Canadian Union Messenger

"As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger."

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"THE EVERLASTING COVENANT"

By Mrs. H. I. Morse-Farnum, Peterborough, Ontario.

Long, long ago when earth was young,
While yet its curse was light,
An old man lived and wrought among
Its hills and valleys bright.
In patriarchal form and strength,
Arose the government;
When lo, a "friend of God," at length,
Ruled in the Orient!

Earth's treasure graced his generous hand— Its silver and its gold, While flock and herd of pastoral land Were in his ample fold. 'Mid blandishments of wealth, of fame, Of care, of happiness, Grave things and minor bore the same Impress of faithfulness.

A century and fifty years

He walked with righteous Shem,
Who lived and talked with ancient seers,
Yea, eldest one of them;
Methuselah with Adam stood
While centuries lay in state,
But fell asleep before the flood,
When Shem was ninety-eight.

Thus Abrain knew of Paradise
And all its beauties rare;
He understood the mournful price
Of one dark purchase there.
The fearful wages, pain and death,
Could only come by sin;
But sin itself is but a myth
Until a law begin.

The Saviour's death for man attests
That Law was known in Eden;
Alike, in character, it rests
With changelessness of Heaven.
And Abram's faithfulness arose
From love and loyalty
To Him who shields and honors those
Who honor equity.

For God himself this witness bore;
"I will my servant bless,"
I am thy fortress evermore,
"Thy faith is righteousness.
Because my voice thou hast obeyed,
And kept my precious charge,"
No, never shalt thou be dismayed;
"I will thy name enlarge,"

"Come thou abroad, and one by one Tell all the glittering stars, Or number, in the shining sun, The sands of ocean bars; As countless as the stars of night Or sands of restless sea," (Delivered from the Spoiler's might) Thy childran shall be free.

"The families of all the world
A blessing find in thee,"
Because the Rebel's flag is furled
By thy Posterity.
"This goodly land, afar, anear,
Where'er thine eye shall fall,
My holy Word, I pledge it here,
That thou shalt own it all."

But Abraham a city sought
By walls of Jasper spanned;
And he, a pilgrim, dying bought
A tomb in Hebron's land.
Yet God's own lips assurance gave
That all this earth shall be
His sinless home, without a grave,
Through all eternity.

O, heir of earth, O child of sin,
Take heart! Though stranger thou,
Redeeming Love has "grafted in"
The "foreign olive-bough."
And now, the promises are thine,
The richest and the best;
No longer from afar they shine,—
We near that promis'd Rest.

If thou art Christ's, He is thy kin,
(The son of God and man)
And thou art heir, joint-heir with Him
In that unfathomed Plan,

These groves and bowers we love too well,

—This home of change and tears;
But only love and praises swell

The Everlasting years.

When Israel homeward hastes, with song,
From tomb and every strand,
They move no more, but flourish long
In their own verdant Land!
That City fair, from azure air,
Abode of endless bliss,
To earth descends, and glory blends
In the Metropolis!

The arches ring as angels sing
The purchase of the Lamb;
All gathering Home no more to roam
Sit down with Abraham,—
Frequent the City bright,
With Jesus crowned, upon His throne;
(His by creation's might—
His by redemption's right.)

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

RELIGION is "the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it." Ltberty is "the state of being exempt from the domination of others, or from restricting circumstances. In ethics and philosophy, the power in any rational agent to make his choice and decide his conduct for himself, spontaneously and voluntarily, in accordance with reason or motives."

Religious liberty, therefore, is man's exemption from the domination of others, or from restricting circumstances; man's freedom to make his choice and decide his conduct for himself, spontaneously or voluntarily; in his duty to his Creator, and in the manner of discharging that duty.

Since God has created man, in the nature of things the first of all relationships is that to God; and the first of all duties could be nothing but duty to God.

Now: Though that be the first of all possible relationships, and the first of all duties: though that relationship and duty be inherent in the very existence of intelligent creatures; yet even in that inherent relationship, and under that inherent obligation, God has created every intelligent creature free,—free to recognize that obligation or not, free to discharge that duty or not, just as he chooses. Accordingly it is written: "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Thus it is absolutely true that in religion—in the duty which we owe to our Creator and the manner of discharging it—God has created

man entirely exempt from the domination of others and from restricting circumstances: has made him free to make his choice and decide his conduct for himself, spontaneously and voluntarily. Thus religious liberty is the gift of God, inherent in the gift of rational existence itself.

