

Field and Work.

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FIELD AND WORK.

A periodical containing extracts of letters by the Lord's servants, and others, relating to the work of God among His People.

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Letters of general interest to the people of God will be thankfully received by the editor,

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AUSTRALIA.

QUEENSLAND. — A recent mail brings word from Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, of our dear brother Alexander W. Pollock having gone to be with the Lord in June last. Having sailed from Scotland to New Zealand some years ago, he went from the latter to Australia in 1886. His health had caused him to think of the change, but a severe cold was the means of bringing on a rapid consumption, and he passed away after only three weeks' illness. A sister writes: "Now as to his last days with us, it would only give you a slight idea to say that they were full of peace and praise, and I may say of prosperity, too. His cup was made to run over from day to day; he was nursed with all the kindness love could suggest; every

wish was gratified. So far as it was in our power to do, he lacked nothing and his joy and peace was deep and calm.

"Instead of being in a boarding-house there was a nice little cottage taken and furnished, in one of the suburbs, and one kept house for him who did it for the Lord, and many loving hearts and hands helped. The brethren took it in turns to sit up all night, and never did I see more tenderness or truer affection displayed by brothers any where, really it was most touching.

"He ministered Christ in such a way as I trust we shall never forget. Sometimes I almost thought the prisoned spirit would burst its bars and be gone in a stream of praise. Never did I see one more ready or more willing to go than our beloved brother. Christ and the Father's house were such realities to him that his mind seemed thoroughly divested of every care, even about his dear children whom he commended most tenderly to the Lord. (They are still in New Zealand, now left to the care of the eldest daughter; their mother having gone to be with the Lord several years ago.) He went through very much exercise of soul for some time, since you were together in New Zealand, as to brethren and their ways. While he believed in holding that which we have, while we ourselves were being held, yet he felt that there was very much lacking in us that was to be seen in others to the praise of God's grace,—others that we might

secretly look down upon as not having 'the truth.'"

We can only bow and give thanks for the grace that shone out in our brother, and the brethren who so cared for him at last, and commend the fatherless to the One who will be a Father to them and the orphan's stay. *W. Corrie Johnston.*

CANADA.

LISTOWELL, ONT.—We do not forget you, and watch for your whereabouts in FIELD AND WORK. The little paper is very useful, especially where we hear so little in regard to the work that is going on. We have been going on here very nicely through the past summer. As you know our numbers are few, yet in our morning meetings, *that* has always been lost sight of with the fulfillment of the promise, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Our morning meetings are at our house, and the evening meetings at Bro. Jamieson's, who has moved to this side of the town since you were here. Our sister Mrs. Bell has removed to Mount Forest. Bro. G. Love and family are back in Listowell, for which we are all very glad. He is a great help in our reading meetings. I was in Port Huron last Lord's Day, and enjoyed two meetings with the brethren there, who are real warm-hearted and fresh. It does one good to be among them. Each of the brothers seemed to have a word, which is very nice, it reminded me of the lines—

"Not one will seem a stranger,
Tho' never seen before."

"Members one of another . . . one Spirit with the Lord." We had a very short visit from Bro. Booth some time ago. He carries with him love wherever he goes, and God seems to give him blessing on his labors. *W. C.*

ST. JOHN, N.B.—Thanks for the memo. of St. Croix, and magazines which accompanied. It is pleasant to be remembered by those we love. No doubt the remembrance of Himself by the Lord's beloved ones, gladdens Him, else why the words, "do this in remembrance of me." Do we not oftener think of our joy in the feast than of His? but He must have His portion in it. McGaw came to arrange about Miss W—baptism, which took place Lord's Day morning about 7.30, near the spot where R. H— was baptized. At the table were a large number, for us, as Capt. Howard, wife and daughter were also there. We have great reason to be thankful to our God and Father for thus adding one to the little flock, and we pray that to her and to us "fellowship" may be "with the Father and the Son." *Allan McBeath.*

