

from our hearts, dear brother, and may the Lord of the harvest greatly strengthen your hands in these evil times. The Macedonian cry goes up for help, and not in heathen lands alone. It seems on every side as if the people were perishing for lack of knowledge. How forcible the lamentation of the prophet, 'O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy thy paths' (Isa. lili. 12). If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into the ditch. Oh, for faithful men, to point out the good old paths; that will not sing the lullaby of 'Peace, peace,' when there is no peace; that will not preach smooth things and prophesy deceit (Isa. xxx. 10); but as the Spirit gives them utterance to lift up their voice like a trumpet and fearlessly declare the whole counsel of God.

The 'Well done' to the faithful servant will soon be heard, and may the thought nerve and strengthen those who are bearing the burden and heat of the day to press on through every trial, through evil report and good report, a feeble band it may be, but though 'faint, yet pursuing,' no thought of retreat; having done all, to 'stand,' sword in hand and armor on. It is the 'sword of the Lord,' etc. (Judges vii. 18). The soldier of the cross is linked with Omnipotence, and *victory is sure.*"

The above is sent for publication, in the hope it may minister encouragement to others in the field as it did to the receiver. **

A COMMUNICATION REGARDING "THE WORK OF THE LORD."

Your remarks in the September number of FIELD AND WORK on "The Work of the Lord" suggest the following line of things:

We are a very weak people in many respects, though it might be as truly said of us, "In everything ye are enriched by Him, in all utterance and in all knowledge; even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: so that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." It is well to remember also, "Who shall also confirm you unto the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" (I. Cor. i. 5-8).

Yet speaking of our "own company" as a whole, we do "come short" in "many things" (James iii. 2) "that are good and profitable unto men" (Titus iii. 8). While "gift" there doubtless is much of, and I feel quite sure that there are none more "ready" and "willing to commu-

nicate" than those who are truly gathered to the name of Jesus, yet one thing has pained me very much to witness among us, and is the fruitful cause of many a temptation to me, and doubtless to others, and tends to hinder and blind the eye as to guidance in service. I refer to the readiness of saints to minister to a laboring brother only when he is seen moving amongst them. One would not wish to charge upon the beloved people of God a spirit of legality in this, as though one must be paid for his service among them. Rather would I think that love is put in exercise through the stirring up to it, in the heart, by the Spirit, through the word ministered. There are, of course, exceptions one can thankfully own, but the general practice seems to be pretty much the same everywhere.

I have been much hindered in ministry in various ways by this custom; and I trust it may not be out of place to speak of the various exercises of the soul on account of it.

A certain place has been brought before me; I desire to visit them; yet I know the prevailing habit in that place is to minister to one almost as soon as the foot is set in it. I have questioned myself, and would not go, when doubtless I ought to have gone. Thus the exercise, I do not question, is good for my own soul; yet we miss a mutual benefit by this habit. Not that I would say it is wrong to communicate thus. But when one knows that as soon as the foot is out of the place that follows which the Spirit of God has to record concerning the chief butler of whom Joseph requested, "But think on me when it shall be well with thee, and show kindness, I pray thee, unto me, and make mention of me to Pharaoh . . . Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgot him" (Gen. xl. 14, 23). One is made painfully conscious of this forgetfulness at times, though for one's self no hand but God's is seen. He withholds and He gives. "That thou givest them they gather" are words which apply for one's comfort, and prevent a murmuring spirit toward "His own."

There seems to be a prevailing thought among many of the saints like this: "Oh, he is well provided for." Thus responsibility is thrown off in a matter which concerns every one of us. Is it, after all, only a question of supplying food and raiment to those who have "for His name's sake gone forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles" (III. John 7)? This puts one down to a most degrading thought—preaching for a living! Has the servant of the Lord only his own suste-

nance in mind? If he has, better far go into the fields and plough; he could have the assurance of bread thus.

But I speak from experience. In the path of service one oftentimes knows what it is to *hunger and thirst* if faithful in his Master's business! But, alas! how often tempted to run away from a field, like Jonah, where one must *be alone* and no human helping hand near! How often tempted to abandon a field because of the lack of means to go on! Still, *God is enough*, and one cannot complain. He overrules, and the watchful, faithful servant finds work to do everywhere.

