

obedient ye shall eat the good of the land ; but if ye refuse and rebel ye shall be devoured with the sword ;" and I was filled with fear lest I would do anything through hurry or bustle, thinking if I would that God would eventually cut off my children or myself from His service. But what a foolish person I was, to think that God who is ever pitiful and kind would let me grieve Him by thinking that He would be so angry with any of my doings that he would cut me off from His service. You will observe it was not for fear of death eternal, or for fear of death temporal, for during all these struggles I walked with God, and I knew that sudden death would be to me, an abundant entrance into everlasting felicity ; but my fear arose chiefly from misunderstanding the writings that God in His infinite condescension was pleased to unfold to my mind and to enable my fingers to write. Now I am not going to sound forth to you that I did not make a mistake, for I made many, as far as the understanding the meaning of the writings was concerned, but God who is High and Holy made no mistakes ; and you may as well say that God did not creat the universe as to say that He did not give every word of the writings, for they are the prodnction of the infinite Jehovah, who is the Alpha and the Omega. It is vain for any one to charge me with being presumptuous, for my brethren have called this work presumption, but if it is, it must be God himself ; others have attempted to clear themselves of blame about these writings just simply to please other people. Now, I told you that it was offensive to God to wish His work burned, and you will remember that he, who did so, was my beloved father, and I told you also how he was taken from home to die. Now I tell you of another circumstance bearing on this point :—One night last winter, I heard a voice calling me right from the throne of God, and so clear and loud was the voice calling my name that I woke up with a nervous excitement. I looked to Jesus for one moment, and a voice said, " Ask you husband did he call you " I instantly obeyed and he said, " No, I did not." These words followed as the explanation : " its John Burns calling from the spirit land ; Write it ! Write it ! Write it ! " I fell asleep again and was conscious it was from the Lord, for the words were sounding in my ears every waking moment from this until God was pleased to give me on the following day a full explanation of the meaning. He let these words come to my mind ; Tell it, tell it, tell it ; and the two different things so confused me that I did not see which to say to the few faithful ones whom God commanded me to tell. I went immediately to the Lord with the matter, and lo ! infinite wisdom and wonderful condescension sounded forth to me these memorable words, " Do both," meaning to both write it and tell it.