

GOD'S WITNESSES TO DIVINE HEALING

No. 3.

MRS. S. A. KELLEY.

[The testimony which follows covers one of the most remarkable healings in our ministry. It was spoken at a Praise and Testimony Meeting held in the Union Square Hall, San Francisco, on June 9th, 1890, a few days previous to our departure from the Pacific Coast at the close of the first two years of our Mission in America. It was delivered in a most impressive manner and in exceedingly clear language. The opening invocation for divine inspiration was manifestly answered. It was most carefully reported by my stenographer, her brother, who had cared for her and her children in her widowhood and sickness, with noble devotion and tender patient love.

She visited Chicago during the World's Fair, and repeated her testimony from the platform of Zion Tabernacle. Her plump healthy looking appearance bore out her remarks as to her weight, about 160 pounds; and no one who heard her clear ringing words could doubt her statement that her lungs were in perfect condition and that every trace of her twenty-five years of heart and lung disease had entirely disappeared.

The circumstances of her restoration, possibly from death itself, are too clearly told in the narrative to comment here. She often communicates with us, and her brother, Mr. Geo. H. Hawes, 320 Sansome St., San Francisco, is still our correspondent and agent in that City. We send this testimony forth on its message of life and love. May it be used of God in every land and nation under heaven to hopeless sufferers such as she was until God used our hands and raised her up in response to the prayer of faith:]

INTRODUCING A STRANGE AND SOLEMN TESTIMONY.

Dr. Dowie said:

'I would like to ask a sister to testify, whose healing in some respects is one of the most solemn importance, and unlike any other in my experience. There are some points in connection with it that I scarcely dare to utter. Our sister shall have just what time she wants, because to night we are not going to look at the clock; we are going right on with the testimony meeting until we are done. People of the world can dance till morning and spin around upon their toes like animated tops all night long, and why

can't we spend a few hours in a meeting like this? I thank God, although constantly toiling on, we are not weary. After our sister has spoken, we have some more wonderful testimony. We have delegates from the country who have messages for us. These have come to attend the First Conference of the Divine Healing Association which will be held to-morrow.

"The lady to whose case I am referring is Mrs. S. A. Kelley, the sister of my stenographer, living at 314 Eddy St., San Francisco. Now, dear sister, speak as the Lord directs you."



MRS S.A KELLY, 314 Eddy Street, San Francisco, Cal.

Mrs. Kelley said: "May God inspire my testimony for Him, and give me language to express my gratitude for all the blessing, mercy, tenderness, and love that He has conferred upon me through His Son Jesus Christ.

Before I speak of the healing of my body, I want to emphasize my testimony by speaking of the blessing that has come to my spirit through the healing touch. I professed to love Christ and gave my heart to Him at the age of seventeen, although I was converted at the age of nine. But I can truly say, standing here before you to night, that *until my body was healed the Bible was to me a sealed book.*

The healing of my body is to me unspeakably blessed, but more than that to me is the blessing which has come to my spirit, because I have

been brought so near to my Lord. I have seen in Him such beauty, such love, such attraction, that I want to be like Him. And my great desire is, that this life which he has given to me shall all be given up to His service, in whatever capacity He may choose to call me to work.

INHERITED CONSUMPTION.

"I was born forty-seven years ago in Massachusetts among the Berkshire hills, at a place which was remarkable then, and has been since, for the mortality among the young people from consumption.

"My parents were Christians. In their families consumption was hereditary. I was not a strong child, yet I had no particular sickness until I was seventeen years of age.

"Then I had a slight hemorrhage of the lungs from violent exercise of the arms, followed by a cough, and it was said of me that I was going into a decline. But I returned to my studies, to the school where I had been attending for three and a half years, and went on for another year. Then I had serious trouble with the left

lung complicated with heart disease.

SUFFERED FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS.
ATTENDED BY 30 OR 40 DOCTORS.

