

Scripture Standard

Pleading for a complete return to Christianity as it was in the beginning.

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Shammah and the Lentils.

[Substance of an address delivered at the Morley Conference, April 8th, 1944, by Leslie E. Coley.]

THE 23rd chapter "of the Second Book of Samuel has been aptly called 'David's Westminster Abbey,' for there in the record of his mighty men, we see the monuments, and tablets, as it were, erected in age-lasting memory of their valiant deeds. As England honours some of her heroes by burying their mortal remains in the famous Abbey, the Holy Spirit has here honoured some of David's 'V.C men by recording, their names and deeds, as tributes to their lives of fearless and faithful service.

Let us first glance quickly at some of these worthies, fearless in face of foe and dauntless before difficulty.

There was Eleazar who 'arose and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary,' but still 'his hand clave unto his sword, and the Lord wrought a great victory.' What a stimulus to battle-weary saints growing old in the fight of faith with the Sword of the Spirit, to carry on, conscious of the Captain's ultimate triumph!

Then, there were the three who battled their way to Bethlehem to obtain water for the king, and whose deed is surely an age-abiding challenge to us to endure all things in order to serve the King of kings in taking His Water of Life to thirsting souls.

There was Benaiah, who slew a lion in a pit in time of snow—and some so-called saints won't go to the meeting if it looks like rain!

However, it is the bravery of Shammah, one of the three chief men, upon which we shall now concentrate. The brief but graphic account of his noble deed is found in verses eleven and twelve: 'And after him was Shammah, the son Agee, the Haraite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentils; and the people fled from the Philistines. But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and the Lord wrought a great victory.'

We can readily appreciate the situation—The Israelites had sown the seed

in the spring and now they had come to reap the little plot of lentils, when a band of plundering Philistines present themselves as priority reapers! A nice game, indeed—you sow, we reap. Unfair, but how true to history. God planted a glorious and perfect creation, but Satan reaped a harvest of universal sin. God, in His mercy, planted the seed of the wondrous re-creation, and ere long Satan reaped the horrible harvest of the Church-cum-State monstrosity of Catholicism. God, we believe, sowed the pure seed of the Restoration and Satan comes to-day in the guise of rationalism and so-called 'modernism' to reap the fruit. Brethren, Shammah said: 'No! Over my dead body shall you heathen Philistines reap the fruit of Israel!' And we, too, say, 'No!' Shammah stood firm, and we stand firm. Shammah fought, and we fight. Shammah, under God, conquered; and so shall we!

Now let us briefly examine four characteristics of this man Shammah and learn their lessons for to-day.

Shammah the Single-minded

In the crisis, in the midst of the disgraceful stampede of the Israelites, amid the panic, fear, and unbelief, all that God wanted was one man big enough, strong enough, and with faith enough, to stop running round in circles, and get on with the one job that mattered. He didn't call a committee, council, conference, or send a circular. He just set about meeting the immediate urgent need.

As we look at the state of the Churches to-day, do we not see much similar confusion? Not only do we still regard with horror the multiplicity of sects, with the lack of unity on the one hand and compromise on the other; but now we anxiously watch the aimless activity among the many so-called 'auxiliaries' of the Churches. The order of the day is to belong to this fellowship, and that society, and this union; the latest we hear of being the C.A.P. Brethren, these schemes, from the P.P.U to the F.O.Y., have become Satanic instruments, sapping the strength and nervous energy, and diverting into other channels the time, talents and possessions of Christians that should all be consecrated to the one divinely-ordained system—the Church of Christ! Is there

any fellowship or organisation more glorious, noble, worthy or effectual than the Church, through which God is making known His manifold wisdom? Can we, by any society, supplement what God has instituted? Dare we presume to add anything useful to what God has ordained? Oh, that we were all single-minded men like Shammah, dedicating all our powers to the one great cause!

Shammah the Spirit-filled

If there was only one thing to be done, there was apparently only one man to do it. The rest had fled, but that did not matter. They were better out of the way. Like the 31,700 of Gideon's men, they did not belong to the real army at all. There was only one, but he was in such relationship with God, and demonstrated his faith with his courage, that 'God wrought a great victory.' It was not Israel or Shammah that triumphed; it was God. Shammah was spirit filled and he allowed the spirit to work through him with power.

