintendent. A cordial welcome to all.

Grace Church—There will be preaching at Grace Church at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by the pastor, Rev. Charles D. Bulla. Subject for the morning sermon, "Ourselves and Others;" evening subject, "Standing in the Way of Others." Members received at the morning service. Sunday-school at 9:30 a. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

VINTON CHURCHES.

There will be preaching at the Methodist Church at 11 a. m. and 8:15 p. m. Communion service will be immediately after the morning sermon. Epworth League Prayer meeting at 7:30 p. m. Preaching at the Presbyterian Church this afternoon at 3 o'clock, by Rev. K. C. Anderson, of the Second Presbyterian Church.

ROANOKE DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

The Coming Sessions of This Body at Newport, Giles County.
Rev. B. F. Ball, presiding elder for the M. E. Church, South, of the Roanoke district, was in the city Friday and left yesterday for Newport, Giles county, where the district conference will meet next Wednesday. Mr. Ball is president of the conference and will preside over its deliberations. A large attendance is expected, as the place is admirably suited for a few days' outing. The opening session will be held on Wednesday morning next at 9 o'clock, in the church at Newport, and will close on the Thursday following. The opening sermon will be preached on Tuesday night previous by Rev. J. E. Armstrong, of Salem.

The Roanoke district is composed of Roanoke city and county, Craig, Botetourt and Montgomery, and portions of the counties of Rockbridge and Giles. There are 22 charges in this district, 7 traveling preachers, 15 local preachers, and 7,589 lay members. There are 56 church edifices, valued at \$743,000 and 18 parsonages valued at \$3,500. There are also in the district 20 Epworth Leagues with more than 1,000 members; 56 Sunday-schools with 600 officers and teachers and 4,723 scholars.

The membership in the district conference comprises all traveling and local preachers within its bounds, and in addition to these laymen are represented as follows: 22 recording stewards, 22 Sunday-school delegates, and 44 delegates from the various charges. The principal business of the conference is the consideration of the spiritual state of the church, Sunday-schools and Epworth Leagues, and to recommend applicants to the annual conference for license to preach. The present session promises to be interesting and profitable. It is the last session of this conference over which Rev. B. F. Ball will preside, as his time as presiding elder will expire next March. He has done excellent work throughout his district during the four years he has filled that position. Most all the weak charges have been greatly strengthened, and Methodists all over the district hold him in high esteem.

CASTORIA. The face-stall of Chat. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper. Breakfast, 25 cents; dinner, 25 cents; supper 25 cents. Meal tickets) M. J. Catogni's restaurant.

STREET OF SPIDERS.

CURIOUS DISCOVERIES MADE IN A FLORIDA THICKET. Immense Webs Woven by Yellow Spiders. A Mysterious Disappearance Explained. A Fruitlike Crab—Tricks of Nature Protect the Defenseless.

Once, in attempting to force my way through the thick bay cedar underbrush of one of the smaller and outer keys of the Florida reef I suddenly broke into an opening which had the appearance of a narrow street or trail. The brush was six or eight feet in height and remarkably thick, and the heat was intolerable. The branches and leaves which were interlaced formed a perfect network and gave shelter to innumerable crabs, which had taken possession of old birds' nests, while under foot the eggs and newly hatched terns almost covered the ground.

Once in the opening or street it was found to be about seven feet across, winding away out of sight, but my way was blocked by several curious obstacles—a succession of webs stretched vertically across the pathway at intervals of five or six feet. They were of extraordinary strength and were thrown out and poised in a marvelous manner. In the center of each of these silken barriers hung a huge yellow spider, so ugly and conspicuous that I stopped before the first doubting the evidence of my eyes, and as I looked the first yellow spider of the series disappeared. There was no doubt about it. At first so striking and gaudy, it slowly faded away, and through the web I could see other yellow spiders beyond, suggesting that it was no illusion.

While I stood wondering in the hot sun the spider solved the mystery by appearing again, first dimly, then like many spiders quivering in the strong light, finally resolving itself into one huge yellow fellow that moved like a pendulum to and fro and then stopped. I touched it gently with a switch I held, whereupon it deliberately began to swing its huge body, imparting to the entire web a vibratory motion which increased in rapidity until the body of the spider began to grow fainter, and in a few moments became invisible. It was all very simple when understood. The spider when alarmed began to swing, gradually increasing the motion until it disappeared or could not be followed by the eye. Thinking the case might be exceptional, I again touched the spider, and again it literally swung itself out of sight.

