

citement, it is all unnecessary. Let things go on steadily." Which means, let things remain as they are—the Church in a lifeless state, and the unfor-given left to die impenitent and unsaved. Others complain of the character of the results. There is so much that is spurious, so much that is mere feeling, that there is nothing *permanent*. We grant that the human intermingles strongly, and there is much of our poor weak nature to deface and disfigure the handiwork of the Spirit. Many professors are just stirred up during a revival, and are dead all the rest of the year. A period of intense heat in the summer of a revival is to make up for the long winter of freezing, snow, and frost. Others float on the surface during a revival that are never seen, and can never be found afterward. But high tide always brings in the driftwood and floating weeds. Shall we therefore keep back the tide? No! Let it flow mightily in. It is just as grand and glorious, although it bears the useless timber on its wave. So with those tides of spiritual refreshing from the presence of the Lord! There is gathered in much that is useless, but blessed be God, much more that is precious: souls garnered into the Kingdom, and won for Christ and Heaven. The Spirit of God is manifested in the blessedness and permanency of the work.

Then there are objections to Evangelists themselves. It is said that many of them are *imprudent, mercenary, and egotistical*. We admit that there is often a want of wisdom, prudence, humility and unworldliness on the part of some who have engaged in this important work. But, then, if the office be of Divine appointment, we cannot reject it on that account, any more than we should reject the pastoral relation, because many pastors have committed great mistakes, imprudences, and inconsistencies. Besides, there are those of deep piety, strong faith in God, earnest zeal for the salvation of souls, and fervent Christly sympathy, to whom the great Head of the Church has given the office and qualification of a true Evangelist, and with these we can cordially co-operate.

It is said that they weaken *the pastoral tie*. The true Evangelist strengthens that tie. His own success depends, in a large measure, in his ability to get the people to work, and by uniting the Church in a deeper and more active piety, he greatly increases the facilities of the pastor for doing good. No pastor can go through a Revival, doing his share of the work tenderly and faithfully, without finding a warmer place in the hearts of his people.

Now while these and similar objections are raised against Evangelists and their work, cannot strong reasons be urged why they should in many cases be employed?

Many of our pulpits are supplied with good, talented, faithful ministers, who preach clearly the Gospel, but this preaching never precipitates a revival. The ground is ploughed, the seed is sown, but the harvest sun is needed to ripen the grain. The Evangelist comes. He works for immediate results. He looks for it, and is not disappointed. His work consists largely in helping "to gather in the harvest." The reaper overtakes the sower, and both rejoice together.