

Querist's Column.

[All matter intended for this column should be addressed to E. O. Ford, Port Williams, Kings County, N. S. Questions touching the meaning of scriptures will be gladly received.]

Q. 1 Please explain the following passages of Scripture: I. Cor. xxiv:34-35, and I. Tim. ii:11.
2. I. Tim. v:19-20.

A. 1. From all that we can learn of the circumstances which called forth these Scriptures, it would appear that some women had taken advantage of the liberty of the gospel, and had violated a custom of long standing among the Jews, that the women should be silent in their assemblies, and not ask questions and make objections at any stage of the meeting as the men were permitted to do. For a woman to do this was considered disorderly. Hence the words in the Scripture under consideration: "For it is a shame for a woman to speak in the church." That this kind of speaking is here meant is plain from the instruction given that if there was anything they wished to learn, "Let them ask their husbands at home."

That these Scriptures refer to the *then* existing circumstances, and were never intended to prohibit women participating in the worship by praying, and "speaking to edification and comfort" is evident from the fact that God by the prophet Joel predicted that they would do this very thing. In Acts ii:17 Peter applies this prophecy to the gospel dispensation. And that the women did prophesy is also evident from the instruction given in I. Cor. xxi:5 as to their personal appearance while thus engaged. To prophecy, according to Paul's definition, I. Cor. xxiv:3, is to "Speak unto men to edification and exhortation and comfort."

It would be difficult to accept such an explanation of these Scriptures as would lead us to conclude that, while God had on the one hand given some women the gift of prophecy—to "speak to edification and exhortation"—He would, on the other hand, *forbid her exercising this gift.*

A. 2. Ordinarily a charge against any one might be entertained without a plurality of witnesses; but not so with an elder. For the more faithfully he discharged his duty—"To exhort and convince the gainsayers"—the more exposed he would be to vexatious and false accusations. For this reason it was important that he should have this protection, that a charge against him should not be entertained unless sustained by two or three competent witnesses. But let any who are thus shown to be guilty of any sin be rebuked before all the church "that others may fear."

IN MEMORIAM.

William Steele, died at Southville, N. S., August 16, 1890.

Alas! dear Willie's spirit fled,
And he is numbered with the dead,
In blooming youth he had to part,
From those that twined around his heart.

O, what a sad and solemn thrill,
Pierced each and caused the blood to chill,
When tidings came, "Poor Willie's dead!"
We mourned and wept and bowed the head.

His wife and child the gentle kiss,
And we his greeting smile shall miss,
His footsteps in the house of God,
For low he lies beneath the sod.

He grieved that God's most holy day
Too oft was left to waste away
Without true prayer and service given
To God who rules in earth and heav'n.

He said the Saviour was so great
That we should make an estimate,
And give our choicest and our best,
To Him who now prepares our rest.

Mention he made of some who fight
For what is pure and just and right,
And said if we to heaven would go,
There must he bat'line with the foe

A kind reproof he also sent,
To some who had their voices lent,
To worship at the "silver shrine,"
Instead of praising the Divine.

His brothers, sisters, parents kind,
All cherish the fond hope in mind,
That they will meet their loved one there,
In bliss beyond the reach of care.

And thus their sorrows have a balm,
To soothe their anguish, and to calm
Their troubled spirits from their grief,
And in his Saviour find relief.

Oh! that we out of sleep would wake,
And from our God the warning take,
And fully give our love to Him,
Who died our precious souls to win.

Woodville, Digby County, N. S. M. E. GATES.

THE "CHRISTIAN'S" MISSION.

THE CHRISTIAN is bearing its message of truth, O'er all this broad land to the old and the youth; On its errand of love it doth strongly uphold, The primitive Gospel by Jesus first told.

It brings us the news from all parts of the fields,
How the strongholds of satan unwillingly yield,
How the friends of the cross carry forward the work,
And never their duty or sacrifice shirk.

Oh! the blessed encouragement given by thee,
Thou gladdener of hearts who are anxious to see
The success the gospel for sinners designed,
And the union of hearts, purpose, spirit and mind.

Thou hast been instrumental in turning to God,
Some souls who before in sin's pathway have trod;
May thy efforts ne'er cease for the good and the right.

But go onward increasing in wisdom and might,

May God's choicest blessings rest on the good men,
Who raised up thy banner with their strong gospel pen;

May they long live to strengthen the work they've begun,

May God spare them to us till their race is well run.

