

Field and Work.

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NOTICE.

The office of publication of **FIELD AND WORK** and **GOODLY PORTIONS** is to be removed to South Framingham, Mass., about Aug. 1st. Subscribers will please take notice. All communications intended for the Publisher after that date should be addressed to him there.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

A general meeting will be held (D. V.) at Fergus, Ont., beginning Thursday, September 11, at 7.30 p. m., and to continue five or six days if it is the Lord's mind, to which brethren from all parts are cordially invited. Our earnest desire is that such a meeting may be of great help to the whole community, as well as the Church of God, and that the testimony of God's grace in the Gospel may be in power and in the Holy Ghost and in much assurance. (Prayer is asked for God's blessing.) Meetings will be held morning, afternoon and evening. Provision will be made for all who may come. Expenses will be met by voluntary contributions, that the offerings on

the Lord's Day may be wholly for the Lord's work.

Brethren will be at G. T. and C. P. R. stations to conduct the Lord's people to the hall, where accommodations will be provided for them.

GLEANINGS.

At Fitchburg, Mass., we are glad to learn of a sister baptized recently and meeting with the assembly; was converted through Dr. Munhall last winter. Bro. Haskell is now away visiting Towanda, Pa.

C. E. Haskell went from Fitchburg to Brooklyn and thence to Towanda, Pa., and vicinity, where, we learn, considerable interest is manifested. The Lord strengthen the hands of the dear brethren in those parts.

J. B. McCaffery was at Albany, N. Y., close of May.

In the June number of **FIELD AND WORK** I notice three questions are raised. The second, viz., "Is it scriptural to use the International S. S. Lessons," having in a special way aroused interest, I feel as though I would like to make a few remarks; it may stimulate further interest and perhaps in the end be of real help to some.

My purpose is not to answer the question, but, after relating a bit of my own experience, to put it in another form.

I find among us here some diversity of judgment as to the propriety of studying the S. S. Lesson, and while a few have objected I myself never have understood definitely on what ground. As to experience one might speak at length of the blessing obtained in following the course, of the good in availing one's self of certain helps derived from those who are evidently men of gift, yet not with brethren as such, and to whom before God I owe much in a practical way; yet

if really there is any scriptural principle violated it would in a way nullify the whole thing. I do not believe the principle is just simply to take up a thing for the *good* one can get from it, or, as people say, "the end justifies the means;" hence as I look at it, the question is, *Is it unscriptural?* If so, I want to know it. Will some one answer?

My present impression is that it is purely a matter of conscience, and so of individual liberty. If a brother sincerely believes that by taking up the S. S. Lessons he would be hindering the freedom of the Spirit of truth, I cannot see that for him it would in any way be profitable. Such a one I presume of course would at once enquire "Is it *scriptural?*" the question taking the positive form in his mind. On the other hand, I must confess I see no difficulty in regularly studying the lesson either as connected with our S. School or in a meeting for the study of the Word not connected with the general meeting of the assembly.

Permit me therefore to put the question negatively, "Is it unscriptural" if so will the brother state definitely just what is involved?

Truly the work of holding up the light to the world is a blessed work, no matter how much the world hates the light, for the light-bearers are not of the world, and then peace is not dependent upon the good will of this world, but rather upon its hatred. The closer the walk with God the greater the gap between His people and the professing Church. My life would not be attractive to many. I live roughly when at home, travel on foot mainly among the poor, read the Bible and give tracts. Away from the thoroughfares our people are kind to strangers, and this allows one greater freedom of action than would be permitted in your country.

I am not sure that it is well to ask for tokens. Doubt rather than faith leads us to do this (Luke i. 18; Mark viii. 12; I. Cor. i. 23). If there is a call to do a work, will not faithful prayer bring the opening? And should He set the time or we?

There are some things for us to be assured of before the Lord as to going out in work. First, that we have the truth. Second, that we are called of God to deliver it. Then going forth, looking to Him to open the door, the Holy Spirit will direct to the work to be done. And

then we can safely rest on the fact that God has ordained that they who preach the Gospel shall live of the Gospel, if we are dependent in circumstances.

TRACT WORK.

Give the tracts freely, as I have plenty more I will gladly send. I only dread that they should be kept idle on the shelf. I have personally received much blessing already since engaging in the work, especially on the streets and in the cars. And although I have done it in the faith of that promise, "Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days," yet the Lord has been graciously pleased to encourage me by almost immediate blessing in several cases.

HINTS TO WORKERS.