True men of God have always been a remnant; and loyal brethren to-day are still a remnant. But we claim the precious promise that 'He, is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us'; and whatever our numbers, if we stand firm to our task; loyal to His Word, and allow the Holy Spirit to fill us and work through us, then assuredly the Lord will to-day achieve great victories among us.

Shammah the Supply Defender

We turn again to our hero, and ask: 'After all, was it worth it? He was only defending a plot of lentils.' Yes, but those lentils were God's food for God's people; and Shammah was going to see that God's people were fed. Maybe he liked lentil soup, but whatever his personal reasons, the heathen marauders were not going to reap them if he could help it.

Shammah, the supply defender! How many we need to-day, that the people of God may be fed with the soul-food of the Word of Truth! Preserve it, brethren, that no precious particle be plundered by the modern Philistines withr and without the Church. On the other hand, let us be also zealous in purveying the food of the gospel to a starving world of sinners; for, with the re-appearance of the 'social gospel' in such movements as the C.A.P., our witness to the old, old Story and the truth of the precious Blood will be more and more needed.

Successful Shammah

Finally, let us note again that Shammah, under the power and guidance of God, was successful. The Lord has not only saved us but called us to be successful witnesses for Him, arid to this end

has equipped us with the truth of His Word, the power of His Spirit, and the protection and weapons of the whole armour of God. With this encouragement, let us leave this conference with the exhortation and promise of the apostle firmly implanted in our hearts and minds to be 'steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as you know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.'

Thus we return to our respective Churches to worship and witness, to contend and defend, to 'labour and love, until we meet again in six months' time, to tell of all that the Lord has wrought among us by His grace and power. Amen!

Correspondence.

Dear Bro. Crosthwaite,

I feel I ought to write, and through the medium of your columns, express, on behalf of all at Morley, our very best thanks for all the kind sentiments expressed in the current issue of the 'Standard.'

I would also like to express our thanks to all those who have written to us a word of appreciation.

We have been the happy recipients of many lovely letters from our former guests, in addition, many of us have been invited to spend Whitsun, or our annuai holidays with them, and it is evident friendships are being formed.

This is especially important where non-members are concerned, for those people outside our community who took guests have been very impressed, and the cause at Morley has been greatly helped in consequence. So let me again say: Thank you, brethren, for all the kind things you have said and written about us, and, in the words of one brother when it was all over 'Here's to the next time!'

With Christian greetings to one and all, from the Brethren at Morley.

HAROLD BAINES,

Secretary.

APPRECIATION OF BRO. KEMPSTER

Johannesburg,

March 8th, 1944.

Dear Bro. Editor,

To me it was a shock to hear of the passing away of our beloved brother, William Kempster. Our loyal native brethren in Nyasaland have lost their good leader. He has fought the good fight of faith, now he has gone to rest. I remember his words: 'If there be any cuts in expenses, cut them at home; not in Africa.'

We commend his loved ones to" the God of grace and consolation.

G. RAPASHA.

Three Appeals

A SISTER In Nashville, Tennessee, writes: 'My request is that you give me the address of a child (girl) who is an orphan and greatly in need of assistance at this time. One reason for wanting to do this personally is that I want to correspond with the child and keep in touch with her, not only at this time, but in time to come, for an orphan may need assistance for more than just now. I would like her to be around the age of six to eight years.'

An orphan connected with a Church of Christ is in view, whether through relatives, guardian or through a member having the knowledge of a suitable case, that could be recommended.

A Second Appeal

Churches of Christ and members associated with" such in U.S.A. are anxious to give help in the name of the Church and for the glory of Christ, to such as are suffering by reason of the war over here. The following is extracted from a letter:—

'There are many, many, ladies in the Churches over here who are anxious to help out in some way by directly assisting those who are either suffering or in need in the battle or bombed areas. We have little contact with such sections—except as we contribute through Government agencies, Red Cross, etc.—but you know that we want the Lord, through His Church, to receive the glory for our work in this respect as in every other way.

