

said the Spirit, "and join thyself to this chariot." The result is known.

Again, when the Church at Antioch had become well equipped and, perhaps, with great complacency had begun to congratulate herself upon her noble band of workers, the Holy Ghost, ever mindful of the regions beyond, said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them," and the Church at Antioch surrendered two of her most efficient workers. How helpful to the perplexed one to follow these two men as they go hither and thither under their trusty Leader, who marked out their paths so distinctly. We read that at one time "they were forbidden of the Holy Spirit to preach in Asia," at another, "the Spirit suffered them not to go into Bithynia," but by a vision at Troas indicated the course they were to pursue, or, in the words of Paul, "When I came to Troas to preach Christ's Gospel, and a door was opened to me of the Lord, I had no rest in my spirit because I found not Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them went from thence into Macedonia." He who has led will lead the one who commits his way unto the Lord. The same Guide will to-day open and close doors, bring the blind by a path they knew not, lead them in paths they have not known, making darkness light before them and crooked things straight. We speak from experience.

The Holy Spirit was to those of old no mere influence to be referred to by the pronoun "it," for we read in the letter sent to the Christians in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia, "It seemed good to the Holy Ghost and us to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things." (One was He, whose counsel was ever sought in all matters, trivial or otherwise, so real was He to them.)

Prophecies have failed, tongues have ceased, and, as the paling of the moon at sunrise, past knowledge has vanished with the advance of centuries. On the contrary, Jesus said, "The words which I speak unto you they are spirit and they are life"; hence, after a lapse of eighteen centuries these words have lost none of their old time force.

The fulfilment of the promise of the Father is just as imperative to-day as ever it was. "To be spiritually minded is life and peace." To be filled with the Spirit is abundance of life and "peace as a river."

One evening during the last hot season I went for a walk in the cool of the day. The great fiery orb that had blazed so fiercely all the day long had sunken below the horizon, leaving all nature withered and scorched. During the course of my walk I passed a public well, and lo, like an oasis in a desert, all about the well was flourishing, the freshest of grass and the greenest of the green—grass which would not have disgraced a Canadian country roadside in the springtime. Here and there a sturdy little blade supported a sparkling drop of water, which had been deposited when the last visitor to the well had

drawn and emptied his or her chéda. For many days the vision of the green was before me, and I prayed the Father to make me such a source of life in this land, withered by sin rampant in all forms.

But, at the best, the well was but a poor illustration, for it was deep, the water must be drawn, and only the grass in the immediate vicinity was benefited by the water which chanced to splash over. A poor picture of the Christian whose blessed privilege it is to be a broken and empty vessel lying at the fountain-head, and through which the waters, like those in Ezekiel's vision, flow with ever increasing depth and volume, until they become an impassable river issuing out into the desert and thence to the sea, bringing life and health whithersoever they come. "He that believeth on Me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his inward parts shall flow rivers of living water (but this spake He of the Spirit which they that believe on Him shall receive)."

Would we, as a band of men and women helping to carry out this great commission in these latter days, test the validity of this promise, and have during the sessions of our Conference a marked manifestation of the presence of the Spirit, we have fulfilled one condition, we are with one accord in one place, and the blessing is within reach. "If ye then being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him."

Do we want this blessing more than aught else? Are we each agonizing in prayer for its descent? Is there anything in us that may hinder its coming? Do we realize what a conflagration may be kindled in this country as a result of the overflowing through over thirty different channels of such an outpouring during this Conference? What a privilege is ours! Shall we improve the opportunity?

"And when they had prayed the place was shaken where they were assembled together and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and they spake the word of God with boldness."

## THE TITHE.

"I will surely give the tenth unto Thee."—Gen. xxviii. 22. "Bring ye all the tithes."—Malachi iii. 10.

Since Thou dost crown our lives below  
With countless blessings rich and free,  
Of all Thou dost on us bestow  
We will devote one tenth to Thee.

According to Thy faithful word  
Wherein Thy will we plainly see,  
This day we will our vow record  
To always give one tenth to Thee.

Because Thy promise we believe,  
We know Thou dost regard our plea,  
Therefore of all that we receive  
We consecrate one tenth to Thee.