

DAILY JOURNAL OF ONEIDA COMMUNITY.

A. D. 1866. APR. 24. NO. 85.

TUESDAY.

NOTES OF LAST EVENING'S CONVERSATION.

Mr. Hamilton.—If we watch for the resurrection, how shall we look for it? and where shall we expect it to appear and take effect? These are questions we might study. I desire to be receptive to the truth in this direction. I want to know how to watch and wait for the resurrection in the true way. It has seemed to me sometimes that there might be a selfish desire and eagerness for the resurrection to come in the body. It may be looked for in a selfish way that God cannot sympathize with. I am interested at the present time in looking for the effects of the resurrection in my spirit. I feel that the power of God will work first in the spirit and then in the body.

Christ frequently said when he healed persons, "Go and sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon thee." He recognized an intimate connection between the health of the spirit and the health of the body. The more I look in this direction and the more I desire to be in the resurrection, the more I am led to pray for purity of life. It seems to me there are certain principles we can lay hold of and apply in a way to help our sincerity and direct our prayers. The power of God working in our spirits will transform our bodies. We know that the character of a person's spirit expresses itself—a per-

son's moral character is stamped upon the face, and is conspicuous to any acute observer. If a person yields himself to debauchery, crime, or evil passions in any form, the effect is marked upon the face, so that every body can see it. And then if a person is moral, studious, and upright, this also is manifest in the face. We can reason right back in this way, and strengthen our faith with the assurance and hope that the work of the Gospel and the discipline that God is putting us through, is breaking up selfishness, self-will and pleasure-seeking; and that becoming acquainted with God and giving place to his life and energy, is going to make its mark on our bodies.

It takes a clear eye to see the truth; and it takes a pure heart to see God. And so it takes a pure heart to see and appreciate the resurrection. We see that the Lord has been purifying us, and that there has been a great advance in the general character of the Community within the past two years. Take for instance, the time Mr. Noyes started the project of transferring THE CIRCULAR to Wallingford, and I think you will find a great change has taken place since then. The general life of the Community is now much purer than it was then. Much bad material has been cast out. There is a great deal more compactness and unity of life and freedom of spirit now than there was then. I believe that in all this we are so much nearer the resurrection, and so much more available to God and receptive to his spirit. And yet probably there is still a great deal to do in purifying the life of the Community. I dare not hope for the resurrection till we attain purity of life.

In the world they are guarding themselves against the Cholera in a negative way by removing uncleanness and corruption. We may hasten the resurrection and draw near to it by helping God remove obstructions

in the spirit. We are not doing in this respect like the world. They are trying to keep out evil by removing the occasion of it. We are trying to invite a good power to come and take possession of us by creating a receptive atmosphere and by removing all obstructions. If God is stronger than the devil, or the resurrection life stronger than the Cholera, then our case is the most hopeful. I feel like having a strong heart, and expecting good to work in my life. I would exhort others to awake from sleep to the consciousness that good is strong in all, and not lie down under evil, and think that evil habits have got hold of them that cannot be broken. The resurrection is working back of all these things, and I believe it is going to be easy for us to be good.

A gentleman in Cleveland, Ohio, writes to Mr, Newhouse as follows:

“Some time since I bought of one of the hardware dealers in this city, Mr. G. Worthington, one of your Bear Traps. I purchased it for the purpose of protection against burglary and chicken thieves. Three nights since I had the satisfaction to catch one of these light-fingered gentry. I am recommending these traps as a protection against burglars; and the idea of their use seems to be received favorably by our citizens. I wish to know what you would charge for fifty of these traps”

W. A. Hinds left for New York yesterday on a business visit.

Mr. Knowles appears to be gradually improving.

METEOROLOGICAL.

April 23.

5 A. M. Mercury 41 deg. 12 M. 47. 6 P. M. 48.

A cold rain-storm has been in progress since yester-

day forenoon, accompanied by a strong wind. This morning we notice occasional small flakes of snow mixed with the fine rain.

OUT RIDING.

The other day a party of excursionists who were going out riding, invited me to join them. We had a pleasant drive; the fresh, delicate verdure that enameled the earth, and the light green buds that were bursting from the trees, filled the atmosphere with the spirit of youth, and our hearts with suggestions of resurrection life.

Much of the land we saw appeared good, and would probably yield a fair return for its cultivation; but when we passed some of the more rugged parts, where the farmer seemed to have a hard battle with nature to win daily bread, we thought how much better it would be, were such misapplied labor directed rather to the building of railroads and other means of locomotion, to connect the comparatively sterile portions with those richer regions, where one hundredth part of the agricultural force expended in less favored latitudes, would raise food enough for the entire human race. Why should not the Tropics along with such lands as those of the great West where corn is often used as fuel, be the farms and orchards of the whole world? The main things we lack, are the facilities for rapid and cheap transportation.

These less productive sections that are now the scenes of so much toil, might then be fields for the exercise of artistic improvement—pasture lands, lawns, groves and parks, with pathways winding through copse and garden, thus literally realizing the ancient prediction that “the desert should blossom as the rose.”

W. H. H.