'It has occurred to us, therefore, that we could contact some of our brethren in or near these areas of war and make such contribution of materials, clothes, provisions or money through them.

'We want to help. Will you tell us what we can do?'

A Third Appeal

Many members of Churches of Christ in America are now in this country in the U.S. Forces. We view it as our duty, and it has already been both a privilege and a joy to many, to extend our fellowship to these as much as possible.

Amid every hostile influence, they must need, and certainly desire, all possible spiritual help and encouragement. Many have been used to dwelling in places where the Churches of Christ are more numerous and much better known than they are over here. They find it difficult to locate our assemblies, and are all anxious to attend the Lord's Table as often as ever possible. Some have travelled literally hundreds of miles in order to do so.

Will all who wish to help in this effort get into touch with Bro. R. A. Hill, 16 Pulham Park Gardens, Fulham, London, S.W.6, or the writer. We are already in

touch with about sixty of these brethren, most of whom have visited the Church at Kentish Town.

A very abridged list of Churches has been issued and is in circulation, but we are wanting to issue as complete a directory as certain conditions will allow. It must be borne in mind that the Churches of Christ in America are a body distinct from the Christian Church or Disciples. They reject instrumental music, that being an unscriptural innovation, and have no central organisation every organisation beyond the local assembly being also beyond scriptural practice. Our list cannot embrace Churches which use the instrument^the question of connection with the Co-operation cannot be unravelled. We feel it is better, too, where the case warrants it, to put brethren into touch with what they would regard as digressive Churches rather than none at all. We are particularly anxious to have names and addresses of Churches which do not appear in any list at present.

Much interesting information is available, and it may be that the Editor will allow its inclusion in the 'Scripture Standard' as his wisdom dictates, in relation to the American Churches of Christ, their attitude on doctrinal and practical matters, their present vigorous and progressive condition, and their anxiety to spread the truths of New Testament Christianity the wide world over.

R. B. SCOTT.

96 Chetwynd Road,
Dartmouth Park Hill,
London, N.W.5.

Evangelists Report.

AFTER the Edinburgh Conference, I served the Church in East Kirkby for a period of seven weeks. On weeknights our activities were: A prayer meeting; a children's meeting; a Bible study; and a gospel meeting. This latter was something of a new venture, being held on Saturday nights. It was justified by results, being quite well attended. In our Bible study, we gave special attention to Bible difficulties.

Attendances were generally good. We advertised in the Press and by handbills. Special attention was given to visiting. We regretted that there were no decisions for the Saviour, but we felt that some good had certainly been done—particularly in the restoring of broken relationships. It was a great joy to us all to see back in fellowship a brother who had felt compelled by conviction for some time not to fellowship.

On October 30th, we held a rally of brethren from Notts, district Churches. The unanimous verdict was that this meeting was an unqualified success.

Brethren from many Churches were present, and it was an inspiration to see our meeting-house filled to capacity. Brethren Frith and Coley served us most acceptably.

During our effort we had conversations with the people who style themselves 'Jehovah's Witnesses.' Subsequently, it was arranged for a number of us to go to their meeting-house, where a discussion was held. We came away abundantly satisfied as to the strength of the New Testament position. Finally a debate was held, in which Bro. Crosthwaite met their representative. This debate was reported in the columns of the 'Scripture Standard.' All who attended it felt that the truth had been worthily upheld. It did good to the cause in East Kirkby.

Leaving East Kirkby, I came to Fife for a six-month period. My first six weeks being spent with the Church meeting in Rose Street, Kirkcaldy. No one could wish for a better reception than I received here.

Apart from our usual activities on Lord's Day, we had a women's meeting, children's meeting, and a Christian Fellowship meeting. This latter is a meeting for Bible study and discussion. Our effort began in the midst of an influenza epidemic which had an adverse effect on attendance. But we surmounted this difficulty and in time attendances were quite good. A few non-members attended. One young woman was added to the Church by baptism. Soon after coming to Kirkcaldy, I began a weekly Bible study in Buckhaven for a few members of the Church there—this at their own request.

During January, 1944, I continued serving the Church in Rose Street in the weeknight activities, but served Coaltown on Lord's Days, and on Thursdays, when we held a children's meeting and a gospel meeting.

