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FOR THE EXPOSITOR.

"CUMBERED ABOUT MUCH
SERVING."

WM. J. ATKINSON, WINDSOR.

Christ never asks of us such busy labor,
As needs no time for resting at His feet;
The waiting attitude of expectation
He ofttimes counts a service most complete.

He sometimes wants our ear—our rapt at-
tention,

That He some sweetest secret may impart;
'Tis always in the time of deepest silence,
That heart finds deepest fellowship with
heart.

We sometimes wonder why our Lord doth
place us

Within a sphere so narrow, so obscure,
That nothing we call work can find an
entrance,

There's only room to suffer—to endure!

Well, God loves patience! Souls that dwell
in stillness,

Doing the little things or resting quite,
May just as perfectly fulfil their mission,
Be just as useful in the Father's sight,

As they who grapple with some giant evil,
Clearing a path that every one may see!
Our Saviour cares for cheerful acquiescence,
Rather than for busy ministry.

And yet He does love service when it's given
By grateful love that clothes itself in deed;
But work that's done beneath the scourge of
duty,
Be sure to such He gives but little heed.

Then seek to please Him, whatso'er He bids
thee,

Whether to do, to suffer, to lie still;
'Twill matter little by what path He leads us,
If in it all we seek to do His will.

EXPOSITION.

HEB. 8th chapter, 8-13 (*New Version.*)

- 8 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord,
That I will make a new covenant with the
house of Israel and with the house of Judah;
- 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with
the house of Israel
After those days, saith the Lord;
I will put My laws into their mind,
And on their heart also will I write them:
And I will be to them a God,
And they shall be to Me a people:
- 11 And they shall not teach every man his fellow-
citizen,
And every man his brother, saying, Know the
Lord:
For all shall know Me,
From the least to the greatest of them.
- 12 For I will be merciful to their iniquities,
And their sins will I remember no more.

We ask, is not the doctrine concerning
the guidance of the Spirit into all truth
the best exposition of this passage?

Here it is evidently taught that the
great distinguishing feature of the present
Covenant, as compared with the old, is
that, whilst in the one the laws and com-
mandments of God were written on tables
of stone, in the other they are written on
the fleshly tablets of the heart. That
is, in the first dispensation they were
given to men as laws outside of ourselves,
whether read from the original engravings,
from the written volume, or heard from
the pulpit, and the order was read or
hear, and obey. To obey was life, to dis-
obey was death. And it was added, "Cursed
is every one that continueth not in all
things which are written in the book
of the Law to do them."

Also distinct provision was made for
imperfect obedience. Hence, the frequent
sacrifices, and the constant flow of blood.
In the use of these sacrifices the Israelite
was forgiven all acts of disobedience, as