

W.D. 1500

Helps for Young Christians.

No. 25.

In His Steps

or

“Following After.”

EVELYN G. GREENSLADE.

ONE PENNY.

1/- dozen, 7/6 per 100 post paid.

G. F. VALLANCE,

Publisher of Christian Literature,
GOODMAYES,

ESSEX.

"Helps for Young Christians."

Published Monthly.

When No. 1 of "Helps for Young Christians" was issued in 1924, we had no idea that this series of booklets would be so highly valued or that their circulation would be as large as it is to-day. Since that date 50,000 copies of "Things Written for Little Children in Christ" have been printed and circulated, besides 30 other titles. The total number of copies now issued well exceeds a quarter of a million. We give God our heartfelt thanks for all that He has done and take courage for the future. We can only say "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

Complete list of titles post free upon application to Publisher.

The following Manuscripts are now in hand and others are promised :—

When the King Returns in Glory	...	J H McCormick.
What Christ is to the Believer and what the Believer is to Christ	...	Ernest Barker.
Mortification : Or The Two Natures	...	Tom Baird, New York.
Earth-dwellers of the Apocalypse	...	W. W. Fereday.
Rivers of Living Water	...	J. T. Mawson.
Angels of God	...	H. P. Barker.
Peter and Andrew	...	Ernest Feasey.
The Tongues Movement and the Movement of the Tongue	...	Ernest Barker.
Laying Hold of God's Purpose in My Life	...	H. E. Marsom.
Removing Mountains	...	H. A. Ironside.
Fundamentals clearly Stated	...	G. F. Vallance.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

All Post Free.

1 copy per m'th, 1/6 per year.	25 copies per m'th 2/- per month.
2 copies " 2/6 "	50 " " 4/- "
3 " " 3/6 "	100 " " 7/6 "
6 " " 6/- "	Special Prices for larger quantities.
12 " " 12/- "	

Enter your Name as a regular Subscriber to-day. Use Order Form below.

ORDER FORM.

To G. F. VALLANCE,
Publisher of Christian Literature,
GOODMAYES, ESSEX.

Please enter my Name forCopies of "Helps for Young Christians" monthly,commencing with this month's issue, for which I enclose Postal Order Value.....

Signed.....

Address.....

Also send me complete List of Titles already published.

.....
.....

In His Steps

or

“Following After.”

CHAPTER I.

DISCIPLESHIP.

WHAT is discipleship? What does it mean to be a disciple?

It was in the early days of the church that “the disciples were called christians,” but in these later days there is much need that christians should come to be called disciples!

The word disciple simply means “one who learns.” Those of us who have accepted Christ as our Saviour are *His* disciples. Our great responsibility is now to learn of Him, and to follow Him, not a long way off, but as living near Him.

Is this possible in these modern days, when temptation is often so strong, when it is so hard to stand alone and be thought narrow-minded, puritanical and old-fashioned? It is possible when we have Christ as our Guide, and when the Holy Spirit is active within us. “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for their’s is the kingdom of heaven.” “Rejoice, and be exceeding glad . . . for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.” We cannot escape persecution if we stand and live for Him as true disciples.

Shall we talk for a few minutes on what discipleship involves? Our first act must be to surrender ourselves, spirit, soul and body, to Christ; to give our lives to Him, a definite act of surrender that puts Him, not ourselves and our own desires, first. (2 Corinthians viii. 5).

Taking the early disciples as examples, we find in their case a definite call to such a coming after Christ; followed by a decision of the will. This involved,

A fresh line of conduct

adopted in the life. We read: “ And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And He saith unto them, “ Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men, and they straightway left their nets and followed Him.” (Matt. iv. 18-20).

That is a beautiful example of obedience. They did not ask: “ Shall we have an easy time? Shall we be well paid? Will our future life be assured?” They *straightway* left their work and followed! It is encouraging, too, to see, that Christ’s chosen disciples were ordinary men who had to work for their living. He did not choose a band of rich or learned followers to be examples for the ages after, but men in humble walks of life. This shows us what use Christ can make of simple and humble souls, when their lives are fully yielded for His service.

