

"tempt to bring them by personal effort, under the influence of the truth. They are now engaged in this work, and 'they have a mind to work.'" In the Baptist and Berean Churches the same influences are manifested. In one of the Reformed Dutch Church's a good feeling was awakened during the winter; the pastor of the Church and the superintendent of the school say:—"As a settled line of policy we labour for conversions at all times. The intervals are very short when there are not some one seeking the Saviour, or rejoicing in hope in Christ." The Episcopal and Methodist Churches are also favored with similar blessings from on high. It would seem that there are favorable indications of an unusual and gracious outpouring of God's Spirit upon the entire cities of New York and Brooklyn. In Sing Sing, celebrated as the seat of the State Prison, there are also much new life among the Churches and many conversions to God. In Danville, Kentucky, the Presbyterian Churches at the last communion had many added to their number, as the fruits of a recent work of grace, a considerable number of whom were students in the college there. Churches of all evangelical denominations, colleges and Sunday schools, are thus gladdened with the outshining upon them of the light of God's countenance. In all this we see that God is no respecter of persons. He dispenses his gifts according to his good pleasure, irrespective of human associations. His eye recognises no Church but the living members of Christ's body; wherever these are found, under whatever name, he bestows upon them his covenant blessings.

This certainly rebukes the exclusiveness of those who deem themselves in their little circles the only Churches of Christ, and who unchurch all who belong to other professions. It would, however, be an extreme view to say that this encourages the notion that nothing is of importance in the Church excepting the cardinal doctrines of the Gospel, and that the minor matters of Church order and discipline are of no consequence at all in the Christian system. We do not hold this view. We think that everything in God's Word given for the direction of his people is of importance, and that it is the part of Christian wisdom to give it the place which God gives it in his kingdom and no other. The scriptural character of Church systems must be determined by other marks than that of the gift of God's Spirit to their members or the conversion of sinners by their agencies; these blessings undoubtedly teach that these communions are the "communion of saints," that God has a seed amongst them, and that some of them at least are in covenant with Christ. But they by no means prove that the contradictory things in these systems are all right. The form of the fellowship must be judged of, we say, on other grounds than that of the special grace which God bestows upon his saints. While each denomination may rejoice that God is *owning* them, let each one recognise also the fact that God is *owning* the other, and while each is bound in duty to maintain the apostolical "doctrine and fellowship" according to their own intelligent convictions of the teachings of Scripture on these points, yet this is to be done only after it has first been admitted and acknowledged that the Church of Christ is the "fellowship of the saints." On this principle we may rejoice when God is blessing our neighbors, and may pray that all who "hold the Head" may have the presence of the Spirit in his converting and awakening power amongst them.

These facts and considerations should lead us, in Canada, to pray for the blessing of the Spirit to revive God's work among us. We need it as much as the Churches of the United States. Much of our corner of the vineyard is parched and barren; many goodly trees are but leaf-bearing, or at best produce little of the beautiful fruit of the Spirit to the praise of the Redeemer. Upon our young men and maidens we need an outpouring of pentecostal grace; upon the habitues of the Church and the communion table we require a quickening influence to descend; in the pulpit we want ministers with "tongues of fire";