Coaltown is a small assembly, but gospel meetings were large by comparison, a number of non-members coming along. One young woman was baptised into Christ.

February was spent with the Church in Buckhaven, our effort taking the form of a Gospel Mission. On weeknights we held two gospel meetings, and one for boys and girls. We advertised by tract distribution and in the Press. Some open-air meetings were held, and some door to door invitation work done by a few of us. The attendance was moderately good. Our effort here extended into the month of March. So far there have not been any decisions for the Saviour, but we are continuing the gospel meeting for the next few months. The children's meeting will also be continued.

With April, I returned to Rose Street assembly, and hope to remain with this Church for rather more than four months. I had continued to serve Rose

Street on Monday and Wednesday nights since first coming to this district. We plan to make the next four months a time of really constructive effort for the cause of Christ. A circular letter is being sent to every member—asking for full co-operation and support. A prayer meeting will be held each Lord's Day before the Breaking of the Bread. "It is hoped that some tract distribution and door to door invitation work will be done also.

During this year I have conducted a mutual improvement meeting each Friday night for the Church in Pittenweem. This is a small assembly, but though few in numbers, the brethren are strong in their desire to remain loyal to the New Testament order. This meeting will probably continue as long as I am in Fife.

The beginning of the training class, supported by a number of brethren from various Fife Churches, was reported fully in the 'Scripture Standard.' The aim of this activity is to train brethren for every kind of service in the work of the Church; to provide a medium for regular and corporate Bible study which will give a thorough grounding in the New Testament faith, and to prepare young men to meet attacks on that teaching—from whatever source they may come. Prior to the ban on travelling into this district we had the help of Bro. W. Steele. Since April, Bro. A. H. Odd has been in the district. He is rendering us valuable assistance in this activity and is also actively engaged in preaching for various Churches.

There are possibilities for great things in the district, but everything depends upon the extent of the effort we are prepared to make for the cause of New Testament Christianity.

A. E. WINSTANLEY.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE EVANGELIST FUND

Nos.	£	s.	d.
612.	1	5	0
613	3	0	0
614.	1	0	0
615	1	0	0
616.	1	0	0
617 (at Morley Conference)	10	0	
618	1	0	0
619	10	0	
620	5	0	0
621	2	2	0
622	1	5	0
623	20	0	0
624.	5	10	0
625	1	0	0
626	6	0	0

R. MCDONALD,

Treasurer.

Birth.—on May-9th, to Bro. and Sister W. Steele, a daughter.

Slamannan District.

Presentation to Mr. J. Wardrop

THE meeting-house of the Church of Christ in Blackridge was filled last Saturday by 'a gathering of representatives of Churches of Christ throughout lowland Scotland. The occasion was a presentation to Mr. Jas. Wardrop, who for many years had served the Churches as treasurer of their fund for evangelistic purposes. This gathering was evidence of the high esteem which Mr. Wardrop has won during his work.

Mr. John Anderson, of Glasgow, presided over the meeting. He said Jas. Wardrop, for about sixty years, had brought his numerous gifts and abilities wholeheartedly into every service performed as unto the Lord. His careful preparation for every duty was the secret of a work well done; our trust was never misplaced in him; he was worthy of all and every honour. He then called on Mr. John Sneddon, of Motherwell, to hand over a beautifully bound copy of the Bible and a wallet filled with Treasury notes. In a few well-chosen words, Mr. Sneddon referred to Mr. Wardrop's influence upon the general public of the towns and villages in which he had lived and laboured. Mr. Wardrop, in reply, said the sixty years had fallen short, but the service had been glorious and the love he had enjoyed during that time had more than repaid him for what he had tried to do. He said that looking back brought happy memories, but he was also happy as he looked forward, because of the numerous young men who had dedicated themselves to the work he held dear.

Expressions of appreciation were voiced by Mr. Walter Crosthwaite, evangelist, and representatives from various Churches. Musical items were supplied by the Motherwell Mixed Voice Choir and the Blackridge Male Quartet, while solos and recitations were rendered by individuals from different places.

