

Is it Scriptural for Women to take a Public Part in the Social Exercises of the Church?

My chief object in writing on the above question was an attempt to reconcile two statements of the Apostle Paul, which are seemingly contradictory. And I think I was successful in getting hold of the spirit of his statements. However, in your issue of the 30th ult., Bro. Denovan comes forward and virtually says that the attempt was a total failure. He is careful about quoting the prohibition in full, but equally as careful about suppressing the permission. All that he says is this: "What, then, can mean those directions given in the eleventh chapter of the same apostolic epistle about the covering of a woman's head when she prays, or prophesies? They mean exactly what they say." And then he goes on to matters that are altogether irrelevant to the subject in hand, without giving us the least hint about what they do mean.

What does Bro. Denovan mean by this expression which, he says, is within the domain of woman's usefulness: "What about friendly domestic calls and visits, where even Christian ladies are apt to indulge in 'small talk' that cannot be called very profitable"? This is, it I understand it right, very "small talk," and an insult to our Christian womanhood.

In his last paragraph he is dramatically patriotic. His picture of the terrible agonies of our suffering women at conference and prayer meetings inflicted upon them by the cruelty of their pastors, is really touching. My contention, Mr. Editor, was, and is, that Paul prohibited only those who were inclined to "usurp authority over man," for 800 years before Christ the prophet Joel says, "And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy." On the day of Pentecost, Peter quotes the words as being fulfilled on that occasion. On that day we find the apostles together "with the women." "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues, like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them." Surely the women were included here. And the historian goes on: "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." No one will venture to say that the women after being filled with the Holy Spirit sat down silent. According to prophecy they were filled with the Holy Spirit and preached. "I will pour My Spirit upon all flesh, and My sons and My daughters shall prophesy."

DAVID PRICE.

The Seminary Canvass.

NO. 1.

With the permission of the editor I wish to place on record my gratitude to the friends who so promptly came to our aid in saving St. Martin's Seminary, and to add a few notes as to some experiences in the last canvass.

Late one evening, in St. John, Bro. Titus and I stood, in a driving rain, before a house in which we could not distinguish a single light, and when there was accordingly as little prospect of entrance as there had been when we had knocked in vain two hours before. Without the least expectation of an answer, I knocked this time ("just once, for the sake of the form," I said, when the door opened, and we were ushered into a pleasant room, and came out two hundred dollars richer. I shall never forget that little experience.

In St. Stephen I received every assistance from Pastor Goucher and met with much kindness and co-operation from other old friends as well. I shall long remember the thoughtfulness of the sister who gave the first twenty-five dollar subscription, and also the gratification I felt at the donation from the "King's Daughters," it being, so far as I know, the first from such an organization. When "circles" of young people begin to feel the claims of our Seminary, there is every encouragement for the future.

One day a brother met me on the street, and, handing me a most acceptable donation, said, "My young people are getting an education at but little expense to me. My daughter is with friends where she has the best school privileges. My son works during the day, but attends night school and is getting along grandly. And since the Lord has been so good to me in this respect, I have decided to give this as a thank-offering to St. Martin's Seminary." As the good brother turned away I could not help thinking upon the contrast thus presented to the spirit that would have been manifested had this man said, "My children will never receive any benefit from St. Martin's. They have had to go elsewhere. My son has to work for what he gets. You needn't ask me for anything." Oh, that we all had the blessed faculty of seeing the highest side, of recognizing our blessings as they come. Then might we realize God's claim upon our self-sacrificing beneficence; then would this old world fairly ring with the praises of men who would see this life as God meant them to see it.

C. W. WILLIAMS.

If evidence of worth and of popularity were needed, it would be found in the edition of the New Year's Double Number of *The Youth's Companion*, which reaches this year 125,000 copies.

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NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES.

HARVEY.—On the 3rd inst. we again had the privilege of visiting our beautiful natural baptistry at Beaver Brook, where Christ in baptism took two more recent converts from the Midway section of the Harvey church.

