

Gospel and Song Service,

SABBATH EVENING, 8.30.

YOU

ARE CORDIALLY INVITED.

DURING the past month we have received quite a number of visitors from other cities, among whom were members from different associations. We are glad to have these strangers and brethren call on us as they come to our city, and shall cheerfully do what we can to add to their happiness during their stay. We will be glad at any time, to give to young men of our city cards of introduction to associations in any city they may have occasion to visit.

FATHER SEWELL AND THE COLLECTION.

He could not help being absent from the meeting, but his heart was there. His feet could have carried him down to the chapel two hours before, only duty forbade. As soon, however, as he had concluded his business, off the old gentleman walked, saying to himself, "I am afraid I shall be too late, but I shall see how they have got on. The Lord grant a blessing on the meeting and the work in hand!"

It was Father Sewell, an Israelite indeed, the very image of Old Honest in Bunyan's Pilgrim. There had been a meeting to raise money for home mission work, and the collection had just been made when the old gentlemen entered, and the deacons had brought all the plates into the table-pew. The pastor no sooner caught sight of his aged friend than he said, "Our friend Mr. Sewell, will, I am sure, close the meeting by offering prayer for God's blessing on the proceedings." Father Sewell stood up, but he did not pray. He did not shut his eyes, but, on the contrary, seemed looking for something. He did not clasp his hands, but put them into his pockets and fumbled there with much perseverance.

"I am afraid," said the pastor, "that my brother did not understand me. Friend Sewell, I did not ask you to give, but to pray."

"Ay, ay," said the straightforward speaker, "but I could not pray till I have given. It would be hypocrisy to

ask a blessing on that which I did not think worth giving to."

There was not a bit of ostentation in the old man; it was his honest heart pouring out true feeling; and, odd as his behaviour seemed, his conduct preached the whole congregation such a sermon as they will not soon forget. Prayer unattended by effort is, before the Lord, as when the churl saith, "Be ye warmed and be ye filled," to a hungry man. It is a mockery, and no more. Clasp in supplication hands that have been free in offering. Let none of us appear before the Lord empty. To be allowed to give to the eternal God is an honour so great that none but brutish worldlings will decline it. If we were liberal in serving the Lord's cause with our substance, we may expect Him to grant the prayers in which we ask Him to establish the works of our hands upon us.—C. H. Spurgeon.

MEETING FOR BOYS

SHAFTESBURY HALL,

Every Friday Evening, at 8 O'Clock,

IN THE

BOYS' ROOM,

Entrance on James St.

Boys will always be made Welcome.

NEVER DRIFT.

Young man, have a plan and purpose in life—let it be a good one; then make everything bend to it, for it is only this class who rise above the average level of mankind, and, when we speak of the average christian, it is far too low in this our day and generation. Therefore, let the christian young man set his mark high, and toil unrelentingly to reach it. What shall our aim be? To be like Christ—unselfish, patient, charitable, willing to make sacrifices for the good of others. Thus living, we shall in this world make our influence felt, and, when this tabernacle of clay shall bid farewell to the spirit, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.—*Davenport Bulletin.*

Sunday Afternoon Bible Class,

SHAFTESBURY HALL, 3 O'CLOCK.

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