

March 16, 1914

THE MINISTER'S HARD PLACE.

It is a very common occurrence with ministers of the gospel to find themselves in a very difficult situation in attending funeral services. A very large percentage of the people, to all appearance live with utter disregard to God, or the Bible and what their associates know to be downright wicked lives, and frequently die by disease or accident, and by dissipation, and the minister is called to the sorrowing home to conduct the funeral service. Around him are the friends and neighbors and social and business associates, who know all about the life and habits of the deceased. The minister feels a deep sympathy for the bereaved family, and wants to give them every possible crumb of comfort. Before him lies the remains, which makes the fact of death very real; on one side are the weeping relatives; around him are gathered men and women quite as careless and wicked in life as was the deceased; if the minister is a faithful servant of God, he wants to be true to his Master; he also wants to be a faithful messenger to the people and faithful to Bible truth. We fear that this situation is the place of defeat and swerving from the path of faithfulness to God, to truth and to man, of many who have been called to the gospel ministry.

Death is not the greatest sorrow which brings the scalding tears and rends the heart with grief. The writer visited a Christian mother one afternoon many years ago, whose son had died suddenly, and died as he lived. We found the mother of this son in great agony, and we tried to say some words of sympathy and comfort to her, but between her groans of awful heart agony she said, "Death is hard, but I could bear that if I only had one ray of hope for his salvation." We believe that this godly mother expressed that feeling of multitudes of hearts, that rarely finds expression but burns on many hearts, and brings premature age to many people, recurring again and again with awful agony. "If I only had one ray of hope for his salvation."

It is a real compliment to some faithful ministers that they are seldom called to attend the funerals of persons who dies without giving evidence of a life reconciled to God. People know that at the crucial point they will be faithful to God, to the truth, and to the people. We do not mean by this harshness, nor needless severity, which would be downright cruelty in many cases, but kindly and loving loyalty to all—comfort, but not compromise; "that which calls light, light, and darkness, darkness;" and sin, sin; and righteousness, righteousness.

Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter.

Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes and prudent in their own sight.—Isa. 5, 20-21.

WHO IS NARROW? WHO IS HARSH

It has seemed a mysterious thing that the men who stand for the truth and defend it should so often be called narrow and harsh, while those who advocate error and falsehood should be described as gentle and winning and broad, or at least never stigmatized as being harsh. Why is it? Can any one tell. Wherein does severity reside, In what does it consist? We confess that we have been puzzled.—*Herald and Presbyter.*

Have you renewed for the Highway?

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

CORRESPONDENCE

(Continued from page 7.)

as a private letter, but knowing that a large number of our readers are acquainted with Sister McLeod and are interested in her work, we take the liberty of publishing it.—EDITOR.

Dear Highway,—We want to report victory through the precious blood. We began special services at Holderville on the 6th inst. Brother Hilyard being called home on account of sickness, we secured the assistance of Rev. T. W. Moses. The interest is good and the people are attending well, and we are expecting grand results. Our new church looks fine. Brother Joseph Bullock donated four lamps for the church, value not less than twenty-five dollars, for which we are very grateful. Pray for the work at this place.

Yours in His service, W. W. HOWE.

Dear Highway,—If I should be as badly mixed or lacking in my experience as the little verse is at the finish of my sketch in your last issue, I would be in a deplorable condition; but as it is, I want to say I have a sky-blue conversion and a second-work-of-grace Holy Ghost sanctification. And the Comforter sweetly attests to both in my soul to-day. Amen.

REV. S. H. CLARK.

Wood Island, Grand Manan, N. B.,

March 6, 1914.

Dear Highway,—Would report from this "isle of the sea" that God is still with us; that we feel His presence and enjoy it, and that we have been having good times with Him this winter. We have had Bro. Henderson with us for three weeks of special services, and have had the satisfaction of seeing five who were held captive by Satan come back to Father's house. We intend to press the battle as long as we live, and with such a helper we have a right to and do expect victory, for He never lost a battle. Praise His name. We have organized a praying band and expect that God will enable us to hold out against the opposition of the devil, and hope through faith to do some good for our Master. Would say that Brother Henderson has given us good faithful service, crossing over to preach to us very often against unpleasant weather conditions, but it takes more than the weather, evidently, to turn him from his duty. Well may we ask the Lord to reward him, and He will. We all expect to be of that number who John saw, who "overcome by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimonies," and hope to see all the Highway readers and millions more there also.

Yours in service. PERCY H. GREEN.

Jonesport, Maine, Feb. 27, 1914.

Dear Highway,—I have been thinking that perhaps our readers would be interested to know something of the progress of our work here, both during and since our special services.

Our brothers, Rev. P. J. Trafton and Rev. H. S. Dow came to us filled with the power of God, and we all feel to praise God for such holy Spirit-filled men, who delivered by the help of God, without fear or favor, such mighty convincing truths from the word of God, which were wonderfully suited to the needs of the people. The preaching was so practical that it touched each one's every day life and gave them an opportunity to see just where they stood in the light of the holy word.

Eight persons sought and definitely found God for the forgiveness of their sins, and are now rejoicing in His love; others were convict-

SALVATION.

This great Salvation that has been provided for us is good for this life as well as for the life beyond. How much better it is for us here to be followers of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. How many traps there are set to catch especially the young. The youth of our country at the present day are attracted by so much that is calculated to deceive and end in run that parents, especially, cannot be too diligent in impressing on their youthful minds the awful consequences of a life of sin. The business man will find that to live a life devoted to the cause of religion is much better even from a business point of view. The wisdom that cometh from above greatly helps us in all our concerns of this life, not to speak of the great and glorious hereafter. For want of religion, how many have been wrecked and spent miserable wretched lives. And then, again, it's the pearl of great price, and we do well, as the man that found it in the field, to sell all and buy that field. A knowledge of Christ is everything to the heart and soul of man. He came down to our condition to lift us up and give us eternal life. "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ." His yoke is easy and his burden is light. The great interests of the soul should not be trifled with. What shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Our Saviour admonishes us to be ready, and since the waters of life are without money and without price, all may come and obtain this great salvation that will save us from sin here in this life and will give us an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

B. N. GOODSPEED.

"Real gold, in metal or in character, can stand all testings."

ed of their sin, but failed to yield to the Spirit's influence.

One strong feature of the work of our brothers was their power with God in prayer. This, we all well know, comes not by accident, but by practicing in the presence of God, and is the means whereby we shall have power with God and with men.

During the time of our special meetings we had a good number of storms and some bitterly cold weather, but in spite of the unfavorable conditions the services were well attended and the power and presence of God wonderfully felt by all whose hearts were in tune to understand and feel the touch of the Divine.

Since the close of the special meetings the deep interest has continued, and every service has brought to our souls rich blessings from our Heavenly Father.

We are planning to begin next week cottage meetings, to be held on Friday evenings, going especially to homes where the inmates are not able to get out to the regular services, trusting that both they and we shall be blessed.

I am enjoying my work very much with these dear people, for we are truly one in heart and in purpose. At Christmas time the members of the church presented me with a beautiful muff of Isabella fox, which has been a great blessing to me during this bitterly cold winter while taking the long walks which are a necessary part of my work.

I praise God that my soul is rejoicing in the love of Jesus, and day by day the way grows brighter as I journey on.

Yours in Christian fellowship.

M. ELLA SLIPP.