

and a pigeon's nest diverted Mohammed's pursuers from searching his cave of retreat!

Mr. Home, the Minister of the parish, on learning that her ladyship's carriage had broken down near his manse, kindly entertained her, and the ladies with her, all night, and a friendship was then formed that resulted in her taking an immense interest in the parish of Shotts. And she requested him, at the next Sacrament, to invite several distinguished ministers of the day—naming them—to assist him at the celebration, and a vast multitude, attracted by the fame of those servants of God, assembled from all quarters, and such a glorious outpouring of the Spirit took place as had never before been witnessed in Clydesdale. Series of services were protracted for several days. On one occasion, the minister appointed to officiate became unwell, and, at the suggestion of Lady Culross, Rev. John Livingston was substituted. He took for his text Ezekiel 36: 25, 26; and such was the effect of his preaching on that day, that nearly five hundred persons gave their hearts to God.

During the stirring period when the Scottish people renewed the National Solemn League and Covenant, in 1638, and successfully resisted the attempts of Charles the First to impose upon them Prelacy, with all its forms and liturgy, the Marchioness warmly espoused the cause of the Covenanters. Possessed of a strong and masculine spirit, she displayed an undaunted heroism in the cause. When her own son, James, (afterward Duke of Hamilton, who sided with the King against the Covenanters), conducted an English Fleet to the Forth, in 1639, to overawe them, his mother appeared on horseback, with two pistols by her side, at the head of a large troop to resist his landing, and, drawing one of her pistols from her saddle-bow, declared she would be the first to shoot him should he presume to land and attack them. He did not land, as the result of a private visit she paid him on board of his vessel. The Covenanters did not therefore suffer any harm.

Respecting this historical lady we meet with no additional facts. She died full of years, in 1647, leaving a noble testimony behind, that being "absent from the body, she was present with the Lord."

We believe that if the times were now as then, many devoted women, both in Scotland and in this "Canada of ours," would follow in the footsteps of these "Ladies of the Covenantant."

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WHEN frankness becomes rudeness, it should be properly checked.

TRAVELLING EVANGELISTS.

An interesting discussion has occupied the attention of the Presbyterian Ministerial Association of Toronto at its last two meetings, on the advantage of special revival services as a means of fostering the spiritual life of our congregations, and the advisability of securing the help on such occasions of travelling evangelists. The dangers connected with such services were clearly set forth.

First, attention was called to the state of matters with regard to such meetings in the United States and in the Methodist churches in our own country. It was stated that in many churches in the United States no increase was looked for except at these revival seasons, and that these were arranged for periodically as part of the Church machinery; and that, in consequence of this, a large part of the year in such churches was entirely barren of results. The fact was noted also that in our Canadian churches where such means are not relied upon for increasing the membership, the number added last year was very much larger in proportion to our strength than in the Presbyterian Church in the United States. With regard to our Methodist friends it was easy to see that the system of periodic revivals is more essential to the keeping up of their effective strength than it is with us. They believe in "falling away," and therefore they need to convert many of their people very often. They also believe in the advantage of high emotional excitement in order to produce what they consider conversion. Hence the power of the "Boy Preacher" and others who have reduced the revival system to an exact science, and who can promise you at the price of one hundred dollars per week a thousand converts in a given definite time, and fulfil their promise if only you leave them free to carry out their plans. Any one who has powers equal to the task can work up a revival so called. Let him be advertised as a "Boy Preacher" or a "Converted Prize-fighter," or under some equally attractive cognomen let him secure a church which can be heated so that when it is crowded the people will be perspiring in their seats; let them be provided with good music and rousing tunes; let the preacher come forward with the boldness that commands success, and order the front seats to be cleared for the crowd of converts whom he announces he intends to secure that night;—then let him proceed with all the strength of lung and power of emotion at his command, and the papers will tell next day the wonderful results—and the travelling evangelist is always in the papers—and the crowd