



"gave of their ability" for the house of God. Shall this, done and written in the age of law, be less free in the age of grace? Surely not. If "freely" we "have received," let us "freely give," and not of compulsion (Matt. x. 8). I believe that "as the Lord hath prospered" should be the method of giving in this matter, as in others, that those having "nothing to pay" may not be shamed or offended.

Amos iv. 5 I think also teaches us that free offerings should not be published or made known. Yet if one brother or several undertake to bear the whole expense, it is making known to others that they are bearing their share of the burden. Rather let us so arrange that it may be done "in secret." A box so placed that each may drop in as he wishes might probably be the better method of collecting. But let us not be legal, or force anything on those who cannot see with us in this matter. In fact, the expenses of hall rent are so often incurred for the sake of the Gospel being preached in it that it is really spent for Gospel work.

Brethren, if we thoroughly realized that "we are not our own," but bought with the precious blood of Christ, how much more would we use really for Him, and how much less on our own follies. \* \*

## GREAT BRITAIN.

SKIHHAUL, SHETLAND.—You did not know when you wrote that I had to pay the doctor a heavy bill, but our dear Lord did, and as He fed His prophet, so He has not forgotten me. I was wondering how I should manage. Was it not like as if the Lord sent it? Three days later my brother sent an order also. I leave it with Him to reward it. One who never saw me or entitled to notice me to care for me so; but when I think the good Lord has done it there is no wonder, for all His works are love. B. T.

[The above from a lone, suffering one to a brother may encourage like service to others. In this branch of the field and work how many might minister to those that are weary. May we be good stewards of the manifold grace of God! Ed.]

BORRADON COLLIERY, NORTHUMBERLAND, ENG.—Oh, that we were all in the spirit of prayer to lay hold on the promises of God for dear perishing souls around us. May Bro. Haskell's simple account of the blessing of God in answer to their prayers provoke us to the same thing, to begin at home. Oh, may we have our hearts burdened for souls. How it grieves the Lord to see us so careless and indifferent about others. Let us give ourselves to prayer and cry, "We will not let Thee go until Thou bless us." How nice it is to read in FIELD AND WORK of the way God is working in different parts of the world. How it stirs our hearts and encourages us on. We can rejoice with that dear fellow who loaned the "Notes on Genesis" to that minister, which is bringing forth fruit. No doubt the Lord will bless him with the knowledge of truth so that he will enjoy all his blessings which he has in Christ Jesus. May our God open his eyes. The other day I saw a thing which greatly struck me. The way to get up is to get thoroughly down. How true it is. That is what we get in James iv. 10; also in Job xxii. 29; Matt. xxiii. 12; I. Peter v. 6. May we enter more into it.

My father does not take any interest in the truth. I must just wait God's time. May our lights be kept burning brightly until He comes for us. Let us walk in wisdom toward them that are without. May our hearts be filled more and more with the love of Christ; may He become more dear to us as we go on.

V. S. Adams.

[A brother and wife of Bro. Adams have been led to see their place at the Lord's table since his return to England; so he has been cheered in this. A. F. C.]

## BAHAMAS.

NASSAU.—After a very rough voyage of

five days we have arrived here. Found the saints well and happy in the things of the Lord, though in weakness. Have just heard from Andros Island. Am happy to say they have continued faithful to the Lord. From them is sounding forth the Word, and some have been brought to Jesus through them.

Thank God for some faithful hearts amidst so much mere profession amongst these colored people. We (D. V.) expect to go there in a few days, and visit other settlements. Have been holding meetings here with the fellowship of the brethren, with some interest. We expected Bro. Gall here, but he has been left inland from Key West, where he has been laboring for some time with blessing. There is much need for laborers in these islands.

The brethren have been considering the advisability of opening a Tract Depository here for the benefit of the island and the spread of the truth. Their means are limited, but our God can supply all the need, and to Him we have committed the matter.

*Geo. Pearson.*

## CANADA.

BRIDGETOWN, N. S.—There is a great tendency among us to praise one brother for his gift and to speak carelessly of another, while at the same time that gift is really necessary. God grant that we may receive them all as from the Lord. I have better health than usual. There are some here that would gladly hear the Word if there was some one to tell it to them plainly. I find a chance to speak every Lord's Day. I visit the poorhouse also. Pray for us here. *Albert Benson.*

[This is an old danger not to be despised by us, "puffed up for one against another," and "thinking of men above that which is written." May we in this and in all else not be ignorant of the enemy's devices. Ed.]

