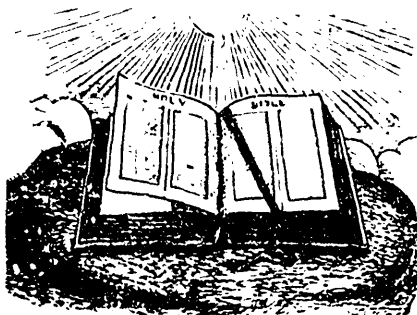


The Bible.

By J. Munro Gibson, D.D.



THE fact is, all this talk about the Bible being out of date as a matter of science is so much nonsense. Let us have done with it, and let us ask

how the Bible stands on its own ground. How does it accomplish the object which it sets before it! Is it out of date as a book on sin, or righteousness, or salvation? All other books that have been attempted on these subjects, except those which have drawn their inspiration directly or indirectly from the Scriptures, were either out of date at the time they were produced, or became out-dated in a very few years. The ethical and religious productions of those who made their researches and recorded the results of them apart from the Scriptures, where are they! Where for example, are the moralists and philosophers of Greece and Rome? Their works indeed, are on the shelves of every scholar in Christendom; but in what capacity? As authorities? Not at all; simply as monuments of genius and chapters of intellectual history.

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"The path of the Bible is not like that of the infidel production—a steep descent to dark oblivion—but is like the path of those who are justified by its faith, which is as 'the shining light of day.' In some old Bible of your grandfather, between the leaves which enclose some cherished passage that had often cheered the old man's heart, there is perhaps, a little relic of the past—

"Tis but a little faded flower."

The colour is gone, but a good deal of the form is still there. You must touch it very tenderly or it will crumble into dust, and be all gone. It abides, after a fashion, as most human things abide; it does not live and abide as Divine things live and abide. But the promise, over against which the little faded flower is lying, not only abides, but lives—lives! It lives in ten thousand hearts as well as in yours, as rich in colour, as fresh in fragrance, as delightful to the soul as ever it was. 'All flesh is grass, and all goodness thereof is, as the flower of the field. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away; but the Word of the Lord endureth for ever.'—*Extract from a speech at the Annual Meeting of B. and F. Bible Soc. London.*

EVANGELISTIC ECHOES.

Some time ago a person wrote to the Secretary of the "China Inland Mission," asking for two or three separate lists of the names of the workers in that cause. The following is an extract from that letter.

"I like sometimes when I can just then do no more, to lay my hand on the list and say, 'Lord, all these Thy servants and handmaids Thou knowest; be with them, and make them a blessing where they are.'"

Will not our friends do likewise as they read over the items in this column.

We could fill several pages with testimonies of deep interest, showing the blessing which God is giving with the preaching of the Word by Evangelists and Mission Workers. In fact there is, not only a spirit of inquiry abroad, but a spirit of decision, and many are by simple faith entering into life and the possession of all that makes life truly enjoyable. We have been cheered by visits from several Evangelists during the past few weeks, and their reports have led us to praise God.

MR. MARSH, who is laboring with the Canadian Evangelization Society, reports:—"Commenced at Wooler, Dec 12. On reaching the place I found that a work of grace had been going on all the summer, during which time about sixty souls had been brought to Christ. After labouring for nearly a month, some 16 or 18 additional, made a profession, amongst the number a Roman Catholic. I may say that each case of conversion appeared to be very sound and real.

On leaving Wooler, had a few services at Lakefield and had the joy of seeing the fruit of the Mission held in the spring." Mr. Marsh is now labouring at Apsley.

MR. ALEX. GAY has been labouring in the Province of Quebec for the past three months. He was owned of God in leading many to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. He returned to Toronto in the latter part of Dec., and after a week's rest, proceeded to Humber Summit, Ont., where meetings were held for a week. The effect produced by the preaching was marvellous. Scores were convicted and many converted. Humanly speaking, it is to be regretted that a previous arrangement prevented the continuance of these services. Mr. Gay, (accompanied by Mr. Barton, who sings the gospel), is now at Stratford.

MR. JOHN CURRIE, the Scotch Evangelist is preaching the Gospel in Brooklyn, N. Y. He is at present conducting services in connection with Rev. Dr. Pentecost's Mission Church. Those who know Bro. C. will know that the "sound of the trumpet" will be a certain one.