"During the twenty-seven years which have elapsed since the first attack and my meeting with Brother and Sister Dowie, I have consulted between thirty and forty doctors, all of them excellent and some of them celebrated. These included some of the best, physicians of Boston, New York, San Francisco and Oakland. Dr. Henry I. Bowditch who was for years the great lung authority in Boston, said to me that the disease was *tubercular consumption*, and that he had never known such a case to survive *more than six months*.

"During all this time I have mentioned my case has been peculiar; I have always had symptoms of tubercular consumption, hectic fever, night sweats, cough, hemorrhages from the lungs, abscesses, and so on. But in my case, as very rarely occurs, these abscesses would heal. The left lung was first attacked, and then that healed for a time, and after a while the right lung was attacked, and so it went on; finally the bowels became involved with the same disease, that was further complicated by severe hemorrhages. About seventeen years ago that occurred.

SEEKING HEALTH BUT FINDING NONE.

"I came to California in the year 1866 and my husband took me to the mountains, where I greatly improved in health and strength, and was better than for years before; but on my return two years later to San Francisco the hemorrhages returned and it was only by going into the country in the summer that I have been enabled to live. I found a place in the Santa Clara mountains that agreed with me well, and I became better there; so much better that after a three months' stay I decided to take my two children and go east and let them see the land of my birth.

"Against the advice of my physicians I remained there through the winter and was attacked with pneumonia, and then the lung disease returned. As here the severe attacks would be followed by a measure of improvement; still I did not get as well there as here.

In the last five years my daughter gave her young life, leaving her studies and all that young people hold so dear, to nursing and caring for me.

"I was at last brought back here, taking eleven days for the journey, accompanied by a physician who had attended me for three years. He assured me that I could not survive three months there. When I arrived here I had to be carried into the house. Soon afterward I was able to go out upon the street a few times; but in February two years ago, the hemorrhages returned, and the bowel trouble seemed worse than the lung trouble, although I always felt pain in the lungs.

"On May 16, 1888, I had a very sudden shock from financial reverses that almost took my life. Up to that time I had been able to remain cheerful and hopeful, but not expecting to get well, believing as physicians

asserted, that I must finally die of consumption.

"I will say that while in the east (I was two winters in Bridgeport, Connecticut, near New York) a dear Christian brother on this Coast wrote me very urgently, asking why I could not take Christ as a Healer and leave the doctors. I believed in Christ as a Healer; I believed that He did heal others, but I could not feel, somehow, that mine was a case that could be healed in that way. I repeatedly went past Dr. Simpson's door in New York to visit and consult my physician, Dr. Burdick, who is now located in Oakland.

READS OF MR. AND MRS. DOWIE'S
ARRIVAL FROM AUSTRALIA.

After that terrible shock came to me my mind for the first time became well-nigh a wreck. In June, 1888, I picked up a daily paper which said among the city notes that the Rev. J. A. Dowie, the Faith Healer, with his wife, from Australia, arrived on the last steamer, and they were stopping at the Palace Hotel, and would hold Missions in this city.

I said at once to my daughter, 'Now, there is where healing is coming from; that is the instrument through which healing will come to me, and I must see him.'

"At that time I was not able to leave my room. I was not able to sleep and was in a terrible condition in every way. This dear brother of mine, George H. Hawes, who is now taking my testimony, could tell you of the nights that he spent by my bedside, and the dear daughter, she could testify also.

MAKES AN APPEAL.

I wrote to Brother Dowie. He answered me very kindly that he would be very glad if he could come, but he had so many applications as he was holding his Mission it would be impossible to come and that I should go to the Mission and he would see me there. But that was out of the question. About that time my brother became his stenographer, but Mr. Dowie did not know he was my brother for some time. Then I said, 'Now surely I shall have a hold upon him, and shall be able to get him to come to the house.' So every night after my brother had been working for Brother Dowie I said to him; 'Did you speak to Mr. Dowie about coming to see me?' He would reply, 'He had so much to do that I could not mention it.' And at every time would come back to my mind, 'Why trouble ye the Master?' But in my heart I said, 'But I must see him.'

