

## **Mrs. Scott. 1881. New Zealand Wesleyan.**

### **Peregrinating Revivalists.**

America, the land of revivals, has given employment to many such. A reaction has now set in, and they are being discounted at a lower rate than at one time. Says a writer in the Northern Christian Advocate: - These labourers may be greatly useful, but Methodism has not found them an unalloyed blessing. They have come, passed through the land, cried "union! union!" and often forced our people into unwilling combinations. They proclaim that this and that church are willing to combine with all Christians for a revival. In various ways they hold up "union" according to their shibboleth. Then combining congregations, they secure a crowd; and persuading some to rise to their feet as wishing to reach heaven or to be Christians, they proclaim so many converts, and depart sounding their own praises; while the people, seeing the unchanged character of the professed converts, become disgusted with Christianity. Laborious toil by faithful churches and pastors, through long discouraging years, is absorbed in counteracting the baneful influence of these hot-house revivalists, these Lilliput Moodys with a Bagster Bible under their arm, and less learning and common-sense in their brains than is required of a commercial traveler to sell artificial flowers and fancy laces. While some revivalists are persons of good judgment and earnest zeal, too many of them are new recruits unskilled in any religious work, or are broken-down preachers who have not brains or religion enough to maintain themselves in the pastorate. As peregrinating physicians, unable to maintain themselves in any community, are to be shunned, so we may well inquire carefully into these irresponsible men who come around and ask for work.

January, 1881. page 16.

### **Conversation on the State of the Work of God.**

The Secretary having read the statistics of the church, a long and very profitable discussion ensued on the spiritual condition of the church, and the progress made by it during the past year. There had not merely been gratifying material progress, but some spiritual improvement, for which it was incumbent upon them to show gratitude to God. Their membership had increased by 226, and there had been gratifying evidences of spiritual life among their young people in many parts of the colony, although it should be stated that out of 13,500 Sunday-school scholars, only 429 were meeting in class. This, he thought, demanded their prayerful consideration.

Rev. W. Kirk referred to a very pleasing work of grace among the young people of their church in Wellington, where, of 102 catechumens all were meeting in class. In this instance the young converts had been well provided for, for God in His goodness had not merely given to his people to take care of, but at the same time had inclined the hearts of suitable persons to act as class-leaders. He had greatly rejoiced in the Divine blessing so signally bestowed, and felt encouraged to renewed labours for the future.

Mr. White felt grateful to be able to speak of a similar good work in the Auckland (Grafton Road) circuit. He spoke with some emotion of the responsibility of the church to secure the conversion of the young. With all their machinery in operation, it was to be greatly desiderated that larger results should accrue. For himself, he had been greatly

benefited, in a spiritual sense, by coming to that Conference, and he would return home with a stronger resolution to devote himself more heartily to God's work. (Hear, hear.) He prayed they might all receive a rich baptism of the Holy Spirit to prepare them for the work of the year before them.

Rev. W. Morley mentioned his gratitude that in the Auckland (Pitt-street) Sunday-school no less than fifty children had professed to receive the Saviour. Throughout the whole district, in his travels as Chairman, he had witnessed cheering signs of spiritual progress. He would like the connexional feeling amongst them to be kept up by more frequent intercourse with the brethren in the more distant and isolated circuits. What was of moment to them as a church was that they should, as far as possible, carry out their Methodist system. In the more outlying districts especially, they sometimes suffered loss by trying, in another than the Scriptural sense, to become "all things to all men." He was convinced that the more faithfully they worked their own excellent church machinery, under the Divine blessing, the more prosperous as a church in this growing colony they would become.

Rev. E. Best concurred with Mr. Morley in the need for showing sympathy with those at a distance from the more populous centres. Lest he should grieve the Holy Spirit, he would speak gratefully of a very gracious work he had been permitted to see in Dunedin. Their services had been held in the good old-fashioned style, and the results had been as in the olden days. For seven weeks they held revival services, and at no meeting during that time had they been denied the gratification of seeing souls converted. A Saturday evening prayer-meeting had been made a great blessing in preparing them for the hallowed services of the Lord's Day.

Rev. J. Crump had been gratified by witnessing an increased spiritual concern among many of the young people of his circuit, some of whom he had had the pleasure of welcoming to the Lord's table. In his circuit they had established two mothers' meetings, and cottage prayer-meetings. Besides the Divine blessing on these, he had personally felt that, in the more official work of the church – as in examining church property schedules – his own soul had been conscious of spiritual influences. If he could not examine and report upon church schedules to the glory of God, and to his own soul's good, he would rather that the piles of returns before him should all go into the fire.

Messrs. Bycroft, Griffin, Reid, Isitt, and others addressed Conference, and the time allotted to this very important part of its proceedings was felt to have been most profitably occupied. Some of the members specially testified to the great spiritual good they had received during the several sessions, and to the prevalent tone of Christian love throughout the entire discussions. The session took largely the form of a fellowship meeting, and was closed at 10 p.m. by prayer offered by Rev. C. H. Standage and Mr. Harkness.

February, 1881. page 35.

#### **ABOUT THAT REVIVAL.**

Which revival? Why the one the Church is talking about and wishing for. But stop! We have reached an important question at the very beginning. Does the Church want a revival? Apparently – yes. A good deal is written and said about it. Ministers

bemoan the absence of fruit. Papers print dolorous statistics. Elders growl at the ministers. There is a general unrest and nervous and irritable feeling, such as a man is apt to have when his dinner is delayed. But all that unrest may exist without a deep sense of the need of a revival. And, indeed, the sense of need may exist without willingness to have a revival come and bring all that a true revival certainly will bring. No minister wants barren ministry. No session wants a decreasing church-roll. No church membership wants to see failure. But that does not mean that they would welcome a deep and thorough-going work of grace. Perhaps worldliness is so covering the church that no hearty and believing cry for a revival can get through its heavy atmosphere. So it might be well to ask, Do we really want a revival? Do we want the experience it involves? Are we willing to be “broken vessels?” Do we want the world-renunciation it implies? Do we want to do the work it means? Success we want, of course. But success in spiritual things comes through battles that scar and break and humble us. Now God knows when we pray for a revival precisely what are the contents of that prayer. He knows, when perhaps we do not. And if that general prayer means, “Oh, Lord! Give us more church-members, but do not hurt or crucify us, do not make us give up ourselves in any new consecration, but do give us more people,” it need not tax our faith very severely if that prayer is put on file.

But supposing this difficulty is surmounted. Suppose we want a revival with all our hearts; then what? Will it come? – perhaps and perhaps not. Has God promised a revival? Yes, thus: “Return unto Me, and I will return unto you.” That reads straight and plain. It seems to mean, if we set our faces toward God, not in a general prayer, but in a willingness to be and do all that the prayer implies, then He will return unto us. The promises of the gift of the Holy Spirit – the condition of a revival – are all so numerous and explicit.

But when will he come? When will the revival come? Said our evangelist to a company of Christians: “There are plenty of people who believe Christ can bless us – are there any who believe He will?” In a discussion of this remark, it was asked: “What promise have I for faith that Christ will at once bless His people if they ask Him? Are not the times and seasons with Christ?”

But the Bible says, “Now is the accepted time and day of salvation.” But that means that whenever a sinner goes to Christ, he will be accepted. Well, does it mean, then, that Christ will save a sinner at any time he is ready – but will not revive a Christian when he seeks revival? Is there one rule for a Christian and another for a sinner in the turning unto the Lord?

What law of grace is there? Or is there none at all? Is Christ active in sovereignty without regard to the prayers and attitude of His people or to His own promises, or is it sovereignty within those relations and promises? And if yes – then if the promise is claimed, and the conditions of prayer fulfilled – why will not the revival come whenever the Church is ready? To believe anything else cuts the connection between the Church and the promises, and destroys the very life of prayer. God never says it is not His will to bless and save us now. All His representatives are to the very opposite effect. “Ye ask and receive not, because ye ask amiss.” That is a far better solution of delayed answers to prayer than the Divine sovereignty that cannot ante-date its own set time. It is always God’s set time to bless. That is His delightful work.

Now why does the revival linger? Let the Church draw the lines close. Why is there not a revival in our own hearts? Is it an unwilling God or a reluctant soul? If the former, we may as well quit praying. If the latter, we had better repent, and do works meet for repentance, and open our hearts that God may come in. And that will be a revival.

- Interior.

April, 1881. page 80.

### **On the Lookout.**

Revivals of religion would command more respect than they now sometimes do if those concerned in them did not occasionally act as though they had lost their heads. A certain lady was recently leaving a place in which her earnest evangelistic efforts had been crowned with a very gratifying measure of success. As she was proceeding along the wharf to the steamer a minister, with the gallantry and politeness of his class, asked if he could assist her by carrying one of her parcels. "Oh, yes" was the reply, "you can carry my sword;" and with that she handed him a small bag containing the Bible she had used in her services. Delighted at the honour thus conferred upon him, the minister further said, "Can you oblige me by also giving me your mantle?" "No," was the reply, "you must ask God to give you that."

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### **Mrs Hampson at the Thames.**

Our Thames correspondent writes:-

Mrs. Hampson, a lady preacher and evangelist who recently arrived in Auckland, at the request of a number of Christian friends, held a series of services at the Thames, which resulted in a most extraordinary revival of the work of God.

The services, which were held in the Academy of Music, Grahamstown, were commenced on Sunday evening, Feb. 6. Previous to this, however, one or two meetings for prayer were held, at which special reference was made to the services about to be held, and the Divine blessing asked upon them. At the opening service on Sunday evening, long before the time announced for commencing it, the large building, capable of holding between 800 and 900 persons was crammed in every part, and numbers had to go away without getting near the doors. That the interest of her hearers was fully gained is manifested by the fact that at the subsequent meetings held each night during the following week the hall was always filled to overflowing. After each meeting an invitation was given to those who had been convinced of sin and were anxious to obtain peace, to repair into a room at the rear of the building which had been set apart for an enquiry room, while the Christian brethren were asked to remain behind and assist Mrs Hampson in praying for them. Every evening numbers availed themselves of this privilege, and before leaving the hall found salvation through the blood of Christ. Early morning meetings for prayer were held each day in the Congregational church, Mary-street, and these were invariably well attended, large numbers going into the adjoining vestry to seek for guidance and instruction in the heavenly way. A speciality of these morning meetings was the offering of special prayer for others at the request of friends

and relatives, and it is believed that by this means great good was done. So great was the interest manifested in the week's services, that it was decided to hold two extra services in the open air. The use of a paddock adjoining the Wesleyan church, Shortland, was obtained, in which a platform was erected, from which Mrs. Hampson delivered her addresses. On Sunday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, when the first of the open air services was held, it is believed that between 2,000 and 3,000 persons attended. Many climbed on to the roofs of houses surrounding the paddock and into the trees, in order to obtain a hearing. The service at the same place the following evening was equally well attended. The interest in the services reached to all classes of society, and converts can be claimed from almost every rank and profession. At the meeting held on Saturday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>, those who had been benefited during the services were asked to testify to the good they had received. Scores stood up in answer to this appeal. The names of between 300 and 400 converts have been given to the ministers of the various churches; but these will only represent a small proportion of those who have received good during these services. There is no doubt that hundreds of those who attended the services were seriously impressed, but never made their feelings known publicly. That there has been a gracious outpouring of the Spirit of God there can be no doubt, and an impulse has been given to religion such as has never been felt on the Thames before. Each church has received an addition to the number of its members, the number of those joining the Wesleyan Church being especially large. The people are now stirring themselves up to do greater things for the work of God, determined that as the fire has been lighted, the flame shall not be allowed to die out. It is very difficult to describe the extraordinary effect these services have had upon the public mind. Many who have been noted for the godlessness of their lives have been induced to give their hearts to God, and now take a delight in urging others to enter into the way of life.

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#### **PAPANUI. – St. Albans circuit.**

In this circuit special services have been holden every night, except Saturday, for some weeks past. They have begun at Papanui, where they were continued for two weeks. During the following fortnight they were held at Crescent-road. For the last two weeks they have been maintained in the school room at St Albans. It is intended to go through the circuit in this way. The attendance has been remarkably good. A blessed influence has rested on the services, and much good has been done, both in the quickening of believers and in the conversion of unbelievers, especially among the young. Our next care will be to shepherd the converts by forming into classes.

July 1881. page 165.

#### **SPRINGSTON.**

[A paragraph about eliminating the debt on the *Springston* parsonage and quarter board (whatever that was) is discussed. 343 pounds had been raised. The course of lectures (delivered by J.S. Smalley) initiated last winter, which realized sixty pounds towards circuit expenses, has been continued this winter, and 30 pounds is expected to be handed to the stewards from this source at the June quarter-day. The Springston church

and school have been re-painted, at a cost of some 14 pounds, which, it is to be hoped, will be met by next anniversary services.

**Broadfield.** The Broadfield church is the mother church of the Springston circuit, has been practically rebuilt. The church was old and dilapidated, and swayed in the wind. The rebuilding was done by Mr. Early, a retired builder, and Mrs. Aiken. The church was re-opened on June 12. The whole amount had been raised. The re-opening services saw powerful sermons preached by the Rev. W.E. Gillam of Christchurch.

**Tai Tapu.** A new church is planned, but cannot be built at this stage.

**Malvern.** There have been three preaching places visited by the Springston minister two or three times a quarter. As the Malvern is thirty miles from Springston, the quarterly meeting proposed handing over the District to the Chairman to appoint a home missionary. Mr. Thomas, a local preacher recently from England, has been appointed, and already taken steps towards the building of a church at Kowai Pass. Since the Springston minister has been relieved of the Malvern work, he has been able to give more time to the other six places in the circuit. West Melton, that had got very low, is now increasing – the congregation and the income. Green Park, which has lost many adherents in recent years by two other churches commencing operations within a few yards of our own church, is showing new vitality through the settlement of some new Wesleyan families in the district. Since harvest, meetings specially for women have been started in several places. They are held on some week-day afternoon, and conducted solely by the earnest women of the church. Addresses have been delivered by Mrs. Smalley, Mrs. Peryman (sic), Mrs. Aiken, Mrs. Scott (from Christchurch), Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Campbell, and Miss Cutler, and have been much appreciated. Some souls in the circuit have been recently “born again,” but we are looking for the “baptism of fire.”

July, 1881, page 165.

## **OAMARU.**

Very grateful reference was made to the services recently held in the Presbyterian Church by Mrs. Hampson. These were of the most gratifying character, and have been followed by good results,

August, 1881. page 189.

## **CHRISTCHURCH.**

The Durham-street church has recently been blessed with a copious outpouring of God's Holy Spirit, and has experienced a very gracious revival, which has resulted in large numbers of young people, and many adults, being brought to decision for Christ. A brief account of this will not be uninteresting to your readers, and may encourage other churches throughout the colony to seek for a like “time of refreshing.” Although the congregations have always been large and attentive, it has been felt that the spiritual results of the services have not been such as might reasonably have been expected, and for years earnest members of the church have been pleading with God for a revival of His work. SA gradual preparation for such a work has, for some considerable time, been noticed in the quickened spiritual life of the members, and in the increasing interest manifested by them in the spiritual prosperity of the church. Doubtless the wreck of the Tararua, and the great bereavement sustained by the church in the loss of ministers and

members so well known and highly esteemed, and most of them so closely connected with the work of God in this city, had some influence in quickening the religious life of God's people, and in awakening the consciences of others; but we do not forget that, for years, ministers and teachers have earnestly and faithfully been doing their work, and in many of these who have been led to consecrate themselves to the service of Christ, we see the fruit of their labours.

The desirability of holding a series of special services was discussed in the June Quarterly Meeting. During the quarter there had been a considerable increase in the number of church members, and this was looked upon as a proof that God was working amongst us. It was the unanimous opinion of an unusually large meeting that the church was ripe for some special effort, and the ministers were requested to arrange for a series of services as soon as possible. The matter was brought before a congregational meeting, held a few days later, and the same unanimity was manifested. It will thus be seen that ministers, office-bearers, and members, were of one heart and mind, and to this unity is to be attributed much of the success that has attended the services. On July 18, a week of special prayer was begun in the schoolroom, and, though every evening was wet and stormy, the attendance was good. The spirit of prayer was given to the people, and we were led to ask for, and to expect, large things. The following week services were commenced in the same building, and, from the first, the attendance was good, the large room being well filled. Each evening the service seemed to grow in interest, and the numbers present to increase, and, although during the first week there was not a service during which some were not led to yield to Christ, it was felt that still greater results would be achieved, and we entered upon a second week "strong in faith, giving glory to God."

At the beginning of this week, in addition to the evening services, a noonday prayer meeting was established, and was continued throughout the services. About twenty were present at the first meeting, and the attendance gradually improved until upwards of a hundred were present. Those who were privileged to attend the meetings will not soon forget them. Some who have been long in the service of God have said that never did they realize so much of God's presence, and never did they experience such hallowing influences. It was indeed good to be there. The same gracious influences attended the evening services, and, night after night, the workers in the vestries set apart as enquiry rooms had the joy of pointing souls to Christ.

On Sunday afternoon, August 7, a special service was held in the Sunday-school. Brief addresses were given by the ministers, and prayer was engaged in by the teachers. The result was a complete break-down amongst the scholars, numbers of whom entered the enquiry-rooms, and there gave themselves to the Saviour. This has very much gladdened the hearts of the teachers, and encouraged them in their work. At the close of the second week it was found impossible to discontinue the meetings. It was felt by those taking part in them that the work was but beginning, and the after-results proved that they were correct. During this third week the attendance, if anything, was larger than ever, and at each service the Lord worked with His servants, "and confirmed the word with the signs that followed."

On the Friday evening of this week a fellowship meeting was held, and will long be remembered by those present. Upwards of sixty, the majority of them young men and women who had given themselves to God during these services, stood up and in a few

words made confession of Christ. Many others who had not time to speak held up their hands in acknowledgement of the good they had received. Many hearts were very full that night, and ministers, teachers, and parents were made unspeakably glad as they beheld the fruit of many earnest prayers and of much devoted labour. In this meeting “the power of the Lord was present to heal,” some penitent souls being able to trust in Christ for salvation. It had been our intention that this fellowship meeting should bring this series of services to a close; but the interest in them was still so great, and the desire for a continuance so general, that another week was decided on. The Sunday services were very blessed ones, and during the evening prayer-meeting some were able to rejoice in Christ as their Saviour. If possible, greater power attended the services this week than had previously been experienced, and numbers who had hitherto successfully resisted the Holy Spirit’s strivings, were at length compelled to submit. The service on Thursday was a very memorable one. The Word of God was attended with marvelous power, and upwards of forty entered into the enquiry rooms and professed to find peace through believing in Jesus. The following evening a covenant and sacramental service was held in the church, at which upwards of 700 people were present. After having entered into solemn covenant engagement with God, nearly 500 came up to the Lord’s Table, publicly making confession of their faith in Christ, and promising by His help to live not to themselves, but to Him who loved them and gave Himself for them. No words can give an idea of the solemnity and blessedness of this service. It cannot well be forgotten by any who took part in it. On Sunday evening Aug. 21, a special service was held in the church, when upwards of 1200 were present. Very earnest addresses were given by the ministers who conducted the service, and very gracious influences rested upon the people. The prayer-meeting was largely attended, and several were enabled to lay hold on Christ. Throughout this week two things have been specially noticeable. There has been an absence of all undue noise and excitement. The meetings have been as quiet and orderly as the usual church services. If there has been any difference the feeling has been more subdued. Then, again, the work has been carried on by those who have been close at hand. We have not had to wait for the advent of some stranger – as is too often done – but have simply used the means within ourselves. The services have been conducted by the circuit ministers, assisted by the Revs Buller, Taylor, Rishworth, Smalley, and Isitt, and Messrs. Broughton, Button, Dawson, Smyth, and Wardley. In the services there has been nothing sensational. Sankey’s hymns have been used throughout, and the addresses have been simple, direct expressions of Gospel truth, and earnest exhortations to forsake sin and flee to Christ.

It has verily been the Lord’s work, and the result of these services is the outcome of years of prayer and toil. To parents, and teachers, and ministers there has been given the fulfillment of the promise: “In due season ye shall reap if ye faint not.”

Other churches in the city have been quickened, and in connection with most of them special efforts of some kind are either going on or being contemplated. It has been arranged that this week a united noon-day prayer-meeting be held in the Congregational school-room, and it is probable that during this month there will be held a week or more of united special services. To God be all the praise and the glory. W. B.

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## **WAIMATE.**

The week, beginning Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, has been a memorable one in this town. On the evening of that day Mrs. Hampson began her mission in the Odd Fellows' Hall. The platform was occupied by the Presbyterian, Wesleyan, and Primitive Methodist ministers, with the other members of the committee; and the singing was led by the choirs of the three churches, conducted by Mr. Stevens, while Mr. Hadfield presided at the harmonium. Throughout the previous week largely attended prayer-meetings had been held, and all was ripe for a good work. Mrs. Hampson's first sermon was preached from the words: "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." The congregation was crowded, many being unable to find standing room, a deep sense of God's presence was realized. And the enquiry-room was filled with penitents.

During the following week she held a noon prayer-meeting daily in the hall, and preached in the evening, bringing her labours to a close on the Friday. It is estimated that in that time nearly 300 enquirers were personally dealt with, about 100 of whom filled in convert's tickets in connection with the Wesleyan church. Through the liberality of two members of the latter, these were soon afterwards entertained for tea, after which suitable addresses were given by His Worship the Mayor, who presided, the minister, and other friends. Our last communion service can never be forgotten for numbers and influence. Since then we have held a special evangelistic service on a Sunday evening, when the wild weather that raged around our sanctuary failed to destroy the gracious work within. Our prayer meetings and class meetings show a considerable increase, and all point to a yet deeper, wider, and more blessed extension of God's kingdom. A prayer union of ladies, that meets weekly in the afternoon, a united prayer meeting of the various denominations, to be held on the first Wednesday of each month, and a church temperance organization, all in vigorous operation, owe their origin to our sister's visit.

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## **BLLENHEIM.**

It is our privilege to report a most pleasing evidence that, though we are at present without a "local habitation and a name," as far as a church building in Blenheim is concerned, the word of God, as preached in our congregation, appears to be accompanied by the demonstration of the Spirit. Without any so-called special effort, over twenty persons have expressed themselves as being awakened and convinced of sin, and an earnest spirit of enquiry appears to pervade the congregations. At Blenheim this is most marked, though there is not wanting in the country places those who are anxiously enquiring what must be done for salvation. We desire the prayers of our friends, and God's people generally, that we may have a glorious outpouring of the Spirit, and a plenteous harvest of souls.

September, 1881. Page 214.

## **SPRINGSTON.**

In our last communication we stated that some souls had been born again, but we were looking for the "baptism of power." We have held a fourteen days mission here, and are continuing the services another week. On each Sunday evening the pastor of the

church has preached to crowded congregations, and, during the week, addresses have been given from ministers and laymen from the adjoining circuits. Mrs. Scott, by Christchurch (sic), has spoken on two occasions with much power. Solo singing has been introduced with great effect. The services were preceded by an all-day meeting of workers for prayer and conversation; and during the mission an all-night meeting of men only, for humiliation and prayer, was held in the church. The good work is spreading into other parts of this wide circuit, where similar meetings will probably be held. Over 50 persons have already decided for Christ, and many are under deep conviction, attending the meetings nightly, but have not yet come out for the Lord. The converts are of all ages, a considerable portion being men.

(b.) The **Broadfield** church in this circuit was re-constructed by Mr. William Early and Mr. Samuel Early sen. At a special service to thank them for this, addresses were given by Mrs. Scott, and by Mrs. Smalley. (There is an extensive report of this occasion, expressing thanks for their efforts.) page 214.

### **CHRISTCHURCH. Durham Street.**

The quarterly meeting was held in the schoolroom on Monday evening, and was largely attended. The Rev. W. Baumber occupied the chair. The numerical returns presented by the chairman showed an increase of 28 members during the quarter, with 139 on probation; while, in the various Sunday-schools, the number of scholars was reported as 984, being an increase of 39, with an average attendance of 624. Reference was made by several of those present to the great good that had been accomplished by means of the recent special services, especially among the young people, and a resolution was ordered to be placed on the minute book expressive of gratitude to God for the special blessings received by the churches during the past quarter. Etc.

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### **COLOMBO Road.**

In accordance with a resolution passed at our June quarterly meeting, special evangelistic services were commenced in the Colombo Road church on Sunday, August 21, and continued until September 5, with very blessed results. Although the weather during the first week was very unsettled, the attendance was remarkably good, and great grace rested upon all. A prayer-meeting was held each evening from 7 to 7.30, to invoke the Divine blessing on the services, to commence immediately after. A plain, practical address was then delivered by either a minister or layman, and this was again followed by prayer. Sankey's hymns have been sung, and the services have been conducted by Revs J.S. Rishworth, Buller, Baumber, and Broughton. The results have been exceedingly gratifying, upwards of fifty having professed to find peace through believing in Jesus. Backsliders have been restored, church members quickened, and the class meetings crowded to such an extent, that it is expected three new classes will have to be formed. This has indeed been a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

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**SPRINGSTON.**

We are still rejoicing in a gracious outpouring of God's Spirit; having finished our three weeks of special services at Springston, we have had a twelve days' mission at Tai Tapu, accompanied by the most gracious results. Over forty persons have been converted at that place – in several instances parents and all their adult children have come out for Christ; some hoary sinners have been saved, as well as some of the elder children of the congregations. We expect to report nearly a hundred new members this quarter. The work is still going on, souls being saved almost daily. Not a few members of other churches have shared in the blessing, to the advantage of the common Christianity. We attribute the whole to God, in answer to the persevering prayers of the people. Page 237.

**Wellington. Anniversary Services.**

In the evening service (Tuesday) – Mr. Charles Swiney read the Report. "In this, grateful and appreciative allusion was made to the services of Rev. L. Hudson, whose short stay here had been greatly blessed. Since his departure, in April last, there had been a falling off in the congregations and class meetings; and the church had suffered also from the removal of several influential members of the society and congregation.

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## **Mrs. Scott 1882.**

Article on Moody and Sankey in Scotland. Page 39.

### **RANGIORA**

Quarterly Meeting. December 28, 1881. Rev. J. A. Taylor presided. The special services held four months ago have been highly successful, the membership now being 100, with some on trial. Feb, 1882. Page 40.

Address by John Watsford reproduced. Page 57.

Editorial – Week Night meetings. Page 60.

Thomas Spurgeon opens new Wesleyan Church in Hamilton. Page 65.

### **CIRCUIT NEWS.**

#### **Colombo Road. – WALTHAM.**

A social gathering took place at the Waltham Wesleyan Sunday-school room on Wednesday evening, the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, for the purpose of offering congratulations to two of the teachers (Mr. Rodda and Miss Farland) who had entered the bonds of matrimony. There were about 60 of the teachers and senior scholars of the school present, who, after partaking of a liberal supply of cake and tea, provided by Mesdames Scott, Andrew, and Cook, listened to suitable addresses from Messrs. Andrew, Daltry, Hoddinot, Scott, and Shierlaw, the superintendent of the school being in the chair. During the evening a pleasant surprise appeared to the newly-married couple, in the shape of a pretty marble clock, the gift of Mr. John Joyce, the superintendent of the school. Mr. Andrew made the presentation, and, in an appropriate speech, referring to the many years during which Mrs. Rodda had laboured in the church and Sunday-school. Mr. Rodda, in suitable terms, thanked the donor for the present, and the friends for their kindly greetings. Several hymns were heartily sing during the evening, and the meeting was closed at 9.30 p.m.

A noticeable feature in connection with this school is the desire manifested by the scholars to make their Sabbath home bright and cheerful. Some of the senior girls have determined to renovate the interior of the building, and the senior boys are devising ways and means to paint the exterior. We trust their efforts will meet with success.

March, 1882. page 66.

SPECIAL SERVICES – lead article by Rev. Joseph Berry. Page 73.

### **CHRISTCHURCH. Quarterly Meeting.**

The number of church members reported by the chairman, although somewhat less than that of the previous quarter, showed an increase of for the year of 120. There had also been a gratifying increase in the number of Sunday-scholars. Page 90.

The Early Progress of Christianity. W.J. Williams. Lead article.

### **Mrs. Hampson in Christchurch.**

Several months since a large committee was formed to arrange for Mrs. Hampson's coming to Christchurch to conduct special evangelistic services. The committee proceeded very slowly, but at length decided that the mission should be commenced on Saturday, March 20. Preparatory prayer-meetings were held each day of the week in which the commencement was to take place, the first three evenings in the Wesleyan schoolroom, Durham Street, and the remainder in St. Paul's Presbyterian schoolroom, and daily at noon in Trinity Congregational schoolroom. The following gentlemen were elected to the several offices – viz., president of mission Mr. J.P. Jamieson; secretary, Rev. J. Ward; Treasurer, Mr. J.H. Twentyman; organist and choir-master, Mr. Twentyman, Junior; superintendent of enquiry-room department, Rev. W. Baumber; of stewards department, Rev. Isitt and Mr. Purdie; of hall arrangements, Mr. Heywood; reporters, Revs. J. Crewes and Penny. On the Saturday Mrs. Hampson held a meeting of "Christian workers" in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, when there were about 500 persons present. The subject of the first part of the address was "The advantages of Christian union and organization." The speaker said the power of an army could not be measured by the number of names on the roll; it must be measured by the number of men who were ready to stand shoulder to shoulder, to form those wonderful British squares; to advance in line; to fight or fall together in a grand invincible organization. The power of the Church was analogous to that of the army. A hymn having been sung and prayer offered, Mrs. Hampson read the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of Isaiah, and after offering a suggestion of two on the first verse, noticed that when Isaiah beheld the glory of God he perceived his own uncleanness, and said, "Woe is me! For I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips," &c. Then the congregation were exhorted to look to God, and study themselves in the light of His holiness. The address concluded with a few words of practical wisdom to her co-workers.

Speaking to persons who were appointed to go into the enquiry-rooms to talk to the anxious, she advises them not to argue with people, nor to enter into any kind of disputation, nor to attempt to expound any particular system of theology, nor to preach sermons on texts of Scripture, but simply to take their Bibles with them and try to get the anxious ones to rest on the truth set forth in a single verse of the Word of God, recommending such verses as John 5:24; John 6:37; and Matthew 11:28. Then, speaking to other Christians, she asked them to sit in different parts of the theatre, and to be careful not to sit in comfortable seats and neglect persons who do not generally attend church, but to see that non-church-goers – men and women who have been careless about religion - be accommodated with seats, that everything they can do may be done to bring them to Jesus.

On the Sunday evening there was a large meeting in the Theatre Royal. The text of the address was Romans 1:16. Thirty persons gave their names as anxious enquirers at the close of the service. On Monday, as the theatre could not be obtained, and Mrs. Hampson's health was not good, a prayer meeting was held in the Congregational church; and a very interesting, solemn, and profitable communion service for Christian workers was held in the schoolroom of Durham Street Wesleyan Church in the evening.

On Tuesday, at mid-day, there was a prayer-meeting in the Congregational schoolroom. There was a large attendance. In the evening the theatre was crowded. Mrs. Hampson read Isaiah 55, forcibly appealing to business men on a question of profit and loss, from the words, "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread, &c. The text of the address was Luke 9:10 – "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." The points emphasized were Loss, the Soul and the Son of Man seeking to save. Great attention was given.

On Wednesday, Mrs. Hampson conducted three services in the Theatre. One from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. There were about three hundred persons at this meeting. The subject was Jacob wrestling with the angel, and the address was about the most interesting of the series. In the afternoon a meeting for ladies only was held to form a prayer union, to be designated the Christchurch Ladies' Prayer Union. There were at least eight or nine hundred ladies present, two hundred and forty of whom gave their names to become members of this union – to meet once a week for special prayer and mutual advice and encouragement. In the evening the theater was full. The address was based on the last clauses of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> verses of John 3, great stress being laid upon the word *must*, and the dependence of one clause upon the other, the doctrine of the New Birth being also strongly presented.

On Thursday, two services were conducted in the theatre. To the evening one, visitors from distant parts were admitted by ticket until 7 o'clock. A large number of persons availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by this arrangement; and although a hundred additional chairs had been provided, the accommodation was insufficient. Having read and commented on Luke 15, the address that followed was given from John 14:6 – "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by Me."

On Friday, two services were held as usual. In the evening the theatre was again full. The text of the address was 2 Kings 5:13 – "Wash and be clean."

On Saturday, the usual mid-day meeting was held, and in the evening there was a praise meeting. Mrs. Hampson struck the key-note by delivering an address on 1 Peter 1:3 and three following verses. The several persons one after another stood up in the congregation and thanked God for their conversion in that mission.

On Sunday there were three services. One in the morning at 8.30, at which about 700 persons were present, when Mrs. Hampson delivered an address. The service in the afternoon was for children. The theatre was crowded. Mrs. Hampson delivered a short address, and the Rev. J. Elmslie, who said he had never seen such a meeting of children in the colony, assisted in the service. In the evening there was a grand meeting, the theatre being packed, and hundreds of persons unable to gain admittance. Two or three ministers held overflow meetings outside the theatre. Of course there were the usual little interruptions incidental to such meetings – ladies carried out faint, glasses of water and bottles of smelling salts passing in all directions - but the power of God was upon the

speaker, and the people were under a spell that could not be broken. The text was Psalm 28: 5, 8. At the after-meeting the large stage was crowded with anxious enquirers.

On Monday the text of the address was, "Behold I stand at the door and knock," &c.

On Tuesday there was the usual mid-day meeting; and in the evening a meeting for converts, who were requested to hand in tickets on which they had been asked to place their name and address, and the name of the church they wished to join. The converts only were admitted by ticket to the stalls until 7 o'clock. A large number came. The public were admitted after seven, and again there was the usual crowd. Mrs. Hampson delivered a most appropriate address to the converts, basing it on the text printed on their tickets – Col 2:6. At the close an appeal was made to sign temperance cards which had been provided, and numbers did so.

On the following afternoon, a large meeting in connection with the Women's Prayer Union was held in the Durham Street Wesleyan Church. The spacious building was packed, and numbers joined the Union.

In the evening there was a communion service in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. This was the concluding service. It was conducted by the several ministers, under the presidency of the Rev. J. Elmslie. The communicants filled every seat on the floor of the church, and earnest onlookers occupied the gallery. This was a service long to be remembered.

Looking back on the mission now we do so with unmingled pleasure. The results have exceeded the expectations of at least some of us. We cannot place full dependence upon figures; but the fact that between 500 and 600 have given in their names as having decided for the Lord Jesus during the mission, indicates the power that must have been present. The funds came up well. 201 pounds 9s was contributed at the doors and in separate donations. The actual expenses amounted to 156 pounds 15s 5d; leaving a balance of 44 pounds 13s 7d, which has been donated to three charitable institutions – the Christchurch Female Refuge, the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, and the Distressed Patients' Aid Society. At the ministers' conference, held after the mission, all present spoke of the good done in their churches, of members quickened, and unsaved ones led to decision. In several churches special services have been held since the mission, and in them others have been converted – some who were wrought upon before. We thank God for the mission. With greater numbers and increased spirituality in our churches, we look forward to a time of great blessing this year.

J. Crewes.

May, 1882. page 101- 102.

Methodism in Southland. Page 104.

New Church in Tai Tapu. (Springston.) page 106.

Blenheim new church. page 107.

Methodism and Higher Education. Page 108.

### **Colombo Road Methodist Church**

A considerable increase of members was reported, and the ordinary receipts exceeded the ordinary expenditure by nearly five pounds. The Sabbath scholars were reported to be increasing, and the necessity of a new school at Colombo Road was being felt more and more every week. Page 113.

### **Rangiora Quarterly Meeting.**

March 29. The President of the Conference was in the chair. The schedule of membership showed 108 members, with 1 on trial. Page 114.

Woodend Circuit, - special services planned. Page 114.

Preaching in the Colonies. Lead article. June, 1881. Page 121.

### **Mrs Hampson's Mission at Ashburton.**

Two months since, initiatory steps were taken to secure a visit to Ashburton from Mrs. Hampson. From one quarter and another of the colony, news had come of the arvellous power which attended her preaching, and, notwithstanding the discouraging remarks of some that Ashburton was wholly given to the idolatry of money, and that the ground was terribly hard to work, a few earnest Christians met together on the 20<sup>th</sup> March, when it was unanimously resolved to ask Mrs. Hampson to open a mission in Ashburton, as soon as possible after the termination of her labours at Timaru. About fifteen persons, representing the several evangelical churches of the township, were present on the occasion, and the meeting resolved itself into a committee, with power to add to its number, for the purpose of furthering the interests of the proposed mission; Mr. T.R. Hodder being appointed secretary. The exact date when Mrs. Hampson might be expected in Ashburton was not known, but it was resolved to commence noon-day and evening prayer-meetings, and Mr. H.J. Weeks was asked to organize and conduct a united choir. From that time to the date of Mrs. Hampson's arriving in Ashburton, preparatory meetings were held from day to day, the different ministers in turn giving appropriate addresses, and, as a result, long before the mission proper commenced, an intense earnestness, and a higher spiritual tone pervaded those who longed for the Pentecostal blessing. Faith was brought into more vigorous exercise, and God has, in a remarkable manner, honoured the faith of His children.

On Thursday, May 4, a meeting of the committee was held in the Wesleyan Church, to make final arrangements for the mission, at which the Rev. C.H. Standage was appointed superintendent of the enquiry-room, with Mr. H.M. Jones as an auxiliary. All the members of the committee, with the exception of those otherwise engaged, were set apart to act as stewards, under the chieftainship of Mr. J.E. Buchanan; other arrangements in connection with the Town-hall, where the meetings were to be held, being assigned to Messrs. G. Andrews and Olsen. The wisdom of this systematic arrangements was borne out as the mission proceeded, as, without it, a deal of confusion and disorganization would have ensued.

On the afternoon of May 11, Mrs. Hampson opened the mission by holding a meeting for females only, at which some 200 were present. After an affectionate address,

the formation of a Women's Prayer Union was warmly advocated, and, as a result, a large number of names were handed in as members, and Mrs. Meddings was appointed secretary to the Union. It will be unnecessary to give in detail a report of the other meetings held during the week following, which appear to have been, in many points, similar to those held in other places which Mrs. Hampson has visited. The noon-day meetings were a source of much profit and assistance, and requests for prayer came in by the score. A service held on Sunday morning, at 8.30, was attended by about 250 persons, mostly Christians, and few, if any, will forget the homely but yet beautiful exposition of Psalm 28:4 & 5. A service for children only took place on the Sunday afternoon, when, after Rev. E. Scott (Episcopalian), Rev. J. Nixon (Primitive Methodist), and Mr. J. Buchanan had addressed them, Mrs. Hampson briefly summarized and applied what had been said. But it was at the evening meetings where the power was felt most, and where results were manifest. Night after night the Town-hall was filled as it never had been before, and the efforts of the stewards were taxed to the utmost to provide even standing accommodation for those who thronged to hear the Gospel preached, and who were held spell-bound. On Saturday night, May 13, business in the township was nearly suspended, several shops being closed so that the employees might attend the meeting. There never has, however, been such a concourse of people in Ashburton as that on the Sunday evening. The body of the hall, aisles, gallery, and ante-rooms were crowded to excess, while every inch of the stage, from which Mrs. Hampson spoke was occupied with a crowd of eager listeners, who seemed to be afraid of losing one syllable which fell from her lips. Every evening the enquiry-room was filled to overflowing with anxious souls seeking Christian counsel and prayers; and, from the converts' tickets handed in, it is estimated that nearly 200 found the Saviour. Moreover, professing Christians, some of many years' standing, have been quickened, and see the truth as they never saw it before, while God's children have received an impetus to seek a loftier attitude of Christian excellence. Truly our eyes have beheld wondrous sights. A noticeable feature, and one which goes far to prove the genuineness of the work done during the mission, is the fact that prominent men of business – men of intelligence and thought, some of them not easily moved to any exhibition of feeling or emotion – were found, among others, who have been penitently seeking the Lord, and to-day are rejoicing in a sense of pardon.

At the last service Mrs. Hampson held here, at the conclusion of her address to the converts, she advanced the claims of total abstinence, and advised each church to establish its own Christian Temperance Society. At that meeting nearly 500 signed the pledge, and the churches have already taken the hint, and started temperance organizations for their members. It is intended to carry on evangelistic services in Ashburton for at least a month longer, and, although Mrs Hampson has left us, the work is still going on, believers are being strengthened, and sinners enquiring "What they must do to be saved."

Written – 20<sup>th</sup> May, 1882. C. D.

June, 1882. pages 127 – 128.

Analysis of the Religious Census in England. pages 129 – 130.

## **ASHBURTON.**

Convert's meeting from the Hampson mission in the Wesleyan church. page 135.

Human Conditions for a good Prayer Meeting. Lead article. July, 1882.

## **Cambridge Circuit.**

During the last few weeks we have had a season of blessing in this circuit, in connection with a series of united services, held alternately in the three places of worship. There has been throughout a very good attendance, and profound interest. Believers have been quickened, sectarian barriers somewhat broken down, backsliders reclaimed, and a few additions made to the church. Mr. Bamford has been an instrument for good at these services. July, 1882. page 161.

## **Gisborne.**

We have just concluded a fortnight of special services, held during the first week in our own church, and the second in the Presbyterian. The several meetings were addressed by the three Protestant ministers here, namely, Rev. J.S. Hill (Episcopalian), Rev. J> McAra (Presbyterian), and Rev. L. Hudson (Wesleyan). The congregations during the whole time were exceedingly good, and we have cause to believe that very many received good and several decided for Christ. Amongst the latter were several of our older scholars. The work began in our Sunday school on Sunday, April 30. At the close of an address the Rev. L. Hudson invited all who wanted to be Christians and give their hearts to God to go to the front seats, when a sight seldom witnessed took place – nearly all the elder scholars went up in a body, to the number of about thirty. The teachers spent about an hour praying with and pointing them to the Saviour, and again at the prayer-meeting after the evening service, there were several penitent. It was therefore decided to hold a week of special services, and invite the other ministers to co-operate, which they did heartily. At the end of the first week it was thought best to continue them, which was done, as stated above. We still look for many more to be gathered into the church, for we have great need of a general awakening and revival. May it soon come is our earnest prayer. Page 161.

Results of the latest N.Z. Census. August, 1882. pages 180 – 181.

## **Cambridge Quarterly Meeting.**

Members – 46 full members, 6 on trial, 5 removals, 4 received from other circuits. Special services had been held during the quarter, and several present acknowledged benefit received. A few were reported of as under good impressions, and it was hoped that these would eventuate in their salvation. Page 183.

## **Hamilton. – its first Quarterly Meeting. Rev. J, Dukes.**

Number of members 25, on trial 2, communicants 26 (being an increase of 15 in the quarter. The circuit now embraces Huntly and Taupiri, and it is intended to take up Ngaruawahia next quarter. We shall then have ten preaching places, with an average of

five services each Sabbath. After the gracious visitation of the last month, God's people are very hopeful about the future, and even the most conservative have acknowledged the benefits arising from the recent division. A long conversation ensued on the state of the work of God. As an outcome of the successful special services held in the church, it is decided to hold, in conjunction with the Presbyterian Church, an evangelistic service, fortnightly, in the Oddfellows' Hall, Hamilton East. It was also felt desirable to form an adult temperance society. Etc. page 183.

#### **Pukekohe and Waiuki.**

Special services were arranged for a week at a country location called Bombay. Several had joined the church. They hoped to have similar services in other locations.

Page 184.

#### **RANGITIKEI Quarterly Meeting**

A series of special services were being held during the week – affected the attendances at the Quarterly meeting. Page 185.

#### **TIMARU**

Last quarter we returned 22 full members, now, owing to Mrs. Hampson's services, we report 22 full members, 50 on trial, and 7 catechumens. For this gratifying increase we thank God, and take courage. Page 185.

#### **WOODEND.**

Under the head of the consideration of God's work, it was resolved that two prayer meetings per week be held at Woodend, from the present time up to the special meetings to be held in July, and that ministers from other circuits be invited to assist at the special services. At the end of the special services, a temperance society be formed.

Page 186.

#### **HAMILTON.**

A week's special services (preceded by a week of special prayer) were held in Trinity church, Hamilton, commencing on Sunday, June 18, when Rev. W. Slade, from Raglan, preached both morning and evening, and again on Monday evening. The subsequent services were conducted by the revs T.J. Wills, D. Fulton, (Presbyterian), and the resident minister. The prayer meetings were characterized by a deep solemnity, all feeling the presence and influence of the Spirit. Though the weather was not good, the services were all largely attended, and the spiritual good accomplished extensive, not only to our own church, but also to members of all the other Protestant denominations in Hamilton, many of whom were brought to the light, and found peace and joy in believing. It was the most stirring time ever witnessed in our town, and, as the services drew near a close, they seemed to increase in popularity. On Saturday a Christian fellowship meeting was held in the church, which was largely attended. Among the members there were expressions of deep thankfulness to God for the season of refreshing grace. Several backsliders testified to their recovery, and determination to devote their lives to the service of the Master. The result was most gratifying and encouraging to the workers, though many humbling confessed that they did not expect such a large blessing. The

number of communicants at the sacrament on the following Sunday evening testified to the success of the services, about four times the usual number coming to the Lord's Table. Altogether there has been a great improvement in spiritual matters since the arrival of Mr. Dukes. The church has been aroused from her former coldness and apathy; the congregations have largely increased; hearts that were cold and almost dead have been quickened into new life; the number of members meeting in class have so increased as to render it necessary to commence a female class in the afternoon, under the leadership of Mrs Dukes. To God be all the praise. Page 187.

Special services at Palmerston North and Norsewood. Page 210.

Henry Ward Beecher. The Moral Uses of Luxury and Beauty.  
Lead article for October.

MOODY and SANKEY in Glasgow. Page 222.

Darbyism. Page 223.

#### **Christchurch. Durham Street.**

During the quarter special services had been held in the East Belt church, with pleasing results. A few persons had been led to decision for Christ, while the members had experienced much spiritual benefit. The chairman stated that the cottage prayer meetings, established during the quarter, had, in some instances, been blessed of God in the conversion of souls. We devoutly thank God for the past, and wait, in earnest prayer and believing hope, the richer baptism of power. Page 234.

#### **Mrs Hampson's Mission at New Plymouth.**

Union prayer-meetings, preparatory to the work of the mission, were, for three weeks, held alternatively in the Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist churches, and in the Young Men's Christian Association rooms, to the very evident benefit of those who attended to plead for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Mrs Hampson's arrival here on the 6<sup>th</sup> September had been delayed for several weeks on account of severe illness. It was evident to the New Plymouth friends that she must take further rest before commencing her work. The Union alternating services were therefore continued. The change of air proved most beneficial in restoring Mrs. Hampson's health, and as she gathered strength, perfect rest seemed no longer possible to her, and she was only too glad to take up any portion of her "Father's business."

Her first appearance was at a Band of Hope gathering on the 11<sup>th</sup>, to take the connective readings in the service of song – "Bart's Joy" – Ven. Archdeacon Govett presiding. On the following Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup>, she met the women of New Plymouth in the Masonic Hall, with a view to the formation of a "Women's Prayer Union"; and was

much gratified then and on each succeeding Wednesday of her stay by the large gathering of varied sects and ranks who assembled for this hour of prayer and edification. On Friday evening, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept., a united communion services was held in the Primitive Methodist church, and there also on Saturday evening Mrs. Hampson met the Christian workers for counsel and instruction, with particular reference to the duties of the ensuing week, and to plead for a fuller consecration to the work of winning souls for Christ.

On Sunday evening, 24<sup>th</sup>, the first public Gospel service was held in the Primitive Methodist church. A densely crowded congregation listened with marked attention and interest for over an hour to the “Old, Old Story,” and many anxious enquirers remained for counsel and prayer.

On Monday the daily mid-day prayer meetings were commenced in the Masonic Hall, from 12 to 1 o’clock, and were always well attended. Mrs. Hampson conducted these meetings each day, and there, besides occupying a portion of the hour in united prayer and praise, some of her happiest discourses were delivered, rendering the old jewels more beautiful than ever in a new setting. These mid-day meetings will ever be remembered by believers as very precious seasons of blessing.

On the evening of Monday, the services were commenced in the Wesleyan Church, and continued to be held there till the close of the mission. The church was well filled notwithstanding the heavy rain, and in spite of a most severe thunderstorm.

On Tuesday a large number again attended. On both occasions the power of the Spirit’s influence was fully realized, numbers availing themselves of the invitation to the enquiry room, and earnestly seeking Jesus. On Wednesday, the weather being more favourable, the attention increased, and then, again, many found Jesus the “Way” to the Father.

An overflowing congregation gathered on Thursday evening, and the presence of the Master was richly manifest while the listening crowd heard of His THEN “passing by.” On Friday, also, numbers of the large assembly were deeply impressed, several more resorting to the vestry and enquiry-room. Saturday evening was devoted to praise and testimony. The address was specially adapted to the new converts, many of whom “stood up for Jesus.” At the early Sabbath service (8.30 a.m.) a full congregation enjoyed a true believer’s banquet, and eagerly drank of the Water of Life – a never-to-be-forgotten season. 2.30 p.m. found a packed assemblage for the children’s service, all the Sunday schools attending, and a large number of adults. Addresses were given by both ministers and laymen, and Sankey’s hymns sung by the choir and children. Mrs. Hampson also addressed them in her usual happy manner, securing complete silence and attention; and on her putting the question as to who would always try to love and serve God, and do His work like little soldiers under our Captain, Jesus, a forest of little hands were promptly held up high above the thoughtful, happy faces.

The evening service showed no decrease of interest, either in the very large mixed congregation, or in the after-meeting. Monday evening – the closing public service of the mission – was a time of intense interest, the awakening power was great, under the special words of counsel and encouragement to the “babes in Christ,” and a time of blessing to many. And then, before closing, Mrs. Hampson took up the temperance question, showing believers their plain duty to leave their imaginary neutral positions and take a decided stand on the right and safe side for the Master’s sake, and to help the weaker ones. Nearly 200 signed the pledge at the close of the meeting, including about

forty previous abstainers who renewed their pledge for others' sake, and from a wish to strengthen what was anticipated would form a nucleus of a Gospel Temperance Society. This has partially been realized at an informal inauguration of the Society by Sir William Fox, during a recent meeting; at the same time steps were taken to establish it on a permanent basis.

Another united communion service was held on Tuesday evening, October 3, Revs J.A. Taylor (Wesleyan), and J. Long (Primitive Methodist) officiating, Mrs. Hampson afterwards addressing the communicants. On the following day the New Plymouth Women's Prayer Union was instituted by Mrs. Hampson, the three previous meetings being regarded as preliminary, with an enrolment membership of 60 (since increased to 73), and gives promise of being a great success. May the good seeds of loving sympathy and unity of purpose still thrive and firmly knit together the various sections of Christ's Church which compose the Union; then shall it prove an incalculable power for good. The Union meetings are held for an hour weekly.

A farewell soiree was held on the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 4. And after tea in the Wesleyan schoolroom, crowd again filled the church, where several representative speeches were given by ministers and laymen, Mrs. Hampson replying with much feeling to the kind expressions of love and gratitude.

A review of the whole work of the mission, although the results are not yet all apparent, is sufficient cause for deepest gratitude to Almighty God, and to evoke a fervent desire that the instrument He has chosen for the furtherance of His cause may long be spared to labour for Him. Upwards of 100 names have been handed in of persons professing conversion, and desirous of joining the various churches. Others residing in the country have not yet come forward. Amongst these names are some signal cases of awakening of persons who had not entered a place of worship for many years. But the quickening of believers, the earnest desire to foster the spirit of unity, and the willingness to engage in active work for Christ, are facts in themselves sufficiently convincing that this work is of God. And some of those remarkable cases alluded to are not those of young people, easily drawn in by sympathy and excitement, but those of mature years, even of grey hairs, men of the rougher type, who had been won for the Saviour by Mrs. Hampson's loving appeals, on whom the thunder of the law would have had little effect.

It is recorded, with much thankfulness, that Mrs. Hampson was wonderfully sustained during the whole of the mission; but when towards its close the repeated visits of persons who sought her counsels and prayers afforded slight prospect of the much needed rest, she thought it best to proceed at once to Wanganui, leaving New Plymouth on the morning of Thursday, Oct 5. We trust that, enjoying a season of rest and quiet, she may receive strength of body, and realize a rich preparedness of soul for again entering on her much-loved work for the Master.

November, 1882. pages 244 – 245.

WILLOWBY, as missionary work. Page 256.

Colombo Road quarterly meeting. Page 256.

Palmerston North quarterly meeting. Page 257.

## **LYTTELTON**

A series of special services has been held here with gratifying success. The first week in September was devoted to prayer, the first of the preaching services being held on Sunday evening, September 10. The Rev. W.B. Marten presided at the meetings, being ably assisted by Messrs. Wilson, Broughton, and Early, and Mrs. Scott, who kindly gave their services on different occasions. From 25 to 30 persons professed to find peace with God. Several of these were seamen belonging to vessels now in port, a large number of whom attended the meetings. It is a somewhat unusual occurrence that the whole of the converts are adults, and most of them married persons, in the prime of life. Not a single child was brought in; but several who had fallen very low have been reclaimed from a life of shame, and for this we thank God. A testimony meeting held on Wednesday evening, September 27, will not soon be forgotten. The speakers were limited to a minute each, - the time seldom being exceeded - and some forty rose, one after another, to testify out of their own experience that the Gospel is still "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." Verily, it was good to be there. Seven or eight went into the vestry as seekers, most of whom found the Saviour. We are looking for yet greater things, and praying for a larger measure of Pentecostal power to rest upon us.

November, 1882. page 259.

## **RANGIORA and SOUTHBROOK.**

Our churches in Rangiora and Southbrook have been greatly blessed during the past month or two. We held a series of special services, early in the month of September, in the Rangiora church, which were owned of God, and blessed in the conversion of souls to Christ, and in the spiritual quickening of the members of the church. These services seemed to prepare the way for a larger manifestation of the power of God in connection with a second series of special services in Southbrook and Rangiora, which commenced in the Southbrook church on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Scott, of Waltham, delivered telling and impressive addresses to crowded congregations each evening, which were the means of bringing conviction of sin to many hearts. The earnest appeals of Mrs. Scott (who came up at the invitation of our minister) [Rev. S. J. Garlick], followed by hearty singing and the prayers of God's people, have resulted in the spiritual quickening of our church members in both the above-mentioned places, and in leading many, both young and middle-aged, to decide for Christ. We have had a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. To God be all the praise. The class-meeting is highly prized, and the attendance largely increased.

November, 1882. page 260.

December lead article - "Our Children."

Another major article - "The Holy Spirit." Substance of a paper by Mr. J.E. Buchanan, at the Ashburton Local preachers' Meeting.

## **MRS HAMPSON in WANGANUI.**

A little more than twelve months ago Mrs. Hampson was invited to conduct an evangelistic mission in Wanganui, and, on the part of many, prayer has been offered without ceasing for the success of the mission ever since. It is this precious preparation of the way of the Lord in the hearts of His praying people that goes far to account for the very gratifying measure of success with which the recent mission has been crowned.

For six weeks previous to the commencement of the mission there was a daily prayer-meeting, held, at noon, in the schoolroom of Trinity Wesleyan Church; while two evenings in each week were set apart for the same purpose of special prayer. The noon meeting, on Saturday, October 28, was conducted by Mrs. Hampson, and her address, on Jacob wrestling with the Angel, was a fitting introduction to the services that were to follow. Those who for weeks and months had been asking for "power from on high" for themselves, and for God's special agent in this mission, felt that, by that introductory service, they were drawn in to the place of power, and that God Himself was putting His own seal upon the work that had been undertaken in His name. A united Communion service was held in Trinity church on the Sunday morning following, and was conducted by the Rev. J.A. Taylor, President of the Conference, at that time on a visit to Wanganui. In the evening of the same day evangelistic services were commenced in the Princess Theatre, which was filled to overflowing. Mrs. Hampson preached from "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost," and, in response to her awakening appeals, nearly forty on that first evening found their way into the enquiry-room. The mission, thus conspicuously begun, went on deepening in power and interest and blessing for the ten days during which it lasted. It is not needful to describe the order and method of Mrs. Hampson's services, which happily are becoming well known throughout the whole of New Zealand.

In Wanganui the weather was favourable, the arrangements made by the committee were most complete, and the theatre was crowded nightly with audiences which represented all sections of the community. Mrs. Hampson's addresses were characterized by a remarkably vivid and faithful setting forth of the need and importance of the Gospel, and, best of all, by a power which was effectual in leading hundreds of anxious ones to accept Christ as their Saviour and Lord. Her expositions of Bible truth at the noon meetings made those meetings such seasons of delight and profit as can never be forgotten. The service for testimony on the Saturday evening was one that calls for special notice. Experience meetings have not been popular in any section of the church in Wanganui, not excepting even the Methodist; and that, in the presence of a theatre full of people, scores could be found getting to their feet and testifying, in rapid succession, what great things the Lord had done for them, was an indication of a marvelous change that led many who saw it to weep again for joy.

On the afternoon of the second Sunday the theatre was packed with children, who were addressed first of all, by the Rev. W.J. Williams, and then, in a touching and appropriate manner, by Mrs. Hampson. Her address on Temperance was delivered on the second Monday evening, and with such effect that more than 300 took the pledge.

A farewell service was held on November 8, when six hundred persons sat down to tea, provided in the Drill-hall. In the meeting held afterwards in the theatre Mrs. Hampson was presented with an address, referring, in grateful terms, to the very enjoyable and successful mission that had just been brought to a close. There was also a

second address, presented from the children, in which they placed on record their thanks for the memorable service which Mrs. Hampson had conducted for their special benefit. Both addresses were beautifully engrossed (sic) and illuminated by Mr. R.W. Pownall. Short addresses were delivered by the chairman, Mr. G. Carson, the Rev. W.J. Williams, and Messrs. Tucker and Calders. Mrs. Hampson replied in suitable terms, dwelling at length upon the necessity that the young converts should, without delay, identify themselves with some section of the Christian Church. Thus was brought to a close a mission which, for its effect upon the Wanganui public, will long be remembered. Never before, probably, have so many been brought together in this town to listen, night after night, to stirring Gospel appeals; and never before have God's people realized so abundantly the joy of harvest. At a recognition service, held in Trinity Wesleyan church the evening after the farewell service, more than one hundred names were read of those who, as a result of the mission, had signified their intention to join that branch of Christ's church. Most of those who had given in their names were present at the service, and were cordially welcomed and recognized by the minister and congregation. The Presbyterian and Anglican churches, and the recently-formed Baptist church, have also had numerous additions to their membership. The mission has further borne fruit in the formation of a Women's Prayer Union, a Young Women's Prayer Union and a Young Men's Christian Association. The publicans of Wanganui complain of a serious falling off in their receipts from the sale of drink; the theatre, in Mrs. Hampson's absence, fails to have the drawing power it had of yore, and there is a sad wail from managers and actors concerning a beggarly array of empty benches. On the other hand, the ordinary services of the churches are attended as they never have been previously, and ministers and people are rejoicing together in the experience of spiritual prosperity. It is impossible to withhold the prayer that Mrs. Hampson may be long spared and strengthened for the work for which she is so admirably qualified; and that every town in the colony may be favoured with such a visitation of grace as that which has, of late, been vouchsafed to Wanganui.

W. J. W.

December, 1882. pages 270 – 271.

## **Mrs. Scott – 1883.**

12 monthly issues of the *New Zealand Wesleyan*. About 280 page.

### **RANGIORA.**

Special services have been held at Ohoka, about five miles from Rangiora. The services commenced on Sunday, December 10th, and were attended with very good results. Mrs. Scott, from Waltham, delivered earnest and impressive addresses at each service to large congregations. By this series of special services, the members of the church have been greatly blessed, and a number of souls have been brought to realize a sense of sins forgiven through faith in Christ. We returned seventeen members for Ohoka last quarter. On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, twenty-eight partook of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. We had a very well attended Circuit Lovefeast at Rangiora on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. The Lord was present with his people, and all felt it was good to be there. We shall be able to return thirty-six on trial for membership this quarter. To God be all the praise for the blessing on the Word.

January 1<sup>st</sup>. 1883. page 17.

### **PUKEKOHE CIRCUIT.**

By the Pacific Mail S.S. "City of New York," last month, there arrived four American evangelists, Mr. and Mrs. Phelps, and Mr. and Mrs. Dorman, who are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They left Harmington, Mass., intending to go through to Sydney, and thence to Norfolk Island, where Mr. Phelps laboured for a time as an evangelist two years ago. But on reaching Auckland, Mr. Phelps felt that God had a work for them to do here; and so they disembarked, and awaited further direction. Having met with them at the Pitt Street church, and finding that they came well recommended by their presiding elder and resident minister, we gave them a hearty invitation to come and labour in this circuit, which they gladly accepted.

We arranged for special services for three consecutive evenings, in each place in the circuit; but soon found that the interest manifested, and the good done, demanded a longer stay, and so in some places the meetings have been kept up for a fortnight. We expect it will take another month, at least, around the circuit. So far the churches have been uncomfortably crowded almost every night. Mrs Phelps has been a licensed preacher for over twelve years. Her first work is to lead church members to seek and enjoy the blessing of entire sanctification. Mr Phelps and Mr Dorman direct their efforts especially to the unconverted; and Mrs. Dorman has a collection of new hymns, which she sings in a touching and appropriate manner. She also addresses the people occasionally. So far the result of their work here is such as to induce us to sing the Doxology more heartily than we have done before. Many of our cold, formal members are sanctified, and the change is seen in their faces. Their stammering tongues are loosed, and they promise now to be earnest workers. A great number, too, of all ages, have been converted to God. Some of the worst cases have been reached, and some wonderful scenes have been witnessed. At Christmas time we are going to hold a camp

meeting, to last three days, an account of which we will send for next issue.

