

THE POMPEY-BINKS SENSATION

espoused. The congregation was far from self-supporting, and the spiritual deadness evinced by two of its chief props gave its pastor many an anxious hour. If their enthusiasm had ever been needed it seemed to be at this particular time, for although the membership embraced the hillside and country round, and although the older heads worked with a will, the younger blood of the church seemed particularly slow in manifesting the zeal of their forefathers.

Towards the close of the following autumn the spiritual and financial condition of the little congregation showed but slight improvement. With the realization of its precarious state ever before him, Peter Paul at last decided that an awakening other than he could enthuse might be an essential in strengthening the walls of his little Zion. A new spirit must arise in the hearts of his people, and as he quietly and prayerfully considered the problem confronting him he became quite buoyed up with the thought of a revival, the introduction of which would in all probability sweep away the long-standing enmity between two of his parishioners and tone up the languor of others.

Therefore it was announced on a Sunday in late November that Billy Cain, a reclaimed prize-fighter, who was then upon an evangelical tour, would hold nightly meetings during the following week. It was the first revival ever held in Sunshine-Shadder, and many looked forward to the initial meeting, some from the motive which prompted it, but many from the novelty of seeing the famed revivalist.