BLACK CAPE, QUE.—I reached here Saturday, and found the young Christians warm and happy. They appear to devour spiritual things with avidity and regularly attend the meetings in crowds. The weather though cold is pleasant and favorable for meetings. Dear Loeffler of Buffalo has gone to St. Louis to reside permanently. I called on — in Dalhousie, and found her like Lot in Sodom, groaning from day to day (2 Pet. ii. 8) and is very anxious for meetings there. Her husband is unsaved. I met a young Presbyterian minister from North Carolina, has life, I think, and appears to appreciate the truth; said he would be happy to give me his pulpit if I ever went his way. A woman who has been under deep conviction for months, and almost distracted, professed to get settled peace on Lord's Day. Love to all without exception (1 Tim. v. 21).

J. B. McCaffery.

LACHUTE, QUE.—I rejoice in hearing of blessing among you in various places—trust it may continue and increase. They

had a good meeting at Golden Lake, there being about 40 present. Jno. Rogers, G. O. Atkinson, and J. R. McLaren, were the principal ministering brethren, and some 16 professed conversion, and several blessed in other ways. Geo. McCandless will also likely look in this way about the end of the month. A woman some 20 miles back was in yesterday, and asked me to go out to them for a few meetings. She said she was sure a large number would welcome this, and I hope some one may get to them. I have been thinking of Free lending libraries among us, and have sent for 25 or 30 volumes to begin one at our Hall. They can be used among ourselves for those who cannot buy, and also among outsiders where necessary. I am getting 21 vols. of Things New and Old and C. H. M.'s Collected Writings, and Periard already has his Notes, besides there are some extra ones we can get together. I trust there may be blessing in result.

W. Banford.

HORTON LANDING, N. S. — I trust the power the Lord gave to His Word here (on Sardis and James) will work repentance from Sardis and Laodicea, in His mercy in His own way. L. Smith was here Lord's Day.

AYLESFORD. — Have spent a few days here with — whom I think are weaned from human systems in a great measure. Mrs. N. says she holds on to what was received at Bedford two years ago. Preached once—very good attention and attendance. I return to St. Croix to day to preach at Falmouth Lord's Day P. M., and at Colored church in evening (D.V.) May the rest that remains lead us on in patient continuance with holy fear.

E. S. Lyman.

MARGARET'S BAY, N. S. — Reaching here safely after a very wet journey (16 miles) without much harm, found Seventh Day Adventists had been making sad havock of

the Baptists — sad enough witness of how little souls are "established in the truth" and "nourished up in the words of faith and sound doctrine," and withal warning to ourselves as to it. That evening for several hours with a few, went patiently over the doctrines of law and grace, the two ministries (2 Cor. 3) and to their profit, I truly believe. Lord's Day A. M., the Adventist minister with several came where I stayed, and expressing desire for a Bible-Reading, I took Ex. xii., laying all stress on "the blood shall be to you for a token, and when I see the blood I will pass over you," having previously read 66 pages of their "Bible Readings," with no mention of it. A number of questions were put, and "eternal life" considered, they asserting that it was only "a promise, hope and reward to overcomers"; Scripture teaching that it was both that, as a *future condition*, and as well, God's *gift* to the sinner's faith now — a *present possession*; now "abiding in us," then we "entering into it." The truth had manifest power, "staying the plague" with others, and with these too was "with authority," and they felt it. In the afternoon visited some, the wet weather hindering meetings, and Monday had a powerful meeting—Law and the Gospel (Luke x.)—some questions at the close. Tuesday, a good hearing at a funeral (father of the Baptist Bro. who got me there); in evening an open meeting upon "the law" *versus* the gifts of righteousness and eternal life (Rom. v. 18; vi. 23) three, well described in 1 Tim. i. 7, vigorously opposing to their own confusion, others more wisely inquiring, and giving ear to the "true sayings of God." Next evening, the opposers absent, with three rooms, hall and stairs filled, we had "the King's grace" (2 Sam. ix.) and afterward a Scripture "enquiry meeting" for some time. Some came miles, and both there and further on, said "come over and help us."

