

we shall surely find that He will "hedge up our way with thorns," until we return to our forsaken duty.

All the Lord's people are to work for Him; it is our highest duty, our most precious privilege; but we must be willing to work just where, and how, and when *He bids us*. Rushing into engagements without earnest, faithful seeking of the Master's will, can but issue, for us, as disastrously as did the treaty of alliance with the Gibeonites for the men of Israel, when the latter were deceived and cheated into friendship towards their foes, and had themselves to thank for their trouble, because "they asked not counsel at the mouth of the Lord."

Slight may appear to others the obstacles in our self-chosen path, yet the Lord's wanderers will find them insurmountable. Intangible may seem to others the trammels which bind our hands from working effectively for Christ, yet we know and feel them to be as benumbing as the charmed floss with which Maimouna bound the hands of Thalaba.

Only in simple waiting on the Lord, can we be sure of the right place, and the right work. Nor should we blame fellow Christians who are called to a work different from that given to us; "to their own Master they stand or fall"; our part is to listen for His word