When Israel forgot the law, the Levites went to the fields, and God fed them, though they tilled the soil for it; but how much Israel missed! Never fear, the servant of the Lord will not be allowed to starve. But then that is the least thing thought of by him who has given up his life into the service of his Master. Souls—oh, those poor souls, without God and without Christ in the world! What about them? Has the "ambassador" any fear as to his personal needs? None whatever; he can go without, and no thanks to any one but God; none the less prayerfully thankful to God for any measure of fellowship in the work. Every one of us is responsible to give to the *work of the Lord*. The *personal* need of the servant God will look out for. He knows *how* and *when* and *where* to send bread. But the work of the Lord needs self-denial; it means to rob ourselves, if we can do so in faith (II. Cor. viii. 2) and happily. Yet one thing I feel needs a little pressing. Are we sufficiently cast upon God as to go forth into strange places without the fellowship of our brethren? I confess that herein I must own not a little exercise, whether I am duly cast upon Him or not. Martha-like, are we not oftentimes saying, "Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone?" May we ever be preserved both from independence of and dependence upon my sister or my brother.

The evangelist has a "gift." He can use it anywhere and always. When Paul waited for Silas and Timothy at Athens, "his spirit was stirred in him when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry," and he *went to work at once* (Acts xvii. 16, 17), in the synagogue, the market, and with those "that met with him" conversationally. He was not afraid to serve alone, like we oftentimes are.

God can raise up an Abigail or a Lydia, or He

can make the "powers that be" provide sustenance, even though it be in a jail at Philippi. He can give us a free pass to Rome, as He did Paul, if He wants to, bringing us before kings, etc. Would to God I had the boldness to brave the sneers and stones of the multitudes, as one *must do* if his lips are to be constantly and always speaking to a lost world of "Jesus Christ, and Him crucified" (I. Cor. ii. 2).

I believe, beloved, that the saints, when duly taught and stirred up as to these things, as a general rule are faithful; more so, doubtless, than any other "company" where voluntary offerings are the custom. But, alas! how often there is the sinking down to the world's level, eliciting the question, sadly enough, "Where is the spring?" Only let us be sure that *our* springs are in *God*, we can never then be disappointed. If the Philistines stop up the wells, God is able to open them again; and if He abandons them, He may be saying to us afresh, "Drink waters out of thine own well;" or "Pass through the valley of Baca, *make it a well*" (Psa. lxxxiv. 6); or we may find "wells digged, which thou diggest not" (Deut. vi. 11).

One thing I am sure of for myself: I might *want* to do this or that; I might want a hall, a tent, or to go here or there; but God's will for me is to go to work *just where and as I am*. If saints lack in fellowship, that is none of my care; they must "give an account to God" just the same as myself. He has put in me "the word of reconciliation" (II. Cor. v. 19), and I am responsible to deliver the message to "all the world," as guided by Him, of course.

Children of God, if you want to share in the rejoicing, remember the words, "*We ought* to receive such, that we might be *fellow helpers* to the truth" (III. John 8); "whom if thou bring forward on their journey worthy of God, *thou shalt do well*" (verse 6). ***

CANADA.

HALIFAX, N. S.—Truly the harvest appears ripe to put in the sickle. May we each rejoice before Him, "bringing in the sheaves." Much interest astir here; the tent meetings have aroused many. I find as much to do as I can possibly manage. Meeting Thursday largely attended, Lord's Day quite an interested number. I

preached from Gen. vi. and vii. and Matt. xxv., followed by J. J. H. The Word had power, I believe. One remained behind with whom I talked till 10 p. m. and promised to see again; had been to the tent meetings—but one of many cases. I am daily receiving invitations to visit some, and in nearly every case from those who attended the tent. Constant enquiries as to your return greet me even on the streets. Many are exercised as to their right place, others as to assurance, and some as to salvation. One could keep on from morning till night dealing with these dear souls. We trust your return will be speedy, for I go in fear and trembling to them; but having II. Tim. iv. 2 before me I go on, looking up. The Lord is truly opening doors here. Pray that we may be kept low at the Master's feet. Heb. xiii. 20, 21. *F. J. Enefer.*

WINDSOR, N. S.—The Lord's favor first in providing unsolicited the tent for work in Halifax, seating and filling it with eager hearers, and adding His blessing to the Word, has much cheered our hearts. For three weeks nightly and on Saturdays and Lord's Days, 4 and 8 p. m., the attendance was constant and interest increasing till the end, and many expressions of blessing received strengthened faith in God. Following with it at St. Croix meeting, some 15 or 20 of these came in for a further share there, about 70 attending, and more at the Gospel meetings Lord's Day than at any previous one, a number driving from parts around. Disappointed at the absence of some we hoped for, the Lord gave the assurance, as one such wrote us, that "Not by might" is the word. The readings were free and edifying, from Luke iv., Rom. xii., John xvii., Heb. vi.; the Holy Spirit, Jude and John xi.; and the Gospel meetings on Acts viii. 25-40, Heb. xiii. 10-16, Luke xvii. 25-37, Gen. vii., Luke x.