E. C. BAKER.

DARTMOUTH, N. S.—During the last seven months I have been laboring with the church at Dartmouth, N. S. I wish fully to acknowledge the many expressions of kindness received from the people, and the hearty co-operation of the "little flock" in assisting to advance the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. On last Lord's Day two happy believers joined their Saviour in the ordinance of baptism.

Jan. 5. W. M. SMALLMAN.

ELGIN, ALBERT CO.—After one year and three months' labor in the Elgin church, I have resigned the pastorate and am now open to a call from any church in the diocese which has in so many cases attended the labors of Bro. Young may be vouchsafed in this instance also.

Rev. J. A. Ford.

CARLETON, ST. JOHN'S.—Yesterday closed a pastorate of nearly four years in connection with this church. These have been years of hard but joyous work, years of quiet but steady progress, years of untiring energy, and of loving care for the people. And now that the end has come there are parting regrets too painful for expression. But there are also memories, memories of such kindness and sympathy as a pastor seldom need expect, such attention and appreciation as would inspire the most sluggish, such friendships as fortify and enrich a pastor's life. From this atmosphere we step out into a strange field and strange surroundings, a larger church and increased responsibilities. The future is only known above. We can work and wait. Address, Eastport, Maine, U. S. A.

Jan. 11. J. A. FORD.

HIGHWATER, N. S.—One candidate was received at our December conference and baptized the following Sabbath. During the past two weeks we have been holding special services in the Hartford section. Bro. A. F. Baker, who spent his holidays with the Ohio church, kindly consented to help us. Though the time was short, and much of the weather stormy, preventing the development of the work as we had hoped, the results, nevertheless, are encouraging. God's people, in a measure have been revived, some have found Christ, and others are seeking. The services of Bro. Baker were highly appreciated, and as he leaves the harvest field for a little to sharpen his sickle at Acadia, he will be followed by the prayers of a number whom his earnest words have helped. Our dear brother, we believe, has a special gift for this kind of work, and we hope he may, as opportunity offers, render similar assistance where it is needed.

F. H. BEALS.

BAY STONE, Westmorland Co.—The Rev. O. N. Keith is about entering upon the second year of his labors in this place, for half his time, the remainder of which he will devote to himself and another field. It is quite sure that God has poured down His showers of blessing upon the labors of this pastor, which have brought forth fruit. During the present year nine happy and promising converts were baptized and received into the church, and many others brought to see their great need of a Saviour. In appreciation of his faithful and energetic labors in this place, his friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, presented him with a far costlier purse of \$80, besides other useful presents. The Rev. gentleman has under much fatigue retired to his home and people in Havelock, Kings Co., N. B., for a few days, after which he will return to his pastoral work much revived in body and spirit.

D. E. A.

BERKSHIRE CHURCH, HALIFAX.—I beg to acknowledge with thanks the following responses to our appeal for aid to the "Tabernacle":

1st St. Margaret's Day	\$4.03
Indian Harbor	5.00
R. H. Creed, South Rawdon	1.00
W. Fowler, Sackville, N. B.	1.00
Mr. R. K. Patterson	1.00
Rev. W. H. Robinson, Yarmouth	2.00
Pleasantville, Lunenburg Co.	1.00
J. W. Bask, Esq., Wolfville	10.00

Friends in Halifax, especially from the First Baptist church, have given us good encouragement, and we will in due time publish in the city papers all amounts to received, and give the totals in *Messenger and Visitor*. It is the first time in my life that I ever appealed to the denomination for help, and if I could help myself I would not do it now. This cause cannot live and grow without a house of worship. True, it has existed 14 years in a room below the level of the street, but I believe it is not so strong today as it was then. In the days of the church's persecution it was well to worship God in the "caves of the earth." To-day it is not necessary, and if there is anything educational in our environment, then the house of God should be bright and cheerful, not gaudy, but light and well-ventilated. But while we greatly need a house we are not able to build without aid. I do hope and believe other churches and friends will yet remember us. I am confident they will. The work of cheer received give us strength, e. g. Bro. Barnes say, "I trust you will succeed in your laudable effort to place a suitable building on your foundation."

Our social meetings are growing in interest and we are looking for better days. Our contract is let, the frame up, and trusting God, we expect to go on and progress.

