

"LIGHTS IN THE WORLD."

Continued from Page 3)

she came over. She told us what a splendid trip their vessel made. It came across in five weeks and that was splendid time then. But say, the ocean has not gotten any narrower, the distance is not any less, but they come across in five days now. They travelled altogether by winds and tides, by something outside of them then, but the great monarchs of the deep now have a tremendous power within them. When there is a good wind or good wave, they will go that way, but they are going anyway and when the winds are contrary and they have to cross currents, and master tides and waves, they just keep pumping on, they are going anyway. I want to get you folk to have your own locomotion so that you will have a motor within you. You must put your faith in the inner life and not on the outer helps. You must have oil in your vessel. We have gotten this far, our relation to the world is that of lights. We are set by the hand of God. We will dim our light if we murmur about the surroundings.

The oil for the light is the indwelling presence of the Holy Ghost. Now let us get to the shining. Do all things without murmurings and disputings. In passing disputes, I want to tell you this. No headway is ever made by controversy and by contention. It may surprise you if I tell you that I have been on this big circuit for thirty years and sent especial to spread Scriptural holiness over these lands, I don't remember ever once to have been in a controversy on the subject of holiness.

I don't allow myself to be drawn into contention. God has not retained many of us as lawyers. He has subpoenaed the whole of us as witnesses. You don't have to be able to define the doctrine or to controvert the errors concerning it. You don't have to be contentious, the servant of God must not strive and if you and I are going to shine, beloved, we must not sputter, we must just shine. You don't want a flickering light but a steady one. Nobody has ever been argued into holiness. Some have argued themselves out by getting into a contentious controversial spirit. Just enjoy the luxury of letting the other fellow have the last word when you know he is wrong. "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God without rebuke." Isn't it a humiliation, a mortification, or distress when a son of God must be rebuked by the Holy Spirit, or by his own conscience or by the good sense of the people that he is sent to serve?

If you won't mind in this little family capacity this morning I will tell you, beloved, that we don't find as many hindrances to the spread of holiness from wrong doctrines and wrong teachings and opposing doctrines as we do from the inconsistencies of the lives of many of us who profess holiness. If we are going to shine as lights in the world, we must be sons of God without rebuke. I don't mean by that if you and I walk holily everybody will say so and approve us. No, no. "Woe be unto you when all men speak well of you." But I do mean this, that we will give no occasion of offence or of such rebuke. We will pay our honest debts and pay them promptly. We will live justly and purely in all our personal and social

relations. We will conduct ourselves prudently before the world. We will live consistently and our lives will ultimately put to silence those who falsely accuse us. In those two words, "That ye may be blameless and harmless," I am so glad he didn't say faultless. We will be presented faultless before his throne, but say, we will not be faultless here but we can be blameless.

One day in the city of Philadelphia, a streetcar, or rather a horse car, was struck by the railroad train and about twenty lives lost. Oh, how the people pounced upon the driver with their criticisms and denunciations. He was arrested and confronted with the charge of his driving across those tracks when the train was coming. He appeared before the jury very much distressed about what had happened and he said, "Yes, gentlemen, there is no question, I did drive the horses across the track," but he says, "I will explain the circumstances to you. I had a new span of horses. We had never driven them there and when we got within sight of the locomotive that was whistling for the crossing, one of my horses became terribly frightened and there was no chance of my doing anything but risk my own life and do my best to get the horses across the track. I not only let them go but I drove them at the peril of my life in the hope that I would get them over before the train arrived." They all believed it. He was not faultless but he was blameless. There are many things that we will do inadvertently or by mistake but God don't blame us for it, and while you and I cannot be faultless, blessed be God, we can be blameless.

I once could see so many faults in my own life and conduct and even in my Christian service I would say, "I guess I am mistaken. If I had perfect love, I would certainly not make any mistakes in God's work." I was pretty near stopping on the testimony of perfect love. A preacher came along to preach just one night. He was preaching on Christian perfection. Among other things he said, "Now Christian perfection is not perfection in service." I thought he had made a mistake, I opened my mouth and eyes and ears. I waited for him to correct it but instead of that he repeated it. "To be perfect in love is not to be perfect in service, not even in what you do for the Lord." He took out a handkerchief, saying, "We have a darling little girl at our house. She has never given us anything but pleasure. Mamma thought the time had come for her to learn to be useful so she cut out a handkerchief and told her she wanted her to hem it. And she said, "Now don't do this because you have to but because you love mamma. Just do it the best ever you can." The child did not notice the emphasis on that word "you." Maybe you haven't gotten that. "Try and have it done by Friday afternoon after school." That is the way Jesus is with us. He lets us feel that He could not get along without us. The child went at it. She pricked her fingers many times but she remembered she was doing it for Mamma. Occasionally she would make a straight stitch but that was the exception. The others were crooked and some of them big and uneven. The corners were pickered and there were some stains

from the pricked fingers on it. By hard pains and many toils she got it done Friday afternoon after school. She comes with it all spread out. She says, "Mamma, I got it done for you." Did her mother look at all those puckers and crooked stitches? Did she say, "This is awful?" She just looked at the child's loving heart and hands, though untutored, and the successful effort to finish in time, and she folded her in her arms and said, "Yes, darling, that is beautiful and you will do it better next time." That is what Jesus has been doing for me all these years. That is beautiful and we will do it better the next time. (Sermon as preached in the Friend's Church at Scott's Mills, Oregon.)—Heart and Life.

A PARSONAGE FOR MEDUCTIC CIRCUIT

Dear Highway:

Just a few words from this part of the vineyard.

The work is going real good all over the field. I would like you all to join with me and sing:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

I want to tell you that, besides other expenses, the people of this circuit have bought a little parsonage for their pastor, present and future—and we are now living in it—and paid down for it. It is said in Nehemiah 4-6: "The walls were built for the people had a mind to work." This parsonage has been bought and paid for, because the people had a mind to give. Thank God for such people.

The Meductic church has recently been built, the Middle Southampton church is undergoing repairs, and the others to be repaired; and yet the people responded wonderfully, and enough was given in cash and pledges to pay for the parsonage and incidental expenses and a balance of \$47.00. Note.—This is all paid in now except a few small amounts, and all from this circuit, except \$50.00.

To show how displeased (?) some were when I was collecting for the parsonage, as I was leaving they gave me four pounds of butter, one gave me six pounds; so I did not feel that they were hurt very much. The following is the list of those who contributed: Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Phillips, \$100.00; Mr. and Mrs. David Phillips, \$75.00; Mr. and Mrs. Durrell Phillips, \$25.00; Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Phillips, \$50.00; Jasper Hillman, \$50.00; Beverly Hillman, \$5.00; Warren Hillman, \$10.00; Judson Hillman, \$25.00; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Wright, \$100.00; Frederick Bragdon, \$25.00; Allen Dow, \$25.00; Mrs. Avar Marsten, \$10.00; Mrs. Tart Dickinson, \$10.00; Tart Dickinson, \$25.00; Mrs. M. J. Dyer, \$25.00; Burns Stairs \$25.00; F. C. Brown, \$25.00; Abraham Cronkhite, \$5.00; Joseph MacDonald, \$5.00; Mrs. H. M. Edwards, \$10.00; Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hillman, \$20.00. A friend paid the balance.—H. E. Mullen.

"He findeth not who seeks his own,
The soul is lost that's saved alone."

"Deal sincerely and kindly with every man."