

## EXPERIENCE.

By Alfred Cookman.

"When just ten years of age, I realized clearly and satisfactorily the converting grace of God. I never shall forget the twelfth of February, 1838—the birthday of my eternal life."

Mr. Cookman's mind was first called to the subject of entire satisfaction by the remark of his mother as he was about to leave his happy home to preach the gospel: "My son, if you would be supremely happy, or extensively useful in your ministry, you must be an entirely sanctified servant of Jesus."

"Frequently," he says, "I felt to yield myself to God, and pray for the grace of entire sanctification; but then the experience would lift itself in my view as a mountain of glory, and I would say, 'It is not for me. I could not possibly scale that shining summit; and, if I might, my besetments and trials are such, I could not successfully maintain so lofty a position.'"

He was finally induced by Bishop and Mrs. Hamline, who were laboring in the vicinity, to seek the great blessing. "One week-day afternoon," he says, "after a most delightful discourse, he urged us to seize the opportunity, and do what he had often desired, resolved and promised to do, viz., as believers, yield ourselves to God as those who were alive from the dead, and from that hour trust constantly in Jesus as our Saviour from all sin. I said, 'I will; with the help of the Almighty Spirit, I will.' Kneeling by myself, I brought an entire consecration to the altar; i. e., Christ. I covenanted with my own heart and with my Heavenly Father, that this entire but unworthy offering should remain upon the altar, and that henceforth I would please God by believing that the altar (Christ) sanctifieth the gift. Do you ask, What was the immediate effect? I answer, Peace—a broad, deep, full, satisfying, and sacred peace. Still, I could not say that I was entirely sanctified, except as I had sanctified or set apart myself unto God."

The following day, he ventured to tell Bishop Hamline of his entire consecration and faith in Jesus, and in the confession realized increasing light and strength. Prayer was proposed by Mrs. Hamline. Mr. Cookman says: "Prostrated before God, one and another prayed, and while thus engaged, God, for Christ's sake, gave me the Holy Spirit as I had never received Him before, so that I was constrained to conclude and confess.—

'Tis done! Thou dost this moment save,  
With full salvation bless;  
Redemption through thy blood I have,  
And spotless love and peace.'

The great work of sanctification, that I had so often prayed and hoped for, was wrought in me—even in me. I could not doubt it. The evidence in my case was as direct and indubitable as the witness of sonship received at the time of my adoption into the family of heaven. Oh, it was glorious, divinely glorious!

"Need I say that the experience of sanctification inaugurated a new epoch in my religious life? Oh, what blessed rest

in Jesus! what an abiding experience of purity through the blood of the Lamb! what a conscious union and constant communion with God! what increased power to do or suffer the will of my Father in heaven! what delight in the Master's service! what fear to grieve the infinitely Holy Spirit! what love for, and desire to be with, the entirely sanctified! what confidence in prayer! what illumination in the perusal of the sacred Word! what increased unction in the performance of public duties!"

This was the experience of a man of whom Bishop Foster said, on the day of his burial, that he was the most sacred man he had ever known. Entire sanctification was his theme, until he went sweeping through the gates, washed in the Blood of the Lamb."

## DON'T BARK.

Fault finding is not difficult. Isaac McCurry illustrates this: A dog hitched to a lawn mower stopped to bark at a passer-by. The boy who was guiding the mower said, "Don't mind the dog; he is just barking for an excuse to rest. It is easier to bark than to pull this machine." It is easier to be critical than correct. It is easier to hinder than to help. Easier to destroy reputation than to construct character. Fault-finding is as dangerous as easy. Anybody can grumble, criticise or censure like the Pharisees, but it takes a soul to go on working faithfully and lovingly, and rise superior to all, as the Lord Jesus did.—Sel.

## A FIFTY WORD SERMON.

Jesus, the king of kings, is coming! The age will be consummated, the dead will be liberated, the saints will be translated, the faithful will be remunerated, the heavens will be animated, the church will be humiliated, the critics will be repudiated, the truth will be demonstrated, the Word will be ruminated, the world will be consternated, the faithless will be remonstrated, the tribulation will be inaugurated, the devil will be incarcerated, the earth will be renovated, suffering will be terminated, sin will be eradicated and holiness will be perpetuated.—Rev. C. H. Chrisman, Spokane Chronicle.

"God's true preachers have been distinguished by one great feature: they were all men of prayer. Differing often in many things, they have always had a common center. They may have started from different points, and travelled by different roads, but they conveyed to one point; they were one in prayer. God to them was the center of attraction, and prayer was the path that led to God. These men prayed not occasionally, not a little at regular or at odd times; but they so prayed that their prayers entered into and shaped their character; they so prayed as to affect their own lives and the lives of others; they so prayed as to make the history of the Church and influence the current of the times. They spent much time in prayer, not because they marked the shadow on the dial or the hand on the clock, but because it was to them so momentous and engaging a business that they could scarcely give over."

## THE COMING ALLIANCE AND CAMP MEETINGS.

In order to get the best results from our coming general meetings this year, it is necessary that we be prepared for them. If every one who comes, and we hope many will come this year, come with a ready mind and a willing heart filled with the love of God, much good will be done.

We hope that the committees who are to report will get their work ready, as far as they can, and not delay the business of the Alliance. The business ought to be all done by the time the camp meeting begins, so that we will be prepared to engage in the religious services with energy and faith under the power of the Holy Spirit. Let every one come determined to do their very best in the cause of God and the Camp Meetings, for the salvation of sinners and the sanctification of believers. To be prepared for the work we need to be much in prayer.

Are you praying, beloved, for God's blessing on the Alliance and Camp Meetings? If you are, keep on praying and continue all through the meetings. If you are not praying for the coming meetings, you ought to begin now. If you cannot come you can pray, and God will bless you and others will be blessed.

Our coming meetings this year ought to be the best we have ever had at Beulah, and they will be if we come with loving hearts and with "a mind to work."

Do not come with your mind filled with the idea that the evangelist is to do all the work, or the pastors will carry on the meetings without your help.

Let pastors and people come prepared to work with a willing mind, ready for every good word and work, praying and trusting God to bless all who come; and according to God's promise the very best results will follow. Keep on praying, beloved.

W.

## AN OLD STORY.

I have heard of poor and sad congregations, but the saddest preacher I ever knew went from Posey County, Indiana, to Pike County, Missouri (where John Hay discovered Little Breeches and Jim Bludsoe). He was starving to death on donations of catfish, 'possum, and a hundred dollar salary. Finally he made up his mind to go away. With wet eyes, he stood up in the prayer meeting to bid good-bye to his weeping congregation.

"Brothers and sisters," he said, wiping his eyes on his red bandanna handkerchief, "I have called you together tonight to say farewell. The Lord has called me to another place. I don't think the Lord loves this people much for none of you seem to die. He doesn't seem to want you. And you don't seem to love each other, for I have never married any of you. And I don't think you love me, for you don't pay me my salary, and your donations are mouldy fruits and wormy apples. 'By their fruits ye shall know them.'"

"And now, brothers and sisters, I am going to a better place. I have been appointed chaplain to the penitentiary at Joliet." "Where I go ye cannot come; but I go to prepare a place for you."—Sel.