

cling to every iota of it with rigid tenacity, yet it would postpone its claims to those of things temporal, and only be religious so far as religion did not ask for troublesome or self-denying labors. A Christian of this type would say, religion must not ask me to "visit the fatherless and the widows in their afflictions;" it must not expect me to be "an instructor of the ignorant," or to make it my business to seek after the conversion of my neighbour, or in short to do or to say anything that would not perfectly accord with good breeding or the amenities of cultivated society.

How shall we reform this state of the Church? and get out of this heedlessness of spiritual things? It cannot be denied that we ought to try and mend it—that we ought to do something to wipe this stain from the "fellowship of the Saints," and, if we may so speak, to revenge this dishonour done to Christ our Lord. Let us try, for example, if we cannot, to a greater extent than we are, be *doers* as well as hearers of the Word; and then, according to the promise, we may expect to be "blessed in our deed." But, above all, let us *pray*. After all is done that we can do, it will yet be found that we are far from the "stature of the fullness of Christ." We need the Spirit of Promise to impart continual supplies of divine grace, and to quicken us into a true Christ-like life. For this then let us pray, and "pray without ceasing," and not rest importuning God until He gives us what we ask. As a part of God's vineyard, we want the early and the latter rains, that we may flourish as the "garden of the Lord." Let it be remembered that if we ask in faith, nothing doubting, God will grant us our requests.

We have been led into these considerations by reading, in various Newspapers, accounts of striking revivals just now granted to the Churches of the neighboring States. The cities of Boston, of Brooklyn, and of New York, with many of the adjacent places and individual Churches throughout the Union, are now, it would appear, enjoying a gracious refreshing from the presence of the Lord. The week-day prayer meetings and lectures are in these Churches no longer scantily attended, but both these and the public Church services on the Sabbath have been *thronged*. In one Presbyterian Church a member thus describes the work:—"For the last few weeks God has seen fit, in His bountiful mercy, to "exhibit the awakening influence of His Spirit in our midst. Especially has He "blest our Sunday School. The teachers have been solemn; they have felt the "mighty responsibility resting upon *them*; it has been their earnest prayer that "they might "walk softly before the Lord," and God has crowned their labors "with success." Of another Mission School which was started some years ago by several persons, only two of whom were professors of religion, it is related, that "after a time the result seemed so unpromising, that the idea of abandoning the enterprise was entertained. It was finally decided to struggle on a "while longer, and lately there has been a revival, which has resulted thus far "in the conversion of *seventeen teachers and ten scholars*."

In Dr. Krieb's Church, New York, we are told a good feeling prevails. "An "unusual tenderness appeared to pervade the congregation at the late communion season. On the evening of that day the pastor preached a discourse on "the duty of the Church to make special efforts to bring the poor and unevangelized under the influence of the Gospel. It had been previously agreed to "make a thorough exploration of the neighborhood, partly with reference to "tract distribution, partly to the enlargement of the Sabbath Schools, and partly "to induce neglectors of public worship to attend Church. With this combined "purpose in view, one or two meetings were held to devise an efficient plan and to "engage laborers. These resulted in obtaining the pledges of upwards of *sixty* "persons, including the most influential people in the congregation to go out for "the purpose of visiting every family in the vicinity of the Church, and to at-