If Christ were given the chief place in the lives of men and women to-day, strife, class-hatred, selfishness, greed and all the other hideous manifestations of sin in our midst would disappear before the purifying power of His indwelling.

Let it be noticed that Christ does not set before us some stupendous task requiring great talent

much money or social influence, when He asks us to become His disciples. The test of love to Him that He gives us, is within the ability of the poorest and the weakest. Everywhere around us are His sheep and lambs. All we have to do is to give what we can of our time, our strength, our affection and our service, to feed them.

It may be that we are so poor in spirit that we have only “the two small fishes and the barley bread,” but with His blessing the offering will be sufficient to feed thousands. He only asks us to respond willingly with what we have. Sometimes we do not respond at once; we may have to be asked three times as Peter was. But however many times the Lord asks us the question, the test is the same, “ Lovest thou Me ? ”

To be fruitful disciples we must spend time with our Lord. Christ asked His disciples to “ come apart and rest a while.” If it were necessary for the disciples in those far off days to withdraw from the world occasionally, how much more imperative is it for us, with the crowded, jarring conditions of modern times

“ Come ye yourselves apart ”
From ceaseless toiling in the noontide heat,
From wandering in rough, uneven ways,
From cares and sorrows of these restless days—
With aching hands and hearts, and weary feet,
“ Come ye yourselves apart.”

“ Come ye yourselves apart ”
To rest beneath the shadow of His love,
To hear the Master’s quiet word for thee,
To feel His gentle touch and almost see
The lovelight on the face that bends above ;
“ Come ye yourselves apart.”

It was not the multitude at large whom the Lord asked to “come apart.” The appeal was made to His own disciples. Sometimes it is not till we have laid down every one of our tools, just giving ourselves up entirely to God, that we realize how tired and worn out we are. We sometimes forget that God takes note of our physical weariness as well as of our spiritual deeds. Yet our Lord is the same to-day as when He said to that little group of tired disciples “Come ye yourselves apart and rest a while.” The great lack to-day is time for the highest things. We too often pack our time full, every minute of it, with things that are least worth while, scrambling for wealth, rushing after fame and notoriety, tearing about after pleasure. Yet none of these things can ever satisfy our souls. Every human being craves for soul-satisfaction, and this is God’s gift to us, through Christ.

It *costs* something to be a true disciple. All the most valuable things are dearly won. When Christ offered the rewards and enforced the duty of discipleship, He was careful to put in the injunction to

Count the cost.

If our discipleship has not cost us anything, then we cannot know what it means to be a true disciple. “Whosoever doth not bear his cross *cannot* be My disciple.”

Have we ever thought what it cost the Lord to give His life for us? Or have we heard the story so many times that we forget that it was for *us* His life-blood was given? Is He not worthy that we should give Him of our best, and that we should not wait till we are old, but now, while young, give Him our lives, our talents, ourselves, to be used for His glory and service?

While we are young, and life stretches out before us, we may wonder whether it is worth while to deny ourselves and bear the cross. But it *is* worth while. For in doing so we get such enrichment of our lives from God, and He gives an inward peace and happiness with which no earthly joy can for one moment be compared.

When Christ told us to hate our loved ones, we must not misunderstand His meaning. He meant that they must

Not occupy the principal place

in our affection. Christ must be first; all others must come after Him if we are to be His true disciples. Does this seem hard? Look how it is made up to us! In Luke xviii. we have one of our Lord's beautiful heart-to-heart talks with His disciples. Peter had said, “Lo, we have left *all* and followed Thee.” We remember how he had left his daily toil. Perhaps Satan was tempting him, trying to persuade him that he had made a mistake. Christ's beautiful answer must have set his heart at rest: “Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children for the kingdom of God's sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come, life everlasting.”

