

account-book and then and there ended the controversy by arranging our books so that a tenth of our income from every source should be given to the Lord's work.

We would emphasize the fact that we so worded our contract as to shut out all future controversies concerning house rent, necessary or extraordinary expenses. We simply made it mean a tenth of every dollar received as income for the year.

The next six months our income doubled, and the next it was three times as large, so we had the pleasure for two or three years of giving away one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, and this without having to change our place of abode. We leave it to the reader to connect this fact of increase directly with the settlement of the question of tithing, or to treat it as a simple coincidence.

At the close of our teaching in the town of Milton, this being brought about by the extinction of the High School, owing to a change in the school law, a peculiar spiritual experience was realized, the wisdom of relating which will be questioned by many. But as we believe it is directly identified with our after financial history, we are not at liberty to leave it out.

When planning to secure another school, whilst in private prayer, a distinct conviction came to us that we should remain in Milton, and continue the private boarding academy which we had connected with the High School. So vivid was this intimation that we unhesitatingly promised compliance as if to an individual contracting with us and promising to secure for us all needed success.

At the same period, or a few months previously, we had submitted to a change of diet, which, in the coming year, accomplished its intended object, viz., the removal of the throat disease which had made necessary our retirement from the active work of the ministry. However, the two things did not connect themselves in our mind at that time as having any bearing the one on the other as they have since.

When we began to think more care-

fully over the situation, away from the closet of prayer, it began to look to us as of the essence of fanaticism to continue the school without the legislative grants, on the sole ground of an impression or conviction, coming to us on our knees, without careful examination into surrounding circumstances. It was the old, and yet ever fresh battle, of divine guidance *versus* reason and common sense.

True, had we been assured by some such token as Peter received when escorted from prison by a real angel, that it was really and truly the voice of the Spirit calling us to fly in the face of reason and common sense in our business life, we would have taken all risks and remained. But to stake all our financial interests on a simple conviction rushing into our minds whilst in the act of devotion, when everything else in our surroundings spoke a different language, seemed, the more we examined into the subject, savoring of the extravagant and dangerous, and calculated, not only to lead us off into the unknown regions of fanaticism, but likely to damage the cause of religion through us.

We remark here, also, that the three previous years of our life were the brightest in our religious history up to that time. We were conscious of having power in prayer beyond our previous experiences, frequently having answers to definite petitions after a remarkable manner. Our home, too, was the spiritual birthplace of many, whilst the subject of holiness, as a distinctive experience, subsequent to conversion, was made prominent, and was further helped by a holiness meeting held under our own roof.

It will then be readily understood that it was no light battle we fought when deciding concerning remaining or leaving Milton under these circumstances; and when we decided to leave, it was not in a consciously rebellious spirit, but as having arrived at a conclusion which to us seemed eminently satisfactory—a conclusion which, be it remarked, did not secure for us one moment of conscious condemnation when before God in meditation and prayer.

We deliberately decided that the char-