"So it went on, and at last a promise was obtained that he and his wife would come before leaving the city, and on Sept. 14, which as you will see was three months after my first application, they came. All that time I was confined to my bed and was going down steadily. Brother Dowie laid hands on me and prayed; but before he did so he placed his ear on my chest and listened, and probably he could tell you better than I what he found there."

Mr. Dowie said: "I found a large hole in the lung."

Mrs. Kelley continued: "I may say that all the physicians who examined my case agreed in their

diagnosis with regard to the lungs; that it was a chronic disease and incurable. They differed somewhat in regard to the heart disease. They admitted there was some disease of the heart, but some called it one form and some another.

THE LUNG DISEASE INSTANTANEOUSLY HEALED.

“There had been for a long time pain in this right lung, and also a very severe and trying one in the left. But from the moment Brother Dowie prayed for me the pain ceased, and although I tried very hard to find the old spot, it was not there, and I have never been able to find it since, and my lungs have been perfectly well and sound.

“I did not become strong at once, but I felt that I was healed and my spirit was strengthened. I knew the lung disease was gone.

“But during the next three weeks I had the worst attack of dysentery and the most terrible hemorrhage I had ever experienced. Brother Dowie was holding his Mission at the Grand Opera House. On the night of October 26, 1881, I was very ill. My brother and daughter sat out the night watches with me. Friday I was a little better; Saturday I could retain nothing upon my stomach and was in the greatest agony. These dear ones sat by me all Saturday night. On Sunday morning my brother, who had always been courageous before and never had expressed any doubt of my recovery, said: ‘You can’t last long, this suffering will soon be ended, there will come an end.’

“I said: ‘Do you think that Brother and Sister Dowie would come and see me?’

“He answered: ‘I don’t know, I will see them. I believe if they can, they surely will.’

ANOTHER APPEAL TO GOD’S INSTRUMENTS.

He went to the Palace Hotel Sunday forenoon and came back with the glad news that they would come as soon after two o’clock as was possible. I was almost gone. I was holding on to Christ, yet I believed that it was right that I should send for them. I was looking forward to their coming with the greatest anxiety. Two o’clock came and they did not come. I wondered if someone had taken them away. About three o’clock they came. As they came up to my bedside

I REALIZED A TERRIBLE AGONY, LIKE DEATH, THEN I WAS GONE.

“What occurred in the interval I cannot tell, but the next thing I knew was hearing Brother Dowie say: ‘How do you feel?’ ”

WAS IT INDEED DEATH? A SOLEMN SCENE.

Mrs. Kelley then took her seat to allow Mr. Dowie to explain what had occurred during her unconsciousness.

Mr. Dowie said: “I did not intend to speak of this,

but I think it is well to do so. I entered the room and her brother and daughter retired in accordance with my custom, and I was alone with Mrs. Dowie in what seemed to be the room of the dying. She had faintly greeted me but did not lift up her head, but with her large eyes looked at me expressively, and said how glad she was that we had come. I turned to lock the door lest someone should open it without intention and we should be disturbed in prayer. Mrs. Dowie meanwhile approached her bed, and she touched her hand with a quick, gentle touch, and we both looked and *it seemed to us as if our sister were dead*. The jaw dropped and the eyes were fixed—they were not shut—they were fixed and glassy, just as if she were dead. I said: ‘My God and Father, it cannot be that Thou wilt let this dear one pass away; it cannot be that Thy Glory shall be marred; she has sought Thee for healing and we have come in Jesus’ name.’ I placed my hand upon her heart and could feel no flutter; I put my ear down close to see if I could detect any breath, but I could not; the pulse seemed gone and I thought for one brief moment, ‘She is gone.’ God knows best what had happened, I don’t. But I cried unto Him who is the Resurrection and the Life, and I placed my hand upon her body, especially upon her heart, and with my wife by my side we prayed and believed our prayer would be answered. Presently her eyes moved and then quickly the light and life returned to them.”