Many of our readers in Armadale and Whitburn will be pleased to read of the honour done Mr. James Wardrop, whom they knew as a man whose life among them, previous to his removal to Motherwell, evinced not only keen intellect but also truly generous feeling, 'elevated sentiment and nobleness of mind.—West Lothian Courier,' May 5th.

A Tribute to Brother James Wardrop

'For the vineyard of the Lord of Hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant.' (Isaiah v. 7.) Vineyards are cultivated spots. They represent the Church of Christ in a sinful world. The Church is composed of

men and women whose characters are moulded after the pattern of their Lord and Master Jesus Christ. The following is a tribute to one we all know, who is one of God's pleasant plants:—

IN our garden are many bright flowers;
That blossom and die in their
season:

And their beauty we always admire,
As their form and colour show
reason.

From their number there ever stands
out

A few that are rich and more rare;
For their fragrance is felt, all around
And we prize them because they
are fair.

Among these bright fair ones, grows
a gem

So pure, so humble, and benign;
It claims our favour, we name it not,
You'll surely guess it from our rhyme.

This gem, has always graced our garden
fair,

Revealing precious thoughts of love;
In language plain hath often taught
Of things divine, and things above.

Our hearts, our lives, our souls have
been enriched

By fellowship one with another;
But greater heights of rapture must
have reached

All those, assembled with our
Brother.

For many years of service has he seen.

And striven to advance our cause;
No opposition ever swerved his faith,
But honoured Christ and all His
laws.

His ministrations have been to us

A testimony of love and cheer;
From God's own word, both sound and
true,

A message thrilling and sincere.

Long may God spare him, in health
and strength

To serve both the Church and his
Lord:

In God's own good time His blessing
will give,

For in Christ is his sure reward.

—W. FERGUSON.

Bedminster, Bristol.—Church Golden Jubilee Celebrations, Saturday and Lord's Day, June 24th and 25th. Speaker: Bro. F. DAY (Birmingham). Saturday, Tea at 4.30. Meeting 6 p.m. Great spiritual experiences anticipated.

We invite brethren from near and far to have fellowship with us on this great occasion, and will deeply appreciate a message intimating your coming.
S- W. Collins, 254 North Street, Bristol 3.



Young Folk's Corner.

MONTH'S MOTTO

'IN Thee, O Lord, do I put my trust.' (Psalm lxxi. 1.)

LISTEN TO HIM

MATTHEW, Mark, and Luke tell of a wonderful event In the life of the Saviour. One day, He went up a mountainside to pray, taking with Him Peter, James, and John. As He prayed, the disciples saw a wonderful change in His appearance. His face shone as the sun, and His clothing was dazzling with a brilliant whiteness. Then there appeared two men, Moses and Elijah, talking with Him.

It was a wonderful sight, but more wonderful still, as the wondering disciples watched, they saw a bright cloud overshadowing these three, and they heard a voice speaking from the cloud, saying: 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, listen to Him.'

Every Jew was familiar with the lives of Moses and Elijah. Moses was the great national hero of the nation, and Elijah was one of the greatest of Jewish prophets. Peter, James, and John could not help being thrilled by the sight. Both Moses and Elijah had been dead many, many years—no wonder the disciples were filled with wonder and amazement.

But the voice of God, speaking from the cloud, makes them think, not so much of these two great-heroes of the past, but of their own beloved Master: 'This is my beloved Son . . . Listen to Him.' As Jews, the disciples served and worshipped God according to the Law, given by Moses from God. They looked upon prophets, such as Elijah, as the ones who spoke God's message to the people. They were right in this, but God wanted to teach them a great lesson. Soon, the word of both Moses and the prophets was to give way to Another. 'This is my beloved Son . . . Listen to Him.' The time was coming when all who desired to please God and become His children would have to listen to the voice of Jesus.

The disciples learned that lesson, and never forgot it. We, too, must learn it to-day. The voice of God directs our minds to Jesus: 'This is my beloved Son . . . Listen to Him.' The path of life is one along which are many pitfalls, dangers, and by-ways. To tread it aright we need an unfailling guide. There is only One—Jesus. Listening to Him we shall be taught to live aright, we

shall learn by our lives to please God. Listening to Him; obeying Him; we shall be saved. Let us hear God's voice to-day: 'This Is my beloved Son, . . . Listen to Him.'