BEDFORD.—At Truro Exhibition, Bro. McCaffery (on way west) and I held four meetings outside and in Hall, and distributed a large number of tracts, conversing with several, as we found opening. The work there by Mr. Meikle (Y.M.C.A. evangelist) they report is followed by some stagnation, souls finding little to lead them on, and some feeling after what will “*build* them up.” “Organize,” is often the human substitute for it, crystalizing souls, and alas, how often both “*withers* up” and “*puffs* up,” instead of “*nourishing* up” (1 Tim. iv. 6). May we yield ready response to this wide spread need!

EASTERN PASSAGE—(28 miles drive) meetings for the present discontinued, but in the assurance that the four meetings, “plowing” and “seeding” by Bros. McCaffery, Johnston and myself, will become “reaping” and “threshing” in due time (Isa. xxviii. 23-29). Fall River being nearer, Bro. Clarke and I continue the meetings there, and we look for some “reaping” from last year’s work, some hopeful signs being manifest. Bro. Horne keeping a horse chiefly for meetings and driving us renders good service, happily exemplifying Judges v. 2; as “a *helper* in the work” 1 Chron. xii. 1, 18, — a lowly but honored position, little accounted of in these days of “many masters,” when, alas, how often the trees become kings (Judges ix.) not contented to fill the niche God appoints them. May many be emulated to “take joyfully the spoiling of their goods,” as Gaius (3 John 5-7) remembering 1 Tim. iii. 13; Matt. xxv. 40.

HALIFAX.—W. C. Johnston preached in the Academy of Music — “Salvation in seven senses” and Rom. iv. v. and in Y. M. C. A. Hall (Heb. i. and John i.) this week at 3 and 7.30 P. M., on Justification, Peace, Forgiveness and Deliverance, Responsibility, etc. in which I am lending a helping hand. Here, the Lord has given us

four at and since the St. Croix meeting, and with the open doors about us, “we rejoice for the consolation.” *Benj. C. Greenman.*

CALUMET ISLAND, ONT.—After a short stay at Lachute, visiting and attending Bro. Johnston’s lectures, I visited Hawkesbury and L’Original, coming to Cumberland, where I spent about three weeks, visiting the saints and preaching the *precious* gospel. While there we commenced gospel meetings on the other side of the river, with good attendance and interest, the brethren intending to continue them (D. V.). The mother of our Bro. J. B. McCaffery took her place with us, and there was some blessing in the gospel. A brother of the prisoner awaiting trial for murder said he could now go away trusting Jesus, another expressed herself as having peace. I hesitate specifying cases as everything seems so unstable and uncertain, and things may easily be over-rated. I spent about three weeks also at West Osgoode, much to the encouragement and cheer of the saints, and to my own joy. There is quite a nice gathering there, the work of our brother Little, as the instrument honored of God.

The preaching meetings were well attended by outsiders; also one brother was restored from a backslider’s state, he seems quite humble, we only can cast him on the Lord. His wife is a Catholic but listens to the Word.

My next place was the Golden Lake meeting, a ride of only 47 miles in the night brought us—six *happy souls* singing most of way—in time for the meeting Lord’s Day. No telephone, no telegraph, rough roads, mail once a week, log houses, no millionaires, quite a step from that, but honest, unsophisticated souls—no churches, no petted pastors to stir up prejudice among the people. In some respects it was the best and most interesting meeting I ever attended. Bro. Rogers with his

tent, J.R. McLaren, Bro. Pearson and myself. The two former were already there enjoying profitable meetings. But one house in sight of the tent yet it was full each night, and souls being converted. Where the people came from, to me was a mystery, not so much so to J. R. McL., for he had been there years before he knew the Lord. It is rarely such results are seen both from the gospel and the reading meetings. There were 16 who confessed salvation, four the last Sunday night's preaching—preaching was easy for the Lord was there—and three restored.