All apologies are founded in self-deception or pride.

Move directly to your subject; the sooner you get at the main idea the better.

One telling illustration is better than a dozen, even if each of the dozen is quite wrong.

Let the subject be of such importance as to invest you with an inspiration until the closing sentence.

Encourage rather than scold.

Do not make many points; two or three, well insisted on, will be longer remembered than half a dozen.

Never think of yourself, but of souls saved or lost, and of the cross of Calvary.

Have only two or three short headings, and one application—clear, short, and to the point, so that it may be ringing in the ears of the people as they are dispersing.

If you cannot preach upon a text without an intimation that a different translation would improve it, use another passage or a different subject.

Do not let the thought of self come in at all, or else the beauty of a great action will be gone, like the bloom of a soiled flower.

"Ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's."

Selected.

THE JEWS AND THEIR LAND.

The religious Jews have become impressed that the Law is not kept in its entirety, and say it is impossible to do so

in any land except Palestine under Jewish rule. With that object in view, they have formed a society to colonize Palestine. Asking one of them as to it he said, "We find our community in East London being broken up and losing its religious, impregnated with Christian doctrines, and we are afraid if we go on very much longer in our present condition that the Jewish faith will be lost." (Jewish Herald.)

We rejoice in blessing through the "British Society" among the Jews. Two interesting books by one in this relation are "The Story of Isaac Levinsohn" and "The Land of My Fathers."

Dr. Delitzsch, of Leipzig, an eminent Hebrew scholar, passed away March, 1890, aged 77 years. His works and translations of Scripture are widely known. "The correlative of the love of Christ is the love of the Jew," one of his statements, shows his regard for them, as "beloved for the fathers' sakes."

The Greek Church authorities seem determined, by their intolerant spirit, to make the name of Russia a reproach throughout Europe. In several parts people are being imprisoned and persecuted for teaching the Gospel.

How thankful ought we to be whose lot is cast in more favored lands, and may we remember these who are in adversity and bonds as bidden (Heb. xiii. 3).

WHISPERING THE GOSPEL

It is the duty of all Christians to preach by *conversing the Gospel*—by *whispering* it in the *ears* of those we meet in *daily life*. Here lies an instrument of tremendous power—such power as lies in the combined efforts of drops of rain and flakes of snow and grains of sand—ready to the hand of the Church.

The problem of how to convey the testimony of Jesus to the millions who never

come into places of worship is capable of easy and practical solution by the primitive method of conversing the Gospel with every creature. There is positively no limit to the opportunity of doing so at any time and in any place. It is the very A B C of preaching; a child may do it; and no one, adult or child, who has spent one hour in thus treading in the footprints of the Lord, having first with a surrendered will sought power and direction from God in prayer, will ever forget the interest in this work and the joy which it afforded. Nor will any one who has once experienced the pleasure of being listened to with interest by a stranger be likely to abandon the work so long as he maintains his communion with God.

Young or inexperienced Christians, however, will not enter upon such service of their own accord, and hence the importance of older and bolder men, soldiers of Jesus Christ, taking the initiative, gathering together bands of workers and encouraging them to go forth by two and two, thus promoting fellowship in work, each finding his place according to his gifts, and all manifesting that oneness which is the Church's mightiest evidence to men, and which the Lord Jesus desired of his Father, "that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me."

We may express great interest in the gospel, but *are we taking, practically, a position in accordance with our prayers?*

Over and over again we find in Scripture the principle laid down that prayer to be effectual must be accompanied by a corresponding course on earth.

Thus I. John iii. 22 shows us that our receiving an answer is dependent upon our keeping the commandments of God, and from verse 21 of the same chapter we learn that it is no good expressing confidence in Him unless we are right in *heart*. See also John xv. 7.

Again, the Lord taught His disciples not to expect that God would hear their petitions if their actions on earth did not correspond (Matthew vi. 15). So also Paul, in Hebrews xiii. 18, gives as a ground for requesting the prayers of the saints on his own behalf, his possession of a good conscience and his desire to do right in all things.

Now it appears to me that here we are to blame. Let me put it simply.

We pray that souls may be brought under the sound of the Word, but are we doing our utmost and leaving no stone unturned to fill the halls and rooms with the unsaved?

We pray that Christ may be presented to the souls of sinners, but are we, by our words and ways, presenting Him to all that we can?

We pray that we may see more blessing on the Gospel, but are we exercised, individually, as to how far we are helping or hindering the work?

We pray God to send His servants into our midst to preach, but when they come are we found helping them by fervent, *real*, believing prayer?

