

# A Newspaper On Christian Principles

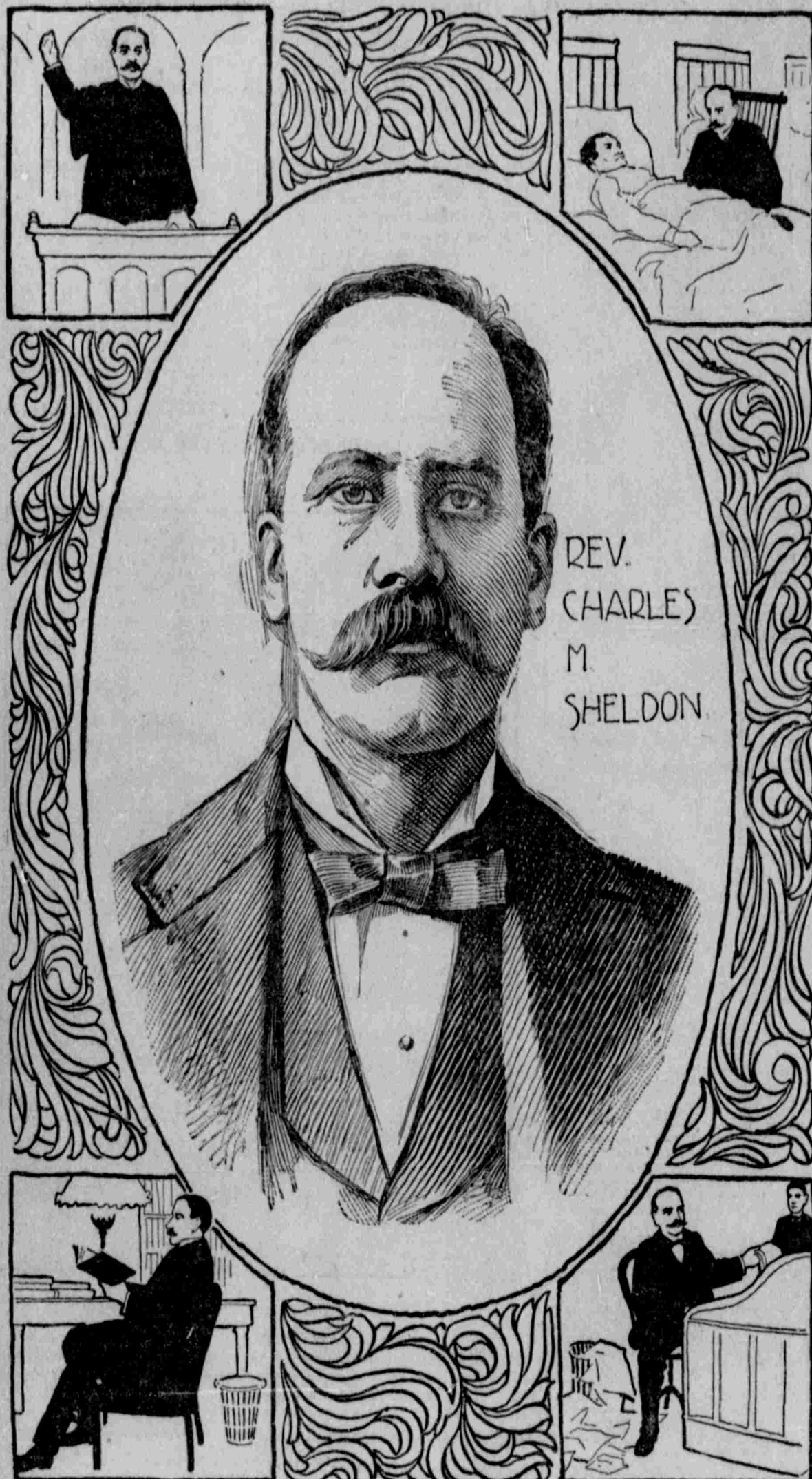
IF THERE is one thing that typifies modern civilization, with all its weaknesses and strength, its shortcomings and its accomplishments, it is the modern newspaper. It is the spirit of the age incarnate. It is the index of the century end.