W. P. S.  
(written) 18 December, 1882.  
January 1, 1883, page 17.

### **METHODIST CONFERENCE.**

The introductory address made by the retiring President – The Rev. James Taylor, concluded with this comment.\_-

Let us each take for our motto the watch-word given by the President of the English Conference, and may God grant it may be realized – “A revival in every circuit in the Connexion!” February 12, 1883 page 26

Moody and Sankey at Cambridge University. Around page 30.

### **RANGIORA. Quarterly Meeting.**

The quarterly meeting was held on Jan. 3. There was a large attendance of officials. The number of members returned was ninety-five, and thirty-six on trial. Special services had been held during the quarter at Rangiora, Southbrook, and Ohoka, which resulted in the spiritual quickening of the members, and in the conversion of souls. The Sunday-schools of the circuit came under review. Some of the schools were reported as prosperous, and others were reported as suffering owing to the scarcity of teachers. The income for the quarter was 85 pounds, 11s 11d, including 12 pounds 13s 7d for Home Missions. The expenditure 84 pounds 11s 11d; leaving a balance of one pound to reduce the debt of last quarter, which now stands at 11 pounds 15s 4d. Mr. J. Thompson was re-elected as circuit steward, and Mr. W.H. Foster was elected as co-steward. March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1883. page 67.

Article – Hindrances to Revivals, by Rev. E.D. M’Creary. Page 76.

Waiuku and Pukekohe Quarterly Meeting. No news of special efforts. Page 87.

Waiuku and Pukekohe Camp meeting at Pukekohe on Dec. 24, 25, and 26.

“The result of the meeting must be considered very satisfactory. Believers were strengthened in the faith, seekers professed to have found peace, God was glorified, and much good done, though eternity alone will reveal it all. Page 88.

Article. – “Revival Needed.” By G. F. Pierce. Page 97.

Moral Influence of the Theatre. June 1. 1883.

GORE – early days. Page 125.

Article. – The Source of Spiritual Power. Page 147.

Death of Rev. John Hobbs. Page 147.

Methodist Union discussions.  
Wesleyan Statistics. Page 170.  
Death of Rev. Thomas Buddle around page 170.

**AUCKLAND. Pitt Street.**

“A revival in every circuit during the year” was the motto-prayer given to the Church by the President of the Conference, and it is gratifying to be able to report that, in nearly every portion of this circuit there are unmistakable signs of a gracious work. The showers of blessing are beginning to descend. During the past month a Wesleyan Christian Workers’ Association has been formed. This is a Society for aggressive Christian effort by the members of the Church, and especially the young ones. There are two secretaries, one for the general work, and the other for the tract department; and six bands of four members each, one of whom is appointed leader. The plan of meetings is as follows:- On Sunday evenings, after the service, a short meeting is held in the Pitt Street schoolroom, for the purpose of gathering in young men who are not members. Services are also conducted by different bands in Union-street Church and Chancery-street. On Monday night the members meet for conference and prayer, and also hold a prayer-meeting for men only. An evangelistic service, made attractive by hearty singing and short addresses and prayers, is conducted by a band at Arch Hill on Wednesday night, and at Union-street on Friday. This work has already been fraught with much blessing.

**PONSONBY.** For some time past a deep spirit of prayer has been evinced by the members at Ponsonby, and a few weeks ago it was determined to hold a prayer meeting before the evening service, besides the one held early on the Sabbath morning. An answer to prayer was seen in a general quickening of believers, and in several penitents seeking mercy. This led to an intense longing for greater blessings; and it was decided to devote the week to united prayer. These meetings are now being held, and the Divine power is being manifested in a special manner. Many believers are earnestly seeking, and also joyfully experiencing, entire sanctification, and many sinners are being justified.

The successful opening of the new church at **Arch Hill** was followed by a series of special services, which have resulted in a deeper spiritual life among the believers, and an increase in the number of church members.

At **Kingland** (New North Road) a gracious revival has recently taken place among the scholars of the Sunday-school. A number of youthful Christians attending this school have been in the habit of holding a prayer meeting every Sunday before the School time, when often as many as thirty would be present. It will not be wondered at that there has been a glorious ingathering of precious souls into the fold of Christ. Out of the 130 children attending the school, over one hundred have now given clear testimony that they have been saved. This work has been accomplished without the aid of special services, and it is pleasing to see the good which has been accomplished mainly by the simple and clear testimony of youthful Christians.

July 2, 1883. page 162.

**CHRISTCHURCH – Colombo Road.** In a fortnight's special services held in the Waltham Church, valuable assistance has been rendered the pastor by the local preachers and others. A band of singers paraded the district for half an hour before each evening's meeting. A dozen persons professed themselves the subjects of a change of heart.

July 2. 1883. page 162.

**DUNEDIN. Trinity Church.**

During the year 140 members have been added to the church, many of whom are from the Bible-classes of our Sabbath-schools. In Trinity school all of the young men and most of the young women in the Bible-classes have decided for Christ, as well as many in lower classes. For months past not a Sunday has elapsed without some giving their hearts to God. Cargill Road school has also been greatly blessed. (A team of ladies had been doing visiting in all wards of the town.) page 162.

Ashburton quarterly meeting resolved to hold special meetings at an early date. Page 189.

**AUCKLAND.**

It was stated that a most gracious revival had been experienced in Ponsonby during a series of special services, in the course of which over fifty persons found peace, and many enjoyed the blessing of Entire Sanctification. Among the young, especially at Kingland Sunday-school, glorious work has been carried on recently. Special services are to held at Pitt Street.

August 1, 1883. page 189.

**CHRISTCHURCH. Colombo Road.**

It was arranged to supplement the special services of Waltham by a week at Colombo Road. Page 189.

**RANGIORA. Quarterly Meeting.**

The number of members returned this quarter was 106. Special services had been held at Swannanoa, Southbrook, and Ohoka, with good results. Mrs. Scott having rendered good service at all the above mentioned places. Page 190.

**TEMUKA. Quarterly Meeting.**

Special services, held in Temuka, have been greatly blessed, some of our regular hearers being brought to decision for Christ, and there has been a quickened spiritual life manifest in many others. We were favoured with a visit from Mr. Wills, senior, of Springston, whose stirring addresses will long be remembered. Page 190.

Special services at Thames. Page 213.

**TEMUKA.**

Sunday and ordinary week-night services partook of the character of consecration meetings during the whole fortnight preceding the special services. We intended to hold them only one week, commencing July 15, but could not close until the end of the third.

Quiet and orderly, the meetings were graciously refreshing, the richest being the quietest. The success has not been among the young simply, while nearly all the young in our school and congregation have given their hearts to God, many of both sexes between the ages of twenty-five and fifty have been led to a knowledge of the truth, and are now rejoicing in God's love. At the close thirty adults expressed their desire to join the Church, and together some forty-five of us had a glorious time while covenanting with the Lord at the Table. Besides these about twenty-five youths are formed into a catechumens class. No extra effort was made to attract; we simply consecrated ourselves fully to God, and used ordinary means, and God did the work, a growing interest being manifested throughout. Being exhausted, we were obliged to close, but intend to resume the services and extend to other parts of the circuit so soon as strength will permit.

September 1, 1883. Page 214.

Article – Evangelistic Work in France. Page 223.

Description of the Auckland Circuit by Morley. Page 226.

Editorial – Promoting the Work of God. page 233. defending the present type of work, but accepting some criticisms.

Second article on early days in GORE. Page 234.

#### **ASHBURTON. Standage. (Willowby.)**

Few country churches, probably, in the colony, have more good men and true than are to be found at Willowby. These men were constrained to seek for a week of special services. Prayer meetings were arranged for the half-hour preceding the Sabbath evening services. The preacher was sustained by a sympathetic and prayerful people. The special services were well attended, believers were strengthened and sinners converted. The mission was conducted by the Rev. C. H. Standage and the local preachers. Very gracious divine influence pervaded the meetings; about forty, principally adults, have found the Saviour, and the work is still going on.

October 1, 1883. page 237.

Two Auckland S.S. style articles. Page 237.

#### **LYLLELTON.**

The Women's Weekly Prayer Union, which has been established for about twelve months, contains about 100 members. The committee held a tea-meeting in the Wesleyan school room, September 13, when about 100 were present. The after-meeting was addressed by Mesdames Whitby (president), Carter, Reed, and Webb. A reading was contributed by Mrs. Allan, and songs by Mrs. Herrston, Mrs. Fairherst, Miss Hill and Miss Allan. Mrs. Smith presided at the harmonium. Pages 237 – 8.

## **PORT CHALMERS.**

Special ecumenical services for several weeks, growing in size, and leading to the start of the Blue Ribbon Army. Page 238.

Article:- a story about how a revival came – told by “a Lady” It happened near Manchester, U.K. some years beforehand. Page 238 – 9.

Luther Festival. – November 1, 1883. page 261.

### **Grafton Road – Parnell. - Signs of Revival.**

Thank God, we have lately had special and wonderful manifestations of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. The work commenced in a Class-meeting conducted by the Rev. W. G. Parsonson. The low state of the Church was seriously considered and greatly deplored by all, present, who, at the invitation of the minister, solemnly promised to consecrate themselves entirely to the Lord. This was done, and, for several weeks, the blessings of sanctification seemed to be the sole theme of these meetings until one, and another, and then many, bore testimony to the realization of this wonderful blessing. Then it was that the Church roused itself. A spirit of enquiry became general, many prayed earnestly and long, “Create in me a clean heart, O God,” and that they obtained the blessing sought their subsequent conduct and experience was sufficient proof. Our week-night service is sometimes for testimony, sometimes as though in three months he had made about three holiness meetings, and it is a treat to be present. Mr. H... had become so miserable on account of sin, that he collected all the religious books he could find, Bibles as well, and put them into the fire-place, and, but for his wife’s intervention, would have burnt them. After this he was more miserable than ever, and felt that death would be preferable to his then experience. He applied to God by prayer, the instantly the light shone into his soul, and he seemed to know that a real load rolled off his back. Mr. B... had been a believer for fifteen years, but since he obtained the blessing, he felt as though in three months he had made about three years’ growth. This revival seems to have infused new life into every department of church work. It has supplied the Sunday school with much needed teachers; it has reached the scholars; nearly the whole school came forward to be prayed for, and, as a result, we have had for several months two catechumen classes. It has benefited the finances, and filled all the empty pews. It has, in a word, transformed a well-nigh lifeless church into a centre of deep and wide-spread spiritual activity. Page 261.

### **ASHBURTON. Quarterly Meeting.**

A marked increase of membership was shown, besides a number of converts brought in during the mission services at Willowby. They wanted a Home Missionary to help the minister. Further evangelistic work was arranged for the country districts.

Page 261.

**TEMUKA Quarterly Meeting.**

September 26. – Rev. P. Wills in the chair. The report showed a gratifying increase in the number of members during the quarter. Members, 92. 8 on trial. Catechumens 40. page 262.

**WHANGERIE. Quarterly Meeting. October 3.**

There are 19 on trial, chiefly the result of a gracious revival.

**WELLINGTON.**

Special services have been recently held in two of the churches, with excellent results. Membership – 258, 39 on trial, 51 catechumens, 107 communicants. Page 264.

**TEMUKA (as viewed by Morley, when touring in aid of the LOAN FUND.**

Temuka is a country township about twelve miles north of Timaru. There is a population of about 800, but as there are 5 churches the attendance at each is limited. Our church is a small brick building, and the parsonage, a few chains away, is a cottage of five rooms – scarcely equal to the reception of a family, but the Rev. and Mrs P. Wills are very comfortable therein. About eight miles distant, at Waitohi is a neat little church in the midst of a farming district. There is also a church at Geraldine, which had at one time a congregation equal to Temuka; at present, however, services are only held there on a week night. There are also three other preaching places, but the want of more local preachers is a drawback. This circuit, since its division from Timaru, eight or nine years since, has not been specially prosperous, and has required considerable connexional aid. The prospect now is brighter than hitherto. An effort carried out during the last year of Mr. Fee's residence removed nearly the whole of the debt. Since the Rev. P. Wills took charge, the place has been visited with showers of blessing. Over sixty persons have, during the last few months, found Christ, and the membership is now large; so that it is hoped better days are in store. I spent two days in the circuit, visiting and lecturing, and in addition to the minister's subscription at Conference, the sum of 31 pounds was guaranteed.

**RANGIORA. Quarterly Meeting. October 8.**

A small debt of 12 pounds 10s remains. Members – 115, On trial – 14, an increase of 23 since last year; six members having removed from the circuit during the year. Page 282.

Also Southbrook Sunday-school Anniversary (Rangiora). page 283.

Also Swannanoa Church Anniversary. (Rangiora) page 283 – 4. [no new news about the special meetings in either of these reports.]

## **Mrs. Scott. 1884.**

**New Zealand Wesleyan, January to June [monthly].**

**New Zealand Methodist, July to December [weekly].**

**HUTT.** During the past few months this circuit has been the scene of a gracious outpouring of the Spirit. The work commenced early in July, when the Rev. L. M. Isitt visited this circuit. During his ten days' mission God graciously blessed His people, and many were brought to Christ. In the month of September Mrs Scott, of Christchurch, was invited to conduct a mission in the circuit. For three weeks the circuit was visited, and special services conducted at every preaching place. At the end of this effort the Presbyterians of the Lower Hutt joined with us in a fourteen days' Evangelistic Mission. The week in the Presbyterian Church saw some opposition, hard work, crowded meetings, and some clear cases of conversion. During the week we had a glorious fellowship meeting, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Rodger. By this time the work was extended to all parts of the district, Presbyterians, Anglicans, Baptists, and Methodists, with quickened life, were working with a will; souls were being saved at every meeting.

The Fellowship Meeting in the Wesleyan Church will long be remembered, over 50 testimonies were given in forty minutes, including the members and converts of all the above churches. Whole families have been brought to Christ. We know of over a hundred who have decided for Christ during the past few months. The Blue Ribbon movement has not been forgotten. In the Masterton, Greytown, and Hutt circuits, not less than 400 have taken the "Blue" during Mrs Scott's visit. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, the Hutt friends presented Mrs Scott with a purse containing 14 pounds 10s, as an expression of their gratitude for the good work which has been commenced in many hearts. The Rev. S. J. Garlick, in making the presentation, referred to his seventeen years' acquaintance with Mrs Scott. Mr. Damant and the Rev. Mr Rodger supported what had been said with a few appropriate remarks, after which Mrs. Scott attempted to reply, but completely broke down, which was a signal for nearly the whole of the congregation to do the same.

9<sup>th</sup> February, 1884. page 42.

## **Mrs Hampson.**

Recently returned to New Zealand from a short visit to America, and has left again to resume her evangelistic labours in Victoria. 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1884. page 107.

## **New Plymouth Women's Prayer Union.**

This Prayer Union expressed their appreciation of Mrs J. Taylor's role in their Union, and her husband, the Rev. J. A. Taylor was being farewelled. Page 111.

## **Ashburton Quarterly Meeting.**

The Rev. C. H. Standage reported an increase of 35 members; there were 12 on trial, and 51 catechumens. The circuit stewards' budget was not so encouraging as usual; hard times and a continuity of wet Sundays decreasing the contributions very materially. and a deficiency of about 5 pounds was announced. Page 113.

**HUTT.**

The anniversary services of this church were conducted on April 6<sup>th</sup> by the Rev. P. N. Hunter, Primitive Methodist.

Mr. James Knight, at the request of the trustees, occupied the chair at the public meeting. He referred to the work which had been done in the circuit during the past year, and thought that every effort which could be put forth for the spiritual good of the district had been done, and with results which must be gratifying to all concerned. Rev. S. J. Garlick presented the report. The membership was now over 80. The fact that the membership had risen during the year from 43 to 85, with 9 on trial, spoke for itself. The Rev. Rodger (Presbyterian) spoke of the very cordial relations which existed between the two churches. It seemed to him that the Wesleyan and Presbyterian churches of the Hutt could not do without each other. During the year they had worked shoulder to shoulder, with results the most encouraging; and he doubted not that the special work they were about to undertake together would be attended with greater blessing.

1<sup>st</sup> May, 1884. page 115.

**Miss Leonard.**

Miss Leonard, a lady evangelist from America, is labouring in various circuits in New South Wales with much acceptance and success. The Advocate of May 3<sup>rd</sup> contains an open letter, more Americano, from Miss Leonard to the ministers and members of our church in the senior colony, in which she emphasizes the necessity of entire consecration and the formation of a Prayer League. Page 129.

**GORE.**

Article on new Wesleyan Mission Hall in Gore, and past history. Page 130.

**NAPIER (Hastings.)**

“Hastings has lately been the scene of a good work. The new church, which has but lately been opened, has already been consecrated by the penitent’s cry. The membership will be almost doubled this quarter, by reason of many cases of genuine conversion. Brethren, pray for us. May the work go on until a mighty revival shall result.

2<sup>nd</sup> June, 1884. page 138.

**THAMES. Grahamstown church anniversary meetings.**

American evangelists – Under the instrumentality of these servants of God, a most gracious time of spiritual revival has been experienced in this circuit during the last three months. There have been many signal conversions; from fifty to sixty members have testified to having realized by faith the power of Christ’s blood to cleanse from all sin, and to be rejoicing in the enjoyment of entire sanctification. Our Sunday services and week-night meetings are times of spiritual refreshment. To God be all the glory, and may His blessing follow the evangelists and make them successful in doing His work elsewhere.

**JULY.**

**The American Evangelists.**

Such has become a household word in the neighbourhood of Auckland, while the fame of those so designated has reached the remotest corner of our colony.

As these humble and honoured servants of God have left our shores for Norfolk Island, having “determined there to winter,” a word or two concerning them and their work may not be out of place.

Mr. and Mrs. Phelps, and Mr. and Mrs. Dorman constitute the band of workers known for about a year and a half past in New Zealand Methodism as, “The American Evangelists.”

A few years ago Mr. P. took ill on board a whaling ship, and had to be left at Norfolk Island. During his stay a gracious revival broke out, and after a short time he so far recovered as to be able to leave for America. The people who had been blessed on the island wrote repeatedly, insisting on another visit from him. After much prayer and due deliberation he was led to believe that this was a call from God. Thus persuaded, obedience was prompt. The band was formed, and their intentions made known. Arrangements were made, homes were broken up, and money to assist flowed in from sources the most unexpected. In due time they left San Francisco per mail steamer, with the “God speed you” of such men as the late Rev. J. S. Inskip ringing in their ears. On arriving in Auckland in Nov. 1882, they had an impression that they ought to stay in New Zealand for a time, and the warm welcome given them by the genial and energetic secretary of the Y.M.C.A. strengthened that conviction.

Finding the way to the Pitt-street prayer meeting, which was being held by the Rev. W. L. Salter, who was attending the District Meeting, they made themselves and the object of their mission known to him. He at once invited them to the Pukekohe circuit. The invitation was accepted, and for three months they laboured in that wide district with very marked success. Manukau was next favoured with a protracted visit from them. Here Mr. P.'s health failed, but the rest toiled incessantly for the good of souls, nor did they fail; for in every part good was done, but more especially at Woodside and Flat Bush. Grafton-road had already caught the fire from Manukau, and in due time heartily welcomed these messengers of peace. The part of this circuit most benefited was Newmarket. At Pakuranga, whither they had just gone, Mr. and Mrs. Dorman were seized with Typhoid Fever, and for three months lay at death's door, and given up by the doctors. But prayer prevailed; health and strength returned, and work was resumed. They visited, after this long and painful suspense, Ponsonby, the Thames, Te Aroha, and Mahurangi, and in each place splendid triumphs were won for Christ

The actual results of their work God only knows. The results which appear are such as to gladden every Christian heart – Drunkards made sober; inveterate smokers led to loath the unclean habit and cast away the filthy weed, determined to be no longer men “of unclean lips;” scores of conversions, scores more led into the Canaan of “perfect love,” and whole families revolutionized are among the apparent and abiding results of their work. Results that gladden the Churches and enhance the joy of angels. The lesson of this success is that purity of heart, definiteness of purpose, and fidelity of speech, even

though these should not be found in conjunction with splendid education and brilliant talent, will be largely owned by God.

Now that our friends have left us, we bespeak on their behalf the prayers of our people.

G. B.

19th July, 1884. page 3.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Port Chalmers.**

We have been “on the lookout” for some time past, and have been expecting a Divine visitation at Port Chalmers. By a way and means most unlooked for, “the Lord hath visited His people.” While we thank the outward instruments, the full volume of our gratitude is to “the Lord and Giver of life.” A ten days mission has been held here of late, Mrs. Scott, a lady evangelist from Christchurch, taking the most prominent part in the whole proceedings. During the ten days, upwards of fifty persons professed to have received “the grace of God.” Men, women and children have yielded to “the overtures of mercy,” and have obtained salvation by simple trust of the penitent heart in the atonement of Christ. Some of the cases have been very special and most marked. Our Eternal Father has been showing to us that He both can and does work in these days, in various sections of society; and that if we fulfil the conditions of spiritual success on our side, He will not be found lacking on His side. Prayer has been made of the church unto God for some time, and there have been evidences of “the Coming One’s” approach. In this “time of refreshing,” we have had abundant proof that God answers prayer. And that if we both labour and pray for a rich spiritual blessing, God will assuredly grant it. This “work of grace” is a complete answer to the boast of those who say that Christianity is effete or dying out. These folk evidently regard it as an antiquated Egyptian mummy. But, thank God, He has in His own way vindicated Himself, and refuted, by the very best of methods, such erroneous views of His own power and grace. May we not reasonably expect throughout our connexion, “showers of blessing?” Let us “expect great things from God.”

19<sup>th</sup> July, 1884. page 6.

### **WADDINGTON. (Greendale.)**

A ten days’ mission has been conducted here by the superintendent preacher, and the local brethren, with excellent results. The public prayer-meeting, each afternoon at 3 p.m., proved a good preparation for the evening services, the friends coming up “In the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.” Several sought and found the pearl of great price; and others renewed their covenant with God. The shower of grace has greatly refreshed the “Planting of the Lord.”

26<sup>th</sup> July, 1884. page 6.

### **INVERCARGILL. –**

In answer to the prayers of God’s people, our pastor, the rev. W. B. Marten, has been restored to health and strength, and is able to resume his duties. During his illness the Rev. J. N. Buttle has been supplying his place, not only as a preacher but also as a pastor, and on account of his zeal and whole heartedness in the Master’s cause, endeared himself to the hearts of the people generally and of the young people more especially.

Before leaving for his own circuit the young men of the congregation tendered a farewell tea meeting and conversation to Mr. Buttle, which proved highly successful in every respect. During the evening the Rev. Mr. Buttle took occasion to refer to his visit to Invercargill, thanking the whole congregation for its expression of feeling towards himself, and the young people for the evening's entertainment, remarking that there was sufficient power in the young people of the church to turn the whole city upside down. The conversation was interspersed with solos by Miss Barham, Mr. and Mrs. Vickery, and Mr. Hain, and recitations by Misses Fyfe and McGavock and Messrs Buttle, Strack, Rogers, and Harlow. Misses Hawkins, Snow and Beer presided at the pianoforte during the evening, to the delight of all. A very enjoyable evening's entertainment was brought to a close by singing the doxology.

26<sup>th</sup> July, 1884. page 6.

### **INVERCARGILL.**

We have just closed a ten days' mission, conducted by Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, who visited us at the unanimous request of the circuit officials. The mission commenced on Sunday evening, July 13, and was preceded by a week of special prayer. The Revs. Buttle and Marten assisted at the services. Between twenty and thirty persons came forward as enquirers, and professed to find peace through believing in Jesus. Not the least important result of these meetings has been the stirring up of the church members to fresh zeal and earnestness. We are thankful for these tokens of the Master's presence, but are looking to receive much greater things. The Rev. W. B. Marten is now sufficiently restored to health to resume his pastoral duties. He preached for the first time on the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup>, the Rev. Mr. Buttle returning to his own circuit during the week following.

9<sup>th</sup> August, 1884. page 5.

### **TIMARU.**

Special services are now being held in Timaru. 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1884. page 6.

### **GORE.**

We had a visit from Mrs. Scott (evangelist) on July 24 and 25, when she conducted services on both dates. On each evening our new hall was quite full, many having come several miles. The word spoken was with power, and the demonstration of the Spirit; and on Friday evening we had special manifestations of the Divine presence, many going into the enquiry room and being instructed in the way of life more fully, realized peace through faith in Christ. We have been greatly cheered and encouraged, and are believing for yet greater things. To God be all the praise.

9<sup>th</sup> August, 1884. page 5.

### **MILTON.**

We are thankful to Mr. White for the use of his horse for circuit work, for without this we could not possibly work one of our preaching places. Mr. Stone has been appointed as a home missionary, and we are thankful that God is blessing his labours in our midst, for souls are being converted, and members are pressing on for full salvation. We praise God for the droppings of the shower, for we are in full expectation of the full

rain. Two class meetings have been commenced at cottages in different parts of the town, and are being well attended. Mrs. Scott is announced to be here, when a week of special services will be held, and we pray that God's presence will be seen and felt in our meetings.

16<sup>th</sup> August, 1884. page 5.

## EDITORIAL

### METHODIST EVANGELISM.

The letter of a correspondent in another column lifts into fresh prominence the important question – *Is Methodism in this colony making the most of its resources and opportunities for evangelistic aggression?*

We are very properly reminded that Methodism owes its origin, under God, to an evangelical revival, and it can only be regarded as being in a healthy and satisfactory condition when the spirit that gave it birth animates vigorously the whole circle of its movements. SAMMY Hick's rejoinder to those who were inclined to reprove him for the warmth of his zeal was, "I was born in the fire, and I cannot live in the smoke." And so Methodism, springing into being by the baptism of the Holy Ghost, must ever retain, as its most striking characteristic, the brightness of the Pentecostal flame. Time-honoured pedigree it has none; the powerful sanctions of political and ecclesiastical authority it knows nothing of; the prestige of illustrious names and the momentum furnished by heroic deeds fall not to its share. If not mighty in spiritual achievements, Methodism is mighty nowhere; if not vigorously aggressive in seeking and saving the lost, it forfeits its last claim to distinction and renown.

There never has been a time, fortunately, when on any wide scale the spiritual obligations of our birthright have been forgotten. The yearly numbering of the people, objectionable as it is in the eyes of some, has at least had this salutary effect – it has provoked, periodically, the enquiry, "How far, by the ingathering of souls, are we answering the end for which, as a Church, we exist?"

If, as has sometimes been the case, the record of the year shows an actual loss of membership, the entire church has gone down upon its knees, saddened and humiliated under the reproach of failure, and pleading for the "baptism of fire" by which the reproach may be rolled away. And if, as had been the case throughout, with rare exceptions, the yearly summing up shows an increase of membership, a jubilant outburst of thanksgiving has been the church's acknowledgement of the power and mercy of God. Whether by increase or decrease, we have had the fact kept sharply before us – *that Methodism lives only as it grows*; that it flourishes, in the true sense of the word, not in proportion to the number of its churches, or ministers, or its gains in wealth and worldly distinction, *but to the extent to which, from the wide field of humanity, it gathers fresh trophies of the saving power of Christ.*

Is there any sign that we are forgetting this fact in New Zealand? We do not think there is. Our correspondent calls up the inspiring recollections of revivals in the Old Country, and in so doing he carries with him our warmest sympathies. What Methodism is there, with any experience whatever of religious life and work in the Fatherland, who has not precious memories of a similar kind? How, as we muse on past years, scene after scene rises before us ringing with the music of spiritual triumph, and bright with the splendour of the manifested power of God? We hear again the cries of

scores of weeping penitents; we listen again to the shouts of hundreds of the newly-converted; and we behold once more whole districts swept and shaken by the force of a glorious revival. While we are musing the fire burns, and at last, speaking with our tongue, we exclaim –

“Haste again ye days of grace!”

But we must be careful not to construe the absence of scenes of revival of the kind referred to as being in itself a sign of indifference on the part of our colonial Methodism to the work of evangelism. It would not be difficult to show that owing to the mixed character of colonial society, and the peculiar conditions of colonial life, a revival of the type known as Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, or Cornish is simply an impossibility. Just as the waves of the Atlantic Ocean rolling from the far West with terrific force against the granite formation of the Cornish coast create the unrivalled grandeur of cliff scenery for which Cornwall is famous; so the tides of the Spirit, sweeping like a flood upon the strongly marked emotional temperament of the Cornish people, create a type of religious revival that can never be reproduced where such mental and moral characteristics are unknown.

Notwithstanding the lack of revivals of the demonstrative type and on the large scale to which many of us have been accustomed in the Old Country, Methodism in this colony, as elsewhere, has declared emphatically that its chief concern is the salvation of sinners. It has not forgotten the need of a cultured ministry; it has not overlooked the importance of chaste and becoming appointments for public worship; it has not been unmindful of the claims of social and philanthropic movements. But pulsating vigorously through every part of the body ecclesiastic has been the holy ambition to bring back the lost and perishing to the Saviour of the world.

We are so far, however, from admitting that all is done in this direction that should be done, that we are prepared to endorse most cordially the suggestion made by our correspondent for increased evangelistic efforts. Now, as in apostolic days, God gives “some evangelists and some pastors and teachers;” and we believe that it is to our serious loss and disadvantage that this distinction of gifts among men set apart for the ministry, is not more practically recognized. It is true that every man who has special aptitude for winning souls will find ample scope for his powers wherever he may be placed; we believe, however, that a rigid adherence to our circuit system is not the best method of utilizing the peculiar gifts of an evangelist. We want to follow the plan so successfully adopted in England, and the sister colony of Victoria, of giving to the evangelist a sphere suitable to his special gifts. We have men among us admirably adapted for the purpose, who only require a roving commission to add immensely to their power of usefulness. With their quenchless zeal and their gift of winning and persuasive speech, let them be empowered to enter every door that gives promise of a favourable opening; and, commanding everywhere the sympathy of their brethren and working in harmony with the principles and institutions of the Church, their labours would be crowned with the most glorious results.

We are convinced further of the desirability of having in every large centre of population a special evangelistic agency. Not only are there ministers specially adapted for such work; there are many of our people who, in connection with such an agency, would find a most congenial sphere of usefulness. At present they are either suffering from spiritual *ennui*, or [they are] transferring their sympathy and zeal to the Salvation

Army. With every inclination to recognize the good done by “the Army”, we see no reason at all why Methodist itself should not furnish ample opportunities for utilizing the soul-saving resources of its members. Right in the thick of the sins and sorrows of our large cities and towns let the Church plant its evangelistic agencies, and they will furnish a rallying point for bands of zealous Christian workers, and a centre from which the light of the Gospel shall radiate to those who are sitting in the region of the shadow of death. “Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth, shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1884. page 4.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Lyttelton.**

To the glory of God, and for the encouragement of our fellow-labourers, we place on record an account of a recent work of grace in this circuit. The encouragement may be all the greater perhaps, because no extraordinary means have been employed, and the work throughout has been marked only by quiet power.

A sermon to seamen some two months ago sent a young man back to his ship with a heart burdened with a sense of sin. A week or so later, while humming to himself by the wayside, “I can believe, I do believe,” the burden rolled away, and he felt, as he put it, “like jumping over the nearest fence.” The Sunday evening followed, a shipmate and companion was heard crying, as he knelt at the communion-rail, “Lord, save me like you saved my friend Best!” and soon Jim’s face was radiant with the happiness of the saved. Then on the wettest Sunday night of the season, when a prayer-meeting seemed the last thing that should be held, we held one, when we had the joy of seeing two others give their hearts to God. A week of special prayer prepared us for a week of special evangelistic services, during which night after night we rejoiced over the conversion of sinners. We have been assisted in the services by the Revs Taylor, Ward, Wilson, and Isitt, whose clear and forcible appeals under God led many to decision. The choir entered heartily into the work, and aided much in the service of song. We had a touching recognition service on Tuesday of last week. Our sailor converts, of whom there were several, were leaving port, and we wanted to give them a hearty shake of the hand, and a “God bless you” before they left. And so the converts were gathered together, and rejoiced over afresh, and kindly counseled, and then commended by the whole church to the tender keeping of Him “Who is able to save unto the uttermost.” Twenty conversions may not seem many to make a fuss about, but the good work is still going on, and we desire nothing so much for our people everywhere as the signs of blessing with which God is favouring us in Lyttelton.

### **WARKWORTH.**

The good work here is acquiring solidity, and souls are becoming established in the faith. From Port Albert we have good news. Mr. Gittos stopped last Thursday night at the house of a settler in the Dome Valley. He said a person called on him, saying, “The people at Port Albert are going out of their minds.” “What, have they ill-treated you?” “No,” he replied, “they have used me well enough.” “What then?” “O, they are so

strangely altered. Why, there's one family for instance, that does nothing but sing and pray." "Indeed!" "And they are so strangely altered, some of them, in their looks. There's one woman with a hard-featured face who seems quite different in appearance, and I said to her, 'Why, your face is altered; you don't look the same'. She replied, 'No wonder, for my heart is altered. It is full of the love of God.'" Mr. Gittos determined to go over and see for himself how matters stood. Going in the evening before the services commenced, he got seated in a corner for quiet observation. But no sooner had he done so than he began to feel the peculiar presence of the Holy Spirit, and that the place was full of the power of God. So full of blessing did he become that in the night following he was compelled to rise from his bed to praise God. Alleluia! J. S. H.

23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1884. page 5. (both articles.)

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Te Awamutu.**

God has been blessing us in this portion of His vineyard. The Church has been quickened into newness of life, a large proportion of the members having tasted the sweetness of the "perfect love that casteth out fear." Our prayer-meetings have become rich seasons of spiritual blessing; the attendance at the Sabbath services has largely increased; and last, but not least, several have been awakened and savingly converted. There is very indication that the good work is by no means done, but that God will bless us yet more and more.

30<sup>th</sup> August, 1884. page 5.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Waitara.**

For some considerable time we have been unitedly praying, believing, and working for the revival of God's work in our circuit. At the very beginning of the effort our own hearts were made glad by a richer baptism of the Holy Spirit, and a deeper interest in the welfare of souls and in the work of God was the result.

For twelve months we worked and hoped and prayed, apparently in vain, but just when our energies seemed ready to flag, the long-looked for blessing came, in such fullness as to fill every heart with joy. The blessing came in this way:- About four months ago special services were inaugurated at Waitara, and carried on every night for a fortnight, by three or four of our own ministers in the district, and rev. gentlemen of other denominations. Local brethren from other circuits also came to our help, and the glorious result of the whole (begun in so much weakness) has been that more than thirty profess to have found the Saviour.

Cheered and encouraged by our success at Waitara, similar services were arranged for in the next moonlight at Huirangi (one of our country places), where we are thankful to say that equally gratifying results ensued. At this little place, where our services as yet are held in the district school, some twelve or fifteen decided for Christ.

Fearing lest they should miss the blessing so richly bestowed upon other places, the friends at Lepperton (another of our country places) were most anxious to have a series of special services. Accordingly, in the next moonlight, arrangements were made to hold a fortnight's services there also, the friends themselves setting apart a week previous for special prayer for the blessing of God on the effort about to be made. From

night to night large congregations assembled in spite of bad weather and dirty roads, and the prayers of God's people were answered, by many being brought to a saving knowledge of the truth. At a fellowship meeting held the following week, over thirty announced themselves as having found peace through believing.

The friends at Inglewood (yet another of our country places) determined not to wait for any outside help, but to do all they could themselves, and though they were not gratified at seeing so many brought in there as in other places, several backsliders were reclaimed, and God's people brought nearer to Himself.

Since the completion of our special work, and as a result of it, cottage prayer-meetings have been started in various parts of the circuit, and also several new society classes, all of which are well attended and much appreciated.

To God be all the glory; may He do for others what He has done for us.

13<sup>th</sup> September, 1884. page 5.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Hamilton.**

There has been for some time a deep spiritual feeling in our meetings and services. On Sunday evening, Sept. 6, the Rev. Ralph Brown preached a very effective sermon: there was great power in the word preached. At the conclusion of the service a prayer-meeting was held, and many stayed behind convinced of *sin*; our hearts rejoiced when five came forward to seek salvation. *Praise God* they not only sought salvation but found it. We have been praying for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit for some time, and our hearts rejoice to see the droppings of a shower; we are praying that the work begun may still increase, and that many souls may be brought fully to decide for God.

### **Ngaruawahia.**

There has been a good work going on for some time; several have decided for Christ. The prayer-meetings are well attended, and made a great blessing to many; we believe that we are on the verge of a revival there. Our prayer is that the work begun may increase, and that many more may be brought to a decision for Christ.

27<sup>th</sup> September, 1884. page 6. (The page is mis-dated 20<sup>th</sup>)

### **JOYFUL NEWS. WELLINGTON. Primitive Methodists.**

Special services have been held at Webb-street (Wellington Circuit) during the quarter, which continued with increasing interest for upwards of two months, the results of which have been very encouraging. While opening the meeting one night with the hymn, "Who'll be the next to follow Jesus," one man came forward *at once* to the penitent form, and said, "I will," and kneeling by our side he earnestly sought and obtained pardon, and is now unspeakably happy. A few nights prior to his attending our service he was picked up off the street "drunk." Now he has signed the pledge and donned the blue ribbon, and by God's help he means to keep it. On another occasion, at Newtown, we had the pleasure of seeing, amongst others, husband and wife together at the penitent form; the husband had not attended a place of worship for years. As soon as

he entered the church the Spirit powerfully worked upon his mind, and during the service he was completely broken down and sobbed bitterly. In the prayer-meeting his agony was intense, but as soon as the light dawned upon his mind he sprang to his feet and gave vent to his feelings in true Cornish style. "What will my dear mother say now?" he exclaimed, "her prayers are answered at last." His mother, who is a Bible Christian in England, has for many long years been praying for her son's salvation; he has now sent the glad tidings home to comfort her in her old age. He is a fine young man in every respect, and gives promise of becoming a splendid worker in the church and school. At Tawa Flat also, we have had a gracious outpouring of God's Spirit. A mission has been conducted there by Mrs. J. L. Wright, assisted by Mr. Smith and others. We have just erected a new church there at a cost of 280 pounds, and towards that sum 230 pounds have already been raised. This new church has become the birth-place of very many precious souls; night after night saw penitents coming forward for pardon during the mission services, and our respected circuit steward, who resides there, says that they have not had such services for years. Our congregations are increasing at each place in the circuit. At our quarterly meeting it was found that upwards of 70 pounds had been raised for circuit purposes alone without any special efforts, which enabled us to pay our minister in full, and pay 8 pounds towards old deficiency. The business of the quarterly meeting was conducted in a most harmonious manner, and when it was reported that we had an increase of sixty-six members for the past two quarters, after making up for removals, etc., we went down upon our knees and gave thanks to God in praise and prayer. We have lost one good worker by death during the quarter, viz., Bro. Yalden, but our loss is his gain. "I'm in the river," he shouted, just before he died, and when passing away earnestly prayed for the conversion of all of his children. Our friends, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, have also been called to pass through a very severe trial, their adopted daughter, Maggie, aged five and a half years, suddenly took ill and died. She was a bright, intelligent child, far in advance of her age, and was a general favourite with all.

There is now –

"Another little angel  
Amid the hosts above,  
Another little voice  
Singing God is love."

The Sunday school children, with a large number of friends, attended the funeral, and much sympathy is still felt for the bereaved ones. It is a terrible blow, but God is helping them to bear it with Christian fortitude. We have commenced a new quarter with bright hopes. Our trust is in God. With Him strengthening us we can do all things.

Charles M. Luke.

5<sup>th</sup> October, 1884. page 5.

### **CIRCUIT NEWS. TEMUKA.**

A most successful mission (evangelistic) is now being carried on in this district by Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, and Mr. Rothwell, the newly-appointed minister. The meetings have been well attended, and God's presence has been especially manifested in the conversion and sanctification of many precious souls. The meetings have been specially addressed by Mrs. Scott, who is a powerful speaker, and whose words are full

of fire and love and have proved the power of God unto salvation to very many precious souls. A striking feature in these meetings has been the members in connection with other Churches who have been savingly converted to God. Temuka was never so stirred by the Spirit of God, and the interest is still increasing. The meetings will be continued another week, when we are expecting greater things. To God be all the glory. Seventy souls have been led to Jesus; about thirty of these came for fresh consecration and cleansing from all sin. Among those saved are a number of Sunday-school children, as well as a number of adherents of other Churches. Our early Sunday morning prayer meetings are well attended, and most of the new converts engage in prayer. Give God the glory. Mr. Rothwell is a very earnest servant of God, and the result of his first work in Temuka augurs well for his future as a minister. May God bless him. Brethren, pray for us. Mrs Scott's work will be long remembered by the many who have been led to Jesus through her instrumentality.

8<sup>th</sup> November, 1884. page 7.

**Dunedin** – Cargill Road Church. J.S. Smalley, minister.

The committee of Mrs. Scott's mission had received and spent 16 pounds.  
29<sup>th</sup> November, 1884. page 7.

#### **TEMUKA.**

We desire to thank God for the blessings we have received in this circuit. Truly it may be said of our dear brother who has been called home, "He, being dead yet speaketh." "He rests from his labours and his works do follow him." (James Buller)

During the last three weeks we have seen over a hundred penitents bowing before God. Many of these had been serving the Lord for a number of years, but in response to earnest appeals which were made to them to seek "perfect holiness," they came and proved God faithful to His promises, and many are now able to testify to perfect cleansing. A good number of our Sunday-school children have been blessed with a knowledge of pardon and acceptance. "May God keep the lambs" is our earnest prayer. The blessing has not been confined to us; many members of other churches have been saved. Mrs. Scott will long be affectionately remembered here. For the blessings which we have received, and those we are about to receive, we give all glory to God.

29<sup>th</sup> November, 1884. page 8.

## **Mrs Scott. 1885.**

### **The Conversation on the State of the Work of God.**

The evening session of Friday, Jan. 30, was held in Trinity Church [Dunedin], and was devoted to a conversation on the state of the work of God. Coming at the fag end of the Conference, and at the close of a long and wearying day, this important part of Conference business suffered inevitably alike in the numbers present and the enthusiasm shown. It spoke well for the interest of the facts presented that such a meeting was held together for two hours to the enjoyment and profit of all present. After devotional exercises the President briefly introduced the business of the session, and called upon the Secretary to make a statement based upon the General Returns.

The Secretary gave a resume of the facts presented in the printed slips in the hands of the members of the Conference. They had cause for congratulations in the substantial increase reported under the various heads. It would be seen that there had been a total increase of 720 members, with 578 on trial. There were 157 additional communicants this year: also 622 scholars and 89 teachers. There had been an increase in membership in every district in the colony excepting Wanganui; in that district there was reported a decrease of 4. The largest increase was in Auckland District, which reported 210 new members, with 170 on trial.

As that was the District with which he, the Secretary, was most familiar, he could dwell more particularly on the gracious work with which they had there been favoured. He believed that their success in the north was owing, in large measure, to the fact, that so many of their members had been led to seek the blessing of holiness. He was bound in this connection to acknowledge their indebtedness to the labours of the American Evangelists. The work of these unpretending witnesses for Christ had left traces of blessing that entitled them to be held in grateful remembrance. In his own circuit, at the Thames, they had been favoured with a year of very marked prosperity. His people had been pressing forward to full salvation, and the result had been most blessedly felt in all departments of their work. He had never had so much of happiness in his ministry as during the last year or two, they had abundant reason to thank God and take courage.

The President called attention to the fact that there was one circuit in which a serious decrease was reported. He referred to the Wanganui circuit, which returned 56 members this year as compared with 105 last year.

The Rev. W. Lee, Chairman of the Wanganui District, explained that the apparent decrease was to be accounted for mainly by the fact that the present minister of Wanganui adopted a different method of registration from that adopted by at least two of his predecessors. He believed that the circuit was in as good a state as it was a year ago; the discrepancy was in the main but an illustration of the various opinions held among them as to who ought to be recognized as Church Members.

Speaking of the District generally, they had, in the midst of very heavy commercial depression, a great deal to encourage them in the spiritual work of the Church. In the Waitara circuit, especially, they had been favoured with one of the most remarkable revivals he had ever seen in the colony. The flame of revival had passed

from place to place throughout the circuit with most astonishing results, and great numbers had been added to the Lord.

Mr. L.E. Buchanan was glad to find himself in a Conference session in which a layman could speak freely concerning the work which was dear to the hearts of all present. In the Ashburton circuit, in which he resided, they had been favoured with a great deal of encouragement during the year. He was particularly thankful for a revived interest in the study of God's Word. They had a large class, consisting mainly of young persons, and forming a kind of Mutual Improvement Society. They had chosen, however, a very long name, viz. – The Ashburton Wesleyan Methodist Scripture Instruction Society. Every alternate meeting was devoted to a free study of some portion of Scripture. There was an entire absence of formality in the proceedings, but the interest had been admirably sustained, and he believed the profit would be large and lasting.

The Rev. W.B. Marten said the increase of 58 reported in Invercargill was due, in large measure, to a revision of the roll of Church membership. They had, however, been favoured with showers of blessing in his circuit, and several had been brought to Christ. One of the most pleasing features of his circuit was the large class of young men, conducted by Mr. J.J. Wesley. There were something like ninety members on the roll, with a very large average attendance. These young men were taught to work, and the result was as soon as a stranger appeared in the place he was kindly looked after, and invited to join the Church. It was to him a great encouragement to be sustained in his ministerial labours by such an efficient and willing band of workers.

The Rev. W. Keall thought that one of their most pressing needs as a Church was a supply of efficient class leaders. The want of such help was a difficulty that was specially felt in a wide country circuit like Leeston, the circuit in which he had laboured for the last three years. Still they had been cheered with tokens of God's blessing. Some special services held during the year had been very manifestly owned of God.

Mr. James Wood, of St. Albans, had visited the Ashburton circuit during the year, and had been specially struck with a work of grace that had taken place at Willowby. There was a thoroughness about that work which was delightful to witness. The entire neighbourhood had been affected by it, and the character of the congregation was such that on one occasion someone was heard expressing a regret that there seemed to be nobody left to be converted. He did not know how much this delightful state of things was owing to the interesting fact that there was not a Methodist home in Willowby which did not take in the *New Zealand Methodist*.

The Rev. J.S. Rishworth said that in the midst of unprecedented commercial depression in Oamaru their work in the Church had been crowned with a large measure of Divine blessing. He had been very much cheered with the sympathy that had been shown him by his people during the time of affliction and bereavement. As a circuit they had been brought into great financial difficulties, but he had never known a people that worked so heartily and unitedly for the prosperity of the cause of God.

The Rev. W.J. Williams made grateful allusion to the times of blessing that had been experienced at Lyttelton. He had been particularly interested in the work among the sailors, several of whom had given their hearts to God. He had been anxious to know how these converted sailors would stand the test of life on ship-board when cut off from the means of grace. He had the opportunity of witnessing the result in the case of two sailors who, after their conversion, made a voyage to South Africa, and returning to

Lyttelton. He had been delighted beyond measure to find that the first place that they sought immediately on coming ashore was the class-meeting, where they gladdened all hearts by telling how God had protected them amid the perils to which they were exposed. A fact of this kind encouraged him all the more to “cast bread upon the waters,” being assured that it would be found again after many days.

The Rev. J.A. Luxford said that the increase in the Kaiapoi circuit was almost entirely due to the wise and faithful labours of his predecessor, the Rev. J.H. Simmonds. During the latter part of his stay in the Kaiapoi circuit Mr. Simmonds had the joy of reaping, in some measure the results of his previous toil. One of the features of the Kaiapoi circuit was a large Bible class that had been started by the late Rev. J. Armitage. The interest had been sustained until the present time, and it was one of the most effective methods of church work that he was acquainted with.

The Rev. A. Reid referred to certain aspects of their Church work in Auckland. He had been gratified during the year with the number of young people who had voluntarily sought admission into the Church. That, to his mind, was a pleasing proof of the excellence of the training they had received, both at home and in the Sunday-school. There had been a great deal that was exciting in their surroundings in Auckland: in the midst of it all he was pleased to think that their church was in a steadily prosperous condition.

The Rev. W. Morley said that to himself the year had been one of unusual pleasure and profit. He had been drawn to a closer study of God’s Word with a view to his personal enrichment in the things of God. He desired to express publicly his indebtedness to a letter he had received from the Secretary of the Conference, written at the time when a special wave of blessing was sweeping over the Thames circuit. In his own circuit at St. Albans they had some very encouraging records. At the Crescent-road Church especially some glorious scenes had been witnessed. He desired to add his testimony to all that had been said about the importance of securing good class leaders. He thought it was sometimes an advantage to have young persons as leaders. One of the largest classes in his circuit was in charge of a young man about twenty-two years of age, and nothing could exceed the interest or the profit of the meetings of that class. In another case he had been gratified to see all the members of a junior class come forward of their own accord on the first Sunday of the year to receive the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.

The President, in summing up the results of the conversation, emphasized the importance of looking out class leaders, and, if need be, young class leaders. He thought, too, that some things that had been said suggested the importance of having kept in every circuit a correct roll of church members. He was glad in every way that so much attention had been called to the subject of holiness, as he was more than ever persuaded that that was the true secret of their power as a Church. At a time when there was so much error and fanaticism abroad in connection with this subject, it was more than ever incumbent upon them to be diligent in the spread of Scriptural holiness throughout the land. He had a special request to make to his brethren in the ministry, and that was that they would engage to pray for the whole ministerial brotherhood by name throughout the year. They all prayed for each other in a general way: he was anxious that there should be particular prayer for each minister with a remembrance of his special need.

Referring to the evangelistic work for the year, he said that they were very much indebted, particularly in Otago, to the devoted labours of Mrs. Scott. Her work in many places had been richly owned of God. He hoped that there would be the utmost sympathy between ministers and people in the work of the coming year, for, in reality, they stood or fell, succeeded or failed together. To his brethren in the ministry he ventured to commend the time-honoured injunction of their founder, "You have nothing to do but to save souls."

The Secretary read the general report on Sunday-schools, prepared by the Rev. G. Bond. Thanks were given to Mr. Bond for his valuable report and he was re-appointed.

The Rev. A. Reid submitted a resolution on Bible reading in the home supplementary to the resolution adopted by the Conference on the Bible in schools. After Mr. Reid, with characteristic clearness and vigour, had called attention to the importance of a recognition of God's Word in the family, the resolution was heartily adopted by the Conference.

This interesting session of Conference was then brought to a close.

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1885. pages 3 and 4.

### **CONNEXIONAL EVANGELIST.**

To the Editor of the New Zealand Methodist.

Sir, - Now that the Conference is over, we have time to consider more calmly the subjects that were before us in our recent gathering in Dunedin. The announcement that the appointment of a connexional evangelist had been postponed for another year will be received with a very large amount of regret throughout the colony. This will be intensified by the fact that the motion for postponement was carried in the Ministerial Conference by a majority of only one vote. The proposal was warmly supported by the lay representatives in the Mixed Conference, and it must have been somewhat chilling to them to see the matter, which had been so long under discussion, quietly shelved in this way. The rock on which the proposal was wrecked was the question, "Whom shall we send?" In view of the discussion which took place in the Conference, one may well ask, is it probable we shall ever get a man who is likely to be cordially received in every town and village throughout the Connexion? Or is it likely that we shall get a man who is in such perfect accord with every brother in the ministry, and every official in the circuits as shall ensure that united and harmonious effort which is requisite to success?

The answer to both of these questions will undoubtedly be negative. If we wait until we have a man who will fulfill every ideal qualification, no appointment in this direction will ever be made. To overcome this difficulty, I would suggest the appointment be an annual one. Let the agent work in as many circuits as he would be able to visit during his year. It would be impossible to reach all within a year. If there remained sufficient scope to warrant his re-appointment, then such a step might be taken. If not, let a fresh appointment be made. A change of agent would open the door into circuits which were not prepared to receive those previously holding the office. In this matter we must not work strictly according to mechanical arrangements ordained by the proposed Central Committee. There is no need to intrude the services of the evangelist

on a circuit not desirous of such help. In fact the “let alone” policy might work very effectively in arousing some to knowledge of spiritual need.

Nor would it be fair to keep one man incessantly at this work, unless he showed special adaptation and fitness for it, and made a special request for a “roving commission.” Besides spiritual and mental qualifications, it will require a very Hercules to stand the physical strain. We have no right to kill our men with overwork before their course is half run. I regret this view of the matter did not come out in Conference. I believe it would have turned the majority in favour of postponement into a minority, and the proposed appointment would have been made. I trust, however, that the matter will not be lost sight of, but that next Conference will see the step taken for which our churches have been calling so long.

I am, &c., J. Newman Buttle.

February, 21<sup>st</sup>, 1885. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Oxford. Good News.**

God has been pouring His Spirit out on this circuit during the last three or four weeks, even until some have said, “It was never so seen in Oxford before.”

Mr. Parker, from Auckland, a representative to the District Meeting held in Christchurch in January last, while down, spent a week with us, during which time, and by whose labours, this good work commenced, which still continues, many have been brought to a knowledge of the truth as “it is in Jesus.” Some who but seldom entered a house of prayer have been induced to attend; even one or two Roman Catholics have been found with us, and have been rewarded by finding the Living Christ. Crowds have been attracted to the services. The faces of those who have just passed from death unto life have been made radiant with heavenly love, while the young converts have thrown themselves into work with great earnestness. Our churches on Sundays have been filled to overflowing, our love has been quickened, and our souls refreshed To God be all the glory.

7<sup>th</sup> March, 1885. page 7.

### **Editorial. The Coming Campaign. (in part.)**

It will be a wholesome thing to the members of any church to announce that it is decided to make a strong effort during the coming season in the direction of saving the lost. If the members have any spiritual life in them at all, a public committal to such a holy enterprise will bring them to their knees in earnest prayer, and stir them up to unwonted effort. It will be well to get the mind and heart of the Church thoroughly saturated with the idea of a revival before direct action is taken. Much precious effort is sometimes thrown away because the Church has attempted to move forward without being fully prepared.

21<sup>st</sup> March, 1885. page 6.

Burnett articles also starting to appear.

Burnett at Invercargill for Temperance Crusade.

Special evangelistic meetings are also to be arranged. April 18<sup>th</sup>. Page 7.

Burnett again. April 25<sup>th</sup> page 4.

**DUNEDIN Trinity Church Quarterly Meeting.**

A retrospect of the work done in Dunedin during the past three years called forth a feeling of thankfulness that in so short a period God had so blessed His work here that the circuit had grown during that period from 82 members to 332. Farewell to Rev. Joseph Berry after three years.

25<sup>th</sup> April, 1885. page 7.

**Sermon** by Dr. Talmage – “Mighty Awakening.” The great need of the Church at present. 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 1885. page 5.

**Editorial. A Temperance Revival.**

Refers to the visits of Matthew Burnett. Glover, R.T. Booth, and Mrs Leavitt. 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 1885. page 6.

**Rev. Edward Smith’s address** on “Special Evangelistic Services.” Reprinted from the *Wesleyan Methodist Magazine*. 9<sup>th</sup> May, 1885. page 4.

**Editorial Article** on “Preparations for Revival.” Page 6.

**DISTRICT MINISTERS’ MEETING.** (included ministers, circuit officials, and Sunday school workers,) from Christchurch circuits, and from Lyttelton, Kaiapoi and Rangiora circuits, to consider a proposal for special evangelistic services. The meeting was held in the vestry at Durham Street on the evening of April 30. Rev. George Bond offered proposals which had previously been offered at a recent local preachers’ meeting. A committee was formed to forward this plan.

“As opportune to the discussion, the meeting was cheered by the news brought by the Rev. W. Rowse that a revival had already commenced in his circuit at Southbrook, under the labours of Mrs. Scott, and that souls were being saved every night. Most timely and effective too were the words of Mr. Rutland, sen., who urged the necessity of straightforwardness and uprightness on the part of those who entered upon such work, so that the cause of religion might not suffer reproach. The relative merits of the penitent form and enquiry room came in for some attention; it was felt that in such a matter the person conducting the service must act as he thought best.” 9<sup>th</sup> May, 1885. page 7.

Issue for May 23 missing.

Article on “Special Services.” 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1885. page 7. – The fact that they are needed is clear from the fact that they are adopted by all denominations in one form or another.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Amberley and Leithfield.**

Mrs. Scott arrived at Amberley on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, and commenced her mission the following day with a prayer meeting at ten o’clock. There were good congregations at each service, especially in the evening, when the church was crowded. At the prayer meeting that followed, there were several seeking Christ. On Monday night, God’s people consecrated themselves in a body to the Lord; it was a most pleasing

sight – husbands and wives kneeling together and giving themselves more fully to the Lord. During the week several came forward seeking mercy.

The following Sunday, Mrs. Scott went to Leithfield, and conducted services to large congregations. She continued her mission there until Wednesday night, the interest keeping up through all the services. Many came forward seeking Christ, and rose rejoicing in the knowledge of pardon. It was a most pleasing sight to see parents and children kneeling at the throne of grace seeking mercy. One old man nearly seventy years of age found Christ; in another case, husband and wife were saved. Every one admitted that they had never seen such a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord before in Leithfield.

On Thursday evening, May 28<sup>th</sup>, we held a fellowship meeting at Amberley, when several spoke, bearing testimony to the good that they had received during the mission.

On Friday evening we held a temperance meeting at Amberley, when twenty signed the pledge and about fifty donned the blue.

On Saturday, several friends went to the station to see Mrs. Scott of by the mid-day train, praising God for the success that has attended her mission here, and praying that God would bless her wherever she may go to labour for Him.

6<sup>th</sup> June, 1885. page 7.

Rev. Peter MacKenzie 13<sup>th</sup> June, page 3.

**GORE.** – a social meeting, and to be used to spread circuit information and needs,

“Although the district was large and scattered, there was much to encourage one. He hoped soon to see an ingathering of souls. 13<sup>th</sup> June, page 7.

C.T. Studd in Edinburgh.

### **UNITED EVANGELISTIC SERVICES.**

The Free Methodists and Bible Christians at Addington have just held a fortnight's united evangelistic services. The meetings, which were held alternately in the two churches, were well attended. The interest increased evening by evening up to the last. We cannot report many conversions at the meetings, but the churches were greatly quickened, the seed was sown, and the fruit has appeared since the meetings closed.. Thos who attended the services will long retain a vivid recollection of the gracious influence which pervaded them. God appeared, as many of the members thought to show His approval of the union, by a specially rich baptism of the Holy Ghost.

We could not continue the meetings at present, but we hope to make a fresh start next month. The union of two Methodist churches for such a purpose is a happy event, and we trust a hopeful sign. We should be glad to hear of similar united efforts being made all over the colony. 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1885. page 7.

Preparations for special services at Grafton Road, linked to the opening of a new church. Also events at Ashburton. 4<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Mauku, in the Franklin Circuit.**

A remarkable revival of the work of God has been witnessed during the past weeks at Mauku, in the Franklin Circuit. For several months past a prayer-meeting has been held every Monday evening, going from house to house to meet the requirements of the people. The meetings have not been confined to the Methodists, but persons of different denominations have freely taken part in them, and all are now enjoying the fruits of a blessed harvest, the Presbyterians having a very large share of the blessing. The unity of effort, of sentiment, and of reward is very marked and gratifying. The meetings went on, increasing in interest, size, and power, giving evidence that God was at work among the people. At length some of the leaders thought it time to ask those who wished to be saved to indicate their desire, and there was an immediate response. Just at this juncture Mr. Phelps, the American evangelist, came upon the scene, and was persuaded to stay and help to gather in what appeared to be a rich harvest. Meetings were then held every evening, mostly in the house of the people. The result has been a large ingathering to the fold of Christ, from among both old and young, especially the latter.

Some striking cases of conversion have occurred of persons who had ever been ready to oppose all such work. Not only have sinners been converted, and backsliders reclaimed, but many believers have claimed through Christ, the blessing of full salvation, and are now rejoicing "with joy unspeakable and full of glory." Neither has this been confined to the Methodists. A few Episcopalians, and a great many Presbyterians are walking in this light of the Lord, and testifying to all the power of Christ to save them to the uttermost, "God having put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith."

There are also several who declare most emphatically that, with the spiritual blessing, there has also been received a restoration of physical health; and some of these give practical evidence of it, inasmuch as though they were previously invalids, they are now able to walk to the meetings and tell what God has done for both body and soul.

One feature of these meetings which is worthy of notice, illustrating what may be done in country districts. Until the meetings began to be held nightly they were carried on by local effort only. The people being in earnest did not wait till a minister or an evangelist should come to lead their meetings, but went on with the work, persons of both sexes speaking and praying as well as singing. When the harvest was ripe they were glad of help from the circuit minister, the evangelist, and anyone else that could come to help to gather in the precious fruit. "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts." The converts are being instructed in the way of the Lord, and are being encouraged to take their part in the meetings, with a view to developing their spiritual strength and courage.

Already there are indications of the work spreading to other parts of the circuit, and we hope to have more "joyful news" in the course of a few weeks. To God be the glory.

4<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 7.

### **LYTTELTON.**

A general conversation took place on the spiritual work of the church; and while regret was expressed that the special services had not been more successful, it was

resolved still to cherish the expectation of “showers of blessing.” The meeting closed with prayer at an early hour. 11<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 7.

**GORE.** A mission, attended by great blessing, is now being conducted by Mrs. Scott. Souls are being led to the Saviour every night. To God be the glory 11<sup>th</sup> July, page 7.

**JOYFUL NEWS** - Large Temperance demonstration in South Dunedin. J.S. Smalley and Miss Hull, of Christchurch. 11<sup>th</sup> July, page 7.