And do our public prayers find an echo in our private ones?

In short, do we *want* what we pray for? And do we, when gathered for united supplication, speak always from the heart, and for the ear of God alone?

To sum up, then, let us seek greater diligence in inviting and bringing all we can to hear the Gospel, and watching for their souls; and, above all, let us live in the power of what we know.

May God arouse us to our responsibilities as to this, and give us ever to bear in mind how He has expressed *His* earnestness in saving the lost, even by the gift of His own Son. * * *

Watch not the clouds above thee;
Let the whirlwind round thee sweep;
God may the seed-time give thee,
But another's hand may reap.

Have faith, though ne'er beholding
The seed burst from its tomb;
Thou know'st not which may perish,
Or what be spared to bloom.

Room on the narrowest ridges
The ripened grain will find,
That the Lord of the harvest coming,
In the harvest sheaves may bind.

A. Skipton.

BAHAMAS.

NASSAU, W. I.—We found the saints in Nassau happy and going on with the Lord, Bro. Johnston speaking a word for the Master as opportunity offered.

We have visited Andros Island and spent four weeks with the saints there, endeavoring to lead them on and build them up in their "most holy faith."

Colored brethren, as a rule, require a great deal of teaching, and we feel the need of more laborers. The Gospel work cannot be neglected, and there is much to be done among the assemblies, many in a low state. I feel thankful that though while at Nichols Town we found much to discourage, the majority are giving bright testimony for the Lord.

Our souls were refreshed by some more conversions, six being saved and gathered, among the number a young white man from Nassau who was a confirmed infidel. The Lord applied the word in power to his soul, displacing all infidel ideas, and gave him *Christ*. He is a bright testimony for Him among his old companions here. He is of some note as a writer. Encourage him all you can, for he is honest for the Master, and is suffering persecution. He depends on his pen for the support of himself and wife.

We feel deeply the need of a Tract

Depot here to assist in spreading Gospel truth in these islands. Gross darkness is settling down as a pall over the people especially since *Rome* is gaining the ascendancy here. She is gaining the colored people by hundreds by her superior educational advantages freely offered to them (as that is one point in which the colony is weak), and further attractions in the shape of ritual, music, etc., serve to draw the unwary in crowds. To the opened eye and ear these signs are easily read, and the desire of our hearts and that of many brethren here is to counteract as far as we can the effects of this by the diffusion of the precious truths of the Gospel. Oh! that God would touch the hearts of His people elsewhere with a sense of their responsibility and the need of these foreign lands.

We would fain appeal through the columns of *FIELD AND WORK* to our many brethren for a helping hand in this. We have those here who are competent and willing to take charge of it and furnish a room for that purpose.

Have been holding meetings in Nassau for about a week, and there is an evident interest and some anxious souls. We purpose going to Abaco, shortly. Many open doors, but few laborers. I am alone, but God is with me. *Geo. Pearson.*

[Received in May, but unavoidably omitted, we are sorry to say. Ep.]

UNITED STATES.

SMYRNA, DEL.—I have concluded to let you know how we do, and also to find out how you do (Eph. vi. 21; Rom. i. 12). It has been a long time since we heard. You must not forget I am one of the first-fruits of your ministry. We feel rather isolated here at S.; mother and I are alone, since last March, although we recognize that the Lord is with us. Can say but

little about interest in the truth here. I get clear of a good many tracts, which are well received, and the Lord gives me a word now and then to individuals. I can do but little, yet am looking to the Lord for blessing upon the feeble efforts. I hear from Bro. Durham, who left last March; he and his wife are alone, but are remembering the Lord. I am not past having trials and doubts and fears, and when they come the sympathy of others is not to be despised, though there is nothing like the heart of God. *A. N. Montgomery.*

BOSTON, June 4th, 1890.—I thought you would be interested to hear of the visit of Bro. E. S. Lyman and myself to Brewer, Maine, in response to the call of Bro. N. McKenzie, in April number of *FIELD AND WORK*. The Lord refreshed us ere starting by bringing us in contact with a young converted Jew, Paul L. Moskowitz, now of 66 Salem St., converted through the instrumentality of one of the London city missionaries, himself a Jew, who in turn was converted through Mr. Spurgeon.