So when a man comes forward and states that he intends to make the experiment of conducting a daily paper on absolutely Christian principles—in fact, to edit a paper as Jesus Christ, the founder of that religion, would do—he at once attracts the serious attention of the thinking world.

When the Rev. Charles Sheldon of Topeka accordingly announced that

friends Mr. Sheldon is known as a great Christian worker, a practical idealist. Last summer, when the delegates of the Christian Endeavor convention came together at Detroit, Mr. Sheldon somewhat startled that society by asking for \$1,000,000 with which to start a paper in which every piece of news, editorial and advertisement should satisfy the challenge of "What Would Jesus Do?" None of the delegates volunteered to supply the necessary money. But Mr. Sheldon did not give up. He had already dealt with the theory of such a venture in his remarkable story of "In His Steps." In a dramatic chapter of that story Edward

For one week, accordingly, Rev. Charles Sheldon will test his plan for a Christian paper. For six days the press of the Topeka Daily Capital, with its franchises and its entire editorial department, is being turned over into the hands of this famous Christian worker, and, absolutely unhampered, he will direct its course, edit its news columns and control its advertisements. To prepare for this venture Mr. Sheldon has for some time been busy working out the details of his journalistic plans. For some time he has been in daily conference with the entire reporterial and telegraphic news staff of The Capital and has impressed on these staffs



such was his intention, a great deal of discussion ensued. It brought up some interesting problems. How would Jesus edit a daily journal? What character of editorial would the author of the sermon on the mount sanction? How could religion and journalistic exigencies be made to coincide? Could a plan so uncomprehensibly ideal ever be realized? Would people read a paper that was absolutely and fundamentally Christian? And last but not least, would it pay?

If such a paper could ever be made a success, surely Mr. Sheldon is the man to make it such. This Christian worker is already well known to the world as the author of the religious novel, "In His Steps," a remarkable piece of religious and sociological fiction that sold over 2,000,000. To his more intimate

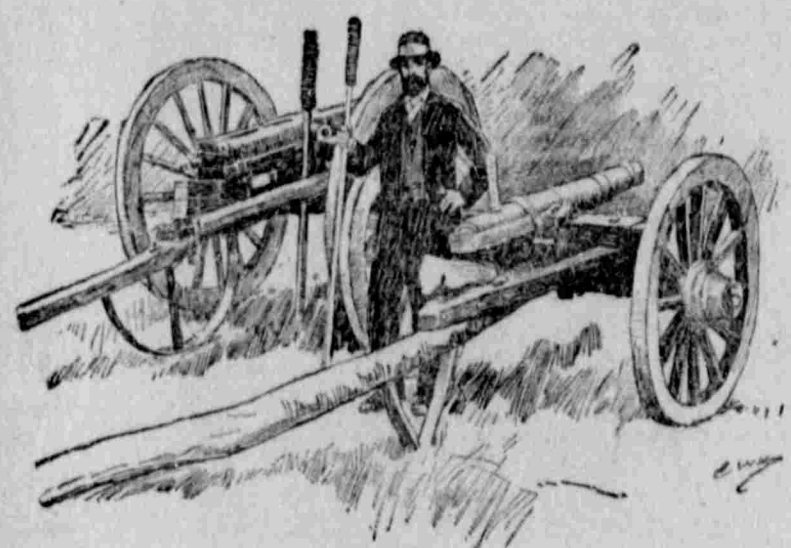
Norman, who is the editor of the Raymond Daily News, had taken a pledge to do everything after the principles and ideals of the Saviour. He comes to his office after making this resolution and finds his assistant about to set up a three column and a half report of a prizefight. The report is not printed, and it is expected in every quarter that the paper must collapse. Instead of ignominious failure, this is what happened, as outlined by the author: "The News created a new force in journalism that in time was recognized as one of the real factors of the nation, molding its principles and actually shaping its policy, a daily illustration of the might of a Christian press, and the first of a series of such papers begun and carried on by other disciples who had also taken the pledge."

the precise way in which he desires his news to be handled.