W. E. HALL.

PINE GROVE.—In the work we have been strengthened by some valuable addresses by letter, and inspired by the faithfulness of the tried and true disciples of Jesus, who are not weary in well doing. A dark shadow has rested upon us in the prolonged absence of one of our worthy deacons, Bro. Obadiah Dodge, but at present there is a rift in the cloud. Brethren who believe in the effectual fervent prayer, remember this dear brother and the afflicted family in your petitions.

E. E. LOCKE.

PERSONALS.

We were pleased to have a call on Saturday from our esteemed brother, Rev. J. W. S. Young, on his way to Hammond and Lakeville, where he expects to be engaged for a short time in holding evangelistic services. We trust his charge to enter upon work elsewhere. Bro. Ford is one of our best preachers as well as one of our most industrious and successful pastors, and we regret that he is not leaving St. John, but, as we learn, going beyond the bounds of Canada.

C. W. COREY, Secy.

By order of the chairman the Lunenburg district meeting is called for January 19 rather than the second Tuesday of February. Those interested will please take notice.

C. W. COREY, Secy.

The 37th session of the Albert Co. quarterly meeting will be held with the church at St. John's, N. S., on Tuesday, the 19th of January, 1892, at 2 o'clock p. m. The following are the chairmen of the committees: On Sunday-school, Rev. I. B. Colwell; on Temperance, Rev. M. Gross; on grouping of churches, Rev. S. H. Cornwall; on Finance, Rev. E. C. Baker; on H. M. Rev. S. Kierstead; Rev. S. W. Kierstead to preach the quarterly sermon. Rev. W. W. Corey to be his alternate. Prayer in the meantime, and a full attendance at that time are cordially requested.

W. McGUGGON, Sec. Treas.

Arrangements have just been made with the Salisbury and Harvey R. R. to take delegates to and from our quarterly meeting at Dawson Settlement for one fare.

DEDICATION OF A NEW CHURCH.

Forty-six years ago a man left the main road leading from Lawrenceville to Bridgewater, N. S., and erected a log house for himself and little family on a hillside running parallel with the road, about four miles to the eastward of Springfield. After six years, when three other families had settled near him on the same range of hills, now dignified with the name of Falkland Ridge, they held their first religious meeting—a prayer-meeting conducted by the first settler. About a year later the first Gospel sermon was preached among them by Rev. James Parker, from eth words found in Rom. 12:1. Six years after this, when there were eight families settled in the place, Rev. Joseph Kempton came amongst them, and after a gracious revival, started the Sunday-school. The settlers suffered all the hardships that first settlers are subjected to. For instance, when the roads were too bad to admit of carriages being used, it was no uncommon sight to see a man and wife, and two children on the back of a horse going to Springfield on Sunday morning to hear the Gospel preached, and no other might be seen walking and carrying their babies on the way to the same place. The settlement continued to grow and so did the cause of Christ in it. A few years ago, under the influence of Rev. J. W. S. Young, many were converted to God, and of the twenty-three families now inhabiting the place there are but few that do not have representatives in the Baptist church at Springfield.

This church is situated more than four miles from the settlement of Falkland Ridge, so for some time the pastor has regularly held meetings in the school house. But this has been found to be too small, so two years ago it was suggested that a meeting house be built. It was held that a heavy undertaking for so small a community, but a sociable was held that proved a grand success, and they determined to push on. At this time the Rev. S. Langille came amongst them, and by his zealous preaching was the means in God's hands of doing much good; and his personal influence did much to encourage the brethren in their work. Two tea-meetings were held which netted some \$500, and a subscription list was circulated. At last they felt strong enough to begin, and a contract was formed with some builders in the place for a small but convenient building. This was erected during the past summer. Last Sunday a dedicatory service was held. Rev. Dr. Bradshaw preached an eloquent sermon from Dan. 2:34, after which prayer was offered by the pastor. The choir also did their part in a most pleasing manner. A statement was read of the cost of the building and amount received in payment; the most important item of which was that the house and its furniture were all paid for and there was a surplus still on hand. Very interesting services were held in the afternoon and evening, and all present felt that they had just spent one of the most pleasant Sundays in their lives, and there were none but could most heartily wish success to the community and success to the cause of Christ among them.

