

The Sanctification of Ann Preston.

Sister Ann Preston was sanctified throughout body, soul and spirit, nearly thirty years ago, through the instrumentality of Brother Wilson, a sanctified friend, while visiting at her master's. In the psalm which he read for family prayer was the verse: "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth," which sunk so deeply into her heart that she thought all belonging to her were going to be cut off from the earth because of her unfaithfulness. She had been a child of God for upwards of twelve years, and lived as many do at the present day, sinning and repenting; but at this time she had such a clear sight of herself, of her inbred corruption, that she abhorred herself as in dust and ashes. She asked the brother where the passage of scripture was which he had read and told him to mark that down. She then took the Bible and light upstairs, where she asked the Lord to teach her to read the verse, which He did. Not having been educated any, she was taught by inspiration to read this verse and one previously, which was all the reading she had ever done before. She wept and prayed all night, being tempted by the devil severely to give up her desire for full salvation, as she could never get it. She asked the Lord what sanctification would do for her, to which He replied, "It would enable you to rejoice evermore and pray without ceasing." "Well then," she said, "I'll die, but I'll have it." You see she came to the point. Death, or have it; all was given up. At daybreak she said, "Lord, I am knocking all night; Lord, open." The Lord said, "Jacob wrestled all night, and he prevailed." Not knowing what this meant, she asked, "What does 'prevail' mean?" "Why," replied the Lord, "not giving up." Then she believed, and thus received this full salvation. She was about to go to the woods to pray, as the devil, she said, had wakened the children to disturb her, but God employed the good brother to hinder her. The spirit of God so overpowered her that she fell down on the verandah and thought she was in Heaven shaking hands with Mr. Holiday and her mistress who