

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

We are sowing daily sowing,
Countless seeds of good and ill,
Scattered on the level lowland,

Contributors & Correspondents.

GOD'S HIDDEN ONES.

BY THE REV. WM. COCHRANE, M.A., BRANTFORD, ONTARIO.

It is literally as well as figuratively true, that in many periods of the church's history, God's people have been hidden ones.

The Psalm in which these words are found speaks of the Israelites as "God's hidden ones." In many respects they were so.

We may enlarge the original application of the term, and regard it as descriptive of all God's spiritual Israelites.

He did predestinate, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

This hidden in the purpose of God, believers have by faith hid hold on eternal life. They have fled to refuge to the hope set before them in the Gospel.

This is the completion of the believer's redemption, the consummation in his actual experience of what was purposed in eternity.

Believers are also hidden during life from the observation and knowledge of the world. This arises from a variety of causes.

His cause! It is even so still. Looking at men in general, and taking account simply of the surface of society, how little vital religion seems to exist.

The seal of the covenant, the blood of the Paschal lamb, marked the inmates as the special favourites of heaven.

God's word declares this righteous principle, and the Christian's experience confirms it. "In the time of trouble he shall hide me; he shall set me upon a rock.

Believers thus "hidden" are the recipients of special blessings. The joy of the Lord is their strength.

If we are of the number of God's hidden ones, the fact cannot long remain hidden from ourselves.

CHILDREN.

The smallest are nearest to God, as the smallest planets are nearest the sun.

A REDEEMED SINNER.

I had rather, as a forgiven child, with all the prospects of the future opened up into me, wear the crown purchased by the redeeming love of Christ, than that which is worn by the unfallen angels.

THE INQUISITION.

PHILIP II. longed to celebrate an "act of faith" by the burning of a heretic, in the cities of Amsterdam and London.

The phlegmatic Hollanders suddenly arose to grand enthusiasm for the defeat of their foes.

In the beginning of the eighteenth century, the vigor of the Inquisition began to decline. Men whose tongues would no longer be silenced by fear of its punishments, denounced the Secret Tribunal unsparingly.

TEACH LOVINGLY.

The man who never smiles has no divine call to the Sunday-school ministry. The half-hour on the Lord's day is not the only time we teach.

THE WARNING KNOCK.

Not long ago, a lady guest came down to the breakfast table, and in the course of conversation remarked in a very casual manner.

next on the floor; but there was nothing there."

"Why, Miss Kate, you don't think it was a warning for you?"

The intelligent reader will see in this a more coincidence. Cracks and noises in wooden furniture are a frequent result from incessant shrinkage and expansion.

MINISTERIAL DISCIPLINE IN WALES.

The Christian Union gives the following interesting account of the plan of Welsh Congregationalists to obtain and train young men for the ministry:

"The churches and pastors in Wales accomplish the task somewhat after this fashion: The platform of the Sabbath-school and the Society, especially the latter, affords ample scope for preliminary exercises.

"After one receives the sanction of his village, he will preach in the surrounding villages, wherever he may be asked to do so. In the meantime he studies, either under his pastor or some other minister who receives young men to prepare them for a collegiate education.

TEST QUESTIONS.

What are the test questions which every one should put to his own conscience searchingly before he makes a public vow or consecration to the Lord?

Gerald Massey, the poet, has a rather uncomfortable sort of wife, who has a trick of seeing more than meets the mortal eye.