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SATURDAY.

IN the evening meeting Daniel Abbott was criticised. He is an efficient worker with his hands, and has attained to a good deal of skill and proficiency in his department. He is naturally amiable, friendly and obliging. His faults in the past have been a reserved state of life, that was not open to the Community spirit, and a tendency to insubordination, particularly in social matters. He never seems to have opened his heart thoroughly to the Community in a way to be vitally organized into it. His spiritual life has been more or less dormant and negative. His social insubordination was particularly dwelt upon. It was thought he needed to be in earnest to put himself in the attitude of obedience, and take some one as his head. The general feeling was that he is improving. It was also thought that some of his bad experience during the past year had resulted from his being associated and *identified* in business with an outside workman. Mr. Hamilton made the following remarks:

“I agree with the remark that Daniel, where his deepest interests are concerned, is not positive, as he is in outward things, but seems to be waiting for something



to be done for him. He is waiting for God to do things for him that he should do for himself. Daniel is a very enterprising man in business; he has excellent judgment and is very observing. He may not be exactly what you call scientific, yet he is apt to examine closely into the causes of outward things pertaining to his business. Now he needs to have the same kind of enterprise in deeper, spiritual things. I think he has an insubordinate, reckless spirit in social matters. He has let the devil use him as a tool for working temptation in others, and has drifted along without manifesting much purpose to be edifying or conservative in his influence. He has caused me a good deal of anxiety in the past, but lately I have been feeling more hopeful and better towards him. I have been tempted to look forward to the approaching campaign in business with some dissatisfaction and unpleasantness when thinking of the department Daniel is connected with. In thinking of the spiritual state he was in, it seemed to me it would be quite unpleasant to be mixed up with him as much as I should have to be, if I gave as much attention to that department as I wished to do.

“ I have been feeling that his spirit has been changing; and I have an impression that the new, practical organization that we are coming into, is going to help such persons as Daniel. He has never been organized, but has remained independent. There has been no individual whom he has been disposed to obey. Mr. Thacker was his nominal chief; but he did not respect him, and was



irreverent at times. It is his special fault to lack respect for his superiors. He has inherited much of this tendency. Formerly that was Mr. Abbott's great fault—he was irreverent, discordant and unorganic. But on the other hand Daniel seems to have a genuine love of the truth, and this too he has inherited.

“I said I thought the new organization we are perfecting was going to help such persons as Daniel. For instance, I have felt that if Daniel would take hold and be subordinate to me and receptive to my spirit, that it would begin to work upon his spirit and moral character in a way to give him a new experience. His spirit has seemed softer and more receptive to me of late. And then I notice in him a disposition to fall in with Mr. Noyes's suggestions. He supports the administration.

“There is a profound depth of meaning in the old proverb. ‘The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.’ I realize its importance more and more. Irreverence, which is the root of disobedience, is the foundation of all evil; and reverence and fear of the Lord, is the foundation of all good. Fear of the Lord is the lowest form, but it is the *beginning* of wisdom; and there will not be any growth in wisdom that does not begin there—in the spirit that is careful to be obedient. In time this will carry a person on into the *love* of God, which casts out fear. I think Daniel needs to cultivate a nice taste, amounting to what is called fear of the Lord,



which will make him careful to see to it that he is in harmony with a spirit more refined and better than his."

A very interesting report from Wallingford, on Empirical and Scientific knowledge as applied to the resurrection, was read last evening, also a letter from Mr. Cragin respecting the silk-business and the silk-students.

Mrs. Thayer closed her school last evening for the season. It has been in operation since the beginning of winter.

Letters from Mr. Campbell report his arrival at McKillican's on the 4th inst., after a somewhat tedious drive in a cutter from Madoc.

To-day is a cool, brilliant March day. There is just enough snow on the ground to whiten it.—Some of the farm teams are busy drawing manure.—For several days past a company has been sawing wood: and now splitting and piling are going on.

A number of bag orders have been received this week but we have been unable to learn their amount.