

the fact of godliness, abandonment of discipline, a hireling ministry, an impure gospel, which summed up is a fashionable church. That Methodists should be liable to such an outcome, and that there should be signs of it in a hundred years from the 'sail loft' seems almost the miracle of history, but who that looks about him today can fail to see the fact?

Do not Methodists, in violation of God's Word and their own discipline, dress as extravagantly and as fashionably as any class? Do not the ladies, and often the wives and daughters of the ministry, put on 'gold and pearls and costly array?' Would not the plain dress insisted upon by John Wesley, Bishop Asbury, and worn by Hester Ann Rogers, Lady Huntingdon, and many other equally distinguished, be now regarded in Methodist circles as fanaticism? Can any one going into the Methodist church in any of our chief cities distinguish the attire of the communicants from that of the theater and ball goers? Is not worldliness seen in the music? Elaborately dressed and ornamental choirs, who in many cases make no profession of religion and are often sneering skeptics, go through a cold, artistic or operatic performance, which is as much in harmony with spiritual worship as an opera or theater. Under such worldly performances, spirituality is frozen to death.

"Formerly every Methodist attended class and gave testimony of experimental religion. Now the class-meeting is attended by very few, and in many churches abandoned. Seldom the stewards, trustees, and leaders of the church attend class.

Formerly nearly every Methodist prayed, testified, or exhorted in prayer-meeting. Now but very few are heard. Formerly shouts and praises were heard; now such demonstrations of holy enthusiasm and joy are regarded as fanaticism.

"Worldly socials, fairs, festivals, concerts, and such like have taken the place of the religious gatherings, revival meetings, class and prayer-meeting of earlier days."

Many of their preachers are members of lodges who cast out Christ, when the Scriptures tell us that in all things Christ should have the pre-eminence. They are lodge loaded, oaths, obligations that are wrong, dances, and many other evils are indulged and tolerated. All these crush out spiritual life and destroy piety. No distinction between the nominal church and the world is noticeable. They dress alike, talk alike, walk in the same ways, and will likely share the same abode in the future world.

### Personals and Notes.

Rev. A. J. Ware sent us seventeen subscriptions from Albion, Washington, last week.

Mrs. Cora Leow and Mrs. Howe are attending Bishop Barkley's conferences on the Pacific coast.

At the meeting of the Board of Managers of the W. M. A. in Findlay, Ohio, Mrs. H. C. Foote was elected temperance secretary.

J. E. Brehm who resides near Junction City, Ohio, visited Huntington last week. He wants to send his son to Central College.

Do not forget the meeting on the fourth of July at Alfordton, Williams county, Ohio. Rev. E. C. Mason and Dr. Baldwin will preach there.

Dr. Dillon is engaged to attend and speak at St. Pauls church, two miles south of Gilboa, Ohio. This is in the Sandusky conference, on the field served by Rev. W. Balmer.

Rev. J. E. Harwood writes us that Rev. L. Stevens of Matherton, North Michigan conference is very sick, and will likely soon pass the silent river to the better land.

Rev. E. C. Mason preached on the Rivar circuit, in the Auglaize conference last Sabbath. Brother Mason is engaged to preach July 14th, near Strasburg, Tuscarawas county, Ohio.

Rev. N. J. Clay of Hicksville, Ohio, reports a good quarterly meeting with two seekers of salvation at the altar. Fifteen were baptised. They had a glorious day June 23, 1912. He sends two new subscribers for our paper.

Rev. F. W. Bretschinger of Leocompton, Kansas, goes this week to Glencoe, Oklahoma, and with Rev. Harry Smith will hold a ten days meeting in connection with the quarterly meeting there. His district is large but he sees omens of good that encourages him.

Two inquiries have come to our office, the past week, from persons living in Ashtabula county, Ohio, wanting to know whether we have any societies in that county. So far as we know we have none, but have some members there who should form societies.

This week we give children's letters, and a beautiful piece of poetry, for the children by Rev. Anna B. Reis. Our children's letters are like the old style mills, on small streams, they had to wait for a head of water. So we wait till enough accumulates to make a page.

Rev. S. J. Potter had to resign his field on account of ill health, but is holding a little Sabbath-school where he re-

sides, in the home of his wife's brother. He says we have good reports from the brethren concerning the Publishing House and the present officials. We hope he will soon be able to resume work in his conference.

The Presbyterians report 3,000 churches without pastors. What is the difference whether their churches have pastors or have none, if their creed is true, that God has fixed the exact number to be saved and lost, from all eternity, without any foresight of faith or good works in the creature, or anything else as conditions thereto, then all effort is useless, and misspent time. Their creed needs changing.

Judge Fawcett, of Brooklyn, recently made the statement that he had tried approximately 2,700 cases in his court, and that he had never tried a man who was at the time of the alleged offense an active member of the church. He also said that rarely, almost never, were the parties to a divorce suit active church workers. One Judge said he had not sentenced an active Sunday-school scholar. Christianity is a shield against trouble, a protection against crime, a panacea against the ills of life.

We find the following admixture of defiled religion and iniquity in an exchange:

"The Congregational church of Pelican Rapids has decided to cease opposing dancing and card parties and a new and novel idea has been adopted, with a view to bringing these popular amusements under Christianizing influences.

"Dancing and card parties are hereafter to be arranged under the auspices of church leaders, and the plan is to begin the evening's pleasures by repeating the Lord's prayer, all standing during the prayer.

"The social evening is then enjoyed, and the dancing and card playing cease at an early hour. Light refreshments are then served, hymns are sung and the evening closes by all standing and repeating the Christian Endeavor benediction.

"The idea was evolved by one of the deacons, and it is believed it will awaken spiritual interest in the church and at the same time bring about a clean dance and non-gambling card playing."

We suggest a song for this mixture expressing the character of the participants. To good and evil I am equal bent I am both a devil and a saint. The truth is that with this arrangement there is no loss of piety, nor any compromise, such churches are not pious in any degree, they are wholly worldly and entirely destitute of salvation. Bishop McElvain said a Christian has no desire to dance. This congregationalist church is far worse than the world, and the people of the world ought to be ashamed to associate with them.