Crawling beneath the web, I confronted the next spider, which also was yellow or saffron in color, with black, velvetlike markings, hanging in the sun like a great topaz, its web dotted with the remains of many feasts—empty skeletons of insects, bits of pearly fish scales, perhaps dropped by some passing bird, a delicate feather and a motley array of flies and other insect folk. At first the spider paid me scant attention, then I saw a slight convulsive movement of its legs as it imparted the first long swing to its hammocklike web that put this wonderful life saving device, for this it was, in motion. It was the spider's defense and protection from enemies.

Certain birds undoubtedly preyed upon the spiders, and this faculty of mysteriously disappearing had on more than one occasion served it well. I could easily imagine the astonishment of the bird when darting down to seize the plump and showy spider to find that it had slipped away.

There was much in this street of yellow spiders to distract the mind from the intense heat that poured down from the almost vertical sun. In the middle of the path, beyond a turn, grew a clump of cactus, with here and there a ripe fruit rich in the purple of full maturity—a brilliant contrast to the green leaves. As I stood watching the hermit crabs dropping from the bushes and scurrying away over the sand I thought I saw a ripe fruit of the cactus move; then, to my amazement, it passed directly out of sight, not after the fashion of the spiders, but by slipping around one of the big leaves. I almost expected to see the others follow it, but nothing of the kind occurred. I walked along and placed myself in a position to see behind the broad, flat, pear shaped leaf. There was the purple object, now moving cautiously around with the evident intention of keeping itself out of sight, and then I saw that it was a crab, a crab with a purple back the exact tint of the fruit, while its general shape, when the legs were tucked up beneath the body, made the crab a mimic of the cactus fruit, a protective resemblance so perfect that the crab was safe from sharp eyed enemies, and I should have passed it by had it remained quiet, but the phenomenon of moving fruit attracted my attention and led to its discovery.

For some distance I followed this street of spiders, creeping beneath the webs when I could, and everywhere these tricks of nature to protect the defenseless were apparent. The eggs of the gulls simulated the sand in color; the little mantis, which clung to the big cedar, was the exact tint of the leaves and defied detection until accidentally brushed off. Over all life in the secluded spot nature had thrown her protecting mantle of mimicry.—New York Post.

Too Crude.

Medical Editor—This will never do, Jones. You write here of "a pen dipped in gall." We've given up gall. Make it "a pen charged with dangerous septicaemia."—Pick Me Up.

The man who tries to turn out to the left always goes home with an impression that the streets are filled by crowds of boorish persons.—Milwaukee Journal.

I have always thought that what was good was only what was beautiful put in action.—Rousseau.

Fresh Pineapples in to-day, sweet and luscious. Direct from the Florida pine groves. J. J. CATOGNI.



The lion-hunter needs steady nerves. If he misses the lion's eye, his life is surely lost. The lion-hunter is not the only man who needs steady nerves. The business man nowadays needs them. He must have them if he would bear the strain of business competition and be successful. A man with shaky nerves stands a mighty poor show in the business world of to-day, where he must hit the bull's-eye of fierce competition many times in a day. Steady nerves are cured upon pure blood, and to have pure blood one must have a perfect digestion.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery goes to the seat of the trouble. It is not a sedative. It makes the nerves steady by furnishing them with proper nutrition. It corrects all disorders of the digestion. It invigorates the liver. It makes the blood rich and pure in nutrition. The nerves receive their proper nourishment from the blood and soon become strong and steady. Business men recognize the value of the "Golden Medical Discovery" and thousands have testified to its virtues. Druggists sell it.

"Having suffered for several years with indigestion," writes Samuel Walker, Esq., of Parkersburg, Chester Co., Pa., "I concluded to try your valuable Golden Medical Discovery. After taking five bottles I was entirely cured. I also suffered from bladder trouble, which was cured by the 'Discovery.' I feel like a new man."

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Comfortable dwelling No. 712 Campbell avenue s. w.; lot 91x275 feet to an alley, 10 rooms, bath room and stable. Originally sold for \$10,000; present price \$4,000.

Very desirable dwelling No. 316 John street s. w., 10 rooms, good stables, necessary outside buildings, lot 50x150; \$3,000. Nice 6-room cottage No. 8 Trout avenue s. w., lot 50x150, \$1,500.

Dwelling No. 366 Eighth avenue s. w., lot 50x150, \$1,500. Three story brick building on Shenandoah avenue, near freight depot, now used, first floor as a bottling works, and second and third as shop and dwelling, \$5,000.