Result of the reading meeting a Methodist minister (German) confessed (after doggedly contesting for the falling away doctrine) to having *eternal* life and also that he should preach it. The Lord give him grace to do it.

We did not have you dear brother as a ready scribe so no notes were taken, but we spent some time recalling questions and answers, which will be printed (D.V.).

Here on the Calumet Island we commenced gospel meetings last night, with a good attendance, and what is best of all, God was with us, and gave marked conviction to one soul. We hope and pray for more blessed results. The Lord is using unworthy instruments for his own work and glory. Our Bro. Rogers still stays at Golden Lake; next he and McLaren go to Douglas.

This is at your disposal to use publicly, whatever you see fit. *Geo. O. Atkinson.*

[Such "good cheer" manifestly should be for "the general good," as our brother mentions. Let us ask for abundant blessing.—Ed.]

VANKLEEK HILL.—Yours is really very refreshing, and very much encourages me in my work of printing the gospel. I have received a number of tokens already of the Lord's approval, in different ways, which made my heart to leap within me, for it is

a real joy to know one is in the right path and has the Master's approval. I received requests for "T. of M." from different quarters, and have increased its circulation to 1,500 copies. I must thank you for the last *FIELD AND WORK*. It is a real treat to read what the Lord is doing in other parts. Here things look gloomy again. It needs patience in these evil times to still labor on, though assailed by the enemy on every hand, and watchfulness too, lest in the conflict our own light grows dim and our feet become soiled. May He ever keep us all from evil, amid all the coldness around, and true as steel to Himself. Have been very busy lately, so have not been able to do much in tract work, my press is slow. *A. W. Otto.*

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK.—We rejoice to hear the meeting at St. Croix was so happy, and our hearts are gladdened by good news from nearly all quarters. Here in New York the results of the Tent work are gradually coming to the surface, and they are very cheering indeed.

The work at Halifax is upon our hearts in Plainfield, and if in *any* measure in *our* poor hearts, what must it be in His whose patient love still lingers over this awful scene. May blessing more than my little faith can hope attend your labors. Here blessing is going on. Dear G. McCandless goes to Canada for a little but with purpose of returning. T. O. L. full of health, he writes, is about to set his face homeward. *P. J. Loizeaux.*

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.—I have great joy in telling you how our God has begun to answer my prayer as to gathering a company of saved ones out to the name of the Lord Jesus in this city. Two young men have received the truth, as to separation, as simply as a child, and are drinking in the precious truths unfolded in the Word.

Another and his wife are now exercised as to their place at His table, and will, I doubt not, soon be found there. Then the wife of the other brother is also exercised, and I believe will see her way clear soon. We have not been in haste to set up the Lord's Table, desiring that these dear ones should more fully apprehend the ground, and there has been deep exercise of soul with them and clearness. We think there will be six or seven. My Bro. Horace has moved here, and is happy with Him. We have been looking that the Lord would send some of His servants this way, and believe He will. We believe the time for reaping has come, there has been the sowing time in the years past. You must know something of the joy I have, in finding *real* fellowship with saints here—truly our hearts burn within us while we talk together of Him. These dear brethren are longing that the Lord will send some laboring brother among us for a time. Both of these brothers I first met at the Jail, where for some time I have been going with others to hold up Christ to the poor prisoners, but the Lord had answered my prayers in preparing these hearts before I had a word with them. "He is faithful that promised." Oh to trust Him more fully. We expect to have a regular reading and prayer meeting, and look for His presence in all.

A. F. Cowles.

LITCHFIELD, MINN.—You will be pleased to learn that I have been at Howard and stopped a few days with the brethren, receiving letters from three of them inviting me there. [A real service to the Lord that lies near at hand for many is this, and especially to be thought of as to isolated ones, such as our sister, when the Lord's bounties are being shared by ourselves, as the Word enjoins us, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers—using hospitality one to another without grudging—*given* to hospitality."—ED.]

