

50 Articles of War

GEORGE SCOTT RAILTON

As was seen in the past chapter, without question, the Lord created George Scott Railton for the movement that would become known as "The Salvation Army." After voraciously searching for every article that he could access to read about William and Catherine Booth (everything which Railton did he was obsessively thorough in doing); we made the decision that he was ready to submit himself to the spiritual leadership of William and Catherine Booth.

"I was specially pleased to find the Mission under the leadership of one man, and that man in the vigor of his days, instead of the venerable being I had imagined. He is full of desire for all that is most heavenly yet talking about everything in the language of the street and the shop. He seemed the ideal leader...

Ever since 1868 I have been declaring my views of trading and have declared myself bound in duty and honor to enter the first door God should open up for me... Mr. Booth and I are so much one that I cannot separate myself from him and his work. He says that when I left him after my visit both he and Mrs. Booth felt they had lost one who had become a pleasure and a power to them. I hope the grand man is making no mistake." - GSR in Mildred Duff, Commissioner Railton, p.30f.

Without hesitation, he packed his bags and set off for Whitechapel Road in East London. Arriving at the Booth's home in October, 1872, he joined The Christian Mission and found his home - a home that wasn't built with brick and mortar set in a fixed location, but rather a home built on the foundations of "the glory of God and the salvation of the world." Here he would find shelter in the ideals of a movement that would in less than ten years be zipping to the four corners of the globe!

Immediately, George began to utilize his talents and passion in consecration to the Lord Jesus to help fuel the Christian Mission. He did so with a verocity and a determination that could best be described, as Catherine Booth would later call, "Aggressive Christianity".

Railton was a gifted writer, so the Booth's placed a pen (which was as mighty as a sword!) in the hands of this salvation warrior and from October, 1872 until June,



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1878; George Scott Railton would write in The Christian Mission Magazine, what we would call, "The Fifty Articles of War"!

Biographer, Bernard Watson, comments:

Railton was quite soon acting editor of The Christian Mission Magazine and, probably quite unconsciously, indoctrinating the missionaries with his ideas for the waging of Christian war... The pages of The Christian Mission Magazine became less sedate and it is chiefly Railton's voice which is the summons to that noise and extravagance that was to be part of Salvationism." Bernard Watson, Soldier Saint, 1970: p.27; 32

Within these fifty articles, lie some of the most seminal beliefs, values and practices which gave rise to the birth of "The Salvation Army" in June, 1878. From these fifty articles, we can see that George Scott Railton played a critical role in the formation of The Salvation Army along with Catherine and William Booth.

These five and a half years were definitive in the genesis of what we now call, "Salvationism". As the Booth's right-hand man; Railton deserves proper recognition as one of the "founding leaders" of Salvationism. Sadly, these articles have never been viewed by most Salvationists and believers in the past century. I would argue that these articles are VERY relevant in today's culture and should be standard reading by all Salvationists along with other key documents.

In the second part of this book, we will share these "50 Articles of War" in their entirety and give you an opportunity to read afresh the words of The Salvation Army's Soldier-Saint.

Here's the 50 articles that Railton published, which we will be exploring in this book:

- 1 December, 1872 — God's Fools
- 2 January 1873 — The Revolution
- 3 March 1873 — Prepare to Ram!
- 4 April 1873 — Going
- 5 May 1873 — About Faith
- 6 June 1873 — Self Help



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- 7 July 1873 — An Experience of the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- 8 August 1873 — The Secret of the Lord
- 9 September 1873 — About Holy War
- 10 October 1873 — About Holy Peace
- 11 November 1873 — On Open-Air Religion
- 12 December 1873 — About Culture
- 13 January 1874 — The Value of a Moment
- 14 March 1874 — The Power of Godliness
- 15 April 1874 — About Deserters
- 16 May 1874 — The Enemy
- 17 June 1874 — About Failures
- 18 July 1874 — About Sensationalism
- 19 August 1874 — About Singing
- 20 September 1874 — About Repentance
- 21 October 1874 — About Believing
- 22 January 1875 — About Beginning Again
- 23 February 1875 — About Quickness
- 24 April 1875 — Forward!
- 25 May 1875 — About Holding Fast
- 26 June 1875 — About Victory!
- 27 July 1875 — About Stock-Taking
- 28 August 1875 — About Liberty
- 29 September 1875 — About Equality
- 30 October 1875 — About Fraternity
- 31 December 1875 — About Retreating
- 32 January 1876 — On
- 33 April 1876 — Kings
- 34 May 1876 — Up!
- 35 June 1876 — Cheers!
- 36 August 1876 — Tears
- 37 September 1876 — Fears!
- 38 December 1876 — Death
- 39 February 1877 — Life
- 40 March 1877 — Christ-Life
- 41 May 1877 — Thorough
- 42 June 1877 — Concert
- 43 August 1877 — Holiness: An Address at the Conference



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- 44 September 1877 — Torpedoes
- 45 October 1877 — Reinforcements
- 46 December 1877 — Finish
- 47 March 1878 — Peace or War?
- 48 April 1878 — Terms of Peace
- 49 May 1878 — Rushing into War
- 50 June 1878 — Riots

May you be fueled with the spirit of Salvationism as you join us for this wild ride!