25-37 and v. 1-39 were serious and attentive.

The Lord gave a goodly measure of real fellowship and good cheer, and many went away "satisfied with favor, full with the blessing of the Lord." Several remembered the Lord with us as a privilege, both "theirs and ours," and many witnessed our "showing the Lord's death till He come." At the close of the meeting we brought the tent and outfit here, where eleven meetings have been held on Fort Hill, and with increasing attendance and interest, the brethren at St. Croix expressing their fellowship in the Gospel by constant attendance and help in other lines. Now we but await God's answer from heaven as evidencing that "the offering up of souls here is acceptable to Him, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost" (Rom. xv. 16). Other places are requesting meetings, and we trust for guidance in responding, hoping later to pitch tent at Dartmouth during a three days' exhibition there. The Lord vouchsafe His grace to "sow the precious seed," and the sense of His presence before which all difficulties soon vanish (Psa. cxiv.). Meetings being continued in the Mission Hall in Halifax, we trust the interest there may be nurtured by them and blessing widened. *B. C. G.*

MONTREAL, QUE.—Since returning from Buffalo I spent a Lord's Day at Cumberland, and the Lord gave us a soul in the Gospel—a lady there on a visit from the United States, who after the meeting said she saw that she was lost, but now knew she was saved. They are all happy there and going on with the work. I enjoyed the visit, and they seemed to. Two or three have been added of late, among them Bro. Ferguson's youngest son, which is a great comfort to his father, and encouragement to him to press on. Bro. Rogers is at Muskoka with the hope of recruiting; he was pretty well run down with hard work

and La Grippe; he is improving, but begrudges the time he calls lost from the work. No doubt he will soon be on the march again. Bro. Gray (Chicago) was with us Lord's Day, preached at night. I purpose remaining a few days, and will have some little lectures each evening.

J. R. McLaren.

BLACK CAPE, QUE., Sept. 8.—The roaring lion is going about seeking whom he may devour. The Presbyterian clergyman is telling people that C. H. Mackintosh's and C. Stanley's writings are a base falsehood, and such talk. May the Lord give each of us strength to resist such, and to be humble and led by the Spirit, and ever rejoicing in the Lord to be free from such bondage.

Neil Campbell.

[The Lord grant our dear brethren, tested thus, steadfastness in the faith, and in earnestly contending for it the spirit of their blessed Master, the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who "witnessed a good confession" in "answering not a word." Ed.]

SHEPPARDVILLE, MANITOBA.—We had a blessed, happy meeting. Bros. Little and Booth were with us; only stopped a few days after, as they had work they could not leave. May the Lord lead them step by step. One of my brothers was restored and took his place; others got blessing also. We had two young "open brethren" with us; they are increasing out here.

R. Sparrow.

[We are thankful to learn of Bros. L. and B. strengthening the hands of our brethren in those wide and needy fields. The Lord grant us each to realize that we have but to be here for Him, to be used of Him. "Men in Christ" we are, "men of God" should be our aim. Ed.]

WOLFVILLE, N. S.—After nine days at Windsor with decided interest and some blessing manifest, about 30 following regularly, we pitched tent here. The first night "the lewd fellows of the baser sort" disturbed somewhat, but there was a seri-

ous hearing on the part of most, and we are hopeful of blessing. Next (D. V.) we hope to pitch at the Dartmouth Exhibition and to use the opportunity to spread the truth by tracts, meetings and personal conversation. Our last meeting at Windsor, having struck tent, was in the Block House, and about 40 eager hearers on but little notice came in, and we trust not in vain.

B. C. G.

UNITED STATES.

OCEAN GROVE, N. J.—Was very glad to hear of the interest manifested in your tract-work. The interest here would delight your heart. I began work about 6.30 a. m., and with a few intermissions continued until dark. I kept no account of the number distributed, lest it should give occasion for boasting, and you know the flesh is ever ready to boast. In order to give undivided attention to it, I absented myself from the public meetings, but heard afterwards that at one of them a gentleman from B— told of a wonderful work he was doing for the Lord in publishing and circulating a tract entitled, "The Way to be Saved," saying he would supply a large number, as he was printing them by the hundred thousand. At that very time I was on the beach circulating "The Way of Salvation," by C. H. Spurgeon, a tract so similar in title to his. On handing a tract to a gentleman of middle age and fine appearance he asked, "Did you ever know of good being done by tracts?" In reply I was able (praise the Lord) to tell him of instances of positive blessing through tracts I had given out. He was greatly interested, and lifting his hat as a mark of respect, said, "Sir, although I am not a Christian, I honor you for your noble work. I am a professor in a college and was well brought up, but have drifted away so far that now I

have no faith in anything." You can imagine what a pleasure it was to put the truth before him, for he was deeply in earnest. The converted Catholic priest, Father O'Connor, is here at present, and as unlike a priest as any man I ever saw, a most affable and godly man. Several other priests have been brought to Christ through him; one is here with him.

