

THE Welcome Visitor

"Surely I Come Quickly. Even So, Come, Lord Jesus."

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THE OHIO CONFERENCE.

HOW DEAR TO MY HEART.

How dear to my heart is the sweet name of Jesus,
It fills me with longing, his face to behold:
To see him who died to redeem me from bondage,
Who called me in tenderness back to his fold.
His name, O how peaceful, it satisfies ever,
In sorrow and trials, when pressed by the foe;
The Lion of Judah, my Rook, and Defender
Wherever he leads me I safely can go.
His truth is a buckler, his words falseth never,
He's yesterday, now, and forever the same.
His spirit now sanctifies, cleanses and keeps me;
O help me his wonderful love to proclaim.
And soon he is coming to take me to glory,
To mansions of beauty, and streets of pure gold;
Where life-giving waters are sparkling forever,
But half of this story has never been told.
~~How joyful his people when trials are ended,~~
For Jesus is coming to claim them his own.
He's coming with thousands of angels attending;
His glorious appearing to all will be known.
The righteous then living, he'll change in a moment,
The saints that now slumber, he'll call from their graves:
Together they sing while to heaven ascending,
They tell all creation his power to save.
HENRY DE FLUITER.

NO TIME TO COMPROMISE.

Give the Trumpet a Certain Sound.

WE are pressing on to final conflict, and this is no time to compromise; it is no time to hide your colors. When the battle rages sore, let no one turn traitor. It is no time to lay down or conceal our weapons, and give Satan the advantage in the warfare; but unless you watch, and keep your garments unspotted from the world, you will not stand true to your Captain. It is no time for watchmen to slumber on the walls of Zion. Let them be wide awake. Call to your fellow watchmen, crying, "The morning cometh, and also the night." It is no time now to relax our efforts, to become tame and spiritless; no time to hide our light under a bushel, to speak smooth things, to prophesy deceit. Every power is to be employed for God. You are to maintain your allegiance, bearing testimony for God

and for truth. Be not turned aside by any suggestion the world can make. We cannot afford to compromise. There is a living issue before us, of vital importance to the remnant people of God, to the very close of this earth's history; for eternal interests are involved. *On the very eve of the crisis, it is no time to be found with an evil heart of unbelief, departing from the living God.*

The original apostasy began in disbelief and denial of the truth; but if we would triumph, we must fix the eye of faith steadfastly upon Jesus, the Captain of our salvation. We are to follow the example of Christ, and in all that Jesus did on earth, he had an eye single to the glory of God. He says, "As the Father gave me commandment, even so do I." Divinity and humanity were united in Christ, that he might reveal to us God's purpose, and bring man into close union with himself. This union will enable us to overcome the enemy; for through faith in Christ we shall have divine power.

Watchmen on the walls of Zion are to be vigilant, and sleep not day nor night. But if they have not received the message from the lips of Christ, their trumpets will give an uncertain sound. Brethren, God calls upon you, both ministers and laymen, to listen to his voice speaking to you in his word. Let his truth be received into the heart, that you may be spiritualized by its living, sanctifying power. Then let the distinct message for this time be sent from watchman to watchman on the walls of Zion.

Why Are the Churches So Indolent?

As agents for Jesus Christ, men are to be laborers together with God. Why then are so many acting as did Meroz, doing nothing, while those sitting in darkness receive no light, no help from those who claim to be the children of God? How much do such idlers resemble the angel who is represented as flying in the midst of heaven proclaiming the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus? Christ is saying to these idlers in the market place, "Go work to-day in my vineyard." Angels who minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation,

are saying to every true saint, there is work for you to do. "Go, stand and speak . . . to the people the words of life." If those addressed would obey this injunction, the Lord would prepare the way before them, putting them in possession of means whereby they could go.

Why are the churches so indolent? Why have they no burden for the souls for whom Christ died? and how does heaven regard their inefficiency? The angels are constantly earnest and active, seeking to bring every child of God to work in the vineyard of the Lord. Oh, how they rejoiced when they saw that through the work of Christ the world was brought back into favor and position with God, and again connected with heaven, to be benefited with all the treasures of light and knowledge emanating therefrom; and they sorrow when they see that those for whom so much has been done have no interest to win souls for Christ.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

"The evangelist who engages in canvassing work is performing a service fully as important as that of preaching before a congregation."

SPREADING THE GOSPEL.

CANVASSING as a means of spreading the gospel is one of the ways in which all can help in carrying the truth to the world. Through the printed page the truth can be carried to the firesides of hundreds of homes that can not be reached by the living preacher. The sermons that our books contain do not require a tent or a church in which to be delivered, but can reach every member of a family in their own homes; further, many times they will be read when other literature that does not contain vital truths would be perused to no profit.