Discipleship involves CONSECRATION. What does this mean? The dictionary definition is “To dedicate, to offer ourselves to God, to be wholly His.” That is the cost of true discipleship. God will not compromise with us. He demands a whole heart. But He gives us a whole heaven. The service of Christ, yields a magnificent harvest of opportunities for usefulness and much joy of soul. A working disciple can never be wretched; he gathers his sheaves as he goes. We are always happy when we are

right with God, happy in doing right, and in the consciousness of our Master's approval. He will sustain us if we try to serve Him as true disciples. His grace is sufficient and there is heaven at the end of our journey.

Discipleship may mean PAIN;; but we so often find that the best part of a noble character is that which costs the most. How beautiful a trait, for example, is patience. But it is not often worn by those who walk on life's sunny side in silver slippers. It is the product of dark nights of adversity, of cross-bearing up the mount of suffering. But the trial of our faith worketh patience.

The bruised flower gives most fragrance,

and so, when we are bruised for Christ's sake, our life and light can shine more brightly, and our influence be stronger, because we *have* proved what His presence means as we go through the valley of shadow. *He* has been with us and that makes all the pain worth while.

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of My God.” It is the special privilege of those whose faith is strong, those who can look beyond the present with its seeming failures to the One Who cannot make a mistake, to be “pillars” in God's temple, the support and strength of others. The choice is before us all.

If Christ has the first place in our lives, the rest becomes easy. We are glad then to give rather than take, because we know it pleases Him. We find it no hardship to spend ourselves for others, because we are really spending ourselves for Him. The woman who is always giving, spending, sympathising and loving, for *His* sake, cannot help being attractive,

because those who see her will in time see beyond her, to the One she loves. And no greater honour, no greater joy can befall Christ's disciples than that they should be used by Him to reflect, even though it be but faintly and imperfectly, His image. There is only one way. We must first of all have our own lives possessed by a love that is greater than anything that earth can offer.

The glory of life

is to love, not to be loved ; to give, not to get ; to serve, not to be served ; to be a strong hand in the dark to another in the time of need ; to be a cup of strength to any soul in a crisis of weakness. This is to know the glory of life.

Our Lord particularly emphasized this great law of love to His disciples. “ A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another ; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.” (John xiii. 34, 35). Christ said, “ As I have loved you.” How does He love us ? With a love that exceeds every other love, infinite and divine. If we are true disciples we shall love our neighbour as ourselves. We can only make that possible by having Christ's own love kept alive within our hearts by His Spirit.

“ I had walked life's path with an easy tread,
And followed where pleasure and comfort led ;
And then it chanced in a quiet place
I met my Master face to face.

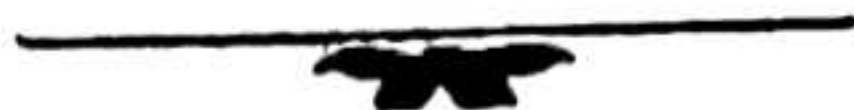
“ With station and rank and wealth for a goal,
Much thought for the body, but none for the
soul,
I had entered to win in life's mad race,
When I met my Master face to face.

“ I had built my castles and reared them high,
With their towers had pierced the blue of the
sky ;
I had sworn to rule with an iron mace,
When I met my Master face to face.

“ I met Him, and knew Him, and blushed to see
That His eyes full of sorrow were fixed on me ;
And I faltered and fell at His feet that day,
While my castles melted and faded away—

“ Melted and vanished, and in their place
I saw nought else but my Master's face ;
And I cried aloud, ‘ Oh ! make me meet
To follow the marks of Thy piercéd feet.’ ”

“ My thought is now for the souls of men
I have lost my life to find it again—
’Ere since one day in a quiet place,
I met my Master face to face.”



CHAPTER II.

INFLUENCE.

“ Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades ? ”
(Job xxxviii. 31).

Reading this passage recently set me thinking what power our own personal influence can have. We cannot bind it ; we cannot say where it shall end. Like a stone flung into the water, its circles widen and widen, and those circles cannot be bound !

