

CORRESPONDENCE.

MERCER SETTLEMENT, June 5th 1906.

The Quarterly meeting of District No. 2. met with Mercer Settlement church on Tuesday June 5th and continued on till the 8th. Opening service conducted by A. F. Tanner. Bro. Lester addressed the people from Matt 19th:16th. Wednesday social meeting, led by Bro. Secord, afternoon service by Bro. McPherson. In the evening the power of the Holy Ghost fell, as Rev. M. S. Trafton spoke from 1 John 3 ch., several came to the altar seeking salvation, restoration and cleansing. Thursday opened by prayer and praise led by Bro. M. S. Trafton; afternoon president in the chair, meeting opened with prayer, 127th Psalm read by president, interesting remarks made to the associates of good work being done for the Lord. Roll was called, the following answered to their names:—Tanner, E. W. Lester; election of officers; by motion officers remain as at last quarter—unanimous. President, Rev. M. S. Trafton; Secretary, A. F. Tanner; HIGHWAY agent, Sister Georgie Harrop; Treasurer, A. F. Tanner. The President urged the HIGHWAY agent to deepen interest in pushing the paper among the people. No delegates from Amherst, Westchester nor Lutz Mountain. Moncton, Sister Harrop; St. John, E. M. Smith; Kingston, visiting members, Bro. Lester, Bro. O. Secord, Bro. Beesley, Bro. W. Beesley; Mercer Settlement, Deacon N. Hicks; Mill Stream, Bro. McPherson. Report from churches called for: Rev. Z. B. Grass said Amherst was getting along nicely, good Sabbath school 40 scholars, 3 members added, they have no church, have the promise of a lot to build a church on, the Lord is blessing the prayer meetings. Lutz Mountain, Bro. Z. B. Grass reported that Bro. Maddison and wife was appointed delegates, owing to the weather could not come. Lutz Mountain church is doing well, interest increasing, souls seeking salvation, Sabbath school carried on with interest. Sister Harrop said Moncton church was doing well but not without its difficulties, meetings spiritual, the death of Sister Somers has been made a blessing, Sabbath school good, 5 candidates waiting for baptism. Thought churches should send written reports. Bro. E. M. Smith from St. John church said he was in favour of written reports. St. John church was strong, prayer meeting well attended, souls being blessed at every meeting. The church is working in harmony, 3 received into fellowship last week. Quite a number has been received into the church of late. Bro. M. S. Trafton spoke very feelingly of the death of Bro. Short, greatly missed needed so much in the church, hard to fill his place, prayers of the saints required for the home and bereaved. Deacon N. Hicks reported Mercer Settlement church still holding on to God, had victory, Bro. H. F. Grass had visited them once and Bro. Z. B. Grass once during the quarter. Bro. Tanner has been labouring steadily among them and his labours highly appreciated and blessed in building up the saints. Souls has been saved and the Lord is wonderfully blessing the church. Westchester writes as a church without any settled pastor, we depend fully upon our Saviour and praise God a church that is founded upon the solid rock Christ Jesus, the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Since our last quarterly meeting we have only missed two Sabbath meetings on account of storm. Not very largely attended, but all that are letting Jesus have his way are being blessed. We ask for the prayers of the Saints for this part of God's vineyard, we are praying that God will send some of his servants down this way. Bro. Z. B. Grass and Bro. H. F. Grass has been some with us and their presence accompanied with the Holy Spirit was a blessing to us; we are trusting and looking to the time when we will have a minister with us at least once a month. Bro. McPherson reported that the work of God was going on at Mill Stream. Bro. F. H. Grass had laboured some six weeks, souls saved. They have no church, one baptism. Bro. Trafton said that Norton had been helped, the seed of holiness had been sown and a harvest will surely follow. Weekly prayer meetings kept up by Bro. Carson. Rev. M. S. Trafton preached frequently. Bro. Lester reported