Grateful Mention.

If Christmas came five or six times a year the old saying concerning the "poor Baptist minister" would soon become obsolete. That season of the year is very rightly chosen as peculiarly fitted for the giving and reception of gifts, and some churches, at least, are striving in this way to manifest the spirit of the Father, who gave the unspeakable gift to men. Among such churches the old Clements church stands by no means at the foot, as the present pastor can prove to his own satisfaction at least. One weighty argument came to light on Christmas eve. A number of the friends quite suddenly appeared at the home of the pastor and added the following piece of evidence to former proof: One of the good sisters came forward and, addressing the pastor, made a statement of the facts; two others corroborated the evidence by presenting the articles, a very fine fur coat and a purse of fifteen dollars, when a fourth stepped out and expounded the law made explanation in reference to the case, showing that the above had been received not only from members and friends within the bounds of the church, but also from other kind friends residing elsewhere. All being set forth in a plain straightforward way, the pastor briefly acknowledged the proof and accepted the consequences. The above mentioned present, together with an elegant fur cap presented last Christmas by Bro. Wright, of Power Lot, insured the pastor against any appreciation of the cold, for which he is most heartily grateful. Other presents have been received during the holidays, and he here by expresses his heartfelt thanks to each and all of the donors, and to the Almighty Giver of every good and perfect gift. May they all be abundantly rewarded.

C. R. MINARD.

If all my brethren in the ministry have been treated as kindly as the writer, many grateful acknowledgments will be forthcoming. As for the friends here (Pine Grove) they have been doing "exceedingly abundantly above all that we could ask or think." The bringing of an ample water supply into the parsonage is not the least of these doings. This is a daily comfort for the writer, and he is literally, practically and unapologetically pained by our Brooklyn friends, yet we live, and, strange to say, live better after each operation than before, for this kind is a stimulant not at all irritating. This year they came a goodly number to the parsonage and spent the evening in a pleasing and enjoyable manner. Offerings so freely bestowed greatly cheer the heart of an overworked pastor, and we are well pleased to Him who loves the cheerful giver.

E. E. LOCKE.

It is not often that Santa Claus visits the same minister on both Christmas and New Year's, but such was my good fortune. The brothers and sisters, in addition to the easy chair, have placed in my study a handsome hanging lamp. I hope to show my gratitude for these tokens of good will by doing better service for the Master.

W. H. ROBINSON.

Port Maitland, Y. Co.

Mr. Stead's great article on "The Car and the Russia of To-day," in the *Review of Reviews* for January, bringing the situation up to the latest date, is a journalistic achievement which enhances the great prestige already gained by the *Review of Reviews*.

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MILLER BROS.' EXHIBIT.

At the recent exhibition MILLER BROS. (Granville St., Halifax) occupied a large space (nearly the whole of the south end gallery), and their show presented a fine appearance. It was all enclosed by a nice railing (of turned banisters), and the place raised about eight inches, which was all covered by a nice carpet, the walls and ceiling being nicely papered, and suspended from the ceiling were three electric lights, and their whole place lastingly and richly draped and adorned with picture hangings. They showed fifteen fine Organs and Pianos. The Kara Organ in church and parlor styles, some of which were very fine in both appearance and tone, ranged in price from \$75 to \$450. Also some fine Kara Pianos in mahogany, cypress, walnut and rosewood finish. The Evans Bros. Piano in mahogany, walnut and rosewood finish; both of these makes of pianos are becoming very popular. Prices of Pianos ranged from \$50 to \$200. Occasionally some very sweet music could be heard from their department. They also showed in a separate booth ten of the celebrated Raymond Sewing Machines in different styles of oak and walnut. The machine and cabinet were very fine, and the machine was very simple to operate, and when closed having the appearance of a writing desk. This machine has become of late years a general favorite with the public. This firm deserves credit for going to the trouble and expense they did in making so fine an exhibit. They received three diplomas on their organs and pianos—the highest award given; no prizes were offered. They have been in business over twenty years, and during that time have worked up a very large business in the lower provinces, which territory they control.

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