

Theology on the *Web.org.uk*

Making Biblical Scholarship Accessible

This document was supplied for free educational purposes. Unless it is in the public domain, it may not be sold for profit or hosted on a webserver without the permission of the copyright holder.

If you find it of help to you and would like to support the ministry of Theology on the Web, please consider using the links below:



Buy me a coffee

<https://www.buymeacoffee.com/theology>



PATREON

<https://patreon.com/theologyontheweb>

PayPal

<https://paypal.me/robbradshaw>

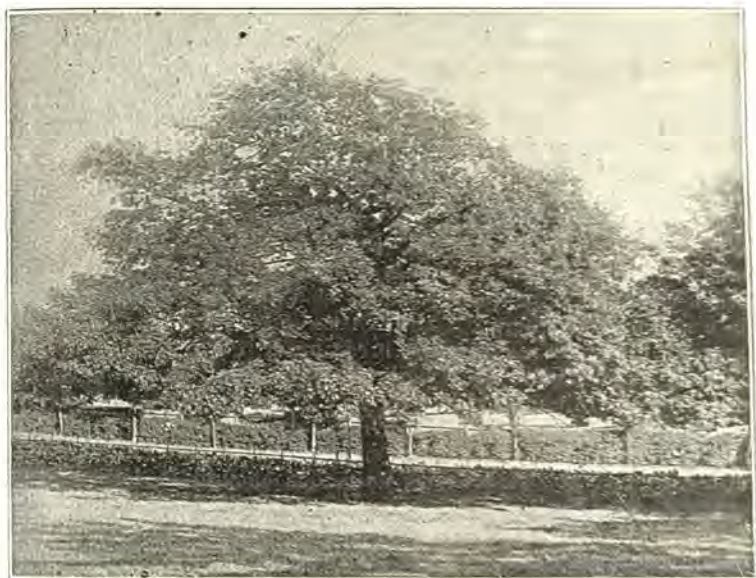
A table of contents for *The Sword and the Trowel* can be found here:

https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles_sword-and-the-trowel_01.php



THE
Sword and the Trowel.

AUGUST, 1897.



"The Question Oak" at "Westwood."

O. H. SPURGEON'S IMPROMPTU ANSWERS TO STUDENTS' QUESTIONS.

(Continued from page 367.)



STUDENT'S QUESTION.—*If a person be truly converted, and so a member of the true Church, have we any warrant for refusing him admission to church-fellowship because he is not immersed?*

MR. SPURGEON'S ANSWER.—I think so. The rule of the Church of Christ is: "He that believeth and is baptized, shall be

PASTOR CHARLES SPURGEON:—My dear mother wishes me to say, so that you may know it most definitely, that this place is not going to be in debt, that the Lord will send all the money; we feel sure of that. It will indeed be that, when the doors are opened, and the first service is held, all may enter in, knowing that every bill has been discharged.

Mr. Harrauld then read the list of donations and promises for the Building Fund, and afterwards Mrs. Spurgeon was occupied for a long time receiving further contributions. The total up to July 16 will be found at the close of the list in the present Magazine; it is a grand amount, for which we cannot be too thankful to the Lord who has moved so many of His stewards to assist in erecting another House to His glory, but a considerable sum is still needed in order to defray the entire cost of the Chapel, with the necessary furnishing and fittings.

240 friends partook of tea in the School-chapel, and in the evening the area of the large Wesleyan Chapel was crowded for what proved to be a most fitting close to a truly blessed day. Mr. Hookey announced the hymns, Mr. Harris prayed, and Pastor A. G. Brown read and expounded 1 Peter i. 1—12, and then preached from the words in chapter ii., verse 24, "His own (dear) self." It was a clear enunciation of the great verities of the Christian faith, delivered with all the unction and power which have ever characterized the ministry of our beloved brother, and its influence upon the large assembly must be both gracious and abiding. Although most of those present had already given generously, the collection realized £11 5s., showing that hearts and pockets were alike touched. The whole of the proceedings of the day must have greatly helped towards the building up of the spiritual Church of Jesus Christ in Bexhill, as well as the material structure now in course of erection, and thus the services themselves formed a part of the ever-growing memorial to the life and work of the much-beloved PASTOR C. H. SPURGEON.

"For Christ's Sake."