Each one of us, young and old, casts a shadow as we pass along life's way, an indefinable something upon every other life on which it falls.

It goes with us wherever we go. It is something that pours out from our life ; like light from a lamp ; like heat from a flame, or the perfume of a flower, perhaps not seen, yet making us very conscious of its presence.

Can we bind the perfume ? What memories the scents of a flower can bring to us ! So it is with our influence. What heights our unconscious influence can help others to attain, and alas ! to what depths it may drag them !

Is our influence helping others heavenward. Has the love of Christ so touched and filled us that our hearts burn with a great love for the souls of our fellow men ? There are human lives everywhere around us wanting to see Jesus. We who are His disciples are in the world to represent Him ! Let us ask ourselves, “ Is He seen in us ? Felt in our influence ? ”

In His own Word He says : “ As the Father hath sent Me, even so send I you.”

We know the best and holiest christian life can be only the dimmest, faintest reproduction of the rich, full, blessed life of Christ. Yet it is in this way, through us His earthen vessels that He has ordained to save the world and to help lift up and build men.

“ To heal the broken-heart He came,
To free the captive from his chain ;
The blood He spilt when He was slain
Brings guilty sinners home to God.”

Perhaps in thinking of what God has done for the world, we are too apt to overlook the human agents and instruments, and to think of Him touching lives directly and immediately. But may it not be that ours is the hand that must be stretched out in love and laid in Christ's name on the life that is in danger. But before we can be in the place of Christ to sorrowing, suffering, and struggling ones, we must have the mind in us that was in Him. Having the love which can love even the most unlovely, that can help even the most unworthy because as St. Paul said : “ The love of Christ constraineth us.”

There are human lives everywhere around us full of glorious possibilities, and you and I must be the hand of Christ to these lustreless or stained lives, helping to lift from the depths of sin.

When Jesus was here on earth the crowds expected His *disciples* to know Him. When the Greeks came seeking Him, they went to Philip, saying : “ Sir, we would see Jesus.” Philip, instead of taking them to Jesus, at once went and told Andrew. Often, alas, we, His disciples, are so busy with every-day matters,

that the world cannot see Him, which is what they expect to see reflected in us.

To some, Christ is a mere creed and a pattern of life, but not a *personal* Friend. There are many who know well the “historic Christ” and think of His sweet life as but a vanished dream. But to have His influence imparted within us, He must be a Friend who comes into

the actual daily life,

who walks and communes with us, on our glad days as well as on our sad ones.

When we have seen Jesus and have His indwelling presence, our influence should be a joyous one, and the world needs joyous christians to-day. But we cannot gain the secret of true joy unless our lives are wholly dedicated to Him, and He has full control. The instrument of our life must be *yielded*, then the key-notes will be joy and peace, because we are His, and He is ours for ever.

Has He full possession of us, body, soul and spirit, or is there a shadow between ?

When we face the sun our shadow falls behind and there are no shadows between. So, when we yield ourselves wholly, and He is our *all*, others are affected by the God-given power within. In whatever circle we may move, that holy influence will be diffused.

Mr. Spurgeon once said : “ I would not give much for your religion unless it can be seen. Lamps do not talk ; but they do shine. A lighthouse sounds no drum, it beats no gong ; and yet far over the waters

its friendly light is seen by the mariner. Let the
main

sermon of your life

be illustrated by all your conduct, and it shall not fail to be illustrious.”

The conscious presence of God is only possible on three conditions.

Firstly, we must walk in the light as He is in the light; for He will have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, or turn aside to go with us on any crooked path of our own choosing.

Secondly, we must recognise that, though cleansed once for all by the blood of Christ from the *guilt* of our sin, we need continual cleansing from its *defilement*, and whenever we sin we must confess it to our God and Father. (1 John i. 9).

Thirdly, we must earnestly seek from God the gracious aid of His Holy Spirit to make real the presence of Christ in our lives.