**EDITORIAL** – FRANCE – a Godless Nation. 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 6.

**GREYTOWN** Quarterly Meeting – Rev. J. Ward presiding.

The spiritual state of the circuit was considered. The chairman reported that there were encouraging indications in all parts of the circuit, and recently five conversions had taken place after a usual Sabbath evening service at one of the townships. The prayer that a wave of revival feeling might sweep over the Wairarapa Valley, visiting every hamlet and every home, met with a hearty response.

**HUTT.** Rev. W. Kirk newly arrived (resting)

It was also announced that arrangements had been made for Mrs. Scott to hold a mission in September next. It was resolved that the members of the circuit meeting form a committee to arrange programme for special services. 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 7.

**RANGIORA Quarterly Meeting.**

During the quarter special services were held at Southbrook and Ohoka by Mrs. Scott which, besides bringing several members, had the effect of quickening the members. It was resolved to hold special services at Rangiora this month, to be conducted by a minister or ministers to be obtained by Mr. Rowse. Mr. Rowse also promised to write to Mrs. Scott, asking her to hold similar meetings at Swannanoa during the quarter, if practicable.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Ashburton.**

We have just concluded a fortnight's mission for the conversion of souls and sanctification of believers. Like the brethren in North Canterbury, we, in the South of the Province, have been assisting each other in special evangelistic effort. All along the line they have been fairly successful, During the first week, we, in Ashburton, were favoured with the presence of brother Hudson, who us quite at home in such work, In the second week brother Thomas, from Temuka, was with us, giving us also one Sunday. A mid-day prayer meeting was held in the Ashburton church each day, from 20 to 30 attending during portions of the hour. Fourteen conversions were reported for the two weeks, averaging one a day. But this was by no means the whole of the work done. For some weeks past the Band meeting had been held in the circuit for those enjoying or seeking full salvation. This seems to have prepared the way for a gracious work among the members of the church. During the mission about twenty-five Christians sought, and most of them found, a pure heart. Some of the cases were very clear. Bro. Hudson

brought the subject clearly and pointedly before the people of God, and night after night some came out seeking to be made holy. Sankey's hymns were used every day but Sunday, and the choir attended with the greatest regularity throughout the services.

### **GORE.**

We have lately been blessed with a rich outpouring of the Holy Spirit. For some time we have been gathering spiritual power, and for two Sunday nights running several cases of conversion have followed the preaching of the Word at Gore. The officials, seeing that the church was ripe for a revival sent for Mrs. Scott. The mission was commenced on Sunday, June 28, and carried on through the following week. The effort was crowned with God's richest blessing. Great power was manifest, and souls were saved every night. There was an absence of excitement, which is often felt at such meetings, and in its place a deep earnestness. Husbands and wives of all denominations have been led to the Saviour; young men have been checked in their downward career; backsliders have been recovered, and believers quickened and set to work again. Altogether thirty-five have made their way to the enquiry-room, where the tears of penitence have flowed freely, and souls have been set at liberty.

Some of the most glorious cases have been witnessed: strong men have been seen to shake with sobs, and those who once resembled the tiger may now be well compared to lambs. Mrs Scott will visit Mataura, Pukerau, and Waipahi, before returning north. We thank God for the blessings which we have received, and earnestly pray that Divine power may still attend her, and that when time is no more we may all meet her in heaven. We commend Mrs Scott to the notice of our brethren who desire to be helped in the work of special services. She well supplies the place of "Conference Evangelist."

18<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 8.

### **AMBERLEY. Quarterly Meeting.**

Amberley Home Mission Station Quarterly Meeting was held on July 6. An increase of ten members was reported, with one on trial, and four removals. 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 7.

### **DUNEDIN (Morningside.) Quarterly Mtg. Rev. D.J. Murray.**

Mr. Murray having invited Mrs. Scott to undertake a mission here, his action was approved. 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Timaru.**

The special services here were commenced on Sunday, June 28, by Rev. Lewis Hudson, who preached in the morning from Acts 26, 4<sup>th</sup> verse. The rev. gentleman particularly pointed out to his hearers that it was when the disciples were of one accord and were believing for the blessing that it came, and he hoped the members would learn and profit by the lesson this conveyed. In the evening he chose for his text the words, "And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord," 1 Chron. 29:5.

The necessity for purity and consecration, especially of those who intended to take an active part in the work now being undertaken, was forcibly pressed home upon the congregation. The services were continued through the whole of the following week, with the happy result that twelve persons professed to find peace with God through the finished work of Jesus. A great many of the church members also re-dedicated themselves to the service of God. On the Friday night some excellent testimonies were given of the blessing that the services had proved to many. It has truly been a time of refreshing from the Lord.

25<sup>th</sup> July, 1885. page 8.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Gore.**

During the first and second weeks in July, our special services were continued at Matura, Pukerau and Waipahi. The results in each of the places were most gratifying; over eighty came forward as seekers of salvation, and all professed to find. Believers re-consecrated themselves to God, and many obtained, by faith, the blessing of a "clean heart." These results are very gratifying, and we "thank God and take courage." The circuit is very large, and the minister has a great deal of ground to cover, but we hope soon to be in a position to ask for more strength. Mrs Scott's visit has been productive of untold good. At Gore, one night, we had a Swede and a Chinaman kneeling together, looking to the same Saviour. The work at Waipahi was chiefly amongst the young people. At Pukerau only a few left the meeting, and before closing all the rest had crowded into the enquiry-room, either to seek pardon, or to re-consecrate themselves to God. It was glorious; the little room full of earnest souls singing, "O happy day that fixed my choice," &c., and then all kneeling together and singing the last verse –

"High heaven that heard the solemn vow,  
That vow renewed shall daily hear,  
Till in life's latest hour I bow  
And bless in death a bond so dear."

Thus our special services closed. Thanks be unto God who hath given us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Mrs. Scott left us next morning for Milton. May God crown her labours everywhere with abundant success.

1<sup>st</sup> August, 1885. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. AKAROA.**

Although not exactly Methodist news, yet revival news under any denomination so near at hand may be interesting to many of the readers of the N.Z. Methodist.

The Rev. Mr. McClenhan, who has lately taken charge of the Presbyterian Church at Banks Peninsula, seeing the low ebb to which religion had fallen, has been conducting a series of mission or revival meetings at different parts of the Peninsula. Akaroa has been the place that has come in for the largest share of these services. The Town Hall has been filled for four successive nights; and to judge from the attention given to the earnest appeals of the speaker, and the many written testimonies that have since been handed in by new converts, and from others who have received blessing, the work has been much blessed by God. Not the least interesting part of the work is to see members of the Presbyterian Church, Church of England, Wesleyan, and other Methodists, Christian Brethren, and Baptists, all gathered together in the one church, listening with rapt

attention and drinking in the faithful preaching of the minister in charge. The church is filled every Sunday, and will soon be too small for the increasing congregations.

Some of Sankey's best hymns have been heartily sung by a large choir, led by Mr. Billens, during the meetings. The mission has been closed till the moonlight nights of August on account of so many of the people living up the hills and out in the bays, the roads being very slippery now.

The prayers of all well-wishers are earnestly requested, so that "Sleepy Hollow" may awake out of her sleep; and that the power of God may be felt in our midst in bringing souls to the feet of our loving Saviour.

A Blue Ribbon meeting was held at the church on Thursday week, but owing to the wet was but poorly attended. However, a number of those present donned the "Bit of Blue."

8<sup>th</sup> August, 1885. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Milton.**

"O happy day that fixed my choice" has been sung with deep feeling of gratitude to God during the last few days, in this district. Mrs. Scott has been conducting special services in and around Milton during the past fortnight with glorious results. After preaching on Sunday, July 19, after the evening service, while there were no penitents, no less than twenty of God's children came out for consecration, and if ever we had a foretaste of heaven, it was then. At Waiholo, a place we had decided at our quarterly meeting to try and open up, we had a grand time, two precious souls found their way to Jesus; and we were delighted to hear one good brother testify that twelve months ago he had found peace at a meeting in Cargill Road during Mrs. Scott's mission there, and felt now more anxious than ever to tell of the love of Christ. Mr. Stone conducted his first service at this place last Sunday evening, and one, an aged man, found the Saviour; and we feel that God will bless us.

At Glenore, one of our preaching places, for some time past one and another have yielded themselves up to God; but with Mrs. Scott's visit there seemed to come a flood of light and glory. Three decided for God. Two of these were most remarkable conversions, reminding one of the extraordinary cases we have read of in revivals at Home; but who can wonder at the joy manifested when a soul of sixty-five years finds that after a wasted life God condescends to take the rest. Ewe held a meeting in the Taieri ferry school-house, and there again God was with us, and two souls were gained for the Master.

At Milton, in the church, four meetings were held during the week, and, while there were several clear cases of conversion, yet the work was chiefly among Christians; for altogether about forty came forward and re-consecrated themselves to God's work, which, we believe, is the foundation work for a glorious revival, for a sympathetic chord has been touched among Christians of all denominations, and "Milton for Christ" is the watchword. May the Spirit still move among us mightily. On Thursday our little church was crowded, many were unable to gain admittance, this being a farewell meeting to Mrs. Scott. Three speakers addressed the meeting, among whom was Rev. C. Griffin, from Lawrence, who had that day traveled many miles through snow to be present with us. During an interval refreshments were handed round by the ladies of the congregation, after which we held a testimony meeting or, rather, I should say, a love feast, when about

fifty spoke of the goodness and loving kindness of God and of His power to save. The meeting was brought to a close by singing Sankey's well-known "Farewell Hymn," and while tears filled our eyes at thoughts of parting here, yet joy filled our hearts at the glorious prospect of meeting at the throne of God. We had been very much concerned how our work was all to be accomplished, having no assistance in the shape of local preachers, but the Lord has touched the heart of our choirmaster, Bro. King, and he feels that he must speak for the Master, as well as sing for Him, and so our difficulty is met, and we expect God's blessing on our labours. May God spare Mrs. Scott for many years to labour for the Master, and may she be abundantly blessed in the prayer of our hearts at Milton.

15<sup>th</sup> August, 1885. page 8.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Hamilton.**

During special services held this month we have had some precious seasons. Many who were luke-warm have been revived, and all the members of the Church have been quickened. Fully thirty have accepted Christ as their Saviour, mostly young people and scholars from Sunday-school. Our prayer is that the work begun may still progress, and that many around may be brought to decide for Christ.

**Ngaruawahia.** – Special services will be held here next week. We are anxiously looking forward for great blessings, and our prayer is that many may be saved of the Lord.

22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1885. page 7.

### **MORNINGTON.**

We have just concluded a very successful mission here with Mrs. Scott. Commencing August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Mornington, it was refreshing to see at the close of the evening's service twenty-five of God's children come out for consecration; while this was going on on one side of the church four penitents on the other side sought and found the Saviour. Meetings were held every evening during the week, and at most of them sinners were converted. One of the most encouraging features of the mission was the conversion of a band of very intelligent youths, who have been training in our Sunday-school. In the love feasts, at the close of the mission, it was delightful to hear parents and children, teachers and scholars, bearing testimony to the saving power of the Gospel, and the all-sufficient grace of Jesus Christ.

For four days, commencing Monday the 10<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Scott conducted a mission at Linden. Here we were also cheered with ten conversions, and fifteen of God's children coming up for consecration. Throughout it has been a "time of refreshing." During the fortnight about thirty have confessed conversion, and we hope to secure a great number of these to the church. Mrs. Scott was heartily assisted by the Rev. D.J. Murray, who announced at the close immediate meetings for reception of new members and formation of classes. Mrs. Scott left us on the 15<sup>th</sup> for a "six-days' mission" at North-East Valley, and an "eight days' mission" at Cargill Road. The Lord crown her labours with more abundant success is our prayer.

22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1885. page 7.

### **SAVED AT LAST.**

A remarkable conversion has recently occurred in the Wairarapa. An old man, who had been a Freethinker, drunkard, blasphemer, and, in fact, all that was bad, lying on

a bed of sickness, found he had not many hours to live, and sent for the Rev. J. Ward. At midnight Mr. Ward traced his way up a rugged, dark, bush track to the sick man's home. After considerable doubt and anxiety he finally found that "Peace which passeth all understanding." Some days after the poor man's wife met Mr. Ward, and remarked: "I would rather have had that visit than 100 pounds, for I now can feel and believe that heaven is his home." 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1885. page 7.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Hokitika**

For the last five weeks united evangelistic services have been held in the Presbyterian and Wesleyan churches. The services were commenced in the Presbyterian church, where they were held for the first eight days, after which they were continued in the Wesleyan church, and finished up with a thanksgiving service in the Presbyterian church. The result of those services will only be known at the last day; the power of the Lord to save was indeed made manifest, for at the thanksgiving service about eighty gave testimony that Jesus Christ has power on earth to forgive sins. The work was principally among the children attending both Sunday-schools, whose ages are from twelve to twenty years, but the work of saving souls was not confined to the young, for many of riper years are now rejoicing in a living Saviour. All the praise belongs to God.

5<sup>th</sup> September, 1885. page 8.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Tapanui.**

We have just closed a very successful five days' mission here, conducted by the Rev. B.F. Rothwell, from Gore. Although the weather was rough the meetings were well attended, the last night the church was thronged. The power of the Holy Spirit attended the work. The preacher did not mince matters, but out the Gospel clearly and faithfully, warning sinners with no uncertain sound. Eleven souls professed to find the Saviour. Twenty-eight Christians, all adults, came forward and re-consecrated themselves to the Lord, and sought purity of heart. The meetings will long be remembered here as times of refreshing. One brother remarked that people had learned to shake hands during the week; where before they gave two fingers now they gave a full grasp. We felt certain that with clear, pointed, outspoken preaching such as Mr. Rothwell's, a great change would come over the people in Tapanui, and indeed the change is now felt. We trust that this wave of salvation may still sweep on, until all shall acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

G. McF.

19<sup>th</sup> September, 1885. page 7.

#### **DUNEDIN.**

Mrs. Scott concluded her evangelistic mission in the Trinity circuit on Tuesday, September 1. After spending a week at N. E. Valley, where a preaching place has been recently opened, and where her addresses were greatly appreciated, and results in some 50 persons professing to have found their way to the Saviour, Mrs. Scott held an eight-days' mission at Cargill-road. Overflowing audiences welcomed her again to this place where she had laboured twelve months ago. The circuit ministers and others assisted, and some young ladies contributed solos from Sankey. Souls were saved every evening. During the mission, a half-night of prayer – from 11 to 2 – proved very helpful. Some 50

Persons came into the enquiry-room for salvation, and some 100 re-consecrated themselves at the penitent form in front of the pulpit. On Tuesday, September 1, a farewell social meeting came off in the church. The circuit ministers and Mr. Wardrop, Mayor of South Dunedin, spoke briefly, and Mrs. Scott gave her final address, which was very impressive. She left for Christchurch the following morning; and, we understand, she opens a three months' campaign in Wellington District about the third week of the present month. We are deeply thankful to the Great Head of the Church for her visit. She has enjoyed, during the eleven weeks spent in Otago, the very best of health, and we pray that the Lord may spare her for many years longer, and use her yet more abundantly in winning souls for our adorable Redeemer.

19<sup>th</sup> September, 1885. page 7.

#### **ASHBURTON.**

A week of special services has just been held at Willowby, seven miles from Ashburton. Special prayer was made during a part of the previous week, and handbills, with tracts attached to them, were distributed.

[As the congregation was already converted, McNicol and the local preacher both preached on holiness and purity of heart. The congregation responded, with ten people seeking this. A few days later there were five converts.]

19<sup>th</sup> September, 1885. page 7.

#### **CHRISTCHURCH. Wesley Church, East Belt.**

Special evangelistic services were held in connection with this church during the fortnight beginning on Sunday, August 30, conducted by the circuit ministers, Revs J.J. Lewis and G. Bond, assisted by the Rev. W. Keall and several of the local preachers, who rendered invaluable service. The services were not held in vain, for it is pleasing to report that between thirty and forty persons went into the vestry and there sought and found the Saviour. A most solemn feeling pervaded the services throughout, and not only were sinners converted, but many of the members of the church have been lifted to a higher platform of Christian experience and devotion.

A testimony meeting followed and twenty people nominated to become church members. The testimony of the new converts who spoke was clear, while the experience of the older Christians seemed all aglow with gratitude to God. For fervour and power this was one of the best meetings ever held in connection with Wesley church.

26<sup>th</sup> September, 1885. page 7.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Hutt.**

At length Mrs. Scott has arrived in our midst. During an absence of two years many changes had taken place. Happy recollections of her former visit induced many who were then led to Christ to join with the older members of the Church in well sustaining ten days' preparatory meetings. These meetings were followed by a meeting for praise and thanksgiving for blessings received during the past two years. The substitution of praise for prayer had the desired effect, and brought upon us the fullness of God's blessing. Many and glorious were the expressions of praise and thanksgiving which were freely used. Some who found Christ at the last mission are now teaching in

our Sabbath-schools, others are exhorting, and others preaching. On Friday evening, Sept 18, we had a consecration meeting for the members of the Church. Mrs. Scott gave a powerful address upon "The Duty of Consecration." This was followed by an open committal of ourselves fully to the service of God. Some fifty engaged in this sacred act, including Father Kirk, Mrs. Scott, and the circuit minister. One of our oldest members said in the meeting that for the past thirty years he had not witnessed anything like it at the Hutt. One sorrowing, seeking one found Christ at this meeting. The public mission began on Sunday, Sept. 20, and in the different parts of the circuit will last until the end of October.

S. J. G. (Samuel Garland)

3<sup>rd</sup> October, 1885. page 7.

### **EAST BELT**

The superintendent reported 340 members, 26 on trial, 78 catechumens, and 128 communicants. A gracious work had taken place at the East Belt during the quarter; some 30 or 40 had found peace and joined the Church, several of these being Sunday-school teachers and scholars.. 10<sup>th</sup> October. 1885. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Hutt.**

Our evangelistic mission commenced on September 20, when a good congregation assembled to hear our old friend Mrs. Scott, who delivered a stirring address, which was followed by another from the circuit minister, setting forth the objects of the mission. At the after-meeting, the vestry was crowded with those who were anxious to realize that the "blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin," and others who were seeking pardon. On Monday, the meeting was conducted by the Rev. W.C. Oliver. The excellent address of our chairman on "Christian Consecration" was one which will long live in the memories of all who heard it, and will continue to bring forth fruit. At the close of the service, four came forward to seek Christ. Each day of the mission we have been permitted to see some coming to Christ, either quietly in their homes or at the services. One young man who had long striven to take refuge in what is generally known as Freethought, and who told us that he had done all that he could do to deny God, has found that God is merciful and precious. The day after our mission, two men and eight women surrendered to Christ in a small meeting held in a cottage. At the close of this meeting five came boldly and asked those who were conducting the service to remain with them, and point them to the Saviour. Their example was quickly followed by the other five.

S. J. G.

10<sup>th</sup> October, 1885. page 7.

### **GORE.**

Grateful reference was made to Mrs. Scott's visit in the early part of the quarter, and the good results that followed. 17<sup>th</sup> October. 1885. page 7.

### **U.F.M.Church. Ashley.**

We have had good times here, the Lord has been visiting us. Several weeks ago the first anniversary of our little church was celebrated by the ever-acceptable tea and public meeting. The services preached the following Sunday in connection with the

anniversary completed the success, over 21 pounds was raised. Acting on the impression that the Lord's time had come, several brethren arranged for five days' special services, commencing September 20, but the Lord's blessing being so evidently with us they were extended until 28<sup>th</sup>.

Two of those for whom we had been specially praying professed to find oease, also 6 others.

**Invercargill Station – Primitive Methodist.**

Built two years ago. Six converts from a special effort.

**BLUFF. (Primitive Methodist.)**

At the Bluff, God has blessed us. We have not laboured in vain, nor spent our strength for naught. We can look around the church on a Sunday, and see several earnest Christians who a few months ago were serving, as faithfully as they knew how, the god of this world; but they are now following Christ daily, and call Him Lord. Our congregation has become too large for the building. The church is often crowded to its utmost capacity. To prevent further inconvenience, we have commenced to enlarge it, at a cost of about 250 pounds. When it is finished it will seat a hundred and fifty more people. We hope to re-open free of debt.

17<sup>th</sup> October, 1885. page 8.

**MASTERTON.**

Our Home Missionary meeting was held on Wednesday, Oct. 28. Coming, as it did, during the week of special services, we expected a good time. "The best Home Missionary meeting ever held in Masterton," was the general verdict at the close. Our senior circuit steward, Mr. Frank Harrison, made a capital chairman, and addresses were delivered by Revs. Oliver, Ward, and Mrs. Scott. The circuit minister read extracts from the report. The singing was congregational, and of a most hearty character, being led by the choir, under Mr. Temple, with Mrs. Gapper at the harmonium. A good collection was taken up, and our financial returns will exceed those of last year.

7<sup>th</sup> November, 1885. page 7.

**JOYFUL NEWS. HUTT**

Our evangelistic mission was concluded last Thursday evening at Wainniomatta. The effort had continued in different parts of the circuit for nearly six weeks. Since our last communication Petone, Whiteman's Valley, and Wainui have been visited in the above order. At each place the attendance has been very good. Our members have been much blessed. There has been the absence of excitement at our meetings. Many found Christ at the after-meeting, others while the addresses were being given, and several quietly in their homes. At the close of the mission at the Hutt, the circuit minister, in his closing address to those who had not yielded themselves to God, remarked that he did not wish to intimidate them by holding any threat over them, but, as they had refused all the earnest invitations which had been given to come to Christ, God would probably employ other and more severe methods so as to lead them to repentance and faith in Jesus as their Saviour. Two days later and this awful work commenced. A strong man was cut down

with scarcely any notice. At a meeting held in a cottage opposite the home which death had invaded, several anxiously pressed into the kingdom of Christ. In the case of a wife who had found Christ at one of our meetings, her husband expressed his intention, while in bed, to go to church that Sabbath morning. And a few minutes later one of the children went to see if "father was getting up" and found him dead in bed. These cases have been followed by several others until we can count eight or ten sudden, and in nearly every case unexpected deaths during the last four weeks of our mission. This, I believe, is unprecedented in the history of this small farming community. We are naturally led to ask which of us will be called away next. As I pen these lines there is a young lady lying dead, who was seized with a fit yesterday morning and expired. The above young lady was only 19 years of age, and generally beloved by all who knew her. This is the fourth death in our midst this week, and three of the four have been under 26 years of age. Mrs. Scott left here this morning for Masterton and Greytown circuits, where she will continue for a month, and then proceed to Wanganui to conduct a mission in our church, to November 29.

S.J. G.

7<sup>th</sup> November, 1885. page 7.

### **CONNEXIONAL EVANGELIST.**

To the Editor of the New Zealand Methodist.

Sir, - Our District Meetings will be in session in various parts of the Colony during the next few weeks; I hope the above subject will be brought up and thoroughly discussed in these meetings. The officials and members of our church throughout the colony are earnestly looking for the decision of Conference in this matter, and great dissatisfaction will be excited if the *fiasco* of last Conference is repeated. It will help our higher church court greatly in reaching a right conclusion, if a distinct deliverance, either for or against the proposal, is sent up from each district. The work of our church, north and south, during the past year, points out more clearly than ever the need of such an agent or agents. The result of Mrs. Scott's labours shows what room there is for work of this kind, and if we were to employ one or more such workers it would greatly develop an aggressive spirit amongst us.

I am, &c., N.

7<sup>th</sup> November, 1885. page 8.

### **MASTERTON**

Mrs Scott continued her mission on Thursday and Friday of last week. Two meetings were held on the latter date, the afternoon meeting being for "women only." At this service, five persons sought and found the Saviour. The concluding service on Friday evening was perhaps the most effective of the whole series. The address, based on the text, "Prepare to meet thy God" was delivered with great earnestness and power. Several came forward for consecration, as also seekers of salvation. Half an hour was occupied with "testimonies," during which time numbers spoke of the blessings they had received during the mission. It was very affecting to hear the boy of ten years of age, "a new born babe in Christ," as well as the veteran who had been in the Christian course for over half a century, each bearing witness to the goodness of God. During the mission we have used hymns from our own incomparable collection, as well as selections from

Sankey's. The singing was most hearty throughout, but especially so when a rousing chorus formed part of the hymn. On Sunday, we had a continuance of good things. In the evening the congregation was much larger than usual, and at the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, we had the largest number of communicants ever present at a similar service in our church here. We hope to have Mrs. Scott with us again after she has visited Greytown circuit.

14<sup>th</sup> November, 1885. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Masterton.**

Mrs. Scott returned here on Sunday, Nov. 29, after a month's work in Greytown circuit. We were again favoured with fine weather for all the meetings. The first service on Sunday evening drew another crowded congregation, extra accommodation being necessary. On Monday and Tuesday afternoons, there were meetings for "women only." These were largely attended, and greatly blessed to those present. At the Monday evening service Mrs. Scott was assisted by Miss MacGeorge, who gave a most effective exposition on "Christian Liberty" (John 8:33 -36.). The meeting on Tuesday afternoon was a season of rich blessing, and that in the evening of great interest. At the latter, Mrs. Scott delivered a most earnest address from Rev. 3:20, which, for tender, importunate pleading, could not be excelled. The meeting was then thrown open for "testimonies." These were given by persons of all ages and classes, showing how the grace of God can reach the hearts of all.

In reporting the results of Mrs. Scott's visit to this and the adjoining circuits, we cannot gauge these by mere numbers. A great many have professed conversion, and give every evidence of having experienced a change of heart. But equally valuable is the deepened piety and renewed consecration of God's people. Eternity only will reveal what God hath wrought through His handmaid, and our prayers will follow her that the blessings bestowed on Wairarapa may be still more abundantly vouchsafed to Wanganui.

J. N. B.

### **GREYTOWN.**

For some months past God has been reviving His work in this circuit. Souls have been saved, the attendance at the Sacramental services, and prayer and experience meetings has been increased, and the spiritual tone of the church raised. It was felt at the last quarterly meeting that the church was ripe for decisive evangelistic work: financial efforts were therefore stopped, that the people might enter heartily into it, and Mrs. Scott's help was secured. Evangelistic services, conducted by Mrs. Scott, have just been held: four at Featherston, two at South Featherston, five at Greytown, three at Matarawa, nine at Carterton, three at Belvidere, three at Dalefield, and one at Moroa. At all the places the congregations were large, Christians started again for heaven, and sinners were saved. Some of the services were exceedingly powerful, leading many of the older Methodists to say that they had never in earlier revival days realized the like. A number of the Old Sunday-school scholars – now men and women - have come out for Christ. Some who had been members in the Old Country, but who had backslidden, have returned to their God. While others who never before entered church have given their hearts to the Lord and their hands to His people. The praise meeting held in the Carterton church at the close of the mission last Friday, the 27<sup>th</sup> November, was a memorable one; English people, Germans, and Scandinavians spoke of blessings

received. Parents praised the Lord aloud for the conversion of their sons and daughters; some told how prayers which had been offered daily for 40 years had, during the mission, been answered; others how in the past they had been dragged towards heaven, but were now serving God with a willing mind. It was a time of holy joy, and, at the Sacramental service which followed, a time of solemn consecration.

Among the practical results to be recorded of the past few months' revival work, especially the past month's are – the whole church has been revived, four new congregations have been gathered, three new Sunday-schools started, three classes established where there had not been any, and a mission band formed for the carrying on of evangelistic work in the district. Other and richer results we believe will follow. Mrs. Scott has gone, strong in soul and fairly strong in body, leaving many who will daily pray God to richly bless her work in other parts of the colony. J. W.

12<sup>th</sup> December, 1885. page 7.

### **WOODVILLE (Free Methodist.)**

At our last local preachers' and Church meetings there was a letter from Mr. S. Parker, of Auckland, stating that Woodville had been very heavily laid on his mind lately, and that he had been very much drawn out in prayer for it, and he would be glad to come, if asked, and hold a series of evangelistic services here. As we all felt we wanted a revival just rather worse than anything else in the Church, we were very glad the place had been laid on anybody's mind to pray for us, and invited him cordially. Accordingly he came, and for the first three weeks in November held services each night. From the very beginning they were owned and blessed of God, several having on the first Sunday evening sought and found mercy, nor did the good work stop till the end. For the matter of that, we don't know that it has stopped yet, and earnestly hope that it will continue.

The great majority of those who have found peace are young people in connection with our own congregation, and we hope to have raised up from them in time a band of workers who shall be full of zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. Mr. Parker was also constant in preaching the doctrine of entire sanctification, and in pressing it on all the children of God, and several profess to have obtained it.

R. Fennell.

12<sup>th</sup> December, 1885. page 7.

## **Mrs SCOTT. 1886.**

### **JOYFUL NEWS. WOODVILLE.**

On Dec. 15, a very pleasant social gathering was held in our church, when a goodly number of members and friends assembled for tea. After the tea, a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr. J. Sowry, who stated the object of the meeting to be twofold – first to raise funds to liquidate the debt, and second, to say goodbye to Mr. S. Parker, of Auckland, who had been conducting very successful special services in this circuit. The Rev. J.W. Worboys, being called on for the first speech, gave an account of his acquaintance with Mr. Parker, and of the means used to induce him to come to Woodville, which had been brought to bear upon him since last District meeting. (This should be stated, because the letter in your issue of the 12<sup>th</sup> gave a wrong impression). The letter read at our church meeting was a private one to Mr. Worboys in answer to earnest solicitation, stating his willingness to come, if the friends would unite in prayer for a blessing on his labours, which was done.

As the result of God's blessing attending the services, much good has been done. On the first Sabbath evening 13 found pardon and peace through believing in our blessed Saviour. Altogether, 30 young people and 12 adults have decided for God, but the blessings obtained by many of our members during the services are very marked, several having obtained the entire cleansing of their hearts from all sin by simple faith in Jesus. Thus your readers will rejoice with us, giving all glory to God. Most able speeches were delivered by Rev. W. Young, Messrs J. Richards, F. Hill, J.C. Thomson (of Feilding), H. Hawken, and S. Parker. The choir received special praise for the excellent way in which they rendered the musical selections throughout the evening. There was but one feeling in the meeting – that of love from hearts full of praise to God for what He has done for us. Bro. Parker visited Danevirke during his stay here, where we have a small society, and spoke words of good counsel to our members there. Many of the young people have formed themselves into a class here, and meet on Wednesday evenings, which proves a very profitable means of grace. The Bible-class has also been strengthened, there being thirty present at the last meeting. The interest taken in studying the Word of God is very pleasing, and by the power of the Holy Ghost must prove a permanent blessing to them. May God keep them faithful to the end.

J. W. W.

2<sup>nd</sup> January, 1886. page 8.

### **HUTT Quarterly Meeting.**

In a general conversation, members expressed their gratification at the general progress made in every department of church work; their membership has been greatly increased, chiefly among the young people.

9<sup>th</sup> January, 1886. page 7.

## **GREYTOWN.**

The December Quarterly Meeting was held last week. The chairman reported that a number of new converts were uniting with the Church in fellowship. The Sunday-schools were found to be in a healthy condition, and all the congregations fairly large.

16<sup>th</sup> January, 1886. page 7.

## **JOYFUL NEWS. WANGANUI.**

We are pleased and thankful to be able to report a very encouraging work of the Lord in connection with a visit from Mrs. Scott. Having seen, by the reports furnished to the Methodist, the great success which has attended her labours in other parts, our last quarterly meeting decided to send an invitation to Mrs. Scott to hold a fortnight's mission in this circuit before she returned to her home. Although somewhat weakened by her arduous and protracted labours, she felt our invitation to be a call from the Master, and, therefore, at once consented to come.

For a fortnight before her arrival a few people had met in the schoolroom each night to plead that the Divine blessing might rest on us in our work. The mission was continued for ten nights in Trinity church. The congregations were good. The old story of Jesus and His love; the earnest appeals to the unsaved; the faithful warnings to the careless, these, accompanied by the Spirit's power, took hold of many, and led them to give up their sin. Each evening our hearts were made glad by some coming forward to seek the Saviour. Two services were held at Aramoho, and one at Spring Vale. At both places the power of God was seen in the conversion of souls. Mrs. Scott's labours were not confined to the evening services. During the mission she addressed five afternoon meetings for women, and as opportunity offered, visited the people in their homes. One striking case of conversion took place in this house-to-house visitation. During the mission about fifty came forward, the greater part being the young men and women connected with our Sunday-school, and several who attend other churches.

On the 5<sup>th</sup>, inst. a social meeting was held which partook of the nature of a New Year's gathering, and a farewell to Mrs. Scott. A great many (including some belonging to other churches) bore testimony to the benefit which they had received during the mission. Mrs. Scott has returned to her home, followed by the prayers of those who will be able to look back to her visit with grateful joy as the time when they were led to decision for Christ. It is our earnest prayer that the work begun may be carried on with increasing zeal and success during the year.

W. T.

## **WATERTON.**

The Creating Spirit, who of old "moved upon the face of the waters" has been brooding upon our Waterton, and a new creation is the result. During the past fortnight a series of special evangelistic services has been conducted. One of the circuit ministers, accompanied by a local preacher, went out from Ashburton each evening, and valuable help was rendered several times by the ever-willing friends from Willowby. For the first week there were no visible results outside the Church, but on Sunday night (10<sup>th</sup> inst.) Mr. Chapman had a glorious time with a crowded congregation, and from that time the work received fresh impetus. Monday and Wednesday evenings were times to be remembered. By Friday night eleven souls had been "added to the Church." A special evangelistic service on Sunday evening (17<sup>th</sup> inst.) concluded the series. "We were poor

and needy, but the Lord thought upon us, whereof we are glad.” That He may *keep* those whom He has *saved* is the heartfelt prayer of all.

T. J. W.

23<sup>rd</sup> January, 1886. page 8.

### **CONNEXIONAL EVANGELIST.**

The Committee appointed by Conference to consider the above subject brought in their report. The names submitted to the Conference were- Revs. L. Hudson, Josiah Ward, S. Garlick: the means of support to be private contributions and collections in the circuits where the Evangelist labours.

To the names above mentioned were added Revs. Bavin, Berry and Garland. A ballot was taken, when, amidst the hearty expressions of approval of Conference, Rev. J.S. Smalley was declared elected. It was resolved that the Evangelist reside in Christchurch.

6<sup>th</sup> February, 1886. page 4.

### **Conversation on the Work of God.**

At the evening session, a large congregation assembled in the Durham Street church to hear and to report upon the work of God, and partake in the Fellowship and Sacramental Service.

After the Sacrament, the Secretary presented a general summary of Church statistics. These reported in the colony 179 churches, 231 other preaching places, 77 ministers, 1815 Sunday-school teachers, 314 local preachers, 230 class leaders, 6497 church members, with 1407 communicants; Sunday scholars 16,386; and 45,175 attendants on public worship.

These figures, exclusive of Maori and Scandinavian Missions, show an increase of 568 members, and a proportionate increase in every department of the Church, including seven churches, 34 Sunday-school teachers, 578 scholars, and 1789 attendants upon public worship.

The following resolution was proposed by the Secretary:- “This Conference accept with devout gratitude the assurance conveyed by a review of the work of God that the power of the Holy Ghost is still in the midst of the churches. The fact that an increase of 568 members is reported is a source of thanksgiving, hopefulness, and encouragement. It is pleasing, also, to find that there are 578 additional scholars in our Sunday-schools, and nearly 1800 additional attendants upon public worship. With this enlargement of the area of service there arises the intensified desire that there may be throughout our borders an increase of spiritual power.

“The Conference realizes more forcibly than ever the urgency of the demand for a forward movement along the whole line of Christian effort, and stirred by memories of past, and moved by the prospect of enlarging opportunities of usefulness in the future, it solemnly pledges itself in the presence of God to secure to the utmost the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ.

“In appointing the Rev. J.S. Smalley as Connexional Evangelist, the Conference begs to assure him of its prayerful sympathy, and to bespeak for him the hearty co-operation of our people throughout the colony. The work to be undertaken by Mr. Smalley is of a kind to excite the deepest interest in the hearts of all who are anxious for the spread of vital godliness. Working in harmony with the institutions of our church,

and having the hearty support of all the people called Methodists in New Zealand, the Conference continues to hope and expect that the labours of Mr. Smalley throughout the year will be crowned with abundant success.”

Rev. G. Bond presented the Sunday-school returns, which contained evidence of progress and vitality. Mr. Bond was thanked for his services, and re-appointed.

6<sup>th</sup> February, 1886. page 5.

### **EDITORIAL.**

A feeling of thankfulness to God will, we are persuaded, prevail throughout our churches that the way of the Conference has at last been opened for the appointment of a Connexional Evangelist. This has been hoped and prayer for by numbers of our people for some time past, and although when the Conference opened the prospect of such an appointment seemed exceedingly remote, the manner in which it ultimately resolved itself into actual fact can only be regarded as an indication that it was of God. We are glad that Mr. Smalley goes forth to the important work assigned him by a vote of the Conference so hearty and unanimous. It will be to him a source of strength and a most effective letter of recommendation to all our churches. Those who are acquainted with Mr. Smalley's circuit labours will know the special fitness he possesses for the work of an Evangelist. It is also a well-known fact that in Mrs. Smalley he will have a most efficient co-worker in the glorious task of “gathering in the sheaves.” They will have, without doubt, the cordial sympathy and support of our people everywhere, and while remembering in their prayers all the labourers in God's vineyard, special intercession will be offered for the guidance and success of our “Connexional Evangelist.” And our “Joyful News” column will, from time to time, give pleasing intimations of the fact that such prayers are not offered in vain.

6<sup>th</sup> February, 1886. page 6.

### **Connexional Evangelist's Committee.**

The first meeting of the Connexional Evangelist Committee was held last Wednesday, Feb. 10. Mr. Duggan was appointed treasurer, and Rev. W. Keall secretary. It was desired that the superintendents and officers of circuits should at once inform the committee at what season of the year the visit of the evangelist would be preferred, with a view to the preparing of a plan of appointments for the year.

The expenses were estimated to be , stipend, 250 pounds; traveling and house charges, 150 pounds; Contingent Fund levy, 8 pounds 15s; Children's Fund levy, 20 pounds 3s; Supernumerary Fund levy, 9 pounds 9s; miscellaneous, 11 pounds 13s; total 450 pounds.

It was thought that special subscriptions and donations should be sought from the Methodist friends throughout the colony, and that where the evangelist is employed collections should be taken up on behalf of the enterprise. In order to keep the evangelist free from any financial care, all money should be sent direct to the treasurer, after deducting local expenses.

It was suggested that Auckland be the place where the special services should commence, but the President be written to, requesting his views on that and other matters.

It was agreed that a circular be drawn, embodying the views of the committee more fully, and distributed throughout the colony for the furtherance of the work.

W. Keall.

20<sup>th</sup> February, 1886. page 7.

### **Second Meeting of the Evangelist's Committee.**

Having received a communication from Mr. Smalley, it was resolved that a mission should commence every alternate Friday, and finish on the Monday week following, thus giving eleven days to each mission, the intervals being taken up by the Evangelist in rest and travel. It is probable that the mission will commence in the Auckland district, the President being prepared to assist in that direction.

The Committee trust that circuits will communicate their wishes respecting the time when the visit of the Evangelist is desired as speedily as possible. It is fully expected that the financial results will be secured according to the spiritual character of the work, and the earnest prayers of God's people are earnestly sought on behalf of the Evangelist and the enterprise generally.

W. Keall.

6<sup>th</sup> March, 1886. page 7.

### **GREYTOWN Quarterly Meeting.**

On viewing the quarter's work, it was found to be in many respects cheering. The school picnics had been satisfactory in every way. The special services at Dalefield and Belvidere had been blessed in the saving of souls and the quickening of the societies.

17<sup>th</sup> April, 1886. page 7.

Also, another Evangelist's Committee report on this page.

### **Invercargill Congregational Meeting.**

Tuesday evening, 13<sup>th</sup> inst. (April). The spiritual state of the church was then taken in to consideration, and it was unanimously resolved that Mrs. Scott be invited to hold a series of evangelistic services about the beginning of June.

24<sup>th</sup> April, 1886. page 6.

### **EDITORIAL. (part).**

Mr. Smalley is, however, too well versed in practical revivalism not to remember that the success of his labours will be largely affected by the spiritual tone of the churches among which he moves. In the absence of hearty sympathy and zealous co-operation on the part of the members of the church neither Mr. Smalley nor anybody else could ever hope to achieve any worthy measure of success. It will be found, therefore, that Mr. Smalley on first visiting a circuit, will lay great stress upon the personal consecration of all believers for the work to which he and they stand committed. The Evangelist is very clear and emphatic in setting forth the privileges of entire sanctification, and in this, as, indeed, in every department of revival work, he will be ably supported by his co-labourers, Mrs. Smalley, and Mrs. Smalley's mother, Mrs. Donald, of Edinburgh. It is a rarely gifted trio that will go forth under the designation of "the Connexional Evangelist,"

and that they will leave everywhere traces of rich and abiding blessing we have not the slightest doubt.

24<sup>th</sup> April. 1886. page 6.

### **INITIAL PROGRAMME**

Te Awamutu, 7 days, from April 15 to 21.  
Franklin. 11 days from April 24 to May 4.  
Hamilton. 7 days, from May 7 to 13.  
Manukau. 11 days, from May 14 to 24.  
Thames. 11 days, from May 28 to June 7.  
Grafton Road. 11 days, from June 11 to 21.  
Pitt Street. 11 days, from July 2 to 13.  
North Shore 11 days, from July 16 to 26.  
Subject to alteration.

24<sup>th</sup> April, 1886. page 8.

### **RANGIORA Quarterly Meeting.**

It was decided to make enquiries of the committee of management as to the possibility of obtaining Mr. Smalley's help during the winter, but meanwhile to ask Mrs. Scott to hold a week's special services, both at Rangiora and Southbrook this quarter.

1<sup>st</sup> May. 1886. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Ashburton.**

Our circuit has recently been favoured with a visit from Mrs. Scott. In response to my invitation, Mrs. Scott came here chiefly to hold special services at Ashburton and Wakanui. The first week was spent in holding nightly services in the Ashburton church. On the opening Sunday, the church was full to inconvenience, and a very gracious feeling was present. Each night during the week the attendance was good, and best at the end. Some twenty people, young and old, gave themselves up to Jesus for salvation, and a number more came out for full consecration, several of whom realized that "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth from *all* sin." Amongst others, a man and his wife were converted under somewhat peculiar circumstances. After a struggle, the man declared the devil had gone out of him and had flown out of the window. This was heard all over the church when he told it to Mrs. Scott, and produced some excitement among the people. The second week was spent at Wakanui, about six miles from Ashburton. Capital congregations assembled, but we did not see those immediate results that are so dear to Christian workers. A few were converted, but the majority did not go farther than attentive listening. Several of God's people, however, were refreshed and quickened, and our belief is that the effect of the re-consecration of these will speedily tell upon the congregation for good. Greenstreet, Tinwald, Waterton, and Willowby were all in turn visited by Mrs. Scott, and in each place the power of God was manifested. Conversion and sanctification were sought and obtained by thirty or forty people outside of Ashburton itself. There was a grand meeting at Willowby on Wednesday last. Over twenty presented themselves as seekers of some blessing, chiefly that of purity, and none

went away empty. Sister Scott has left us for Otago, where she has three engagements to fulfil.

D. McNicoll.

24<sup>th</sup> April, 1886.

1<sup>st</sup> May, 1886 . page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Lawrence.**

“The darkest hour is just before the dawn.” Our church life here seemed to have got nearly down to zero. Some of the few members remaining in the place were talking in a hopeless strain about shutting up the church, so many of our people have left Lawrence during the year, and the small number belonging to us were getting down-hearted. But God has been blessing us during the past week. Mrs. Scott is with us. She commenced her services last Sunday, April 25. In the morning, God’s own people had their duty put to them in very plain words, and the Spirit of God sent home the truth. At night the church was crammed, and a large number had to go away, unable to find room. All through the week we have had the church full each evening, and that in spite of a heavy downpour of rain one or two nights. At every service some have been seeking Christ, and not in vain. Many of our church members have re-consecrated their lives to God. Twenty-one have openly professed Christ, besides many who in their seats and at home after the meeting have received a blessing. Several of these are members of other churches. Mrs. Scott remains in the circuit another week, and gives that time to “Blue Spur;” we are looking for a rich harvest there. It is high time some encouragement to our Otago Methodism should be shown. Just now the upcountry circuits are full of expectancy. From here Mrs. Scott goes to Roxburgh, Tapanui, Invercargill, Riverton, Balclutha, and Milton. May God go with her in the fullness of His power and grace.

15<sup>th</sup> May, 1886. page 8.

### **MRS SCOTT at TAPANUI**

After many weary days of waiting and watching, the Lord has visited His people.

Mrs. Scott is now on an 18 days’ mission here, and the God of our salvation is abundantly using her in the turning of many to the only Name in which salvation is found.

On Sunday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, the church was crammed to overflowing, many having to be turned away. Eight professed to find Jesus that night.

On Wednesday night all professing Christians present were on their knees, seeking to live nearer to Christ by re-consecration. It was a grand sight, and His labourers went to His altar with exceeding great joy. Every night the church has been full, and, up to the 27<sup>th</sup> May, 20 have professed to trust Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. God’s people have been abundantly blessed and revived. We are looking for still greater blessings

On Thursday a women’s meeting was held, and three gave themselves up to Him who bought them with His precious blood. Dear Sister Scott works in this district till the 8<sup>th</sup> June. Brethren, pray for us.

R. J. M.

5<sup>th</sup> June, 1886. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Mrs. Scott at Roxburgh.**

This circuit has just been visited by Mrs. Scott, the lady evangelist, who remained with us a fortnight. We were expecting great things, and truly we have not been disappointed. Mrs. Scott is a consecrated woman, whose sole ambition seems to be the lifting up of Christ, the drawing His people to follow more closely in His shining footsteps, and the bringing of sinners in humble penitence to His feet. What the actual result of Mrs. Scott's visit may be, the Great Day will reveal, but this much is certain: some thirty or forty have made public profession of their faith, and God's people have been wondrously blessed. Few in this circuit will ever read Mrs. Scott's name without breathing a silent prayer that God's richest blessing may rest on her, and make her even more useful in the future than in the past.

Now that the Conference has made a new departure, and set apart the Rev. J. Smalley for evangelistic work, would it not be wise to give Mrs. Scott also some official recognition? Seeing the wonderful way in which God has set His seal to her labours wherever she has gone, it would surely be the truest policy on the part of the Conference to give some pecuniary aid (such, for instance, as paying Mrs. Scott's traveling expenses) so that poor circuits may not be shut out from sharing in the blessing so abundantly realized by those places she has visited. Everywhere she goes Churches are revived and numbers added to the roll of members, so that clearly the Methodist Church is greatly benefited, both in a spiritual and pecuniary sense, by the untiring, self-sacrificing labours of that faithful child of God, Mrs. Scott.

J. B. Borton.

5<sup>th</sup> June, 1886. page 7.

### **TAPANUI again.**

Mrs. Scott's labours in this district will be finished by the time this appears. Her work has been abundantly blessed of the Lord. Many glad souls will date their entrance into the kingdom of heaven from Mrs. Scott's visit, and many an earnest child of God will thank Him that she was the instrument of leading them into the liberty wherewith He has made them free.

On May 28, a Gospel Temperance meeting was held in the church, at which thirty-five signed the pledge and donned the blue. Towards the close of the meeting the church had a narrow escape of being destroyed by fire through the upsetting of a lighted lamp. Much confusion ensued for a few minutes, and some of the windows were broken; but, fortunately, the fire was extinguished without much damage. On Sabbath evening, May 30, Mrs. Scott addressed a crowded meeting in the Presbyterian church. The following week was devoted to work in the outlying districts, and fruit was given to the labourers there.

June 11, at Kelso, will finish the mission in Tapanui district, from whence Mrs. Scott goes to Invercargill. She earnestly pleads for the fervent, expectant prayers of God's people for a rich outpouring of the Holy Spirit in that place.

Nearly a hundred believers have come forward to consecrate themselves afresh to God, and forty-five precious souls have professed faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. The brethren are asked to join with us in heartfelt praise to the Lord for such blessed results, and that His work may prosper in the hands of His little ones in Tapanui.

R.J. Murray.

19<sup>th</sup> June, 1886. page 7.

**TAPANUI once more.**

Mrs. Scott's mission in the south was brought to a close at Kelso, on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> inst., when two professed to find peace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The three weeks which Mrs. Scott has spent in our midst have been owned and richly blessed of God. Quite a wave of spiritual refreshing to God's own people has gone over Tapanui district, while a large number of various denominations have given public profession of being turned from darkness to light. Women's meetings have also been established at Kelso and Tapanui, which we expect, by God's presence, to be a source of spiritual strength and encouragement.

It was Mrs. Scott's intention, in response to earnest invitations, to visit Invercargill, Riverton, Gore, Balclutha, and Milton before returning home, but on the last day of her mission here a telegram was received, calling her home, on account of her husband's ill health. The prayers and sympathies of the brethren are requested on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Scott, and also for those circuits that were looking forward to a visit from this evangelist, that in their keen disappointment they may be recipients of an outpouring of Pentecostal grace.

Since Mrs. Scott's departure, the work has been going on, three more souls having come to the feet of Jesus, and there sitting clothed, and in their right mind. Praise ye the Lord, for "He hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

R.J. Murray.

26<sup>th</sup> June, 1886. page 7.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Invercargill.**

Anticipating a visit from Mrs. Scott, a series of special prayer meetings was commenced at St Paul's on Wednesday evening, June 2. These meetings were well attended, and the presence of God was realized in a very marked degree. It was announced and advertised that evangelistic services would be held the following week, and Mrs. Scott was expected on the Tuesday to assist in them. Her mission, however, at Tapanui was being so richly blessed that she was constrained to remain there during the whole of that week, and then, owing to her husband's illness, was obliged to return to Christchurch. This was a great disappointment to our people, but we resolved, notwithstanding her absence, to go on with the meetings.

On Sunday morning, June 6, our minister, Rev. W.B. Marten, preached a pointed sermon from Matthew 1:21, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins," urging his hearers not to rest till they were saved *from all sin*. In the afternoon he gave an earnest address to the Sabbath scholars from the words, "My son, give me thy heart," pressing upon them the importance of immediate decision for Christ. This was followed in the evening by a discourse that will not soon be forgotten upon the sin and danger of neglect. Many went away deeply impressed, but none remained to give themselves to Christ. Earnest addresses were given each evening, Messrs. Stead, Paterson and Gott (of Christchurch), assisting the minister therein.

Great things were expected on the second Sunday in answer to prayer. According to announcement a special consecration and communion service was held in the morning, and will long be remembered by those who were privileged to take part in it. No special text was announced, but the following passages were read as throwing light on the theme, Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 5:15; 1 Thess. 5:23-24; 2 Tim. 2:20-21; Titus 2:14; Heb. 13:20-21; 1 Peter 2:9. The preacher announced his subject as "Consecration in order to Sanctification," and on that he delivered a most pointed and effective discourse. The congregation was then invited to re-consecrate themselves forthwith, and in response about eighty went forward to the communion rail, giving themselves afresh to Christ while receiving the symbols of His dying love. At the evening service Mr. Marten gave an address upon the words, "So great salvation" (Heb. 2:3); six others went forward and renewed their vows of consecration, and two broken hearts were healed. A deluge of rain prevented a large attendance on the following evenings, but on Wednesday many bore testimony to the great good they had received during the meetings. Some of the oldest members describe this as the best meeting ever held in Invercargill, and others say that the church has never been in so spiritual a state before. We are praying for, and expecting, a yet richer baptism. The Rev. Mr. Henshelwood is holding a similar series of services next week in the theatre in connection with the Y.M.C.A., and from these also we hope to reap some benefit.

3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1886. page 7.

#### **CHRISTCHURCH. – Durham Street.**

Special services have been held in Durham Street for a fortnight, preceded by a week of special prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the quickening of believers, and the conversion of sinners. The special services were commenced on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June, and continued till the 20<sup>th</sup>. The circuit ministers were assisted by the local preachers, and ministers of neighbouring circuits. Mrs. Scott took part in the meetings on the last three evenings. A very gracious influence was felt throughout, and altogether about forty have professed to find peace through faith in Christ. Several of the older scholars in the Sunday school are included in the above number. There have been two or three very remarkable cases of conversion connected with this brief mission. At the East Belt, also, a few young people have found peace and joined the Church, and are now meeting in class.

3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1886. page 7.

#### **RANGIORA – United Free Methodist Church.**

For some time the members of this church have been praying for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the unconverted, and on Sunday, June the 20<sup>th</sup>, their prayers were graciously answered. At the morning prayer-meeting there was a most blessed manifestation of the Divine presence, causing some at its close to remark, that that was a prelude of what would be realized during the day. In the afternoon, in connection with the Sabbath-school, a special service was held, when short addresses were given by Messrs. Watson, Withers, and Peters, which were attended with the Divine blessing, two or three young people having been influenced to give themselves to Christ. The preaching service at night was also accompanied with the Spirit of conviction, for during the prayer-meeting which followed two sought the Saviour, and professed to find peace

through believing; we are looking for greater things. The pulpit during the day was occupied by the minister of the circuit. 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1886. page 7.

#### **LAWRENCE. Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held in the Lawrence church on July 2. Rev. C. Griffin was in the chair. Kindly reference was made to Mrs. Scott's recent visit, and the hope was expressed that ere long we should have the pleasure of seeing her among us again; and that she may be long spared to labour in the Master's cause, who has made her the honoured instrument in His hands of doing much good. The circuit steward was instructed to convey the thanks of the meeting by letter to Mrs. Scott for services rendered. The meeting was closed by the Benediction. 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1886. page 7.

#### **RANGIORA Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held on July 6<sup>th</sup>. An interesting conversation took place as to what should be done to further the work of God in this circuit, and it was unanimously decided to secure, if possible, the services of Mrs. Scott for a three weeks mission to be held in Rangiora, Southbrook and Ohoka. In case of Mrs. Scott not being able to come, it was resolved that the local ministers and laymen conduct the services. 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1886. page 7.

#### **St. Albans Circuit.**

"God bless Mrs. Scott" is a prayer re-echoed in Riccarton and other parts of this circuit, from many a heart and home whither the recent revival of God's work has brought rich blessing. From the 11<sup>th</sup> of July until the 16<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Scott stayed at Mr. Carpenter's, Yaldhurst. She addressed, with much power of the Holy Spirit attending her words, eager and attentive audiences at services that were conducted each evening by one of the circuit ministers. She also held a woman's meeting every afternoon during the week. The blessing of the Lord made these labours of His servants abundantly successful. Fifteen seekers "found the Pearl of greatest price," and most of the members of the society publicly consecrated themselves afresh to God. Such good times have not been known for long at Riccarton, and we trust that the tide of gracious influence will not ebb.

During the following week Mrs. Scott and Mr. Lawry united in a series of services at Crescent-road church. Toil was blessed and prayer was answered in the salvation of more than five and twenty, and the consecration of forty of God's people.

At a children's service, memorable in its solemnity, seven of the Sunday scholars decided for Christ. Making her home at Mr. Moor's, Knightstown, Mrs. Scott, has held women's afternoon meetings, as at Riccarton, and has thus been made helpful to many.

On Monday, 26<sup>th</sup>, she commenced work in St. Albans school-room. Many came forward to obtain full salvation, and three entered the enquiry room to seek assistance in finding Christ. The Rev. J. Berry conducts this week's mission, which promises to be full of fruit to the glory of God. We are glad because the Lord has done great things for us, and is about to do greater. Hallelujah! A. C. L. St. Albans, July 27, 1886.

31<sup>st</sup> July, 1886. page 7.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Grafton Road. (Parnell.)**

We have had “times of refreshing” here during the last few days. The Rev. S. Lawry, at the invitation of the quarterly meeting, has been holding a ten days’ series of special services, which have increased and deepened in interest nightly. His subjects were well chosen, his style logical, his manner impressive. The Rev. E. Best gave a capital address one evening on “The Disease and its Cure.” Solos were sung by the circuit ministers and Mr. Lawry. Sunday (8<sup>th</sup>) was, despite the unfavourable weather, specially encouraging. The subject in the morning was, “Not far from the Kingdom of God.” In the evening the theme was, “The guilt and danger of neglect.” This service was marked by great solemnity, and in the after-meeting many of God’s people came forward for the blessing of entire sanctification, and several others for forgiveness. It was a time to be remembered. The meetings conclude, according to present arrangements, on Wednesday (11<sup>th</sup>).

T.G. Carr.

21<sup>st</sup> August, 1886. page 7.

**GORE**

On Monday, August 9, Rev. R. Taylor, from Milton, commenced a week’s evangelistic services in the Gore church. Although the attendance was not large, the meetings were very profitable. The message was delivered with power and earnestness, and accompanied by the unction of the Holy Spirit. Believers were quickened, and, while many were deeply convinced, three souls were saved. The result of the mission will, no doubt, be much larger. Such earnest and faithful preaching must have its effect. The mission closed on Sunday, August 1, when the congregations – in spite of counter attractions – were large, and attended with much power. “Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.”

B. F. R. (Rothwell)

**MAHURANGI (Dome Valley.)**

We are glad to chronicle for the encouragement of your readers that God has been manifesting His saving power amongst us during the last few weeks. Within the last six or eight weeks some ten souls have sought and found peace in their Saviour, and are now earnestly and sincerely working for an loving Him. We have now a Sunday school in which all the teachers, and nearly all the elder scholars are earnest disciples of our Saviour. This will, perhaps, encourage some who are working, but who, like us, cannot have the privilege and advantage of having the services of our Connexional Evangelist, through whom God is working so mightily. We are believing that God will still bring souls unto conversion, and to Him be all the glory.

28<sup>th</sup> August, 1886. page 8.

**MILTON.**

The Rev. B.F. Rothwell, of Gore, has conducted a week of special evangelistic services in our church at Milton. He commenced his labours on Sunday, August 15. During the former part of the week, the weather was exceedingly unfavourable, notwithstanding which, the attendance was good. Bro, Rothwell spoke with great power,

and the Spirit applied it to many hearts, convincing of sin, and producing a desire for salvation. While we can only report one conversion as the result of the mission, we hope and believe that many of the anxious ones will soon be rejoicing in possession of God's great gift. May God send upon us all a richer baptism of His Spirit, and lead us to a yet fuller consecration of ourselves to His service.

R. T. (Taylor)

4<sup>th</sup> September, 1886. page 7.

### **ST. ALBANS.**

Mrs. Scott's mission services were begun hopefully, carried on with enthusiasm, and completed with great joy..

After a week of rich blessing at Crescent-road, the work centred at St Albans, where several marked conversions were recorded, and God's people were consecrated anew to His work. Then the wave of blessing swept through Papanui. Here the meetings were well attended in spite of dark nights and adverse weather. Careless souls were led to decide for Christ; backsliders were restored, and the work of God in His people's hearts was greatly quickened. Three nights were spent at Windsor. The miry roads and incessant rain prevented many from attending the meetings there. Yet good was done, and even at the services fruits were seen following the hallowed toil. Five days at Frieston were bright with expected blessing. Through flooded fields and along storm-swept roads the people came to worship; and even the most forbidding nights found many waiting upon God. Frieston and Riccarton rejoice together in this revival: the first known in either neighbourhood for years. The last night of the mission was made memorable by a solemn sacramental service in Frieston church. Before the "Lord's Supper," earnest addresses were delivered, and two young men – the only unconverted ones in the building – gave their hearts to God. Viewing the past five week of special work, we see abundant reason for sustaining, and for yet more loudly swelling, the note of praise we struck at first: Hallelujah! To God be all the glory.

The circuit ministers have a long list of names of those who have found salvation during these services. Some belong to other churches; but many have joined our classes. May they all run with patience the race that is set before them, "looking unto Jesus, the Author and the Finisher" of their Faith. "Mother Scott" is resting now after the strain of her heavy, but God-honoured work. Several other circuits are eagerly asking for her help in projected special services. She wishes to record in these columns her deep sense of the loving hospitality and lavish kindness which many friends have shown to her in different parts of this circuit.

A. C. L. (Lawry)

25<sup>th</sup> September, 1886. page 7.

### **OAMARU. (Kakanui).**

We have just concluded a week of special services, which have been attended with power. For a long time the languishing state of our cause in this place has been lamented. Recently, however, the Lord gave us some signs of His presence, which encouraged us to go forward. After much prayer and counsel, we decided to make an assault upon the indifference and formalism so rampant. Several of our local preachers, together with a number of earnest workers from town and from beyond our circuit boundaries, threw themselves heartily into the work: nightly the Divine presence was with us, and as the result, several clear cases of conversion have taken place, while a

number of luke-warm Christians have been blessedly quickened. Young and old have participated in the joy of God's salvation; some are still under conviction for sin: these we prayerfully hope will soon be brought in. Thus at length the prayers of those who long to see Zion in prosperity have in a measure been answered, and we are encouraged to believe that we shall see even greater signs and wonders wrought at Kakanui and in every part of the circuit, in the name of Jesus.

25<sup>th</sup> September, 1886. page 7.

#### **St Albans Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held on Monday, October 4, the inclemency of the weather doubtless accounting for a rather sparse attendance. A cheering increase of members was reported, there being 45 members on trial for Church membership, a result mainly due, under Gods' blessing, to Sister Scott's recent labours amongst us.

16<sup>th</sup> October, 1886. page 6.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Rangiora Circuit.**

Mrs. Scott has been a fortnight with us holding special services at Southbrook and Rangiora. The Spirit of God had been working with visible signs among our members for some time previously, and it needed but the wave of power, which Mrs. Scott brought with her, to carry many into the kingdom. At Southbrook many of the older scholars made a confession of their love for Christ, and during the week good meetings were held. Souls were saved every night, and members were led to consecrate themselves afresh.

