

My sisters, is there a chord in your heart that does not vibrate as you read? Remember then that not even under the old Jewish dispensation did woman hold the rank now appointed to her.

"It is only by the prevalence of the gospel, that man learns that woman has a soul of an origin as high—a value as precious—a destination glorious as his own." All we have, all we are, dear friends, we owe to the gospel—So soon as our blessed master appeared on earth, he condescended to accept the services of woman. Women ministered to him in his earthly pilgrimage, on a woman his last earthly cares were bestowed—women assisted in his burial, and to them he first appeared after his resurrection.

In studying the Apostolic Record, we find that the early Christians understood this matter clearly. How many of our sex are mentioned as having "helped in the Lord," "labored much," &c., and they are commanded for their active exertions.

Man owes a great deal to the gospel. Do we not owe more, much more? Is it not then our right—our blessed and glorious privilege, to *labour more* for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom and yet, with a few bright exceptions, we have been contented to slide along through life as smoothly as possible, giving a little money it may be to the poor, or to benevolent societies, but not consecrating our intellects, our time to our Master's service. Instead of a "whole burnt offering," a "living sacrifice," we have only given, to use the striking thought of another, "*the least valuable of our many talents—money.*" Is it not high time to awake out of sleep? High time to throw off our indolence and step forwards to *labour* in the cause of Christ?

"Our rights" do not urge us to the bar, or the pulpit—He who gave to our sex, that excellent thing in woman* "a sweet, low voice," never designed it to be used in addressing the crowded assembly, or in giving the word of command to armies? Nay, lest we should so strongly feel our indebtedness to the Saviour, as to be urged forward to exertions such as can only be put forth at the expense of female delicacy, the Apostle of the Gentiles has especially cautioned us on this head. Never, for one moment, must we forget that "our mission" is an unobtrusive one—man's efforts are.

Like the rapid torrent, loud thundering in its might. And ours the deep, but silent stream, soft, peaceable and bright.

Yet bright as the stream may be, it must be so over-shadowed by feminine modesty, as to be detected only by the fertility it bestows, or the

rarely occasional gleams of silver which are seen as it passes onward. These efforts are however mighty. The world has already been the better for the feeble exertions put forth—what would be the result, did we, my sisters, come up willingly to the help of the Lord and fulfil our duty?

Let us remember that if our privileges are thus great, "our rights" thus extended with regard to the world's conversion, we are proportionably guilty, if we neglect them, and what must at last be our condemnation if the talents God hath given us be hidden and we return them to the Great King without usury!

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THE commencement of a second volume of our miscellany presents a favourable opportunity of advertizing to the principles on which it was first undertaken, and by a careful and constant reference to which, it has been hitherto conducted. The desirableness of such an organ of mutual communication betwixt the Congregational Churches of Canada, had long been apparent, and the experience of the bye-gone year sufficiently demonstrates the advantages of various kinds that must accrue from a publication like the present. The realization of these advantages, however, mainly depends on the frequency and fulness of those communications from different parts of the country, by means of which, we become mutually acquainted with each other's wants and wishes, and are thus able, by mutual sympathy, to maintain and to extend the spirit of Christian fellowship. We sincerely trust that our beloved Christian brethren in general, and especially those who "labour in word and doctrine," will not be slow to avail themselves of a medium through which they may instrumentally diffuse those principles which they "most surely believe," and on the reception and practical influence of which the prosperity of our christian communities so certainly depend. Nothing has so much encouraged us in our editorial labours, as the assurance that, in our official capacity, we possessed the confidence of those whom "we love in the truth," and vow that our publi-

* "The voice was ever sweet gentle and low—an excellent thing in woman."—*Shakspeare*.