

I know that you are interested in my eternal welfare.

The sermon on Sabbath morning, led to very suitable thoughts for the Lord's table, at least it did so in my case. When I thought of "the cup" given to Jesus by his Father, and in which my sins were no doubt mingled, the amazing love of Jesus, in bringing me to His banquetting house, seemed to shed new light on the Ordinance. But Satan seemed to discourage me, even when seated at the table. When my mind was most intent on the sufferings and death which Jesus endured for enemies, he even then laid his snare for me, by forcing in unsuitable thoughts—striving to impress on my mind, that I had been doing wrong in so soon giving myself to God, while others of my companions could engage in the frivolities of life. Suddenly a passage of Scripture rushed into my mind, "it is written, whosoever is ashamed to confess me before men, of him will I be ashamed before my Father and His holy Angels." Praying for strength to enable me to resist the Devil, and pleading His promise, "He will flee from thee," I seemed to receive fresh supplies, as it were, of grace, and I trust that when the Master of the Feast came to examine the guests, he found me clothed with the wedding garment, even the righteousness of Christ. I think I was the youngest communicant at the table on Sabbath last, but if even so, I trust not the least beloved by the Master himself. Pray for me. I add no more, but remain your Bible-class Pupil.

M. A. G.

Between this season of communion and the next, she seems to have followed out the plan of writing down the divisions, or at least some portion of the discourses which she heard, from Sabbath to Sabbath; and my dear friends, I may take this opportunity of recommending to you the benefit of this exercise. I can speak from my own experience, it is a blessed means of growing in the knowledge of the truth, and an efficient way of acting on the precept "Take heed how ye hear." The remarks which our young friend makes on some of the sermons, are very interesting, and show her desire to be not only "a hearer but a doer of the word."

After hearing a Sermon from Rev. ii. 4-7, she says, "This was very searching. I must examine myself closely on the subject. Have I ever had love at all to Jesus, and if so, is it increasing? Am I a fruit-bearing branch? Eminent Christians say *delectation* first begins in the closet. May I love secret prayer more—communion with God more—his holy word more? Oh, how many privileges do I enjoy! May I be a faithful steward! At the last day, may I hear these words from the Lamb that sitteth upon the throne—'Thou hast been faithful in a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things.' &c. When I think of many, many, who never hear the Gospel's joyful sound, and these not very far distant, who hear it perhaps only twice in a year, how thankful should I be! May the Students who are now under training for thy holy work, be instructed by Thee! May there be, O God, a shaking among the dry-bones in our congregation! O breathe upon them, and quicken them! Was not such a Sermon as I heard to night fitted to arouse not only the careless, but the worldly-minded professor! (The sermon was from Rom. viii. 5, 6.) We must be either carnally-minded, or spiritually-minded—no middle state—whichever of these am I now in! Have I passed from death to life? Do I subject all to Christ? Would I, if it were required, suffer death for Christ? If not, I cannot expect a 'crown' from His hand."

On another Sabbath, she writes: "Enable me, blessed God, to treasure up in my heart, and practice in my life the sacred truths which I have this day heard. May every Sabbath that I am spared to see on earth, prove to me a day of spiritual progress, and prepare me for that eternal Sabbath which I hope to spend in realms above. I experienced much spiritual comfort from the ex-

ercises of to-day. May the word preached to us be like seed sown in good ground. Though the Preacher (Rev. R. B.) is young in years, we thank thee—he is not young in grace. May I not allow the feelings of this day to pass with the Sabbath, but may I cherish them through the week. May I be watchful over my ways, over my temper and dispositions! Grant me, O God, thy holy spirit, to enable me to check every improper desire, and to set my affections on things above."

It is delightful to mark a growing spirituality in all her views and sentiments. Some remarks she makes in reference to the Faunne at this time, prevailing in Ireland, shew that she had the eye of a Christian observer:—

"March 9th—After reading such dreadful accounts, what should be my feelings towards thee, O God! Thou art a just God, and every sin deserves thy wrath and curse. Yes, what men think are but small sins, are great in thy sight; and when we think that every moment we are sinning against thee in thought, word and deed, is it to be wondered at that thou wilt punish sin! Thou hast dealt thus with Ireland, but she has in substance said, I will not have this man to reign over me—she has established Popery in thy stead—put it down by thy mighty power. O God, amidst deserved wrath, remember mercy! How little do we think of the thousands that are perishing daily for want of the Bread of Life. Lord, visit Ireland in mercy!"