BLACK CAPE, QUE.—The man they have here (Presbyterian) is doing much harm. How sad to think Satan is so blinding the eyes of many professors; but, thank God, "the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." Heard from a brother down the bay (New Carlisle way; they are getting along there pretty well. Two more elders have left the so-called church. The Lord is working in them. If you cannot come, trust another brother may soon, but must wait the Lord's time. *L. M.*

LUCKNOW, ONT.—I write to let you know a little about the work, so that you can thank the Lord with us for what He has done and is now doing, and look to Him to continue to bless His Word. I have been going to Ripley every Saturday afternoon for the past two months. Bro. T. Holmes meets me and drives to his house, and after tea, to a Gospel meeting in a private house, started at the request of the people. It commenced with about 12 and increased to about 55. Lord's Day mornings we meet in Bro. Holmes's house and enjoy the guidance of the Spirit and company of our blessed Lord. In the evening we go to a Gospel meeting in a school house, where from 50 to 75 gather to listen to the Gospel. Bro. S. Pollock is frequently with us. During the past two months about ten have confessed Christ, five have been added at the Lord's table, two for the first time last Lord's Day. Several others are anxious, and general interest is manifested. *E. Stovel.*

GUELPH, ONT.—We moved our meeting room Dec. 1st to one of the principal streets. It is much better for Gospel work.

Bro. Somerville was with us for the first ten Sundays, preaching the Gospel afternoons and evenings to an interested audience. The saints here were refreshed and built up by his ministry, and one of the

fruits of his labor is that we have started a Sunday School and Bible Class, trusting it may prove a blessing to all. We ask the prayers of God's children for it, and that the Word may go forth in the power of the Spirit. *Thomas F. Grant.*

THESSALON, ONT.—A sister, who came once to the Lord's table, now says she cannot bear to be away longer, frankly owns her coldness to the Lord, says she knew all the time that her conduct was wrong. She went to other meetings, but did not feel at all happy. Her mother was converted through brethren in the old country, but never took a stand. Her father knows a lot of Scripture, but has not realized it in his soul. We all feel free to receive her. Several aged sisters are failing fast, and others shut out by distance. Had a meeting at Black's. He said, "Now be faithful, tell them their danger." His sickness makes him zealous for souls. The Lord will finish the work He has begun in him.

For two years my health has been failing, times dull, and little prospect of work, and hearing of a demand for carpenters on the Pacific coast, feel pressed to go, yet can hardly bear to leave the assembly here. Whatever is His will I desire to do. *J. A. Lamont.*

[May our brother and each of us pray, "If Thy presence go not with us, carry us not up hence." Moves are ever serious, and if from a restless will merit the Lord's rebuke, "Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way?" (Jer. ii. 36, 37.) If as Priscilla and Aquila (Acts xviii. 2, 3, 26), the "tent and altar" go with us, the Lord will honor and bless, but "forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" is to fall an easy prey to the enemy. Brethren, beware of this, alas! common evil. ED.]

LITTLE RAPIDS, ONT.—What a wonderful uniting link, the love of God binding us together and to Him, a chain which earth and hell cannot snap in twain. Had two precious meetings at Thessalon yes-

terday; all there but one, whose husband is against her. We had a nice study on John i., and really the Lord appealed to each of our hearts. We are not preaching anywhere since the cold weather set in; have seen no result but opposition, but it was His truth we tried to declare, and they are responsible.

*Charles Millar.*

[The Master saw the same, yet went on in unwearied ministry, if not here then there (Isa. xlix. 7-6; Luke ix. 53-56); so also His servants (Acts xlii. 45-47), and we too are exhorted to "always abound in the work of the Lord." (I. Cor. xv. 58). ED.]