It is a preliminary work that prepares the way for the living preacher, and after he has given a series of meetings and has gone to other fields, it helps to bind off and complete the work.

Books and tracts are something that can not be argued with, but they tell the truth in a convincing way that never changes, while the truths presented from the pulpit may be partially

forgotten, or some teacher of error may confuse the inquiring mind. After God's servants have been silenced by the champions of error, the printed page will still speak in unchangeable tones to honest ones.

Our small books are doing a good work for the children by giving them truth free from error, and they are sold in many homes where, if they were not offered for sale, some fairy tale or book of adventure would be purchased for the children.

W. E. BIDWELL.

IN FORMER DAYS.

Tent Efforts.

IN the early part of our work, religious meetings were held largely in private houses. This was characteristic of the work in my early experience. Afterwards schoolhouses were extensively utilized for meetings, and the free use of schoolhouses ever since for religious meetings has certainly been a great benefit to the cause of Christianity in this country.

During the proclamation of the First Angel's Message, the churches were willingly and freely opened for the preaching of the Advent doctrine. This was a means of greatly augmenting the membership of the churches. This was true up to the first passing of the time at the close of the year 1843. At that time the churches rejected the Advent doctrine and barred it from their houses of worship. This led to the proclamation of the Second Angel's Message, in 1844, and the withdrawing of 50,000 Advent believers from the fallen churches. Since that time the churches have never looked with favor on the preaching of the Advent message, and their churches remain barred to it only in some exceptional cases.

Finally the need of a portable structure in which to hold meetings began to be felt, and the cloth tent presented itself as most available for that purpose. So tents began to be purchased and used; but they cost more forty years ago than now, for the tent industry was not what it is now. Much of our aggressive work was, and is done with tents, and our convocations are mostly held in them. Of course they are not available in this country in cold weather, but in some countries they can be used the year round. A portable structure of wood has been used to some extent, which has advantages over the canvass tent. In many instances halls are rented in which to carry on our work, and so in any and every way that can be devised the work is being pushed everywhere.

D. HILDRETH.

MISSIONARY.

\$50,000 for Missions.

"This silent preacher, the 'Signs,' enriched with precious matter, should go forth on the wings of prayer, mingled with faith, that it may do its appointed work in shedding the light of truth upon those who are in the darkness of error."

THREE WAYS OF DOING.

WE feel confident that every Seventh-day Adventist will want to take an active part in helping to circulate the "Capital and Labor" number of the *Signs of the Times*. We wish to call attention to three ways in which this may be done.

First.—By taking a certain number and selling them on the street, or from house to house. For those who can spare the time, this is the better way, for it brings us face to face and in personal touch with the people. If necessary, this work can be done in the evening after the regular day's labor, and without expense. Indeed it may be made a source of income, as twenty-five papers cost only 75 cents and can be sold for \$1.25.

The statistics which this number contains are worth the price of the paper, to say nothing of the general articles and striking illustrations. The paper will sell at sight.

Second.—Those who cannot take the time, or for other reasons cannot engage in selling the paper from house to house, can take a club of from five to one hundred or more, and mail them to their friends or a select list of names. Ministers, school teachers, and professional men should certainly have a copy of this paper. Perhaps some will feel a burden to send to such. The price to you is only three cents per copy in lots of twenty-five and upwards—a very inexpensive way in which to do missionary work.

Third.—Possibly there may be some who do not have the time to even attend to remailing the papers. Such can send a list of names to the office of publication and have the papers sent direct to the individuals.

The retail price of this special number will be 5 cents per copy.

Five to twenty copies, at 4 cents each.
Twenty-five or more copies to one address, 3 cents.

Single copies will be mailed direct from the office of publication to lists of names furnished, at the following rates:—

1 to 20 copies.....	5 cents
25 to 99 copies.....	4 cents
100 or more copies.....	3½ cents

This price includes addressing, wrapping and postage.

Orders should be sent in at once. Address your State Tract Society, or *Signs of the Times*, Oakland, Cal.

C. H. JONES.

"NEW GODS THAT CAME NEWLY UP."

IN the thirty-second chapter of Deuteronomy and the seventeenth verse it is written concerning the children of Israel: "They sacrificed unto devils, not to God: to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up."