Our young friend we found to be a personal acquaintance of Isaac Levinsohn, of whose conversion we have read in *Faithful Words*. At the time of his baptism his wife, in her bitter enmity to the name of Jesus, offered violence to the officiating minister. She remains unconverted in London. Since coming to this country he has suffered much persecution from his race for Christ's sake. Employed as travelling salesman by dry goods houses (Jews), he would be discharged when discovered to be a Christian. He was hoping to be used in the Gospel among his own people here, but saw no opening. When asked if he had no friends who might aid him in finding employment, he replied, "No, but I have found a friend in Jesus."

We were much refreshed by our short season with him.

Arriving at Brewer, we were met by

Bro. N. McKenzie, T. Corbin and J. J. Campbell, all formerly of Black Cape, Que., all old acquaintances and in fellowship, including also Mrs. McKenzie.

They had been wont to come together occasionally for mutual edification and fellowship. On Lord's Day we broke bread together, a Mrs. Kenney, much interested in the truth, breaking bread with us.

We remained with them a few days, reading the Word together, with deep interest, and, we trust, with profit to all.

In a letter since received from Mr. McK. we learn that they had grace to continue the breaking of bread.

May God confirm the word in their souls, and strengthen them much by His Spirit, to the end that they may be "sober, stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

At Auburn, Me., we found two or three steadily faithful amidst many hindrances. May God grant them to "lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees," and something of the spirit of Acts xx. 24.

The Lord graciously afforded us numerous opportunities of ministering help and comfort from the Word to individuals in the vicinity and by the way. To Him be all the praise.

Mr. Lyman has gone on to Towanda, Pa., stopping off at Wallingford, Conn., for a brief call on Bro. Hubbell.

J. B. Jackson.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.—The Lord's table is an oasis in the desert, and we are refreshed while offering praise. How many doors open to distribute tracts and visit from house to house. I can scarcely contain myself as I think of it. I have real fellowship with the laborers as they go here or there, and pray for them all. We are going on quietly, I believe, happy in

Him, yet all poor as to this world. Our meeting room is the best we have had, on the first floor and convenient to get to. I feel sure if the Lord sent one of His servants there would be souls gathered.

More and more do I feel all must be of Him to abide.

A. F. Cowles.

CANADA.

KALADAH, ONT.—I would have written before, but have been waiting the result of the meetings held by yourself and Bros. Rogers and McLaren. Well, brother, certainly the Lord is blessing souls, bless His name for it. I believe Bro. McLaren is doing what people said Paul did, through the Lord, turning the world upside down. Both the world and the Church are on their wrong end, and they see it, both sinners and saints, and if they are honest and wise they will be willing to be righted. Quite a few have been saved and several are about going forth without the camp; and you know, brother, what that involves—courage and stability on their part to trust the Lord to stand the persecution already begun. And on our part, who have passed through it, patient waiting on the Lord and humbling ourselves before Him, so we may through His grace be a pattern, and support those that may come out. I earnestly desire prayer for these two little assemblies, that there may be a thorough emptying out of self, that others may see that the work done for Christ by the dear brethren who labored here has brought forth much fruit. I have another touch of the "grip," but it comes from my best Friend, for we have none other such a friend, and it is another of the all things that work for good. May it work everything out of me that would be a hindrance to the part I have to play in the narrow pathway.

Eben Ruffan.

THESSALON, ONT.—Our Bro. W. K.

broke bread with us today for the first time. I was asking him if he thought it strange when we broke bread long ago, just ourselves, two. He said no, he knew it was right and often wished he could do so, but fought it off. I often think of what you told me once, if we kept burdening ourselves with every trouble we will soon have more than we can carry. I have not been preaching for some time, and have no real excuse but circumstances, and that makes me ashamed when I see others laboring spite of them. I have been visiting a little in Day Township. It is wonderful how many one finds who have real love for the Lord and can stay where we cannot. How true where one is strong another is weak. How precious when we get home and all settled. What we need now is to quit ourselves like men and be strong in the faith. What a sad thing to see children of God gone back into the world. Oh! where would we go if the Lord did not check us in our course. Bro. Hugh Davidson stayed a night out here lately: wishes some one would come up there and preach.

John Lamont.

STAYNER, ONT. — Was at Sunnidale two days, and had quite a nice time; was out visiting most of the time. A young sister was out with me a day and a half, and was fully up to her work, and knows the Gospel well, and can lay it down very plain. Another went out with me half a day and much enjoyed it and handed tracts to some. Some we found much interested and enjoyed the truth we spoke of.

H. Adamson

[A good way this suggests in following up the preaching of the Word there previously. Oh that by word and ways it was more widely done! Ed.]