I returned from Northfield twelve days ago, and have been busy; with the meetings and my tract work my time has been fully occupied from early morning until very late at night. I enjoyed the meetings here even more than at Northfield. I had never heard Dr. B. nor Dr. W. before, and their addresses were so thoroughly scriptural that I was truly refreshed by them. I also enjoyed the addresses of Drs. G. and E. very much. One by the latter on "God's Two Books" I hope to get printed. It contained a line of truth quite new to me, although I might have read it plainly in the 19th Psalm if I had had eyes to see. The transition from the one to the other in the sixth and seventh verses is very striking.

I shall always be glad I have been to Northfield. I never had so many tokens of the Lord's guidance and presence and blessing in any previous journey; and the way the Lord was pleased to use me and the Christian friendships formed will never be obliterated from my memory. I never more fully realized the truth of those words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." To be privileged to give out the truth to a receptive heart, and to hear the repeated expression, "I'm glad I ever met you," filled my cup to overflowing. And it was such a precious manifestation of *grace* on the Lord's part, for I went hoping to *get* something, and He led me into such an experience of John vii. 38 as was quite new and unusual to me. The tract work is flourishing, and just enough

hindrance to prove that the work is of the Lord. I gave out quite a number yesterday. Many asked for some to send their friends. One man begged for a handful of each. I spent over nine hours on the walk, and was kept busy all the time. I am glad you are also having encouragement. I. Cor. xv. 58.

One thought in closing: Mary did more to refresh the heart of Christ than Martha. Read I. Chron. xi. 17-19.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA., Aug. 20.—You will see by the enclosed that "bread cast upon the waters" has been found after nearly six years. Bro. N. writes of being on Blue Ridge Mountain, at work among the poor. I hope to be able to send him a good parcel of tracts for distribution. Seventh Day Adventism is making bad work in our city. Certainly they are most persistent in pushing their doctrines in every place they can; specially do they weave their web about women. One case likely to separate man and wife, the latter being led away by them, the husband seeing in them "Satan transformed into an angel of light." For seven weeks each Lord's Day I have been preaching the Gospel in a park, and have expected these would give me trouble, but only once have I seen any (that I knew) on the ground. I hope to have some of R. T. G.'s tract, "The Unchristian Doctrines of Seventh Day Adventists," to distribute next Lord's Day; have fine openings for giving out thousands of tracts. I have lately learned two things from John xxi. 1-14 one must have to "cast the net" so as to see fruit—*His presence and His Word.*

You encourage me by word you last sent—"Magnify your office." The Lord help me to do this. The little assembly held on the way. C.

[How many and varied spheres of service open to us the above indicates. The Lord give

us not to be slack, but to go in to "possess the land." Ed.]

MARION, KANSAS.—For some time I have been prompted to write you. I think you must have been praying for me all these years. I had a most wonderful blessing lately, such as I never knew to pray for; what wonderful things the Lord revealed to me till I could hold no more! Ever since I saw you I had times of deep meditation, being mystified on subjects you talked about, but invariably dismissed the subject, *concluding it was only a delusion that had overtaken you*. Then what puzzled me most was the unmistakable peace you had, and again and again the subject would come and go. The night referred to the great Author made all plain to me as my own existence. I tremble when I think of how blind I have been, and wonder why the Lord was so good as to open my eyes. How I love to think of His coming! Oh, this pilgrim life! I love it, and the fare is sweet to me. Some of my friends are mourning over me, fearing I am becoming "luny," as they call it. Others shake hands and say, "I hope you are not backsliding." How I would appreciate the opportunity I once had of studying the Word with you. I have dug up some old books you gave me that have been packed away till they are mouldy. I am just feasting on them, as they help me so much to understand the Word. I have only now to ask the dear Lord to give me a right understanding of His Word and He answers me. I cannot see how you can keep from travelling about telling the truth. Hope the Lord may send you out here.

Mrs. G. B. S.

(To A. F. C.)

DUNDAS, MINN.—The meeting at Cottage Grove was one of sweet fellowship from beginning to end, and the Word of God was ministered in power. We enjoyed dear P. J. L.'s visit very much.

