

**Transcription of extracts from the Journal of Rev. James Bottomley in the Isle of Man Circuit
For parts of the years 1841-2**

On Sunday, October 24th, 1841, we commenced a protracted meeting at Douglas, at seven o'clock in the morning; soon a man cried to God for mercy; we prayed with him, and he believed, and found salvation. At half-past nine o'clock we sang through the streets; and several exhortations were delivered by Brothers Jobling, Shipley, and myself. At eleven o'clock we proceeded to the chapel, where Bro. Jobling preached an effective sermon about the forgiveness of sins, which was followed by a prayer meeting, which continued till one o'clock. At half-past four o'clock, Brother Jobling spoke in the market-place, with great power, to a large congregation; then we sang through the streets to the chapel, where, after a short prayer meeting had been held, I preached from the words, "This man receiveth sinners." I had great liberty; the congregation, which was large, was attentive; and in the prayer meeting, held after the preaching service, many sinners sought the Lord, some of whom found him, to the joy of their souls: others left the chapel in deep distress.

On the 26th, I visited twenty-eight families, preached once, and led a class; and, thank God! "labour was rest," because the Lord was with me.

On the 31st, I attended a seven o'clock prayer-meeting in Douglas chapel, preached at eleven o'clock, with good liberty, led the preachers' class at two o'clock, and received three members on trial; renewed the tickets to the members of Brother Shipley's class, and added thereto five members. At five o'clock, a general muster of the society took place in the chapel, whence we proceeded to the streets, singing, praying, and exhorting as we moved. After having been engaged thus for about an hour, we returned to the chapel, which was soon crowded with the people. I spoke to them with great liberty, and, under the word, many were wounded deeply. A prayer meeting ensued, sinners cried for mercy in every part of the chapel, and as we sought to bind up the broken-hearted, we found fourteen souls who had received the balm of pardoning mercy, and were rejoicing in the Lord.

On January 25th, 1842, I joined the friends at Ramsey in singing through the streets, at about half-past five o'clock in the morning, and the Lord was with us indeed, to bless us. At twelve o'clock, we met in the chapel, which was but thinly attended. At half-past six o'clock in the evening, we sang through the streets again, and soon formed a procession which nearly filled the chapel, whither we repaired, after having processioned the streets for about half an hour. The power of God was mightily displayed, many sinners cried for mercy, seven of whom found peace with God, though others left the chapel sorrowing on account of their sins.

In the morning of the 27th, as well as at noon and at night, we held a public service, varied by singing, praying, and exhorting, in the chapel, and at the market-place, and in the streets. The night's service ended in the chapel, and one man, who had been notoriously wicked, knelt, as a humble suppliant, at the throne of mercy, and after a long and severe struggle, found deliverance to his soul.

Five other persons were also made partakers of the same blessing, who, with three others, were added to our society.

At half-past five o'clock in the morning of the 28th, we reprocessioned the streets, ending at the chapel, where two souls found redemption. At seven o'clock in the evening, street-processioning was resumed, and was followed by the holding of a meeting in the chapel, at which six souls were made happy in the Lord.

On March the 3rd, I visited sixty-three families, in the town of Douglas, and felt abundantly blessed while praying with them, and directing their attention to the great business of preparing for heaven. Family-visiting is a God-pleasing and soul-refreshing exercise!

On April 15th, Brother Hadfield and I attended Ballaugh protracted meeting, and seven souls professed to find the pardoning love of God.

On the 22nd, I visited twenty-four families, and attended a prayer meeting, at which three penitents found mercy.

On May 1st, I preached at Peel, where I found the work of the Lord going on well. After preaching, in the afternoon, I admitted, on trial, four members; and in a prayer meeting, held at night, many professed to receive the evidence of their acceptance with God, six of whom joined the society.

On the 2nd, I preached at Glen-May, to a dense congregation, the principal persons of which remained at the prayer meeting which followed, and which continued till one o'clock of the next morning. At this meeting a great number of mourners found peace with God; and though the meeting had been held for several hours, the people resumed it in a house not far from the chapel; and there it was continued four hours, when fresh converts were added to our former number.

On the 28th, being planned at Kerrow Moor and Ballaugh, I attended the seven o'clock prayer meeting at Kerrow Moor, and then went with a few of the friends up the mountain, to hold a prayer meeting at a farm-house, where five souls found saving grace. At two o'clock, I preached at Kerrow Moor, to a crowded congregation; then went to Ballaugh, where I preached at six o'clock, and attended a prayer meeting, at which three souls were brought to God. Glory be to his name!

On the 29th, being appointed for Kirk Micheal, I visited sixteen families, and prayed with them. At night, I preached to the people, and held a prayer meeting, and one man found peace with God.

On June 12th, I preached in Douglas; the Lord was with us during the whole of the day, and in the prayer meeting at night, five souls found the pearl of great price. Praise the Lord for his mercies to the children of men!

On the 16th, I preached at Portsmary with unusually good liberty, and received seven souls as seals to my ministry.

On the 17th, I visited thirty families at Colby, and was blessed in the work. Though somewhat fatigued, I preached at night, and held a prayer meeting with great ease; the power of the Lord rested on the assemblies; many souls found salvation at the prayer meeting, which continued till about two o'clock in the morning of the 18th.

Finally, on the 19th, I preached at Portsmary, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and at Colby, at six in the evening. The Lord was with us indeed. While preaching at the latter place, one soul found the Lord, and, in the prayer meeting, eight others were made happy in Jesus' love. May the Lord carry on his work, and save tens of thousands of perishing sinners.

Reference

Primitive Methodist Magazine 1843/182