The utmost support that God's servants can give,
Is due to this work, that it prosper and live;
Then let all with the sinner's salvation at heart,
Fall in rank with THE CHRISTIAN, and each do their part.

It is reasonable service the apostle hath said,
To help forward the work of the Lord by our aid;
Then let each one remember his duty to God,
And do like our Master "Go about doing good."

C. E.

HOME MISSION NOTES.

Sister Freeman is doing a good work in Milton. She says: "Bro. and Sister Ethington sent me \$5.00 for the Home Mission fund, with best wishes for the work; and words of encouragement for me." Bro. and Sister E. were at the last annual visiting their old home, and their remittance shows their great interest for the cause in these Provinces.

Coburg street S. S. sends the largest collection for this fund that they have ever made. Bro. Boyne sets a good example to those brethren in St. John who are not contributing through the S. S., Y. P. Mission Band, or the Ladies' Aid Society.

The news from Westport and Tiverton should cause all to rejoice. Who will say we are not in a good work. "By their fruits ye shall know them." We hope to see a great ingathering this year. Bro. Applegate is full of zeal; and his zeal is according to knowledge. Sister Payson says: "We are encouraged, and hope to continue in the good work." A glance at the receipts will show how much Westport gives to this good work.

The Y. P. Mission Band of St. John will miss Bro. Capp and Sister Miles very much. Though absent we know they will not forget the Band, and will send it encouraging words.

Halifax again gives more than they pledged. Sister Carson says: "How easy it is to collect if there is but the effort made. I am sure there are none of us who feel any poor from the little we have given; and yet, by our giving unitedly it will amount to quite a sum at the end of the year." We wish all our brethren could see the matter in this light. We preach union. Why can't we unite in this effort to sound out our plea in these Provinces?

Sister Carson also says: "Now that we have an evangelist in the field his success depends on us. Not only are we to help support him, but while he sows the seed we must remember that God gives the increase; and it is for us to bear him up to God in prayer that He may abundantly bless his labors. We are praying for him in Halifax."

Every Disciple of Christ should pray for the spread of the truth. We who believe that faith comes by hearing the word of God should give more and pray more for the men who are spending their time and talents in preaching the word.

So far the churches and friends have done well, but we think they can do better, and hope to see more interest taken in this home mission work.

RECEIPTS FOR FEBRUARY FOR THE N. B. AND N. S. MISSION.

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| Previously acknowledged..... | \$245 35 |
| St. John— | |
| Y. P. Mission Band..... | 1 80 |
| Westport— | |
| Per Miss C. Payson..... | 10 00 |
| Halifax— | |
| Per Mrs. H. Carson..... | 5 10 |
| Milton— | |
| Per Miss M. Freeman..... | 4 50 |
| Mr. and Mrs. F. Ethington, of Lawrence, Maas., per Miss Freeman..... | 5 00 |
| St. John— | |
| A. D. M. Boyne..... | 50 |
| Coburg Street Sunday School..... | 14 00 |
| Total..... | \$286 50 |

Correspondence.

EVANGELIST'S LETTER.

Dear Christian: When I last wrote I was at Westport, where I continued the meeting until the 9th inst., with good results. The wind, weather and tide were against us. But the most hindrance we had was the sectarian prejudice displayed by those who call themselves Christians. I had seen such things in my own country years ago, but not in recent years. Falsehoods and misrepresentations were quietly circulated to the injury of our work. But notwithstanding all these things we had a good meeting.

The visible results were: Additions by baptism, 4; restoration, 3; from the Baptists, 1. I remained at Westport until the 9th, and came to Tiverton, where I am in a meeting with Bro. DeVoe, the pastor. Brother DeVoe enjoys the confidence and love of his congregation, which he has served for more than three years. With less than two week's work there have been added to the church here: By letters, 2; by restoration, 4; by baptism, 1; from Free Will Baptists, 3. Total, 10. The one baptized was a man in his seventieth year. He had often resolved to obey Christ, but put it off until the decline of life. It cost him no little struggle to come out and confess Christ; but he conquered and came. He has but a few days to serve the Master on earth, but we hope they may be days of good and faithful service. He has lost much of heavenly enjoyments in this life—much of peace and comfort which only God can give; but our prayers are that he shall be "filled with all the fullness of God." We expect further results from our meeting here.