

Spirit are necessary. He will come down as rain on the mown grass and as showers that water the earth. I will pour water on him that is thirsty and floods on the ground. I will pour out my Spirit upon thy seed and my blessing upon thine off-spring. To the presence of that Holy Spirit among the churches is to be ascribed all true revival. A revival is the re-invigoration of the souls that already possess spiritual life and the impartation of spiritual life to souls that were dead in trespasses and sins. This is the work of God. In vain are forms and machinery for doing good without the living power. The energy of the Spirit subdues the opposition of man. No hand of the creature can change the heart. The heaviest blows even of an intellectual giant fail to break the mountains or beat them small, but at the touch of God the mountains flow down. The encircling cold of spiritual torpor freezes and benumbs till the spirit of love melts and warms the icy soul. A winter scene may in a week become green and spring-like by the genial breath of southern winds; thus over the face of the spiritual field a change may come as rapid and as decided. The quickening breath of the Spirit transforms a desert into a garden which the Lord hath blessed. The voice of the beloved is then heard to say to the church; rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away, for lo! the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. When the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place, and suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. May not Pentecostal seasons be expected and prayed for? Not, it is true, in the endowment of men of God with miraculous power, but in accompanying the word with power to the salvation of men. If they may, and in our view the events of the last few months give a demonstration of it, ought it not to be earnestly seen to, that no hinderances are operating through us to the with-holding of such times of favour. Let us scrutinize ourselves lest we grieve the Holy Spirit. This will lead us in view of our position and connection with the great revival of our day to enquire

1st. *Have we humbled ourselves sufficiently before God on account of our sins?* God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble. There is room for abasement of spirit when we remember our lack of faithfulness, energy, zeal, faith, love. However much we may have done there is no ground for glorying. Weighed in the balances of the sanctuary there is defectiveness about our best and holiest services. To have the eye open to this and the heart brought to feel it and mourn it is necessary. In the absence of deep humility has there been cherished a confidence in ourselves or in the means employed, or in the special nature of the time? These confidences are rebuked. These must be put off as David put off Saul's armour for he had not proved it, and in the simplicity and majesty of truth with reliance on the power of God we must go forth to encounter opposing hosts. It has been usual in tracing the causes under God of the work in the States to make special mention of the financial difficulties of the times. The spirit of worldiness has been rebuked,—a spirit which has no doubt been largely felt in Canada. Has it been put away? As a sin which especially besets the christian in a land like this it has vigilantly to be guarded against. If the Lord has a controversy with his people let them humble themselves under his mighty hand. The wedge of gold and the Babylonish garment had much to do with the defeat of the three