KALADAR, ONT.—The Lord keep you and His dear servants to whom He has given His goods to distribute. I believe He is now compelling sinners to come in before the great and notable day enters in, but it is very like the days of Noah. There is much coldness among us, but the Lord has done His part, laying down in sickness and raising up again; we take the rod, but don't get the staff, both need to go together "to make a clean job of it," to get us where we should be. We need more of His grace, but we must be in a state to accept it and profit by it. I am looking that we may all get good of His dealings. I would not lean on man, but it needs a prophet on the scene. The Lord would have us looking for Him when He comes. If we get occupied with other things He has to set us thinking. If we lose time it is not redeemed time, so to the Lord's loss and ours. I am uneasy about the dear workers in this sickness prevalent, I know I should not be, the Lord takes care, but Paul could not help it. *Eben Ruttan.*

BARRY ISLAND, ONT.—The almanacs were gladly received by all. It shows the people we are interested in them. Had an invitation lately to have meetings in O— and am thankful to the Lord they are

interested. Had been looking to Him about them. Held a meeting at Mervin's, at their wish; had a nice time. There was a good turnout, and very good interest; several seemed moved. Am quite encouraged of late, many doors freely opened, all thanks to our heavenly Father. How He cheers us heavenward, and yet allows trouble as the means of keeping us down at Jesus' feet. Perhaps He is using it for ballast. All will be made known in the future, but what a crooked path mine will be to look back upon.

*John Jennings.*

[Some Gospel and children's papers would doubtless help our brother's work in those needy parts. Ed.]

### UNITED STATES.

TRENTON, N. J.—I write chiefly to enlist the prayers of the saints for the "work of the Lord" in the County Jail here. Having returned to Trenton for a few months, if it please the Lord I again take up the work in that last place of the city where the last element is found, and I pray God that more fruit may be found there, so that the "last shall be first." I enclose a letter from one of them as an instance of the Lord's mercy. He was taken, since writing it, seriously ill, and was conveyed to the hospital room *to die*, not given more than four days to live, but he is now improving little by little. What joy now to minister to him further the wondrous *grace* of God, spreading before him from the exhaustless storehouse of love the "*riches* of His grace, in His kindness towards us through Christ Jesus." To see the eye sparkle with delight, as he lies there drinking the cool, refreshing, eternal spring waters of Heaven, makes one realize in his own soul the truth of the words, "He that watereth shall also himself be watered."

Said he, "O brother, I cannot find words

to express my gratitude to God for the kind friend He sent me. Mrs. P. (the deputy warden's wife, another fruit of grace, getting assurance through the ministry of the writer—to God be all the praise) is 'as an angel of God' to me, always having a word of cheer. May God bless her."

"Brother," said I, "are you not *glad* you were ever brought here, and that you are now as you are and where you are?" He looked up surprised, thought a moment, and said, "*I do believe I am!* Yes, I am indeed *so* happy!"

O beloved, I remember, some years ago, when living in another place, one stormy Lord's Day afternoon, the wind howling fiercely around the house, the snow and rain together making it most dismal and uninviting to venture out. I was comfortably sitting by the fire, when I was startled by the words vividly brought before me, "SICK AND IN PRISON, AND YE VISITED ME NOT." There was a jail in the place—I had never visited it—had never been inside of one in my life. "Well, Lord," I answered, "I do not want that said to me; I will go." So, donning my garments and overshoes, I went with determination, asked permission to speak to the prisoners. It was granted. One soul came to the grating and said, "Please, sir, may I speak to you?" "Well, what is it?" "My mother is a Christian woman; she taught me this way, but I sinned and am now in this place for it. Can you get me a Bible?" I gave him my own until I succeeded in getting him another. From that day till now I have ever felt it my duty, as well as my happy privilege, to go to just such places, where, if anywhere, "firebrands" are to be found. The Lord always blesses me in going, and gives fruit too. Praise His name!

Beloved brethren! What shall we say

to the words, "sick and in prison, and YE VISITED ME NOT"?

What shall we say to the words, "Go out QUICKLY into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind"?

What shall we say to the words, "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled" (Matt. xxv. 43; Luke xiv. 21-23)? You may say, "I am not called to that line." I would ask, *Whom* did the Lord send? *Where* did the Lord send? "*That servant.*" *Who* is "that servant"? Let the day of Pentecost answer. The Holy Spirit is "that Servant." And He is working "in the streets and lanes of the cities," "in the highways and hedges," and he who is *obedient*, and moved by the Holy Spirit of God, neglects not such places. Another says, "I cannot preach." The scriptures referred to do not say, "Go preach," but "*bring in hither,*" "*compel.*" Cannot every "servant" do that? "But I could never bring myself to do such work." No, indeed, but we can *humble ourselves*; for "God resisteth the proud, but GIVETH GRACE unto the humble" (James iv. 6).

