

revelation to me. In this sermon he emphasizes the thought that true preaching must compel every hearer to feel, "There is hope for me in God." He says, "All ways of preaching the Gospel of Christ, which, as their characteristic result, inspire men with despondency and with an overpowering sense of difficulty, tending to discouragement and making the heart gloomy, are untrue to the spirit and genius of the Gospel."

In order to present the hopefulness and joyfulness of the Gospel I find that I must have two workshops. In one I form my sermons as best I can, and thus prepare for the pulpit. In the other I have a carpenter's kit of tools, and I use them vigorously, especially on Mondays, and thus prepare for the pulpit. As I use my tools year after year I become somewhat skilful, and consequently the attractiveness of this workshop grows upon me. After riding on my hobby Monday I always sleep well, and go back to my study on Tuesday morning with a clear head and steady nerves.

Let me add that I think my shop

brings me into closer sympathy with mechanics than I could come otherwise. I talk to them about their work, and I know something about it. My two little boys are often with me, and we work together. My shop will be one of the means by which I shall hold on to them.

As I work I often think of One who long ago worked at a carpenter's bench. I work for recreation. He worked in order to help His father, and, possibly, to support His widowed mother. I look at my bright and sharp tools and recall Holman Hunt's picture of a workshop in Nazareth. Jesus, the village carpenter, never had tools equal to those my boys and I use. So, as I work I try to draw near to the simple-hearted Son of man, who for thirty years was one of the common people.

Brethren, enjoy your hunting and your fishing, your ball game and your croquet, your painting and your music, but give me my workshop, my two boys beside me, and the consciousness that my Elder Brother is with us and *I can rest.*

J. H. S.

FARRAGUT, IOWA.

EDITORIAL SECTION.

LIVING ISSUES FOR PULPIT TREATMENT.

A Plea for Home Missions.

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THE word *mission* means a sending, a performing of a commission, and, as used by the Church, it means the fulfilment of the risen Saviour's last command by publishing the blessed Gospel "all the world around." Missionary work is the work of making known the Saviour to all who have never heard of Him or received Him. It is the work of evangelizing the world. This work, for convenience of operation and discussion, is generally divided into two parts: home, or inner, and foreign, or outer missions. Home missions is the

evangelizing of any country by the churches that are already established in that country. It is, for example, the churches of America giving the Gospel to America, the conversion of America to Christ by American Christians.

I want, in this paper, to give a few reasons why all the churches of this country should be especially interested in home missionary work.

I. *Because of the great destitution that still exists in church privileges and in spiritual affairs.*

Many persons seem to think that there is little, if any, need of home missionary work any more in our land. They say, "Is not this a Christian land?" It is in name, but not in reality. It needs