ANSWERS

1. Cain (Genesis iv. 13).
2. Abraham to Lot (Genesis xiii. 8).
3. Esau to Jacob (Genesis xxv. 30).
4. Jacob to Pharaoh (Genesis xlvii. 9).

WHO SAID?

1. 'And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down

2. 'But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.'

3. 'This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead, therefore mighty works do show forth-themselves in him.'

4. 'Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Till seven times?'

5. He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat let him do likewise.'

BRO. GEORGE HASSELL

WE hear that this loyal and faithful brother, who has suffered much, is now home from hospital, having passed through an operation. Readers will Join us in prayers that he may make good progress, and be restored to a good measure of health and strength. The Lord make His face to shine upon him, and be gracious unto him.

East Kirkby (Beulah Road).—Our hearts have been made glad by the addition of one to our number here. A sister (Mrs. Hopcroft) who first became acquainted with the Church through the recent debate conducted by our esteemed Bro. Crosthwaite. She afterwards attended our week-night Bible study meeting, where she learned of the position which the Church occupies in relation to New Testament teaching. Having become greatly interested in the things for which the Church stands, she soon expressed her wish to become identified with us, and being formerly immersed, was received into the Church on Lord's Day, April 23rd. May she, along with us, remain faithful until our Lord shall come.

W. B. JEPSON.

East Ardsley.—On Lord's Day, April 9th, we had a very enjoyable day, brethren attending the conference at Morley staying over the week-end, rendered the Church their services. It was a mountain-top experience to us.

Bro. F. C. Day, of Birmingham, pre-

sided at the Lord's Table, and Bro. A. E. Winstanley exhorted the Church. At the gospel meeting, Bro. A. E. Winstanley presided, and Bro. Day preached the gospel. •

After the evening meeting we went to the local sanatorium and held a short service there. We go there about once a month. Again Bro. Winstanley took charge of the meeting, and Bro. Day was the preacher.

Altogether we had a very full day. The brethren • gave us of their best, and we feel thankful to them for their inspiring help. We feel that much seed has been sown, and are looking forward to fruit in due course.

O. HOLDS WORTH.

Nelson.—The Women's Bright Hour annual tea and social was held on April 15th. Visitors were present from Stockport, Blackburn, and Burnley.

Mrs. Sykes presided and Mrs. Simpkin, of Blackburn, gave a stirring address, her theme being "The Three Crosses." A good programme was given, including songs, recitals and music. Miss Kathleen Baxter, L.L.C.M., of Stockport, rendered two pianoforte recitals, which were greatly appreciated.

The secretary's report showed sixteen members on the books, with an average attendance of eight. £4 2s. 2d. has been sent for Overseas Mission Work during the year. Letters, including a small gift, were sent at Christmas to eight young men in the Services, two of them members of the Church and six relatives of members. Over one hundred and fifty visits have been paid to the sick during the year.

B. E. EDMONDSON.

Kentish Town.—The Church here has had the joy of witnessing the good confession and immersion into Christ of William Holmes Smith, of Nashville, Tennessee. He is at present serving with the U.S. Forces In England. We pray his example may be followed by others, and that he may be kept by the power of God faithful to the end.

Kentish Town.—Please book the date, 1st July, for joining us at our Rally and Anniversary Meeting: Afternoon, three o'clock; Tea; five o'clock; Evening Meeting, six o'clock. A most cordial welcome is extended to all;

Glasgow.—We rejoice to report the baptism of our younger son, George, aged eleven, and William Hamilton, a young man from Dunoon, on Lord's Day, April. 9th, in Coplaw Street meeting-house.

Our heart's desire and prayer is that they may study to show themselves approved unto God, workmen that need not be ashamed, handling aright the **Word of Truth. Brethren pray for them.**

A. GARDINER, senior

Fleetwood.—Brethren visiting this district are reminded that there is Breaking of Bread at the home of Bro. and Sister A. L. Frith, 12 Poulton Street, Fleetwood. Meeting at 10.45. A warm welcome. Speaking help appreciated. Please write. Those coming in by tramcar alight at Ash Street; those by train at Wyre Dock. Poulton Street is only five minutes from either, off Lord Street, right in the centre of the town.

