

done eternity. Are we to fold our arms, and refuse to lift up the earnest warning cry, and point the lost to the only refuge for sinners ?

The church should take up this work in real earnest. We cannot close our eyes to the fact, that some have attempted such service who are not qualified for it, and often bring reproach upon the cause, but this is one of the reasons why the ministers of the gospel should lead in the movement, and encourage their people to do the same.

A successful open-air preacher must have qualifications specially fitting him for that work, must be deeply imbued with the Spirit of Christ, and have a burning desire for the salvation of souls.

He must be willing to be considered a fool in the estimation of the world, and of many religious people. Nothing will be so blessed as the simple preaching of the gospel. If the heart is filled with the love of Christ, the mind carefully stored with the Word of God, and the preacher ever eager to take advantage of every little incident, for the furtherance of the great end which he should have in view, (viz.—the glory of God in the salvation of souls,) he will have little difficulty in securing success.

All controversy should be carefully avoided, as it seldom leads to good results. We have seen thousands of people, who never attended any place of worship, listening attentively to an address given on the street, and have known of many, who were arrested and brought to Christ in connection with open-air preaching, who afterwards became active members of various evangelical denominations.

The Rev. Newman Hall, in speaking on the subject some years ago, at a meeting of the Congregational Union, in England, said, "as the people sought are not yet worshippers, prayer is generally unsuitable, except perhaps a very brief petition at the close. The singing of a few verses will attract a number of persons, whose presence will aid in attracting others. The address if earnest, pointed, instructive, and brief, will invariably be listened to with attention and respect. During the months of summer our streets, lanes and fields provide us with places of assembly more cheerful, better ventilated, better lighted, and rent free ; while the people enjoying the fresh air, are glad to be at the same time instructed. The style of many speakers would be much improved by open-air speaking, and many who would never hear the gospel in any other way may hear it, and thus be saved. Many instances might be given of conversion to God, of persons who have become most useful in the church, and in the world ; whose first impressions were received at open-air services."

Complaints are often made as to the small attendance at some of our churches on Sabbath evenings, but if we combine out-door work, with in-door meetings, we should find the latter considerably augmented by the former.

Open-air preaching, when followed up by in-door services, is attended with more satisfactory results, than when carried on separately. Why should we not have open-air preaching in summer in connection with all our churches, and not only so, but in every city and village in Canada ? I trust many who have hitherto given little or no attention to the subject, may be led to do so, and that they may have abundant success in this department of Christian work. If Christianity is to conquer the world, it must invade it and take it by storm.

Richard Knill was wont to say, that were there but one unconverted soul left in the world, and he a resident in the wilds of Siberia, and were it so ordained of God that that man could not be converted but by the millions of Christians then living on the earth all going to him, one by one, to plead with him, it would be worth while for the church to send all her members in succession to strive with that soul, so that thereby it might be turned to God. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*."

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