A. T. JONES.

FROM THE FIELD

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONT.

On April 10 I left this city for St. Joseph Island, where I labored for three and a half weeks, selling one hundred and twenty-five dollars worth of our books and giving a number of Bible readings. Two men were convinced that the seventh day is the Sabbath, but did not see the importance of walking out upon the promises of God.

I was impressed to return to this city, and in two weeks I sold:

3	Home Ha	aud Bool	k (Lib.)	\$17.50
5	"		(Cloth)	22.50
3	Daniel an	d Revel	ation (I Lib., 2 Mor.)	7.50
3	Patriarchs	s and Pro	ophets (1 Lib., 2 Gilt)	8.50
13	Coming	King	(Gilt)	16.25
4	"	6.6	(Plain)	4.
Total value				\$76.25

I must say I have not been able to put in full time. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. We read that our Master was tired and sat down to rest. We may be sure that our path is not rougher than his was, so we may take courage and press onward.

I am praying that our young brethren will feel called to take up this work and help to finish it. Holy angels are waiting to co-operate with us in this work. The apostle says, "I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one."

I am praying that God will revive this work in Ontario. I have a deep interest in the canvassing work here, and yet I believe that the Lord is calling me to the regions beyond. My all is on the altar, and I can say with the prophet Isaiah, "Here am I; send me."

May the Lord help us to go forward and prepare the King's highway. Can we not say with Caleb and Joshua that it is a good land, and that we are well able to go up and possess it? There is only one thing that will keep us from possessing the land, and that is unbelief. Shall it not be said of us as it was of Abraham, that we believe God, and it is counted unto us for righteousness?

I hope this week to reach the one thousand dollar mark since camp-meeting. I have about three hundred dollars worth of books to deliver in June, and I ask the prayers of our people that I may have the blessing of the Lord in His work.

May the Lord help us to quit ourselves like men and be strong. May He help us to speak the right words at the right time and in the right place, as the three hundred Gideonites did, realizing that the battle is the Lord's.

H. D. CARR.

REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

A few lines regarding the General Conference session may be of interest to the readers of the MESSENGER at this time. Conference closed, according to appointment, May 30, and all returned to their fields of labor with new zeal and inspiration for service.

This was a missionary conference, nearly all the world being represented. The reports from all lands show a steady growth in the work, and the hand of Providence in it all. From first to last the meeting was characterized by the Spirit of the Master, and peace and harmony prevailed.

Some help was provided for the Canadian field, in the way of laborers, and more is forthcoming.

The missionaries from abroad will attend a few camp-meetings in the States before returning to their fields of labor. You all have the reports in the Review, so I need not mention them here.

The meeting was held in camp, and there were one hundred and twenty-five tents and two pavilions on the ground. It is estimated that a thousand people were in attendance. Many of them rented rooms near the camp.

A good impression was made on the people at \widetilde{Ta} koma Park, and many are favorably impressed with the message for this time.

The Canadian Union Conference committee held several meetings during the session. We have planned for earnest, faithful work this summer, and hope for much fruit. Let all take courage and move forward, and the Lord will bless every faithful effort.

W. H. THURSTON,

Many times I have wished that all the brethren and sisters in the Ontario Conference could be present with us at Takoma Park. This is one of the largest gatherings of commandment keepers since the days of the apostles.

Each day there has been at least one report from some quarter of the globe. Elder Hyett told us about Southern Africa with its millions of inhabit-

ants of various tongues. He recounted some of the Lord's workings in that part of the field, W. H. Wakehm called our minds to North-eastern Africa,-the very country where Moses and Aaron were born. This was the home of the Pharaohs. where God worked His ten wonders to deliver His people from Egypt. Elder Conradi had visited Central East Africa and Palestine He related many remarkable incidents in connection with the workings of the message in the land of Isreal. To this he added an account of the persecutions against our ministers who are imprisoned in Turkey. A committee appointed by this conference called upon the Turkish Minister in this city, and placed before him information which we hope may assist in liber-His accounts of the growth of the ating them. message in Continental Europe were most inspiring.

