

Upholding all things by the word of His power.—Heb. i. 3.

every step. You will be unwilling to go anywhere without Him. The least indication of His mind will be watched for and followed eagerly. His love known and believed will make you ready to obey; and obedience rendered will enable you to realize more and more of His love.

They Say—.

WELL, what if they do? It may not be true. A great many false reports are circulated, and the reputation of a good man may be sadly sullied by a base-

less rumour. Have you any reason to believe that what they say concerning your brother is true? If not, why should you permit your name to be included among the "they" who circulate a scandal.

They say—. Who says? Is any person responsible for the assertion? Such phrases are frequently used to conceal the point of an enemy's sponiard, who thus meanly strikes one whom he dare not openly assail. Are you helping the cowardly attack? If "they" means nobody, then regard the rumour as nothing.

They say—. Why do they say so? Is any good purpose secured by the circulation of the report? Will it benefit the individual to have it known? or will any interests of society be promoted by whispering it about? If not, you had better employ time and speech to some more worthy purpose.

They say—. To whom do they say it? To those who have no business with the affair? To those who cannot help it or mend it, or prevent any unpleasant results? That certainly shows a tattling, scandal-loving spirit that ought to be rebuked.

They say—. Well, do they say it to him? or are they very careful to whisper it in places where he cannot hear, and to persons who are

known not to be his friends? Would they dare to say to him, as well as about him? No one has a right to say that concerning another which he is not ready to speak in his own ear.

They say—. Well, suppose it is true. Are you sorry for it? or do you rejoice that a brother has been discovered erring? Oh! pity him if he has fallen into sin, and pray for him that he may be forgiven and restored.

If it should be true, don't spread it abroad to his injury. It will not benefit you, nor him, nor society, to publish his faults. You are as liable to be slandered or err as your brother, and as ye would that he should defend, or excuse, or forgive you, do ye even so to him.—*Selected.*

THE GOSPEL ALPHABET. No. 21.

The Lord **UPHOLDETH** the righteous. Psalm xxxvii. 17.
The Lord **UPHOLDETH** him with His hand. Psalm xxxvii. 24.
UPHOLD me according to Thy word. Psalm cxix. 116.



Uphold me, Saviour, or I fall;
Oh! reach me out Thy gracious hand;
Only on Thee for help I call;
Only by faith in Thee I stand.
Jesus, I fain would walk in Thee—
From nature's every path retreat;
Thou art the Way, my Leader be,
And set upon the Rock my feet.
When to the right or left I stray,
Thy voice behind me may I hear:
"Return, and walk in Christ, thy Way;
Fly back to Christ, for sin is near!"

The Lord **UPHOLDETH** all that fall. Psalm cxlv. 14.
I will **UPHOLD** thee. Isaiah xli.
Thou **UPHOLDEST** me in mine integrity. Psalm xli. 12.

Shining.

OUR business is, not to talk about shining, not to have theories about the way of doing it, but by our good works to shine, and so to bear testimony to the Lord. The simple thought meets a thousand difficulties. "I am very poor; my candlestick is tin instead of silver, if I were richer I should be of more use." Let your light shine, "I am feeble in health; half my time is passed within a sick room. My candlestick is a broken one." Let your light shine even if there is no more candlestick than to hold the candle from falling over. "I am very much out of the way—in a very obscure corner; far off from the general eye and observation. I wish I were in a better position." Let your light shine; the Lord knows why he has placed you where you are. Be sure He has a purpose worthy of being accomplished.—*Dr. James Culross.*

EVERY farmer who has tried it knows that work can be accomplished in much less time if it has been carefully planned beforehand. When you go into a field to work, know just what you want to do, then do it.