ed Kingston, they have not been without discouragements. This place had been without preaching for about 12 years until he went on the field; there has been some opposition. He is trying to preach the truth, the great hindrance is they have no church. St. John has helped them spiritually and finally the united Baptists are taking hold of the ground now, the truth of Holiness will stand. Invitations from Westchester accepted by ministers. We adjourned to meet with Westchester church at the call of the chair in September, meeting closed by singing. Thursday evening brought a great blessing as Rev. M. S. Trafton gave the message, the Holy Ghost fell with mighty power upon saints and sinners. A number were at the altar seeking and finding salvation. Praise the Lord! Friday morning service led by Bro. Smith. Soul food was given by the spirit from 1 John 3ch, had a heavenly sitting together in Christ Jesus. Sisters meeting in the afternoon conducted by Sister Harrop, after prayer and praise a Bible lesson was read, earnest talk was given by leader on Missionary work and the necessity of giving freely, as we have freely received. The meeting was very impressive and encouraging as the Missionary Society was only in its infancy. Two Sisters were appointed to go out and collect for this noble cause. Evening service opened with prayer and praise. Rev. Z. B. Grass delivered the message and at the close administered the Lord's Supper, assisted by Bro. Lester. A good feeling prevailed and the quarterly meeting closed proving a great blessing to church and people.

A. F. TANNER, Secretary.

DOES GOD ANSWER PRAYER?

Under the title, "Does God answer prayer?" Mrs Lamb of The Croft, High Barnet Herts, England, relates in the Methodist Times the following remarkable story of the late Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, the Wesleyan leader:

"During Mr Hughes's ministry at Barry-road Wesleyan Church the time came to pay off the last 100 pounds (\$500) which had been borrowed from a connexional fund. Thousands of pounds had been spent on building the splendid church and schools. Our people had worked and given nobly and to their utmost. It seemed well nigh impossible to get the last 100 pounds. Mr. Hughes announced one Sunday evening that our prayer meeting the next Friday night would be specially devoted to praying for this money. We had a capital prayer-meeting, but no donations were given toward the debt. As my husband and I walked home with Mr. Hughes he said, 'Well, nobody made any suggestion to-night, so we must pray on; that 100 pounds must be paid on Monday.' The next morning a member of my class called on me, and, some of our children being in the dining-room asked to see me alone. When they had left she said, 'Mrs. Lamb, do you know any work for Christ which is specially in need of 100 pounds just now? I said 'Indeed I do; our own church needs just that amount.' This lady was then in delicate health and not able to come out at night, so had not been at chapel and knew nothing of our difficulty. When I informed her she exclaimed, 'O! then, that's it evidently. I will give it, if you will promise that nobody shall know. I am getting old, and investments are a great bother to me, so I have now sunk my money in an annuity which will provide for me comfortably while I live. When this was all arranged there was just 100 pounds over and I told the Lord last night he should have that; what would he like me to do with it? He told me to come down and ask you, and now I understand. But no one must know. You see, I shall have less money to give away in the future, and if folks know I shall be inundated with appeals which I must refuse.' I asked her if I might tell

my husband, and after a while she consented, if he could keep a secret.' I assured her it would be safe with him, and I should also like to tell our minister, for Mr. Hughes would naturally be very curious. But she said, 'I will not give it unless you promise me not to tell another soul until I am in heaven, then you can tell anybody.' The promise was given and she handed me Bank of England notes of the value of 100 pounds. The dear old lady, Miss Sophia Wood, lived to the age of ninety four, but as now been called home, so I may divulge her secret. She was the daughter of a clergyman, but found the Saviour in her girlhood through the teaching of some early Methodists. When she moved into the neighborhood of Barry-road, she joined that church and maintained an unbroken record of nearly thirty years' membership there."

That God answers prayer multitudes of his children well know. Nothing that concerns them or his kingdoms of indifference to him. It is well, however, to be reminded occasionally of this fact by such incidents as that related by Mrs. Lamb.—Northwestern Christian Advocate.

WHERE VICTORY LIES.