AN anonymous friend sends a contribution every month to the Pastors' College Missionary Association "for Christ's sake." I like that reason,—*"for Christ's sake."* This seems, indeed, to me the only solid reason for our missionary work out here among these poor Moslems. I like the regularity, also, for the monthly gift. I think, means a daily praying soul, and that is a working soul, like Epaphras, "labouring fervently for you in prayers" (Col. iv. 12). One of the best things I heard, when last in England, came from "one of our own men" who, as he grasped my hand, said, "Brother, I have prayed for you every day since I heard you speak, years ago." May the Lord bless and multiply such missionary labourers!

The French are making a harbour here, and the contractor, it is said, put down much loose stone, but a storm washed it away; now he makes great concrete blocks, weighing tons, and his work defies the tempest; and by God's blessing, our efforts, with your support, dear readers, and cemented with our united prayers, shall yet make, even here, a harbour of refuge for dying souls, against which the powers of darkness shall never prevail.

To build *their* harbour, the French are removing an old Mohammedan fort and walls,—razing much before raising anything. We, too, have much razing of the false to do ere we can begin to raise the true temple of God.

Europe in concert is trying to deal with Islam, and she may, in the end, make many broken-headed Moslems; but she will fail to make them *broken-hearted*. The blasts of war will make them wrap themselves the

closer in their false creed; only the warm love of Jesus, the Sun of righteousness, will lead them to lay it aside for ever.

During June, 173 visits have been made to me. Among the patients was a poor Soudanee; he spoke but little, and seemed to be in great pain; but after a day or two, one morning, while my wife was speaking, she was delighted to hear him repeating and explaining the plan of salvation to the others present. Poor fellow, his was a very serious case. I advised amputation; to this he could not consent; he grew rapidly worse, and died;—yet may we not hope that this poor black slave, telling others of Jesus, had himself, by simple faith, become Christ's freeman, and now rests "for ever with the Lord"?

Sousse, Tunisia, N. Africa.

T. G. CHURCHER.

Notices of Books.

Any Book reviewed or advertised in this Magazine will be forwarded by Messrs. Passmore and Alabaster on receipt of Postal Order for the published price.

Great Britain and Her Queen. By ANNE E. KEELING. Second edition. Wesleyan Methodist Book-room.

THIS work is likely to survive much of the Jubilee literature which is now making the most of its ephemeral existence. It contains much of historical interest relating to the Queen, and to the political, commercial, social, and religious life of the nation. Being profusely illustrated, it forms a very interesting photographic album of many of the notable men and women who have done much to make the Victorian era so memorable. The ever-beloved C. H. Spurgeon has a place with these worthies, though he receives but one short sentence by way of description. We hardly understand how it is that, in a work professing to deal with the empire, one denomination should monopolize 52 pages out of 244, while others are unnoticed or receive but scant recognition. If this work is published in the interests of Methodism, its title should indicate that fact. We suggest that, in subsequent editions, which are sure to be called for, the title should be, "Great Britain, Her Queen, and Wesleyan Methodism."

We have received two excellent penny booklets from the Wesleyan Methodist Book-room. In the first, *Is not this the Blood of Men?* by MARK GUY PEARSE, the drink curse is vividly set forth, and denounced in language burning with righteous

indignation. We are at one with the writer in his horror of the demoralizing and deadly traffic, and pray that his words may be like fire upon the consciences of his readers. Surely it is high time for all Christians to dissociate themselves from this blood-branded evil?

The second booklet, *Respect the Hedge*, by Rev. W. L. WATKINSON, contains wise and weighty words, upon matters of great importance, especially to young people who are disposed to resent authority, and to break through all restraints. It is well that they should know that the fences, which appear to stand in their way, are really meant to be defences against the serpents which lurk on the side of unlimited license and unchecked passions. In so small a space, the subject can only receive brief treatment; but it is capable of great expansion. We trust the booklet will be widely circulated and greatly blessed.

The Midsummer volumes of Mr. Bullock's three excellent Magazines—*Home Words*, *Hand and Heart*, and *The Day of Days*,—have come to us from the "Home Words" publishing office. They will be specially welcomed by Church of England readers; but we are always glad to note their clear proclamation of Evangelical doctrine, and their thoroughgoing protest against the increasing Ritualism in the Establishment.