We can bargain — buy and sell. We can face an insolent buyer and succeed in selling him goods eventually. Then *why* cannot we face the sneers and jeers of the poor, Satan-deluded souls who "*know not what they do*"? "GOD . . . GIVETH GRACE unto the humble." *It is not a question of gift, but of heart.* Where there is the "ability" of *heart—humility—God* sees to the matter of gift. *The Holy Spirit* spake, not by the apostles only, but by *every one* in the "palmy days" of "primitive Christianity." He is the same Holy Spirit to-day. He is still in the Church—still in every individual Christian. But oh, how much *grieved*—how much *quenched!*

If it is the Lord's will, there are other cases I may speak of after due season. May the Lord stir us up, for it is "now high time to awake out of sleep." "But this I say, brethren, the time is *short*" (Rom. xiii. 11; I. Cor. vii. 29). S. A. White.

I take great pleasure in writing you a few lines, to let you know how I am getting along. As to my health, it is very much improved (he is now in the prison hospital, a consumptive.—W.). But it is not that of which I wish to speak, but of my spiritual welfare; and I would ask you to rejoice with me, for I feel as though I had started on a new life. When you visited me last you asked me if I could take the 53rd chapter of Isaiah and the 5th verse to myself. (I had on a previous visit pressed the holiness of God with respect to sin, declaring solemnly and earnestly the grounds of judgment and eternal wrath, taking the cross and the sufferings of the Lord Jesus as evidence of His wrath upon sin, and of His love to the sinner.—W.). *I can do so now!* And oh, how different it sounds to me now! And "by His *stripes* I am *healed*!" Oh, what different feelings I have! To think now that I have some one besides earthly friends to look to. I feel that I would be a very poor mortal indeed if I did not have my beloved Saviour to look to. I do not think it will be long before my beloved wife will hearken to those "wonderful words of love" which our blessed Saviour has sent us. I ask you to offer up a prayer for her salvation (she has since turned away from him, visiting him no more, saying, "I will not be disgraced any more by coming to see him." May the Lord have mercy.—W.). Hoping that the Lord will still continue to bless and strengthen you in all your undertakings.

Ellsworth Evans.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.—The Lord has wrought for us here. We have been hold-

ing meetings in a sister's room, paying a small rental, but notice was given her to vacate, so we had to ask the Lord what to do, and to-day the answer came in a very desirable place and very favorable for preaching the Gospel. How good He is! I have just had a long talk with a student for the ministry (so termed). He promises to come in often, and I hope to put truth before him. Bro. Adams's brother and wife have taken their place with him. Now and then I have the privilege of preaching Christ. How few are the laborers. May the Lord send forth more, and have mercy on His saints and waken them up to obey His commands. Alas! that we should become worldly. Are not too many of us saying, "My Lord delayeth His coming"? How it must grieve Him!

Bro. Stutzman has been preaching near Shamokin with real encouragement, and since Feb. 7th at Boyertown. I am closely confined, but "the Lord God will help me, therefore I shall not be confounded" (Isa. l. 7). *A. F. Cowles.*

BOYERTOWN, PA.—I came here on the 7th inst. Have been preaching every night with one exception, and to-night I shall not speak. The meetings have been well attended and great interest shown. What the result will be as to the salvation of souls and deliverance of Christians from error is yet to be seen; but the brethren are encouraged.

You ask about the place near Shamokin. Have heard nothing but good reports from those who were interested, though the opposition is strong. Bro. Martin of Shamokin has been at work at a place six miles below and reports good meetings; trust it is an open door of the Lord. If so we will praise Him. He certainly wants the Gospel to go out, or we should not have Mark xvi. 15 and II. Thess. iii. 1.

There is considerable change in the

meeting in Harrisburg. Dr. Peddicord has removed to Roanoke, Va. The meeting will give up the hall and will take a house with me on Third St., near the hall, for which I am to pay \$17.00 per month; the assembly to pay \$5.00 of the amount. This will assure the assembly a place of meeting always open for them, and it will be a prominent place for the Depository, and much better for the sale of our literature; just what we have been asking the Lord for for a long time. It "pays" indeed to *wait* on Him. Without any effort of my own this change has been, or is to be, made. Col. i. 16-18 in the above connection is very precious, "*By Him all things consist.*" Surely one may trust Him for what He knows to be the right thing for us.