The following Sunday evening, Mrs. Scott and Mr. Ferguson conducted the service at Rangiora. At the close the communion rail was filled with members consecrating themselves, and amongst them were some seeking salvation. The meetings throughout the week were well attended. The earnest appeals of our sister led many to the point of decision, and we rejoice to-day at the increased numbers in our Church membership. We praise God for His wonderful dealings amongst us, and go on our way rejoicing.

F. J. C.

16<sup>th</sup> October, 1886. page 8.

#### **ST ALBANS. Crescent Road Church Anniversary.**

This was held on 20<sup>th</sup> October. Mr. Eggleston gave statistics of the church membership, which the chairman contrasted with those of five years ago. In the interval the number of members had increased from 25 to 70, whilst the Sunday scholars, now reach 211, as against 140 then.

6<sup>th</sup> November, 1886. Page 7.

#### **NAPIER. (written a few weeks before Smalley's visit.)**

The readers of your "Joyful News" column will be glad to learn that a most encouraging work is going on in connection with our Church at Napier. After years of labour and of prayer, God's blessing has descended upon us, and we are having such times of refreshing as this church has never witnessed. During the last month, about

twenty young men have taken a decided stand for Christ, all of whom are able to rejoice in Him as an all-sufficient Saviour. One of the most remarkable, and, perhaps, one of the most hopeful features in connection with this work is the entire absence of all excitement; there is little doubt that Christ has been chosen calmly, deliberately, intelligently. One of the most convincing proofs of the genuineness of the work is the way in which these young converts are seeking to be useful, especially in urging upon their young companions the importance of decision. For the most part these young men are well grounded in Biblical truth; nearly all have been, or still are connected with our Sunday-school, and in addition to this most have had the advantage of a pious home; they will, therefore, start their new life under favourable circumstances. Many influences have been at work in bringing about this revival. In addition to those already mentioned, I may add the faithful ministrations of our circuit minister, the Rev. W. Baumber, whose earnest appeals and kindly entreaties have led several to decision; also, the visit of Mr. Matthew Burnett, when a large number of our church members re-consecrated themselves to Christ; and last, but not least, no doubt much of our present success is due to the faithful labours of those servants of God, who in the past have ministered to these young men. The good work still goes on; the church was never in a healthier state than at present, and we are looking forward to the coming of the Connexional Evangelist in the assurance that his visit will be made a blessing. We are hoping that a like gracious work will begin among the young women of our Church and school, and trust that Mrs. Smalley may be so far recovered from her indisposition as to be able, during the mission here, to persuade these young people to take a firm stand for Jesus. T. L.

6<sup>th</sup> November, 1886. page 7.

#### **LYTTELTON.**

We have had Mrs. Scott in this circuit, conducting a short mission, with some gratifying results. A week of special prayer beforehand proved a valuable preparation for the services, and the meetings were themselves times of blessing. The hour of consecration, which followed the Sunday evening address, when large numbers came forward to re-dedicate themselves to God, will not soon be forgotten. During the week some weary hearts have found rest, and some drooping souls have been made glad. Joined with thanksgiving to God for the measure of blessings received, is the prayer that Mrs Scott may everywhere be permitted to rejoice over souls won to the Saviour.

13<sup>th</sup> November, 1886. page 7.

#### **CANTERBURY DISTRICT MEETING.**

The Connexional Evangelist Committee Report was read by the Rev. W. Keall. A report of the Evangelist's labours prepared by himself was also read. After some discussion it was resolved to recommend that the Conference re-appoint the Rev. J.S. Smalley as Connexional Evangelist.

A proposal from the Durham-street quarterly meeting to recognize Mrs. Scott as a Connexional Evangelist was carefully considered. The proposal was not favoured, but the following resolution was adopted – This meeting having heard from several circuits in this district of the great good which has been done by Mrs. Scott, desires to place on

record its gratitude to Almighty God for the use He has made of her in the salvation of souls.

20<sup>th</sup> November, 1886. page 4.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Willowby.** (Ashburton Circuit.)

To those who are acquainted with the deep piety and rich experience of most of the Willowby congregation, a notice of revival work in that corner of this circuit will seem like misnomer. Where every ordinary service is, to the visitor, at any rate, a time of gracious influence, and in a district where a very large proportion of the population have passed from death unto life, it will be easily understood that when God's people seek for a yet deeper work of grace for themselves and salvation for the unsaved, the Spirit's presence is realized in great measure. A gracious season of this character was experienced at a series of meetings which took place at Willowby lately. Night after night the church was thronged, and it was difficult to get the friends to separate at a reasonable hour. The hallelujah of those who for the first time felt the burden roll away, mingled with the more subdued, but none the less fervent, praises of sanctified believers and of recovered backsliders. The meetings were mainly conducted by Rev. T.W. Newbold, and on different occasions Rev. D. McNicoll with Mr. Jos. Buchanan and the local captain of the Salvation Army, assisted to maintain an interest which never flagged. Such a melting time has never been realized at Willowby, and the work is still going on.

C.D.

20<sup>th</sup> November, 1886. page 7.

**EDITORIAL – Woman's Work in the Church.**

Silently, but swiftly and surely, a significant change is taking place everywhere concerning the position which woman ought to occupy as a Church-worker. We accept to-day with the utmost complacency a state of things in regard to this question from which, twenty years ago, many would have turned away as from something dangerously *outré*. The value of woman's service in certain departments of church work has been at all time gratefully recognized. Some of the most useful class leaders that Methodism has known have been women. Some of the most devoted and successful workers in the Sunday-school have also been women. As sick-visitors and tract-distributors they have had further opportunities of usefulness. And for a large measure of financial aids that has been secured to the Church by means of bazaars the credit is due almost entirely to the admirable tact and untiring industry of the ladies.

The idea that there was any sphere of church work beyond those we have indicated in which a woman could exercise any talents she might possess was, for the most part, scouted as preposterous. That she could figure on the platform, or, crowning heresy of all, that she could dare to occupy the pulpit was a proposition almost too shocking to be discussed. We have said that such views prevailed for the most part; but it must be remembered that long since there have been notable exceptions to the rule. In certain branches of the Methodist Church – for example, among the Primitive Methodists and Bible Christians – the right of woman to fill almost any position in the Church that a man can fill has been conceded from the beginning. But in the larger Methodism, as well, of course, as in other sections of the Church, there has been a general impression

that, even if such a practice is not expressly forbidden by Scripture, the notion of a woman publicly addressing mixed audience is scarcely consistent with propriety.

It was such an impression that was crystallized in the resolution on the subject adopted by our last General Conference, which was remarkable for nothing so much as its cautious conservatism. It will be of general interest to quote here the resolution referred to:

“We are of opinion that, in general, women ought not to preach, (1) Because a vast majority of our people are opposed to it; (2) Because their preaching does not seem necessary. But if any woman among us think she has an extraordinary call from God (and we are sure it must be an extraordinary call that can authorize it), we are of opinion that she should, in general, address her own sex alone. If permitted to preach, it should be (1) only in her own circuit, upon receiving the approbation of the superintendent minister and a quarterly meeting; (2) in any other circuit, upon the written invitation of the superintendent of such circuit, and a recommendatory note from her own superintendent.”

While such a deliverance was intended to discourage the preaching of women it is not difficult to perceive that there is some new wine in the old bottle, and that the bursting point is not far off. The reasons given for the prohibition were weak at the time when the Conference put them forth, and they are growing weaker every day. What with prayer unions and temperance unions, there has been a wonderful development of the gift of public speaking on the part of Christian women, and the number of such who can address an audience with considerable fluency and effectiveness is constantly increasing. The common prejudice against women-preaching has been largely dispelled by the fact that we have had and still have women preachers among us who, by the manner and matter and results of their preaching, have vindicated the position they have ventured to occupy. And we believe there is a growing tendency to settle this question less by sentimental than by practical considerations.

The question, “Ought a woman to preach?” will be determined by the further question, “Can the woman preach? Has she anything to say, and has she power to say it? Has she the gifts and the graces essential to the efficient discharge of such a duty as that of preaching?”

If she has, why should the fact of her being a woman be regarded as in any way a disqualification? If it is deemed right that a woman should sing in public before a mixed audience, why should it be regarded as an impropriety if she employs in public the gift of eloquent and sympathetic utterance in dealing with sacred truths? We no longer believe that all women are called to preach than we believe that all men are; in the very nature of things the number of women fitted for the vocation of public speaking must be limited. We recognize, however, with considerable satisfaction, the growth of an opinion within the Church distinctly favourable to the employment of women in the sublime work of preaching whenever, by natural and spiritual endowment, it is made manifest that God has called them to engage in it.

11<sup>th</sup> December, 1886. page 6.

### **District Statistics.**

In each district an increase of membership is reported:  
Auckland, 153;

Wanganui, 23;  
Wellington, 42;  
Nelson, 66;  
Canterbury, 24;  
Otago, 42;  
TOTAL, 350.

11<sup>th</sup> December, 1886. page 6.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1887.**

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The Rev. J.S. Smalley then preferred a request for leave to rest a year, with a view to travel. He said Mrs. Smalley's health had been considerably shattered, and rest and a sea voyage to England were necessary, upon a doctor's showing, to effect a recovery.

The Rev. J. Berry moved that the request be granted, and spoke of Mrs. Smalley's valuable labours in the circuits she had visited. He hoped the President would duly accredit Mr. Smalley to the Church authorities.

The Rev. H. Bull seconded the motion; in supporting it, the Rev E. Best referred to Mr. and Mrs. Smalley's successful labours.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The second reading of stations occurred the next day, and included Joseph Smalley as the Connexional Evangelist.

29<sup>th</sup> January, 1887. page 4.

### **CONNEXIONAL EVANGELIST.**

No item of Conference business was more eagerly anticipated than that which related to the work of the Connexional Evangelist, the Rev. J.S. Smalley.

The matter was introduced by the report of a special committee, brought up by the Rev. W. Baumber. This was for the first half-year's work, and had been presented to the Canterbury District Meeting. Since September 30, 1886, Mr. Smalley's work had been successfully continued until the end of the year, when through the failing health of Mrs. Smalley, the Evangelist had deemed it imperative to ask for a year's leave of absence, to take Mrs. Smalley to the Old Country. He also requested his committee in Christchurch to release him at the end of the year, but he now desired to complete his full year's work. The committee recommends that Mr. Smalley should continue his mission till the end of the financial year (1887), under the auspices of the committee in Christchurch, and that any deficiency which there might be dealt with by the Home Missions Committee. It was further recommended that no Connexional Evangelist be appointed for next year.

Conference consented to all of the above recommendations after some discussion, in which testimony was borne to the good which had resulted from the mission during the past year.

5<sup>th</sup> February, 1887. page 4.

[Smalley's missions occurred generally in the order in the published list in the previous July, followed by those reported upon in the paper – New Plymouth, Waitara, Patea, Wanganui, Napier, Christchurch (several circuits), Ashburton, Springston, and several others which were covered after the Conference, namely Timaru, Oamaru, Waimate and Temuka.]

### **STATE of Religion in the Churches.**

The Secretary of the Conference presented the "General Statistical Returns" for the past year. The reading of these returns led to an interesting conversation on the spiritual aspects of the work of God throughout the colony.

The Rev. A. Reid dwelt upon the necessity of educating the young for Jesus, and strongly urged more thorough Christian training in the homes.

The Rev. W. Baumber gave a graphic and very interesting account of a season of revival in Napier that had encouraged him greatly.

Mr. J.L Wilson spoke with force and feeling on the place of God's Holy Word in the family and in the Church. He earnestly pleaded for deeper personal godliness.

The following motion, proposed by the ex-President, was adopted:- "That the Conference, having had under review the state of the work of God in the colony, expresses its gratification at the growth which the returns now laid upon the table indicate. It hereby places on record the fact that there has been an increase of 354 Church members and 1741 attendants upon the public ministry of the Church. The returns concerning Sunday-schools reveal also a state of prosperity, there being a net increase of 484 scholars for the year. The temperance work has been vigorously prosecuted, and was never in a more healthy or encouraging condition. The great hope of the Conference for the future success and final triumph of religion lies in the moral beauty of the home life and the fidelity of home training. While the Conference views with gratification the progress indicated by the returns for the past year, it does not deem that the increase shown is sufficiently commensurate with the varied and extensive efforts exerted. That the future may be still larger and more complete, the Conference urges upon the members of the Church the necessity of entire consecration and self-denying zeal in God's work, and it particularly urges upon all Christian parents their solemn and binding duty with regard to home training and family prayer.

Conference adjourned, after a season of devotion, at half-past nine."

12<sup>th</sup> February, 1887, page 4.

### **CHRISTCHURCH. (Waltham.)**

The Wesleyan Church, Waltham, which has been closed for several years past, was re-opened on Sunday, April 7, under the auspices of the Durham-street Local Preacher's Meeting. The church had been cleaned and windows repaired by Mr. Scott. A number of handbills were distributed by Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Cork, announcing the opening services. Bro. R. Dawson preached to a good congregation in the morning; in the afternoon a camp meeting was held in front of the church, and was well attended. Short and earnest addresses were delivered by Bros Faull, Hiddlestone, Mundy, and Dowl; Sister Scott also delivered a telling address. Several in the congregation testified to the joy and thankfulness which they felt at seeing the church re-opened for Divine worship. On Monday evening a public meeting was held, a tea and coffee supper being announced; the church was crowded. The chair was occupied by the rev. W.J. Williams. Addresses were delivered by the Revs W. Morley, W. Keall, Bros. J.L. Wilson, E.

Armstrong, and Sheppard. During the interval an abundant supply of tea and coffee, with other good things, were handed round. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the ladies who supplied the supper, and Sister Scott acknowledged the vote in graceful terms. The hymns and tunes for mission services were used in all the services, Mr. W.H. Roberts acting as precentor.

7<sup>th</sup> May. 1887, page 7.

### **DURHAM STREET MISSION BAND**

The first reference to this group of young Christians appears in the “Joyful News” column in the issue for 11<sup>th</sup> June, 1887. After prayer each Sunday evening, they ventured out, mainly into the open air, to sing, preach and witness. Reports appear, and success is mentioned, on many occasions through the following months. The suggestion to create Mission Bands had been made some weeks earlier in the paper.

Rev. B.F. Rothwell moved from Gore to Queenstown – the Wakatipu Circuit. He immediately embarked upon special services, with some good success. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July, 1887. and 16<sup>th</sup> July. Also 13<sup>th</sup> August.

### **JOYFUL NEWS**

- Christchurch, Durham Street circuit – East Belt church.
- Wakatipu – Arrowtown.
- Tapanui. The home missionary here swapped with the missionary at Roxburgh. Also involved was the probationer at Gore, Rev. J. Blight.

### **Banks Peninsula.**

During the last month Mrs. Scott has been holding some meetings at Le Bon’s Bay and Akaroa. The services have been held in the Congregational churches at both places. We have every reason that a good work has been done, more especially among the young people; a number of them professed to have found peace through believing. The Revs McClennan and Barnett, of the Presbyterian and Congregational churches, rendered Mrs. Scott assistance at the meetings. Mrs. Scott received a pressing invitation to visit Little River to hold a mission; she has promised to comply with the request at the first opportunity.

13<sup>th</sup> August, 1887. page 7.

Other Joyful News reported from Riverton, Hutt, Temuka, and Timaru.

### **JOYFUL NEWS – St Albans (Crescent-road.), and Willowby.**

We have just concluded a fortnight of special services which have been attended with blessed results. We had a daily prayer meeting at 2.30 p.m. which was well attended, and in which several mothers made their peace with God. The evening meetings were held in the school-room, which was well filled each night. The Crescent-

road choir rendered valuable help in connection with the choir from St Albans, and the singing was all that could be desired. Several minister came to the help of our superintendent minister, upon whom the conduct of the meetings chiefly devolved. When the Rev. A.C. Lawry's other duties permitted of his being present his services were much appreciated.

Many members of the church worked nobly in seeking out their neighbours and bringing them to the meetings. The conversions have been many, some of the cases being deeply interesting. We hope and believe that the good work will not stop, though the special meetings could not be carried on longer, amid other pressing claims upon the time of our ministers. The meetings were brought to a close by a united sacramental service on Monday evening, Sept. 12. To God be all the praise!

17th September, 1887. page 7.

#### **Ashburton Circuit. (WILLOWBY).**

The people of Willowby have joyful news to tell. Our Saviour tells us that there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth. What must the joy in heaven be when over twenty come forward – some to be restored, others again seeking Christ – to the Saviour? We commenced on August 15, holding a week of special prayer; the meetings were well attended. During the week it was very evident that God was about to bless us. On Sunday morning, August 21, Mrs. Scott commenced her mission. We had a very full congregation; God's power was manifestly present. Every evening we had gracious times. We met for prayer a short time before each service. During the day Mrs. Scott visited the people; this was blessed in bringing many out. Our Willowby friends will long remember our dear Sister Scott: the prayers of our people are, "God bless her everywhere she may go." She finished her mission on Sunday evening, the 28<sup>th</sup>, and went to Tinwald. On the following Wednesday she returned to Willowby to hold a fellowship meeting, and to meet those who had made a stand for Christ. Although there was a political meeting in the day school close by, we had a full church and a glorious meeting. Mrs. Scott very strongly advised those that had come out for Christ to meet in class and seek fellowship one with another. To God be all the praise and honour and glory.

17<sup>th</sup> September, 1887. page 7.

#### **WILLOWBY (Ashburton Circuit.)**

Quarterly Meeting, Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

A resolution expressive of thanks to Almighty God for Mrs. Scott's work at Willowby and Tinwald was heartily approved.

1<sup>st</sup> October, 1887. page 7.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. (Durham Street, and Greendale Prim. Meth.)**

Christchurch.

The Durham-street Mission Band availed themselves of a very beautiful evening on Sunday last to go out to Cathedral Square and hold the usual service. The unusual attractions at Durham-street consequent on the Sunday school anniversary somewhat interfered with our arrangements, and lessened our numbers a little for the open-air work. Those who went felt that great allowance must be made, for this is undoubtedly the most

popular anniversary of the year. Our joy, however, was to feel that the Master was with us, and did bless us in the work. We had the pleasure of finding one young man who was not far from the kingdom; so far was he persuaded that he readily promised us that he would make it a matter of prayer. Here was something gained, the result of which may be found amongst the gathered sheaves at last. "Behold He prayeth" is a sight which interests the angels. Praise God we cannot be discouraged while we can lead men to pray.

H. W. 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1887. page 8.

**GREENDALE. (Primitive Methodist.)**

Mrs. Scott commenced a week's mission in the Primitive Methodist chapel, Greendale, on Sunday, September 11.

Despite the fact of the Union Sunday-school holding its anniversary service on that day, the church was well filled, and our dear sister was attentively listened to. During the whole of the week the church was crowded – to excess on some occasions. People came from very long distances, in several cases eight miles. On Monday night a number of our members consecrated themselves to God; and some commenced serving God for the first time. Every night during the week souls were saved, and our members came out boldly to give themselves afresh to Jesus. On Sunday our minister conducted the morning service, when he spoke with power, and in the evening Mrs. Scott and Mr. Sharp spoke to a crowded meeting. The word was accompanied with the Spirit, and many came out for God. This was perhaps the most powerful meeting during the mission, and, as one brother described it, "It is like a little heaven on earth," and it was. On this occasion both minister, local preachers, and members, and members of other churches, came out "with one accord" to give their services wholly to the Lord. Many unconverted were pierced by the "two-edged sword." It was found impossible to give the meeting up till 12 p.m. on one occasion, as the convicted would not leave the building till they had found "the Pearl of great price." So great was the interest taken in the mission that our dear sister very kindly consented to stay till Wednesday evening, on which evening, despite every effort to provide sitting room, many were unable to get inside, and although the benediction was pronounced twice, no one moved to leave, and the meeting had to be carried on far into the night.

Many are the prayers that God's richest blessing will follow our dear sister, and her husband, During the mission two "women's meetings" were held, and fairly well attended. Efforts are being made to continue the "women's meetings," and the other churches are to be asked to assist. To God be all the glory and praise for the blessings sent in heavenly showers. May He keep those who have given themselves to His keeping.

1<sup>st</sup> October, 1887. page 8.

**NAPIER. Quarterly Meeting, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September.**

The Rev. W. Baumber was in the chair. Numerically the increase (of members) during the year is 26; the average attendance at the school, 157; on the books, 224; teachers 2.

19<sup>th</sup> November, 1887. page 7.

**JOYFUL NEWS. At Upper Thames, Wanganui, Wellington, and Timaru Prim. Meths.** 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1887. page 7.

**Results from the CENSUS**

The following figures show the number of persons (exclusive of Maoris) belonging to the principal denominations in New Zealand, at the census taken in December, 1867, and again in March, 1886, a period of more than eighteen years intervening:-

	1867.	1886.
Church of England, and Protestants not otherwise defined.	96,892.	232,369.
Presbyterians.	54,929.	130,643.
Methodists.	18,088.	55,292.
Baptists.	4,353.	14,357.
Congregational, Independents.	4,246.	7,787.
Lutherans.	2,383.	5,917.
Unitarians.	269.	466.
Society of Friends.	146.	282.
Roman Catholics, and Catholics undefined.	30,413.	80,715.
Hebrews.	1,247.	1,559.
Pagans.	1,111.	4,472.
Otherwise described.	2,839.	21,853.
Undescribed.	1,752.	2,869.
Object to state.	---	19,889.
 Totals.	 218,688.	 578,482.

Increase of population in that period.- 359,714. or 164.50 percent.  
 During that time the Church of England and Protestants not defined increased 138.79 percent. Presbyterians increased 137.84, nearly one percent less than the C of E., and more than 26 percent less than the rate of growth of the Population.  
 Methodists of all branches increased by 37,204, or at the rate of 41.18 percent greater growth than the rate for the whole population.  
 The Baptists increase was 10,004, or 229.81 percent, being not only considerably larger than the population rate of growth, but also showing the greatest rate of any of the denominations.

5<sup>th</sup> November, 1887. page 4.

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**JOYFUL NEWS. At Upper Thames, Wanganui, Wellington, and Timaru Prim. Meths.** 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1887. page 7.

## Mrs Scott. 1888

### **Blenheim – Week of United Prayer – (As it ought to be).**

The first Monday evening of the New Year ministers and friends of different denominations united together in the Salvation Army Barracks, firing Gospel shots of faithful testimony in the enemy's camp, to the great joy of true believers. Tuesday evening (Wesleyan church), united prayer meeting under the auspices of the Evangelical Alliance; addresses by Revs Young (Presbyterian), and T.G. Grace (Anglican). Wednesday evening, meeting in Presbyterian church: addresses by Captain J. Field (Salvation Army), and Rev. Allsworth (Presbyterian), Picton. Thursday evening (Anglican church), addresses by Rev. W.O. Bobb (Presbyterian), and J. Crump (Wesleyan). At these meetings faithful, believing prayer has arisen from loving hearts, and many are rejoicing at the spirit of love and unity manifested.

21<sup>st</sup> January, 1888. page 6.

### **Returns at Conference.**

The general returns of Church work were read by Rev. W. Baumber. The numbers are as follows: Churches, 180; other preaching places, 267; ministers, 77; catechists, 14; Sunday-school teachers, 1866; local preachers, 341; class leaders, 239; members, 7062; members on trial, 286; communicants, 1462; catechumens, 765; Sunday schools, 212; scholars, 17,844; attendants, 46,513. These figures show that since last General Conference, in 1884, there has been an increase of churches, 16; other preaching places, 50; over 1100 members; and over 3,000 attendants.

Conversation followed in which Revs Berry, Bull, Bavin, Lewis, Morley, and Messrs. Snodgrass, Moxham and White took part. It was shown that mission work of a special kind was being done in Freeman's Bay, Auckland, and Christchurch. Special mention was made of the young people attached to the Church, and many of these were reported as joining the membership. The services of the lay preachers were referred to with high commendation. A resolution expressing gratitude for the good accomplished, as also a determination to renewed consecration, was adopted.

The report of the Committee on Early Methodist History was presented by Rev. W. Morley. This showed a large amount of information relating to the commencement of missionary operations and the establishment of European agencies. The report was received and adopted. It was decided that an abstract of the report be forwarded to the General Conference. The Rev. W. Morley was thanked for past services, and the Rev. H. Bull was appointed to take his place. Rev. R. Bavin presented the report of the Committee on Higher Education. It was seconded and adopted. The committee was re-appointed.

11<sup>th</sup> February, 1888. page 4.

[Membership grew by 211 in the last 12 months.]

[New President – Rev. W.J. Williams.]

### **Editorial.**

The recent Conference was marked by earnest prayer for a plentiful outpouring of the Spirit of God on all our churches throughout the coming year. We believe that all

who were present at the Conference have returned to their homes refreshed and profited, and full of hope that the prayer for a year of gracious revival will be abundantly answered. If our willingness to receive is at all worthily proportioned to God's willingness to give, the coming connexional year will be far and away the brightest and best in the annals on New Zealand Methodism.

11<sup>th</sup> February, 1888. page 6.

NAPIER report, including the departure of Rev. W. Baumber. 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1888. page 6.

### **EDITORIAL. One Thousand New Members.**

An increase of not less than one thousand new members ought to be reported at the next Annual Conference in New Zealand. That it is true will be very much in excess of anything we have reported yet; but it is high time that we made some attempt to break the record. We have been accustomed to comfort ourselves by allowing a good margin for "untabulated results"; in all seriousness, we ought to settle down to secure, if possible, a worthier measure of results that can be tabulated. There ought to be a better proportion between our successes and our appliances. We make a goodly show with our church machinery as if we contemplated doing a large business; when our returns are made up year by year no one can venture to say that are at all satisfactory. It is a poor consolation to say that we are doing quite as well as our neighbours: in fact, better than some in the same line of business. It is only too clear that the measure of our success in soul-saving is very much smaller than might reasonably be expected. A marked improvement upon our past record is very much to be desired, and ought not hastily to be written down as impracticable.

No one can say that the gain of a thousand new members in a year is an extravagant estimate when we review the forces that are employed ostensibly for the purpose of extending, as well as consolidating, our church membership. We have in connection with the Conference, including Home Mission stations, SEVENTY-FOUR CIRCUITS. "A revival in every circuit" ought to be a standing motto throughout the Methodist world. *An average increase of fourteen members in each circuit* in the colony during the year would leave us with something in excess of the number we have named as the total minimum. If in any circuit the work of a whole year does not result in a net gain of fourteen - is it not a case that requires looking into? We get into the habit of testing our circuits by financial results. If a circuit falls seriously behind in the amount which it is estimated to raise for the Home Mission or the Foreign Mission Fund, there is a solemn pause in the Conference; and explanation is required, and if not deemed satisfactory, the delinquent circuit is sometimes favoured with a letter of admonition. This, probably, is necessary in the interests of connexional finance; but why should the principle stop short at financial results? What about circuits that, year after year, remain stationary, or are even retrograde, in the vital matter of membership? Is not a searching enquiry justifiable, and even imperative, in such circumstances?

It does not follow that such an enquiry would necessarily reflect either upon the faithfulness or diligence of the circuit officials: but is it not due to them and to the whole Connexion that the fact relating to the anomaly of a non-progressive circuit should be brought out for the purpose of an explanation? If at our District Meetings the

responsibility of each circuit in relation to spiritual progress could be more fully faced, and kindly enquiry made, who can doubt that much of our work would be marked by a healthier tone, and that we should have a brighter record of progress?

Let it be understood that a gain of fourteen members in each circuit would leave us with an increase of more than a thousand members at the end of the year.

Then we have at work, including ministers, home missionaries, and local preachers no less than *four hundred and thirty-two preachers*. Each one of these has solemnly promised to make the conversion of sinners one of the chief ends of his preaching. He professes to have proved the saving power of the Gospel in his own experience, and he goes forth supremely anxious that all who hear him should be partakers of like precious faith. That a man with any faith in God and the Gospel at all should preach for a whole year without securing at least THREE conversions would seem to be a most painfully disappointing result. Yet an average of less than three converts per year for every preacher within the Conference would leave us with an increase of a thousand souls. O brothers in the sacred work of preaching shall we remember this as we go forth to our labour, and plead afresh with God for the power we need to secure the conversion of sinners!

Another important wing of the army of workers is represented by the fact that we have *two hundred and thirty-nine class-leaders*.

But it may be asked, What have class leaders to do with aggressive spiritual work? Much, every way. The dry rot has got into our class-meeting system because too few of our classes have realized their responsibility in relation to soul-saving. When people have nothing more to talk about week by week than their own feelings, nothing is more likely in the long run, than that such meetings should become flat, stale, and unprofitable. But if the members of a class, with the leader at their head, feel that it is essential to their own religious life that they should concern themselves in the salvation of others and endeavour to win them to Christ, a practical tone will be given to the weekly meeting, and it will become in the highest degree interesting and profitable. An average of less than five members for each class would leave us our round thousand at the end of the year! What class-leader in the Connexion will content himself with a gain of less than five for a whole year?

What, however, is the most highly favoured corps of the army of workers is that represented by no less than *one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six Sunday-school teachers*.

The mere mention of such a fact shows that we ought to get an increase of a thousand members this year from our Sunday-schools alone. What are our Sunday-school teachers doing in the way of urging decision for Christ and His Church? There is a great deal of excellent instruction given and well-meant advice. Is there enough of close dealing with each individual child in the supreme matter of personal salvation? Is the honour and privilege of church membership set forth with sufficient clearness? Is there anything like a worthy effort made to win our young people to the service of Christ? Let an enthusiasm for soul-saving seize upon our Sunday-school teachers, and what is there then to prevent us from reckoning our gains by the thousand?

Our obligation, however, with regard to spiritual gains by no means stops short at the various classes of recognized Church workers we have so far enumerated. Not one included in the ranks of Church membership can escape responsibility in relation to soul-

saving, and the most solemn consideration of all that can be adduced with regard to the increase we ought to have is the fact that we have enrolled no less than *seven thousand and sixty-two church members*.

With such a working base of membership is a thousand increase for a year anything like too much to expect? If these seven thousand and odd members set any value at all upon the privilege of membership, or realize any measure of grateful obligation to ALMIGHTY GOD for the enjoyment of spiritual blessings, ought we not to look for constant accessions to our ranks all along the line? A combination of seven members to secure a net gain of one for a whole year is surely not an extravagant estimate of what is practicable in the way of Christian effort. What is our profession of loyalty to Christ worth if it leaves us content with anything less ambitious in the matter of soul-saving than this?

Let us not wait indolently for the “tide of the Spirit;” that will come the very moment we are willing and ready to receive it. Let us not reserve our strength for something special in the future; the opportunity is upon us now, and every moment of delay means so much of the opportunity lost forever. There is no Connexional Evangelist taking the field this year; every man must be his own evangelist, or the work will never be done. Begin now. Begin, everybody. Begin everywhere. “Attempt great things for God; expect great things from God.” Let there be faith, hope, prayer, continuous hard work and grateful expectancy all along the line, and we shall have our thousand souls and more. Then shall we break forth into singing:

All thanks be to God,  
Who scatters abroad,  
Throughout every place,  
By the least of His servants His savour of grace!  
Who the victory gave  
The praise let Him have,  
For the work He hath done:  
All honour and glory to Jesus alone!

10<sup>th</sup> March, 1888. page 6.

Durham Street Mission Band. 10<sup>th</sup> March, 1888. page 7.

“Out-and-Out.” 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1888. page 6.

The Secret of Spurgeon’s Success. 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1888. page 3.

Moody in the Pulpit. 16<sup>th</sup> June, 1888. page 3.

Religion in Large Cities. 30<sup>th</sup> June, 1888. page 6.

Woman’s Place in the Church. 14<sup>th</sup> July, 1888. page 6.

#### **AUCKLAND. (North Shore.)**

The meeting resolved, at the suggestion of the chairman, that once a quarter at least some part of the Sunday morning service should be conducted in the interests of the children, and that, if practicable, a hymn from the Sunday-school book should be sung. It was resolved, also, to devote an occasional Sunday evening service to purely evangelistic

work, at which there should be two short addresses, special singing, and an earnest effort in the after-meeting to bring the unconverted to a decision for Christ; the sittings to be free, and no collection to be taken up.

14<sup>th</sup> July, 1888. page 6.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Oamaru.**

During the last four weeks various parts of this circuit have been visited with showers of blessing. For some time previously there were signs of encouragement both in town and country, and these signs have been followed by a glorious ingathering of souls. Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, came into the circuit, and began a mission at Kakanui on the last Sunday in May. More unpropitious weather for commencing special work could scarcely be imagined. It rained steadily all day, and the roads were in a horrible condition. But faith and prayer are wonderful factors in the prosecution of the Lord's work. In this case God honoured both by giving our sister good congregations and some fruit. Monday was likewise inclement, yet the people came out in goodly numbers. The remainder of the week was more favorable, the consequence being that the little church was crowded every night, the power of God was present, and there was such a breaking-down in the meeting as has not been seen in Kakanui before. A number of professing Christians were led to solemnly consecrate themselves to God afresh, while sinners were enabled to lay hold on Christ to the salvation of their souls. On one night in particular the rails and front seats were filled with persons seeking mercy or backsliders returning from their wanderings. Kakanui hitherto has been known by those who have sought to shake the people out of their sins as "a hard place," but blessed be God, there is nothing too hard for Him, and He has given us to see His arm made bare in sight of all the people.

On successive Sunday evenings the church has been so crowded that several people have been unable to get in. The local preachers have reported gracious seasons at every service. This visitation has produced a wonderful effect on the social as well as the spiritual state of some of the people. Old grudges have been forgotten, neighbours who had been at enmity are found fast friends, bowing together in prayer. A Sunday-school is now in prospect where we had none, and there is a readiness for Christian service of almost any kind, such as it was impossible to evoke a little while ago.

Enfield was the next place planned for missioning. If the six days' services in Kakanui were encouraging, those at Enfield were doubly so. We had felt that there was a ripeness for revival work in this township, and confidently expected to see much good done, but the good accomplished has gone beyond our little measure of faith. From the first Mrs Scott's labours were attended with extraordinary power. The first Sunday evening was a memorable time. The schoolhouse was packed, the Spirit applied the Word, many were convicted, and two souls found peace. The work went on night after night, gaining in depth. No service closed without a number being led to decide for Christ. Friday night crowned the whole. It seemed as if everybody in the building was moved. Lukewarm Christians, out-and-out backsliders, mere religious formalists, together with those who never made any profession, were brought to their knees. Nor was the work of soul-saving confined to the evening services. Some found "the Pearl" while being conversed with in their own homes, others while at their employment. The result of this blessed work is that in nearly every house in the township some one or more

have given their hearts to God. In a few cases whole families have been converted. It has been perfectly delightful to witness those who themselves had tasted of the joys of salvation pleading with the unsaved members of their own families or their acquaintances to come to the same fountain of happiness. Whereas, formerly, it was difficult to get anyone to speak freely on spiritual themes in their homes; now that so many tongues have been unloosed there is a remarkable readiness to tell the praises of the redeemer in almost every household. Until now we as a church have had but a name in Enfield. Services have been conducted for several years on Sun day evenings apparently without any success, but this unsatisfactory state of things is changed. On last Tuesday night the writer administered the Lord's Supper to upwards of fifty, most of whom were new born souls; and afterwards he formed a Society class, numbering forty-one. Nor does this represent the good done, for several of the converts it their duty to join the Presbyterian Church. The work goes on. Several are holding out against God, but prayer is being made for them, and we are confident that they will yield ere long.

In Oamaru much blessing has come upon us and upon the other Churches. Mrs. Scott laboured here for ten days. Every afternoon a meeting was held under the auspices of the Women's Prayer Union (Unsectarian) in the lecture hall of our church, at which she gave an address. These meetings were made specially helpful to many. The evangelistic meeting in the church each evening attracted fairly good congregations. Our members have been greatly quickened, several backsliders have been reclaimed, and a number of sinners have professed to find peace through the Blood.

"All thanks be to God,  
Who scatters abroad,  
Throughout every place,  
By the least of His servants, His savour of grace!  
Who the victory gave,  
The praise let Him have,  
For the work He has done:  
All honour and glory to Jesus alone!"

Mrs. Scott has gone on to Hampden, at the invitation of a few friends there. We shall have something joyful to report from that quarter by-and bye.

G. W. S. J. (Spence?)

14<sup>th</sup> July, 1888, page 7.

Bunnythorpe. 21<sup>st</sup> July, 1888. page 7.

Willowby and Hinds. 28<sup>th</sup> July, 1888. page 7.

### **Editorial. REVIVALS: PAST and PRESENT.**

Nothing is more deserving the earnest attention of professing Christians than the history of religious revivals. At this time of the year in most of our churches it is customary the make special effort in order to bring the unsaved to Christ. These efforts are attending with varying degrees of success. Nine, probably, are altogether barren of result; but in some cases there appears to be a discouraging disproportion between the expectations raised and the hopes realized. Under such circumstances it may be

instructive to consider our present revival methods in the light of revival history. The question is often asked, "Why do we not see revivals now on the same grand scale we have heard and read of in former times?" That question well deserves serious consideration, as it touches very closely the larger question relating to the rate of progress now attained by the cause of Christ. How were the great revivals referred to brought about? Were they the result of carefully laid plans and a long course of preparation? Or was there a spontaneous and unlooked for outburst of spiritual force, coming and going entirely irrespective of human foresight and calculation? There is ample room in the history of revivals for both these explanations; sometimes the one has been the more prominent and sometimes the other. The great revival at Pentecost was, in its human aspect, the outcome of the ten days' prayerful waiting on the part of the disciples. They staked their trust and expectation on the promise of Christ, and they waited patiently for its fulfillment. The manner of the coming of the Holy Ghost and the results of His coming they had no conception of, but of the fact of His coming they were fully assured, on the testimony of their ascended Lord. Hence their waiting, and hence their splendid reward. There have been times, however, in the history of the Church, when in a very literal fashion the Kingdom of God has come without observation. Without any prelude of days and nights of agonizing effort, of tearful intercession, the heavens have flushed with the ruddy hues of promise, the hearts of God's people have warmed with unfamiliar fire, and sinners, suddenly and strangely conscience-smitten, have bitterly cried, "What must we do to be saved?"

With these facts before us, there seems ample warrant both to arrange a "plan of campaign" in connection with a desired revival, and also to hold ourselves in readiness in connection with our ordinary church movements to be seized upon and stimulated to mightier effort by the coming of the Holy Ghost. No part of England has had a more remarkable history in relation to revivals than the county of Cornwall, and nowhere, perhaps, has there been such an entire absence of any attempt to "get up" a revival. The term commonly employed there to describe the origin of a revival is that "it broke out," and this in hundreds of cases has been literally true.

Under an earnest Gospel appeal in the Sunday evening service sinners have been led to cry for mercy, and that has been the signal for holding revival meetings night after night, sometimes for weeks in succession. No special announcements were made; no special evangelist was employed; the fire fell, and everybody felt its warmth and flocked to the meetings, where scores and hundreds were saved. It may be that the question of temperament has to be considered in connection with such cases; it is quite possible that the conditions of the case even in Cornwall are not altogether to-day what they were in former years. It is significant at any rate that the recent revival in Camborne, the Conference town, in which not less than a thousand persons were converted, took place in connection with the labours of Thomas Cook, the Conference Evangelist. This leads us to remark that there are distractions in modern life, and particularly in Colonial life most unfriendly to the success of the simpler revival methods that prevailed in former times. There are business distractions, political distractions, social distractions, amusement distractions, that in too many instances create a most serious difficulty in the way of gaining the ear and heart of the people for any special appeal in the name of religion. It must also be said that another difficulty for most churches has been created by a well-meant line of effort that has been adopted with a view to compel outsiders to come in.

The startlingly sensational methods adopted by the Salvation Army have largely neutralized the quieter methods of evangelistic effort made use of by the churches. The time was when the distribution of a few handbills announcing special services sufficed to bring large numbers of the class particularly sought in connection with revival effort. The glare of torchlight, the display of colors, the sound of the trumpet and the roll of the drum have rendered such means of enticement tame and ineffectual. The masses must be marched now to revival meetings to the strains of martial music, or they decline to come at all. Excepting in cases where it is practicable to secure the services of an evangelist of popular gifts and commanding influence, we can only as a rule venture to cherish moderate expectations of success in reaching outsiders in revival services conducted by and from with the church.

Ample scope, however, for revival effort is furnished within the Church itself. At such times we may well expect that the young people trained in our Sunday-schools will be led to full decision for Christ. Special revival services in which devoted Sunday-school teachers are found on the alert will seldom be without precious results. It will be a clear gain also to the interests of Christian progress if at such times believers themselves are caught up to a higher spiritual level and brought into fuller and more practical sympathy with Christ's purposes to seek and to save that which was lost. In such a case outsiders will be reached in a most effectual way. They may disregard the invitation to the house of God, but it will be impossible for them to be indifferent to the glow of a holy life, or to the touch and call of kindly, Christian, individual effort.

A revival that results in sending a bright current of spiritual life coursing along the channels marked by religious profession will work wonders in the way of rebuking wickedness, dispelling indifference and awakening everywhere an ardent longing to find refuge and rest in Christ. With such an end in view let the United Church continue to urge the prayer, "O Lord, Revive Thy Work."

4<sup>th</sup> August, 1888. page 6.

#### **WELLINGTON. Preparations.**

On July 23 a meeting of officials was held in the Wesley Church schoolroom to consider what steps should be taken to promote the spiritual work of the circuit. There were present the three circuit ministers and twenty-five laymen. A general and free discussion took place as to the best methods of holding prayer-meetings and other services; and though the views expressed were divergent, there was unanimity as to the need for some unusual effort to gather in the harvest.

It was resolved that, as the first requisite, is that the members of the church should themselves be quickened, meetings for members be held for a week at an early date, and that then evangelistic work be held in the three churches. A committee, consisting of the circuit ministers and Messrs. Moxham, Tiller, and E. Tonks, was appointed to arrange all details –

Molesworth Street. – Sunday-school anniversary.

4<sup>th</sup> August, 1888. page 7.

Catherine Booth – preacher. 25<sup>th</sup> August, 1888. page 3.

Manukua – conversions in the Sunday school. 25<sup>th</sup> August, 1888. page 6.

### **DUNEDIN. Cargill Road.**

We have been privileged to experience a gracious season of blessing in this church. On July 23 we commenced a week of special prayer for an outpouring of the Spirit upon us as a Church and people. We also mapped out the whole district and had a house-to-house canvass, giving to all a personal invitation to attend the special services, which we commenced on Sunday evening, July 29, and so large a measure of success attended them that we were obliged to continue them for three weeks. God's presence being felt in an especial manner, many were converted, and God's own people greatly strengthened and revived.

One noticeable feature in connection with this mission was that nearly every case of conversion was the result of individual effort; someone had made the case a matter of prayer, and had visited them and brought them to the services, with the result that God had blessed such effort. The services, which were conducted by the Rev. W. Baumber, assisted by Rev. W.G. Parsonson and Rev. S.J. Garlick, of Mornington, will be long remembered as a blessed time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord; and we are praying and believing that this wave of blessing will extend to all the churches of the district, and that many may be the slain of the Lord.

8<sup>th</sup> September, 1888. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Dunedin Trinity.**

Following upon the services recently held in Cargill Road it was decided that special evangelistic services should be held in Trinity Church Hall. The services were preceded by a week of special prayer, prayer-meetings being held every evening, commencing on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> inst., the series was commenced, the services being conducted by our minister, the Rev. W. Baumber, and assisted by the Revs. W.G. Parsonson, S.J. Garlick, and Potter (Primitive Methodist), and Mr. Cole. The attendance and interest in the meetings increased as the week drew to a close, Friday's meeting being an especial time of refreshing and blessing, God's Spirit being felt, and many found their way to the enquiry room. The meetings were so encouraging, several coming almost every evening from distant suburbs, that it was decided to continue them for another week, and we are glad to say the result has been most gratifying. About twenty profess to have found Christ, many have been awakened, and we believe much good will come to the church as a result of these meetings from the fact that Ministers, office-bearers, and members alike have been spiritually blessed and quickened.

15<sup>th</sup> September, 1888. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Wellington.**

The Lord has blessed us with a marvelous outpouring of His Spirit in this circuit. About three weeks ago it was decided to hold a series of special services, beginning in the Taranaki-street Church. A week of preparatory prayer-meetings was first held, during which the spirit of the people augured well for the success of the coming services.

On the following week at the first evangelistic service thirty-two of the Sunday-scholars professed to find Christ; and every evening afterwards for two weeks there were penitents at the communion rail. Some of the meetings were times never to be forgotten – the presence and power of the Holy Spirit being manifest to all in the church. Altogether there have been during the fortnight from eighty to a hundred satisfactory cases of conversion, including ages ranging from 8 or 10 to 65 years. The principal benefit in the matter of conversions has been reaped by the Sunday-school. But a statement merely of the number saved conveys no adequate conception of the real good that has been done. The spiritual tone of the whole church has been deepened. Professing Christians who had become comparatively cold in Christ's service have got back their old fire. Almost as a body the members have publicly re-consecrated themselves to God's service. The spirit of prayer and the power of testimony have descended upon the timid and the diffident. The feelings of many found expression in the words of one, who declared that, during a Christian course of thirty-five years he had never had such an experience as the present. And not our own people alone have been blessed by this revival. The fire has spread. On one evening, no less than five different denominations were represented amongst the seekers. A noon-day prayer-meeting, which has been well attended, was held throughout the course of the services, and was characterized by much power.

A noticeable feature of the revival has been the number of direct answers to prayer where special requests were sent into the noon meeting. The mission was closed for the present on Friday evening by a fellowship meeting and communion service, at which 250 partook of the Lord's Supper – about 60 responding to the invitation given to those who had never partaken of the Sacrament before. The influence of this revival is extending from the centre to the extremities of the circuit. Already at Thorndon there has been gathered in the first fruits of what we expect will be an abundant harvest. Next week the special services will be carried on there and at Newtown simultaneously. "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

We praise Him for all that is past,  
And trust Him for all that's to come."

T. W. J.

22<sup>nd</sup> September, 1888. page 7.

### **Manukau Circuit.**

The Quarterly Meeting held at Otahuhu on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. The Rev. R. Bavin presided. In presenting the membership returns, the chairman referred in grateful terms to the success of the recent mission services held at Onehunga and Otahuhu, resulting in a very gratifying increase in the number of members in those respective places as well as quickened spiritual life in the churches. The numbers reported are – 216 full, increase of 32; on trial, 42; and 55 communicants. Gratitude to God was also

expressed for the satisfactory financial position of the circuit, notwithstanding there were some unusual items of expenditure.

6<sup>th</sup> October, 1888. page 7.

Also, move by the Christchurch Quarterly Meeting to establish a Mission Band, to operate in the summer months on Sunday evenings.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Hokitika.**

A gracious work is in progress at Kanieri, in the Hokitika Circuit. Special services have been held every night for seven weeks. Spiritual power increasing the whole time. Twenty at the penitent form last Friday. Upwards of forty cases of clear conversion. The work still in progress. Glory be to God!

6<sup>th</sup> October, 1888. page 8.

### **WELLINGTON. Thorndon.**

The Lord is continuing His gracious work amongst us. Special services have been held this week at Thorndon, and each evening souls have been saved. Tuesday and Friday evenings, especially, were seasons of marvelous power, the communion rail being crowded with earnest seekers. The anxious, the careless, and the openly rebellious, have alike been brought to Christ. Old "roots of bitterness" in the Church have been torn up; feelings of enmity between members of the congregation have been confessed and destroyed. Twenty-seven adults, and twenty-five of the Sunday-school scholars (some of them the worst in the school) have professed conversion during the week. A large majority of the former are giving unmistakable evidence of the reality of their change, and we hope, by constant and prayerful instruction, to fold all "the lambs" for Christ. "A band of men whose heart God had touched" came from Taranaki-street each evening to help us, and with their assistance we intend every soon to carry the war in to the enemy's camp at Kaiwarra, for we are persuaded that the Lord "hath much people" in that place. Our hearts are full of gratitude for what God hath done, and "we feel like singing all the time:" "Blessed be the Lord, Who only doeth wondrous things." T.J.W.

6th October, 1888. page 8.

### **Editor's comment.**

We hail with gladness the news from various circuits of the progress of God's work. We have no connexional evangelist now, but if only right effort is made at the right time in every town and village where Methodism exists, great goods results. Every minister is not specially qualified for an evangelist, and it is well for the church that this is the case. Whatever some may think, we need diversity of gifts, but every Methodist minister is thoroughly in sympathy with evangelistic work, and with the aid of the church officers and a brother minister or ministers, it is an easy matter to carry on a week or fortnight of special mission services that throughout New Zealand should result in the yearly ingathering of hundreds of souls. We should be glad to see in the various Districts more definite organization for this purpose. Our Home Mission deputations are arranged

every year; why should not similar arrangements be made for special mission effort at fixed times in every circuit?

13<sup>th</sup> October, 1888. page 7.

### **WELLINGTON Quarterly Meeting.**

In consequence of the special services having been held so recently, the question of membership was referred to a leaders' meeting, to be called a few weeks hence, when it is expected that the returns will show a considerable increase. The Sunday-schools of the circuit were reported to be in a flourishing condition.

13<sup>th</sup> October, 1888. page 7.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Methven.**

(recently divided from the Ashburton circuit and made into a Home Mission station.)

It seems only a few weeks since many were praying that Mrs. Scott's life might be spared for the sake of the work she might yet do for the sake of the Master. In answer to the prayers she has been restored to health and strength, and, with renewed zeal and faith in God, is again labouring for the extension of His kingdom. October 1 saw the close of a successful three weeks mission in the Methven district. In each place people of all denominations came to hear, and much good was done. Numbers of believers were led to publicly consecrate themselves to the service of God, and many careless ones were awakened to their danger and believe in Christ. Our service held in a little schoolroom at Lyndhurst will not soon be forgotten. It was the only service that could be given to the place, but the power of the Holy Ghost was present; many of the congregation were in tears, and we are confident eternity will disclose some fruit of that service. At Alford Forest the meetings were marked by much power, felt both by sinners and believers. One night a man came to disturb the meeting, armed with a bottle of brandy, but he left quietly when requested to do so. Since that night he has been under deep conviction of sin. We are praying that he may soon find peace in believing. The devil oversteps his mark sometimes.

At Lauriston, also, good meetings were held, Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists uniting. The last night was a time of special blessing, and some who had grown old in sin cried loudly for mercy. At Methven the meetings were a source of much blessing. On Sunday night every seat in the large schoolroom was occupied. Only on one other occasion (Mrs. Scott's last visit) had the room ever been as full. We do not reckon the result of the mission by the number who have professed to find peace, we believe they are much larger than that, although about 25 have come out on the Lord's side during the last three weeks, and we know the Spirit is powerfully at work in the hearts of many others. Mrs. Scott has made many personal friends in Methven and the surrounding districts whose prayers, that God's blessing may rest upon her labours wherever she goes, will continually ascend to the Eternal Throne.

13<sup>th</sup> October, 1888. pages 7 – 8.

### **SYDENHAM.**

We have cause to thank God for the good resulting from a series of special meetings held in the Colombo-road church during the past quarter. The services, extending over two weeks, were well attended throughout; the Rev. J.J. Lewis, of St

Albans, kindly conducted the mission during the last week. It is difficult to tabulate the results of special services of this kind, but we can state absolutely that many of the members were led to declare for a more aggressive and soul-winning Christianity, backsliders were reclaimed, and, at the quarterly visitation for tickets, over 30 were received on trial, and we doubt not that many others have received good of whom we have not heard. To God be the glory.

13<sup>th</sup> October, 1888. page 8.

#### **OAMARU Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held on Wednesday evening, Oct 3. – Rev. G.W.J. Spence was in the chair. From the report on church membership it appeared that 21 members had been received during the quarter, and that there were 15 remaining on trial. The number of full and accredited members now stands at 80 as against 51 for the corresponding quarter last year. The Sunday-school returns showed that there were in connection with Wesley Church school 19 teachers and 154 scholars, and in connection with the school which had recently been established at Kakanui, 4 teachers and 35 scholars.

22<sup>nd</sup> October, 1888. page 7.

#### **AUCKLAND Grafton-road.**

A week of special services commenced on Sunday, Sept 2, Rev. W. Gittos preaching in the morning and the Rev. W.L. Salter and Mr. Brakenrig, the city missionary, in the evening. These were continued every evening up to Friday, at 7.30 p.m., in the adjoining school room. Notwithstanding somewhat unfavourable weather, the services were exceedingly well attended. The whole of the addresses were powerful and practical, and of a heart-searching character. The audience at times was thrilled with interest on listening to the several speakers, and we doubt not these services were productive of much good, in enabling each person to realize his exact position in relation to the great salvation, and the folly and danger of keeping aloof from Christ. In addition to our own, as well as the ministers of the adjoining circuits, Rev. J.S. Hill (Anglican) gave a most interesting address. Sankey's hymns were sung throughout. Regret was felt that these services could not be continued another week or two, but owing to it being near the quarter and it was found inconvenient to prolong them at present. We all hope to see them resumed as early as possible.

29<sup>th</sup> October, 1888. page 7.

#### **HOKITIKA. Quarterly Meeting.**

It was held in the parsonage on Thursday, Oct. 4, there being present the rev. T.G. Brooke (presiding) and Bros Thomas, McWath, Chisholm and Barker. The report on membership showed that there were 62 members, with 12 on trial.

The chairman reported that there had been a good work at Kanieri during the quarter, and that, as a result of eight weeks' special services, about fifty had professed to give their hearts to the Saviour.

3<sup>rd</sup> November. 1888. page 7.

#### **PRAYER UNION for New Zealand.**

The following copy of a circular has been handed to us for publication:-

## INVITATION

Dear friends, - You are invited to join with me and the Lord's people everywhere throughout these islands, in prayer that God would visit us in grace and mercy by an overpowering assurance of His living presence in New Zealand. It has been felt for some time that the blessings and privileges of this young land have been great, but that their abuse has brought upon it the displeasure of the Almighty. As evidenced in the intense commercial depression prevailing. It is suggested that Christians should meet together in twos and threes for prayer and humiliation, because of the sins of the country, during the Sabbath evenings of November, between the hours of 8 and 9, or 8.30 and 9.30 p.m. as might be most conveniently arranged. You are asked to arrange with your Christian friends for these meetings; and it is suggested that confession of sin should be made in regard to several points, viz., Godlessness, Youthful Irreligion, Bible exclusion from the schools, Intemperance, Immorality, Gambling, and any other points thought necessary. Joel 2:12-14, 25; Jonah 3 –

Yours in Christ ,.....

[The above announcement-invitation may be had at the Bible Depot, George-street Dunedin, and at the Young Men's Christian Association rooms, Christchurch, printed in letter leaflet size, and will be posted gratis, on application, in such numbers as may be required by persons interested, who may distribute or post them to friends.]

3<sup>rd</sup> November, 1888. page 8.

### **DUNEDIN (Mornington.)**

Some time ago I wrote to you respecting the temporal prosperity of our church in the reduction of our trust debt. It really seems as if that were the beginning of bright days for Linden; at that time we could not boast of a single local preacher in our circuit, and were dependent upon other circuits and friends from other churches. We have now three local preachers and one on trial, and more to follow. On Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> Oct., we commenced a week of special services by fervent prayer for a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and prayed for faith to believe God's promises, "that whatsoever we asked in the name of Jesus as touching His kingdom should be granted." Besides our pastor (Rev. S.J. Garlick), we gained the assistance of Revs Fee, Sharp and Baumber; also Miss Hull and Mr. J.P. Simon and others, and pressed into the work with all our own forces. During the first week there was a gracious influence at work, and four of the congregation entered into liberty. This decided us to carry on the services for a second week, and still there seemed some barrier which prevented the young people from yielding. But on Wednesday night, the 24<sup>th</sup> October, we had a meeting which will ever live in the memory of all present as a manifestation of God's power to convince and convert. Miss Hull had addressed the meeting from the words "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth," and the pastor in an earnest appeal besought the people to accept the offers of mercy. The Spirit was poured out, minister and congregation all broke down, and amidst tears, which flowed from every eye, penitents poured into the enquiry room, and between twenty and thirty of the young men and young women were enabled to put their trust in Him who had died the just for the unjust that He might bring them to God. God

has specially honoured the faithful prayers of parents, brothers and sisters for individual cases, and the good work is still going on. Last night, 21<sup>st</sup> day of the mission, we had a meeting of praise, and our hearts were greatly cheered by the young converts taking up their cross and confessing Christ. We chronicle some fifty converts, mostly the members of both the young men's and young women's Bible classes. God has done for the Church far more abundantly above all we could ask or think. Praise His name for ever for His wonderful works to the children of men. We are making arrangements for more effort and a grand camp-meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>. May we all be kept "Faithful unto death" is our earnest prayer.

W. H. R.

10<sup>th</sup> November, 1888. page 7.

Backweights on Civilization. Editorial. 17<sup>th</sup> November, 1888. page 6.  
[mainly on gambling.]

DUNEDIN. (Mornington. Linden.)

If previous meetings were never to be forgotten, how shall I describe the sacramental service of Sunday night? The Rev. S.J. Garlick preached from "And many were added to the church day by day such as were being saved" (Revised Version), during which a most gracious influence was felt. Then came the general invitation to new converts to remain to commemorate the Lord's death. The church was filled with communicants, some 37 of the new converts partaking. The service was most solemn and impressive, and not only were young believers strengthened, but old members experienced a deep baptism from on high, and no doubt many were enabled fully to consecrate their all to God. Language fails me to convey any impression of the Pentecostal shower which filled the assembly. After the pastor had extended the right hand of fellowship to the new members, all joined in singing "Oh, happy day that fixed my choice on Thee my Saviour and my God. &c.," and I believe everyone present experienced the witness of the Spirit telling them that they were born of God. None of us ever experienced such a blessed time before, and I doubt not that its influence will be manifest by multitudes being gathered into the Church of Christ. Our motto must be: "Linden and the Kaikorai for King Jesus."

W.H.R.

17<sup>th</sup> November, 1888. page 7.

### **CANTERBURY District Meeting Convention.**

One of the features of the District Meeting this year was the giving up of a whole day to a religious convention. The success attending this departure from the ordinary routine makes it natural to express a wish not only that the practice may be permanent in Christchurch, but that it may be adopted in other districts. Sessions were held in the morning and afternoon. The morning topic was "Holiness." The President, in introducing the subject, referred to the necessity of clear views being held, and expressed the hope that the result of the papers and conversation thereon would be the spreading of scriptural holiness throughout the land. Papers were read by Revs J.H. Simmonds, and J.H. Gray – both will appear in the *New Zealand Methodist*. The discussion that ensued was marked by bringing out widely different views on the subject. The Revs Thomas, Pinfold, Luxford, Marten, Bunn, Lewis, and Fairclough took part. The afternoon subject

was "How can we best procure fruit in our church work (1) as to ordinary means; (2) special services." In connection with this the4 statistical returns for the district were taken. Papers on the above aspects were respectively read by Revs J.A. Luxford and W.B. Marten: both are to be published in the *Methodist*. There was a fair attendance of the public, and a spirited discussion took place upon various points brought forward by the essayists. On the whole, the Convention was a time of spiritual refreshing, and one and all felt that it was no vain thing to call upon the Lord.

17<sup>th</sup> November, 1888. page 8.

#### **DUNEDIN. (Mornington) – Linden.**

On Wednesday the closing meeting of the Bible and Improvement Society was held - -

These meetings, which commenced with a view to the mental and spiritual advancement of its members, closed with a glorious ingathering of souls, and the same evening in each week is devoted to a young people's society class. We thank God that many who, six months ago, could scarcely muster courage to give a reading or recitation, are now bold to stand up at these meetings and tell what the Lord has done for their souls.

15<sup>th</sup> December, 1888. page 5.

#### **ST ALBANS. (Upper Riccarton.)**

The anniversary services were held in the church on Sunday, November 18. The Rev. W.J. Williams, President of the Conference, preached in the afternoon, and Mrs. Scott, of Waltham, in the evening. There were good congregations at both services, and in the evening three accepted Jesus as their Saviour. – On Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, Mrs. Scott commenced a series of revival services in the church, and finished on Thursday, with fourteen souls in all won for Jesus. On Friday night there was a Gospel temperance meeting. Mr. E. Boon occupied the chair. After the juveniles had rendered several songs, recitations, and readings, Mr. Caghill, from Tinwald, and Mrs. Scott addressed the meeting. At the close six came out and signed the pledge. May God bless the labours of Mrs. Scott is earnest prayer of the people of Upper Riccarton. It was decided to start a Band of Hope in connection with the Church.

15<sup>th</sup> December, 1888. page 5.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Wellington 11. Primitive Methodist.**

The Rev. John Dawson, who has just arrived from England, has been labouring in this station with great acceptance and success. Special services have been held at Newtown, and the members have been quickened and cheered by seeing several of our young people and others yield themselves to the Saviour. Mr. Dawson has for seven years been wholly engaged in conducting evangelistic services in England, and we trust he may have a long and successful career in this land.

15<sup>th</sup> December, 1888. page 5.

#### **NELSON DISTRICT MEETING Report. Revivals.**

During the year we have been blessed with some revival work. In the Hokitika circuit, as the result of several weeks' special services, considerable numbers have sought

and found Christ. The same is true of Blenheim. I understand that the recent visit of Rev. Mr. Hill, of Auckland, has been the result of much good to all the churches in that locality. I may here state what should be a matter of gratitude as a healthful sign of the times. Mr. Hill is an Episcopalian clergyman, yet the Wesleyans believe in and appreciate as much as if he were a Wesleyan, and the Presbyterians as much as if he were a Presbyterian. All sections of the Protestant Church are at one whenever they find a man imbued with the Spirit of Christ, aiming at the one supreme thing. When that is witnessed, the prayer of Christ is answered – “That they all may be one.”

15<sup>th</sup> December, 1888. page 6.