This strange experiment will show one earnest man's conception of what a Christian daily newspaper should be. It will not, of course, be a test of the possible financial success of such a publication, but, however it may turn out, it will at least attract the attention of thinking men and show in a very practical manner a number of ways in which the press of the future may be purified and elevated.

The publishers of The Daily Capital have announced that special subscriptions to that paper for "Sheldon week" are being sold at 25 cents instead of the usual price of 10 cents, and it is expected that a tremendous increase in circulation will result temporarily from the unique experiment.

## BOER ARTILLERY OF THE PAST.



Though it is freely said that the artillery of the Boers has outclassed that of the British, this was not always the case. The accompanying illustration will show the sort of artillery with which the Boers once faced their enemies, and that only 29 years ago. These homemade cannon were used by the same Transvaalers who are today playing with Mausers and Krupps and Creusets. They were constructed for the campaign of 1881 by a local blacksmith and made of tires of the burgher prairie schooners and wagon wheels.

## TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Agitation in favor of the use of automatic couplings on the cars of all English railways has led to the appointment of a government commission to investigate the subject. The demand for the reform is due to the fact that the number of accidents which result from the practice of the system of cou-

pling cars now in use in Great Britain is rapidly increasing.

So many Chinese officials are resigning that the empress dowager has ordered the punishment of those who apply for leave without pressing necessity.

A Birmingham firm has presented to

each member of the Worcestershire yeomanry a small burning glass, protected by tortoiseshell covers and inclosed in a khaki case. The directions on the outside of the case are, "Focus glass in the sun and light your pipe."

Norway has a law dealing with cremation. According to the act, every person over 15 years of age can be cremated after death if he or she has made

a declaration in the presence of two witnesses. For those under 15 a declaration on the part of the parents is necessary.

A lawsuit that has lasted over a century has come to an end in Ireland. The will of George Blackman, who was a centenarian of Derby, Conn., is being contested by relatives on the strength of a decision made by Judge

Shumway in a former case, that a person over 80 years of age was not mentally capable of making a will.

Basewood laths are being manufactured in some places to take the place of the pine lath that went out of sight long ago. These are selling at about two-thirds the price of pine lath and give good satisfaction.

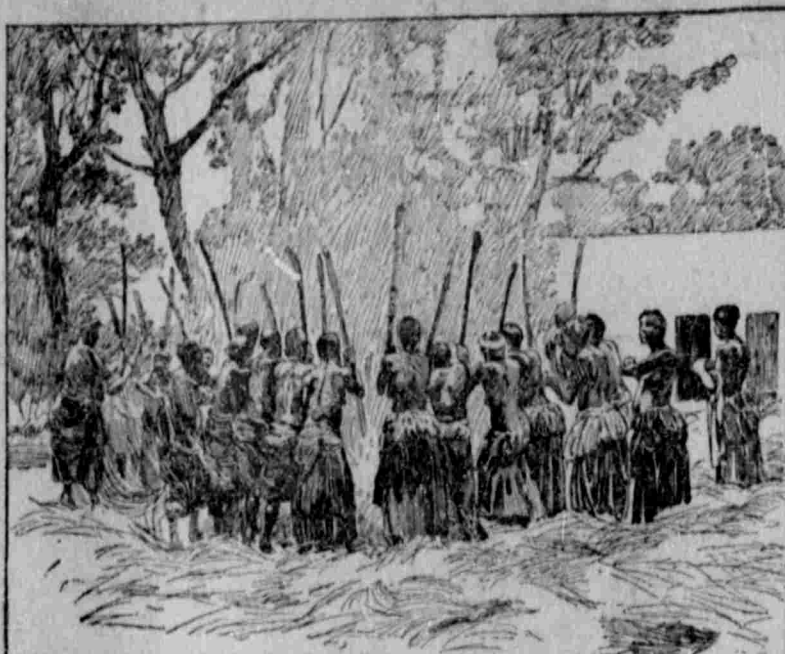
Dr. Haig Brown, the former head

master of Charterhouse, writing of the school days of Colonel Baden-Powell, says: "I notice that the name is mispronounced. The 'u' in Baden is generally given the sound of 'ah' but it should have the usual sound of 'a,' as in 'Bathing Towel,' which was his nickname among the boys at school."