Fighting against God is a losing battle. Familiar and often quoted is Napoleon's cynical remark: "God fights on the side of the strongest battalions." It is not so often remembered that the same Napoleon, at the head of the strongest battalions that he, or perhaps any man, ever commanded, turned from the bitter cold of Moscow with the despairing cry "The Almighty is too strong for me." When kings and emperors go forth to war they may well not only consider the strength of their battalions but make calculation as to what side God is likely to take in the matter for which they are fighting. Those are solemn words which Gamaliel spoke to the Sanhedrin, warning them "lest haply ye be found even to be fighting against God." Better turn back from the way you are going, better give up the thing you are doing, lose the gain what you know to be the righteous will of God. To be with God may not put a man in the majority, but it is sure to give him the victory.—Anon.

"PERFECT THROUGH SUFFERING"

Luther used to say there were many of the Psalms he could never understand until he was afflicted. Rutherford declares he got a new Bible through the furnace. Even the heathen Bion said: "It's a great misfortune not to endure misfortunes," and Anaxagoras, when his house was in ruins and his estate wasted afterward remarked: "If they had not perished, I should have perished." So said one, brought to himself by blindness: "I could not see till I was blind." Trials bring many to God. Joab would not come to Absalom till Absalom set his corn-field on fire.—Sel.

THE LOWER FROM ON HIGH.

CHAS. G. FINNY.

To the honor of God alone I will say a little of my own experience in this matter.

I was powerfully converted on the morning of the 10th of October. In the evening of the following day I received an overwhelming baptism of the Holy Ghost, that went through me, as it seemed to me body and soul. I immediately found myself endued with such power from on high, that a few words dropped here and there to individuals were the means of their

conversion. My words seemed to fasten like barbed arrows in the souls of men. They cut like a hammer. Multitudes can attest to this. Oftentimes a word dropped without my remembering it, resulted in almost immediate conviction.

Sometimes I found myself in a measure, empty of his power. I would go out and visit, and find that I made no saving impression. I would exhort and pray with the same result. I would then set apart a day for private fasting and prayer, fearing that this power had departed from me, and would inquire anxiously after the reason of this apparent emptiness. After humbling myself and crying out for help, the power would return upon me with all its freshness.

This has been the experience of my life. I could fill a volume with the history of my own experience and observation with respect to this power from on high. It is a fact of consciousness and observation, but a great mystery. I have said that sometimes a look has in it the power of God. I have often witnessed this.

This power is a great marvel. I have many times seen people unable to endure the Word.

The most simple and ordinary statements would cut men off from their seats like a sword, and would render them almost as helpless as dead men. Several times it has been true in my experience that I could not raise my voice or say anything in prayer or exhortation except in the mildest manner, without wholly overcoming those that were present.

This was not because I was preaching terror to the people, but the sweetest sound of the gospel would overcome them. This power seems sometimes to pervade the atmosphere of a meeting, so that it is highly charged with it. Many times great numbers of persons in a community will be clothed with the life of God. Strangers coming into it and passing through the place will be instantly smitten with conviction of sin, and in many instances converted to Christ.

When Christians humble themselves and consecrate their all afresh to Christ and ask for this power, they will often receive such a baptism that they will be instrumental in converting more souls in one day than in all their life time before.

While Christians remain humble enough to retain this power, the work of conversion will go on, till whole communities and regions of country are brought to Christ.

A FIVE ACT TRAGEDY.

Act the first: A young man starting off from home; parents and sisters weeping to have him go. Wagon rising over the hill. Farewell kiss flung back. Ring the bell and let the curtain fall.

Act the second: The marriage altar. Music on the organ. Bright lights. Long white veil trailing through the aisle. Prayer and congratulation, and exclamations of "How well she looks!"

Act the third: A woman waiting for staggering steps. Old garment struck in the broken window panes. Marks of hardship on her face. The biting of nails of bloodless fingers. Neglect, cruelty and despair. Ring the bell and let the curtain drop.

