

The Christian Conservator

AD Official and Family Newspaper issued by the
Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

Published Weekly at Huntington, Indiana
\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

WILLIAM DILLON, D. D. - Editor
E. C. MASON - - - Agent

All written articles or other matter sent for publication in THE CHRISTIAN CONSERVATOR should be addressed to the Editor, William Dillon, D. D., Huntington, Ind.

All business letters must be addressed to E. C. Mason, Agent, Huntington, Ind. Write all names distinctly. In changing your address, give the old as well as the new address.

ADVERTISEMENTS. We will not knowingly insert advertisements of any immoral or swindling character, nevertheless our readers must exercise their own judgment, for we cannot hold ourselves responsible for the good faith of advertisers.

Entered at the post-office at Huntington, Indiana, as second-class mail matter.

Editorial

The Supreme Divinity of Christ.

All careful and impartial readers of the Bible must conclude that Christ was more than a perfect man. No mere man could have undergone the mighty strain laid on Jesus. A man would have broken under the pressure and failed. The task of redemption was too great for man. Christ was greater than Solomon. "Behold a greater than Solomon is here." No man that ever lived was his equal. He broke up every funeral he ever attended, and when the funeral of Lazarus was past, and he had been dead four days, he recovered him to life and friends. John the Baptist was commissioned of heaven as an important man of God, but he must decrease and Christ increase, and though John was six months older than Jesus, Christ was preferred before him, because he was before him. Abraham was a great man of faith, who lived two milleniums before Christ was born, yet Christ preceded him. "Before Abraham was I am." Christ antedated this world. "I have glorified thee on the earth, I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do, and now Father glorify thou me, with thine own self, with the glory I had with thee before the world was." Christ was never created—he always existed, unmade, uncreated and eternal. It is asserted that out of Bethlehem should come a ruler whose goings forth were of old, even from everlasting. "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, the Almighty." "He was before all things and by him all things were created." "All things were made by him, and without him not one

thing was made, that was made." He was the creator of all worlds, systems and suns.

He was a proper object of worship for both angels and men. "When he bringeth his first begotten into the world, he saith, Let all the angels of God worship him." The disciples held him by the feet and worshiped him, unrebuked. His works testify to his divinity. He killed a tree with a word, he calmed the sea by his behest, he relumed blind eyes with sight, cleansed the leper, caused the deaf to hear, the lame to walk, gave new vigor to paralyzed limbs, and raised the dead to life.

The wisdom in his answers to shrewd questions proclaimed him divine. The Pharisees, Saducers and Herodians were confounded by him. No one could measure talent with him. They were nonplussed and dare not ask any more questions. He spake as never man spake. His wonderful teachings penetrated the future and unfolded their mysteries. He was always right and made no mistakes. He was the Lord from heaven and knew all things. His life was spotless and pure, not a speck was found on his ermine. Sinless and guileless he walked the earth in matchless purity. He brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. He cleared the clouds from earth, planted the rose in the moss of the tomb, and will eventually bid the billions of earth's dead arise, and they will obey and mount from their graves Of dust and water, and sing the song of victory and triumph over the tomb, and live forever in heaven.

Principle.

The high value placed on this commodity tells the tale of its rarity. Principle is prized by all true men, most men are chameleons, they are tree toads, and partake of their surroundings. When Henry Ward Beecher was at theological school encircled with abolition students, he was anti-slavery, and his graduation speech was on the colonization of the slave. When he was seeking the pastorate of a pro-slavery church in Indianapolis, he was pro-slavery. When he was shielded by Dr. Tapan, of New York, he was anti-slavery. The son of the poet Shelly was elected to the British parliament. His father asked him what side politically he would be on in the parliament. He answered, I will sit down between the two parties, with a phylactery pasted on my forehead, "To let." His father said paste another right under it, reading, "Not furnished." Most of us

have read of the pedagogue who applied for a school, and the trustees asked him whether he taught that the world was round or flat. He answered that he could teach it either way, as they wanted it. Most men are led by leaders. They never thought a substantial idea, know nothing for themselves, but are led by others. When we find a real independent man, who does thinking for himself, we have found an oasis in a desert. We knew a United States Senator who changed his political views to secure an election again to congress, then one of our preachers defeated him, because he changed sides. Jesus said he that will save his life shall lose it, and he that will lose his life shall find it. It is reported either in fable or fact that a man sold his farm and went in search of diamonds, and returned to find that the farm he had sold was a very rich diamond field.

Men should have principles, they should be well and rightly chosen, then they should maintain them. Garrison started an abolition paper in Baltimore. He was asked to desist and retract, but he answered, "I will not retreat an inch; I will stand by my convictions, and I will be heard." When the fugitive slave law was passed in congress forbidding any one to aid or feed any slave escaping for his liberty, Lovejoy arose in his place in congress and said, "No man, white or black, shall cross my threshold and ask for a crust of bread, or a drink of water, and be turned away unfed or unwatered." This takes courage and principle, to counteract public sentiment and stand against majorities. The early abolitionists were brave men. Gerret Smith, William Lloyd Garrison and others stood like the rocks of Gibraltar. Just a few churches showed principle, while the most of them went down under the pressure, several churches divided on account of slavery. The Methodist church, the Baptist, the Presbyterian and the Methodist Protestant all divided. In the Virginia conference the United Brethren church was strained. Brother Nelson had hard work to restrain a quarterly conference from rebelling. The Wesleyan Methodist connection left the old Methodist church in 1843 on this ground. It is principle that makes men. The Liberal church failed to maintain the principles of Otterbein and Boehm on the question of secret orders. Christianity without principles is a watch without a mainspring, a locomotive without steam, or an automobile without motor power.