I had a long list of questions and kept Bro. Little pretty busy. I went home rejoicing. Father was down before and stayed with Bro. Ball and had a good talk, heard Bro. Ellis, the blind evangelist preach. Bro. Little came here just after. He, father and myself dined with sister O. and I can assure you there was not much time lost. Bro. L. came especially to see her. She was helped, but five hours is a short time to look into these things when one wants to learn so much. We are both praying that the Lord will send some one here who is taught in the Word, and walking separate from the world, to hold meetings, and that many poor sinners may be saved. Sister O. says the Lord is going to send some one, and I hope the Lord will put into the hearts of some of His children to help support them, for although we can lodge two or three, we could not hire a hall. Would like them if the Lord wills to hold a two weeks' meeting at least. I heard three of Bro. Little's lectures on the tabernacle and enjoyed them much.

M.D.L.

SCOTLAND.

ABERDEEN.—You will be glad to hear that there is a real moving of the Spirit of God where our Bro. Easton is at present. He came to Scotland over two months ago, and for some weeks has been to Baden-scoth. The interest is great, and souls are responsive to the call of God. The Lord has been working among His own, and Satan has been stirring up opposition to the Word. But that is His work, pity when the Lord's own are any way, as in this case, instrumental—no doubt he will be baffled, and saints will receive further blessing, if kept in dependence on the Lord. Thus the work goes on, one sows and another reaps, and all under the guiding eye and hand of the Lord. Is it not the case that if we can *pray* for His work,

We are having fellowship with Him? I do not doubt the stream will reach us also. What a thought it is to be a *servant of God*, may He have many in these days who are deeply in the sense of the greatness of it. I do not mean who withdraw from secular calling, necessarily, but who are imbued with the Spirit of true service, and thus in their words and ways bring Christ to His flock and sinners to Christ. I trust great grace will be granted us and that the greatness of bowing to God's Word will be much felt by all. May you be a channel of His grace to many of His beloved people, a service surely to Him as real as the gospel to sinners, though not so noticeable at the present time.

I was cheered lately reading Reports of Bible Society, of the labors of colporteurs, and of one place where the Word got a hold through two servant girls who had been converted. * * *

GOURDON, near Bervie.—When I came here to preach, I felt it a very hard place to labor in, and for the first six weeks we had only six conversions, and none of them were local people. During that time we had two weeks for prayer, which we all felt was so much needed. The brethren here are a company of real whole-hearted and devoted people. It was such a joy to be laboring with such godly, earnest souls, and for the last four weeks we have had a rich time of blessing. I never saw it equalled anywhere; 24 have professed to get peace, and all seem very real. Eight have come into fellowship and others are coming. Some backsliders have been restored, and at present, the whole village seemed to be interested. The hall which holds 500 is packed every night now, and we are expecting great blessing. In the course of a few weeks, I will let you know (D.V.) what is doing here. Let there be much earnest prayer on our be-

half that the work may be real and solid.

J. McKendrick to W. R. H.

MEXICO.

GUADALAJARA.—Last January I was visited by several men from the village of Atotonilquillo, situated about thirty-five miles to the south-east. They came to become acquainted with me and to get tracts and papers. Inquiring how they became interested in the gospel, I found that a believer from another village had resided there for a few months, some three years ago, and had talked with many, especially with the family in which he lived. While this believer, whose name, like that of many men and women of the country, is Jesus, was residing there, his mother-in-law died, firmly refusing to see a priest, although all the neighbors combined to compel her to consent. As she persisted all turned against the husband, with the exception of his host, a man named Ciriaco Lopez. This Ciriaco was one of the prominent men in the place, poor but relatively well-to-do. He helped Don Jesus bury his dead, and protected him for some time from the wrath of the people of the village.

