

And so it is wise to stay a moment to think what like the record is which is written on those pages sealed for the eternal opening; what like the work is which is out of our hands forever; what like the sins and the failures are which are beyond our correcting: not alone that we may be glad, or sorry, but that we may be the wiser and the better for the thought, and, by prayer and striving, avoid what is condemned, and follow what is approved of conscience in the light of truth and experience.

These five years contain much for us to think about. They tell us that many of us will have been called away before other five years are over, and that we should be ready, watching, working, for in such an hour as we think not the Son of man cometh. So it has been. Well known and tenderly loved ones have been called away. So shall we.

These years tell us also of the blessing of God amongst us in the growth of the work. It is true that a number of the principal sources of our revenue have been cut off; that some springs which flowed freely have been dried up or changed. If any one, knowing the congregation, had been told what changes were to come, he would have said it would be a very serious thing financially for the Church, and so it has been. I have not known a congregation suffer so much in that way in the same time; and yet our annual income, by God's blessing, is about \$1,500 larger than it was five years ago. How has that been brought about? There is something worth thinking about in this. Are there not more of us ready to take part in this enlargement?

You are aware that about two hundred have united with the Church, most of them on profession of their faith in Christ for the first time. This tells us that the Spirit of God has been with us, but it also reminds us that there are

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