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SERMON VII.

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WOMAN'S WORK IN TIME OF WAR.

"SHE hath done what she could."—MARK xiv : 8.

AN enviable immortality is accorded to Mary of Bethany, not only in the world of glory, but here on the earth. Hers is an honored name; has been for nearly 2,000 years, and will be until the day of doom. A place is given her in the sacred record; and wherever the scriptures go, her name and her labor of love will be had in remembrance; "Verily I say unto you, whosoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she has done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her." So spake the Redeemer of men; and wonderfully, to the present time, has the prediction been fulfilled. While, of the gay and the great, the proud and the pampered, daughters of wealth and fashion, who were flattered and courted, admired and idolized, at Jerusalem and Damascus, at Antioch and Alexandria, at Corinth; at Ephesus and at Rome, the very names, with but rare exceptions, have utterly perished, the name of this humble and obscure maiden of the village of

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conversion of sinners would give them joy. It would seem a matter of doubt whether there are not some in the church who will feel but little sympathy with the hundred and forty and four thousand who will be gathered together at the marriage supper of the Lamb; and whether they will have any heart to add their cordial, Amen, to those ascriptions of praise which shall ascend to Him that sitteth on the throne.

7. Christians then should be making every possible exertion to persuade sinners to repent. If the repentance of a sinner is the pleasure of God and the pleasure of angels, it should surely be the delight of the Christian.

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THE FULTON STREET PRAYER-MEETING.

A perpetual stream of prayer and blessing seem to flow from this consecrated and memorable spot. The promises of God seem to be verified that he will hear and answer the prayers of his people in a wonderful manner. The interest in the Fulton Street prayer-meeting seems to continue with no marked abatement through all the seasons, from one year to another. A feeling seems widely to prevail that all requests for prayer sent up to this meeting will be answered. An unusual and increased number of such requests have come up lately. The leader of the meeting remarked: "The great numbers of requests for prayer, coming from all parts of the country and even from the army, are proofs of the greatly awakened interest in the Christian heart all the land over. I can sympathize with this request which asks for

prayer for the last of five sons, for I have had a brother converted who was the last of five sons; and this very morning, for the first time in all his life, I heard his voice in prayer—leading the family in our devotions. You may rest assured it was a melting time."

A young man, a mere youth, rises and says: "I have been converted in answer to prayer, and to-morrow I expect to sail to join the Southern army.

I am wedded to this place as the spot where God had mercy on my soul. Oh! how precious it is to me. I mean to speak for Jesus. I mean to be faithful. Something seems to tell me I shall never be in this meeting again. If never here again, I shall meet you in heaven. All is well with me. I have no will of my own. Pray for me."

A letter was read to the Fulton Street Prayer-Meeting, re-

questing prayer for a church where a work of divine grace is in progress, which commenced during the Week of Prayer. Several have been converted and more are seeking to know what they shall do to be saved. But the church is not in a state sufficiently awake. "Oh! pray for us," says the writer, "that we may be zealous, and that we may have more faith."

The Pastor of a church in Philadelphia sends his request to the praying ones in the Fulton-street meeting for their prayers for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church over which he is placed. A blessing from on high is the great burden of desire.

Another request comes from a town in Massachusetts, which says: "May I not ask you to pray for poor sinners in our place? We have not had a revival here for 34 years. Our church seems to be very much united. We have met and prayed very many times for a special blessing. There is an interest here, and several have been blessed with a new heart. Others are anxious about their salvation."

A Western church writes that a revival has begun, and has been going on since the Week of Prayer. Many have been converted. Sinners are awakened. The request is for prayer, for a wide-spread re-

val, and a general effusion of heavenly grace.

A man rose in the meeting and said he had a request to make:—It is prayer for himself that he may become a Christian, and for a son that he may be converted. "How can I expect," says the speaker, "that my son will be converted, when I set before him no Christian example?" A man in the back part of the room springs to his feet, and says: "Oh! do pray for me!" and then drops down into his place again. This seems to be all he can say.

A mere youth says: "We have established a meeting for boys and young men in Jersey City. We go into the streets, and into the Sabbath-schools, and invite the young into the meeting; and it is now very fully attended, and many are anxious. We have resolved to spend all this week in prayer. I thought I would come here and ask you to pray for us."

An army officer arose and said: "the general expectation is, that we are on the eve of a great revival of religion. God says, 'Bring all the tithes into the store-house, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, and see if I will not pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room to receive it.'"