**“Note” The Bible Echo 13, 1, p. 8.**

OF Charles A. Dana, who was the maker of the New York *Sun*, and who died lately, it is said that “he never had an idle day since he left college.” This was not because he was against his will *deprived* of idle days, but because he did not want any such days. He would rather be busy than to be idle. And yet he lived to the age of more than *seventy-eight* years. It is all nonsense about work’s shortening life. Idleness will shorten life far more than will steady, busy work. Any Christian would rather work than to be idle. The Christian so loves work that he will work for nothing rather than to do nothing. And whoever would work for nothing rather than to do nothing, will never need to work for nothing.—*A. T. Jones*. {BEST January 3, 1898, p. 8.1}

**“We Must Be Before We Can Do” The Bible Echo 13, 2, p. 11.**

IT is not what is outside of us, but what is *inside*, that makes us Christians and keeps us so. {BEST January 10, 1898, p. 11.1}

If you think you could be a better Christian if they were better brethren and sisters in the church, you greatly mistake. It is just the other way; if you were a better Christian, you would find better brethren and sisters in the church. {BEST January 10, 1898, p. 11.2}

If you think you could do better if only you had better neighbours, you greatly mistake. The truth is that if you would do better, you would have better neighbours. And if you were a better Christian, you would do better. You must *be* better before you can do better. {BEST January 10, 1898, p. 11.3}

Christianity does not come from ourselves, nor from anybody nor anything that is around us. It comes down straight from heaven to every soul who will receive it. And having its source in heaven, it is not, and cannot be, affected by anything that is of earth. {BEST January 10, 1898, p. 11.4}

Thus the Christian has joy in sorrow, peace in perplexity, riches in poverty, society in loneliness, and friendship among strangers and even enemies. {BEST January 10, 1898, p. 11.5}

A. T. JONES.