**Rev. W.B. Marten’s Paper.**

**SPECIAL SERVICES:**

**How best to Secure Practical Results in Connection Therewith.**

**By Rev. W.B. Marten.**

**Read at the Canterbury District Convention, and published by request.**

By practical results, I presume, is meant results in the shape of actual conversions, or permanently changed hearts and lives. In discussing this subject a difficulty meets us at the outset. So much depends upon circumstances, and the precise object in view. Methods, the best possible under one set of circumstances, may under altered circumstances prove amongst the worst. It depends, too, upon whether the object be to bring those who sit regularly under our ordinary ministry to present decision, or to attract the non-church-going population and win them to Christ.

In the latter case we can hope for small success, I think, unless we are prepared to adopt very largely the methods used by the Salvation Army, omitting, of course, their eccentricities and extravagances. Our missions in London, which are proving so successful, appear to be conducted pretty much along those lines. In the case of those who will not come to church there is nothing for it but to take the Gospel to them, to come right down to their level, and make ourselves one of them, in the sense in which Christ made Himself one with the publicans and sinners, when He went into their houses, and ate and drank with them. By mingling with them in their homes, and, as far as possible, interesting ourselves in their pursuits, we may convince them of our sympathy and friendship, and thus win their confidence, after which it should be no very difficult task to win themselves.

I presume, however, that the object of this paper is to show how those who regularly attend our ministry may be brought to decision in connection with special services. And I would say first of all, be quite sure that such services are called for. Many such services have proved disappointing simply because there has been no demand for them. What reason is there why special services should be held? What sign that the time has come to thrust in the sickle and reap God’s harvest? If there be no definite reason why they should be held, don’t hold them. To hold meetings for the mere sake of holding them or in order to get up a revival, is, in my judgment, poor policy. The results

in such cases are generally superficial, and seldom permanent. If the church members are dead and need quickening, by all means let them meet together among themselves, and acknowledge their lukewarmness and sin to God, and pray for one another; and let them keep on praying until a better state of affairs is realized. Then, perhaps, the way may open for special services of an evangelistic type, and with every prospect of good results; but it is a serious mistake to hold such services in order to get rid of the church's drowsiness, and restore it to a healthy condition.

But assuming that the Church is alive, and the services held, I do not know that it matters very much how they are conducted, so long as they are made bright and attractive; at least, that is my experience. You may have special music, a strong choir and orchestra, and a varied programme; or you may do without any of these accessories, and be just as successful. I have generally found that one address during the evening (i.e. an address from one person) is better than two or three; and it is better, when possible, that one person should have charge during the whole series than to have a divided management. The object of the meeting must be steadily kept in view, viz – To produce conviction in the hearers, and bring them to repentance and to Christ. To secure this result the topics chosen must be such as are directly calculated to produce conviction; but the nature of these topics will of course depend largely upon the constitution of the preacher's own mind and habits of thought. Some men are most successful in handling what are called "legal" truths, while others concern themselves chiefly with the cardinal doctrines of the New Testament gospel. It is best, if possible, to combine them, as John Smith used to do. When chosen, the subject had better not be discussed formally and homiletically, but with the utmost simplicity and directness of aim. The utmost plainness should go hand in hand with the greatest kindness. It is surprising how much men will take without offence, if only it be kindly said, and with an evident desire to do good. Let there be straight, manly, resolute dealing with the heart and conscience; only don't make the address too long, and let it be accompanied by plenty of hearty singing and prayer.

At the close of the address enquirers should be invited to come forward for counsel and prayer. For this purpose an enquiry-room is better than the old-fashioned penitent form since it affords privacy and better opportunities for close conversation. It allows room, too, for a larger number of workers; while the attention of the enquirers is not distracted by a number of curious onlookers, and the meeting is not disturbed by conversation between seekers and workers, as at a penitent form. I assume, of course, that a band of suitable instructors has been selected beforehand for this enquiry-room work; for in nothing connected with such service is there more need of care than in the selection of enquiry-room workers. So much depends upon the prudence and skill of these workers that, unless they are thoroughly competent, they are likely to do more harm than good. This is no reflection on their piety, for a man may be a true saint, and yet be most unskillful in the enquiry-room, and do untold mischief by imprudent counsel. Nowhere is greater care needed than in this work of personal dealing with anxious souls. If experience is needed anywhere in Christian work it is here. Many a new convert has proved himself more expert in counseling penitents than more advanced Christians, chiefly I think, because he has so recently gone through the same experience. It would be most unwise, however, to depend on the chance of suitable workers turning up at the right moment. [It is] far better to select them beforehand, and instruct them clearly and definitely in their work.

Then, in dealing with enquirers, take care to deal with each case separately. Conversions by wholesale I, for one, do not believe in. When thirty or forty persons are dealt with all together, and their conversion assumed because their answers are satisfactory, do not be surprised if the after-results prove most unsatisfactory. Carefully diagnose each case before prescribing. Find out exactly where men are spiritually before you offer them counsel. Be sure that they realize their sinfulness and need of Christ before you point them to Him. Never offer Christ to a man of whose repentance you are not certain. The patient will never esteem the physician nor regard his prescription till he realizes something of the desperate nature of his disease. The secret of very much backsliding lies just here – in the superficial work done in the enquiry-room. I have seen as many as forty or fifty induced to make a profession of conversion at one and the same time by sheer force of logic, but very few of them proved to be genuine cases. Better let men remain for weeks or months in distress than rest short of genuine conversion. Experience will soon teach us the proper time to point men to Christ. I dwell the more fully on this point because it is, in my judgment, the most important of all. We cannot expect permanent results unless the work done in the enquiry-room is done wisely and thoroughly.

When satisfied that the seekers have really obtained salvation, get them into the church, and give them something to do without delay. Satan finds plenty of mischief for idle hands and idle heads, and the best way to check and counteract his influence is to give every young convert something to do, and something to think about. I am convinced that many of our converts are lost to us simply for want of something to do. Much of the best work of the church, perhaps most of it, is done by young converts during the warmth and fervour of their first love. If a great revival is in progress anywhere you may be quite sure that young men and young women are amongst the ring-leaders of the movement. A man is never happier in his work for God than during his first love; and I venture to say he never does better work. The love of God is as a fire in his bones that will not let him rest. Work he must, and will; and he works with the confident expectation of success. His ardent love, his buoyant faith, his intense earnestness, qualify him in a special manner, and in a special degree, for evangelistic work; and it is our wisdom to use his exuberant energy, and direct it into those channels where it will be most wisely and profitably employed.

To the necessity of constant and implicit reliance upon the aid of the Holy Spirit I have made no reference, for that, of course, is always implied. Without His aid we can do nothing. But that aid is precisely the one thing we can depend upon with absolute certainty. The farmer cannot repose greater confidence in the agencies of Nature than we can upon the assistance of the Spirit of God. Trusting in Him, we may go forth to our work assured that, although our methods may be imperfect, and our work in many respects poor and mean, yet we shall not labour wholly in vain, nor spend our strength for naught. We shall share with others in the joy of harvest, and at last find a place and a part amongst those who, having turned many to righteousness, shall “shine as the brightness of the firmament, and as the stars for ever and ever.”

22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1888. page 2.

**Ashburton. Hinds.**

The work during the year had been most encouraging, souls had been converted, the class met regularly and showed a high average attendance; catechumens were looked after, Band of Hope meetings were held, and the Sunday afternoon service was supplied as per the circuit plan, but the evening evangelistic service was carried on by the local friends themselves, and was a source of great blessings.

29<sup>th</sup> December, 1888. page 5.

## **Mrs Scott. 1889.**

Wesleyan Conference. Starting in 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1889 issue. Page 2.  
New President – Rev.W.J. Watkin.  
Net gain of 59 members, (507 on trial),  
Gain of 406 scholars and 1486 attendants on public worship.

Rev. J.S. Smalley is still in England. A letter arrived saying that his health was so poor that he could not possibly return to Circuit work. – But he did not send a doctor's certificate to support his application. Page 5.

Rainsford Bavin transferred to NSW/QLD by the General Conference.  
16 Feb. 1889. page 2.

### **Conversation on the Work of God. [on Tuesday morning, 5<sup>th</sup> Feb.]**

The statistics sent up from the several districts, which had been printed, were circulated amongst the members of the Conference. There showed that throughout the colony there were 192 churches (not including those attended by Maoris), 274 other preaching places, 78 ministers, 17 catechists, 2003 Sunday-school teachers, 7121 fully associated members, 507 members on trial, 1491 communicants, 781 catechumens, 81n deaths, 219 Sunday schools, 18,250 scholars, 47,999 attendants on public worship.

In addition to these there are 16 Maori churches, having six ministers, 294 members, 105 communicants, and 2766 attendants on public worship.

The Sunday-school report, which was also presented, showed a substantial increase in every department of Sunday-school work, with one exception.

Rev. R. Bavin said he regretted that he had to report a decrease of members in the Auckland District. This was traceable to a large exodus of members from the city churches.

Mr. H.M. Jones thought this decrease was a most serious question. The effort of the church should be directed to the internal arrangements rather than its external aspects.

Mr. Ambury said the work in Auckland had been successful. The reason why fewer met in the society classes was the difficulty of providing suitable leaders. Rev. S.J. Garlick referred to a gracious work of God at Linden, in the Mornington Circuit. He was specially pleased to see so many of the young people attending communion.

Rev. J.N. Buttle said that a large number of catechumens were returned from Ashburton circuit. He wished the privileges of Holy Communion were more highly prized, and that ministers and Church workers would seek to lead the young people to participate in the blessings of that Sacrament. He expressed an opinion that if the spiritual life of the young people was developed by these means we should not have to report a decrease in the number of those meeting in class.

Rev. G.W.J. Spence spoke of the work which had been done in Oamaru. A mission conducted by Mrs. Scott had been most successful.

Mr. Albert Beck described the progress which had been secured at South Dunedin. They had commenced the Sabbath school with five scholars and nine teachers. Now they had over 300 scholars and a staff of teachers which could not be excelled in any part of the colony.

After several members had spoken with regard to the work done in their respective circuits, Rev. D.J. Murray moved:-

“That the Conference having had under review the statistics relating to churches, members, Sunday-schools, and temperance, expressed its gratification at the growth which the returns indicate. It hereby places on record the fact that there had been an increase of 59 European church members, 559 on trial, and 2042 attendants at public worship. The returns concerning Sunday-schools also reveal a state of prosperity, there being a net increase of 614 scholars and 161 teachers. The Conference particularly recognizes the importance of this work, and with earnestness urges upon all in charge of the young the blessedness of leading them early to Christ. The temperance work has also been prosecuted vigorously, especially in the Bands of Hope, and is commended to all for continued support. While thankful for the success given, the Conference considers that with the agencies now employed greater success is possible. That the future success may be larger, the Conference urges upon its members, and all who are in Church fellowship with us the necessity for entire consecration and self-denying zeal in God’s work to secure the salvation of souls; and particularly urges upon all Christian parents their solemn and binding duty with regard to home training and family prayer.”

The Rev. Mr. Bull seconded the motion, which was carried.  
16<sup>th</sup> February, 1889. page 2.

Invercargill mission. 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1889. page 5.  
Forward Movement. Editorial. March 2<sup>nd</sup>, page 4.

**The Coming Revival.** 30<sup>th</sup> March, 1889. page 4.

An editorial article based on a speech given by Rev. H.R. Dewsbury at the farewell given to Rainsford Bavin on his leaving for Australia. Dewsbury expressed his belief that “England – yea, the whole civilized world – is on the eve of a very great revival, such as the world perhaps has never known before.” It is in such hopeful words that Mr. Dewsbury gives utterance to the impressions he has gathered during his recent visit to England, and in every way they are words that are entitled to earnest consideration. He has had excellent opportunities for testing the pulse-beat of the Christian churches in England, and has studied with an open eye and a thoroughly sympathetic spirit the signs of the times in relation to religious progress.

Dissatisfaction with social conditions.

The outbreak of skepticism of some years back is being evaluated more critically now. They have asked for bread, and their infidel teachers have given them a stone.

There is an honest determination throughout the churches to meet the world’s craving in the spirit of Christ. Etc.

Methodist Episcopal Church growth statistics. April. 13<sup>th</sup>, 1889. page 2. very substantial.

Wellington quarterly meeting, including SS stats. April 13<sup>th</sup>. Page 5.  
Valedictories. Hudson, Watkin, Garlick. April 20, 1889. page 4.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Mrs. Scott on the West Coast.**

Mrs. Scott, the well-known lady evangelist, who has been used as an instrument in the hands of God in winning many souls to Christ, was invited by the Wesleyan Methodists to pay a visit to the West Coast. She commenced her mission in Kumara. Services were held every night during her fortnight's stay. The meetings were very well attended, and were characterized by a high spiritual tone. We certainly longed for a more extensive work, but we are thankful to God for the work already accomplished. Some of the conversions were most touching sights. Strong hearts were bent low, and became meek and contrite. Some who had resisted the Spirit for months and years now made a full surrender of their all to God. Such sights caused much rejoicing especially in the hearts of those who had long been praying for their conversion. Mrs Scott laboured hard, and so did our own people; and more than that, they continue to do so with increased numbers.

Concluding at Kumara, Mrs. Scott proceeded to Stafford, a small township about ten miles from Kumara, and in the Kumara circuit. The mission only continued five days there; the interest was fast increasing, the work just commenced, when the mission ceased. Had Mrs. Scott not been advertised to commence services at Hokitika at a certain date, undoubtedly she would have stayed longer. However, the short mission was profitable, several professing to find that peace which passeth all understanding. The members, though very few in number, were really in earnest, and went heartily into the work. Mrs. Scott is now in the Hokitika circuit. We wish her God speed. Since Mrs. Scott's departure the Wesleyans and Presbyterians have united together and continued the mission another fortnight, conducted by Mr. Douglas and Mr. Ramsey (Presbyterian), and Mr. Raine. The services were of a solemn and impressive character, equally well attended as were those of the first fortnight. R.R.

20<sup>th</sup> April, 1889. page 5.

### **GREYMOUTH.**

We have had no fresh thing to report from this circuit for some time; but our monotony was broken by the coming of the sub-editor of the *Methodist*. The Directors could not have asked a more energetic canvasser, for though a three days' coaching was the means by which he reached Greymouth, the application forms were moving even before a meal could be had. Unfortunately, Mr. Isitt's visit here was just in the thick of dull times. Things have not been so bad for some years as at the present; but notwithstanding this, several shares were placed and old subscriptions collected, and while the *Methodist* was helped, we were delighted and benefited. Our churches at Greymouth and Taylorville were crowded on Sunday to hear the fresh, vigorous putting of an all-round Gospel. "Norman McLeod" was a real treat; it will ensure Mr. Isitt the largest building in the town packed when he comes this way again.

**Quarterly Meeting** – This was held on April 3; there was a fair attendance. The stewards reported that there was a small deficit on the quarter. Arrangements were made

for special services by Mrs. Scott, to begin at Greymouth on Sunday, April 14; we are expecting good results. [Also a sewing bee and a spelling bee.] April 27<sup>th</sup> 1889. page 5.

Thomas Cook in Leeds. 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1889. page 5.  
N.Z. Drink statistics. 18<sup>th</sup> May, 1889. Page 2.

**Editorial Bit. Mrs. Scott on the West Coast.**

A good work is reported in the present issue. As the result of Mrs. Scott's labours on the West Coast, in the Greymouth circuit especially, most encouraging signs have been apparent. A correspondent, who has been familiar with revivals in Yorkshire, and elsewhere, informs us that, for deep spiritual earnestness and soul-converting power, he has never seen the work at Taylorville excelled. It is still in progress, notwithstanding that Mrs. Scott has completed her labours, and has returned to her home in Christchurch.

25<sup>th</sup> May, 1889. page 4.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Mrs. Scott on the West Coast. Greymouth.**

We have had a visit from Mrs. Scott, or Christchurch, who spent three weeks in the circuit, giving the first to Greymouth, and the others to Taylorville. The services in Greymouth were the means of waking some of the members up a bit, and also of leading some to decide for Christ. As a result we have a new class of ten or a dozen young converts. At Taylorville we have had, and still are having, a grand work. I have rarely seen such coming out for Christ. But you will get work of that work from a correspondent living there. We thank God for what we have received, and expect more.

**Taylorville.** On Sunday, April 21, we commenced special services, Mrs. Scott, evangelist, from Christchurch, conducting for a fortnight. We had grand meetings – our recently enlarged church being nicely filled every evening, and quite packed on the Sabbath. On Tuesday, April 30, we held a temperance meeting, addresses being given by Messrs. Hing, Raine, Gills, and Mrs. Scott. The ladies had a lively and pleasant time pinning the blue on over forty amid great enthusiasm. Great good has resulted from Mrs. Scott's visit amongst us. Believers have been warmed and strengthened; seeing her great faith and sincere belief for the blessing made it easy for us to expect – the Spirit of the Lord being manifestly present in the saving of over forty souls (all good cases), besides many children. Many are blessing the Lord that Mrs. Scott ever came to this place. We are still continuing the services. There is a real spiritual awakening, large numbers attending the services who were indifferent to religious matters. We are thankful for what is done, but there is room enough for more in this largely populated place. Our minister, Rev. C. Griffin, administered the Lord's Supper to over seventy on Sunday, May 12. – We enjoyed Rev. L.M. Issitt's visit a few weeks ago, and are now enjoying reading what he has to say about us in the Methodist, last week leaving him in our Wallsend mine.

25<sup>th</sup> May, 1889. page 5.

Progress in the World's Evangelization. 8<sup>th</sup> June, 1889. page 2.

**JOYFUL NEWS. G.T. Sullivan in Wellington.**

A mission, of more than usual success, has been conducted at the Wellington Second Station of the Primitive Methodist Church, by Mr. G.T. Sullivan, of athletic fame, a recent trophy of grace. A short sketch of his remarkable conversion appeared in your columns a few weeks since, and it is unnecessary here to repeat it. Our brother, since giving his heart to the Lord, has engaged in evangelistic work, for which, with his splendid talents, he is specially suited.

Mr. Sullivan has in his possession a letter from Sir John Stainer, Mus. Doc., St. Paul's Cathedral, London, wherein it is stated that he possesses a beautiful baritone voice. Of excellent quality and compass, and advised him therein to proceed to Italy to study, which he did for a short time.

Our brother has consecrated himself to the Master's service, with a zeal and earnestness that puts – as some have said – older Christians to shame, but again proving the Master's words true, "He that is forgiven much, loveth much." But it is of the mission we especially wish to speak, and not the instrument; suffice it to say that he is a person of great gifts. It is now three months since Mr. Sullivan opened up his mission at Webb-street, which, night after night, was crowded, and on Sunday the rostrum, singing seat, and aisles were filled, also the school-room which is annexed to the church, which with the large dividing doors thrown open, affords extra accommodation for hearers.

Almost every night God's Spirit worked so mightily upon the people, following the strong appeals given by our brother, that in the after-meetings it was the work of little time and persuasion to induce persons so influenced to come forward to the orthodox penitent form; and, indeed, in not a few instances, persons stood up and asked to be prayed for, and some cried out for mercy. Some nights as many as six and seven, and other nights in twos and threes, It has been proved again that "God has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things that are mighty, and the things which are not to bring to nought the things that are." Our brother has also held meetings at Newtown and in the Porirua district, with similar success.

Finding the churches too small, and by the advice of numbers outside of the church, but sympathizers with the mission, the spacious opera house was engaged one Sunday night. Long before the time of meeting every available foot was occupied. Never was there such a large assembly seen in the building, and it was found necessary to shut the doors, hundreds being unable to gain admittance. Mr. Sullivan's splendid voice was heard to great effect, both in song and in his powerful appeal to the people. During the mission many have testified to the message having been winged to the heart through song, and that night some came seeking the Saviour.

One thing has been very gratifying all along the line of the mission, and that is the large attendance which has been kept up to the last; the interest has never abated. Our brother also appeals powerfully to God's own children, and seeks, by His help to quicken them to greater activity and zeal. Our friend goes south in about two weeks, and will open up a mission in Christchurch, at the Cambridge Terrace church, where we pray that God will use him to a still greater extent in the pulling down of the strongholds of sin, and in the building up of the Master's kingdom. In Wellington our friend has been

especially successful in getting young men to the meetings, and in this direction has been greatly blessed to them, and many of these not only attended his meetings, and have also engaged in the higher race of life. We prayerfully commend our brother to the friends south, and ask for him their sympathies and prayerful co-operations, and we advise all who can to attend his meetings. We shall expect of times of refreshing from the presence of the Most High, and the salvation of souls.

29<sup>th</sup> June, 1889. page 6.

**AUCKLAND. Grafton-road.**

Quarterly meeting held in the Newmarket Church on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, with Rev. J.A. Taylor in the chair.

A considerable time had to be spent over the somewhat difficult matter of finance, as some of our trustees are heavily handicapped by pecuniary responsibilities. The balance showed a small increase to the deficiency of last quarter, owing, no doubt, to the fact of the last three months being unusually unfavourable through the inclement weather. The brethren, however, considered that, if all our people realized the blessing of an outpouring of God's Spirit on our congregations, this was the most effective way of inducing a larger spirit of generosity amongst our people. It was consequently decided to have a united meeting for prayer, in a central church, at an early date, that God's blessing may be poured out upon all our officers and members. It was also arranged to have another evening specially set apart for the consideration of the Work of God in the circuit, as it was found impossible to give sufficient time to these considerations at the quarterly meeting.

27<sup>th</sup> July, 1889. page 5.

**PALMERSTON NORTH Quarterly Meeting.**

June 28<sup>th</sup>. In reviewing the work of these past three months we are glad to report that at Palmerston a good work has been going on steadily among the scholars of the Sabbath-school, and several have decided for Christ. At Bunnythorpe the good work still prospers. The church erected and opened without debt about eighteen months ago, is well filled on the Sabbath, and it is evident that at not distant date the question of enlargement will have to be considered. We are glad to report conversions during the quarter. Etc.

3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1889. page 5.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Leeston.**

A ten days' mission has been held in Leeston. On Sunday evening, July 14<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Garlick preached to a large congregation. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday following, assisted by Mr. Luxford, he conducted the services, and by Friday the interest had become intensified to such a degree that the mission was extended to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bond came from Lyttelton and helped us. On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> he preached to large congregations throughout the circuit. At Southbridge there was a church parade of Orangemen. Our church was too small, and the Rev. Mr. West, the Presbyterian minister, with characteristic liberality, proffered his large church, which was filled. As a result of

the mission at Leeston a number of names will be added to the membership roll, and many testimonies have been given to blessings received by the members. Special prayer was offered that the few remaining weeks spent in the old building may be memorable for Pentecostal blessings. We hope to enter the new church with vows of consecration upon us.

3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1889. page 6.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Rangiora.**

The mission here is proving a great success. The Christchurch evangelist came three weeks ago. A conversion or two had taken place. This encouraged God's people to plead for a more copious outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Cottage meetings were started, and an hour in the day set apart when Christians should meet *in spirit* at the throne of grace. Believing we were on the eve of a gracious work, we asked Mrs. Scott to "come over and help us." She came "in the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel." Both at Southbrook and at Rangiora, the meetings have been largely attended – sometimes crowded. The unanimity and earnestness with which God's people are working is something grand. We have a monster class meeting tonight, to which we have given a general invitation. We are looking for a glorious day tomorrow. On Monday we shall have a fellowship and praise meeting, the whole to conclude with a social cup of tea. Over fifty persons have entered the enquiry-room to date. "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes." [written July 27, 1889. J.H.G.]

10<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 5.

### **Mr Sullivan's Mission in Palmerston North. (Primitive Methodist.)**

For the last two months or more reports have been reaching us of the noble work being done in Wellington by this earnest, manly worker in the cause of Christ, and when, at length, there was a prospect of his visiting our little town, all was hope and expectation as to the good likely to be done by him. Nor were we doomed to be disappointed. Mr. Sullivan has proved to be a blessed instrument in God's hand of leading many souls out of darkness into His marvelous light. Many earnest, believing prayers were offered up to God before and during the time of his stay in Palmerston that the mission might be blessed, and divine strength given to the preacher, and He who delights to hear and answer prayer honoured the faith of His children. Mr. Sullivan had been labouring arduously in Wellington and took a run up the country for the purpose of taking a rest. But he appears to have had hardly any rest at all, as we believe he conducted mission services every night up to the time of his arrival here. When he came to Palmerston he was labouring under the disadvantage of a severe cold, which made it extremely difficult for him to speak, and it was feared we should not have an opportunity of hearing his splendid baritone voice in a solo. However, by Wednesday night it had improved, and it was a rich treat to hear him sing "Almost persuaded." Mr Sullivan sang every night of the week after that, and on Sunday morning and evening also, assisting the Rev. Mr. Tinsley with the services of the day.

We feel certain that all who heard him sing "Sowing the seed" and "He wipes the tear from every eye" will not forget it for years. He is possessed of the noble gift of song, and has consecrated his talents to the service of the Master, singing as well as preaching

the Gospel. The Wesleyan church was packed every night of his mission here, and on the Sabbath evening again was so densely crowded that it was almost impossible to get to the door, many having to go away disappointed at not being able to hear his voice once more before his departure for Christchurch. We believe the blessing of God rests upon Mr. Sullivan, and that wherever he goes great good will result. We wish him a God-speed in his work. We will watch with pleasure and intense interest the reports of his success, and look forward with expectant feelings to his speedy return to labour for a time in our midst again.

A Correspondent.

10<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 5.

### **GREYTOWN. (Casterton.)**

Special evangelistic services have been held in Casterton during the last fortnight. Special prayer meetings having been held for this three months past, it was decided to invite Bro. E. Tonks, from Wellington who is not unknown to us. The results so far have been cheering. The good work commenced with our own members, who have boldly come out, and are now labouring earnestly for those around us. In the Sabbath school over twenty scholars and teachers came out and knelt down at the penitent form, and made confession of their sins and desire for a better life. Several others, some not members of the congregation, have also sought and found the Pearl of great price. Last week we held two out-door services, and four in our Rechabite Hall. The power of God was felt, many being touched to the heart, and a few more have joined our ranks. Our minister, Rev. J. Dellow (violin), and Bro. Weston (cornet) leading the singing, attracted many to our meetings. We intend continuing these services, and are expecting God to work great things for us yet, and desire the prayers of all who are interested in His work. May He. Indeed, bless us, and enable us to carry on the work successfully all through our large and scattered circuit.

10<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 5.

### **Editorial Bit.**

Mr. G.T. Sullivan, of whose labours as an evangelist, in Wellington and elsewhere, reports have appeared in our columns, commenced a mission in Christchurch on Sunday last. He took part, during the day, in the ordinary services in the Primitive Methodist Church, Cambridge Terrace, and at night addressed a meeting held in the Theatre Royal. His fame sufficed to crowd the theatre to its utmost capacity, and intense interest was manifested in the singing and address of the evangelist. Further reports of the mission will appear in due course. It is not a little remarkable that at the time when the one brother, John L. Sullivan, the champion boxer of America, is, as we are informed by cablegram, placed under arrest for taking part in a prize fight, the other brother, George T. Sullivan, should be standing before crowded audiences, earnestly setting forth the claims of the Gospel that in a wonderful way has brought him out of darkness into light. Surely we may say gratefully of the latter: "This is the Lord's doings, and it is marvelous in our eyes."

10<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 4.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Mr. G.T. Sullivan in Christchurch.**

The mission began in the theatre on Sunday evening, August 5<sup>th</sup>, was continued during the week with encouraging results. The meeting on Monday was held in the Primitive Methodist Church, which was far too small to accommodate those who wished to attend. The Baptist Church, Oxford terrace, was kindly placed at Mr. Sullivan's service for the rest of the week, and, large as it was, was filled every night, and on Sunday night was crowded. Revs W. Potter and C. Dallaston assisted in the services, and each evening several went into the enquiry room, including a number of young men. The mission will be conducted next week in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church.

17<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 5.

Moody in Chicago. 17<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 1.

Editorial on Deaconesses. 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 4.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Mrs Scott in Springston.**

A very successful evangelistic mission has been carried on at Springston for ten days by Mrs. Scott, commencing Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, when she gave a very impressive address in the Sunday school, which led several of the elder scholars to decide for Christ. The evening service was conducted by Mrs. Scott, assisted by the Rev. S.J. Garlick; in the after-meeting, several more went into the enquiry-room, and during every night through the week some were brought to Christ. On Saturday evening, Miss Hull (from Christchurch) came to assist in the mission, and her labours have been crowned with great success. Her style of speaking, although very calm and deliberate, is powerful, and takes hold of her audience with a remarkable force. Her address on Monday night was given on "This is my beloved son, hear Him," in the delivery of which she manifested far more than ordinary ability, and it will not be soon forgotten. On Tuesday evening, the mission was brought to a close, when there was a large attendance.

Miss Hull gave an account of her past life and conversion, which was listened to with rapt attention. Mrs. Scott then gave a short address, in which she vindicated female preaching. At the close, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered – first the office-bearers, then the members, and last the new converts.

It was a very affecting sight to see so many young men and girls kneeling, for the first time, at the Lord's Table. About eighty in all partook, twenty of whom were new converts, but all were not there. Mrs. Scott will now go to Weedons for another mission.

### **Mrs Scott at Rangiora.**

The mission conducted by Mrs. Scott was brought to a close on Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>. The results have been most gratifying. At the last two meetings the church was crowded to excess. Sunday evening was a time that will long be remembered by many. On the Monday, a praise and testimony meeting was held. A number spoke of the good they had received during the mission. Short addresses were given by Rev. A. Peters (Free Methodist) and Captain Flaus (Salvation Army). Light refreshments were handed round to the congregation, and then Mrs. Scott gave her farewell address; at the same time making an earnest appeal to those still out of Christ, the result was that several

entered the enquiry-room. This has proved, by far, the most successful mission ever held in this circuit. Our minister and the members have worked hand in hand, and are now rejoicing with the joy of harvest. We trust that this encouragement will stimulate us to greater diligence in the future. Mrs. Scott left to conduct meetings in the Kaiapoi circuit on Tuesday, followed by the prayers of many in this circuit.

24<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 5.

**Mr. G.T. Sullivan in Christchurch.**

This mission was continued in the Baptist Church until Friday evening, the 16<sup>th</sup> instant. Each night there was a very large attendance, and the power of God was manifestly present to heal. On Wednesday, Mr. Sullivan spoke on the temperance question, and delivered a most powerful address. From the wide range of his previous experience he was able to draw forth terrible illustrations of the evil caused by drink, and his fervent appeals to the congregation to abstain from the accursed thing, will not soon be forgotten. On Friday evening, when his first series of meetings in Christchurch was brought to a close, the interest was unabated.

There was the same eager crowd paying attention to the speaker's remarks; on the part of the speaker there was the same touching earnestness that all who heard him, might there and then be saved. As an evangelist, Mr. Sullivan has many points in his favour. He has an exceedingly fine presence, and a splendid voice. His singing is a treat to listen to; never have we heard "Almost Persuaded" sung with such exquisite pathos and effect as Mr. Sullivan sang it on Friday night. He is an educated man, and speaks correctly, and fluently. He has seen what is called fast life beyond most men of his age, and knows by experience the best that the world can afford in the way of enjoyment. His conversion took place in a Primitive Methodist prayer meeting, which may be regarded, as a guarantee of its soundness. For a man to whom, until six months ago, the Bible was an unknown book, he quotes Scripture with remarkable aptness and correctness. His address is entirely wanting in method and arrangement; it is the warm, outspoken, unpremeditated, utterance of a man who has been rescued himself by Christ from a horrible death, and who is supremely anxious that Christ should do the same for everybody else.

It is not wonderful that the simple, fervent, testimony of such a man tells; every night, in response to his appeals, numbers have found their way into the enquiry-room, and have there professed faith in Christ. The prayers of God's people everywhere may well be offered on Mr. Sullivan's behalf, that his unique powers of usefulness in the service of Christ may be so baptized with the Holy Ghost, that many through his instrumentality may be brought to Christ. Mr. Sullivan's next mission in Christchurch will be among the Presbyterians – first of all in St. Paul's, and then in St. Peter's, Ferry-road.

24<sup>th</sup> August, 1889. page 5.

Dr. Donald M. Stuart. 31<sup>st</sup> August, 1889. page 1.  
Culture and Conversion. Ditto.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Mr. G.T. Sullivan on Christchurch.**

We are pleased to be able to report, in connection with this mission, another week of most encouraging results. On the afternoon of Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Sullivan addressed a meeting, of men only, in the large hall of the Y.M.C.A. The hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, and hundreds went away unable to gain admittance. Mr. Sullivan's address was powerful in its plainness and point, and a deep impression was made upon all present. On the invitation of the Rev. J. Elmslie, who was present, a similar meeting is to be held shortly in St Paul's Presbyterian Church. It is in this church, one of the largest in the city, that Mr. Sullivan has conducted a mission during the past week. There have been large congregations throughout, and on Friday evening, the church was crowded to its utmost capacity. Mr. Sullivan has been assisted by the Rev. J. Elmslie, Mr. Smeaton, of the Y.M.C.A., and on Friday evening by the Rev. J.J. Lewis. At the after-meetings there have been several enquiries, and others have availed themselves of the opportunity of consulting Mr. Sullivan privately at the temperance hotel, at which he has been staying. Mr. Sullivan's singing has proved a great attraction, and his simple, hearty addresses have produced a good effect. At the service on Friday, the Rev. J. Elmslie expressed his thankfulness to God for the mission conducted by Mr. Sullivan, for whom, and for whose work, he had been led to cherish a warm regard. He hoped that before finally leaving Christchurch, Mr. Sullivan would conduct another mission in St Paul's. Mr. Sullivan's next mission is at St. Peter's Presbyterian Church, Ferry-road, after which he has engaged to conduct a week's mission in the St Albans Wesleyan Church.

31<sup>st</sup> August, 1889. page 5,

**JOYFUL NEWS. Springston Circuit.**

A very successful evangelistic mission has just been brought to a close at Weedon, Tai Tapu, and Broadfield. Rev. S.J. Garlick has been ably assisted by Mrs. Scott and Miss Hull, of Christchurch, and Mr. Lawry and Mr. Wills of Springston.

During the progress of the mission the interest became so great that it was found necessary to extend the time at each of the places; and the experience meetings at the close of the mission were times long to be remembered, when many, *young and old*, testified to having found a living Christ, to the joy of their souls. Over thirty names will be added to the church roll. Praise the Lord! We ask for the prayers of God's people, that they all may be kept from the evil that is in the world and be faithful, progressive, working Christians to the end of their lives. Many now bless God that Mrs. Scott and Miss Hull pleaded so earnestly and feelingly for their conversion.

21<sup>st</sup> September, 1889. page 5.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Trinity Church, NAPIER.**

"The Lord Has visited His people," in this church. We have had a gracious outpouring of the Divine Spirit. During the week, beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, special prayer meetings were held with a view to preparing the Church for revival meetings, and on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, when Rev. C.E. Beecroft occupied the pulpit, a series of evangelistic services was commenced. In the Sunday school, in the afternoon, several of the scholars decided for Christ. In the evening, at one of the most blessed meetings ever

experienced in this church, some sixty or seventy of the church members publicly re-consecrated their lives to God, and there were several seekers of salvation. On the Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, there were others seeking Christ, and on Friday, we had a meeting that will never be forgotten. The power of the Holy Ghost descended; Christians renewed their vows; sinners were converted; and backsliders returned to God. Several young men, for whom special prayer had long been offered, came home to Christ amid universal rejoicing. Strong men wept, the whole congregation was subdued, the atmosphere of Heaven pervaded the sanctuary. Ten seekers found Christ. In three families that night there was rejoicing over the fact that the prodigal of the household, long looked-for, had returned to the Father's home, making their family circles complete in the service of Christ. The father wept upon the neck of his son; the mother welcomed home her boy; the brothers rejoiced in the surrender of their sister to Christ. And we sang "Joy! Joy! Joy! There is joy in the presence of the angels," there were many faltering voices but no dry eyes. On Saturday evening a fellowship meeting was held, and several of the new converts made noble testimony for God.

On Sunday evening, September 15<sup>th</sup>, though it rained heavily, there was a good congregation, and another "time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord." The communion rail was filled again with seekers for pardon and for purity, and six penitents "went down to their houses justified." We are full of gratitude to God for what He has wrought. In addition to the spiritual tone of the whole church being raised, we can confidently tabulated to God's glory, as a result of the meetings thus far, upwards of twenty-five instances of sound conversion in which there are being brought forth "fruits meet for repentance." The services are to be continued on alternate evenings this week, and we are looking for blessings yet more abundant. We have been very materially helped in the meetings by Mr. Enoch Tonks, or Wellington, who, with the keenness of the old warrior, ever "smelleth the battle afar off," and who came with his glowing experience and consecrated sense to strengthen our enthusiasm in the fight, and to share in the joy of victory.

T.J.W

28<sup>th</sup> September, 1889. page 5.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Trinity Church, NAPIER.**

The special services which were begun on September 8<sup>th</sup> were continued through the following week, and still the power to save has been manifested. The attendance at the meetings has improved, and the interest seems to be increasing. Nearly every evening there have been seekers of salvation – several of the cases of conversion being specially satisfactory. Ten souls have professed finding Christ during the week, some of them having been the subject of special prayer throughout the mission. The testimonies of the recent converts are ready, clear, and emphatic, and in some cases eminently calculated to do good. Said one, when he heard of the conversion of a young man who enjoys more than ordinary popularity and influence in social and athletic circles, "What's going on at the Wesleyan Church? What's the matter with H.?" And when H. heard of it he said, "It means just this – I have come to the conclusion that I have been going all wrong, I have turned round, and now I am going all right: That's what's the matter with H. And when he saw in the meeting another of his erstwhile companions, who had come to discover the facts for himself, H. got up and said, "I want my friend there to go and tell my other

associates that it is quite true. H. is converted, and by the grace of God he means to lead a new life now.”

Such boldness has God given to more than one of those who have recently professed His name. The members of the Church are in a glow of fervour, and are showing a splendid spirit of consecration and self-denial in these meetings. It is said that “Trinity Church has been turned upside down.” We would that not Trinity Church only but “the world” also might thus be “turned upside down.” While God is pleased to reveal His saving power, we dare not cease the special effort. The services are to be continued yet another week, and we are looking for a continuance of that favour with which the Master has blessed us lately.

5<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 5.

#### **TEMUKA Quarterly Meeting.**

It was held on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October. An earnest conversation took place on the state of the work of God, and it was decided to ask the Rev. G. Bond and Mr. S. Buxton, to assist in a series of special evangelistic services, to be held if practicable, immediately after the District meeting.

12<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 5.

#### **GREYMOUTH Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held in the vestry on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Number of members returned, 97, with 15 on trial; catechumens, 17; communicants, 12. Increase for the year, members, 16; on trial, 11; catechumens, 17.

12<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 5.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Trinity Church, NAPIER.**

The special services were continued into a third week, and nine more names are added to those who have decided for Christ. The pressing claims of other departments of the church work have compelled us to bring the mission to a close; but the work of conversion has not ceased, and we expect it to continue in the ordinary services. We are all devoutly thankful to God for what He has done.

On Thursday evening, September 26th, a Communion service was held, and, although it rained heavily, over one hundred assembled, and forty of the new converts partook of the sacrament for the first time. It was a blessed service, and a sight that those who saw it will not soon forget. In these services the independence of the Divine Spirit has been noticeably attested. Often when the speaking has been least and weakest the visible results have been the greatest. The converts are “holding fast the beginning of their confidence,” and we ask the prayers of God’s people for them “that their faith fail not.”

12<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 5.

#### **THE “SULLIVAN” SCANDAL – Editorial.**

No greater scandal to religion has ever taken place in this Colony, than that which stands associated with the name of **G.T. Sullivan**. When in the bar-room of a Rangiora public house, **Mr. A. Clampett** gleefully related the other day, to sundry pot companions, the story of his adventures as an evangelist, he could fairly lay claim to a

good deal of ingenuity. In his particular line he undoubtedly has talents of a high order. He played a high game in New Zealand, and he scored no inconsiderable success. "Ha! Ha! It is not every man who could land in New Zealand without a shilling in his pocket, and wind up at the end of nine months with a good substantial balance at the bank!" We should think not; for the credit of humanity we hope that men who would "rise" under such conditions are scarce. Of all kinds of frauds, the religious fraud is the worst, and of all the religious frauds we have known or heard of, **Mr. A. Clampett** ranks as one of the most accomplished.

It seems now from his own confession and boast, indeed, that the whole of his professedly religious career in New Zealand is the outcome of a cleverly contrived swindle.. There is no depth of wickedness so great as that in which there is a simulation of conversion, and a trafficking in the holiest of things for the sake of gain, but **Mr. A. Clampett** was quite equal to anything. One thing was necessary in order that he might play the role of evangelist with a fair show of decency, and that was that he should engage to keep sober. This he bound himself over to do for nine months, and he managed somehow just to keep his word. Then all was ready to begin. As a poor drunkard he was picked up in the Auckland streets by the individual known as "Bro. Marsh. from Canada," and piloted into a Primitive Methodist prayer meeting, where the conversion arranged was duly to take place. There is naturally great rejoicing among the good folk yonder over this conversion, for it somehow comes out that his name is 'G.T. Sullivan,' a brother of the notorious American prize-fighter. As he could sing well, and had a facile tongue, such a convert was predestined for the work of an evangelist, and after some preliminary "coaching" at the hands of a gentleman well known in "holiness" circles in Auckland, he began to deliver public addresses. From Auckland he moved to Wellington, where he drew large audiences, and was apparently a great success. After a brief run through the Manawata and Rangitikei districts, he moved on to Christchurch, which was destined to be the scene of unprecedented triumphs. First of all in Primitive Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, and Wesleyan Churches, and afterwards in the Tuam Street Hall he attracted overflowing audiences.

To the Editor of the Christchurch evening paper, the Telegraph, belongs the credit of being the first publicly to dispute his genuineness; that however simply served for the most part to secure for the "evangelist" a wider sympathy as a persecuted man. The Ministers' Association, after making due enquiry, decided to drop him as unworthy of their confidence; the thanks they got for such a step was the bitter personal abuse of scores of their own church members, and the inured victim of ministerial jealousy became more popular than ever. Prominent and influential citizens wrote to the public press championing the "evangelist's" cause as against the ministers, and "elect ladies" with ample means demonstrated their sympathy with "dear Mr. Sullivan" in a refreshingly practical way. Night after night the Tuam Street Hall was crowded, and on the closing night of the mission, at the farewell coffee supper, it is said three thousand persons were present. A purse of sovereigns was presented to him, a lady gave him a communion service, and to crown all, he was the recipient of a flattering testimonial signed by one thousand two hundred and fifty residents imploring him to remain in Christchurch to carry on evangelistic services.

This was pretty heavy scoring for a man who all the time, as it now turns out, was an impudent imposter, and who within twenty-four hours after receiving the communion

service and other testimonials broke out into a drunken debauch. The game was up in Christchurch, but there was just a possibility, if he could steady himself sufficiently for the purpose, to work the oracle a little longer at Rangiora; the larrikins, however, had taken his measure and handled him and his associates so roughly that he was glad to escape, vowing that he would conduct no more services in such a rowdy place.

Within thirty-six hours of his appearance as an evangelist in the Rangiora Hall, he abused the hospitality of his generous hostess in a manner too outrageous to be described in these columns, the result being that he was summarily ejected from the house. The following day found him drinking at the Rangiora public houses, "shouting" for all and sundry, actually boasting of his most shameful exploits, and chuckling over the extent to which he had befooled the religious public of New Zealand. Of all the "softies" he had met with in a varied experience, he declared he had never met with people so utterly soft as those who had flocked around him in this Colony.

A more painful story than that of the lying and deception practiced on the public by this man, in the name of religion, has never been written, and the disastrous consequences that will follow can only be thought of with a shudder. Many, through this man's testimony, have been led to enter upon a new life, and the shock to them, consequent upon the exposure of his hypocrisy and wickedness, will in many cases be of a hurtful kind. A more plausible man never appeared in the character of a Christian worker, and to have been deceived by him at the outset involved no discredit whatever. Assuming that what he said about his antecedents was true, there was everything about him to invest his work as an evangelist with unusual interest. His excellent singing alone would suffice to make his services popular. That a man would, or could, play the hypocrite on a scale so colossal was what many found it impossible to believe, even when doubts to his genuineness began to be whispered abroad. To many a sincere and earnest Christian this will be a terrible awakening to the possibilities of evil. A large section of the Christian public, in Christchurch especially, will be sufficiently mortified by these revelations concerning the man whom, in spite of all warnings, they followed and flattered, to render it unnecessary to add anything to their humiliation.

It is in order, however, to say, since the ministers have been so severely censured for the part which they took in relation to this man, that a wholesome lesson has been taught concerning the *unwisdom* of rashly denouncing ministers as being either fools or rogues. If the example set in this matter, by the Christchurch ministers, had been followed by members of churches this terrible scandal would have been shorn of some of its worst features.

The moral of this painful occurrence is too obvious to need pointing out. It will be surprising and discreditable, after what had recently taken place in this Colony, if the most searching investigation is not made into the *bona fides* and character of any man or woman who may henceforth claim the sympathy and support of the Christian public as a Christian worker.

"One sinner destroyeth much good," and an imposter of the stamp of **A. Clampett** will do more mischief in the community than can be undone by months and years of faithful and honest Christian effort. No infidel lecturer that has ever stood up to denounce Christianity has ever done half the injury to religion, in this Colony, that has been done by the man whose consummate hypocrisy and scoundrelism has just been brought to light. And New Zealand has suffered enough in this instance to lead all

concerned for the good name and fame of Christianity, to resolve that, if faithfulness and watchfulness can ensure it, the Colony shall never so suffer again.

19<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 4.

#### **EDITORIAL NOTES.**

The Editor spent that last week in Rangiora, on home mission service, and while there obtained from reliable sources the information concerning the latest development of Clampett, which has been made use of in the preceding article. We should have preferred, if it had been possible, to have kept silent concerning this shameful business; the hold, however, which this imposter has gained upon the public, and the mischief that has been done, made it necessary that all the facts of the case should be brought to light. There are some, perhaps, even now, who will not be convinced that the man is a fraud, and who may charge us with publishing a concoction of falsehoods, from no other motive than that of injuring a dangerous rival to ministers. With such we do not care to argue; a disagreeable duty has been placed upon us, and we have discharged it to the best of our power.

19<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 4.

#### **SPRINGSTON Quarterly Meeting.**

It was held on Monday afternoon, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Full members, 165; on trial, 39; 4 juvenile members. Sunday school returns are not complete. The chairman reported the gratifying success of the Evangelistic services held throughout the circuit during the past quarter. Resolved, after a long and interesting discussion, that the young boys and girls recently brought to Christ be enrolled under the head of juvenile members.

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. J. Thompson (local preacher who is leaving the district) for the great help he has afforded the circuit, also to Mrs. Scott and Miss Hull, for their successful services so freely given at the late evangelistic meetings.

19<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 5.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. United Methodist Free Church at Wellington.**

During the last month or two we have had a good work going on in connection with our cause here, which has resulted in the conversion of twenty-five persons. The work began in connection with our ordinary services. A few persons at this juncture banded themselves together, and held some cottage meetings. In these meetings a gracious outpouring of God's Spirit has been experienced. The church has been much revived and blessed, until on a Sunday evening about three weeks ago we saw six down seeking the Saviour. On Sunday and Monday no less than ten gave their hearts to God, and rejoiced in the fact of sins forgiven. On the following Thursday two more stepped into the liberty wherewith Christ makes his people free. Some of these cases are of a very interesting character. One old lady very near eighty years of age, who had become very morose and sour in temper – and as she now tells us suspected every person who came to see her of having some dark designs upon her - returning ever a frown for

proffered kindness, and a sharp rebuke for the kindest intention – came to these meetings and found peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Now her attendant and all her relatives and friends who came to see her, are astonished at the change which has taken place in her. She is now bright and happy all the day long. And although her infirmities are many and heavy, she is resigned to the will of God, and urges all who come to see her to seek the same loving Saviour.

A man of considerable force of character was under deep conviction for weeks, but was kept back by the love of the world, and its offers of satisfaction. He came to our services regularly for a long time; at last he yielded himself up to God. Now, he is an earnest and devoted Christian. When he spoke at our meeting the other night, the people, numbering seventy of eighty, were melted to tears, as he told of years wasted in the service of the devil, and of that love that now in his sixty-fourth year God has shown him in accepting his feeble body. Being an old soldier, he is able to tell of the uncertainty of life, and urged the young people present to devote themselves to the service of Christ. Many others might be spoken of, all of whom have begun to follow in the steps of Christ.

26<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 6.

#### **NAPIER. Quarterly Meeting.**

It was held on Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Returns reported as follows: Full members, 107; increase, 4; on trial, 51; total, 158; catechumens, 31; communicants, 30.

26<sup>th</sup> October, 1889. page 6.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. United Methodist Free Church. Oxford.**

Mrs. Scott has just finished a fifteen days' mission in East and West Oxford, in connection with the United Methodist Free Churches. During the meetings a large number of Sunday scholars decided for Jesus. Among which are some unusually hopeful cases. Many old members seem to have also consecrated themselves afresh to the Master's service, and altogether the services were accompanied by much blessing.

23<sup>rd</sup> November. 1889. page 5.

W.T. Stead. Methodists as Makers of Empire. 30<sup>th</sup> November, 1889. page 3.

#### **DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP RETURNS. (so far).**

In five out of the six districts an increase is reported: Auckland, 113; Wanganui, 83; Wellington, 89; Nelson, 38; Canterbury, 63; the total being 386. Otago, however, reports a decrease of 73, thus leaving the net increase at 313. In addition to these there are 317 on trial for membership.

14<sup>th</sup> December, 1889. page 4.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Ashburton. (Mrs. Scott's Mission.)**

This well-known missionary has recently conducted a series of meetings at Willowby, and good results have followed. A number of young people have decided for

Christ, amongst whom are several young men. On Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, Mrs Scott visited Hinds District. The church was crowded afternoon and evening and good impressions were made on many. Another meeting was held on the following evening. On Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, Mrs. Scott commenced at Tinwald, and is continuing there during this week. Several conversions have taken place, and earnest workers in this centre have been greatly cheered thereby. Mrs. Scott 's former visit to Tinwald resulted in leading a number of young people to accept discipleship with Christ. Most of these remain steadfast up to the present. Others will now be added to the numbers, and thus God's work spreads and grows. Next Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Scott goes to Waterton, and continues there for a week. May God bless her labours everywhere, and may she have many seals to her ministry.

14<sup>th</sup> December, 1889. page 5.

### **JOYFUL NEWS.**

#### **Mr. Coad's Mission in Christchurch. (part.)**

Mr. Coad began his work on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, and continued until Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. His previous Gospel Temperance Mission in the city had left a most favourable impression, so that he had, at the start, the advantage of having gained the ear of the Christchurch public. Mr. R.T. Searell and choir took part. Mr. Coad's addresses, as an evangelist, are characterized by the same qualities that made him so effective on the temperance platform. A small number of professed converts. Humorous speaker.

21<sup>st</sup> December, 1889. page 5.

## **Mrs Scott. 1890.**

### **Joyful News. Ashburton. (Mrs. Scott's Mission.)**

This mission was brought to a close at Waterton on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. During the previous week services had been held every evening, and the Spirit of God was manifestly present to apply the word spoken. On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Scott conducted service afternoon and evening. At the letter there was a gracious outpouring of the Holy Ghost, and nine persons came out for Christ. It was a meeting long to be remembered, and old workers for the Master wept tears of joy as they saw neighbours and friends forsaking sin and cleaving unto God. We pray for God's blessing to accompany Mrs. Scott wherever she goes. Many signs of encouragement are given us in this circuit. Oh, that we had learned what believing prayer means. May the good Lord teach us.

J. N. B. (Buttle)

4<sup>th</sup> January, 1890. page 5.

### **Ashburton (Hinds.)**

Travellers by rail between Christchurch and Dunedin will have become familiar with the neat little church in the village of Hinds. A few years ago, a hotel occupied a site near by where the church now stands. This hotel was a centre of iniquity – a nuisance to the local residents, and a constant source of trouble for the police. It was afterwards burnt down, and the present population are determined that only by a dearly fought victory will liquorism ever gain a position in the locality again. Instead of the hotel, the church has been built, and has been a centre of spiritual blessing to the village and district around.

Services to commemorate the second anniversary of the opening of the Church were held on December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Sermons were preached on the former date by the circuit ministers. On the following day the annual tea-meeting was held. Trays were provided and presided over by Miss Kitchingman, Mrs. Bowles, Mrs. Norrish, Mrs. McKenzie, and Misses Norrish. A bachelor's tray was under the charge of Mrs Holmes and Misses Paget and Haynes. The Rev. J.N. Buttle presided over the after-meeting. Mr. J.W. Bowles, the secretary of trustees presented the financial report. From this, we learn that the church debt has been reduced to ten pounds, besides which the church had been painted inside. A musical instrument had been purchased - cost 15 pounds 10s. – which amount had been provided by special subscriptions. Addresses were delivered by the chairman, the Rev. J.T. Burrows, Mrs. Scott, and Mr. Low (Willowby). A large choir under direction of Mr. Bowles, rendered sacred selections during the evening. Miss Kitchingman officiated as organist. On the motion of Mr. Bowles, seconded by Mr. Grant, hearty thanks were accorded to all who had assisted in securing the success of the anniversary.

11<sup>th</sup> Januray, 1890. page 5.

### **Ashburton Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held on Friday, Jauuary 3<sup>rd</sup>, - Rev. J.N. Buttle presiding. Membership returns were read as follows – Full, 190; on trial, 19; communicants, 52; catechumens, 123.

18<sup>th</sup> January, 1890. page 5.

### **Springston Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> December, 1889 – Rev. S.J. Garlick presiding.  
Membership returns for the circuit – 196, plus 13 juveniles.  
18<sup>th</sup> January, 1890. page 5.

### **Conference News.**

The Rev. J.J. Lewis was the new President.

Members.	7415, (7,121)	
Churches.	198 (192)	
Sabbath scholars.	19,275. (18,250)	
Attendants.	49,321.	
Communicants.	1,378. (1,491.)	25 <sup>th</sup> January, 1890. page 3.

**Statistics again.** 363 freehold properties.  
20 leasehold.  
206 churches, providing 35,647 sittings.  
50 schoolrooms accommodating 10,367 children.  
62 parsonages.  
14 other buildings.  
1245 vacant sites. 8<sup>th</sup> February. 1890. page 2.

### **Napier Local Preachers' Meeting.**

Membership, 140; on trial, 28; increase of 33 during the quarter.  
Sunday scholars, 405; average attendance of 286. 8<sup>th</sup> February. 1890. page 5.

### **Conversation on the State of the Work of God.**

The principal feature of this session was a conversation on the state of the work of God. This conversation was based on the general returns re Membership. Among those who took part were Rev. T.G. Carr of Hamilton, Mr. W. Moxham of Wellington, Mr. H.W. Peryman of Springston, Mr. G.R. George of Invercargill, Rev. L.M. Hudson of Mornington, Rev. S.J. Garlick of Springston, Rev. W. Morley of Christchurch Rev. J.,D. Jory of Port Chalmers, and Rev. A. Reid of Auckland. A resolution was adopted expressive of thankfulness for past progress, and of hope that the future might be still more abundantly successful. 15<sup>th</sup> February, 1890. page 3.

### **MILTON. Joyful News.**

Special services have been held in this circuit during the last twelve days by our and esteemed friend Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, with pleasing results, for which our hearts are overflowing with gratitude to God. The good work began among three young people of the Sunday school, and about thirty of our scholars and others have given their

hearts to the Saviour, nor is the work confined to the young folks, for ten adults in Milton, Glenore, Waihola, and Milburn, have professed to have found peace with God. It has indeed been a soul-stirring time, for the power of the Holy Ghost was manifest in every meeting, and it was with glad hearts we sang "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Mrs. Scott leaves here for Roxburgh, followed by the prayers of those to whom she has been the means in God's hands of bringing peace and happiness.

10<sup>th</sup> May, 1890. page 5.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Tapanui.** (later, she went to – Gore.)

Once again our church in Tapanui has reason to thank God for the presence of sister Scott in our midst. The mission commenced on Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, under rather unfavourable circumstances, the weather which for some time had been remarkably fine, changed to very rough weather; rain however, did not prevent a good congregation assembling in the morning to hear our dear sister, and as the well-known and beloved voice was once more heard telling the old, old story, many were the tears shed by thankful hearts when they remembered the blessings received during her former visit. Thank God for those who were then saved and are still rejoicing in Christ. The weather being very cold and rough, we were undecided whether to proceed to Crookston or not, however we resolved to make the attempt, and God honoured our faith by giving us one soul. The evening service found our church full to overflowing, a night long to be remembered. At the close we had to rejoice over two souls weeping their way to Calvary, one dear sister had for two years been seeking Christ, but something had always kept her back, until that night she was enabled to accept the offers of mercy. At the close of the service, God's people came out for Consecration. The mission was continued during the week at Tapanui. On the following Sunday, Heriot (11 a.m.), Kelso (3 p.m.) were visited, and Tapanui in the evening. That Sunday was not likely to be forgotten by the writer, at the close of each service souls were saved, our dear sister was indeed endowed with spiritual power. One remarkable conversion took place in the evening, a brother, for whom prayer had been offered every night, was under deep conviction but yet he would not yield, and just as we thought he would decide he sprang from his knees exclaiming, it is no use. How could he be a Christian and attend a dance on the following Thursday; a few of us had remained and we were sorry to leave without our friend coming to a decision, so we surrounded him, and several related their conversions and pleaded with him not to quench the Spirit, inch by inch we fought the ground. Then sister Scott, in tones which are well known to so many, said let us get down on our knees and belt the church round with prayer; every one prayed, and then we sung "Have you any room for Jesus," until one by one the idols were given up, and as we were singing those well known words, "I do believe I will believe that Jesus died for me," he was enabled to grasp the truth, and sprung from his knees saying, I do believe. Our hearts were so full of joy, that we had to sing over and over again, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." The following week, services were held at Crookston, Glenkenich, and Kelso, and at each place we rejoiced over sinners being saved. The concluding service was held at Tapanui, on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, when two more souls were born for glory, making seventeen for the mission. To God be the glory for the great things he hath done. Sister Scott took her departure for Gore next morning, with the prayers of God's people accompanying her. She desires the prayers of all God's people during these missions.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Balclutha.**

We have abundant reason to thank God, on account of Mrs. Scott's mission in our circuit. Prior to her coming there had been signs of God's blessing; but during the recent special services, the indications of God's presence have been most marked. The good work began among the children of the Sabbath school; and this auspicious commencement proved to be the harbinger of wider and more extensive blessing. The fresh consecration of many disciples of the Lord Jesus was also undoubtedly helpful. Several, who had for years kept aloof from the direct influences of the Christian Church, have been brought to decision; indeed, the range of spiritual benefit has been unusually wide, the revival movement being decidedly felt throughout the entire community. Little children have been gladdened in soul, young men and maidens have realized the comfort of Christ's gracious compassion, and grey-haired folk who had only too faithfully for years past followed "the devices and desires of their own hearts," have bent in contrition of soul before the Lord, and by simple and appropriate faith have realized the pardon of sin, and now "witness a good confession before many witnesses."

The grace received was in answer to prayer, coupled with earnest and direct effort to win souls for the Great Master. Our members have wrought together most harmoniously, and while gladly recognizing the evangelistic gifts of Mrs. Scott, they have "looked to the hills, from whence cometh our help." Without unduly extending this narrative of blessed facts, we might say, that the entire mission has proved a means of stirring, quickening, convincing, and converting. The closing night was a memorable one: a large concourse of people met to bid the evangelist farewell. In that meeting glad testimony abounded; and quite a crowd of folk intimated they had received good during the mission. This valedictory was all the more enjoyable, because of the overshadowing presence of God realized, the kindly feelings manifest, and also the presentation of an address by the pastor of the church to the evangelist, with practical expression of goodwill from the audience. "We thank God, and take courage." W. G. T.

**JOYFUL NEWS. Lawrence.**

Mrs. Scott concluded a most successful mission in this circuit on Thursday last. Her visit was most opportune. A spirit of enquiry had been manifest, and many were seeking Christ. The droppings of the shower had come. On Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Sister Scott went to Tuapeka west in the afternoon. A most gracious influence was felt, and we are assured that, if time had permitted a further visit to this place, souls would have been saved. We expect to reap there still. At Blue Spur the same evening there was a re-consecration of God's people, backsliding was confessed and a number came out as seekers and found Christ. During the week some glorious cases of conversion were witnessed. Five in one family were led into liberty, and thus the prayers of a wife and mother were answered. Under the power of the Spirit, men who had been attending the church for twenty-six years were brought to their knees as seekers, and rose with the witness in themselves that they were born of God. Several of the older scholars were amongst the gathered sheaves, and when the mission closed on Friday night we had to

rejoice over seventeen who had found peace, and were able to rejoice with us. Some of the scenes witnessed will never be forgotten. Earnest shouts of praise were not wanting. On the following Sunday evening as the Rev. B.F. Rothwell preached from the words "It is finished," two more sought the Saviour.

At Lawrence, on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Scott took both services, and closed the evening with several seekers. Here, also, the church members led the way, re-consecrating themselves to God's service. Each evening during the week we saw gracious results. One night especially the people sat spell-bound. None seemed inclined to leave the church, and the twice-pronounced Benediction was scarcely taken as a hint to go home. About thirty altogether professed to find Christ during the fortnight, and besides this there were results which cannot be tabulated. One feature of the work was the hearty, genuine evidences of repentance and the deep earnestness which pervaded each meeting. Sister Scott left us on Friday morning. We should have been delighted could she have prolonged her visit, but, as she is due to commence a mission at Blenheim on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. this was out of the question. Let all who have the interests of Zion pray earnestly that God's richest blessing may attend the labours of this earnest and devoted herald of the Cross.