Senator Vest, who recently announced his intention to retire from politics

at the end of his present term, became a resident of Missouri under peculiar circumstances. In 1853, after being admitted to the bar, he left Kentucky on a wagon train for California. Becoming snow bound at Georgetown, Mo., he decided to "practice law there for the balance of the winter, and prospered so that he did not resume his journey in the spring."

## THRASHING WHEAT FOR BOER SOLDIERS.



Although the blacks of South Africa have not been allowed to put their finger in the Boer-British military pie, they have on both sides been doing very useful service as noncombatants. At Mafeking, for instance, a great deal of the trench digging was performed by the natives. The blacks, in fact, make very good camp followers and have been of great service to the British as runners and message bearers. The Boer has also made use of the native, but for somewhat different purposes. Blacks are doing most of the Boers' farm work just at present, and the accompanying picture shows a group of Zulu women at Zoutpansburg thrashing out wheat for the replenishment of the Boer stores at the front. As will be seen from the picture, this thrashing is carried on in the most primitive method, the women simply beating the grain with long sticks.

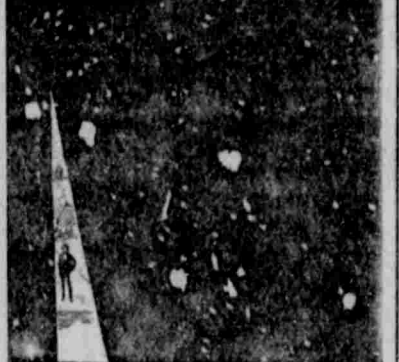
## DRIVING DINNER INTO CAMP.



Whatever bad luck the British soldier may have had in his South African war against the Boers, he will not be able to say that he was badly fed when at the front. The commissariat department of the British army has been surprisingly well conducted, and as a result there has been comparatively little sickness in the ranks. In fact, there has been practically none. The English soldier has had plenty of good, wholesome food, and, when possible, has been kept supplied with fresh meat. The accompanying illustration shows General Methuen's larder being replenished with a flock of South African sheep, which have been purchased and are being driven in from the veldt to feed the soldiers at Modder river.

## HOW THE BOERS PUMP LEAD.

Some idea of the rate at which the Boers pumped lead into the British forces at the Modder River fight may be obtained from the accompanying il-



lustration, which is from a photo taken by a British officer after the engagement. This photo was taken inside a small outhouse that stood near the British lines, and it shows the holes made by Boer bullets in the side of the house, which was built of thin galvanized iron.

## SOME WONDERFUL CHERRIES.

Here is a record bunch of cherries. There are no less than 942 cherries on this one wonderful bunch, which was grown at Astoria, Or. They are of the variety known to fruit growers as the Queen Anne, and when the bunch was broken off the tree on which it grew nearly every cherry in the luscious group was ripe.

But cherries are not the only things for which the sunny west is noted!

## WAR'S OBSCURER VICTIMS.



Here is a picture which gives an idea of who the real victims of war sometimes are. It shows a band of refugees from the Transvaal seeking shelter from shells among the rocks on the roadside at the Mooi river on the way to Pietermaritzburg. The stories told by some of these refugees from the Boer republic are pitiful indeed. Many of them have lost not only their homes, but practically all their belongings. Homes, shops and farms have been abandoned under threats of imprisonment, and, although every effort has been made by the British in Cape Colony and Natal to deal with the difficult problem, it is no easy matter to take care, for the time being, of these unfortunate victims of the war. Over \$1,000,000 have already been sent out from England for the relief of these people, but distress is still a very common story among them and there is every likelihood that as the war drags on their miseries will increase instead of diminish.