Satan's principles are ever the same, and in all of this there are lessons for the Christian to-day. We are not tempted to bow down to idols of wood and stone. Our adversary knows that an attempt to get us to do this would be useless. Nevertheless, the principle involved in "new gods that came newly up" still lives and works. Have you ever noticed that you will go along for maybe months or years without some article of dress or comfort or pleasure, and then suddenly you are seized with a desire to possess it? This to you is a new god "that came newly up." It is not, to be sure, a graven image of stone, but you have sacrificed your God-given means at its altar, as verily as does the benighted savage sacrifice to his new god. The money which is needed in the work of God has been prostituted to another purpose.

Of those who expended their money on "new gods" in days of old—God says—"They sacrificed to devils." And when Christians now use the wealth of which God has made them stewards with which to satisfy some imaginary want they sacrifice to the Evil One. The pleasure which they hoped to derive from their "new god" either is not realized at all, or it soon fades away. The "new god" quickly becomes an old one. Satan then brings up something else to take its place. It matters little to him if he can only keep our minds engrossed on the pomps and vanities of this wicked world and the sinful lusts of the flesh. Be it land, house, carriage, furniture or dress, it is nothing to him so long as the money is kept from investment in the Gospel Message for the salvation of souls.

In the *Review and Herald* of Dec. 3, 1903, was an article from Sister White on the Battle Creek College Debt and the Missionary Acre Fund. There are people—aged brethren and sisters—who are waiting for the money owing them by the Battle Creek College. Some are in deep distress for need of it. They have loyally supported the cause, and now that old age and infirmities have overtaken them, they

need the money which they loaned this institution in order that they may be able to live.

Are there not many who will take the means which they had intended to sacrifice to some "new god" and dedicate it to the Missionary Acre Fund that these who are bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh in the Third Angel's Message shall not be left to suffer? All contributions to the Missionary Acre Fund should be sent to undersigned at Berrien Springs, Mich.
P. T. MAGAN.

THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.

International Publishing Association has purchased a two-story building in College View, Nebraska, with a good cellar underneath at a cost of \$900. There are six rooms on the second floor, which will provide ample room for editorial work. In the front of the first story will be located the manager's office, and immediately back of that, the stock room. Attached to the rear of the main building is a one-story building in which will be placed the two printing presses.

It is designed to build a one-story addition on the west side of the main building, about fourteen feet in width, which will be used as a composing room. There will also be provided a small building in which to place the engine, and a well to furnish water for the plant. It is to be hoped that the total cost of the property, including improvements, will not exceed \$1,800.

The reason why the board of trustees deemed it advisable to purchase rather than to build was in order to save expense, as at the present cost of material, in order to build a plant with sufficient space, it would require quite a sum of money, so they would have means invested in the plant which they desire to use in the circulation of literature.

It has been recommended by some, and the board of trustees deem it advisable, to purchase the stock of foreign publications at present owned by the Review & Herald Publishing Association, and thus make the International Publishing Association the foreign publishing house and distributing center of our foreign literature in America. They hope soon to be able to fill orders for books, tracts, and pamphlets in the German, Swedish, and Danish-Norwegian languages. I hope all who read this article will bear this in mind.

E. T. RUSSELL.

EDUCATIONAL.

WHEN I HAVE TIME.

When I have time, so many things I'll do
To make life happier and more fair
For those whose lives are crowded now with
care:
I'll help to lift them from their low despair,
When I have time.

When I have time, the friend I love so well
Shall know no more those weary, toiling days;
I'll lead her feet in pleasant paths always,
And cheer her heart with words of sweetest
praise.

When I have time.

When you have time! The friend you hold so
dear
May be beyond the reach of your intent;
May never know that you so kindly meant
To fill her life with sweet content,
When you had time.

Now is the time! Ah, friend! no longer wait
To scatter loving smiles and words of cheer
To those around whose lives are now so dear;
They may not meet you in the coming year.
Now is the time. -Sel.

"God looks upon the faithful, evangelistic canvasser
with as much approval as he looks upon the faithful
minister."

PROCRASTINATION.

THERE is hardly anything more destructive to effective work and high accomplishment than a habit of "putting off" disagreeable tasks. This postponing-of-the-disagreeable habit is also demoralizing to character. It produces superficial work and superficial living.

There is something lacking in the quality and solidity of character of a man who is always shirking disagreeable duties, sliding along the line of least resistance, and just trying to do those things which are agreeable and easy. It is struggling with difficulties, with boldness and determination, that gives stamina to character and backbone to life.

A man who has been accustomed from boyhood to plow straight furrows regardless of obstructions, who will not swerve a hair's breadth from his purpose, and who will not go around or over but through obstacles, has a solidity, a substantiality about him that is not found in a man who stops when he finds a hard place, and drifts along the line of least resistance. It is struggling with the difficult and wrestling with obstacles that give nerve and fiber and stamina to character.