**Mrs. Scott's Mission.** – Glorious revival going on in church and school at Blenheim. - H. Bull.

26<sup>th</sup> July, 1890. page 6.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Blenheim.**

Our Jubilee is not over yet. Another week of special prayer for God's blessing upon the mission to be conducted by Mrs. Scott proved a blessing to many. On Sunday, the 13<sup>th</sup> inst., our beloved sister preached morning and evening, also addressed the Sunday school in the afternoon. After the evening service a consecration meeting was held, when the whole of the members present, in response to an earnest appeal from our sister, came out and re-consecrated themselves to the Lord. The communion rail and the front seats of the church were filled with brethren and sisters, a sight that must have been acceptable to God. The mission has been continued each night of the week except Saturday. There have been good congregations, and each night visible signs of God's saving power. Sunday was the crowning day of all – most blessed work in the School, and at night a general forsaking of sin and turning to Christ. It was a most blessed sight to see the young converts in the ardour of their first love speaking to their companions, taking them forward, and pointing them to the Saviour. The mission is to be continued another week; keep believing for good news next week.

2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1890. page 6.

### **Joyful News. – Blenheim.**

The Lord's mission, conducted by Mrs. Scott, has been continued throughout the week, closing on Monday night with a thanksgiving meeting, with mighty power and wonderful success. Over 130 precious souls went in to the enquiry room burdened with sin, and left the burden at the foot of the cross, and are going on their way rejoicing.

About two-thirds of these are young people connected with the church and school; several homes are now rejoicing in the Lord. On Sunday night after the service we had an old-fashioned "love feast," when over 70 testified in the hour to the saving and keeping power of Jesus; thirteen stood up for Jesus, old and young, out of a full heart, praising God. "Truly the Lord has visited us, and the decree has gone forth – come from the four winds O breath and breathe upon these slain that they may live." Behold, a living army has arisen up in Blenheim to fight for King Jesus.

The special feature of the mission has been God's answer to prayer – "Before ye call I will answer, and while thou art speaking I will hear." Special requests for prayer were read each night, and at the thanksgiving meeting about 30 praise notes were sent in.

Mrs. Scott commences a mission at Spring Creek to-night, and will visit each of the country places before leaving us.

(written) 29<sup>th</sup> July, 1890.

9<sup>th</sup> August, 1890. page 6.

### **LETTER to the EDITOR.**

"Joyful News."

To the editor.

Dear Sir, - I have noticed, while reading the Methodist, that the "Joyful News" column is not used very frequently. Is it because conversions in the Wesleyan churches are few and far between? The *War Cry* reports seventy or eighty conversions every week. Cannot the Wesleyans do the same? Information on this point would interest many of your readers besides myself.

I am, &c., CHRISTIAN.

9<sup>th</sup> August, 1890. page 6.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Marton.**

Our little church at Marton has been lately honoured and blest by a gracious visitation of sanctifying and soul-saving power, which, though earnestly prayed for, and confidently expected, came at length in fuller measure than was anticipated by the most hopeful amongst us. Reviewing the special effort which has been brought to a termination for the present, we cannot help reflecting that what we have just witnessed exemplifies in a most striking way the faithfulness of the promise, "That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.." Our services commenced with a series of prayer meetings, which were held practically every night for three weeks, and although our forces were, at first, somewhat divided, owing to our having one or two other undertakings on hand, yet the issue proved that the meetings were a united and veritable waiting upon the Lord. On the fourth week our evangelistic services commenced, and were continued for a fortnight, with results which, I must confess, as others have done with shame, exceeded our best expectations. Night after night, in the meetings, and perhaps, in some cases, at home after the meetings, precious souls were born anew, and enabled by grace to step out of darkness "into the marvelous light of God."

The reality of the work, wrought in the hearts of many of our young men and young women, has been attested by their taking up their cross and declaring humbly but fearlessly, in both class and prayer meetings, what the Lord hath done for their souls. I must not attempt to gauge too nicely the extent of the work that has been done in our midst, but I think I may venture to say that the additions made to our Church, by conversions, have about doubled our working membership.

And what is of the utmost importance, the hearts and minds of our people generally have been so quickened and spiritualized, that their love for, and faith in, the ordinary services and means of grace have been greatly and manifestly strengthened. Speaking of those who have taken part in our meetings, and who have unquestionably been instruments used of God, I feel that too much cannot be said in commendation of many of our female members, and of the way in which they did their part of the work.

Their simple, unwavering faith, their zeal, and unwearying efforts touched many a heart, and have been made the means, in God's hands, of winning more than one soul from death unto life.

I must not omit to mention that we have had some help in this gracious work from the Rev. D. Gordon (Presbyterian) and the members of his church. But, practically, the work has been carried on by our circuit minister, Mr. Fee, and the local brethren. I purposely notice these facts in the hope that others may share the conviction in their own mind, that a work as great as that over which we now rejoice, might be witnessed in every circuit in New Zealand, if only our circuits would, in simple trust, place at the service of God such resources as they possess, rather than wait for such instrumentalities as are not available, and for which God can have no need.

Speaking in the confidence begotten of what we have witnessed, it seems very plain that there are in every circuit the means of a glorious revival. What, however, God requires is that those means should be fully and cordially consecrated to him, and filled with the spirit and power of His might. Truly, however, the Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad. But much as has been done, we confidently look for greater things yet, feeling that to us the word of Divine encouragement is still addressed: "Hitherto, ye have asked nothing in my name; ask, and receive, that your joy may be full."

23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1890. page 5.

#### **REPLY. Reported "Conversion."**

To the Editor.

Sir, - I notice in your issue of August 9<sup>th</sup>, that a correspondent is enquiring whether we could not report as many conversions per week as the Salvation Army, and brings forward that illustrious body as an example, and bids us take notice, and learn to our profit. But I would remind "Christian" (?) that re[porters to religious papers or otherwise are not infallible, and in the future not to rely too much upon reports of conversions, even though it should appear in the soul-book columns of the *War Cry*. In a recent issue of that notable journal, I see they credit themselves with twenty-six conversions for three months in this locality (Denniston), and being not a little surprised - as were many more - I at once sought information on the matter from one of their leading lights, and found that eight out of the twenty-six were children, and that no

definite answer as to their genuineness could be given. And also in the case of some of the adults there was a large margin for doubt. But, irrespective of this, my friend failed to supply me with the required number – twenty-six – and I have reason to believe that this is not the only case of a like nature. Therefore, when our “Joyful News” column is made use of, may it be to report something that we can at least substantiate with something like reason. –

I am, etc., Thomas J. Smith. Denniston. August 15<sup>th</sup>. 1890.  
6<sup>th</sup> September, 1890. page 6.

#### **BLLENHEIM. Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held on September 18<sup>th</sup>, at the residence of W.B. Parker, Grover-road. Number of members, 139; on trial, 40; communicants, 30; junior members, 93. Number of teachers 55; scholars, 469; total increase of scholars in the year, 110, for the circuit.

27<sup>th</sup> September. 1890. page 5.

#### **United Methodist Free Church.**

Special services at Rangiora – with some good success. The main preacher was Mrs Rogers - (who is quite a young woman) is very calm and deliberate in the delivery of her addresses, but speaks with a good deal of earnestness and fervour, and her visit to Rangiora will long be remembered by many. She is a member of our church at Sydenham. Messrs. Mannering, Voss, and the Rev. A. Peters also shared some of the speaking responsibilities.

27<sup>th</sup> September, 1890. page 6.

#### **JOYFUL NEWS. Wellington. (Newtown.)**

It has been the privilege of this part of the Wellington circuit, to experience under a mission conducted by Mrs. Scott, some of the wonder-working power of God. The unsettled state of society, caused by the strike, was unfortunate for a mission of this kind, which could not be foreseen when arranged, notwithstanding we have had a good season.

The mission commenced on August 31<sup>st</sup>. The Rev. J. Berry, superintendent of the circuit, introduced Mrs. Scott to our Newtown people as a “woman of God,” and such she has truly proved herself to be.

Evangelistic services have been held twice each Sunday, and every night except Saturday, for a fortnight. Three afternoon “women’s meetings” have been held. Fifteen adults during the mission came into the enquiry room, and gave themselves to Christ, and in return received assurance of sins forgiven. Some have joined us in church membership, while others are associated with other churches; some of these have been long prayed for by friends who are now rejoicing and praising God with thankful hearts.

Mrs. Scott, under God, has been made a great blessing to our Sunday school. On respective Sunday afternoons some eighty scholars of all ages came forward to show their desire to love and serve Christ. The teachers and parents who have been faithfully sowing the seed are now rejoiced to see it bring forth such good fruit. Earnest prayers are being offered that these lambs may be shepherded and kept within the fold. The mission

closed on Sunday evening, September 14<sup>th</sup>, with a very impressive service. Stirring addresses were given by Mrs. Scott and the Rev. W.H. Beck, to a full church. At the close, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered, to which fully one third of the congregation remained. All felt this to be a very blessed service. Throughout the mission Mrs. Scott has been helped by our esteemed minister, the Rev. W.H. Beck, who has worked with Mrs. Scott with a united heart and will. Mrs. Scott is fully given up to God, and is qualified for her work by a whole-hearted, simple, but complete trust in God and a soul full of yearning love for the perishing. For all this we give praise to Him who has done these things, by the power of His Spirit, and who is worthy to receive all honour and glory.

4<sup>th</sup> October, 1890. page 5.

**BLLENHEIM. (Women's Devotional Meeting.)**

This weekly gathering of Christian women for Bible-reading and prayer was instituted during Mrs. Scott's visit to the circuit. The meetings are well attended – some forty or fifty assembling in the church parlour every Wednesday afternoon. A quarterly plan of leaders has been prepared, and the meetings prove to be a source of much spiritual influence and power.

The Mission Bands. - The young men of the church, to a number of twenty-four, are formed into three bands, and conduct services regularly in the country and suburban places.

Ladies' Visiting Guild. – It having been decided to form this guild, the Rev. H. Bull presented a simple code of rules and regulations to the leaders' meeting. The same were heartily approved, and fourteen ladies were enrolled and constituted members of the guild. Much good it is hoped will result from the efficient co-operation of the minister and the members of the guild who are to meet quarterly for conversation and prayer about the spiritual work of the church.

18<sup>th</sup> October, 1890. page 5.

**SPECIAL PRAYER.**

Special prayer is asked to be presented by our friends everywhere, that the gracious spiritual influences felt at meetings hitherto, may in the future be yet more abundantly realized, and especially that the services throughout the connexion, on Children's Day, October 19<sup>th</sup>, may be made the occasion of great blessing from our covenant-keeping God.

18<sup>th</sup> October, 1890. page 6.

**AUCKLAND. Statistical returns.**

An increase of membership was reported. A comparison with 1879 figures – reveals an increase of 21 churches, 53 other preaching places, 4 ministers, 240 Sunday school teachers, 46 local preachers, 1721 members and communicants, 27 Sunday Schools, 2030 scholars, 6715 attendants on public worship.

27 December, 1890. page 5.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1891.**

### **NELSON DISTRICT MEETING.**

The State of the Work of God.

The Rev. S. J. Gibson moved, the Rev. F. W. Isitt seconded, and it was carried unanimously – “That this meeting, having heard the reports from the circuits and Home Mission stations in the district, desires to record its gratitude to Almighty God for the fact that the preaching of His Word has been attended by the power of the Holy Ghost. A gracious revival has taken place in Blenheim, and many have been added to the church. In Greymouth, also, sinners have sought and found rest to their souls. It is felt that our people very much need a higher and clearer perception of the duties and obligations of the religion of Jesus, and its bearing upon life in all its phases, and we earnestly pray that our labours may be useful in promoting these ends, and that the showers of blessing of which we have some indications may come upon us, and that the work of God may be revived throughout the district.”

This was followed by a most profitable conversation, in which all present took part.

3<sup>rd</sup> January, 1891. page 6.

### **OTAKI HOME MISSION STATION.**

In conclusion I must not omit to mention that Mrs. Scott paid us a visit here on her returning from Napier. She stayed a little over a week with us, and held special services throughout the week as well as the Sabbath services, and not without good results, several having professed Christ – both old and young.

3<sup>rd</sup> January, 1891. page 7.

### **NAPIER.**

The quarterly meeting was held in the vestry of Trinity Church, on Tuesday evening, January 6. There were present Revs. McNicoll and Beecroft and eleven laymen. The number of members reported was 133, with 4 on trial, 42 communicants, and 67 catechumens. A satisfactory account of the Sunday schools was given, and it was reported that a new school had been opened at the Western Spit. The circuit now possesses 4 Sunday schools with 510 names on the rolls, and 39 teachers.

24th January, 1891. page 5.

### **OUR VETERANS.**

Thomas Gregory Chapman. Biographical chapter about this man, including bits about the revival in Willowby in the time of the Rev. C. H. Standage. (prob. 1882 – 1884) He arrived in New Zealand about 1865, and had seen revivals in England earlier.

11 April, 1891. page 1. long article.

“The scenes of the first great revival, which occurred when Rev. C. Standage was in the (Ashburton) circuit, can never be forgotten by those who were privileged to take part in them, and since then, under Mrs. Scott, and the circuit ministers of the day, the glorious work has continuously gone on. These results are due in no small measure to the fervent prayers of Mr. Chapman in his peaceful and happy seclusion.”

**TAPANUI.** Mrs. Scott starts out again.

Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, is again on the wing, having gone to conduct another evangelistic mission in Tapanui. 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1891. page 11.

**The Rev. Thomas Spurgeon**, who has been holding successful missions in Dunedin and Christchurch, is now conducting special services in Auckland. The *Leader* states that it is not at all unlikely that Mr. Spurgeon may again settle in Auckland at no very distant date. 20<sup>th</sup> June, 1891. page 11.

**ROXBURGH. Circuit News. (and Lawrence).**

Mrs. Scott commenced her mission here on 24<sup>th</sup> May, taking services at Ettrick, Coal Creek and Roxburgh. The first week was spent at Roxburgh and the second at Coal Creek, concluding with two nights at Ettrick. The weather and severe colds interfered with the attendance at some of the meetings; but Sister Scott spoke with great power and divine unction. Believers were quickened and souls saved. Our evangelist expressed great pleasure at finding so many of the young converts from her last mission remaining firm. Lawrence Circuit is the next place on the mission roll. 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1891. page 9.

**Rev. Thomas Cook**, well known in England as a successful evangelist, is engaged to visit South Australia, and will also probably come to New Zealand.

**Rev. J. MacNeil's** evangelistic services in Dunedin are attracting large audiences and producing good results; 11<sup>th</sup> July, 1891. page 11.

**John MacNeil in Dunedin.**

Rev. John MacNeil has closed his Mission in Dunedin, the general testimony being that the Presbyterian Churches of the city and suburbs have never before been so deeply stirred and so richly blessed. 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1891. 1891. page 7.

**DUNEDIN. (Mornington, Linden.)**

We have had our esteemed friend, Mrs. Scott, amongst us for a twelve days' mission, which commenced on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July, and that day will long be remembered in Linden by both old and young. It was a glorious sight to witness so many of our scholars manifesting deep religious interest. Throughout the whole mission the saving power of

the Most High was signally displayed, and the whole Church has received an impetus through Mrs. Scott's labours.  
8<sup>th</sup> August, 1891. page 10.

**DUNEDIN. (Morningson, Linden.)**

Mrs. Scott has just concluded a fortnight's mission in this place with encouraging results. A special feature of the work was the great good done among the scholars of the Sunday schools, many of whom have professed conversion. The meetings have also been greatly blessed to the members of the Church. In order to conserve the results catechumen and other classes have been started, and it is confidently expected that the work thus begun will be continued.

15<sup>th</sup> August, 1891. page 9.

**DUNEDIN. (Trinity Circuit.)**

Mosgiel has just been visited with a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, commenced a series of evangelistic services on July 26, which extended over 13 days. From the beginning there were manifest tokens of God's presence. The Oddfellows' Hall was crowded night after night, and when, on three occasions we were obliged to engage the Volunteer Hall, owing to the other hall being required for lodge and musical purposes, the congregations were remarkably good. The truth laid hold on old and young alike, perhaps the larger proportion being adults. No night passed without some coming forward as anxious inquirers. During the mission nearly 50 souls professed to experience God's justifying grace, while a goodly number of Christians were the subjects of a deeper spiritual work. In these services Mrs. Scott not only had the co-operation of our friends in Mosgiel, but that of several of the local preachers, exhorters, etc., from the city, who cheerfully responded to the call for help. It is hoped that, as the fruit of this mission, a company of earnest, loving souls will be added to the Church, and that a blessed impetus will be given to the work of God in the township and beyond it.

22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1891. pages 9 – 10.

Matthew Burnett welcomed at a public reception in Exeter Hall, presided over by Canon Farrar, and addressed by Sir Wilfred Lawson. 29<sup>th</sup> August, 1891. page 6

Biog. of the late Rev. Alexander Reid. 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. page 5.

**Special Mission Services. BALCLUTHA**

We have recently held special mission services in this circuit with good results. Rev. L. Hudson of Morningson, was the evangelist. During the first week the boisterous weather, and other difficulties, somewhat affected the attendance; but as the mission proceeded, it gathered spiritual momentum, and as the close drew nigh, the interest culminated in a gracious downpour of Divine influence. Several came forward and

professed conversion; while the church members were also much refreshed in spirit and strengthened in the Divine life. The evangelist is dowered with many gifts, creating special aptitude for mission work. We gratefully acknowledge God's crowning blessing; and we also thank our kind and genial Brother Hudson for the great help he has given in this special mission.

5<sup>th</sup> September, 1891. page 10.

**MRS. SCOTT'S MISSION at WAIMATE (written by J. S. Smalley.)**

This honoured servant of God arrived in our township on Friday, August 21, after thirteen weeks of almost continuous meetings in Otago, having promised to give us a Sunday *en route* to her home. But finding her in excellent health in spite of her recent labours, we invited her to remain for a four days' mission, which eventually extended to eleven days. For some weeks before our people had been praying for a revival of religion, and the minister had preached on "Power from on High" and on "The history of great revivals."

A few persons had been recently converted, and a general expectancy of larger blessings prevailed. The evangelist came among a prepared people. The word preached met with demonstration of the Spirit. The writer has often heard Mrs. Scott address congregations, but she never seemed to speak with such authority and force as during this mission. Our beautiful church was crowded night after night, and a very large number of inquirers came forward and many sought and found the Saviour. We had a gracious time among the young people on both Sunday afternoons, and a considerable number of the elder scholars professed to accept salvation. The farewell meeting on Wednesday, September 2, will not be soon forgotten. The glowing testimonies of several who had been blessed during the mission, the intensely earnest and pathetic appeal of the evangelist, and the striking conversions which followed will render that gathering memorable to all who had the privilege of being present. But there was more to follow. A demonstration was arranged at the railway station the following day to give our sister a hearty "God speed." A large company assembled about an hour before the leaving of the train, and an open-air service was conducted by the pastor, some hymns were heartily sung, the evangelist was again commended to God in prayer, and amid ringing cheers this devoted winner of souls took her departure. Many here will earnestly pray for the success of her contemplated mission in Auckland.

May the writer be permitted to call attention to the miserable remuneration given to Mrs. Scott by some circuits. It ought to be well known that Mrs. Scott is not in a position to undertake such work without due recompense. It is time for someone to mention this matter, when some circuits have not offered her even traveling expenses, and others after a long journey and three weeks' work have barely paid her railway fare.

J.S.S.

12<sup>th</sup> September. 1891. page 6.

**WAIMATE. Gospel Temperance Society, (which J.S. Smalley supported strongly.)**

The fortnightly meeting, on 27<sup>th</sup> instant, was one of the largest meetings of this society, and the Temperance Hall was as densely crowded as on the occasions of the largest meetings of Mr. Knott's or Mr. Coad's missions. A large number of persons were

obliged to go into the ante-rooms for want of room in the hall. No doubt the reason of this overflow meeting was the desire to hear Mrs. Smalley and Mrs. Scott; this being Mrs. Smalley's first appearance on the Temperance platform at Waimate, and this week being the time of Mrs. Scott's evangelistic mission work at Waimate Wesleyan Church, Mrs. Scott very kindly gave her presence and assistance to the Temperance Society. The choir was fully represented, the platform being well filled by the members. As had been previously announced, the platform work of this meeting, exclusive of choral singing, was entirely carried out by ladies. The addresses given by Mesdames Scott and Smalley were very earnest and impressive appeals to all to join the crusade against intoxicating liquor, to entirely cease from using these drugs, and to discourage the custom of indulging in them. The legal prohibition of the traffic in these articles was also strongly urged on the people. A few remarks by Mrs. Goldsmith closed the meeting. Regret, both of society and choir, was expressed at the near approaching removal of the Misses Long from Waimate, and the consequent loss the choir will sustain, these young ladies being very good helpers, and regular attendants at the choral services of the society. They will be greatly missed by the society on leaving. Nine persons signed the society's pledge, and no doubt a larger number would have signed had it not been for the inconvenience arising from the densely packed hall.

12<sup>th</sup> September, 1891. page 6.

#### **AUCKLAND.**

Mrs. Scott has been invited to conduct a mission in the Auckland (Pitt Street) circuit, and is expected to begin at the end of the present month.

12<sup>th</sup> September, 1891. page 11.

#### **PORT CHALMERS. Circuit News.**

Mrs. Scott has been holding a fortnight's special services here, and the Lord has blessed her labours in our midst, a goodly number have decided for Christ; the harvest had been ripening for some time past, and the Lord gave us unmistakable tokens of his saving presence, even before his handmaid arrived, in the conversion of five precious souls. While Mrs. Scott was with us many sought and found the Saviour, and two at least have found peace since she left. The church has been much revived, and many of those who were regular attendants, but strangers to saving grace, have come to Jesus and are now rejoicing in a newly-found Saviour. For all this we bless God.

19<sup>th</sup> September, 1891. page 9.

**The Fast Day after the earthquake of 1848.** Samuel Ironside's account of it.

26<sup>th</sup> September, 1891. page 14.

#### **REVIVAL SERVICES. SPRINGSTON.**

Since August 10 special evangelistic missions have been conducted in three centres in this circuit, viz., Springston, Tai Tapu, and Weedons, where the mission is still

being continued. The Rev. W. Tinsley was the missionary in Springston. His stirring practical addresses were greatly appreciated by all who heard them, and contributed to the success which has attended the subsequent missions.

The Tai Tapu mission was commenced on Aug. 16, by Rev. Tinsley; he, however, could only remain for one evening, and out of six other ministers who had been corresponded with, only two could promise an evening each, and as they selected the same evening, Bro. Buttle was the only one who came to our assistance for a single evening. Under these circumstances we naturally concluded that the Lord intended us to do the work ourselves. The attempt to do this resulted in unearthing local talent in the person of Miss Perryman. The only notice which she received of this call was public intimation at the meeting on Monday evening that she and Mr. Wills would give the addresses the following evening. At the hour appointed they responded to the Master's call, and we shall not soon forget the three minutes' silent prayer which preceded Miss Perryman's earnest appeal, as also the words which came right from the heart of Father Wills. For thirteen nights these meetings were continued by this sister and brother, assisted by the circuit minister. The church was greatly blessed, and some who were quite sure they could never live a Christian life, got converted, and are now demonstrating that it is possible to live and work for Jesus.

**Weedons.** Here the mission commenced on September 7, and the evangelists were the Rev. John Dellow and Miss Perryman, assisted by Mr. Wills and the circuit minister. It was in the church where Bro. Dellow was converted twenty-three years ago, and where his honoured parents, with their son, were for many years the life of the church. Sixteen years had elapsed since he left this place for the work of the ministry; and the experience gained during that time contributed largely to the success of this astonishing mission. As he could only spare four evenings it was decided that the mission should close on the Thursday evening. But these four evenings were spent in awful conflict with the powers of darkness. It proved to be the severest battle that any of us had ever engaged in. Night after night did these two faithful evangelists storm the stronghold of the enemy. At the close of the fourth night it became perfectly clear that victory was nigh. Brother Dellow consented to remain for Friday, and the for the Sunday, the circuit minister taking Temuka. Blessed results attended the efforts of these two evangelists, when a full week of engagements necessitated the mission being drawn to a close. Hearing of what had taken place on the Sabbath, and the many people who were under conviction, Mr. Garlick, upon his return from Temuka on Monday, cancelled all his engagements for the week, drove round the district and announced, through the children of the Public school, that the mission would be continued for another week.

We had a good meeting that evening, and the following evening Miss Perryman again came to our assistance, when six fine young men and three young women were found at the old-fashioned penitent form. By this time the spirit of conviction had reached many who had never attended these meetings. One man, who came for the first time, was asked in the prayer meeting if he had ever decided for Christ, when he requested permission to say a few words. His sad story was as follows:- I swore an oath that I would not attend these meetings. For two whole nights his wife (a Christian) and himself had not slept. The climax in this awful struggle came when this noble wife told her husband that, rather than go to heaven alone, she would go to hell with him! What

husband can stand that? He yielded to Christ, gave an earnest address at that meeting to the young men he had hindered, and had the pleasure of pointing one of them to Christ before the meeting closed. By this time Mrs. Schmidt (sister of the circuit minister) had responded to the call for assistance, and gave an address full of Christ at the above meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Schmidt have done, and are still doing, good work visiting the homes of the people. In one case a wife found Christ, and, meeting the husband after they left the house, they had a prayer-meeting with him on the road. He found Christ at that meeting, and came to the service that evening and told us about it.

We are now in the third week of this mission, and between thirty and forty have decided for Christ, and are working for him. Many, I may say nearly all, of the people have to walk or drive miles to the services, but still they come. I need scarcely add that Brother Dellow's solos were most effective, as also the singing by Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt. The great lesson that we have all had to learn at these meetings has been this:-

"O hide this self from me, that I  
No more, but Christ in me, may live!  
In all things nothing may I see,  
Nothing desire or seek, but Thee!"

3<sup>rd</sup> October, 1891. page 7.

### **The Geelong Revival.**

From reports to hand, some remarkable scenes were witnessed in connection with the revival in Geelong. A wonderful influence rested upon the people, and an excitement was created that astonished the whole community. There were processions in the streets, open-air services, and a vigorous use of the methods of appeal usually employed by the Salvation Army. It was, moreover, a revival that shook the purse-strings of the people in a wonderful fashion, and we read of a collection for missions that amounted to 1,500 pounds, – including contributions to missions which included jewellery and title-deeds of properties.

10<sup>th</sup> October, 1891. page 1.

### **PORT CHALMERS.**

Quarterly Meeting met on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> ultimo, with the usual number in attendance. The review of the quarter gave rise to hearty expressions of gratitude to God for his manifest presence and help. A goodly number have been received on trial, and the number of full members is greater than last year.

10<sup>th</sup> October, 1891. page 9

### **WAIMATE.**

The Quarterly Meeting was held in the vestry of the church on October 6, seven members being present. The minister (Rev. J. S. Smalley) reported 116 members, 9 on trial, and 80 catechumens. Mr. Goldsmith also gave a favourable report on the Sunday School. Grateful references were made to the Mission of Mrs. Scott during the quarter.

An enlargement of the Sunday school building, at the sole cost of Messrs. Manchester Brothers and Goldsmith, was mentioned. This is a costly and noble work, and will greatly promote the comfort and convenience of the School. The meeting expressed its high appreciation of this much needed improvement and the generosity prompting it, which will give us a public hall for various purposes equal to any similar building in the town. (A Camp Meeting was also arranged.).  
17<sup>th</sup> October. 1891. page 10.

### **Newmarket.**

Altogether our work here is looking up, and we have been praying particularly for a revival of God's work throughout the circuit. We have good hopes of good things coming. 24<sup>th</sup> October, 1891. page 10.

### **NOTES from AUCKLAND.**

Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, is here. Though so well known to Southern Methodists she is not so well known to Northern, as this is her first visit to Auckland. She has been holding services at Arch Hill, in the Pitt Street circuit, for the past fortnight, and with marked success, for numbers have been converted. Next week she commences a series in the Freeman's Bay Helping Hand Mission Hall.

31<sup>st</sup> October, 1891. page 6.

### **Call to Prayer – for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.**

- issued by Presidents of all Methodist denominations.

7<sup>th</sup> November, 1891. page 10. Editorial on page 9

Also, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1891. page 9.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Milton.**

Milton. – With gratitude to God we report a glorious outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Rev. L. Hudson has been conducting special evangelistic services in this circuit. Mid-day prayer meetings have been held, also before the evening services, and on Friday night an all-night prayer meeting; these have been well attended by between 30 and 40 persons. Up to this time 20 have come forward expressing their desire for salvation, and have gone away rejoicing in the cleansing blood of Christ. Many Christians have come forward seeking for purity of heart, and altogether we have much cause to rejoice and be thankful. The meetings will be continued into next week, and our faith is in lively expectation, that God will still continue to pour out his Spirit in rich and large measure. Brethren, pray for us.

7<sup>th</sup> November, 1891. page 11.

**WEEK of Prayer.** 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1891. page 1.

### **The Helping Hand Mission Anniversary. AUCKLAND.**

One hundred and fifty converted to God from the streets, of whom 78 remain to this day, and a Young Crusaders' Band established with crowded results, even in face of a four-fold pledge – against drink, tobacco, foul language, and gambling. Three thousand visits paid to needy folk by the sisterhood; 120 donations of raiment to the naked; 15 Pounds 3 shillings and eleven and a half pence, I think this is the exact sum, spent in delivering the worthy poor from the hands of the bailiffs; three pounds 15 shillings for medicine, which has been given at half usual rates; the free and prompt attention of Drs. Beale and Kinderdine to cases the Mission has unearthed. Twenty pounds or more spent in ventilating the Mission Hall; a circulation of 2500 per month for the Helping Hand; a band of 21 Sunday-school teachers who are never absent from their duties; 220 names on the Sunday-school roll, with 175 of average attendance; the brass band enlarged and made more proficient. Cottage prayer meetings weekly; holiness meetings weekly; a book, a seat, a welcome, offered to all non-church-goers; a big catechumen class described as very hopeful. A chief leader with wealth, and a will to put it into this cause; another leader with quenchless zeal and endless resources; and a third with wit, humour, and cynicism to distribute as anti-corrosives; with others as clever and good all round. Yet Messrs. W. H. Smith and A. C. Brown had a big commission on their hands during the week that ended with October 10<sup>th</sup>. They had secured the Opera House for their Sunday afternoon and evening meetings, and St. James' Hall for their soiree. These acts of faith were not exercised without a mixture of care and anxiety; printers' ink is, not unnaturally a constant agent of the mission, and multitudes of "dodgers," showing the entire programme of the coming function, were scattered throughout Auckland; the daily Press was put under contribution, and gave space for the coming event which was most unusual.

Sunday, the 11<sup>th</sup>, broke dull and warm, with a slight shower now and then to lay the dust and keep the principals cool. At 10.15am the more ardent souls gathered, with their band, at the corner of Victoria and Hobson streets, and here the fray commenced by Mr. Thomas Clark giving a birthday address, to whet the zeal and make fervent the gratitude of those who were to do battle all the live-long day. At 11a.m. the Mission Hall was packed with a dense, perspiring audience, whose every pore opened under the genial influence of the growing heat, and both gave and took the pabulum that pervaded the place. When I say that the leaders of the Mission presided, and that the "rulers of their Israel" graced the platform with their joyful presence, and that the Rev. Josiah Ward and Mrs. Scott gave the addresses, it needs no "bush" to evidence the goodness of the "wine," nor the exhilaration that followed its outflow. Mrs. Scott is of herself a host in such surroundings as these, and she must have quite forgotten the many "cultured" ears that listened, for she bated not one breath of forceful Gospel talk, while Bro. Ward was himself, which being said, enough is said.

At 3 p.m. the Opera House was filled, and music was both forcible and beautiful, and prayers short and pointed; and the address in chief of Rev. C. E. Becroft, set round as it was by other talk from those of lesser magnitude, all contributed to make, together with the warm air, a really melting time. At 6 p.m. the Salvationists vacated their patch in favour of this growing young giant, and the band played with loudness and the people sang with enthusiasm; and Messrs. H. Field and T. H. Glover maintained their high prestige in the addresses, and everybody stood with patience, and then adjourned to the

Opera House, which soon overflowed, and many had to go away, not being able to squeeze in. This meeting was held by the missionaries on their own special lines, and was full of vigour, vim, and go, and seemed to satisfy all who attended it. "Peter," however, was sadly robbed to pay this lusty "Paul," and many churches had many bare patches as tokens of the over-crowd of the Opera House. The evening was mild and moonlight, and many walked miles to join in the festival. It was difficult to discern the special objects of the mission work, in so far as outward and visible signs went, for the raiment of the crowd gave no clue, nor did the faces, nor did anything else in particular.

On Monday, St. James' Hall was crowded, and the stage and orchestra were crammed with friends of the mission. Mr. W. H. Smith presided in the absence of Brother Beaumont, who was away through illness. Brother Smith glowed and gleamed with excitement and delight, and did his work with delightfully irregular zeal. Brother A. C. Brown supported the chair, as he alone can, while the faces of S. Parker, H. J. Ross, Miss Blakely, the McKenzies, and others, made a living halo of earnest delight round about these central two. Many ministers sat silent, and all in a row to the right, with their flank guarded by Sir William Fox; while the reporters were perched, like uneasy fowl, upon ledges and slopes in the neighbourhood. The singing, under Mr. Bonskill, of the United Methodist Free Church, Pitt street, was delightful. The Misses Bamford gave one of their choice duets, and a little maid gave a solo which was very pretty. Mr. Smith told his story, which was not quite new; Brother Brown told his, which was excellent and true; Sister Blakely told hers with emphasis and taste; and Brother Ross told his with vigour and with taste. We had several "experiences," but they had rather an air of staleness about them that savoured of the stockpot, and it would have added to the charm if some of this year's work had spoken, as a sample of present power. One case, however, discovered the value of blood and breeding, and it was that of a converted Jewess, who gave us a treat. The whole of the mission agencies were kept well to the front; in fact "our work" was the theme of the evening, and if praise was not given in sufficient measure, it was quite the fault of the staff themselves. Messrs McNicol and Beecroft had a couple of minutes as the meeting closed, and so ended a large and hearty meeting, which indicates at least that the various churches are at one with the missionaries in their work. Messrs Ward, Simmonds, and Beecroft were the only ministers of the communion present at the stage; the others, I presume, being too much engaged to give the evening to this contemplative exercise. Wednesday evening is given to the children, when a magic lantern was to be the attraction.

On the whole this annual gathering has been to the mission a signal endorsement by the churches of the work, and certainly Brother Smith is entitled to much praise for his unstinted gifts, both of time, talent, and money, to the cause; while the Brethren Beaumont and A. C. Brown make up, with Mr. Smith, a trio that is not easily broken.

E.C.C.

14<sup>th</sup> November, 1891. page 5.

Letter to the Editor on Women in the Pulpit. 14<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1891. Page 10

**Joyful News. MILTON.**

Milton. – On Tuesday night, Nov. 3, the series of evangelistic services in this circuit were closed with a coffee supper and praise evening.

We have had glorious seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. He has greatly blessed the labours of his servant and honoured the faith of his people, for which we are indeed grateful. Fully fifty persons have sought and found the pearl of greatest price, and as we meet one another in the day time, the happy light of the countenance tells us of the joy within their hearts. Perhaps the most pleasing feature of the Mission is the fact that the greater number of the converts are young men and women, and our hearts rejoiced as one after another stood up and confessed to the knowledge of sins forgiven, and desired that God would help them to stand fast. We here record our thanks to Mr. Hudson for his self-denying labours in our midst, and pray that God's blessing may follow all his labours. As an evangelist, Mr. Hudson excels, his genial sunny smile, and his pappy way wins all hearts; in his addresses, which are of the conversational kind, he aims to win souls by setting forth the love of Christ, and brings it down to every day life. In our meetings there is nothing of the sensational, nothing of the brimstone kind that characterizes the utterances of some, but a melting down under the influence of the love of God and Christ to poor sinners. May God revive his work in all New Zealand is our prayer, which we feel sure will find a ready Amen. C. K.  
14<sup>th</sup> November, 1891. page 11.

Also, **George Grubb** in Sydney – bit. – page 11.

**Freeman's Bay, Devonport Circuit. Then Thames.**

Mrs. Scott has been continuing her labors with rich success. Her addresses at Freeman's Bay have been fruitful of good. The past two weeks she has spent in the Devonport Circuit, and numbers have been quickened and saved. Yesterday she commenced a fortnight's work at the Thames. Her simple, earnest addresses are always accompanied with power. In her quiet unostentatious way she leaves a far better result than many more prominent evangelists have done. Though not allowed the honour of being Conference Evangelist she certainly is God's evangelist. May she long be spared.  
28<sup>th</sup> November, 1891. page 10.

Female Ministry – two articles, and others which followed later.

First article – 28<sup>th</sup> November, 1891. page 13.

Second article – also on page 5. 5<sup>th</sup> December. 1891.

**Joyful News. KAITANGATA.**

Kaitangata. – On Nove. 8<sup>th</sup>, the Rev. Lewis Hudson, of Mornington, commenced a six-days Mission here, with blessed results. Many professed to have found "Christ their Saviour." Owing to the increased interest when the last night of the Mission came, it was thought advisable to continue the services for another week, when the Revs Messrs. Thomas (Wesleyan), and Fairmaid (Presbyterian), united their services in the work. It was a splendid success, many more souls being added to Christ's Kingdom, so that God's

people are rejoicing greatly over the manifestation of the Spirit Divine. Not having an opportunity of thanking Mr. Hudson before he left, we wish through the medium of the paper to tender our heart-felt thanks to him for the glorious services he has rendered to us as individuals, and to the building up of Christ's kingdom in this place. May he long be spared as a servant of Christ. If the forthcoming Conference can see their way clear to put him on special evangelistic work, we gratefully contribute our approval as to his special qualities for such work. J. J.

5<sup>th</sup> December, 1891. page 5.

**Rev. George Grubb.**

Rev. George Grubb's mission in Sydney seems to have been just as successful and the recent mission in Victoria. 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1891. page 11.

**Joyful News. THAMES**

Thames. – The well-known and much-loved evangelist, Mrs. Scott, has just concluded a very profitable mission at the Thames. The congregations have been very good, and the interest well sustained. On the first Sunday-night eleven souls sought the Lord and found him. Several others were saved during the week, and the Lord's people greatly revived. One special feature of the mission was the form the last meeting took. The Wesleyans and the Salvation Army combined their forces in this final effort, with most gratifying results. Though on a week night the church was full and a powerful influence for good was present. Mr. Bamford, Captain Lane, and Mrs. Scott gave capital addresses, and many testimonies to God's power to save were listened to by an eager and sympathetic audience. Mrs. Scott leaves many friends here, and herself testifies to the many kindnesses received during her sojourn at the gold-fields. Mrs. Scott was entertained by Mesdames Kitching and Kernick. 12 December, 1891. page 11.

**Otago District Meeting – Conversation.**

The report on the Committee on Sunday-school examinations was received and discussed. After the reading of selections from the "Liverpool Minutes," a very profitable conversation on the work of God followed. On the motion of Mr. Spence the following resolution was heartily carried - "That, having listened to the reading of the general returns from the several circuits in the district, and the conversation thereon, this meeting rejoices at the measure of success vouchsafed under the fostering hand of God. It notes with special thankfulness the special outpouring of the Spirit in several of the circuits, and prays that, in the coming year, in all our congregations there may be times of refreshing coming from the presence of the Lord." 12 December. 1891. page 11.

Also, the Rev. L. Hudson was recommended to the Conference to be the Connexional Evangelist.

**Joyful News.**

Denniston. (Primitive Methodist Church). On Sunday. Nov.22, Mrs. Wright of Wellington, commenced a mission, which is being attended with blessed results. The

Wednesday evening following saw the first break, when eleven young people sought and found peace in believing in Christ, four more came out on Thursday, and another on Saturday. A love feast was held on Tuesday, Dec. , at which the power of God was felt; the experiences were to the point and had the right ring about them. But, best of all, the close of the meeting saw seven anxious ones kneeling and praying for pardon – it was a glorious time. At the Sabbath evening service at Waimangaroa, also, the minister had a fish in the net, who was safely landed on the “Rock.” Mrs. Wright is still conducting services in different parts of the circuit; and we are praying, working, and believing for great results. 19 Dec. 1891. page 7.

### **Canterbury District Meeting. Conversation.**

A lengthy conversation took place on THE NEW ZEALAND METHODIST, and some recommendations were sent forward for the consideration of the directors.

An exceedingly profitable conversation followed on the state of the work of God, some of the brethren giving encouraging reports of revival in their circuits. A suitable resolution was adopted. 19 Dec. 1891. page 11.

## **OUR VETERANS.**

### **THOMAS GREGORY CHAPMAN. (engraving.)**

Thomas Gregory Chapman, who is spending the last years of a long life in peaceful retirement at Willowby, in the Ashburton Circuit, was born at Huttoft, in the County of Lincoln, in the early part of the present century. He comes from an old Methodist family, his grandfather being a local preacher in the time of Wesley, who resided in Bimbrook in the Raisen Circuit, and died at the good old age of 85 years. The work of the traveling preachers in those days was no sinecure, as they left home on Monday morning, returning on Friday, visiting and preaching up and down the circuit, and consequently being well acquainted with the wants and conditions of the people among whom they laboured. There were two ministers on the ground in those days, who were passing rich with one horse between them, with which they had to travel the long journeys, and in the majority of instances no chapels in which to preach. They held forth in cottages, farm houses, and the open air, and laid the foundation of a noble work, the results of which remain to this day.

Mr. Chapman attributes his conversion to this custom of visiting. The ministers of that time – the Revs James Cheesewright and D. Waller – father of the Rev. D.J. Waller, Secretary of the English Conference – frequently visited at his home, and so excited his admiration by their holy lives that he was constrained to give his life to the service of their God n and Master. He was led to decision in Bimbrook Chapel about 64 years ago, in the midst of a great revival then going on. Two years after, at Christmas, he was invited to come and preach there, in consequence of it having been his religious birth-place.

He removed at this time to the Louth Circuit, which was sixty miles across, and had a plan like a table-cloth for size, where he remained eight years. Mr. Chapman found in this wide district full scope for his energies, being made a class and prayer leader. The work of the prayer leaders was a very blessed one. They numbered about 40, and went out from house to house, and among the villages, in ten companies of four each. Of course such work produced great results; this system made many useful and powerful local preachers, and the circuit became very prosperous, the membership rising as high as 1,400. The ministers also increased from two to four. Another change sent him into the Alford Circuit, where he was a valued local preacher for 18 years, and his class grew to 60 members. Mr. Chapman's long list of departed ministers is highly refreshing – Rev. Thomas Hughes – the eloquent Welshman – and Dr. Bunting, who preached from “Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.” It was a great missionary sermon, in which he expressed his preference for the men who have to be dragged into the pulpit rather than volunteers. Dr. Waddy, governor of Sheffield College, whom he remembers as wearing a gown, and preaching a fine sermon. Charles Richardson – the Lincolnshire thrasher – preaching on the cities of refuge, and who, when he had the criminal safe within its walls, sang with thrilling effect –

Happy the souls to Jesus joined,  
And saved by grace alone,  
Walking in all His ways they find  
Their heaven on earth begun.

John McLean, on ‘God so loved the world,’ followed by firth or sixty conversions; Billy Dawson – the dramatic farmer-preacher, whose labours were blessed in a like manner; D. Beaumont, who at a later date ceased at once to work and live, dying in the pulpit as he gave out the lines:-

The while the great Archangel sings  
He hides His face behind His wings,

Squire Brook, Isaac Marsden, of Doncaster, under whom General Booth was converted. These are a few of the choice memories of his life.

Mr. Chapman landed in New Zealand about the time that Bishop Taylor, of California, was in Christchurch, and greatly enjoyed the services. Like a good Methodist, he brought letters from his superintendent minister and Dr. Osborn, and settling at Templeton, entered heartily into Christian work at Rolleston and West Melton. He preached frequently in those days, and worked with the late Mr. Dellow and others in laying the foundations of religious worship in those and other parts.

He removed into the Ashburton district in the year 1874, and henceforth his influence, and that of his sons, was thrown into the evangelization of the new country which was being opened up. His house became a centre of Methodism and Christian influence, which has continually increased until this day, and although Mr. Chapman has long ceased to engage in active work, yet his mantle has abundantly fallen upon his sons, the Cheerable Brothers of this district, who nobly do their part in every good and useful work around them.

Wesleyan services were opened in the Willowby school by Rev. W. Morley, and Mr. Chapman preached there once, before the infirmities of age had borne too heavily upon him. These services have been continued up till the present time; now, in a church all too strait for its crowded congregation, and in which from time to time there has been

a glorious harvest of souls turning to the Saviour. The scenes of the first great revival, which occurred when Rev. C. Standage was in the circuit, can never be forgotten by those privileged to take part in them, and since then, under Mrs. Scott, and the circuit ministers of the day, the glorious work has continuously gone on. These results are due in no small measure to the fervent prayers of Mr. Chapman in his peaceful and happy seclusion.

Mr. Chapman, however, has known something of difficulty and trial in the prosecution of his labours as a local preacher. He has many a time preached two or three times on a Sunday, led a large class, and walked many miles, and up at four o'clock on Monday morning at his daily work.

He tells of many times when his work was especially hard. On one occasion preaching at Hogsthorpe, in Lincolnshire, on "Moses' Choice," it seemed as though every word had to be fetched from Huttoft, four miles away. He returned home downcast and sorrowful, but afterwards heard of special good resulting from this particular service. His labours were frequently productive of very much good. Once, after preaching from the words, "And I trembled that I might rest in the day of trouble," there was upwards of forty conversions.

Speaking of the Methodism of today, he commissioned me to say; "Tell the ministers and preachers that the secret of their power lies in visiting and holy living, and by that alone they can succeed." "Put that down," he said, as though fearful the message may not be delivered. "He that has ears to hear let him hear."

Like all our Methodist forefathers, his mind is richly stored with our hymns, and the old tunes, which have about them a flavour of the time when the sexes were separated in public worship. He has himself composed some verses of considerable merit.

Such is a brief description of the career of a man, who, with his wife still living to comfort and solace his declining years, has been intimately acquainted with Methodism during many epochs. He remembers Waterloo, and was living when the Wesleyan Missionary Society was organized in consequence of the death of Dr. Coke, was contemporary with the learned Dr. Clarke, the profound Richard Watson, Thomas Jackson, Theophilus Lessey, the brilliant and lamented David McNicoll, Jabez Bunting, the great legislator; and Robert Newton, the orator; William Morley Punshon, the peerless lecturer of his day; and all the living forces of our time. Having known something of all these, he can still say, "The best of all is, God is with us."

Anglais.

New Zealand Methodist. Saturday, April, 11, 1891.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1892.**

Eleventh Day of Conference. Ministerial Session. Opened 11 a.m.

### **Connexional Evangelist.**

The Rev. Lewis Hudson stated his conviction concerning his call to the special work of an evangelist. For some time past he had been impressed with the fact that his providential sphere lay in such a direction, and he had been greatly encouraged by the success of his labours in the special missions in which he had been engaged. After duly considering the case, the Conference resolved, on the motion of the Rev. J. Berry – “This Conference, having heard Bro Hudson as to his conviction that he is called to the work of a connexional evangelist, expresses its sympathy with him in this matter, and regrets that it cannot this year make any appointment to this work.”

19<sup>th</sup> March, 1892. page 6.

The newspaper did not contain any reference to a Conversation on the Work of God.

### **The Rev. George C. Grubb in New Zealand.**

This celebrated missionary has “opened fire” in New Zealand by holding a series of services in Dunedin. Large congregations have been drawn to hear Mr. Grubb’s impassioned evangelistic appeals and numerous testimonies have been furnished of blessing received. The fact that he is a minister of the Church of England secures for him access to circles that would be closed against an evangelist of a different type. It is true that some high Anglicans are greatly shocked at the way in which Mr. Grubb speaks of “The Church;” he has the temerity to assert that association with “the Church,” and participation with its sacraments, may consist with the most deplorable ignorance of the first principles of vital godliness, and “the Church” itself may be but the gateway to hell. This, of course, is unpardonable in the eyes of a great many Anglicans, some of whom give vent to their wrath in letters to the daily Press. For all that, Mr. Grubb pursues his victorious way, dealing faithfully with the sins that hold men in bondage, and pointing earnestly to the liberty provided in Christ Jesus. We should probably not agree at all points with his teaching; but he is evidently being used by God as the means of a deep and wide-spread spiritual awakening among the churches, and in this we cannot but rejoice. The success that has attended his labours in Dunedin will awake high expectation with regard to the result of his next mission in Christchurch.

### **A Theological Revival.**

Mr. Grubb will find in Christchurch the prevalence of an unwonted revival of interest in theological controversy. Whether this will be helpful or otherwise to his special mission remains to be seen. Between A.B. Worthington, the Christian Scientist, and W.W. Collins, the Freethinker, orthodoxy in Christchurch has been furnished with a sharp irritant, and no questions have been more keenly discussed than those relating to the latest assaults on the Christian Faith. Attention has already been called in these

columns to the public debates that have been held in the Tuam street Hall between Mr. Collins and the Revs R.C. Gilmour and J. Hosking, and Professor Bickerton. Mention has also been made to the Press correspondence concerning the teaching of Mr. Worthington. The latest sign of the "troubling of the waters" is the announcement of four lectures to be delivered on successive evenings in the Tuam street Hall by the Rev. H.C.M. Watson, Incumbent of St. John's, Latimer Square. Mr. Watson will deal with "Christianity in Relation to Modern Thought." And while there will be the absence of the excitement incidental to a debate, it can hardly be doubted that Mr. Watson's course is that most likely to be attended with the most profitable results.

26<sup>th</sup> March, 1892. page 3.

### **The Conference and Evangelism.**

#### **To the Editor.**

Sir, - I notice in your report of the Conference that the Rev. L. Hudson stated his belief that he was called of God to do the work of an evangelist, and the Conference expressed their sympathy with him, but regretted that they were unable to see their way clear to make such an appointment this year.

When I read that, Sir, I laid down the paper and began to think, and these were some of my thoughts:- Here are a number of the leading ministers of our church, met for the professed purpose of promoting the work of God in the colony, and yet when one of their number acting (presumably) under the influence of the Holy Spirit voluntarily announces his firm belief that he is called and qualified for the above special work, and they believing that such an agent is urgently needed, and believing too in the preciousness of immortal souls, they refuse to make the appointment.

Why? Simply because they cannot see how the Almighty is going to provide for his servant without their help, and they cannot see where the money is coming from.

"O ye of little faith." The Lord of heaven and earth who called is surely able to provide. I venture to say that if Bro. Hudson were set apart for this work, and he to go forth with one object in view, the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom, there would be no trouble about salary.

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God," &c. These are the Saviour's own words: are they true or false? If I were Bro Hudson, and were sure about the call, I would obey God rather than men.

Yours, &c.

ALPHA.

14<sup>th</sup> May, 1892. page 11.

### **SYDENHAM.**

In this circuit Self-Denial Week was devoted to prayer. On four evenings, meetings were held when members of the congregation were invited to come together and pray for a revival of God's work. These were not largely attended, but the interest increased each evening, and at the end of the week it was decided to continue the meetings for a second week. This has been done with encouraging results. Many of God's people have been stirred up, and have been led to realize a sense of responsibility in regard to his work not before entertained. On Thursday evening, quite a number came out for fresh consecration, and the power of the Holy Spirit was manifestly present. At the close of the meeting a short conference was held to determine whether the meetings

should be continued. By a large majority a third week's services were decided upon. On Sunday evening the order of services was somewhat varied from that usually adopted: Sankey's hymns being used, and Jubilee hymns were introduced by the choir. The Rev. J.N. Buttle delivered an evangelistic address, and an impressive service was closed by a heart-searching after-meeting. A pleasing feature of the services during last week, was the kindly help and sympathy afforded by Rev. J.M. Simpson (Presbyterian) and several members of his congregation. The Revs. Dewsbury and Hounsell (U.M.F.C.) also assisted. We pray and look for richer blessings this week.

21<sup>st</sup> May, 1892. page 9.

### **SYDENHAM.**

The evangelistic meetings were continued for four nights last week. Notwithstanding counter attractions, the interest was well sustained. On Thursday night we had the crowning blessing of the series, when eight or ten persons came out for salvation, and gave themselves up to Christ. Parents and friends wept for joy on seeing members of their families coming forward to the communion rail, and God's people have been greatly encouraged. We have again been helped by the pastor and several members of the Presbyterian Church, who are in thorough sympathy with work of this kind. The Revs, Dewsbury and Hounsell also rendered assistance on two evenings. Arrangements are being made for a united mission in the Waltham district at an early date.

28<sup>th</sup> May, 1892. page 10.

### **Rev. Lewis Hudson's reply.**

The Conference and Evangelism.

To the Editor,

Sir, - In your issue of the 14<sup>th</sup> May, there appears under the above heading a letter signed "Alpha." With the spirit of the letter I am in sympathy, but there are one or two things which call for explanation. It is quite true, as the writer remarks, that I stated to Conference my belief that I was called to do the work of an evangelist, but it should be further stated, in justice to myself, that my services were offered unconditionally, my feeling being that God who called would also provide.

Conference did not accept this offer, not because, as your correspondent says, it could not see where the money was coming from, but on account of the scarcity of men!

My reason for not pursuing the extreme suggested by "Alpha" is this: I am trying in the sphere in which Conference has placed me to do real evangelistic work, and God has been graciously pleased to put his seal on my efforts. I am reluctantly compelled to make this explanation, which I had hoped someone else would have generously made for me. -

Yours, &c. L. Hudson.

4<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 7.

### **CIRCUIT NEWS. (Editor.)**

We are glad to receive from circuit correspondents reports of church news of general interest. These have hitherto dealt largely with anniversaries, fairs, bazaars, sales of work, &c. We are desirous of obtaining reports of other features of church work, such

as revival services, evangelistic missions, or aggressive effort of any kind to secure the conversion of sinners, or a quickened spiritual life in the circuits. The new issue of the *Methodist* is sure to “boom,” if we can fill our columns of news of such work.

11<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 9.

### **SYDENHAM.**

A United Evangelistic Mission promoted by the ministers and members of the Sydenham Wesleyan and Presbyterian was commenced in the Waltham church on June 5. Notwithstanding the bitterly cold night, there was a good attendance. The spirit of conviction was manifestly present, and the meeting augured well for the success of the mission. On the following evening two men decided for Christ, one of whom had not been attending a place of worship for years. Thank God, the work spreads and grows. LATEST. – At the Waltham United Evangelistic mission six persons decided for Christ on Tuesday night.

11<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 10.

### **WALTHAM.**

The meetings in connection with this united mission were continued during last week, with most encouraging results. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, the room was filled, and the services were greatly blessed. On Friday evening some fifteen to twenty persons made profession of decision for Christ. Last Sunday evening the building was crowded to excess and numbers were unable to gain admission; the service being most impressive. About forty persons have been led to decision during the week. The mission is to be continued another week.

18<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 11.

### **DUNEDIN. (Cargill Road.)**

Special evangelistic services have been held during the fortnight ending June 10<sup>th</sup>. Prior to these meetings there were strong indications that God’s Spirit was working mightily in our midst, for at the close of the evening service on three or four successive Sundays several came forward and made their peace with God. In order to obtain spiritual strength for the coming work, the week preceding the services was devoted to prayer. Many took part in these meetings and all felt renewed in the Lord. The mission was opened on May 29<sup>th</sup>. On this date the Rev. L. Hudson addressed the Sunday school and many scholars came forward for Christ. The meetings were conducted by the Rev. L. Hudson, and he was assisted by the Revs. Oliver and Salter, and several of the local preachers. Among the congregation were to be found members of sister churches from all quarters working with us for the common end. From the commencement of the mission the presence of the Lord was felt and manifested. Prayer meetings, attended by large numbers, were held every day at noon and at 7 p.m. Outside proceedings were enlivened by a march starting every evening at 6.45. We rejoice in knowing that this departure of the mission has been the means of drawing to the Saviour some who might otherwise yet have been without the fold. A most lively interest has been displayed in connection with every service. Night after night the church has been filled – sometimes packed – and no service has passed without some finding their way to Christ. On June 2<sup>nd</sup> the Rev. L. Hudson gave the story of his life. Plainly and earnestly, yet forcibly told,

containing, as remarked by the speaker, nothing of any special note, the simple word touched a chord in many hearts. On the following evening there was again a large attendance, when Mr. Hudson spoke on "The Crying Sin of South Dunedin – Indifference to Religion." As a result of this meeting some hitherto indifferent ones became anxious and were found seeking the Saviour. On June 9<sup>th</sup> a half night of prayer was commenced, and was attended by about seventy persons. Addresses on consecration were given by the Revs. Hudson and Salter. It was felt by all that it was good to be there. The mission was closed on the 11<sup>th</sup> inst., but during the ensuing week two meetings will be held in that connection, of which particulars will follow in due course. As a practical result of this effort many souls have been blessed; one hundred and thirteen persons have entered the enquiry room and accepted Christ as their Saviour. God's people have one and all been lifted up, and we trust that this move for the extension of God's kingdom will still bear fruit to his honour and glory. As one special case it may be mentioned that five members of one family have, during these services, been brought to a knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The results of this mission should encourage, not only ourselves, but all Christians to go forward in the good work. During the services the choir and orchestra, assisted by various friends, gave valuable aid in efficiently leading the service of song.

18<sup>th</sup> June. 1892. page 11.

### **GISBORNE.**

We were favoured with a nine days' mission conducted by the Rev. G. C. Grubb and party. The programme of services was as follows:- Prayer meeting daily at 7.30 a.m., Bible exposition at 3 p.m., children's service 3.45, women's meeting 6.30, men's meeting 6.30, evangelistic service 7.30.

The Anglican Church and schoolroom, and the Presbyterian Church, were used for the various meetings. The weather part of the time was most unfavourable, yet seemed to have no effect upon the attendance at the services. Myra Kemble and her company had a play on at the theatre at the same time, but for once the church proved more attractive than the theatre, and the play was not continued after the fourth night – an unusually short run for Gisborne – and some of the actresses afterwards attended a mission service.

The impression formed here of Mr. Grubb is that he is "a man, full of faith and of the Holy Ghost," and the four others forming the party seem equally devoted and consecrated. It was most refreshing to see people of all denominations – business men and fashionable ladies – coming through cold and rain to the early morning prayer meeting, and to hear some of these ladies tremblingly utter a first prayer in public. Not the least remarkable and satisfactory was it to see from one hundred to one hundred and fifty people attend each afternoon at three o'clock, all with Bible in hand, eagerly listening to Mr. Grubb's reading and exposition of Scripture, and carefully noting texts and comments. Mr. Grubb's evening sermons usually occupied about an hour in delivery, yet none complained of their length. Crowded congregations sang with great heartiness such hymns as "O Happy Day," "There is a fountain" (with chorus), &c., Mr. Grubb himself playing the instrument. This in an Anglican church no one had dared to dream of before.

The mission closed with a thanksgiving service on Sunday evening, May 15. Wesleyan and Presbyterian churches closed so that all denominations might attend. The night was very dark and the rain coming down in torrents, yet something like seven hundred people – about one fourth of the population of the town – were literally jammed into the church. Mr. Grubb had in his hand nearly 100 written testimonials from persons who had been blessed during the mission, extracts from which he read at the close of the sermon. The after-meetings each evening were indeed times of refreshing, from two to three hundred remaining to praise and pray. A considerable number of young people of both sexes, men and women in various positions in life, adherents of different denominations, have been converted. Each church has shared in the showers of blessing.

After the mission party left the local clergymen met to consider the situation. It was this. A great ball was to be held on the night of the May 24, and a number of ladies and gentlemen who had been in the habit of attending balls had been converted, and orders for ball dresses had been countermanded. The question arose: Shall we do anything to help these people to resist temptation? The outcome was an arrangement for a united Evangelistic service the same evening as the ball, and it proved a grand success. The service began with an open-air meeting, addresses being delivered in the street to a large gathering by Revs Canon Webb, A. Gardiner (C.E.), R.M. Ryburn (Pres.), S.J. Gibson (Wes.). Hymns were sung, prayer offered, then all moved into the Theatre, which, in a few minutes, was quite full. Addresses, prayers, testimony, and singing occupied the time for two hours, and then closed a meeting which was regarded by many as unique, and in which the power of God was manifest. Meetings for Bible study and Christian fellowship have been organized or revived in each of the churches. A Saturday-morning united prayer meeting has been started, and an undenominational meeting for young men promises to be a success. These are some of the direct apparent results of the mission, and there are others which we feel and know. Mr. Ewbank, one of the party, very kindly took a Sunday evening service in the Wesleyan Church.

S.J. Gibson.

18<sup>th</sup> June. 1892. page 11.

### **WALTHAM.**

As intimated in last week's *Methodist*, meetings in connection with the united mission were continued up to last Friday evening. The wet weather on Tuesday and Wednesday interfered with the attendance, but the service was held each evening, with good results. On the former date seven persons, out of a company of less than fifty, decided for Christ, whilst on Wednesday there were only two unsaved people in the audience. Thursday and Friday evenings were times of great power and rich in results. It is always difficult to number the people and tabulate results in missions of this kind, but it was estimated that nearly one hundred persons have been led to decision for Christ as a result of the fortnight's mission. Some of these have not attended any place of worship for years; others have gone to God's house, but not to pray. One of these latter testified on Friday evening that for years he had never offered a prayer to God. A most pleasing feature of the mission has been the efforts of the young converts to secure the attendance of their companions and shopmates. In numbers of cases these latter have been brought under the power of God, and have yielded their lives to him.