Obituary,

Doncasteri—We deeply regret to report the passing of our aged and highly-esteemed Bro. Wm. G. Stubbs, of Darlington, who passed to his rest on Wednesday, April 19th.

His passing brings back many memories of bygone days. Immersed into Jesus Christ over sixty years ago, Bro. Stubbs was in membership with the Doncaster Church for many years, until circumstances made it necessary for him to remove from Doncaster. The writer has known our brother for the greater part of this time, and can testify to the saintliness of his life and character. A man of high and noble principles and unswerving loyalty to Jesus Christ and His Word, he never wavered throughout his long life in his faithful service to his Lord.

He suffered for the greater part of his life from, deafness and from partial blindness, but he was a remarkably intelligent man, and always maintained a cheerful and uncomplaining attitude to life. He was denied the intimate fellowship of his brethren, because of his infirmities, but in spite of this disadvantage, he had a most intelligent grasp and appreciation of New Testament Christianity.

Now, at an advanced age, he has passed to his rest—a ripe sheaf, gathered by the reaper's sickle to the garner of God. We thank God for such a saintly man, who has so worthily magnified his Lord.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to our Sister Stubbs, who, for many years, has been a very loyal and faithful wife and helpmeet to our brother.

J. GARNETT.

[In our March issue, under 'Diamond Jubilee of' New Birth' is another tribute to the sterling Christian character of Bro. Stubbs. He was a very regular correspondent, and we feel a sense of real personal loss.—Editor.]

Tunbridge Wells.—Sister Norris (nee Norah Gillett), second daughter of the late Bro. and Sister Frederick Gillett, of Tunbridge Wells, passed peacefully away, on April 10th, following an operation at Kingston County Hospital, aged fifty-two. She gave herself to the Lord in her.

early teens and has been a faithful follower until her death. We commend her loving and devoted husband and three children to our Heavenly Father's care, knowing He is our only comforter in times of distress. 'Severed only till He comes.'

Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.—Mrs. Jeannie Straiton, beloved wife of our esteemed Bro. John Straiton, died on February 25th, aged seventy-six. Both of them were well known to many of the older members of the Churches in Scotland, England, and Ireland. Their home had been in Fort Worth for thirty-seven years. She had been in failing health for some time, but in January became very ill. The doctor gave no hope of her recovery, so they knew the end was near. She lingered on for ten days after she had a stroke. She was a faithful and active member for sixty-one years, having been baptised by Bro. Wm. Gardiner, in April, 1882. She was married by Jas. Anderson, in 1888. Her Stirling character and attractive manner were known to many in this country before going to the United States. Her clear, active mind and loving heart made her many friends, and distinguished her as an ideal servant of the Lord. She gave of her best to minister comfort and hospitality to those of the household of faith, and all who needed her help. We shall ever remember her unaffected and genuine kindness which was manifested during her life. Bro. Straiton has laboured much in the Lord, and she helped him in the good work. Both had the joy and honour that such brings. The Churches of Christ in Texas had shown affection for her while she lived, and at the funeral one hundred and forty-five floral tributes indicated the many friends she had. The family consisted of four sons and five daughters, and their descendants were four grandsons, thirteen granddaughters and one

great-grandchild. Her "influence in the home was such that they call her blessed and seek to follow her fine example .

Our love and sympathy goes out to Bro. Straiton in his sorrow. We commend him to the Gpd of all comfort, and pray that he may be sustained by the assurance that all is well with her who has entered into her rest. May the blessing of the Lord be experienced by the family and friends; that the links that are broken here may unite all closer to those things that are spiritual and eternal. The grief caused by the passing of our dearest, earthly friends make us rejoice in the blessed hope of the gospel.

'When the weary ones we love
Enter on their rest above,
Seems the earth so poor and vast,
All our life is overcast;
Hush! Be every mourner dumb:
It is only till He come.'

JAS. WARDROP.

BOOKLETS

'Is the Bible True?'

"The Old Paths"

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