## ANDREW JACKSON'S BIRTHPLACE.

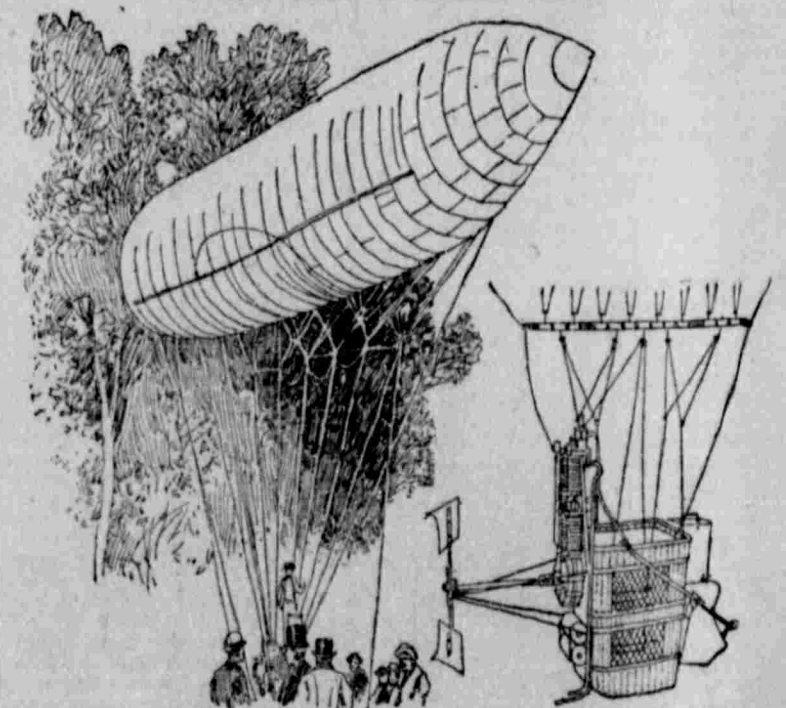
The anniversary of the birth of Andrew Jackson, who was born on March 15, 1767, is not, it is claimed, remembered and celebrated by good Americans as the wonderful and unique character of that past president would warrant. Two states, strange to say, long disput-



ed the honor of his birth. He himself always believed that he had been born in South Carolina, yet it has since been verified that he was in reality born just over the line in Union county, N. C. He came of that sturdy north of Ireland stock known often as Scotch-Irish, and for many generations his family lived near the rock of Fergus. His parents emigrated to America in 1765, and, as his life was to be one of storms and tumult, he was born at a very appropriate period indeed, in the very initial throes of the Revolution. The accompanying picture shows the humble little cabin in which this great man first saw the light of day.

Dr. William Nixon, pastor emeritus of St. John's Free church, Montrose, is the oldest living Presbyterian clergyman in Great Britain.

## A NEW FRENCH FLYING MACHINE.



An extremely interesting and more or less successful experiment was recently made in France with a dirigible balloon, invented by a well known French aeronaut named M. de Santos Dumont. This balloon is cylindrical in shape and pointed at each end like a cone. It is 25 meters long, a fraction over 2 1/2 meters in diameter and 184 cubic meters in volume. It is provided with an inner balloon of 25 cubic meters and two automatic safety valves made of aluminum. One of these valves, for the gas, opens at a pressure equivalent to 15 millimeters; the other, for air, under a pressure of 10 millimeters. On each side of the balloon at a convenient height runs a horizontal band of the silk doubled, in which are placed strips of wood 30 centimeters long. In the middle of each of these strips are fixed cords from which the car for passengers is suspended. This car itself is made of rattan and wicker, with a trelliswork of chestnut wood. It is held in place by means of a steel trapeze bar covered with cord.

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