"May 31st—What have I to record this morning, even with tears! The place where we sat yesterday, listening to the word of life, is now in ashes! Thy ways, O God, are not man's ways. Thou hast some wise end in view—provide for us O God! I thank thee that the Lord of glory is not confined to temples made with hands! How many pleasing recollections connected with that place where I have been accustomed to worship since I was able to walk! How many sweet Sabbaths have I sat in the Sabbath School! How many, many delightful Prayer-meetings have I there attended! And there I first made a public profession of my faith in Jesus—the place where, four hours before, I felt the preciousness of that blood which was shed, that poor sinners might be washed from the deepest guilt. (The Sermon was on Regeneration.) Oh, Holy Father, sanctify this dispensation to every member of the congregation! Stir up a flame of love in their hearts, with a coal from off this altar!"

"July 21st—Yesterday I was 17 years of age, and I have commenced this day another year.—When I look back on that which is past, how much cause have I to render thanks to Him who has brought me safely to its close. When I think of the many around me dying, and consider that I have been spared, and also my parents, brothers and sisters, O, how can I express gratitude enough to Him from whom these blessings flow. I may look back upon the past year with pleasure and regret—pleasure, in having given myself to the Lord, to be His and His for ever—regret, in having done so little for Him who has done such great, great things for me. I would humbly confess all the sins of the past, and ask heavenly aid to guide me through the year I am just entering upon. May I seek every opportunity of doing good to those around me: May I be a more faithful and dutiful daughter, a more affectionate sister, and a more loving relative. Oh, God, keep me from every known sin—grant me thy holy spirit—and if it should please thee to take me away from the world this year, may it be to Heaven—and Lord prepare me for a prepared place!"

"August—I would this day record my humble thanks for deliverance from sickness; although it

has been slight, still I would wish to recognize my heavenly Father's hand in it. While lying in bed yesterday, my mind rested on that part of my Saviour's address to his disciples, contained in John, xv. 2; and I would look upon this little affliction as a 'purging' of the Branch. Though I suffered inexpressible pain, still, when I thought of what my Saviour suffered for me, and of the promise of my heavenly Father, that He would not lay upon His children more than they were able to bear, I was silent, and opened not my mouth."

These reflections seem to have been followed out on the following Sabbath, when a word was sent her by the Lord's message:—

"When have I enjoyed a Sabbath so much before? I heard a precious Sermon on the epistle to the Laodicean Church—If Christ loves me he will rebuke and chasten me; so, when I am laid up with even a headache, I should take it as from a loving Father's hand, who afflicts not willingly."

"August 29th—I have this day begun, in dependence on Divine grace, humbly imploring the aid of the Holy Spirit, to read the Bible through, in a direct course. By reading three chapters every day, I will get through in a year. O God, deny me not thy Holy Spirit!"

Thus we can trace the progressive steps of the Bible Christian—her aptitude to learn in the school of Christ—she sat daily at His feet. At next communion, she had fears of being prevented from attending, on account of the state of her health. She expresses her submission to the will of her Heavenly Father. If detained at home, she desired to take it as a stroke of God's chastening rod. "If it be Thy will, O God, to bring me to Thy Holy table, what fruit have I to bring, after six months' privileges?" Her prayer was answered, and she was permitted to go up to Zion Hill. In reviewing the exercises of the day, she raises her Ebenezer, and says, "thanks be to God for the increased love I have to the Word—for the pleasant time I spent in communion with Him this morning. May the wedding garment be provided for me this day—and may I leave all self-righteousness outside the camp! Heard a delightful sermon from our dear pastor, from Song of Solomon. I desire to thank Thee, Lord, for the precious supply which Thou hast made for Thine own people. I specially thank Thee for that portion of Thy word, which Thou broughtest to my remembrance at the table, and for all the goodness Thou hast made to pass before me. Keep me in Thy Holy keeping."

We are now brought to a new era in Adelaide's history. We have followed her from the Sabbath School to the Bible Class; thence to the Communion Table, marking her onward course, her progress in the Zionward path, on which she early entered. Having left the things that are behind, and no longer unskilful in the word of righteousness, we find her prepared for the next step in the Master's service, that of herself becoming a teacher. She was now constrained by the love of Christ, and she felt the power of His injunction, "Feed my lambs." Two features were prominent in her character, as they ought to be in that of every growing Christian—desire for her own personal improvement, and concern for the spiritual welfare of others. By these fruits we can distinguish the living branch of the true vine. She now was enrolled as a teacher in the Sabbath School. On entering upon the work, she wrote the accompanying letter:—

—, 1848:

MY DEAR MRS. B.,

I have for some time been thinking of taking a class in the Sabbath School; and from the absence of those students who were teachers, I suppose that some will require to take their places. As I have been so long attending your class, I think it my duty not only to acquaint you with my intentions, but to ask your advice. The Sabbath School is very dear to me, having attended it from

* Referring to the burning of the temporary building used as Knox's Church,—an event which led to the erection of the present elegant structure.