Unable to find any employment, Don Jesus soon removed to another village, leaving a Bible and many tracts with Don Ciriaco. Last winter the latter, desiring to know more of the gospel, and especially to have his children taught it, persuaded Don Jesus to come and live with him, again loaning him money to buy wool, hiring a loom for him, and practically supporting him. For some time the Bible was read there almost continually, and quite a number were in the habit of dropping in daily to listen and to question. The town authorities have their office in a room in the same house, separated from the living-room only by a partially closed-up doorway. In this way the town clerk became interested and many who came on business heard the Word of Life.

I was much interested in the work, especially as it was so completely spontaneous, and I began to have hopes that it might be suffered to grow uninterruptedly, though I well knew there were bitter enemies. These believers begged me to send them a preacher, but I refused, as I was convinced that such a measure would result principally in stirring up the fanatical element and thus frightening away some of the interested ones. I urged them to go on as they were, and try to form a little band of firm believers, promising to help them later. At about the same time Don Ricardo, our worker in Chapala, ten miles distant, began of his own accord to visit them and to hold meetings for prayer with them.

Soon I began to hear of threats and insults and fears for the future. There was much reason for such fears, as the chief officer of the place was a fanatical and ignorant man, who could hardly read or write, and who was a mere puppet in the hands of the principal liquor-seller in the village. This latter was a thoroughly bad man and "religious" in proportion. He had a grudge against Don Ciriaco because the latter had successfully used his influence to prevent the former from getting an office which he desired. Matters were more complicated because this liquor-seller was a relative of the officer in command of the detachment of troops stationed in that district. In March, Ciriaco and his friends were in hiding for several days here in the city, to avoid being taken off in a *cuerda*.

A word about these *cuerdas*. Once in a while, frequently of late, a secret order is sent out from headquarters and the troops gather up from the villages those who are known as drunkards, thieves or vagabonds. These are bound together in twos, and then the couples are united by a cord, forming thus a "chain-gang." These are then marched away and taken to Yucatan, Lower California, or the islands of the Pacific, and there put at liberty. Very few ever return and many die before reaching their destination. The danger to these believers consisted in the fact that the lists are made up by the local officials, and

there is no indictment, examination, or trial, or even a hearing; so that it is very easy for an official to dispose of a rival or an enemy.

The middle of April Don Jesus came in one morning saying that Ciriaco was taken the night before and that he had escaped in the darkness, travelling all night to give me notice. I went at once to the governor, and was met only by protestations of ignorance, or rather by assurance that I was mistaken. Poor Ciriaco was confined for four days in a perfectly tight and dark room, about ten by fifteen, with six others, with no care whatever, except that his wife was allowed to bring him food. He was then put in the gang and marched away at the rate of twenty-five or more miles per day. Seeing that nothing could be done here, Don Jesus and another friend started off to try and overtake the prisoners and see if he could not be ransomed or released by securing a substitute. They overtook the *cuerda* about 150 miles west from here. Don Jesus immediately went to the nearest village and demanded justice from the local representative of the federal government. Strange to relate, he obtained it, and Ciriaco was taken from the gang and put into the local prison. I cannot but believe that it was in direct answer to the prayers that were being offered by the brethren for him. After about two weeks he was sent here, and two weeks later he was released on bail.

Nor were his trials yet ended. He did not dare return to his home. After much searching he found work here as a hod-carrier, at thirty-one cents per diem. Here he worked faithfully until about three weeks ago, when he was cited before the court. But when he returned to his work the overseer informed him that they did not give employment to those who had to do with the "Protestant bishop." Since then he has been unable to get steady work, and only gets along by doing what odd jobs he can find. In all his troubles he has been faithful to his belief, and seems to be growing continually in grace and knowledge. But he and several of his friends have been practically banished from their homes, and the little flame of gospel interest that started so brightly has been apparently stamped out.—*Mr. Howland in Missionary Herald.*