TORONTO, ONT. — Two weeks after you left me I was taken down with a bad attack of cold, which settled on my lungs.

In going from Kaladar to Barry I took

a short cut through the woods, and crossing a swamp got ankle deep in the water, which brought on the cold.

The Lord was giving blessing by opening hearts long shut against the truth, and it seemed that all had to be dropped; but just four days after I was taken down the Lord sent Bro. J. R. McLaren along, and he went right on with the meetings. Four, who were saved years ago, but had never taken their place at the Lord's table, are now clear and happy as to it. Others manifest interest in the Gospel. I came away May 24th, being unable to preach, and Bro. McLaren stayed on to follow up the work. He will remain as long as he can. The saints are very happy and seem to have received a fresh start. May the Lord still lead them on. At Norwood they are asking, "When will that man come back? We want to hear more of that kind of preaching."

I have tried to rest a few days here, and do a little at the same time. Am able now to use my throat, and expect to go north to Stayner and places near by. Will have little time to stay, as there is to be a meeting (D. V.) at Napanee to begin July 3rd. I would like to be there a little before to lend a hand in getting ready for it.

Our gathering here on May 24th was with comfort and blessing to our souls. The meetings seem to keep up with interest, and there are some very nice souls among those who have newly come among us, but much need of "rooting and grounding" in the truth.

John Rogers.

CALGARY, N. W. T. — We came here in June of last year and like the North West very much. We have not forgotten you, and are glad to hear of your welfare and blessing on your labor. Time is passing away, and what changes—so many of our acquaintances gone, many who had spoken to us of Christ now

absent from the body and present with Himself. Eternity in all its solemnity is a blessed reality when Jesus fills the heart and we know Him as the light of heaven—the rest that remains for the people of God.

“God and the Lamb shall there
The light and temple be,
And radiant hosts forever share
The unveiled mystery.”

“A little while” we look forward, and “a little while” and we shall look backward on all our wilderness path, remembering the hand that guided and brought us safely home. There are some brethren here, but a long distance apart; the nearest to us is seven miles off. Although there is no gathering here we can enjoy what we possess, family worship, and we have ample opportunity for giving Gospel papers.

P. Beveridge.

SHEPPARDVILLE, N. W. T.—May our meeting be the means of drawing many of our hearts closer to Himself. How He does satisfy the heart when He is the object! We do need to guard against worldliness. I find it has a great tendency to creep in, but when we realize we are not our own, but His, then all is joy and peace. I have been encouraged lately in the Gospel. A Presbyterian invited me to their school house. We have had three meetings, a good number come out, and there seems good interest. Looking very like rain last night, we found over twenty there when we went, and a lot more came afterwards and mostly all were seeking to catch every word. Remember Manitoba in your prayers.

R. Sparrow.

BEDFORD, N. S.—Back here about a month, and unable to get away for any time or distance, so have been trying to use the opportunities lying nearer to hand. As we even this I have been made to feel the need of bowing to the Lord's yoke in some lessons one is apt to neglect when more fully engaged with the work of the

Lord. Thus the Lord exercises as to *mending our nets* as well as casting them. A few cases met in the Tract Depot, when in each week for meetings, have been cheering. Have been able by it also to circulate truth through others in needy fields one learns of; now and then meeting those whose love for Christ and souls is above that of a cause. Through the death of the city missionary, the mission hall is offered us, which may the Lord give grace and wisdom to use to God's glory and the blessing of souls. Oh, to have hearts alive to His interests and to be by His grace as “good soldiers,” pleasing Him who called us; *wrestlers* striving for the mastery lawfully, and *husbandmen* laboring in hope to partake in due time of the fruits. Several places are asking for meetings, which one longs to answer as far as the Lord enables.

B. C. G.

CLOVER VALLEY, MANITOULIN ISLAND, ONT, June 12, 1890.—There is everything to encourage the servant of the Lord when the heart is in communion with the Saviour; faith levels everything and passes on in triumph in the midst of the failure more in His presence where there is joy forever. We have had much to encourage since we have been on the Island, my wife and I. There is a good hearing in most of the places, if we could only get around faster for the Master, there being no way but to walk, but happy to do that. It is precious to meet with dear ones gathered to Christ. He is before all things and by Him all things consist (Colossians i. 17). The labor that has been done on the island by God's servants has not been in vain; we find many souls saved and others interested. I went up last summer to Barry Island and there met Bro. Adamson and others, and was very much blessed. Trust the Lord will lead there this summer.

Willis Haviland.