6-room dwelling, No. 517 Fourth street n. e., very cheap and convenient to Roanoke Machine Works, \$700. 8-room dwelling, n. s. Belmont avenue s. e., lot 93x130 feet; beautiful location, \$2,000.

8-room dwelling, 141-2 Lee street n. e., lot 50x200 feet, \$1,500. 8-room dwelling, 509 Luck avenue, lot 34x90 feet, very cheap, \$2,000.

6-room dwelling, 927 Shenandoah avenue n. w., lot 25x130, \$800. 6-room dwelling, 427 Elmwood street s. e., lot 40x130, a bargain, \$450.

8-room dwellings, 924, 930 and 932 Center street, lots 25x130, all three desirable located and very cheap, \$1,100. 6-room dwelling, 711 Gilmer street n. w., lot 40x130, nice location; a bargain, \$1,100.

Vacant lot on Jefferson street, 25x170 feet, near marble yard, formally worth \$6,000; price \$2,500. Peck Hotel, on Salem avenue, near Academy of Music, 24 rooms, a bargain, price \$2,500.

Two story frame building, 8 rooms, 450 feet east of F street, fronting on Campbell avenue s. w., lot 50x233 feet. This is a very cheap and desirable property. Price \$3,000.

A very desirable 8-room dwelling, 801 Roanoke street s. w., good outside building, hot and cold water, bath, etc., lot 50x150, a bargain, \$2,500.

House and lot, 8 rooms, north side Melrose avenue n. w., lot 75x210 feet, a most desirable home, price \$1,800. Two-story frame building, 612 Sixth avenue n. w., very nicely located, 6-room house, price \$1,200.

Two-story 6-room houses, Nos. 525 and 527 Eighth avenue s. w. This property would be cheap at \$1,400; price, each, \$1,250.

10-room dwelling, 315 Randolph street, near Roanoke and Southern depot, formerly sold for \$2,000, price \$1,150. 6-room cottage, No. 420 Ninth avenue s. w., \$1,300.

10-room two-story dwelling, No. 375 Eleventh avenue s. w., an elegant property, none better, lot 50x130, \$3,500. 12-room two story dwelling, 379 Eleventh avenue s. w., new house worth \$4,500, lot 50x130, price, \$3,500.

10-room two story dwelling, 377 Eleventh avenue s. w., one of the cheapest houses in the city, lot 50x130, \$3,000. Two-story frame building on Washington street, east of G, a beauty, all modern improvements, 7 rooms, very cheap, \$2,700.

Two-story frame dwelling, 1116 South Jefferson street, worth \$3,500, price \$2,800.

Two nice and commodious dwellings, 511 and 513 Luck street, \$1,800 and \$2,000. Two cottages on Shenandoah avenue, Nos. 1021 and 1023, 6 rooms, each \$80.

18-room dwelling, 31 Seventh avenue s. w., worth \$7,000, price \$5,500. 15-room dwelling, No. 364 Campbell avenue s. w. The cheapest property now on the market; just elegant, \$5,500.

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10-room house on Church avenue, \$30.

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Large store-room, Salem avenue, excellent stand, \$30.

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T. W. GOODWIN, Agent. Farms, Farms, Farms!

One of the best grain and blue grass farms in Southwest Virginia, 550 acres; 135 acres in fine creek bottom; 50 acres good timber; balance in blue grass sod; fine orchard of improved fruits of all kinds; an abundance of good spring water with a large creek running through the place; large dwelling with necessary out buildings and fencing, all in good condition; with the very best social, church and school advantages, three miles from a thriving town, 6 miles from railroad. Price \$20 per acre; terms easy. 190 acres 3 1/2 miles from Roanoke; good improvements; fine barn; one third in timber. The land is thin, but is level and easily improved. Splendid bargain at \$2,150.

300 acres, 20 miles from Roanoke, on railroad, 100 acres river bottom, 100 acres in timber, fine water, good improvements. 5,000 nice locust posts can be cut now; the bottom land is worth \$100 per acre. Farm must be sold and can be bought for \$7,000 in next sixty days.

125 acres, 3 1/2 miles from Roanoke, well watered, plenty of timber, for \$15 per acre.

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180 acres land, plenty of timber, splendid 8-room brick dwelling, \$3,750.

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A beautiful farm, with good improvements, in sight of Roanoke city. First-class land at a great bargain.

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50 acres, a comfortable dwelling, good barn, well fenced, good water and fruit. Price \$550.

60 acres of good land, well located, very large young orchard. Price \$2,500. This is only a partial list of the farms we have for sale, any of which we will be glad to show at any time. Full description sent by mail at request. Correspondence solicited.

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