Bro. Booth and I went to the meeting at Sheppardville, Manitoba, where we also enjoyed sweet fellowship with the saints gathered there from different parts of the province, some coming over a hundred miles in a wagon. We found great need for laborers in the province. May the Lord qualify and send them forth. Having Springbrook (Kitsun Co.) on our hearts, we returned there from the meeting and found those who had received blessing through our labors last fall were anxiously waiting to receive more truth and to remember the Lord's death. We remained several weeks ministering Christ to them. Several are gathered there to the Lord, and are having meetings for prayer, the study of God's Word and breaking of bread, and have a good Sunday school. We met with much to encourage in visiting different assemblies on our way to Iowa, but greatly desire to see more spiritual energy manifested among the saints, as well as by ourselves, that with real devotion of heart to Christ we may be able, in the midst of Laodicean declension and lukewarmness, to live above it all in the atmosphere of His presence.

We leave (D. V.) tomorrow for Anita, Iowa, to hold meetings in our large Gospel tent. I know you and the dear saints in other places will look to the Lord for real blessing. I spent some weeks there last winter, and they have been anxiously looking for us to go there since June. When in the northwestern part of the State this spring, I met a dear brother in Christ in the cars who had come from Scotland and settled there, and had been holding Gospel meetings. He and his wife and some others were remembering the Lord in breaking bread. He is acquainted with many of the laborers and their writings. I hope to call and see him as soon as possible. David Little.

ANITA, IOWA.—I have been extra busy. We are here with our tent in the country, and trust the Lord will give us blessing. Pray for us. There is a large field here, much interest. May He keep us just right for the work. I have just received word my dear father has gone home, in Toronto, very suddenly; another link to bind the heart upward. The Lord keep us with a single eye until He comes.

A. E. Booth.

FITCHBURG, MASS.—Again the dear Lord has taken one of our number to be with Himself. Our dear sister Mrs. Jewett departed to be with Christ Sept. 1. She had not been well for some time, was happy to go to be with Him who had more attraction to her than anything down here. He seemed to be her all in all. She often exclaimed, "What do you suppose it will be to be there?" Now she knows. The day before she died, when asked if she would take some nourishment, said "Yes; but first I want to say, 'Jesus my Shepherd is,' and 'I shall be satisfied.'" These were her last words. To Mrs. H. she said, "If I go, you may know I am satisfied." On her sister asking if she could talk with Jesus, "No," she said, "now I can't, but He talks with me." When asked if it was joy to think of going, she said, "Oh, unspeakable!" Dear Bro. Jewett feels his loss very much, but the Lord has comforted. Mr. Haskell, Mr. Gale and Mr. Schwab took part in the funeral exercises. The 19th hymn in the Appendix was sung, one of Mrs. J.'s favorites. She requested it sung while she was sick, and would join in it herself.

S. C. N.

MALDEN, MASS., Sept. 5.—Have a nice letter from our Bro. Nalle of Virginia, laboring among the Blue Ridge Mountains in Bible readings, giving tracts and general Gospel work; evidently an open door there among the poor farmers,

neglected by the hireling shepherds. He finds some in need of further light than he is able to give, as he says, and points them to brethren, mentioning three names which he thinks would be useful as loaning centres, for their respective districts, for any books which might be sent to them.

May God enlarge our hearts to respond to this call, and to pray that the books sent may be much used of the Lord, and that these dear souls may be led on in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. J. B. Jackson.

[It might be a real outlet and service to the Lord for some, unable to go to these distant fields, to supply simple reading for these dear souls. Bro. J. will give to such the addresses mentioned. Ed.]

TRINITY COLLEGE, N. C.—Since I had the happy lot of meeting you I have gone through many trials, but the Lord has delivered me out of them all, and I believe my feet are on the "rock of eternal ages." Have received several bundles of tracts. Accept my heartfelt thanks. May God bless you for distributing His word. Have had license to preach about a year, and hope I am doing some good in the name of my Master. Prayer has kept me here so long, and God can still continue to answer. ***

[We met between Raleigh and Greensborough, N. C., on his return from Y. M. C. A. convention. (The secretary requested me to address the students on the train, but was surprised at my addressing others off it at a railroad junction.) To two sisters in Montreal, "laboring with me in the Gospel," belongs the credit of above service, which "God is not unrighteous to forget." Would others like a share in it? If so, I can furnish some hundreds of names to supply and pray for. Ed.]

Whilst the eye is gazing with delight on Christ in glory, the Holy Spirit is engraving the Christ we delight in on our hearts.