

temperance claimed the owner as a victim, and now both owner and property are but a sad wreck of grandeur and usefulness. The shiftless and improvident are here. These hindrances are everywhere. But there is one serious obstacle, it is so far from our beautiful Illinois—1,850 miles west of Chicago. It would seem so much like bidding a long farewell. It is with reluctance and most pleasing memories we turn our faces once more westward to cross the Snake River and spend a little time in Huntington, Oregon.

"LETTING OUR LIGHTS SHINE."

BY ANNIE R. WALKER.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your father which is in heaven."
—Matt. v., 16.

Are we letting our lights shine? is the question. I speak not only to the Friends' Church, but to each and every Christian denomination. By careful examination I find that from Genesis to Revelations the word "light" is found eighty-two times in the Bible. The "light" spoken of is the Christ Spirit dwelling in our hearts. Is thy heart right before God? Then if thy heart is right in His sight, thy light is shining brightly before the world. It should shine out in our every act, deed and word, for if our thoughts, acts and words are pure, Christ is dwelling very near us, yea His spirit is encircling our hearts.

As each tree is known by its fruits, so are we known by our works. As I go out into the world I find many earnest workers, some are very determined. How glad I am to see determination manifested, it cheers me in my course of life.

While, on the other hand, as I look at my own self, I wonder what I must do. Then do I hear the voice of my Heavenly Father saying, "Work." How? is the question that I often ask. The response comes, "Feed

my lambs," and that beautiful promise, "I will never leave thee nor forsake Thee," is given to me by my Heavenly Father with a feeling that He is my Guide, how can I do otherwise than use my best efforts in the cause of Christ.

O, how much wiser it would be if each one of us, who make a profession of faith in Christ, would use it in our everyday lives by speaking some kind word to some weary person, greet a friend with a pleasant "Good morning" or "Good evening," instead of a sullen "Howdy." I do not like to see jesting, neither do I uphold the idea that we must wear "long faces" to be Christians, but I do love to see kindness, charity and friendliness manifested among all, both old and young.

The poet has beautifully said: "Religion *never* was designed to make our pleasures less." No, but it increases them, because we have the pleasure of knowing that we are not only pleasing our friends but pleasing God by doing kind acts. But the last clause of the text says: "and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

I wonder if we always do give God all—not part—of the glory for the various works which He has enabled us to do, or do we, like the Pharisee, take all the praise and honor upon ourselves.

How important it is for us to remember that without God we can do nothing.

Our lights must shine in such a way that we can, with Divine aid, lift up mankind to a higher level in life; then point out to them the "narrow way" and plead with them to walk therein.

I do believe that many a weary person that feels as though they were almost crushed under the weight of sin could be brought to that cleansing fountain by kind words and earnest prayers of entreaty. We must raise up mankind, and not crush them down any lower than they already are. We must not "hide our light under a bushel," or keep it in a selfish manner