Elder Olson recounted the advancement of the developments in old England. Elder Shaw from India was present asking for men and means to take with him to that portion of the globe. From China and Japan came the most touching appeals for workers. South America, West Indies, and the Islands of the seas are stretching out their hands for our trained missionaries.

The earth is beginning to be lighted with this glorious message of the returning Lord.

The "surprise party" has occupied the Friday forenoons. The money for mission fields, and to complete the work in Washington, D. C., has rolled in by the thousands. To me this shows how God is moving upon those at home to arise and send the financial aid to finish this work. Truly God is calling this people to warn the world that the great day of God is rapidly approaching.

There is a willingness to send reinforcements to spread the message in the Canadian field. This is the time to arise and trim our lamps. "Behold the Bridegroom cometh." Who will go to meet him?

A. O. BURRILL.

By the time this article is read the greatest General Conference ever held by our people will be in the past. It has been a World's Missionary Conference. Up to this time the General Conference has been more local in character, but since the organization of the union conferences, much of the local work has been dropped by the General Conference, thus leaving that body free to consider matters pertaining to the field at large, and especially to foreign fields.

The reports which have been read from all these fields are exceedingly interesting. Indeed, the time which has usually been devoted to the preaching services hitherto, has been given up to the reading

THE

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of these reports, and as a result, a great missionary spirit has been awakened, especially among the young people. We trust that this spirit will spread among all the young people of our country, until they have heen thoroughly awakened, and aroused to the importance of missionary work, and will not rest satisfied until they have entered the missionary field.

Steps will be taken to extend the work in our great Canadian field, and with the help of those who will come to take up the work in that field, united with the efforts of those at home, we trust that there will be a great ingathering of souls when the harvest shall come.

E. I.

"LIFE AND HEALTH"

FOR June has just reached our table. It is full of interesting and practical articles. Among the headings are the following: "The Growth of the Sanitarium Idea;" "Healthful Dress for Children," by Mrs. E. G. White; "What the Chinese Eat and How They Prepare It," by the late Maude Miller, missionary to China; "The Spare Bed;" "Improve Society By Improving the Individual;" etc. The two departments, "Household Hints" and "The Question Corner," are alone worth the subscription price for a year. Twenty-five cents for six months, fifty cents for one year. Address Canadian Publishing Association, 167 Dundas Street, Toronto, Ont., or the Ontario Tract Society, 151 Hunter Street, West, Hamilton, Ont.

OFFICE NOTES

We are glad to receive payment of School Fund pledges from a few individuals recently.

We expect to be back to Hamilton by the time this issue of the paper reaches you.

Brother John McEachern will go to Bruce county n the interest of the canvassing work. He will locate at Wiarton.

Two new tracts of the Religious Liberty Series are now in stock and ready for distribution. One is entitled "An Appeal to the Christian People of Canada," and the other "An Appeal to Parliament." Another of the series is now on the press.

Next Sunday, June 4, at 3. 30 P. M., the Hamilton church will hold a meeting in the Y. M. C. A. Hall. Elder Leland of the Academy will be the speaker. An effort will be made to teach the truth relative to the law from the same platform that so much error relative to the law has been taught from during the last winter.

LORNEDALE ACADEMY NOTES

The corn on the farm is beginning to come up.

We were favored by a visit from Mrs. Hickok, grandmother to Ora Hickok, one of our students.

We expect that Elder Leland and wife will be back to take up their duties before this reaches you.

It is commonly reported that the heavy frost last week did considerable injury to early fruit. It is not apparent here.

Miss Victoria Robinson who has been a student here for nearly two years intends going home this week.

The poem, "The Everlasting Covenant," which appears on the first page of this issue was received last winter just after the editor's series of articles on the same subject was concluded; but owing to lack of space we were unable to publish it until now.

The students of the Academy take great pleasure in printing and mailing the MESSENGER. Up to Monday, it looked as though we were going to have to make brick without straw, not a word of copy having arrived before that time.

[&]quot;I think the first virtue is to restrain the tongue."

—Cato

"All great virtues bear the impress of self-denial."—Channing.