LATEST. – On Tuesday evening last, a meeting of the converts and others who had been blessed in connection with this mission was held. The room was inconveniently overcrowded, and many could not gain admittance. The Rev. J.N. Buttler conducted the former part of the service, after which the Rev. J.M. Simpson (Presbyterian) gave an address to the young converts, urging them to attend to those things which would promote their spiritual well being. During the course of the evening an invitation was given to those who were still unsaved to come to decision, and some ten or twelve gave themselves up to Christ. A number of testimonies were given, some of which made a deep impression on those present. A mother told how her thoughts had been turned towards God by the remark of her little boy, who had recently recovered from a severe and painful illness. She had said to him, “You ought to be thankful for what your father and mother have done for you during your sickness.” He said he “did not think they had done very much.” “How is that?” she asked. “Why,” he said, “when the minister came he prayed God to spare my life, but mother, *you never prayed for me.*” God’s Spirit had sent home that message, and she had found no rest until she had publicly given herself up to God, and sought and found forgiveness of sin.

25<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 7.

### **SYDENHAM.**

It was only to be expected that after the mission at Waltham, the services at Colombo Road on Sunday last would be of special interest. Many of the converts at the Waltham mission were young people in connection with Colombo Road Church. Members and workers had been praying for a day of special blessing, and these were not disappointed. At the early morning prayer meeting we had our usual attendance doubled. At 10 a.m. the class was met for renewal of tickets. Members all on fire. At 11 a.m., a good service, with much heart searching before God. In the afternoon there was an unusually large attendance at the school, especially of the young men and women. A fine feeling pervaded the whole school, and the session was closed with an earnest prayer meeting. The evening service was a memorable one. There was a large attendance, of young people especially. The service was conducted by the circuit minister, who took for his subject the parable of “The Ten Virgins.” The after-meeting was full of life and power. God’s Spirit was manifestly present, and many were convinced of sin. Some fifteen or more persons decided for Christ, whilst quite a number testified to their having surrendered to Christ during the recent mission, and determined to live for him. It is long years since such a scene was witnessed in Colombo Road Church as was presented last Sunday evening. Old residents say Sydenham has never been moved as it is now being moved. These rejoice in the power of God which is revealed amongst the people. Our minister requested us on Sunday to enlarge our petitions, and urged us to increase faith in God and his wonderful power. We had prayed for our own church, and congregation, and school. God has blessed us beyond our expectations. We should now pray that this movement may spread through the whole community, bringing life and healing everywhere. May God grant it.

[We rejoice with our Sydenham friends in the blessing which has come to them, but we are anxious to have the reports from the other circuits. Will correspondents send them along every week. – Ed.]

25<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 7.

**DUNEDIN. (Cargill Road.)**

As a fitting conclusion to our special services, a praise meeting was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. There was a good attendance, and a profitable time was spent; over 100 testimonies were given, about half being those of young converts. Members of other churches joined our own members in speaking of blessings received. On 16<sup>th</sup> inst., those recently brought in, and all who had assisted during the mission, were invited to a social tea, with the members of the church. About 200 sat down at tables presided over by ladies of the church. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, the tables were cleared, and the Rev. L. Hudson then gave an outline of the Christian Band he desired to have formed. He detailed the objects of such an organization – the furtherance of every department of church work, - the method of working, and the meetings proposed for each evening of the week. It is intended to have an evangelistic service every Thursday evening; the march is to be continued on Sunday, Thursday and Saturday evenings. During the evening it was stated that out of 67 present 50 new converts intended to connect themselves with our own church. Two souls made their peace with God during the progress of the meeting. The choir and orchestra rendered selections at intervals. A large number gave in their names as members of the Band formed. A pleasant evening concluded with pronouncing of the Benediction.

25<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 7.

**GISBORNE.**

The churches in this town appear to have had a very considerable “shaking up” in connection with Mr. Grubb’s mission. It was refreshing to find all the ministers of one heart and of one mind for the common cause of the Master. On June 14<sup>th</sup> we held a successful Sunday school tea meeting to raise money for the library and organ fund. – temperance details followed

25<sup>th</sup> June, 1892. page 10.

**CURRENT NOTES.**

Very Cheering are the Reports of Revival from Sydenham and South Dunedin. Such news sends a thrill of gladness throughout the entire Church, and drives God’s people everywhere to earnest prayer that such showers of blessing may become universal. When we read of 100 and 150 conversions in a fortnight, and remember that this is the result of God’s blessing on the ordinary agencies of the Church, it may well provoke enquiry as to why it is that similar scenes of soul-saving are not witnessed in all our circuits. A willing God waits for the co-operation of a willing people; then the flame of revival will spread from one end of the land to the other.

Last Conference the Rev. L. Hudson told his brethren that God had put it into his heart to offer himself as a Connexional Evangelist. His brethren fully appreciated the spirit which led to the offer, but said very plainly that the way was not open for such an appointment as that desired. Mr. Hudson has shown the good faith of his offer by laying himself out for evangelistic work in South Dunedin, and God has honoured his consecration and zeal by giving him already a large measure of success in winning souls. God bless Brother Hudson! When a man who fails to secure the sphere he desires puts

his best energies into the sphere to which he is appointed he shows that he has real grit in him and he deserves to succeed.

2<sup>nd</sup> July, 1892. page 3.

### **DUNEDIN (Trinity.)**

In connection with the Evangelistic services being held in this circuit, the Rev. W.L. Salter, of Port Chalmers, assisted by Rev. Mr. Oliver, commenced a ten days' mission in this church. It was at once apparent that a season of blessing would be experienced, and we have not been disappointed. God has been with us, and many have been brought to the foot of the Cross and experienced the sense of pardoning love. A considerable number of those already members of the Church sought for and obtained a fuller realization of the blessing of entire sanctification, and are now walking in the highway of holiness.

Special requests for prayer were handed in each night, and read, and duly presented. Prayer meetings were held daily, at noon, and at 7 p.m., and during the latter part of the Mission a short outdoor service was held, resulting in good being done. In Consequence of God's manifest presence the meetings of the Mission were extended for four nights, and closed on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup>, when a testimony meeting was held; over fifty (many the fruits of the Mission) relating God's goodness towards them, and their determination to serve him more faithfully. Arrangements are being made to draw together the members of the Church, and especially those who have received special blessing during the mission, with a view to their employment in various fields in the Master's vineyard. The Mission meetings have ceased, but, thank God, the results thereof will never cease. A revival was needed – it was prayed for – and obtained; it is for us now to work, seeking God's blessing on our endeavours. We were glad to have with us at the meeting, members of other churches. We hoped they would experience a blessing, and we were glad to hear when they testified that such had been the result. The absence of the young men of the congregation was very noticeable – doubtless many arrangements and engagements tended to keep them away – but they were greatly missed. They were not forgotten in the petitions sent forward, which we believe will not be in vain. We are expecting and looking forward for greater blessings in the other churches of the district, in which it is reported the mission spirit is growing. To God be all the glory.

2<sup>nd</sup> July, 1892. page 7.

### **Sydenham.**

A meeting of young converts and others was held at Colombo Road Church last Thursday. There was a large attendance, and the Rev. J.N. Buttle conducted the service. After suitable counsel had been given, forty-five names were given in of those desirous of attaching themselves to the membership of the Church. Two young persons decided for Christ during the meeting. On Sunday, all the services gave evidence of the revived spirit being abroad amongst the people. A special evangelistic service was held in the evening, when there was a very large congregation. The after-meeting was also largely attended, several being under very deep conviction, whilst one person came out for Christ. During four nights this week, mission services are being held, and evidences of God's power working amongst the people are abundantly manifest.

2<sup>nd</sup> July, 1892. page 7.

### **EVANGELISTIC WORK:-**

We continue to receive most cheering news of the revived interest in several circuits about aggressive soul-saving work. What is needed is that God's people should give themselves to continued prayer, that God would send along a glorious revival of true religion in all our congregations. What blessings have been received in some parts of the Connexion, are but the droppings of a shower which God is waiting to pour upon us.

#### **Sydenham.**

The mission services were continued four nights last week. Addresses were delivered by the President of the Conference, Rev. R.J. Murray, and Miss Peryman. Some interesting cases of conversions took place, for which we thank God. On Sunday evening, we had an enlarged attendance at the monthly communion service, and in response to an appeal made by the minister during the former part of the service, three adults decided for Christ.

9<sup>th</sup> July, 1892, page 5.

#### **Mornington, Dunedin.**

A very successful evangelistic mission is being held at Mornington, Dunedin.

16<sup>th</sup> July, 1892. page 7.

#### **INVERCARGILL, Local Preachers Meeting.**

Held on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Evangelistic services were arranged for in August, When Rev. L. Hudson will assist.

23<sup>rd</sup> July, 1892, page 7.

#### **MORNINGTON. (Linden.)**

A ten days' mission was commenced in the church on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, conducted on that night by Misses Wardrope, and Millburn and Mrs. Don. The Rev. W. Salter, of Port Chalmers, carried on the meetings for the other nine days, and as that time was drawing nigh the office-bearers deemed it advisable to carry on the mission for the remainder of the week, and Mrs. Don kindly consented to be present during that time. The object of the meetings was realized to a glorious extent, God's Spirit being manifest every night; and as a result not one night passed but one or more precious souls were won for the Master. Not only was the Spirit manifest in the saving of souls, but also in the blessing of many of the members of the church; and during Mr. Salter's time with us not a few of Christ's children stepped into the joy of full consecration.

30<sup>th</sup> July, 1892. page 4.

#### **Waitara. (Inglewood.)**

Our correspondent writes as to prospects of revival work in that District. The quarterly Meeting held recently at Waitara passed off well, the members showing the utmost unity and concord. The doctrine of holiness is being preached with great earnestness and power throughout the circuit. A company of singers has been formed by Mr. Peach, who are holding services of sacred song, which are being greatly blessed. Cottage meetings are being held in different localities with encouraging results. A female

society class has been formed, and is met by a godly sister, whose services are greatly appreciated. Things spiritual are on the move at Inglewood.

30<sup>th</sup> July, 1892. page 4.

### **PORT CHALMERS.**

Rev. J.T. Pinfold commenced an Evangelistic Mission on July 10<sup>th</sup>, with encouraging attendance, and members are believing for a richer outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

### **Milton.**

Gracious blessing had been received in connection with the ordinary services, both on Sundays and week evenings. Several conversions had taken place, and Mrs. Rothwell's prayer-meeting before the Sunday evening service was very helpful.

30<sup>th</sup> July, 1892. page 7.

Evangelistic Band formed by one of the class meetings in the **Ashburton circuit**.

6<sup>th</sup> August, 1892. page 5.,

**Cargill Road** advertised the need of 1,000 pounds to provide a new hall, instead of their present disreputable-looking hall they had been using for "Forward Movement" style meetings, amongst a population of 10,000. 13<sup>th</sup> August. 1892. page 6.

**Greymouth** special meetings being planned, to be led by the Hokitika minister, the Rev. J.T. Burrows.

13<sup>th</sup> August, 1892. page 7.

### **ANOTHER IMPOSTER.**

Yet another religious imposter has found for a time a happy hunting ground in New Zealand. A clever youth, who called himself the son of Sir Wilfred Lawson, and got other people to believe it, has been preaching and lecturing on temperance with great gusto and impressiveness. Such a name, of course, sufficed to draw large crowds; the youth had his wits about him in choosing such an attractive patronymic. We have no information concerning the means he employed to cajole those who took him up into a belief he was what he pretended to be, but the result is deeply to be deplored.

After the Sullivan scandal we hardly thought it possible for any other imposter so soon to get a run among the churches in New Zealand. Perhaps this second warning may have the effect of inducing people to examine somewhat more carefully the credentials of men who claim to visit us in the interests of religion and temperance. Lawson, alias Clapham, alias Rhodes, might still have been running successful "missions" but for the fact that in going to Auckland he ran across Sir W. Fox, who happened to be personally acquainted with Sir Wilfred Fox and his family.

27<sup>th</sup> August, 1892. page 3.

**AUCKLAND. (Pitt Street)**

Gladdening tidings of a gracious revival reach us from Pitt Street Church, Auckland. At the last communion service between forty and fifty young converts came forward to testify their faith in the Lord Jesus, and the good work, when we last heard, was still going on. With regard to the means employed our correspondent informs us that they have had “just prayer and little else but praise every night for three weeks.” This ought to be encouraging to God’s people everywhere. Notable evangelists may be difficult to secure, and when they are secured the results may be disappointing; but prayer, faith-inspired, persistent prayer, is within everybody’s reach. In casting about for striking and sensational methods of service, it is quite possible for us to overlook the tremendous significance of that incident recorded in Acts 4:31: “And when they prayed the place was shaken where they were gathered together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.”

27<sup>th</sup> August, 1892. page 3.

**WILLOWBY.**

Special services, conducted by Mrs. Scott, assisted by the circuit ministers and others, have been held during the past week in the Wesleyan Church. A spirit of power was present each evening, and the prayers of God’s people have been abundantly answered. Several striking conversions have taken place, and the “spirit of burning” has entered the church, bringing with it rich blessing. Lethargy has given place to zeal, and great things are expected next week, when the services will be continued each evening.... Sheaves are being gathered for the Master’s garner, and our united prayers are ascending for a continuance of the revival. There are many deeply anxious ones yet, and God is waiting very near just now. We hope – nay, we are confident – of reporting several of these in the “fold” next week.

27<sup>th</sup> August, 1892. page 3.

**EVANGELISTIC.****Hawera.**

An united evangelistic mission, extending over five days, has just been held here. The missionary was the Rev. A.O. Williams (Church of England, Wanganui) Several persons professed conversion, and older Christians experienced a season of great blessing. The afternoon Bible readings and evening services were held in the Town Hall, the morning prayer meetings being held in St. Mary’s school room. The Revs W. Cannell (Wesleyan) and R. MacGregor (Presbyterian) took part in the services.

**Willowby.**

The special services in the Wesleyan Church, conducted by Mrs. Scott, of Christchurch, were continued all last week. As before God’s blessing and presence were felt each evening. Several of God’s people have testified that they have found it a season of wonderful refreshing, and some more of the halting ones have at last stepped over the line. It is cheering to see the new converts taking part in the meetings, making themselves a lively testimony to the peace they have found. The meetings concluded on

Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, with a social cup of tea, and Mrs. Scott gave a stirring farewell address. We all wish her God-speed in her mission.

### **Greymouth.**

The Rev. T.J. Burrows of Hokitika, has just held a ten days' mission here. Mr. Burrows, who is an old scholar of the Sunday school, was assisted in the mission by our worthy pastor, Rev. T.G. Brooke, and several members of the church, amongst whom were a number of young men who have, through the instrumentality of Mr. Brooke since he took charge of this circuit, been led to give their hearts to the Saviour, and to enter with zeal into his service. A week of special prayer had been held previously to invoke the blessing of God upon the mission. Open-air meetings were held on Mawhera Quay every night before the service in the church. Short addresses were there delivered, a few hymns sung, and the people invited to the service, after which the friends marched to the church singing. The meetings were well attended, and quite a number of people, young and old, came out to the penitent form and gave their hearts to the Saviour. Mr. Burrows returned to Hokitika on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, having during his short stay here made himself loved and respected by all who heard him. The young men intend holding a mission service every Wednesday night in the church. The first of these was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst., and as very successful. Affairs spiritual and financial in this circuit are now in a more flourishing state than has been the case for many years, thanks to the energy of the Rev. Mr. Brooke.

### **Leeston.**

Special services have been held by the ministers, commencing at Doyleston on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> July, and continued at Brookside the following week. Doyleston has the name of being a very hard place. The little village has been abandoned at different times by the churches and the Salvation Army. But though there were only one or two unsaved ones in the hall, and the few present were shivering with the cold, God made bare His arm to save from the first night. Pointed and stirring addresses were delivered by the Revs W.G. Parkinson, W.G. Grant (Presbyterian) and Mr. Wm Watson. The larrikin element was strong the last evening, which was the only night without visible results.

On Thursday, Aug.4, the rev. W.G. Parsonson conducted an evangelistic service at Lakeview. At Brookside also, there were cheering conversions every night but one. One man and some boys volunteered, and others went out to the penitent form when asked. We were all moved and blessed by Mr. Parsonson's excellent addresses, which led to decision for Christ, and the quickening of believers. Most are professing Christians in the district, but we could only regret that more of the undecided did not attend the services. The mission closed on Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, with a praise meeting, when God's people came prepared with texts expressive of their joy.

27<sup>th</sup> August, 1892. page 4.

### **AUCKLAND NOTES.**

#### **News of Revival.**

As a result of the conversation on the Work of God at the last quarterly meeting, a week of special prayer was held in the Pitt-street schoolroom. The meetings each

evening were well attended, and it became evident before the end of the week that a gracious work was at hand. Meetings for exhortation and prayer were arranged for the week following, and the attendance nightly increased and the feeling deepened. The Rev. J. Berry had charge of the meetings, and conducted them on informal lines. Church officers and workers would speak a word of exhortation and testimony, and one evening the Rev. W. Morley forcibly urged and warned, while fervent prayer and song alternated. Results of a most encouraging sign soon appeared. The benches across the front of the room some evenings were quite crowded with those desirous of starting a new life, and with members of the church re-consecrating themselves to the service of God.

The meetings ran on into a third week with scarcely any diminution of interest. At the sacramental service on Sunday evening, August 7<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Berry asked those young people who had decided for Christ during the previous week to come forward first, and between fifty and sixty responded to the invitation. The quickened life of the church and the ingathering of members fills all the workers with thankfulness and hope, and the results attained are all the more gratifying, and give greater promise of permanency, because of the fact that no extraordinary means to attract attention were taken, nor eminent evangelist sent for – nothing but humble dependence, and prayer before God.

3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1892. page 5.

### **MORNINGTON.**

Our friends in this district have experienced a great revival of God's work during the last few weeks, which augurs well for the future. Our own people were the first to hold special evangelistic services, a short account of which appeared in your columns. These services, preceded by a week of prayer, were conducted by the Rev. W.C. Oliver, and resulted in the salvation of many souls, while the members of the church have been much blessed. When the Lord sends fire on earth the conflagration must spread. We were not surprised, therefore, to hear that the young men in connection with the Presbyterian Church had decided to hold a week of special services. These were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Porter, and Messrs. Todd and Barr. An open-air meeting was held each evening prior to the service, those present being pointed to "the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world," and then invited to the meeting indoors. A large number of young men stood and listened, but would not go into the hall. On being challenged to venture within they accepted the invitation the result being that several were led to decision. The open-air meetings are being continued each Sabbath evening before church. With such a blessed experience, it only required Dr. Brown's visit to make the people's cup run over. The Doctor preached in the Mornington Wesleyan Church to a crowded congregation on August 7<sup>th</sup>, and lectured on the following evening, when a great number had to be turned away for want of room. Dr. Brown's visit was much enjoyed, and, coming as it did after such a spiritual blessing, we are sure that it must result in the people showing their sympathy in a very practical manner. We understand that Mornington Baptists have arranged for a ten days' mission, which means more souls for Christ. Hallelujah!

10<sup>th</sup> September. 1892. page 5.

### **MRS. SCOTT**

As reported last week, Mrs. Scott concluded her mission at Willowby (Ashburton) on August 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a large attendance, and five or six conversions took place. The half-night of prayer was a blessed season. The mission has been very helpful to Christian people, as well as fruitful in securing conversions. On Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Scott commenced work at Hinds, and eleven persons professed conversion during the day. On August 21<sup>st</sup> Waterton was the centre of work, the meetings being continued during the ensuing week.

10<sup>th</sup> September. 1892. page 5.

### **AUCKLAND. (Ponsonby).**

A three weeks' mission has just been concluded at this church. The services have been conducted by the Rev. C.H. Laws, assisted by the local preachers. A large number of young people in connection with the congregation have been brought to decision for Christ, whilst the older members have been greatly blessed. A united Communion service was held on Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, at which a good many were present for the first time, and God's presence was very powerfully felt.

10<sup>th</sup> September. 1892. page 5.

### **BLenheim.**

Special services have just been held in this church, conducted by the Rev. W.B. Marten, who has been assisted by the local preachers and several of the ladies. A week of special prayer prepared the way, two or three conversions occurring at these prayer meetings. The attendance has been fair, but chiefly confined to our own people. Several have been led to Christ, and our own members have been greatly blessed and quickened. The mission closed with a praise meeting, which was indeed "a feast of fat things." There was no lack of testimonies, some telling of newly found pardon, and some witnessing to the joy of perfect love, and all expressing deep gratitude for a fresh baptism of the Spirit. It is long since we were in such a happy meeting, and we found it hard to part. "The best of all is, God is with us."

10<sup>th</sup> September. 1892. page 5.

### **AUCKLAND NOTES.**

God has been richly working in our midst. Special services have been held at Pitt-street, Ponsonby, and in the Grafton Road circuit, resulting in the conversion of many unsaved, and a quickened spiritual life in believers. The Lord's Supper at Pitt-street a fortnight ago, when upwards of 250 "remembered" their Lord in accordance with this injunction, many of them for the first time, will not be soon forgotten. And the good work is spreading in other circuits.

10<sup>th</sup> September. 1892. page 5.

### **EVANGELISTIC.**

#### **Auckland (Grafton Road.)**

Mission services have been held at Newmarket church with encouraging success. The services commenced on August 8<sup>th</sup>, and extended to the 28<sup>th</sup>. The first week was

devoted to prayer, and this preparation was evidently beneficial. The meetings were conducted by the circuit ministers, who have been greatly blessed in their work. The cordial co-operation of other Christian workers was secured, and times of refreshing have been experienced. On August 28<sup>th</sup>, in response to an appeal from Rev. W. Lee, about a dozen of the young people came forward and decided for Christ. The services are being continued at the Grafton-road church with good results. 17<sup>th</sup> September, 1892. page 7.

### ***Milton (Waihola.)***

For some time there has been a deepening earnestness at this place, and during the last few weeks several have realized God's pardoning love in Christ. A week's special services commenced on August 29<sup>th</sup> conducted by the circuit minister, Rev. Mr. Hall (Presbyterian) assisting. The weather interfered the first two nights, but the Word went home with power, the feeling deepened, and at the close all was aglow. Several penitents sought the Lord, and God's own children have been stirred up. At Milton, too, the fire is burning, and those who have lately decided for Christ are taking up their cross. Mr. Rothwell commences a fortnight's mission at Gore on September 19<sup>th</sup>, and asks for the prayers of God's people.

### **Invercargill.**

The Rev. Lewis Hudson commenced an evangelistic mission here on August 28<sup>th</sup>. There were some who thought the time was hardly ripe, but the preparatory services on the lines laid down by Mr. Hudson, were entered upon. Prayer meetings, advertising, the distribution of handbills, and personal solicitation for attendance, brought together large audiences in the church every night. In response to the pleading of God's people, the Holy Spirit soon began to manifest Himself. The noon-day prayer meetings were crowded, and large numbers of special requests for prayer on behalf of relatives and friends were daily found in the box provided at the door for the purpose. Some of these were pathetic in their objects and earnestness. Children desired intercession for fathers, indifferent or cursed by drink; parents yearned over children, wives for husbands, relatives for relatives, and friends for friends. Speedily praise notes began to make their appearance for requests answered in the bringing in of those whose conversion was sought for. God's own people came forward for consecration, and renewed their vows. Conversions took place in the meetings; the enquiry-room was full each night of seekers and workers, and anxiety became almost universal. Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, saw eight conversions, and on the Tuesday following a Pentecostal time was experienced, a large number responding to the drawing of the Spirit, and finding pardon, decision and peace. On Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, being the last night of the mission, a praise "social" was held. Some 170 persons were present, at least half of whom in the brief time testified to the blessing received of God by them in the course of the mission.

The warmth of Christian love was manifested in abundant measure, and it was a sight long to be held in grateful remembrance to see fathers, mothers, daughters, sons, old and young, briefly, but with deep emotion, testify to the work of God's grace in their own hearts and in their families. Refreshments were provided by the ladies, and a collection turned the question of expenses of the mission into a credit balance.

Mr. Hudson was assisted throughout by the circuit minister (Rev. Robert Taylor), and the Rev. C. Abernethy was also present. There are known to be forty conversions of

a sterling and gratifying character; many must have also decided for Christ who did not enter the enquiry room, and the members of our own church have been stirred to the depths of their hearts by this man infestation of God's love and power among them. We have also to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance of friends from the sister Methodist church, whose presence was conspicuous at all the meetings. Why a minister of Mr. Hudson's palpable ability as an evangelist should be tied down to circuit work is a problem one cannot understand. At any rate, Invercargill is grateful for the opportunity of obtaining his services, and his success in this and other places should prove a powerful inducement to the Conference to release him next year, and send him forth with the appointment of "Connexional Evangelist."

17<sup>th</sup> September, 1892. page 7.

### **The FORWARD MOVEMENT at Cargill Road.**

To the Editor,

Sir, - Notwithstanding your kindly note, I fear that my appeal in behalf of the above must have escaped the attention of your readers. More than a month has elapsed, and, so far, there has been no response. Etc. Etc. L. Hudson.

24<sup>th</sup> September, 1892. page 7.

### **HOKITIKA.**

Special services, extending over three weeks, have lately been held at Kanieri. The meetings were conducted by the circuit minister, assisted by a band of workers from Hokitika. Each evening an open-air service was held in the street, when a short, earnest address was given. And the friends then marched to the church singing suitable hymns. The interest was well sustained throughout the mission; God's people have been much blessed, and, best of all, souls have been saved. A gracious influence is at work among the people. Past results give us encouragement to work on, in certainty of future success.

### **WOOLSTON.**

The Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save, neither his ear heavy that he cannot hear," is the joyful experience of God's people in this church. For several weeks past special meetings for prayer have been held, with the result of revived faith, and hope in the power of God to save. On Sunday, the 4<sup>th</sup>, inst., Mrs. A. Scott began a ten days' mission, and on every night, except one, sinners have been seeking Jesus, and rejoicing in the sense of his pardoning love. In the Sunday-school God has done a marvelous work. Most of the children have taken their stand for Jesus, and, best of all, the elder scholars, almost without exception, have given themselves to the Saviour. Will the members of our Church everywhere unite with us in thanksgiving to our God. Brethren, pray for us; that the "lambs of Jesus" may be "kept by the power of God unto salvation;" and that the Divine Spirit may mightily work upon this neighbourhood, to the glory of God the Father.

24<sup>th</sup> September, 1892. page 9.

**NAPIER. (Hastings.)**

A fortnight's mission has just been held here. The meetings have been well attended, and good results realized. Several young people have decided to follow Christ, and a backslider has been reclaimed. The Spirit of God is still striving with others, and prayer and faith is being exercised that these and others may be brought to a knowledge of the truth. Prayer meetings have been held each afternoon. And God's presence has been manifest, and His blessing abundantly vouchsafed. Assistance with carrying on the mission was given by Revs Spence and J.W. Worboys, Messrs. Robinson and Stairm and Mrs. Cobb (Napier) and others, whilst our own minister, Rev. W. Sinclair, was always at work.

1<sup>st</sup> October, 1892. page 7.

**Letter- "AFTER THE REVIVAL."**

Sir, - From many circuits comes the cheering news of Revival. For this we praise God. We read with glad hearts of believers seeking and finding the blessing of entire sanctification, of many young people giving their hearts to God, and thus becoming members of His family. And now the question is, or should be, How are we to keep our new converts? Too often the sad tale has been told of a church revived, sinners saved, everything prosperous, but only for a time; in a few weeks things have dropped down to their old level, or perhaps have gone lower than ever. Is there not a cause? There must be. It is not the will of God that any should backslide. His commands are: "Go forward," "Grow in grace," "Be filled with the Spirit."

We must look, then, amongst ourselves to ascertain what the cause is; and I think we need not look very long. It is a fact acknowledged by many who have seriously thought over the matter that too much of the time of our young people, and of some of the older ones, is given to seeking and providing amusement. Many of the amusements of the present day, which are got up or patronized by the Churches, though harmless in themselves, become hurtful by absorbing the time and energy of Christian people which ought to be spent in earnest spiritual work. The spirit of lightness and frivolity often engendered by these amusements makes young people shy of spiritual things, and craftily east away the spiritual life.

In the earlier days of Methodism, after a revival had been experienced, the question was, first, How can we best lead these new converts into the blessing of "perfect love"? and, second, How can we get them all at work for Christ? Too often in these days the question is, How can we best provide amusements for the new converts so as to keep them?

I think, Sir, that experience has proved the former method to be the better of the two, and so what we really need is a backward movement. Let us go back to the old and well-tried methods, and thus shall we make true progress. When we look around us and see the sin and misery, the trouble and sorrow, the poverty and distress that exist - when we think of the uncertainty of time, the realities of eternity, and the great need for earnest Christian effort on every hand, - we must conclude that there is very little time for mere amusement. Let all of the new converts be led into the enjoyment of the blessing of

holiness, and directed to constant and earnest Christian work, and there will be no difficulty in retaining them. I am, yours, &c. W.L. Salter.  
Port Chalmers, Sept. 17.

1<sup>st</sup> October, 1892. page 7.

### **WOOLSTON.**

A largely attended coffee supper on Wednesday evening, September 14, brought Mrs. Scott's mission to a close. Several on that night found their way into the enquiry room, seeking Christ. May the Divine blessing ever attend Mrs. Scott's labours for the Master as it has been with her work in this church. A special feature of the mission has been the singing, under Mr. Spensley's leadership, and the Gospel message in song touched many hearts. We are now putting forth strenuous efforts to gather in and assist those who have decided for Christ, and various branches of Christian effort are being inaugurated in order to build up and strengthen the Christian character of the converts for Jesus.

15<sup>th</sup> October, 1892. page 7.

### **WAITARA.**

Conversions continue to take place, which fact gives encouragement to the workers. 5<sup>th</sup> November, 1892. page 7.

### **WANGANUI.**

A week of special services at Aramoho have resulted in a very great improvement in every department of the work there. 5<sup>th</sup> November, 1892. page 7.

### **KUMARA.**

The Rev. J.T. Burrows, of Hokitika, recently conducted a week of special services. An earnest, evangelistic address was delivered each evening, followed by a prayer meeting. The services were soul-refreshing to our church members, and we have the joy of knowing that a few young people have decided for Christ. Etc.

19<sup>th</sup> November, 1892. page 7.

### **WAITARA.**

The Rev. T.F. Jones conducted a memorial service at Inglewood on October 30<sup>th</sup>, in connection with the death of one of our members. The church was crowded to excess, and at the close two persons yielded themselves to Christ. The singing band recently visited Waipuku and conducted a service, in which two persons were convinced of sin and requested the prayers of the Church. Cottage meetings are being held all over the circuit, and with good results, especially in those places where the people are seldom able to get to service. An afternoon service is about to be inaugurated at Durham-road. Special services are to be held at Inglewood, and out-door services are being carried on at Midhurst.

26<sup>th</sup> November, 1892. page 3.

**WAITARA.**

Our warm-hearted correspondent sends us news of a most interesting revival which has just been witnessed at the above-named place. In a series of Mission services, commencing on November 20, and extending over a fortnight, 60 persons professed conversion. It is difficult to tabulate the result of such a work of grace in a district like Inglewood. The effects of this revival will abide throughout all time, and the first residents in a locality have the glorious privilege, as well as the solemn responsibility, of causing the future character of a community to be either religious or godless. The work of the Inglewood mission has been carried on by the circuit minister, local preachers, and other workers. We rejoice with them in their success. There are other places besides Inglewood where God is waiting to manifest His presence and power. Who will send the next report?  
17<sup>th</sup> December, 1892. page 8.

**WAITARA.**

Series of meetings were held to work off a circuit debt. “At Inglewood the meeting took the form of a thanksgiving service for the recent revival of God’s work which had been realized in this place. Etc.  
31<sup>st</sup> December, 1892. page 7.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1893.**

**No “Joyful News” reports appeared in 1893.**

### **Springston. Quarterly Meeting.**

This was held on July 3, with eleven members present. Total membership, 214; on trial, 3.

Evangelistic services held at Springston, Weedon, and Tai Tapu during the past quarter were successfully conducted by Revs. C. Griffin and Frost, Mr. Harrison and Mrs. Smalley, Mrs. Scott and Miss Peryman. The services to be continued in the present quarter at Green Park, Broadfield, and West Melton.

22<sup>nd</sup> July, 1893. page 7.

### **A Revival in Dunedin.**

I send you the grandest news ever published in the *Methodist* from this Church. We have had the greatest revival ever known among us. The Mission, originally projected for one week, extended into three weeks, and during that time *one hundred* souls have stepped into the light, besides a goodly number of Christians who went forward for complete consecration to God. Somewhat disappointing at first, the meetings steadily increased in power, and towards the end were inspiring. At the Fellowship Meeting on the third Saturday 70 people in one hour (children, boys, girls, and aged ones) testified to the saving and keeping power of God. But this number was greatly exceeded on the following Saturday – the schoolroom being packed with people – when in the same period of time 156 persons gave their testimony; and on Bro. Salter declaring that he must close that part of the meeting, and asking how many more would have testified if time had permitted, 50 persons held up their hands. Even while the people spoke, seekers rose from their seats and came forward to find rest to their souls. This memorable meeting Mr. Oliver declared to have been the greatest of its kind he had ever seen.

The mission closed last night, when there was a crowded congregation, the after-meeting lasting till nearly ten o'clock.

Rev. W.L. Salter, of Port Chalmers, conducted the mission, and we have been assisted by members of other churches, special mention being necessary of the Young Men's Mission. We have reciprocated this aid, members of other churches – including one Roman Catholic – having been converted.

29<sup>th</sup> July, 1893. page 8.

### **Sheffield, Malvern Circuit.**

Special services have been held at Sheffield, Malvern Circuit. For ten days the interest deepened. The companies increased until the church was well filled. The Holy Spirit moved mightily. At nearly every service we had the “joy of harvest.” Our members have been wonderfully helped. They said at the start “It's a hard place, and it will take a lot of moving.” At the close they said, “It is wonderful for Sheffield.” They rallied round the Mission preacher, the Rev. Colin C. Harrison, and helped with all their

might. We are resolved that the converts shall not die of neglect. There are signs of “a move” in other parts of the circuit. We are praising God and buckling to.

26<sup>th</sup> August, 1893. page 7.

### **KAIAPOI.**

The special services at Kaiapoi were commenced auspiciously on Saturday last, by the Rev. Colin Harrison. There were large congregations on Sunday and several conversions. Monday night was a good time. Mr. Harrison spoke with much power, and Mrs. Smalley gave a solo on Sunday and Monday evenings with much acceptance. The services are likely to be continued over next Sunday. 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1893. page 7.

The closing days of the Kaiapoi Mission were the best. Every day the interest grew. On several occasions the communion rail was too small for the number of penitents. On Wednesday, September 6, a monster tea meeting closed the Mission. After tea Mr. Harrison gave “Personal Experience of Slum Work in London,” to a very large congregation. No statement of mere figures can possibly represent the good effected by work of this kind. But it may be mentioned that some sixty Covenant cards have been sent in, and there are more to follow. Mr. Harrison possesses special gifts for evangelistic work and the services have been made a great blessing to all classes and churches in this town. The afternoon Bible-readings were also times of refreshing. Kaiapoi has witnessed a very extraordinary work of grace.

16<sup>th</sup> September, 1893. page 7.

The special services at Kaiapoi, conducted by the Rev. C. Harrison, were materially aided by the solo singing of the Misses Ada and Lilly Johnston, Miss Hayman, and Mrs. Smalley. The half night of prayer in the middle of the mission brought much blessing. The local Presbyterian minister and the captain of the Salvation Army were present with about 25 others. The young men of the place who had been conspicuous in their absence as enquirers, were the burden of many prayers, and these prayers were answered in a signal manner in subsequent meetings. It was long since meetings of this kind had aroused such general interest in the town, and nothing was more pleasing than the cordial co-operation of the ministers and members of nearly all the Churches. Mr. Harrison’s addresses were marked by great simplicity, and directness, interspersed with epigram and incident, which rendered them most interesting and effective. As an outcome of the Mission we hope to form two new classes for members, and a society of Christian Endeavour. A preliminary meeting of the C.E. has been held, and we hope to have a roll of nearly one hundred strong to star with.

23<sup>rd</sup> September, 1893. page 7.

Spooner and Muldoon worked for Helping Hand Mission, Auckland, and held meetings in various places of an evangelistic kind, as children’s missions, adults also, and to promote the Mission,

June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tauranga. Page 7.

June 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 1893. page 7. Hastings.

April 13<sup>th</sup> Thames.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1894.**

The only Mrs. Scott document is Palmerston South on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

A Quiet Work at Manukau.  
(written by Henry Bull,) January 13<sup>th</sup>. Page 7.

The Evangelist Committee of the Otago District, wanted the Conference to appoint a Connexional Evangelist please!!! 24 February, 1894. page 7.

Cargill Road, Forward Movement. Hudson's health was broken. He was moving after TWO Years only. The main church was Dunedin Trinity. Cargill Road was the second appointment in the circuit.

Conference. Retiring President – Rev. W. Keall. Incoming Pres. McNicoll.  
March 10.

\*\*\* April 14. page 7. (and previous dates.) Rev. L. M. Isitt was allowed to be a full-time temperance worker, cum lecturer, cum evangelist, because he wanted to be, and there was a demand for it. This shows the lesser value which was being placed – perhaps unconsciously – on having a specialist person to do evangelistic work. \*\*\*  
This had been going on for a few years.

The microfilm ends on 26<sup>th</sup> May..  
After this, the *New Zealand Methodist* became *The Advocate*.

\*\*\*\*\*

June 9 – General Conference. Thomas Cook at Kent Town.

June 16 – Cook in Adelaide. 890 converts at Kent Town.

Mr. Cook on Prayer. June 23. page 25. (i.e. on title page.)

Quarterly Meetings. Palmerston, Leeston. Page 76.

August 4 issue missing.

August 11. – Thomas Cook and Gipsy Smith at Wesley Church. page 110.

August 18 – Cook, Smith and McNeill – the secret of their success. Page 123.

Page 136. Port Chalmers Mission. Green dale Revival (Primitive Meth.)

**MANUKAU.**

On the other hand, we have pleasure in reporting the progress of a gracious work in the circuit. Our minister, Home Missionary, Local Preachers, and Endeavourers are united in their efforts, and the Divine blessing is attending their labours. Praise ye the Lord!  
8 September, 1894. page 160.

**JOYFUL NEWS. St. Albans.**

A most successful evangelistic mission has recently been held in St. Albans (Christchurch), Wesleyan Church, by the Rev. W. L. Salter. By it the hearts of Christians have been warmed, the work of God much revived, and some forty conversions professed, as well as a similar number in the Sunday school.

Starting on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, it was evident during the first week that the Christians themselves were not ready for the blessing. It was on the 14<sup>th</sup> that the working of the Spirit became most manifest, and that night there were five or six decisions, and from then till the end they continued to flow in.

Some most remarkable cases could be related. One sister had been saved for some time, but without knowing it, and she got such a blessing that her friends began to think she had had a legacy left her. "I've got such good news," she would say, "I've found Jesus Christ, and, oh, I've such joy!" And so through her and others like her, the good work is spreading, and decisions are being made which never appear in the meeting. One youth came to scoff, and on the third evening was converted, and immediately he went out and told others, and night after night he came with his companions to the penitent form, and pointed the way to Jesus. The mission has been moved to Crescent road, a densely populated district, where already members have begun to pray, whose mouths have been closed for years.

The district is becoming enthused with the Spirit, and much more may be expected than is yet apparent. One brother exclaimed a night or two ago, "Praise the Lord," and when asked what for, he answered, "For anything you like to mention just now." This is something of the spirit in which all are found. The prayers of all God's people are solicited for a yet richer blessing. 8 September, 1894. page 164.

**RANGIORA.**

Our United Evangelistic Mission has closed, and the spirit of gratitude is shared by all who have attended the meetings for conscious blessings received. The only sections of the Church who did not formally unite in the effort were the Anglicans, Roman Catholics, and the Brethren. The other five sections of the Church represented in the town united in the work for eleven days.

At nearly every meeting of the Mission ALL SECTIONS OF THE Church (Roman Catholics included) were well represented. The place selected for the Mission was the Institute Hall, which has seating capacity for at least 400.

The Mission preacher was the Rev. W. Grant, (Presbyterian), and our Committee, when inviting him, gave him a free hand, and, in the judgment of all, the freedom was well and wisely used. At our first meeting the hall was crowded, and from evening to

evening the interest was not only sustained, but scarcely a meeting was held without some being brought to Christ.

Our pledge cards provided for those who “have resolved by God’s help to be the true followers of Jesus Christ, and to acknowledge Him as their only Saviour by joining the fellowship of His Church” have been used and greatly appreciated. These have been returned to the ministers, and in most cases duplicate cards have been asked for, so as to remind the converts of their pledge to serve God.

Our Convention held on the weekly half-holiday proved a time of special blessing. The subject discussed was, “How to Conserve the Fruits of the Mission.” Eight ministers were present, presenting all parts of the district, and the subject was introduced by the Rev. D. D. Rodger. The deliverance was characterized by fidelity, brotherliness, and lucidity. Throughout the discussion which followed, these features were maintained and emphasized to such an extent, that all felt that the Sword of the Spirit had been used with telling effect.

At the evening meeting which followed, the Spirit came down with such power that opposition was disarmed, and sinners were yielding all over the hall. The following evening the only collection made during the mission was taken up. A massive gold bracelet, valued at from 8 to 10 pounds, was given with the following words: “A thank-offering for blessings received and expected.” Another put a ring into the plate; and the offerings given that evening enabled the Committee to defray all the expenses of the Mission, and leave a margin for future evangelistic work.

Our united choir, under the leadership of Mr. Theo. Withers, did good service, as also the Rev. J. Dellow and others as soloists.

The Rev. W. Grant remained with us for eight days, when the Rev. J. Dellow continued the Mission, assisted by the Revs P. R. Munro, H. B. Redstone, and S. J. Garlick.

29<sup>th</sup> September, 1984. page 196.

## **EVANGELISTIC MISSION.**

### **Trinity Church, Dunedin.**

We have just concluded twenty-eight days’ special mission in our church with the most blessed results.

On Sunday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst., as commence a week of prayer and preparation for the great work, and God was with us from the first, souls being brought in during the week. On Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup> inst., the mission proper began. During the services, apart from the children and young people, forty-two adults have professed to find the Saviour. Many cases are of peculiar interest. Some have attended the meetings who had not been in a place of worship for years, while a considerable proportion of the new converts are found amongst intelligent young men and women. The Minister’s Bible Class has been strengthened by a number of these young men joining and getting into active service.

In the Sunday School twenty-two names have been taken, and in many instances there has been such clear and intelligent appreciation on the part of the scholars, as to leave no doubt but that the work of God’s grace has really begun in their hearts. Several features of the work afford much satisfaction and promise of permanency. There has been little or no excitement, only a growing and deepening spiritual influence all through;

while the services have been purely the outcome of the church's demand. Most of the anxious ones entered the enquiry room, and accepted forgiveness at once, some were converted in their own homes, and a number in our minister's study. The meetings were all well attended; youths and men were present in greater numbers than we remember ever seeing at missions heretofore. The work has deepened in interest, and we are looking forward and expecting larger results. Only the drops of blessing before the shower have fallen. We have to thank our friends, the Cargill road Mission Band, for their assistance in the open air meetings which were held each evening in the Octagon at 7 o'clock. The mission was under the control of our own minister, Rev. J. J. Lewis, who was ably assisted by Revs. R. Taylor, J.N. Buttle, and W. Ready (Bible Christian), and W.L. Salter (who conducted the closing five meetings, and the local preachers' representative, Mr. D. Booth.

6<sup>th</sup> October, 1894. page 213.

### **HOKITIKA.**

A series of special services are being held at Kanieri, conducted by the circuit minister, with the aid of local workers, and have been made a great blessing. Several have professed conversion, Christians have been aroused, and we are expecting more to follow.

6<sup>th</sup> October, 1894. page 214.

### **Blenheim.**

Large committees were appointed in the different districts to visit absent members, and it was decided that a church roll be kept for the benefit of committees. The Rev. Fee consented to try and make arrangements with the various churches in Blenheim to hold united special evangelistic services.

20<sup>th</sup> October, 1894. page 235.

### **St. Albans Circuit Quarterly Meeting.**

It was held on the evening of October 10. The Chairman, the Rev. J.A. Luxford, reported an increase of 49 members. Gratitude to God was expressed at these encouraging reports. The Rev. Walter Salter was thanked for the mission services he had conducted during the quarter.

Page 236.

### **MASTERTON.**

Blessed work of grace going on here. Many under conviction. Some notable conversions. We are now preparing for a week of special services. Page 248.

### **OAMARU.**

We have cause to rejoice on account of the way in which God blessed the special mission n recently held. Between 50 and 60, the majority of whom were young people, have professed conversion during the mission. The services commenced on October 28, and were preceded by a week of prayer. Parents rejoice in the good received by their children, and many homes have been made brighter thereby. Sunday School teachers are

especially grateful to God for answers to prayer on behalf of their scholars, many of whom were led to seek Christ, and also that some of the young men who had left the school have been led to see the folly of their ways, and have returned to God and the school. The mission was conducted by the Rev. W.B. Marten, assisted by the local preachers, and closed on November 12 with a Communion Service and a Fellowship meeting, which, in spite of the inclement weather, was well attended; and a very profitable time was spent. We regret that the Rev. Mr. Marten is suffering from the increased amount of work during the mission, and our earnest prayer is that his health may be restored, and that the good work may continue to prosper.

1<sup>st</sup> December, 1894. page 308.

COOK at Stanmore. 257 conversions. December 8.

Preparations for COOK in Auckland. December 8.

### **PALMERSTON SOUTH.**

We have gathered the following information from the *Palmerston Times* concerning Mrs. Scott's mission to this district-

“For some time past the Wesleyans have been making preparations for the visit of Mrs. Scott, the lady evangelist, from Christchurch. Having conducted a seven nights' mission in the Mechanics' Institute, at Waikouaiti, with very great success, not a little curiosity was therefore manifested in view of the coming mission in our midst. As announced, Mrs. Scott commenced in the Wesleyan Church on Tuesday night, November 20<sup>th</sup> where a large number had gathered to hear the lady preacher. The novelty caused by this departure from the established order of things was very great, and a woman preacher holding forth for ten nights was the object of no small amount of curious remark and attention. The meetings were continued during the week, and on Sunday night the little church was taxed to its utmost seating capacity, standing room scarcely being available in any part of the building. Sankey's hymns were used, and the large choir, which of late has been a specialty, rendered the music in soft and stirring tones. The large bundle of requests for prayer, and praise notes, which the minister read out, convinced all of the great interest taken in the work and the good that was likely to ensue. The little church soon proved too small to accommodate the people, and the Town Hall was secured for the remaining nights of the mission. This building has been well filled, and last night the mission closed. During the meetings at Waikouaiti and Palmerston about seventy persons (including children) have professed conversion, and the good unseen eternity alone will reveal.”

The Advocate. 15<sup>th</sup> December. 1894. page 332.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1895.**

### **PAPAROA.**

We are having good times in this circuit. Between thirty and forty have found the Saviour during the past few weeks. No *special* services have been held, but our minister and his wife have been drawing in the net, and both morning and evening services have yielded results. Much of the quiet power of God's Spirit has been manifest, and many of our members have been blessed, seeking and entering upon the higher life. The Christian Endeavour Society is doing splendid service for young converts and others. All praise be to God.

15 June, 1895. page 16.

### **PAPAROA.**

Our readers will be delighted to learn that the good work reported from Paparoa circuit last week still continued. Revival work in such a district means that the community will be benefited for a generation to come. The friends and workers are being encouraged by signs and wonders being wrought in Christ's name. There are scores of places like Paparoa all over the colony, in which the Kingdom of God may be established for all time by a little holy boldness on the part of those who claim to be the followers of Christ.

22 June, 1895. page 28.

### **The Mission Field.**

#### **REVIVAL IN NEW BRITAIN.**

The Rev. B., Danks (Victoria) writes to our contemporary, the *Southern Cross*, and gives the following cheering news from the above-named mission field:-

God has been pleased to visit our New Britain Mission with a gracious outpouring of His Holy Spirit. On the large Island of New Britain some striking cases of conversion have taken place, and large numbers have found their way to the Saviour.

Now the news comes that the work has spread to the islands of Duke of York. On the latter place, it seems as though whole townships have been brought from heathen darkness to Christian light. The missionaries write, urging us to continue instant in prayer. One (the Chairman of the District) writes me, saying – "Brother, the reaping time has come." He further requests us to remember that during the moonlight weeks of the whole of this year, special services will be held. We appeal earnestly to all lovers of God's Kingdom to uphold these missionaries by prayer.

I would ask those of your readers who last year joined our Foreign Mission Prayer Union to give thanks to God for this speedy answer to their prayers. The Union has not yet been in existence 12 months, and this is the answer. How glorious! Only let us wait continually upon God, and who knows whereunto this may grow? Remember God's work in Hawaii, in Madagascar, in Tonga, in Fiji; and, as we remember, let greater urgency, greater faith, and greater love animate our prayers.

I am, &c.,

B. Danks.

29 June, 1895. page 46.

### **GLAD TIDINGS FROM NEW BRITAIN.**

The following additional particulars of the religious revival in the New Britain Mission will be read with interest. The Rev. B. Danks writes:-

Dear Sir,- With your kind permission we desire to draw the attention of our people in New Zealand to the following two letters just received from New Britain. Last year we formed the Foreign Mission Prayer Union in Victoria. It has spread to New South Wales, and is strong in South Australia, and we hope it may spread to New Zealand. See now how God is hearing prayer. These prayers are doing more good than we know of. Let those who have joined the Union and all God's people increase their appeals to God on behalf of the heathen committed to our care. Remember the missionaries in prayer without ceasing. Listen to this call to prayer for dark, benighted New Britain. Surely we shall give it, and the Lord will hear. This is the best news from our Mission fields for some years. Let us be thankful, and pray without ceasing.

I am, &c., B. Danks.

### **Port Hunter, Duke of York, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1895.**

Dear Bro. Danks, - It is with a very sorrowful heart that I have to relate in this letter an account of the death of Joni Lutu, our Native teacher at Watara, on this island. It is just two weeks since he died, and we have no student ready just now to take his place, and I do not know how to supply the vacancy. If the Meda only came in now, bringing a supply of teachers, we would know what to do.

When you were living in this Mission house Joni Lutu was the chief at Molot, but I do not know if he had been appointed then to the position of local preacher. When I arrived he was a most acceptable one; and when I commenced my training institution he was the first scholar enrolled on the list. He was with me for one year, and, as the call for more labourers at that time was so imperative, I had to send him out to fill the vacant station at Watara. He occupied that town for two years until his death, and during that time he was a most zealous worker.

He quickly gained the love and respect of his people, and the work in his village improved wonderfully during that time. Last month, when I was informed of his illness, I went at once to see if I could relieve him, and stayed at his house the whole night attending to him, and in the morning he was much better. I thought when I left him that he would quickly recover, but his relations unwisely interfered and took him away in a canoe to his pown village of Port Hunter. I think that he caught a chill that day, for dysentery soon set in, with a complication of other complaints, and in a few days had carried him away.

One consolation, however, is left to us – viz., we know that he is now with the Father in heaven. His dying testimony was very bright and clear, leaving no doubt whatever in our mind as to the truthfulness and sincerity of his life.

Last year the members of the Christian Endeavour Society at Quorn, South Australia, resolved to support a native teacher, and the deceased was assigned to them.

He had written them one letter; and now we shall have to give them another teacher as soon as possible.

This is the sorrowful part of our letter, but we have a bright side as well. We have been holding revival services, both on New Britain and here at Duke of York. Mr. Chambers and his teachers conducted a week of special services, first at Nodup, and then at Matupit; and God has graciously visited them, setting his seal of approval upon their work. Then we held a week of special services at Urukuk on this Island, and there were altogether 23 who sought eternal life. After the meetings another man and his wife came to the teacher and besought him to help them, and admit them to be members. They profess deep repentance for their sins, and wish to be enrolled among God's people. Oh! how grand it is to be allowed by our Father to help in such a work as this! The spiritual life of our people needs quickening, and sinners need converting; and this year we intend, by God's help, to visit all our older Mission stations, and hold a week's services in each. Please remember us constantly in your prayers, in this our arduous toil.

My teachers and students are helping me to build a new schoolroom, the walls of which are to be of lime. Our old one is too uncomfortable and dark. This year we have twenty-three students in regular attendance every day, and ten of these are from New Ireland.

We are in fairly good health just now, except Mrs. Brown, who is feeling the oppressive weather very much. She joins me in kind regards to Mrs. Danks and yourself, and to all our friends in the Colony.

Yours very sincerely, William Brown.

The Advocate. 20 July, 1895. page 81.

### **LYTTELTON.**

Thanks to God for the benefit of the recent mission. Page 88.

### **HOKITIKA.**

We have been blessed during the quarter with a remarkable revival at Ross, and among all denominations much good has been done. The work of grace is still going on, and we are expecting greater things. Special services are to be held at Hokitika during the coming quarter. Also page 88. 27 July, 1895.

### **ROXBURGH.**

After saying that the debt had been eliminated – largely due to the untiring efforts of their Home Missionary – “We rejoice in seeing some stepping into the kingdom, and we pray for larger results and richer blessing.” Page 112.

### **Rangiora.**

The chairman announced that Special United Evangelistic Services would be commenced at Rangiora on Sunday, July 28. page 112.

## **WILLOWBY.**

A series of evangelistic services, from July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 7<sup>th</sup>, conducted by Rev. D.J. Murray of Waimate, has just been concluded in the Willowby Wesleyan Church. In spite of the exceptionally cold weather, there were large congregations each evening, and the blessing of God crowned the Mission. The eloquent, earnest appeals of the preacher were blessed by God in the conversion of several souls; while the warmth and heartiness of the prayer meetings testified to the increase of the Spirit felt by God's own people. One special feature of the Mission was a "Children's Service," when a number of the scholars came boldly out and gave their hearts to God. It was a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and proved the fact that the old Gospel has not yet lost its power to awaken and save. The mission closed with a sacramental service, when a very large number – about 75, including the new converts – sat round the Lord's Table. The Rev. C. Abernathy assisted at all the services, except those on the second Sunday of the mission, when he was taking Mr. Murray's place at Waimate, and at the close of the meetings testified his thankfulness to God for the abundant way in which his brother minister's work had been owned and blessed. "My word shall not return unto Me void."

The Advocate. 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1895. page 136.

## **JOYFUL NEWS. Riverton.**

A revival has been in progress here during the last three weeks, which as given a mighty stimulus to the Wesleyan cause in Riverton and the district generally. All Christians belonging to the Church have experienced a season of great spiritual refreshing, many who had been conscious that they were drifting back came forward during the mission, and re-consecrated themselves to God.

The Rev. J.A. Lochore, on his arrival here, found that a fine spiritual feeling existed, and that the Church was thoroughly alive. After he had become fairly settled, he proposed that a week's evangelistic services be held, it being apparent to him that the field was ripe for the harvest. The proposal was eagerly taken up, and the mission, under the management of the Rev. J.A. Lochore and Mr. Buckingham, Home Missionary, commenced on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> July, when Mr. Lochore preached a powerful and stirring sermon on "Conviction of Sin." His was followed up during the week by equally powerful addresses and appeals to the unsaved. Intense interest was taken in the meetings, and during the first week some decided for Christ and many were under deep conviction. The result proved that the wisdom from God guided us, as the real breaking up commenced on Sunday evening, 28<sup>th</sup> July, when Mr. Lochore preached a most impressive sermon from 2 Corinthians 6:2, "Behold now is the accepted time; now is the day of salvation." This address created a profound sensation in the crowded church; five confessed Christ, and many more were under deep conviction. On this night and the five following evenings, twenty-one found peace.

The interest in the mission remained unabated throughout. If anything it became more intense towards the end. It was closed on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> inst., Mr. Lochore taking his subject from John 14: 27, the church being literally packed, even to the vestry, porch, and aisle. The result of the mission proved that God's Holy Spirit was with us in great power. No less than twenty-eight were converted during the mission. We feel that our popular

minister, Mr. Lochore, is specially gifted by God for winning souls, as he has been the instrument in God's hands of leading 36 into the Kingdom of Christ since he arrived in the circuit four months ago. This number is a splendid testimony to the good work that is going on.

Mr. Buckingham, the Home Missionary, is also doing splendid work for the Master in Otautau and throughout the circuit. It will cheer the heart of our late minister, the Rev. T.W. Newbold, when he learns that the seed which he so faithfully helped to sow brought forth such an abundant harvest

24<sup>th</sup> August, 1895. page 136.

### **JOYFUL NEWS.**

Our readers will be delighted to read the following report of revival news in the Riverton circuit, Southland. In our last issue we gave a report of a glorious revival which had commenced in that district, and from the subjoined report it will be seen the good work continues. Thousands of Methodists from the Bluff to the North Cape will join in the prayer, "Revive Thy work, O Lord."

Just on the eve of a grand consummation of the movement in favour of Methodist Union, nothing is so much to be desired as a deepening of spiritual life in all our churches, and nothing is so calculated to ensure a proper fusion of the uniting sections of Methodism like a wave of revival feeling sweeping over the land. May God send the blessing!

Our Riverton correspondent writes:-

"Since writing my last report news has been received from Nightcaps that the Spirit of God was there in great power on Sunday evening, 11<sup>th</sup> inst. Mr. Lochore preached a memorial sermon on the late Mrs. Gill, of Nightcaps, who passed away in perfect peace two weeks ago, but 'she being dead yet speaketh.' She bitterly regretted that she had not openly and publicly confessed Christ, instead of, as is the case with many Christians, 'hiding her light under a bushel.' Mrs. Gill's dying wish was that Mr. Lochore would make use of her experience as a warning to others.

Mr. Lochore's sermon was from John 14:27. The church was crowded, and the service full of power. Eight persons came boldly out for Christ in the after-meeting. This is very encouraging, especially as Nightcaps has for some time been very backward spiritually. In a cottage meeting held by Mr. Buckingham (Home Missionary), at Otautau, last week four people were converted, and on Sunday evening at Riverton, one more found peace – making a total of thirteen conversions since my previous report.

By request of a number of Wairio residents, fortnightly services will in future be held there. The first service was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> inst., when a large number assembled. This place promises well in the future.

The Advocate. 31 August, 1895. page 148.

### **NELSON.**

Eleven days' Mission services have just been held, when the Revs G. Bond and T. Fee, of Blenheim, delivered earnest and appropriate addresses. We cannot record what

the definite results of such a mission are, but suffice it to say that such faithful declarations of God's truth cannot fail to result in much good being done. There were a few interesting conversions, and the whole church life has been quickened. Mr. Foster, Home Missionary of Havelock, and Mrs. Rumgay also assisted during the mission.

The Advocate. 31 August, 1895. page 148.

#### **RANGIORA. Evangelistic Mission.**

A three weeks' mission has recently been held at Rangiora in which Wesleyans, Presbyterians, Baptists, Salvationists, and Free Methodists have united, with the happy result that quite a number of persons openly confessed Christ, several of them being backsliders.

The meetings, especially at Southbrook, have been remarkable for their deep spiritual tone, and on the last night of the mission between thirty and forty, of all ages, bore testimony to the blessing they had received from the first meeting to the last.

One gentleman stated that he had been present at every effort of the kind held here for the last thirty years, and never had felt so gracious a influence throughout as in this mission.

We are all thankful to God; and in order to assure the future good of the converts, we have issued tickets, which they are asked to sign and present to the church in which they prefer to anchor.

The Advocate. 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1895. page 172.

#### **UPPER WAKEFIELD. (Richmond Circuit.)**

A week's special services, conducted by the Rev. G.T. Marshall, have been greatly blessed, and several conversions have taken place.

21 September, 1895. page 184.

#### **BLENHEIM.**

In Blenheim we have been holding a fortnight's special services, conducted by Rev. G. Bond, Rev. W.O. Robb (Presbyterian), and Rev. T. Fee. The meetings have been exceedingly good, and will result in a deepening of the spiritual life of the church. While the outcome has not been all that our hearts desired, the presence of God has been powerfully felt, and there have been some cases of decision for Christ, which have made our efforts glad.

The Advocate. 19 October, 1895. page 232.

#### **GLAD TIDINGS. Woodend.**

We are glad to report a revival in this circuit. It began in Amberley on August 11<sup>th</sup>, when Mrs. Scott shared the services with the circuit minister.

It was then arranged with our honoured sister to visit us at a later date at Woodend.

On Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, special prayer meetings were commenced. These proved a great blessing – bringing the members into closer sympathy with the work, and preparing them for service, one young brother testifying during the week to having surrendered his heart to God about a fortnight before. He became a valuable helper in subsequent meetings.

Rev. J.A. Luxford preached on the 15<sup>th</sup>, at 11 a.m. He evidently caught the influence of the week of prayer. Rev. .C. Harrison took the evening service, when eight souls decided for Christ. Bro. Harrison stayed over the two following days, and we had good times. The junior minister of St. Albans is in his element in a good revival. Friends from Rangiora assisted us during the week, when Mrs. Scott arrived. All felt that God was with her. Mrs. Smalley came to our help on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup>, she and Mrs. Scott taking the service between them; also on the following Thursday, Mrs. Dellow assisted in the morning service. Tuesday evening was a time to be remembered. At the close of the public service a number of God's people – about 16 – repaired to the vestry for a night of prayer. A memorable night it was. The power of the Holy Ghost came down in a wonderful manner.

The meetings were continued up till October 2<sup>nd</sup>, when a social tea was held in the schoolroom to say good-bye to our dear sister Scott. A really good meeting followed in the Church, with souls brought to Christ. Tickets “on trial” for membership have been given to 22 persons, while others belong to sister Churches. The Sabbath School has largely benefited, so that there are close upon 30 catechumens. Praise ye the Lord.!

