

the same, though in winter we have the largest attendance (even from 200 to 250 children); yet our Sunday-school compares well with the most flourishing in Paris, though our neighborhood is less populous and now under direct priestly influence. We have to deplore within a month three deaths among these our God's lambs. Some have been lulled to sleep in Jesus while hearing our beautiful songs, and all have hailed the Sunday-school hours as their most precious and sweetest of earth. O, how we need a school attached to our mission, and what a rich harvest would be had if we, like Mr. McAll and Co., had unlimited means. The new songs of our new Hymnal have been kept unsung until Madame Delaunay's return, when they will be sung with exultation. Yet the other tunes in which our people have been so well drilled by Madame D., are heartily sung, and as sweet echoes of her whom they learned to revere and to love. Candidates for baptism have never been so numerous, but all wish Madame D. present, and how they all long for her happy and speedy return. How great will be our people's ovation, and how startling to our outsiders, the performance at once of so many Christian baptisms! One of the secrets of our more prospering condition is that taking opportunity of the signs of the time around us we now more strenuously than ever preach the glorious gospel of the kingdom and the speedy return of our Lord—the first resurrection and the rapture of the then living saints, and the solemn answer to the great question by him to whom was committed the keys of the kingdom. So our God is remembering me, His old servant. He has answered my petition, that I be not left alone, and that in my weakness would show forth His strength, and would continue in my old age to grant me the freshness of youth, yea, to renew it like the eagle's to His praise. But, oh! what a harvest shall be when our disciples in America, and even from New Zealand and Australia, shall stretch out a strong heart and hand to aid us. In view of what the demonstrations are doing from America, Great Britain and Switzerland to aid Mr. McAll's movement in Paris and France, may our dear brethren and sisters, the Disciples of Christ, hear in their deeper hearts the Savior sweetly interrogating them, "Lovest thou me more than these?" I am waiting a

plan for a church to be built at once, on the cheapest, plainest, and yet to be in harmony with the prevailing taste among us. It will be, I am in hope, sent to the board to be submitted to our people at the General Convention, in Cincinnati. I may not live long enough to see it finished, but I am in hope to help and see it begun, and that my two little missionary boys will yet be baptized and preach within its walls. Our prayer is that, although our hearts long after the speedy return of Madame D., yet may she be kept long enough in your midst till her voice has rung in the hearts of our people over the sea. Assure her that everybody is faithful at his or her post, and that all vie who shall be the most faithful.

JULES DELAUNAY.

#### Letter From "Acquilla."

Bro. Floyd:

I have been watching with interest your course and sentiments advanced in our primitive plea since you took charge of the HERALD; and I am now fully satisfied you understand our plea and have the backbone to teach, and stand by your convictions, which many of our professors and preachers have not.

That there is strong and convincing evidence of unsoundness both in our pulpits and publications no man of thought and reading will deny, for our numerous controversies in our public prints is but ocular demonstrations of unsoundness some where; and while the contest is going on, it is important to have the right man at the helm.

You have hit that quasi infidel, Beecher, some hard licks, and, yet none too many or too fast, for no friend of apostolic Christianity should respect such renegades; and I believe it to be a crime against Christianity and good morals for Christians to attend and give their money to his *Harangues* against Christianity, and the sooner the seal of condemnation is placed on all such wolves in sheep's clothing the better for true Christianity. Your outspoken position on many now quite popular innovations are commendable, have the right ring and in harmony with the whole tenor of Revelation.

These innovations are but side issues that must be met and discussed in a proper spirit, in order that truth may prevail and error be rooted up and cut out; and while creed makers and innovationists

hunger and thirst after these things, yet all who plead for primitive Christianity must stand by the teachings of the pure word of God at all hazards, even if necessary to the extremity of withdrawal.

But while these things are being discussed, our editors and preachers should not forget that the "word" is the seed of the kingdom, and that Paul instructed Timothy to rightly divide the word of truth, giving to each their portion in due season. While it is necessary to teach the church its duty by precept and practice, yet our professors and preachers should never forget to give the world their portion of first principles; for that is the seed of the kingdom; and a neglect to sow the seed will result in a failure to reap. And over and above all, a failure to reap the right kind of fruit will cause the old enemy to sow tares among our wheat, and soon the tares will preponderate and then an apostate church will be the result.

If we sow organs, conventions, and missionary societies, and outside organisms and internimable Biblical criticisms instead of the kingdom we may expect as the inevitable result, strife and division.

While it may be right to sow these other seeds in proper proportion and right spirit, yet to always sow these seeds to the neglect of the more important seed of first principles is sure to land this reformation on the rack of division.

We are now beginning to see some of the fruits of our partial abandonment of our plea of first principles. No man need be deceived, for the elements of discord are at work in our midst; and what we want as a people is to meet the world, the flesh and the devil, as a unit and use the sword of the spirit with an earnest united will and quit our wranglings about matters and things that would not save a soul whether they be true or false.

Our preachers and editors should always keep first principle or seed of the kingdom before the people. Frequent sermons and well-written articles on doctrinal points, should be kept before the people so that when a man talks to his friend or a stranger sits in church and listens to our teachings he can at once get his bearings and know that he is in a church of Christ and not a sectarian denomination. At the rate of progress some of our most fashionable and popular churches are making in populariza-

tion, it would be very difficult indeed after a searching investigation to tell the difference between their preaching and practices and those of their sectarian neighbors. This should not be so. Let us wake up and put on the whole armor of God and "contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints."

Your Brother,

"ACQUILLA."

#### California Department.

CONDUCTED BY PROF. J. DURHAM.

All matter intended for this department should be addressed to Prof. J. Durham, College City, California.

#### California State Meeting.

There were sixty delegates enrolled, representing twenty-five different congregations, and twenty-eight preachers present during the meeting; some were present all the time, but other engagements kept some of us away part of the time. This was the largest attendance of preachers we ever had in the State, as far as I have been able to learn. The Macedonian cry of California had bounded over the Rockies, the great Mississippi valley heard our wails and many noble workmen have responded to the call. This gave us at our last State Meeting many new workers for our inviting fields. May the best of consequences crown their efforts; they will find it much harder work than in the older States. The push, bustle, and rush for gold and other treasures have so taken hold of the heart that people hardly stop long enough to hear the Word.

On Monday morning, at 9 o'clock, the real work of the convention began, church reports and plans for a more thorough State work.

The programme of each day's work was about as follows: Prayer meeting at 7, breakfast at 8, convention at 9, preaching at 11, Women's Home Missionary Society at 1 P. M., dinner at 2½, preaching at 3½, and preaching at 7 in the evening.

The State Evangelist entered into his work immediately on his arrival from Missouri in January, and has held meetings at Petaluma, Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Williams, Sycamore, Willows, Fulton, Red Bluff, and revisited some of these places. He spent 228 days in the field, preached 298 sermons, had 195 accessions, organized 2 churches, assisted in raising over five thousand dollars for building pur-