IT IS THE DEATH OF DISEASE.

Mrs. Kelley resumed: “Mr. Dowie said: ‘How do you feel?’ and that was the first I heard. I said, ‘I feel as though the hand of death was upon me.’ I shall never forget how these dear ones looked at me. I believe Mrs. Dowie was inspired by our dear Lord as she said, ‘It is the death of the disease.’ In my spirit there was a witness that it was so; that *it was the death of the disease*.

“They went away shortly after as their duties called them to the Opera House. In a little while a voice came to me saying, ‘Arise and walk.’ I rose and dressed myself partially, and although my brother was anxious to assist, I walked through a long hall from my bedroom to the parlor without assistance and sat down in my reclining chair about half set up.

“After a little the dinner bell rang and a voice came to me saying, ‘Arise and eat,’ and I was not to eat as I was reclining at that moment. So I had the chair put in a semi-upright position, and I ate just as anyone would, a fairly good dinner, although in the morning I was not able to bear a teaspoonful of water on my stomach.

“From that time I improved very slowly. I did not get strong enough to attend any of the meetings until in February when I went to one of the meetings of the San Francisco Branch of the Divine Healing Association, when Mr. Dowie was present, at the Central Presbyterian Tabernacle. On that day week we had the pleasure of receiving them and their children at our house, where they took lunch with us.

“I was suffering from sciatic pain which troubled

me a good deal when I moved about attending to my household duties. I mentioned it to Brother Dowie and he prayed with me, putting his hands upon my head, and the pain departed immediately and never has returned.

“I have received very great blessing from the teaching, and from attending the meetings of the Divine Healing Association. I have also been very much blessed in the teaching of this last Mission and it has been a very great privilege for me to attend, as I missed all the previous Mission.

“And now I am well. Where formerly I had to employ a cook and housekeeper and nurse, and from one to three or four physicians.

I am now, with the assistance of my daughter, cook and housekeeper; no nurse is needed and Christ Jesus, the very best Physician that ever was or ever can be, is my physician. My brother can tell you whether the house is well kept or not. I have a house of nine rooms and five in the family.

“I feel that I can say,

“Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise.”

“I bless the God for all He has done for me through these dear ones and shall never cease to pray that He will make them a blessing to those to whom they go; I know that He will go with them. They have the witness that was proved to them that believe, that the signs should follow them. I bless God for all that has been done through them, not only for myself, but for many many others here and elsewhere that I know of.”

Mr. Dowie said: “Praise God. I would like to have her brother, my good friend Mr. Hawes, my stenographer just add a word here.”

CONFIRMED BY HER BROTHER.

Mr. Hawes said: “It is customary with Mr. Dowie to ask relatives and friends to confirm the testimony of those who have been healed. Not only can I confirm what my sister has said, but the fact is *she has not told you half the story*; time would not permit her to do so. ‘She has passed through severe sufferings and sicknesses that she has not mentioned. When she was a young woman she came near dying from diphtheria; it reached that point when all suffering had ceased, and the room turned to darkness. In 1866, at the time when cholera raged in New York City, she was attacked and became greatly reduced. For twenty-five years she has been more or less an invalid, and aside from continuous constitutional troubles, there have been added many acute diseases, which time and again have threatened to take her life.

“For twenty-five years I have never known her to be so well as she has been the past year. She has been working hard from morning till night, at her home duties, visiting the sick, and attending a great many evening meetings, and has been out in all kinds of weather. When I contrast her present condition with the past, I really shrink from stating the facts, they seem so improbable and difficult to believe, and yet

they cannot be denied.

THE AGE CALLS FOR PROOFS—THEY ARE BEFORE YOU.

“This is the fourteenth Praise and Testimony Meeting conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Dowie that I have reported, and in every one there have been a number of these wonderful testimonies to healing.

“We live in an age that calls for proof, and if there are any present who are skeptical in regard to these things, let me say that *you have before you these great living facts.*”