“ We would see Jesus—this is all we’re needing,
Strength, joy, and willingness come with the
sight;
We would see Jesus, dying, risen, pleading;
Then welcome day! and farewell, mortal
night! ”

EVELYN G. GREENSLADE.



Two Excellent GOSPEL BOOKLETS.

**"Saved at a
Highland
Shieling"**

OR,

**"He'll Never
Go Back
on His Word."**

The Story of a con-
version in the far
North of Scotland.



**"A Faithful
Woman's
Prayer."**

OR,

**"Saved by
Grace,
Not Works."**

Story of a Roman
Catholic's Conver-
sion as a result of
definite Prayer.

Gospel Clearly Presented. :: Both of the above Booklets.
1/- Doz. Post Paid. ONE PENNY EACH. 6/- per 100 Cge Paid.
50/- per 1,000 Delivered to your door.



SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY.

(10,000 Copies in circulation within 3
Months of issue)

Most Christians appreciate "sug-
gestions" for helping them in their study of
the Scriptures and to have these from such
an able Bible Student as Mr Barker, makes
them invaluable. One who has proved
and tested suggestions which this booklet
contains can speak with authority. It
is a real help.

TWOPENCE Each, 2/- per Doz. 15/- per
100, Post Free.

MARCHING ORDERS.

Edited by H. P. BARKER AND P. T. SHOREY.

24 pp.—Wonderful Value.

Unique in its Style.

1½d. Nett.

A Magazine for Young Christians. Contains helpful articles monthly,
by the best writers of the day;

Contributions in hand from Ernest Barker, J. T. Mawson, Harold St.
John, W. W. Fereday, H. P. Barker, and many others.

If you have never seen this Magazine, write for a Sample Copy

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

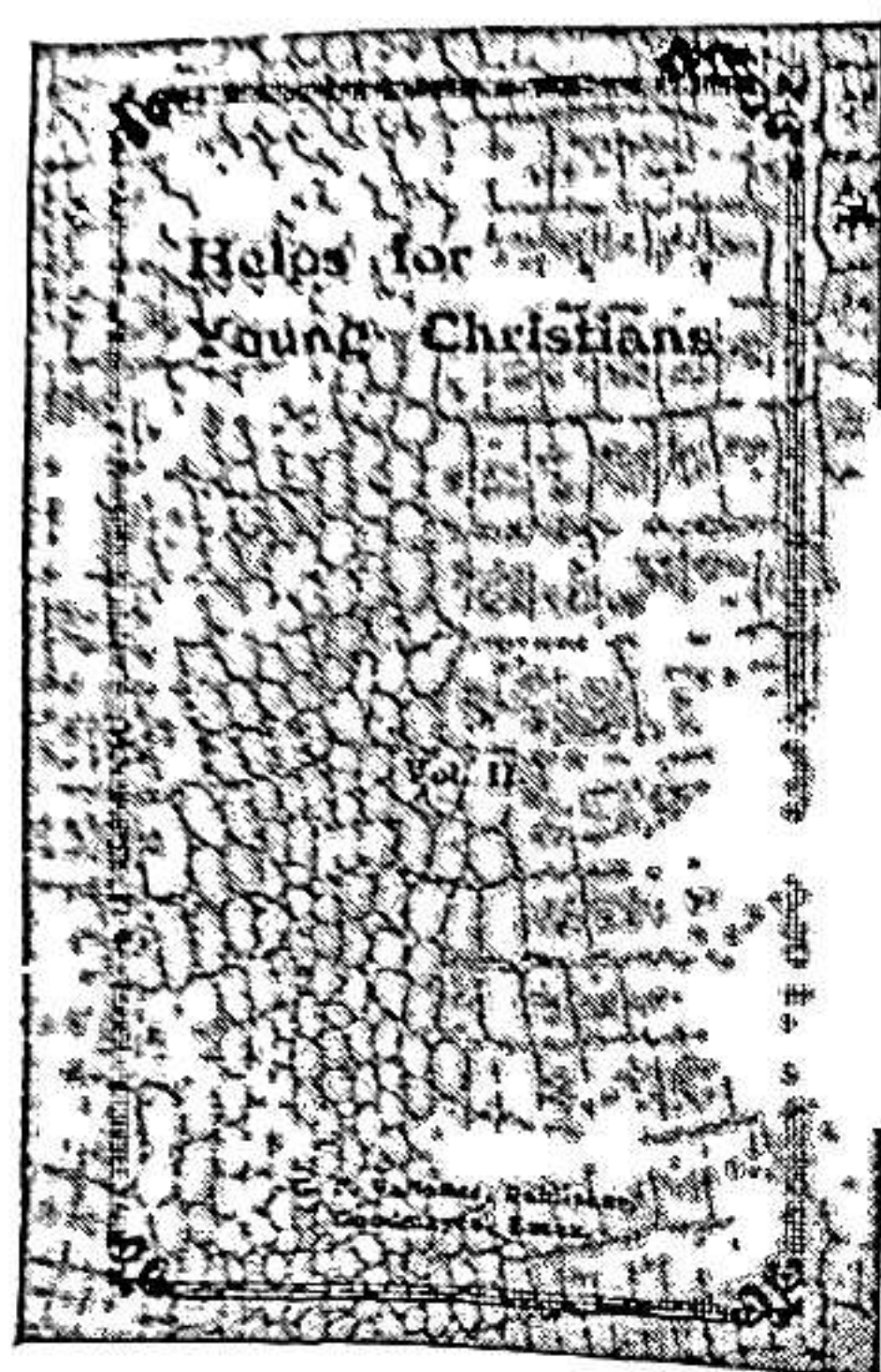
All Post Free.