Selfishness.

Selfishness is seeking more than our share in the division of the spoils. Love would adjust the balances, so that we would get only that part that justly falls to us. We were made to live with others in society, we should never want, nor take more than our share. Animals pitch and plunge to get the best and the most, and the more animal there is in men, the larger portion they seek. Children are heavily charged with this disposition. A little boy was asked why he did not share his apple with his sister. He replied, "I gave her all the seeds; she can plant them and have a whole orchard of apples." Another boy was given an apple and told to be generous with sister with his apple. He asked his mother what generous meant. She replied to cut the apple in two and give sister the big half. The boy answered, "Mama, you give sister the apple and tell her to be generous with me." This disposition to get the bigger part runs through human nature and prevails with adults as well as children. Selfishness intrudes itself into all parts of society. We have even heard of preachers seeking places. But Bishop David Edwards gave us a better rule. He said he knew a preacher that at each conference prayed till he was willing to take the poorest field in the conference, and when the stationing committee reported, as much better as it was, was clear gain. We ought to rejoice to have another. Get a good lot and portion and to have the lines fall to him, in a pleasant place. "In honor preferring one another" is the Scripture rule. In trading and exchanging property men seek the best of the bargain, and boast of it after the trade is over. "It is naught till he hath it." Then it is very valuable. The secret lodge system base their virtue on getting the best of men through lodge influence. The Odd Fellow has a sign to tell a brother when he is getting worsted in a deal, without uttering a word. But they have no signs nor signals to notify one of their brethren that he is defrauding an outsider, and to desist and be honest. The charity of secret orders consists in selfishness. We, as Christians, should be governed by the spirit of equity and the law of love.

Personal Devil.

There is a personal devil, and many personal demons. The churches that hold there is not such a being, with other attending accompaniments, in their teachings, are not warning men of facts and liability to

danger and are not succeeding in saving the lost. The Universalists say that devil means the lusts of the flesh, the Roman government, Judas and Peter. This can be shown to not be true by a single quotation from Jude: "Michael, the archangel, when contending with the devil about the body of Moses, durst not bring a railing accusation against him, but said, the Lord rebuke thee." Michael the archangel had no flesh, he was a pure spirit, and this contention occurred before the days of Peter, Judas or the Roman government. That the devil was once a good being, with the freedom of his will, and fell through originating pride in himself, is more than intimidated by the Scriptures. While the devil's abode is in hell, he roams over this earth, seeking whom he may devour, and seduce into rebellion against God. There are also fallen angels, who have disobeyed by leaving their habitations and going on forbidden ground. This evil being is called in the Scriptures Diabolus, Satan adversary beelzebub belial tempter murderer, deceiver, liar, prince of this world, prince of the power of the air, the god of this world. This evil being is always referred to in the masculine gender, he, him, his, and never as it. He tempted and drew away Eve from her faithfulness to God. He tried Job, and Paul tells us we are not ignorant of his devices. His final lot is to be bound and shut off from this world for a thousand years, then loosed for a little season, when he will go at his old business of assailing men. Then will be cast with the false prophet into the lake of fire and brimstone, and punished forever. We should resist him, and he will flee from us, give no place to the devil, not let that evil one touch us.

Editorial Notes.

Professor A. H. Sayce says "Higher criticism saves no souls."

Bishop Wood held the Ontario conference beginning April 1, 1915.

Bishop Alwood has been in Pennsylvania recently holding some meetings.

Dwight L. Moody said when dying, "Earth recedes, heaven opens up before me, God is calling me, I must go."

Rev. E. R. Kyle, of Beach City, O., sends us good words of appreciation. He likes our paper and loves the old church.

Rev. M. D. Hallman, of the college, Herbert Smith and Dr. Dillon were

out preaching in or near Huntington on Sunday, April 4, 1915.

Rev. J. W., Purvis is in his last meeting for this season at Pleasant Home, Scioto conference, and desires the prayers of the church for its success.

Rev. E. C. Mason is at Missel, Ill., this week, where he addresses the women's annual branch meeting. He will go to Anawan and Chicago before he returns.

Rev. A. Rust tells us that Rev. U. Miller is meant as attending and helping in the meeting at Victory Chapel and not Rev. William Miller, who we suppose was not able to be present.

The board meetings occur soon. Every member of these boards, the men's and the women's boards, should be present, and they should be made to be an uplift of spirituality and piety.

Rev. Harry Smith left Huntington this week for the Erie conference, where he is the presiding elder. We have known him for years, and our brethren will be safe in working with him. A thorough co-operation is recommended with him and good will be accomplished.

We have a few unsupplied churches that should have pastors. The salary may have not much drawing force of loadstone, but the love of souls is a powerful attraction that should draw. All our fields should be manned with able preachers and with faithful work weak places may become strong.

We have received from Professor Baldwin the obituary of Bishop Barkley, together with letters of appreciation from our brethren and from noted statesmen of Oregon and elsewhere, which will be published next week. Rev. L. Baldwin has gathered a collection of eulogies that do great honor to the memory of the bishop, all of which will be published. If extra copies are wanted they should be ordered immediately.

The slaughter of Christians by the Turks is supreme cruelty. The Turk is not fit to live or die, if Turkey was swept from the map of nations, it would be a blessing. Their Mohammedan religion never civilizes, but leaves men savage. Christianity, when it is given full sway, makes men decent, loving and merciful. Most churches do not let it on in Scripture measure, or it would destroy war with its inhuman cruelties, lodges, and all crime.