The brethren here are well, but the dear young son of Bro. May, a gifted brother in the meeting, cashier of one of the banks, is lying very sick indeed. If he recovers it will be by nothing but the *power* of God. I shall tarry here for a few days yet for this reason, and then go towards home, if the Lord permit.

*Martin Stutzman.*

J. B. Gottshall has been a good while in Milton, Kansas, and is greatly encouraged in the Lord's work. Bro. Stutzman was here last November and again in February, each time about two weeks. The Lord blessed His Word to a good many round here. Three have taken their place and many more greatly exercised, but courage fails them. May the Lord deliver. We went to Birdsboro' and Bro. S. preached twice, at least breaking the ground. The Lord has blessed his ministry much at Shamokin and Dblers, 10 miles below, where he preached 10 days. The Lord's table has been set up at Pine Iron Works and some more have come into fellowship. Gospel meetings are held every two weeks, chiefly by the

brethren there. There are Gospel meetings also at Glasgo, near Pottstown, the brethren here and at Pine Iron Works keeping them up. People seem eager to hear, and the meeting house is generally well filled; attention wonderful, considering the feeble instruments used. The brethren in Reading have now a hall and like it well. Some not living up to their light are getting darker. "He taketh even that which they have." *J. S. East.*

[The Lord be praised for these tidings. May He fulfill Gen. xlix. 24 to our brethren. ED.]

MILFORD, DEL.—A year ago Bro. Boynton spent a few weeks in this vicinity. May 25th, Bro. Lyman and Ridout spent three or four weeks here also. Bro. Boynton recently passed through Smyrna, en route for Baltimore, Washington and Virginia. We expect him to visit us on his return. Occasionally one is gathered with us, and the Lord has spared the lives of all. The Wilmington M. E. Conference holds its next session here. We purpose to distribute Bro. Grant's reply to Dr. Steele, with a lot of other papers containing the truths of the Gospel, thus taking a little part with Him "who soweth the good seed," trusting that at least one part out of four may bring forth fruit to His glory. *W. W. Franco.*

[The Lord give our brethren both grace and courage to fulfill their purpose wisely, remembering Him who said, "Be wise as serpents, harmless as doves." Many such openings might be turned to account for eternity were there more fervent zeal and "the tact of love" along with the assurance of "the Lord working with us." "Sow ye beside all waters." ED.]

BREWER, MAINE.—Four of us here, out of denominations, meet frequently to speak of God's boundless grace. I have gone to hear the Word explained in the different systems, and they all preach the reformation of the old man. I have no doubt many have a sincere desire to serve God, but do not take His Word and enjoy

His precious promises. If a man is not born of the Spirit, what a meaningless thing preaching is. What a miserable thing the spirit of bondage is, trying to overcome sin of one's self, failing all the time, and fearing we are lost if we commit any offence. I know what it is, have been through days' of trial through looking inward to self instead of outward to Christ. I hope and pray that all who preach the Word may have their eyes opened to see the truths contained therein. *Nathaniel McKenzie*

CONCORD, N. H.—My first visit here. Two have left them. The word comes to one "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation, for when he is tried he shall receive the crown of life which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him." The Lord show us mercy. Those who are left continue in patience. May we all cleave to the Lord with broken spirits, and get a new and deeper knowledge of His love, bowing the head under our humiliation; we shall find the Lord precious as never before. In Boston a brother who balted since last winter has at last taken his place. *E. S. Lyman.*

PORT HURON, MICH.—Bro. Jeffries is now in London, Ont. I have had meetings here each night for three weeks, and a large number attend, especially last week, and I think a few nice converts; one young man, a Roman Catholic, and a few others have come out clear on salvation. Several of God's people around have been blest, and those with us also. Heard from W. H. Scott, Alexandria, Minn., and he is encouraged in the country 20 miles from home. Bros. Little and Long have gone to Council Bluffs, Iowa, and are going to Omaha, I believe. May the Word be blest to many.

I think Cottage Grove (Minn.) will have a meeting in the Spring (D.V.). I may go to London and other places in western Ontario shortly (D.V.).

*A. E. Booth.*