1 Copy per month	2/-	6 Copies per month	10/-
2 Copies	3/6	12 "	19/6
3 "	5/6		

Special Rates for larger quantities.

GOSPEL TRACT LIST AND SAMPLES POST FREE UPON APPLICATION

HELPS FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS.



Bound Volumes of the early numbers of this Series of Booklets are now ready and selling fast.

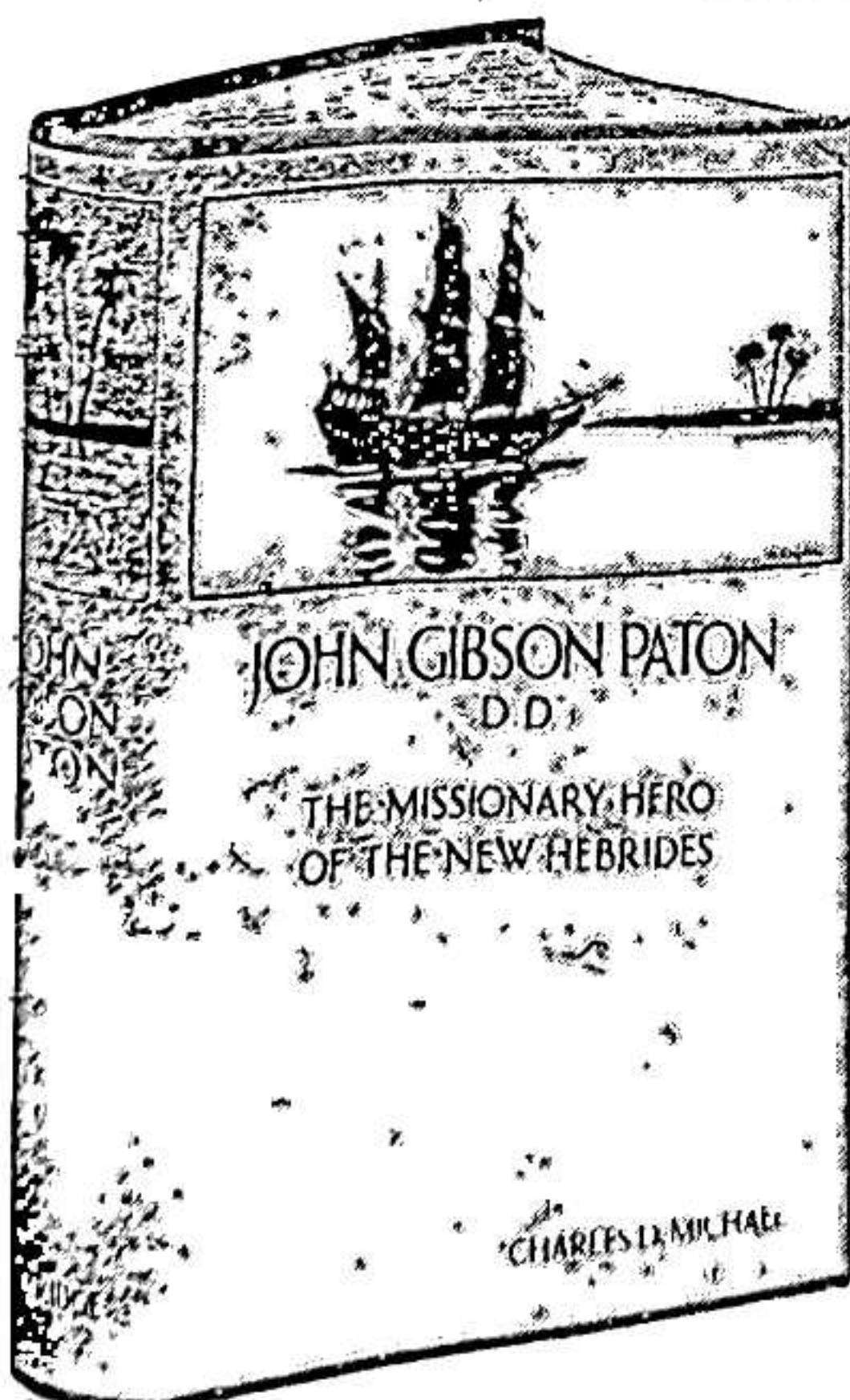
VOL. I.

Contents.
David on Mount Moriah.
Enoch.
Gideon.
Great Tribulation.
Jephthah.
Moses.
Noah.
Samson.

VOL. II.

Contents.
Bible and How to read it.
Wonderful Journeys in the Fields of Scripture.
Baptism.
Breaking of Bread.
Church of God.
Wheels within Wheels. Parts I&II.
Our Future and the Lord's Coming.
Satan's Opposition to Christ.

1/2 Post Paid. 1/- EACH.
The Two Volumes Post Paid for 2/3.
Complete Volume containing every number issued to date (24 Parts),
2/6 Nett. 2/10 Post Paid
Six for 15/- Post Paid.



MISSIONARY LIVES.

2/6 Volumes for 2/- each.

One each of the following Eight Volumes for 16/6, Carriage Paid.
Jno. Wesley. John Griffiths.
James Chalmers. G. A. Selwyn.
James Hannington. Wm. Carey.
Jno. Williams. S. Crowther.

Each of these Volumes are big bulk books and regular stock lines. We offer them in order to get these noble lives more widely circulated among our readers. They will all be disposed of in a very few weeks we are confident, so if you are **thinking** of taking advantage of this unique bargain **Write at once.**

Single Copies 2/6 Post Pd. 3 for 7/- Cge Paid. 9 for 18/6 Cge. Paid, 12 for 24/- Cge Paid.

VERSE CARDS FOR LETTERS.

1/- per Packet of
12, Post Free.

BOOKLETS FOR LETTERS.

1/- per Packet of
25, Post Free.

FOLDING VERSE CARDS FOR LETTERS.

1/9 per Doz. Post
Free.
Very Choice.

G. F. VALLANCE, Publisher of Christian Literature, Goodmayes, Essex.

26 MAR 27