Act the fourth: Three graves in a dark place—grave of the child that died for lack of medicine, grave of the wife who died of a broken heart, grave of the man that died with dissipation. Ring the bell and let the curtain drop.

Act the fifth: A destroyed soul's eternity. No light. No hope. I close my eyes to this last act of the tragedy. Quick! quick! Ring the bell and let the curtain drop.—Rev. Dr. Talmage.

The men and women who are strong in faith don't talk of giving up their work in the church because there is to be a change of pastors,

YOUNG PEOPLE'S COLUMN.

A HERO IN AN UNFOUGHT BATTLE.

There was no more doubt about it. Betsy was lost. Ned had looked in the cow-yard, in the shed and in the stable, but not a sign of her did he find. He missed her from the pasture behind the house when he came home to dinner. After satisfying his hunger, he had made a thorough search of the premises. She was not there, that was certain. Where she was Ned knew it was his duty to find out. This duty was the very thing he least wished to do.

Ned's father had gone to the Philippines. Just before he left home he said to Ned, in a private talk:

"You're almost eleven years old, and you're big and strong enough to help your mother a great deal. I want you to do everything you can for her while I am gone. You'll be the only man about the house, and I want you to be a real man."

Ned's ideas about what made a "real man" were rather hazy. But he knew quite well what to do to help his mother, and he lived up to his knowledge so well that Mrs. Long had written, only the day before: "Ned is a real little man; you would be delighted with him. He is grown so thoughtful and helpful."

Today Ned was to have the sharpest trial that had yet come to him. His mother had gone out to do some dress-making, and Ned had permission to do just what he pleased all day. He had had a jolly morning with some of the boys, and right after dinner they were to go fishing—six of them—to Miller's pond, which was two miles from Ned's home. And now the cow was missing. That was a situation for a boy with a fishing excursion before him! Ned sat on the fence and thought. His hands were plunged deep in his trousers pockets; his face was all puckered up into a frown, and he did not whistle—sure sign that something was wrong. Just now he was thinking, and thinking hard, something like this:

"We can't get home from fishin' till five o'clock anyway, and mother'll want Bets by half-past; maybe it'll take me two or three hours to find her; maybe I wouldn't find her at all tonight! Then mother'll be worried. I just can't go fishin' if I wait to find that cow now. Oh! I've got to find her anyhow; there's no use talkin' 'bout that. 'Twouldn't be much like a man to go off playin' when your cow is lost. What I don't know about's whether to go and tell the boys I can't go with them, or let them wait awhile, and then go off without knowin' why I don't come. I hate to tell them! I knew well enough what Dick'll say: 'Let the cow go to Ballyhack, and come fishin'.' You can find her all right tonight. That's so; I might and then I mightn't. Well, here goes! I'll tell them, so they won't be losin' time waiting for me. It seems too mean to sneak out of telling them, just because I was afraid they'd stop my doing what I've got to. I'll be man enough to let them know I'm going to stay home and hunt up the cow."

Thereupon Ned began to whistle so loud that he did not hear the bell down the road nor the hallo of a small boy who was driving a cow. The boy had to repeat the hallo, and besides, "Say, Ned, are you deaf?" before Ned paid any heed. "Hallo!" he shouted; "where'd you find her?"

"Just beyond the turn of the road, Say, have you been all this time eating your dinner?"

"No! I'm awful glad you've found Bets, else I couldn't have gone fishin'."

"Wouldn't your mother let you?"

"She ain't home. I wouldn't have let myself."

"H'm!" was Dick's comment; and added below his breath, "You're a brick, Ned." —Sunday School Times.

There is buried in jewelry, gold and silver plate and useless ornaments within Christian homes, enough to build a fleet of 20,000 vessels, ballast them with Bibles and crowd them with missionaries; build a church in every destitute hamlet supply every living soul with the gospel within a score of years.—Dr. A. T. Pierson.

Pray for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Rev. A. and Riverside Camp Meetings.