#### **RANGIORA. (Horrellville.)**

Mission services have been held here recently, and were conducted by the Revs. Edwards, Rodger, and Garlick. The attendances were excellent. The Word of God was spoken with power, and the results are of a cheering character. At the testimony meeting which concluded the services over twenty spoke of the good they had received. At the Presbyterian Church, Cust, a fortnight's services were carried on by the above brethren, reinforced by the Rev. Mr. Gow, of Kaiapoi.

26 October, 1895. page 248.

### **Religious Experiences of Some Celebrated American Statesmen.**

#### **George Washington.**

George Washington was a professed Christian long before he became Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army or President of the United States, yet there was a marked growth in devotion after these heavy duties were committed to Him. It is suggestive that of the “Religious Maxims” of Washington, which fill sixty-eight pages of a recent publication, almost all were uttered by him during the last ten or fifteen years of his life. He learned to see so clearly the hand of Providence in current events that he could write: “He must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations.” At a time when it was counted a sign of literary culture to laugh at Christianity, and to predict its downfall within two generations, at a time when the leading politicians were avowed infidels, whose chief authority on the Bible was Thomas Paine's “Age of Reason,” Mr. Washington in many of his most important addresses took pains to speak of religion as one of the “essential

pillars of civil society,” of the Bible as containing the “pure and benign light of revelation,” and of Christ as the “Divine Author of our blessed religion.”

### **Abraham Lincoln.**

That Mr. Lincoln had not only religious opinions, but religious experiences, is shown by his acknowledged faith in prayer. General Rusling, in *The Christian Advocate* (Aug. 25, 1892), has made public the striking statements made to him and to General Sickles by President Lincoln immediately after the battle of Gettysburg, telling of his strong pleadings to God on the eve of that decisive struggle, and of the “sweet comfort” and assurance of victory that crept into his soul as he prayed. General Sickles has also repeated this same conversation without any essential variation.

James E. Murdoch also tells how, being for some weeks at the White House as the guest of Mr. Lincoln, one night, just after the battle of Bull Run, he happened to be so restless that he could not sleep, and, as long after midnight he wandered about, he heard low tones proceeding from a private room near where the President slept, and as the door was partly open, he walked in and saw a sight which he could never forget.

“It was the President kneeling before an open Bible. The light was turned low in the room. His back was toward me. For a moment I was silent as I stood looking in amazement and wonder. Then he cried out in tones so pleading and sorrowful, ‘O thou God that heard Solomon in the night, when he prayed for wisdom, hear me. I cannot lead this people, I cannot guide the affairs of this nation, without Thy help. I am poor and weak and sinful. O God, who didst hear Solomon when he cried for wisdom, hear me and save this nation.’

Russell B. Pope, D.D., of Steubenville, O., to whom I am indebted for the foregoing reference, well summarizes the matter when he writes: “Lincoln was either the greatest hypocrite in American history or he was increasingly devout in his later years. Take his well-known utterances, the piety in his brief but final farewell to his friends as he left Springfield for Washington, his various State papers, especially the notable and unapproachable second inaugural. It is a well-known fact that he would frequently have Bishop Simpson come to his private office, and the two alone would kneel in fervent prayer. When I was with Bishop Ames as his private Secretary, he gave me practically the same information concerning himself and President Lincoln.”

2 November, 1895. page 255.

### **ROXBURGH**

Quarterly Meeting. – 2 October. It was resolved unanimously to invite Bro. Poole to remain another year. Since he has been stationed at Roxburgh things have wonderfully improved; the circuit which for some time had been in financial difficulties, is now recovered. Cottage prayer meetings have been well attended, and the congregations are increasing. (He is a Home Missionary). If this is done for another year, there is every prospect that Roxburgh will rise from a Home Mission station to a prosperous circuit.

9 November, 1895. page 268.

### **Waltham Church.**

Around which linger many pleasant memories, was sold a short time ago to Mr. Andrew Scott (husband of Sister Scott, (the well-known and beloved evangelist), for 150 pounds. It has been demolished and transformed into a very nice house, which rejoices in the name of Chapel Villa.

16 November, 1895. page 280.

### **CONNEXIONAL EVANGELISTS.**

#### **Letter to the Editor:-**

Dear Sir,- According to the scheme of re-adjustment announced by the Federal Council there will probably be three or four married ministers for whom special provision will have to be made next year. It is suggested that married ministers should be sent to circuits where at present there are probationers or Home missionaries, special grants from the Home Mission Fund being made to meet the necessities of the case. Is there not a more excellent way of providing for, say, two of these brethren? For years we have talked about employing a Connexional evangelist. The stock objection has been that we had not suitable men to spare from circuit work. Now this difficulty will no longer bar the way, if we really want this work taken in hand.

My suggestion is that two Connexional evangelists, should be employed,, one for the North and the other for the South, to work under the direction of the Chairmen of Districts and the Home Mission Executive Committee. If the matter of cost seems to be an objection, let it be borne in mind that if we adopt the suggestion of the Federal Council, a large demand will be made on the Home Mission Fund, and no additional work done. But if the Conference were to appoint evangelists, a scale of charges could be adopted which would be readily paid by the circuits utilizing their services; and there are persons specially interested in this kind of work who would gladly contribute towards the cost, who would not give an equal amount for the maintenance of a married minister to replace a probationer or Home missionary.

At any rate, the matter is of sufficient importance to deserve careful consideration at each of the forthcoming District Synods. Let it be considered either in connection with the Federal Council proposals, or on its own merits, and a recommendation forwarded to Conference, when a committee could be appointed to consider details.

The reasons for the appointment may be thus summarized:-

1. The work has often been asked for by our people.
2. The men will be available for the work next year.
3. It is better to take up new work than to merely change agents.
4. The cost can be met by income raised in connection with the work, together with help from the Home Mission Fund, not greater than would be required if the men were sent to circuit work.

I am, &c., Samuel Lawry.

16 November. 1895. page 284.

## CONNEXIONAL EVANGELISTS.

Letter to the Editor.

Dear Sir,- I have read with much pleasure the admirable letter of the Rev. S. Lawry in The Advocate of November 16<sup>th</sup> in reference to setting apart two ministers at the next Conference as Connexional evangelists – one for the North and one for the South Island.

The proposal is a most excellent one, and I feel certain such an appointment would be a great benefit to the Methodist Church in New Zealand.

The Connexional evangelists set apart by the British Conference, The Revs. T. Cook, J. Waugh, and E. Davison (sic), have been the means of doing incalculable good in the Old Country. Indeed it is almost impossible to over-estimate the good they have done. Not only have thousands been led to decide for Christ at the missions they have held, but churches that had become lukewarm and were dwindling away, have been quickened and stirred up, and roused again into active, vigorous spiritual life. The same good results would undoubtedly follow if a similar agency was employed in New Zealand. Of course, it is absolutely necessary for the success of the scheme, that right men should be selected.

The work of a Connexional evangelist is a most important one, and sound judgment, discretion, and tact, as well as earnestness, piety, and spiritual power are essential requisites.

In this circuit we have recently had a three-weeks' mission, conducted by the Rev. W.L. Salter, and most blessed results attended his labours.

I sincerely hope that the timely suggestion of the Rev. S. Lawry will be acted upon, as I feel convinced that the appointment of two suitable men as Connexional evangelists in these Islands would be made a very great blessing to our Church.

Indeed, I believe nothing would be a greater benefit to our Church here, than to have a mission conducted every year in each circuit, by the right men, and in the right manner; as not only would hundreds of our young people be led to decision, but our old members in the various places where missions were held, would be led to fresh and full consecration to God.

I am, &c.,

Wm. Shepherd Allen.

Annadale, Piako, November 23, 1895.

The Advocate. 7 December, 1895. page 316.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1896.**

3<sup>rd</sup> January, 1896. Starts on page 361

Increased membership info from District Meetings.

Wanganui – increase of 236.

Auckland – 181, including 86 Maoris.

Canturbury – 143.

Otago – 137.

Wellington – 100.

Nelson – 12.

March 14, 1896. page 422. The Rev. David O'Donnell, of Victoria, was invited to labour in the Colony as Connexional Evangelist during the year.

Rev. W. Baumber is now President.

March 21, page 427 – death of Matthew Burnett.

Page 457 – Willowby invites O'Donnell to conduct a Mission.

Page 479. Letter about the Connexional Evangelist from Rev. W.J. Williams – Secretary of the Conference.

Dear Sir,

In answer to numerous enquiries kindly allow me to say that I am in communication with the Rev. D. O'Donnell, and expect daily definite information concerning the date of his arrival in New Zealand. When that information is to hand, a plan will be drawn up by the President and myself, in which we shall endeavour to include all the circuits for Mr. O'Donnell's services.

It is most encouraging to find that the requests for the Connexional Evangelist from the circuits are already so numerous, and it leads to the hope that sufficient time will be available to allow of both town and country circuits sharing in the benefit of his labour.

I am, &c., Wm. James Williams., Secretary of the Conference.

The Advocate. 9 May, 1896. Page 479.

Page 482. Soltau Mission and Sister Francis bit. Soltau also page 503.

Page 497. Leeston invites O'Donnell.

Page 502. Mrs Rothwell as preacher, and perhaps evangelist.

Page 508. Biography of Morley.

End of microfilm. 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1896.

### **HELPING HAND MISSION.**

The Helping Hand Mission, at the instance of Sister Francis, is going in for heavier work in the shape of a Work and Help Society and of a Rescue Home. The new society has some excellent names on its official list, with stronger elements of permanency in it than a much-paragraphed, bondless, and latitudinarian society founded some time since for the purpose of getting young girls off the streets. It is intended that the Rescue Home shall be self-supporting – laundry work, &c., being relied upon as sources of income.

Very unfortunately, a day or two after the negotiations for the purchase of a house for a Home had been completed, the building was destroyed by fire. Before the fire, opposition to the establishment of a Rescue Home in that vicinity – Wellesley street West – had been raised by residents and property owners. Daunted neither by opposition nor by fire, the Mission leaders are looking out for a suitable residence nearer Drake street Hall.

Advocate. 6<sup>th</sup> June, 1896. The page is numbered 4, but it is actually page 2.

### **EVANGELISTS. To the Editor.**

Sir, - There is among Methodists a perennial demand for evangelistic services; and if the demand is not met by a supply bearing the Methodist hall-mark, it will be met from some other source. As far as I can remember, the Conference has done very little to discharge this very important duty, but has left the Church a prey to men often self-commissioned, or at least with no interest in Methodism. It is eleven or twelve years since the evangelistic mission of the Rev. and Mrs. Smalley, and that is the only attempt made to mission the Colony. The Rev. Thomas Cook paid a summer visit to a few of our chief towns, but that was a poor substitute for the thorough rousing that all our circuits need. The small towns and churches demand help, and it is instructive to note that the most lasting results of Mr. Cook's mission are to be found in the two smallest places he visited - Timaru and New Plymouth.

I am far from saying that there are not good evangelists outside Methodism. But so long as many of the very best are within her pale, why should our people be left to the leading of an outsider? If an evangelist, for example, believes in immersion, in the Calvinistic view of the perseverance of the saints, in the premillennial advent; if he is great on types, on spiritualizing, on the interpretation of prophecy, and on building up believers; if he is given to rating the churches, cannot use a recognized hymn-book, and sells various expositions of his own peculiarities, is he likely to benefit the Methodist Church?

I hold strongly, sir, that our Conference ought to supply the demand now met by strangers, and occupy the ground with plants of its own planting. –

I am, &c., ADVANCE.

Advocate. 6<sup>th</sup> June, 1896. page 10.

**Another letter** in response to ADVANCE's letter, but which missed the point.

**EVANGELISTS. Letter to the Editor.**

Dear Sir, - It speaks well for our N.Z. Methodism that so many circuits are looking forward with expectancy to the visit of Rev. D. O'Donnell, and not a few will be glad to hear of his early arrival in the Colony. With the exception of a few uncharitable words, most Christians will endorse the first paragraph of "Advance's" letter in your issue of 6<sup>th</sup> June. It is to be regretted, however, that such sentiments as are contained in the succeeding lines should ever be put in print. To be a good Methodist pre-supposes a good Christian, and if an honoured servant of God has gifts which enable him to speak profitably "on types, on spiritualizing, on the interpretation of prophecy," and thus build up believers, I assume his hearers will, by the Holy Spirit's help, be made better Christians. If any of them are Methodists, then the evangelist's work is most likely to benefit the Methodist Church, even though he fail to bear the Methodist hall-mark. Was Mr. Spurgeon less successful because he believed in immersion, or is "Advance" to boycott Mr. Moody on account of his premillennial teaching? We are talking and writing and hoping to arouse enthusiasm on the subject of Union; we are looking forward to times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord - for conversions in large numbers. Can we afford, then, to lose any opportunity of placing ourselves occasionally in an environment favourable to the deepening of spiritual life, even if the evangelist is more anxious to see the whole visible Church in prosperity rather than any particular branch of it. When Thos. Cook's mission concluded in this Colony, it was matter of common remark that every evangelical body had reaped benefit. And whenever an accredited evangelist whose work is blessed of God comes to this circuit, I shall esteem it a privilege to be within reach of his influence, no matter by what name he is called. Methinks the Christian Church, like the love of God, is "broader than the measure of man's mind," and that it is quite possible to be loyal to the denomination of one's choice and at the same time recognize the praiseworthy in other quarters.

I am, &c., Chas. Dixon.

**Ashburton, June, 1896.**

P.S. - Since writing the above, I learn with regret that it is improbable Mr. O'Donnell will visit New Zealand. - C.D.

[Our correspondent will learn from our last issue, when Mr. O'Donnell may be expected to visit this Colony. - Ed.]

Advocate. 20<sup>th</sup> June, 1896. page 22..

**CONNEXIONAL EVANGELIST. Letter to the Editor.**

Dear Sir, - At last, I have this day received definite information concerning the time of the probable arrival of the Rev. D. O'Donnell in this Colony. Mr. O'Donnell writes to say that, owing to his engagements in Victoria and New South Wales, he finds it will not be possible for him to begin his work in New Zealand until September.

This, I think, will be a disappointment to many who have been looking forward to Mr. O'Donnell's visit as a hopeful feature in special evangelistic effort during the winter

months. From the numerous requests for his services that have come to hand, it is evident that many of the circuits are ripe for revival, and Mr. O'Donnell's coming has been prayed for and looked for as their instrument of revival. May I venture to suggest that the revival, when it comes, will be all the deeper and wider because the praying and the looking have to be continued longer than was at first expected. Why it is that he cannot be with us earlier is easily explained. Mr. O'Donnell has been deluged with applications for his services from nearly all parts of Australia, and he has had to decline dozens of requests, so as to leave the way clear for his coming to New Zealand in September. When he does come, he hopes to spend at least a full year in soul-saving work in this Colony, and to that hope all the readers of the **Advocate** will say, "Amen."

I am, &c., Wm Jas. Williams.

Pitt Street, Auckland, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1896.

Advocate. 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1896. page 17.

### **TAPANUI.**

Invites Mrs. Jones – wife of the Rev. P.W. Jones – Primitive Methodist minister, to conduct a mission. 15 decided for Christ, with others under deep conviction.

Advocate. 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1896. page 68.

Getting revival hymn books ready for O'Donnell page 98.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Western Spit Mission, Napier.**

Several conversions at the close of a service.

Advocate. 15<sup>th</sup> August, 1896. page 111.

Also, - THAMES – signs of revival, and Christchurch South.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Ashburton.**

A score of Sunday school scholars, and several adults have decided for Christ. Revs. C.E. Beecroft and T.G. Brooke, assisted by several lay workers. The mission is not yet concluded.

### **FEATHERSTON.**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> August, and three following evenings, Mr. Soltau, traveling evangelist, conducted special services in our church and hall, with the most soul-inspiring results. Such a general conviction of sin has not taken place for years in our little township. Five of our young people openly decided for Christ.

Advocate. 12<sup>th</sup> September, 1896. Page 151.

### **JOYFUL NEWS – Ashburton.**

Rev. C.E. Beecroft of Timaru. – For seven nights he laboured with but small encouragement, but, "To patient faith the prize is sure." Then came the breakdown, and the inquiry-room was filled with penitents. After this the ingathering continued, and in three weeks forty-two have professed conversion. Seventy-five percent of the converts

are young people, between the ages of twelve and twenty. The crowning service of the series was the last, when nearly the whole of the young disciples (four of whom decided that night for Christ) joined together with the usually communicants at the Lord's Table.

Advocate. 19<sup>th</sup> September, 1896. page 161.

### **JOYFUL NEWS – Mosgiel.**

Revs. R. Taylor (South Dunedin); Griffin (Port Chalmers); Bellhouse (Dunedin); Mrs. Don and Mr. Merritt (Dunedin), the mission being brought to a close by Mr. Wardrop (South Dunedin.) 16 scholars professed conversion. Much blessing to many others.

Advocate. 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 1896. page 182.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. Milton.**

We gratefully record a week of grace, in connection with special services conducted by Mrs Jones, of Invercargill. These services were commenced on 20<sup>th</sup> September. (seven professed converts).

Advocate. 10<sup>th</sup> October, 1896. page 192.

### **THE CONNEXIONAL EVANGELIST. Letter to the Editor.**

Dear Sir,- Will you kindly allow me to lay before your readers a statement of the plan of services so far arranged for the Rev. D. O'Donnell. We expect him to arrive in Auckland from Sydney during the first week in October. At his request missions have so far only been arranged up to the end of the year; further plans will be considered and consummated after his arrival. He will devote ten days, including two Sundays, to each mission.

The dates fixed for the commencement of each mission are as follows:-

Thames, October 11<sup>th</sup>; Auckland, Freeman;s Bay, October 25<sup>th</sup>; Manukau, Onehunga, November 8<sup>th</sup>; Auckland, Pitt Street, November 29<sup>th</sup>; Auckland, Grafton Road, December 13<sup>th</sup>. After the Grafton Road Mission Mr. O'Donnell will rest until the middle of January, and will then resume at some [place to be decided upon. Very great blessing has attended Mr. O'Donnell's labours in the missions he has lately conducted in New South Wales, and we have good reason to expect that with the prayerful co-operation of those among us who long for the prosperity of the work of God, he will not be less successful in New Zealand. May I respectfully ask that all over the Colony there may be a concert of prayer that Mr. O'Donnell's mission may everywhere be marked in large measure by "soul-converting power."

I am, &c., Wm Jas. Williams.

Pitt St., Auckland, Sept. 21, 1896.

Advocate. 10<sup>th</sup> October, 1896. page 192.

### **RICHMOND.**

Quarterly Meeting. The spiritual results are very encouraging, there having been recently about 30 conversions, chiefly in Richmond. Mr. Marshall reported an increase of 15 in membership on the year, with 28 on trial.

Advocate. 17<sup>th</sup> October, 1896. page 201.

### **ASHBURTON.**

At a public meeting connected with the Baring Square Sunday School anniversary 12 months ago, it was announced that the 1895-96 motto was, "Conversions in Every Class." Though a few scholars had decided some months before, it was during the Rev. C.E. Beecroft's recent Mission that the faithful toil and prayers of the teachers were so signally honoured; and with the exception, perhaps, of some junior classes, the members of which had not strayed from Christ, the results for the year have exceeded our brightest anticipations.

Advocate. 17<sup>th</sup> October, 1896. page 201.

### **Mr. and Mrs. Soltau.**

Mr. and Mrs. Soltau have been conducting an evangelistic mission at Napier, and they have arranged to visit Gisborne, Hastings, Wairoa, and other places in the district. The people of Napier are considerably excited over the "Second Coming," which is supposed to take place the year after next. Professor's Dimbley's pamphlets have a very rapid sale in the place; and Bible classes are being formed to study the question thoroughly. The different preachers have been upholding the theory of the Professor from the pulpit, and altogether things are expected to be pretty lively the year after next. (page 216.)

United Prayer Meetings, consisting of Presbyterians and Wesleyans, are being held at Hastings for some weeks, in view of an evangelistic mission to be held in the near future. There is a remarkably good feeling existing between the members of these two churches and their ministers. This as things should be.

Advocate. 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1896. page 216.

### **INVERCARGILL**

(Quarterly Meeting.) Communications were reported from the President of the Conference re the Rev. D. O'Donnell's mission. It was resolved to write again urging the claims of Invercargill to an early visit from the Evangelist, and also priority should be granted to those circuits not visited by the Rev Thomas Cook. (page 221.)

### **GREYTOWN.**

Recently special united evangelistic services were given by the Anglican, Presbyterian and Wesleyan Churches, under the Rev. G. Soltau. Apparently the whole community has been influenced. Special prayer meetings before the evening services, weekly cottage prayer meetings, united Church fellowship gatherings once a month, and a children' afternoon gathering every fortnight are the results.

Advocate, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 1896. page 231.

### **JOYFUL NEWS. THAMES.**

The Rev. D. O'Donnell, from Victoria, began a mission here on October 11<sup>th</sup>. It has been blessed to the good of the church, and over 100 persons have professed conversion. Rev. D. O'Donnell is pre-eminently an evangelist, and his methods of work will, I believe, commend themselves to our people generally. He is an able preacher, and his appeals to the consciences of the people were the most powerful I ever listened to. His methods resemble those of the old Methodists more than any I have seen for many years. He is evidently a man of God. He exerts great spiritual influence, and I believe will be the means of doing great good in New Zealand. It is a long time since an evangelistic mission created such an interest on the Thames. If it could be arranged for him to visit many of our country circuits, if only for a week in each, it would prove an invaluable blessing to our preachers and people. If a few of our wealthy men were to give or guarantee part of the cost of visiting such circuits, they could not possibly lay out their money to better advantage. Could not this be done? Could it not be discussed at the Synods? At the Thames we bless God for Mr. O'Donnell's visit. He has done us all good, and we pray he may be successful in winning many souls for God in this Colony.

I am, &c., Correspondent. (page 246.)

### **KIWITEA.**

During the past quarter a series of special services were held at Apiti, conducted by the Rev. S.H.D. Peryman and the local preachers, and assisted by the Salvation Army. A large number professed conversion – the majority being young men and women. The mission has been an occasion of great blessing. One of the workers stated: "I have never seen anything like this in all my life." Over forty persons went forward to the penitent form during the services, and we expect a large increase to the strength of our church. A C. E. Society has been started by the circuit minister, and already about 30 members have been enrolled.

Advocate. 21<sup>st</sup> November, 1896. page 246.

Northern Wairoa. – O'Donnell invited. Page 252.

### **AUCKLAND NOTES.**

The Helping Hand Mission held its anniversary on a recent Sunday and Monday. As on former occasions the gatherings were held in the Choral Hall, and, if anything, the crowds were larger than ever. At the re-union on Monday evening there was an enormous gathering of all sorts and conditions of men and women. The presence of representatives of all the churches, right up or down to Plymouth Brethren and Roman Catholics, testified to the hearty goodwill entertained towards the Mission. The sight from the platform of the young people above and the concourse of adults below was both cheering and impressive. The Mayor presided over the gathering, and the Revs. W.A. Sinclair and G.B. Munro and Messrs W.H. Smith and A.C. Brown delivered addresses. Mr. Brown, as Secretary, gave some account of the multiform work of the Mission, and Sister Francis, attired in the garb of the Sisters of the People, picturesquely detailed some

of her experiences in her special work of rescue and relief. All that one heard was very encouraging and very stimulating. But yet, though the crowds in the galleries were exuberantly happy, and the crowds reaching back into the street were eager and responsive, the meeting lacked something, like measured rhyme lacking "lyrical cry." Think you not, my masters of the mission, that a well-known Methodist hymn at the beginning, and a well-known hymn or a chorus in the middle, would have acted as the needed spark to set the tow on fire?

After visiting the Thames, the Rev. D. O'Donnell commenced on Sunday last a ten days' campaign in the Freeman's Bay Circuit. The leaders of the mission both attempt and expect great things for and from God, and this they showed by arranging to hold the afternoon and evening services in the Opera House. There were large congregations, and a gracious influence pervaded the assemblies. Mr. O'Donnell is giving Bible Readings each afternoon in the lecture hall of the Y.M.C.A., and conducted nightly meetings in the Drake street Hall.

Advocate, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 1896. page 259.

### **RANGIORA.**

Evangelistic services were held lately in the Rangiora church, but on account of many counter attractions, were not so well attended as could have been wished. The meetings, however, were full of power, and the results encouraging, some fifteen of the elder scholars deciding for Christ. The addresses were given by Mrs. Dellow, and Revs. Porter, Dellow, and Carr.

Advocate. 28<sup>th</sup> November, 1896. page 261.

### **THE CONNEXIONAL EVANGLIST. Letter to the editor.**

Dear Sir,- Although our evangelist, the Rev. D. O'Donnell, has come to New Zealand at a time of many distractions, political and otherwise, your readers will rejoice to know that the missions so far held have been attended with very blessed results. At the Thames, Freeman's Bay and Onehunga the work has been successful in the quickening of believers and the conversion of numbers of the unsaved. Mr. O'Donnell's Bible Readings have proved wonderfully helpful to large numbers of God's people, who have received instruction and stimulus in the pursuit of holiness. His searching and powerful appeals to the unconverted have shaken many a heart of adamant and brought the cry of penitents from lips unused to prayer. After conducting missions in Pitt street (Auckland), and Newmarket in the Grafton Road Circuit, Mr. O'Donnell intends going south to spend the Christmas and New Year holidays with some friends in Southland. He will then resume work and conduct missions in the following order:-

January 17<sup>th</sup> – Invercargill.

January 31<sup>st</sup> – Cargill road, Dunedin.

February 14<sup>th</sup> – Mornington.

February 28<sup>th</sup> – Dunedin, Trinity.

March 21<sup>st</sup> – Port Chalmers/.

Arrangements for further missions will be notified in due course.

It remains only for me to add that it becomes increasingly apparent that the success of the missions will be largely determined by the extent to which the churches concerned are prepared for them. Where prayers are few and feeble, and little or nothing is done to rouse the attention of the church and the public to the coming mission, no large success need be expected. It is manifestly unfair to the evangelist to expect him to succeed under such conditions. But where the mission is anticipated in a hopeful, prayerful spirit, and all reasonable steps are taken to excite public interest in the movement, the evangelist enters upon his work with every human and Divine assurance of success. I am, &c., Wm. Jas. Williams.

Advocate. 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1896. page 266.

### **Revival in Samoa.**

A gracious revival of religion is reported from Samoa. Our missionary there Rev. Colin Bleazard – says that more than 200 people have publicly expressed a desire to flee from the wrath to come. Page 270.

### **THE HELPING – HAND MISSION, AUCKLAND.**

Successful Anniversary Services - Progress of the Mission - Helping the poor – The Gospel still wins.

As it is a considerable time since anything concerning the Helping Hand Mission has appeared in the *Advocate*, a few lines may be of interest. The eleventh anniversary of the Mission has just been celebrated, and proved one of the most successful ever held. The services were held in the Choral Hall, when the building was crowded at every service – between thirteen and fourteen hundred people being present at the evening service. The morning preacher was the Rev. H.R. Dewsbury, the afternoon, the Rev. E.H. Soper, who has been supplying at the [Baptist] Tabernacle; and in the evening, the Superintendent (The Rev. W.A. Sinclair) conducted a “people’s service,” short addresses being given. A large number remained to the prayer meeting, when several persons sought and found the Saviour.

The children’s singing, under the conductorship of Mr. J.G.Culpan, was excellent, and fully maintained the standard of former years. The brass band of the Mission was in evidence during the day, and marched through the principal streets, attracting numbers of people to the hall.

### **Nothing like tea.**

On Monday evening the monster tea and social re-union took place in the Choral Hall. About 740 people sat down to tea, including representatives from every church in the city, and over 1000 attended the after meeting, which was presided over by the Mayor of Auckland, who stated that he was in the fullest sympathy with the work of the Mission. Addresses were given by Sister Francis, Messrs. A.C. Brown, and W.H. Smith, and Revs. G.B. Munro and W.A. Sinclair. The meeting was full of enthusiasm, and considerable

interest was evinced in the story of her work as told by Sister Francis. A sub-leader appeared in the *Auckland Star* giving an appreciative notice of the work of the Mission.

#### **Work of the Mission.**

This year a small *brochure* has been issued by the superintendent, giving an account of the various organizations and departments of the work. From it we take the following extracts:- “One of the most important events of the past year has been the appointment of Sister Francis as the Mission Sister. Six years’ experience in the Sydney Central Mission has eminently fitted her for the position she now occupies. Her work has been specially among the poor, the sick, the lapsed, the friendless, and fallen.” “assistance is given irrespective of creed or colour.”

“During the year, a Society called ‘The Work and Help’ has been started. It consists of ladies of all denominations, who meet together to make garments for the poor. These are sold at a nominal charge, and, in cases of extreme need, given.”

“During the winter months, a series of cookery lessons, especially designed for working men’s wives and mothers to make their home bright and attractive, so that their husbands may not be drawn to the public house.”

“Beds and meals have been supplied to destitute men; a night school has been conducted, and a vigorous Prohibition crusade urged. No less than 220 open-air meetings have been held, and 30,000 tracts distributed. The membership of the Mission now stands at 156, while the two Christian Endeavour societies number 103, and there are 300 Sunday school scholars. A large number have professed conversion during the year. [probably end of quote].

The Rev. W.A. Sinclair, the present Superintendent, was unanimously invited to remain a third year, and subject to the approval of the Conference, the invitation was accepted.

#### **Rev. D. O’Donnell’s Mission.**

The Rev. D. O’Donnell, the Australian evangelist, has recently conducted a ten days’ mission in connection with the Helping Hand Mission. The addresses were most powerful and searching, and resulted in a mighty quickening of believers and the conversion of a considerable number of persons. Mr. O’Donnell proclaims a full salvation with old time fervour and clearness. The Opera House was taken for the afternoon and evening services, the place being crowded in the evening. One of the most touching and powerful addresses was that given to a mass meeting of men in the Opera House on “Coming Back.” Many hard-hearted men were moved to tears. The week-night meetings were held in the hall in Freeman’s Bay, which was well filled every evening, and at every service there were seekers for pardon and purity. A special feature was the afternoon Bible Readings in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, which was attended by Christians of all denominations, and were highly appreciated. Some fifty or sixty names were taken, but this by no means represents the spiritual work done. Mr. O’Donnell will be followed wherever he goes by the prayers of every member of the Helping Hand Mission.

Advocate. 12<sup>th</sup> December, 1896. page 276.

### **RANGIORA.**

The evangelistic services at Rangiora reported in recent issue of the *Advocate* were continued another week, Mrs. Scott giving the addresses each evening. As a result of her mission a large number of the elder scholars and several of the younger children of the Sunday School decided for Christ. Altogether some fifty have taken this step, which is a cause for great rejoicing. Many of the young converts were in evidence at the Endeavour meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>, one of the largest gatherings of the kind ever held in this district. A great deal of the success of the mission is due to the earnestness, humility and devotion of Sister Scott, who came to reap what others have sown. May the Lord of the harvest sustain those gathered in.

*Advocate*. 19<sup>th</sup> December, 1896. page 291.

### **AUCKLAND DISTRICT SYNOD.**

Increase of nearly 200 members.

The conversation on the "Work of God" took place on Monday morning in Ministerial Session, when a very profitable time was spent. On the motion of Rev. L. Hudson, it was resolved – "That this Synod records its gratitude to God for the measure of success enjoyed during the year, as evidenced by the General Returns, and devoutly unites in re-consecration to the work of God." At this stage the Rev. D. O'Donnell, evangelist, was invited to address the Synod, and with quiet telling power and unction narrated his own experience concerning the higher life, and emphasized the essential importance of full salvation and the power of the Holy Ghost.

After an earnest conversation, the general Conference resolutions were read by the Secretary, and prayer was offered by Rev. A. Peters. All agreed that a very hallowed and uplifting time had been enjoyed.

*Advocate*. 26<sup>th</sup> December, 1896. page 302.

## Mrs. Scott. 1897.

### DUNEDIN (Trinity.)

The brass band connected with the church made their first public appearance on Christmas Eve, by going round to the residences of various members of the Church, playing carols. "Our Own" was roused by the sweet strains of Christians, Awake," at 2.30 a.m. on same day. The band played several carols capitally, which augurs well for the open-air work in connection with the Rev. D. O'Donnell's forthcoming Mission on the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Advocate. 9<sup>th</sup> January, 1897. page 321.

### Notes and Comments.

The Rev. D. O'Donnell passed through Dunedin last week *en route* to Invercargill, where he commences his Mission on Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. It seems likely that many New Zealand circuits will suffer disappointment in not being able to secure Mr. O'Donnell's services in evangelistic work. For some time Mr. O'Donnell has been contemplating a visit to India, and circumstances seem to indicate that his long-cherished desire in this direction is soon to be gratified. His friends in South Australia have also sent a very urgent request that he should spend some months in that Colony in evangelistic work before going to India. He is now awaiting correspondence from "across the water" before finally deciding upon a course of action. Missions in Dunedin city and suburbs will occupy Mr. O'Donnell from January 31<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Advocate. 9<sup>th</sup> January, 1897. page 325.

### The Rev. D. O'Donnell's Mission – Invercargill.

After a week of special prayer, Mr. O'Donnell commenced his work here on Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. The morning service was chiefly for Christians, and the evening one was very crowded and full of power. Some 40 Christians came out for consecration, with several conversions. We are looking for "an abundant rain." Bible readings are given in the afternoons, and remarkably good. "Talk With Young Men," the Evangelist's subject one evening, was one of the finest things we have heard. In every district where Mr. O'Donnell conducts services, every young man should hear the story of the Studd Brothers, of cricket fame, and of Stanley Smith, the Cambridge stoke oar.

The *Southland Times* has the following notice of Mr. O'Donnell's mission:-

When the Rev. Thomas Cook, the English evangelist, made a hurried tour of New Zealand two years ago his time was so limited that a large number of circuits that desired his services were not visited by him. The New Zealand Conference has, therefore, arranged with the Rev. David O'Donnell to spend twelve months in New Zealand, and he began a ten days' mission in the Leet Street Church yesterday. Mr. O'Donnell is an evangelist of large experience, and his opening services were characterized with deep

religious fervour. Speaking chiefly to professing Christians in the morning on “Being filled with the Spirit,” he said he was not there to make Methodists, but to bring men and women to Christ. He urged Christian people to recognize their responsibilities to the full, and said there would never be a solution to social questions until all men were filled with the Spirit of Christ. In the evening he preached to a crowded congregation from the injunction of Paul to the Corinthians: “Examine yourselves.” He said there must be a multitude of Christians in the churches who while believing themselves secure have never known converting grace. Yet by the example of Nicodemus and others a new birth was necessary. It was possible to preach or to pray and yet ultimately to perish. These things stood for nothing without regeneration. He urged his hearers to examine themselves to ascertain where they stood, and to be satisfied that their religion was not mere electroplating. Mr. O’Donnell has a fine voice and earnest manner and holds his audience with power. He has a keen insight into human nature and motives, and while unsparing in denouncing spurious Christianity is kindly in appeal for a change to a better state of things. His sermons were full of illustrations drawn from his experience as an evangelist, and a large number stayed to the after-meeting.

The following telegram, to hand just as we go to press, relates to last Sunday’s services:-

“Gracious revival proceeding. Great ingathering on Sunday. More to follow.” – W.C. Oliver.

Advocate 30<sup>th</sup> January, 1897. page 352.

#### **Rev. D. O’Donnell’s Mission. – Dunedin (Cargill Road.)**

The mission in this circuit commenced on Sunday last, but there had been previously a week of special prayer for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

At the morning service there was a good attendance, When Mr. O’Donnell gave a powerful address on “Witnessing for God” – at the conclusion of which five men stood up, thus intimating a willingness to be filled with the necessary power.

At the evening service, the hall was full to hear an address from the Evangelist on “A Christian Defined.” It was full of forcible and telling points, and a fruitful impression was made on many hearts.

In the after meeting, about thirty adults went forward to seek the blessing of purity of heart, and one soul sought and found salvation. – Hallelujah!

In the afternoon, Mrs. O’Donnell gave a very practical and touching address to the Sunday School children.

Advocate, 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1897. page 356.

#### **Rev. D. O’Donnell’s Mission. – Dunedin (Cargill Road.)**

The mission has been continued last week, and at every meeting the Spirit of God has been mightily manifested.

The Bible readings in the afternoon have been full of instruction and blessing to Christians. The perfect life in Christ has been clearly shown to be the right and privilege of every believer; that it is not merely a temporary experience, but a continued

uninterrupted blessing; that it is self on the Cross, and Christ enthroned in the heart. The Evangelist's continual references to the sickly Christianity of to-day were felt to be only too true, and many a heart had been deeply impressed, and numbers have been led to trust Christ fully.

In the various missions throughout New Zealand, Christians should make it a point of duty to attend Mr. O'Donnell's Bible readings.

Advocate. 13<sup>th</sup> February, 1897. page 366.

### **Rev. D. O'Donnell's Mission. – Dunedin. Cargill Road.**

The closing services in connection with this mission were times of power and blessing. A marked feature of all the meetings has been the intensity of spiritual power that was manifestly present, whilst on the other hand there has been great resistance to the influence of the Holy Spirit. During the course of the Mission over one hundred persons professed conversion, and it has been a season of spiritual refreshment and blessing to God's people.

### **MORNINGTON.**

On Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Mr. O'Donnell commenced a short mission, extending over five days in this district. Preparatory meetings for prayer had been held for a week previously, and frequent announcements from the pulpit, as well as reference in sermons to the approach of the Mission week, had prepared the way for the coming of the evangelist. Owing to the short duration of the Mission an alteration had to be made in Mr. O'Donnell's usual order of services.

On Sunday morning, Mr. O'Donnell preached to a capital congregation, on the subject of "Holiness," and in response to his invitation, several members of the congregation rose in testimony of their willingness to give up all for God.

The church was well filled in the afternoon for the young people's service. The address was most suitable for those of tender years, and quite a number of the scholars of the school gave their hearts to God.

In the evening the building was crowded, and the address created a most powerful impression on the large congregation present. Many were under deep conviction, and some interesting cases of conversion took place. A large number of Christian people came out for full consecration: to whom M. O'Donnell gave appropriate instruction on some features of the higher life.

The day closed with a feeling of thankfulness for the large measure of blessing received at all the services. It is quite evident the Mission has made a good beginning, and we are believing for a time of glorious power.

Advocate. 20<sup>th</sup> February, 1897. page 382.

### **Re. D. O'Donnell's Mission: - Mornington.**

The mission, which opened under such favourable conditions on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, was continued during last week with signal evidences of blessing and power. Each evening, up to Friday, when the mission closed, the attendances were

excellent, and on some occasions the congregations were large. A prominent feature in Mr. O'Donnell's addresses is that the teaching is eminently Scriptural, and bears directly upon things of everyday life. The afternoon Bible readings have proved helpful to Christians, and are calculated to secure the deepening of spiritual life. Various aspects of the higher life have been dealt with, and those who have had the privilege of being present realized a large measure of blessing.

### **ROSLYN.**

This mission commenced on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, under most favourable conditions as regards the weather. Preparatory meetings for prayer had been held each evening during the previous week, and the interest had been well sustained. Many of the friends had also attended one or more of the services at Mornington. It was to be expected that these circumstances would raise the spirit of prayerful expectation in regard to the mission. This feeling was fully realized during the services of the day, and God repeated His former mercies unto His people.

At the morning service, there was a large congregation, who listened with intense interest and subdued conviction to a most powerful address on "Christ's Witnesses." At the close of the service, at the invitation of the preacher, some 10 of 12 persons rose in testimony of their full consecration to God, and acceptance of the Spirit of power.

The afternoon service was for young people, of whom there were a large number present, including the scholars of the Sunday School. A number of adults were also in attendance. Mrs. O'Donnell delivered a touching address, suitable to those of tender years. Quite a number of the young people gave their hearts to God, and in the enquiry room received suitable instruction and counsel.

The evening service was a memorable time of God's right hand power. The church was crowded in every part by an eager congregation. The Evangelist delivered a most powerful and heart-searching address from 2 Cor, 8:5. The spirit of conviction rested mightily upon the people, and quite a number of Christians stood up for full consecration. These received instruction in matters relating to spiritual life, and afterwards the services of the day were brought to a close, and God's people went home rejoicing in the abundant blessing vouchsafed during the day.

Advocate. 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1897. page 391.

### **Rev. D. O'Donnell's Mission. – Roslyn.**

The services in connection with this mission were continued each evening up to Friday, February, 26<sup>th</sup>. After the auspicious beginning at the Sunday services, it was anticipated that God's blessing would rest upon the meetings. This result has been realized in a very abundant measure, and a very powerful influence rested upon those present. Mr. O'Donnell, in his public addresses, deals with those subjects which affect the heart and conscience, and a spirit of deep conviction has come alike to Christians and unbelievers. Many of the former have been led to humble themselves before God, and seek the blessing of a full salvation, whilst many sinners have been converted.

It would probably only be repetition to report each service, for some features were common to all, viz: intense spiritual power, deep conviction, and splendid victory for

God, whilst many persons are realizing the gall and bitterness of conscious guilt, and yet will not surrender to God.

Whilst the above remark applies to all the meetings, the three last services had special features of their own. On Wednesday the evangelist delivered a remarkably bright and sparkling address on "The Cure of the Man Born Blind," in which wit and humour were laid under contribution in doing God's service, and with good results. On Thursday the address was specially for young men, and some fourteen persons – principally young people – came forward and gave themselves to God. On Friday, the closing night, Mr. O'Donnell addressed the new converts, and gave counsel and instruction as to "failure in the Christian life." It was most refreshing to hear the testimony of several who had during the mission accepted the blessing of a clean heart, as also those of young converts just starting in the Christian course. At this service also, several decided for God.

On three afternoons, Bible readings were given and were well attended, many coming from Dunedin City to be present. These afternoon services have been made very helpful to Christian people.

Altogether about 150 names, including Sunday School scholars have been taken of those who have professed conversion at the Mornington and Roslyn missions. Our hearts are filled with gladness. Our workers have been quickened and encouraged, and doubtless both congregations will feel the benefit for all time to come. Parents rejoice over the conversion of their children; Sunday School teachers over the salvation of their scholars; and others over the blessing which has come to friends and relatives. To God we give all the praise.

#### **DUNEDIN. – Trinity Church.**

Mr. O'Donnell commenced this mission on Sunday last, February 28<sup>th</sup>. The weather was favourable, and the reports from the suburban missions previously held had excited a spirit of expectant prayer and faith. Each evening, during the previous week, meetings for prayer had been held, at which the attendance had been remarkably good. On Sunday morning the church was filled with an earnest-minded congregation, who listened to a most heart-searching discourse on Acts 1:8. In the evening the subject chosen was "Examine yourselves." In response to the Evangelist's invitation, nearly 100 persons came forward expressing the renewal of their consecration to God's service. The services during the day were marked by great spiritual power, and God's presence was manifestly realized.

At all the mission services, Mr. O'Donnell makes a special feature of requests for prayer. Some remarkable answers to prayer have been received in connection with the mission already held, and doubtless thousands of our readers will remember at the throne of grace the mission now being held. "Brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified."

Advocate. 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1897. page 401.

### **The Rev. D. O'Donnell's Mission. – DUNEDIN (Trinity Church.)**

This mission was continued throughout last week, and closed on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. The services throughout were marked by great spiritual power, and it has been a season of blessing and spiritual refreshment to those who have attended the services. The attendance has been well sustained, the church being well filled at all the services, and on some occasions crowded.

Prayer meetings of "old-time power" were held previous to each service, and were very helpful to the workers. The brass band paraded the street, and thus assisted to draw public attention to the mission. A strong choir was in attendance, and added to the success of the mission.

The afternoon Bible readings have again been made very helpful to Christians in obtaining a clearer light on the truth of God's Word relating to various aspects of the higher life. The interest in these meetings has grown as the mission proceeded, and many persons have been greatly blessed thereat.

One feature of the mission, and which was mentioned more than once by the Missioner, was the large proportion of men that there were present at the services. This fact is only further evidence that the male portion of the community are not opposed to an earnest evangelism, as supposed by many, but they can and may be reached by the proclamation of a Gospel which touches the need of their hearts, and shows a present remedy.

The services on the second Sunday of the mission were seasons of great blessing. The church was full in the morning, and the preacher gave a most powerful and heart-searching discourse on the "Nature and Necessity of Holiness." The congregation was deeply moved by the manifestation of the Divine presence and power, and many were led into clearer views of this great truth.

The attendance at the evening service was affected by the heavy rain storm, but it was, nevertheless, a time of God's right hand power, and many were led to decision for God.

Both at the morning and evening services a number of blue jackets from H.M.S. Lizard, which was lying at the Dunedin wharf, were present, and evidently took great interest in the proceedings. A suitable portion was found for these by the preacher referring to Tennyson's immortal poem, "The Charge of the Light Brigade;" and a most powerful appeal was then made for an equally devoted loyalty to Christ on the part of all. His incident had a thrilling effect on the congregation, and made a profound impression.

On Sunday afternoon a Children's service was held, at which were present the scholars from Trinity Church, Central Mission, and the Y.W.C.A. Mission School. The address was made suitable to young people, and many were led to give their hearts to God, and to consecrate their young lives to His service.

Altogether, the names of forty-nine adults and eighty-nine children have been taken as having decided for God during the mission, whilst a large number of persons have received the blessing of full salvation.

#### **A Remarkable Incident.**

A very interesting case of conversion is reported in connection with the mission. A man and his wife had been present at one of the services, and were brought under powerful conviction. They left the church, and had proceeded some distance on their

homeward journey, when the wife stated to her husband her mental distress and religious concern, and suggested an immediate return to the service. This was decided upon, and both hastened back to the church. On entering they went directly to the penitent form, and gave themselves up to God, and accepted the blessing of salvation through faith in Christ.

#### **Future Missions.**

We understand that arrangements have been made for further missions in the following circuits – viz., Christchurch (Durham street), Port Chalmers, Waimate and Oamaru. We trust that all our workers at these places will throw themselves heartily into threes efforts, and we feel sure the result will be rich blessing and victory all along the line. Will our readers everywhere pray for the success of the above Mission?

Advocate. March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1897. pages 410 – 411.

#### **CONFERENCE MOTION – Connexional Evangelist.**

The following resolution was carried:- “That Conference rejoices to hear of the good results that have attended the labours of the Rev. D. O’Donnell as Connexional Evangelist in this Colony, and earnestly prays that his further labours in New Zealand may be crowned with still more abundant success.

The Conference cordially passed a resolution requesting Mr. O’Donnell, through the President, to continue his labours in New Zealand another year.

Advocate. 20<sup>th</sup> March, 1897. page 427.

#### **The Rev. D. O’Donnell’s Mission. – Christchurch, Durham Street.**

Preparatory arrangements for this mission have been in hand for some weeks. Circulars and handbills, with programmes of services have been widely distributed. The reports received from the South, referring to the success of the Invercargill and Dunedin missions, had excited a feeling of expectant faith and earnest prayer, and the indications have been decidedly favourable for a successful result in Christchurch.

A meeting of workers was held Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, when from 200 to 300 were present. Tea was served at 6 p.m., after which the meeting was held. Mr. O’Donnell delivered a stimulating and encouraging address on “Power from on High,” which was greatly appreciated by those present.

#### **Opening Services.**

The opening services in connection with the mission were held on Sunday last. Mr. O’Donnell preached in the morning at Wesley Church (East Belt), when there was a very large congregation. It was a time of great power and blessing, and fifteen persons declared for full salvation. The evening service was held at the Durham street Church, when the spacious building was completely filled. The evangelist delivered a most powerful address, and in the afternoon, in response to the invitation given, thirty persons came out for full salvation, whilst three others decided for Christ. After the auspicious beginning, we “thank God and take courage.”

The secret of success in all such missions lies very largely in the spirit of prayer which is brought into exercise in relation thereto. Will our friends, North and South, continue their supplications on behalf of the Christchurch mission. "Keep hold of the ropes."

We understand that urgent private business necessitates Mr. O'Donnell visiting Melbourne. He expects to leave Dunedin on April 5<sup>th</sup>, and will then return to Port Chalmers to commence a mission there on April 25<sup>th</sup>, after which he will proceed northwards, taking Waimate and Ashburton *en route*.

Advocate. 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1897. page 437..

### **The Rev. D. O'Donnell's Mission. – Christchurch, Durham Street.**

This week has been a time of rare blessing, and our hearts have been gladdened, indeed. The Mission has increased in influence, the attendance being larger each evening, and not a service has passed without numbers going forward for pardon or the blessing of a clean heart.

One feature has been the number of young men who have decided for Christ. The service on Thursday evening, especially, when Mr. O'Donnell spoke on "The Young Ruler," was one not soon to be forgotten, and must have a permanent influence on many a life. At the close, twelve persons, mainly young men and women, sought the Saviour.

The afternoon Bible readings have been largely attended, and the missionary's teaching on the higher Christian life has been clear and powerful. Many have been convicted of the fact that they have been living below their privileges, and have claimed the "fullness of the Spirit." We are expecting great things for the closing days of the mission, for faith has been quickened, and prayer has a new meaning now to many a Christian believer.

### **(By telegraph – Christchurch, Monday.**

During last week in connection with the Mission, we have experienced times of glorious power and blessing. The attendance has been large, both at the afternoon Bible readings and also at the evening mission services. Fifty persons have claimed the "fullness of the Spirit," whilst thirty others have decided for Christ.

Yesterday we kept a high and holy day. The congregation in the morning was large, and the missionary's sermon was accompanied with the power and unction of the Holy One.

The afternoon service for young people was one long to be remembered by those present. A fine spiritual feeling pervaded the gathering, and the names of seventy young people were taken as having yielded their hearts to God.

In the evening the large church was crowded with an eager congregation. The whole service gave evidence of the Divine presence and power. During the after meeting, ten persons decided for God.

Advocate. 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 1897. page 444.

### **Cargill Road Quarterly Meeting.**

Thankfulness to God was also expressed for the gracious season of blessing that attended the labours of the Rev. D. O'Donnell amongst us. Membership was down by three, owing to removals, but 31 on trial, as the result of Rev. O'Donnell's mission.

Advocate. 17<sup>th</sup> April, 1897. page 470.

### **Christchurch. Durham Street Quarterly Meeting.**

Membership 578; on trial, 21; communicants, 28; catechumens, 91. Satisfaction was expressed about the O'Donnell mission, and he was invited back to conduct a mission at the East Belt church.

Advocate. 24th April, 1897. page 479. (strange page numbering.)

### **Rangiora Quarterly Meeting.**

Number of members reported – 290, being an increase of 15, owing chiefly to Mrs. Scott's mission.

Advocate. 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1897. Page 489.

### **The Rev. D. O'Donnell's Mission – Port Chalmers.**

For more than twelve months this evangelist's mission has been anticipated. Several disappointments have had to be borne, but these have lost their sting in the reality of the presence and the blessedness of the missionary's work amongst us.

From the outset of the negotiations it has been understood that both the Presbyterian and Congregational Churches would unite with us in this work. So it has been proved, for both these churches, led on by their esteemed ministers, Revs E.C. Tennant and D.K. Fisher, have greatly aided in the services.

United prayer meetings were held for more than a week prior to the mission in the three churches. These tended much to prepare the ground for the spiritual seed-sowing of the evangelist. They also pressed home the obligations to hearty and full consecration to God's service.

Mr. O'Donnell opened his mission in the Wesleyan Church on Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and had excellent congregations. His themes were proved a great blessing to many. The Holy Spirit, of whom much was said, revealed Himself in a special manner to not a few, who stood, as they re-consecrated themselves to their Lord and Master.

The meetings through the week, preceded each evening by hearty prayer meetings, have been held in the Foresters' Hall, as being a central and a much larger building than the church. Socials and dances have unfortunately been made to collide with the mission, preventing the attendance of many who might have been induced to attend. Still, beginning with a good gathering, each evening has seen an additional number, until on Friday evening when the special address was given to the young men and women – the hall was nearly filled.

Each evening the spiritual power attending the addresses has been very great. It was good to be there. This was very manifest on Thursday and Friday evenings, when upwards of fifty came forward or stood up for fullest consecration. Several were also led to believe and rejoice in the forgiveness of sins; while upon many the spirit of conviction was mightily working. We are looking full of faith to the remaining services of the Mission to yield a still greater harvest of saved and sanctified souls.

Bible readings of great clearness, discernment, application, and inspiration have been given in the afternoons in the Congregational Church. Our counsel to the brethren in the circuits yet to be visited in New Zealand is, "Whatever you may miss in connection with this mission, don't miss the Bible readings." Those on "Consecration," "Being kept," "Abiding in Him," "Pleasing God," to which it has been our privilege to listen, have all been manifestly prepared after much Scriptural study and devout fellowship with God. The mark of the Spirit is manifest all the way through. On Friday, after the meeting, the ministers, captain and Lieutenant of the Salvation Army, and a few others met Mr. O'Donnell in the home of Mr. Thomson, his kind host, and spent a half-night in waiting upon the Lord. To these in this midnight hour the services of the week were made to culminate in a most gracious season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

Sunday last proved itself a high day. The weather prevented a number from attending the morning service in the Wesleyan Church; still the attendance was good. The people had a royal time, as lessons were gleaned from "Christ Feeding the Multitude."

In the afternoon upwards of 500 children gathered in the Presbyterian Church, and were addressed with such power that at the close about 50 rose in response to the appeal, and gave themselves to God. These were afterwards specially addressed by the missionary, and received from him a neat covenant card to remind them of the stand they had taken, and the work they had to do.

The evening service was held in the Foresters' Hall at 7.45, and was preceded by a largely-attended prayer meeting. Mr. O'Donnell had the privilege of addressing a crowded hall upon "The Sin unto Death." It was a very solemn time. The presence of the Lord was felt. The appeals for decision and confession were very heart-searching and powerful. It seemed as though none could refrain from yielding. Yet, alas! many did. There were, however, over a dozen who came forward for full salvation and for pardon. These went away rejoicing through believing.

We have still two more mission services. At these we are looking forward for a great outpouring of God's saving and sanctifying spirit. For what has been wrought in the name of Jesus we give God the glory. In His name we "go forward" full of faith and hope.

Advocate, 15<sup>th</sup> May, 1897. page 504.

### **Rev. O'Donnell's Mission. – Port Chalmers.**

The closing meetings of the mission were marked with much holy fervour and some conversions.

On Tuesday evening upwards of thirty bore testimony to the blessing they had received during the mission. The hallowed feeling, the hearty testimony, the renewed expressions of fullest consecration were a fitting close to a series of services which have been much blessed of God to the conversion and sanctification of souls.

On Wednesday afternoon and evening a Christian Convention was held in the Presbyterian Church, when appropriate addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. Hewitson and E.C. Tennent (Presbyterian), D.K. Fisher (Congregationalist,) J.N. Buttle and T.N. Griffin (Wesleyan). The attendances were large, and the meetings a great help and inspiration.

Our most earnest prayer go with Mr. O'Donnell into his future missions. The churches here have been much blessed and strengthened by his Bible readings and services.

Our Church is greatly indebted to Mr. and Mrs. A. Thomson for their generous hospitality to Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell.

### **WAIMATE.**

The Rev. D. O'Donnell commenced an united mission here on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, in the Oddfellows' Hall. In the morning there was a large congregation present, and the address of the missionary was accompanied by great power. In the evening the Hall was crowded, and the service was rich in spiritual blessing and the manifestation of the Divine presence. During the day's services twenty-five persons came forward as seekers of the blessing of a clean heart, and three professed conversions.

Advocate. 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1897. page 519.

### **Rev. O'Donnell's Mission. – Waimate.**

The intensely cold weather lessened the attendance on Monday and Tuesday of last week; and while the missionary fearlessly declared the whole counsel of God, and pleaded most earnestly with souls to surrender to Christ, there were few that responded. The Lord's people left the building on Tuesday night "perplexed, but not in despair: cast down, but not destroyed." It was determined to give ourselves more to prayer.

On Wednesday night, while God's servant was preaching, praying souls were wrestling with God in the ante-room, and then came the power. "Glory be to God." A solemn awe fell upon the people; souls were melted, and about sixteen more came out for pardon and full salvation. A number strongly resisted, and left for their homes unpardoned and unhappy. Thursday night was a time of great blessing. The mission being the talk of the town, a much larger number came, and others wept their way to Calvary.

There is a growing interest in the Bible readings, and these have proved most troublesome to worldly-minded professors, but blessedly helpful to those who have surrendered all to Jesus. The Presbyterians, Primitive Methodists, and Salvation Army are heartily with us in the Mission, and the spirit of union is really delightful. Many of us have received the richest blessing given all along the course of our Christian life, and we would say to the brethren inviting the Missioner, "Expect great things from God."

Advocate. 29<sup>th</sup> May, 1897. page 530.

## **Mrs. Scott. 1898.**

NO more O'Donnell Reports appeared after the end of 1897.

### **The Retiring President's Address. (Rev. P.W. Fairclough.) Evangelism.**

The Rev. D. O'Donnell has continued to hold missions throughout the year, and has been the means of blessing to many. We need, however, some means of reaching our smaller churches and outskirts of our circuits. I think that a tent and van mission, combining the evangelist and colporteur might be employed with advantage in each Island. With suitable appliances and suitable agents, I am confident that support would be forthcoming.

Advocate. 5<sup>th</sup> March, 1898. page 934.

### **GENERAL RETURNS.**

The general returns showed the number of members to be 12,201, an increase for the year of 367. The number of attendants on public service was 63,687, ministers – 117, churches – 264, local preachers – 506, Sunday School teachers – 2336, scholars – 22,404. Advocate. Page 946.

### **Conversation on the Work of God.**

On Monday evening we had an open session in which a "Conversation on the Work of God" was taken. The first hour was devoted to addresses on Foreign Mission work. Rev. H. Bull spoke on China, Mr. Grayburn on Canada, Mr. G. Manchester gave an earnest application to the preceding addresses. So far so good. Then came the conversation, which was not very good. Rev. T.G. Brooke summarized the Connexional Returns, which showed a net increase in the membership of 349. Rev. W.J. Williams reported the work of an extensive evangelistic effort in Auckland. Mr. G. Tiller, of Wellington, dwelt on the advantage of Sunday school work, and other members of the Conference spoke briefly. But there was no grip of the work or idea given of what our church was doing. It came out casually, for instance, that for five years a lady had done excellent work as a Mission Sister in connection with Trinity Church, a fact that many outside of Dunedin were before ignorant of. One wanted more information such as Mr. Williams gave. May I make a suggestion? As the chances are ten to one that the President will not read these "Notes," and therefore will not know of my naughtiness in suggesting, I will do so. It is, that at the next Conference one representative from each District be arranged with to give a ten minutes' talk epitomizing the special features of the work done in his District during that year. We should then know what was being

done in our several circuits, and “joyful news” would make the hearts of the Conference more joyful.

Advocate. 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1898. page 948.

### **Testimonies of two of the Ordinands.**

Two of the candidates in relating their experience and call to the work, stated that they were led to decision for the Lord Jesus in services conducted by Mrs. Scott, of Sydenham. This was noted by both Synod and Conference, the former directing that a letter be sent that honoured evangelist, now resting in her old age, informing her of these “sons in the Gospel.” I have pleasure in calling attention to this fact. The results of Mrs. Scott’s good work are found all over the Colony. I make bold to predict that more than one who reads these lines will say, “I am among them.”

Advocate. 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1898. page 948.

### **Pahiatua. Quarterly Meeting.**

April 5. Probably J.S. Smalley minister.

**Revival.** Within the last three months, about 35 persons have decided for Christ. The Spirit of God is working in our midst. No special effort has been made, but in many parts of the circuit many under the influence of the preaching of the Word are seeking the light. May God still continue this good work, is our prayer.

Advocate. 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1898. page 1025.

## **1900 and 1901.**

**O’DONNELL** was back in NZ in 1899, and again in 1901.

### **AN ANNOUNCEMENT.**

To the Editor,

Sir, - Many of my New Zealand friends, both ministers and laymen, have asked me to visit your Colony again, with a view to conducting “Missions” in various centres. After much prayer, I feel led to begin the New Century in your beautiful country, and expect D.V., to arrive about the middle of January.

The principal object of my visit will be to organize “conventions” in the chief centres of population for the deepening of spiritual life; and, in doing this, I shall be thankful to receive the sympathetic co-operation of all our ministers. Such satisfactory arrangements that I am able to relieve the brethren of all financial obligations so far as these conventions are concerned. This due to the generosity of one of our best New Zealand laymen.

While I am in your midst I shall be prepared to conduct missions as opportunity may afford, and shall be glad if the circuits that wish me to help them will communicate to me at once. The terms will be as easy as they were last year.

Our many New Zealand friends will doubtless be pleased to know that during the past five months God has greatly blessed our labours in Tasmania and Sydney.

With Christian love to all,

Yours in Him,

D. O'Donnell.

Address – Surrey Hills, Melbourne.

Advocate. 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1900. page 222.

**MR. and MRS. ANDREW SCOTT.**

To the Editor,

Sir,- I beg to offer very hearty thanks through you for the ready and most liberal response to my note of December 1, 1900. From all parts of the Colony letters have been received containing gratifying reference to the valuable character of Mrs. Scott's evangelistic labours. And only has the response been liberal, but it has been marked by the expression of generous sentiments, and a genuine appreciation of services rendered for Christ and the Church. I referred to the harmonious numerical correspondence furnished by fifty years of marriage life and fifty stations missioned. That correspondence has now received a happy completion by the presentation of fifty golden sovereigns, which the liberality of donors enables us to make. – I am, &c.,

Henry Bull.

Sydenham, Feb. 4, 1901.

Advocate. 16<sup>th</sup> February, 1901. page 310.