A habit of always taking up the most disagreeable duties first, when possible, takes the drudgery out of a task and gives a delight to life which is never experienced by those who postpone distasteful or dreaded duties.

There is a sense of triumph which comes from the consciousness that you have mastered what discomposd you and was obnoxious to you, and that you have conquered what seemed difficult and have gotten it out of the way.

A man who shirks unpleasant duties and goes around obstacles has a sense of inferiority. He has a sort of contempt for himself, his cowardice, his shrinking nature, and his laziness. He does not respect himself so much as the man who sweeps everything before him, whether inviting or not.

There is a feeling of strength and a sense of power which comes to a man who has conquered the enemies in his pathway and the obstacles that lay between him and his goal. A man who always tries to avoid the disagreeable and shirks obstacles is a weakling. He ruins his executive capacity and is not capable of grappling with difficulties.

There is every thing in making up one's mind resolutely to turn neither to the right nor to the left of an unwavering aim. It gives direction, purpose, and vigor to life which never come to a man who drifts with the current.

A strong man never hesitates or wavers when he comes to a hard place, but is all the more resolute to conquer, and this very determination not to shirk or to turn aside because of difficulties half conquers them. Dreading or postponing them engenders fear and destroys self-confidence, without which no great thing can be accomplished.

If procrastination runs in your blood, and if you have come down from an indolent ancestry, you will be obliged to discipline yourself severely to overcome the "putting-off" habit, for every disagreeable task that confronts you will tempt you to postpone it. All sorts of excuses will present themselves to you, and the only way to overcome this fatal tendency is to compel yourself to begin at once the thing you dread. Do not allow the argument which, perhaps, speaks in your blood to comfort you.

Listen to nothing, but begin the work instantly, and you will soon conquer this unfortunate weakness which is fatal to all achievement, and death to any effective endeavor. Force yourself to begin immediately the task at hand.

Procrastination is the greatest enemy of achievement. Nothing is more delusive than delay. The man who thinks he is going to do the delayed thing later, especially if it is a disagreeable task, will probably never do it.

People who hesitate, delay, dilly-dally, weigh, consider, and dread a task, seldom amount to anything.

A habit of delay is destructive to energy, which does things. More boys fail to get on in the world from this fatal habit of "putting off" than from anything else. It induces laziness and mental inaction, and destroys self-trust.

If this fatal tendency runs in your blood, the moment you feel a temptation to postpone a task come over you, jump up on the instant and go at your work with all your might. Take up the most obnoxious thing you have to do and never allow your habit to suggest another postponement.

"Putting off" is a dangerous enemy: it is worse than a thief of time, for it robs you of opportunity. It mortgages your to-morrow for the debt that should be paid to-day. Every hour's delay makes your task all the harder. —Success.

\$50,000 for Missions.

"MADE IT A MATTER OF PRAYER."

THE following suggestive little incident is told concerning a good, old English farmer who had become the happy inventor of an improved plow. Queen Victoria, on seeing the new invention, inquired of the farmer how he thought of it, whereupon he replied:—

"Well, your majesty, I had it in my head for a long time before it would become straight. I saw what was wanted plain enough, but I could not make out how to get at it. So at last I made it a matter o' prayer; and one morning the whole thing came into my mind like a flash."

"Why, Mr. Smith," interrupted his royal listener, "do you pray about your plows?"

"Why, your majesty, why shouldn't I? My Father in Heaven, he knew I was in trouble about it, and why shouldn't I go and tell him? I mind of one of my boys when he was a teeny little mite. I bought him a whip, and very pleased he was with it. Well, he came to me one day, crying as if his little heart would break. He'd broken the whip, and he brought it to me. So I took him on my knee, and I wiped his tears, and I kissed him and comforted him. 'Now, don't you cry, my boy,' says I. 'I'll mend the whip, I will, so that it'll crack as loud as ever.' Well, now, don't you think our Father in heaven cares as much for me as I for my boy? My plow didn't much matter to him, but I know quite well my trouble did."—*Ram's Horn*.

The Welcome Visitor

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE

Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Price, 25 Cents a Year in Advance.

N. W. LAWRENCE Editor.

Sabbath begins Dec. 25 at 4:36 P. M.

MRS. H. H. VOTAW spent Sabbath and Sunday with friends in Academia.

THE blue pencil mark means that your subscription has expired. Renew at once.

BROTHER FLOYD GIBSON is spending the holiday season with his folks at Academia. He reports a good experience in the canvassing and Bible work since camp-meeting.

THE Annual Offering to Missions from the Mount Vernon church amounted to a little over \$150. This sum will probably be increased to about \$175, by the time all donations are turned in.

ELDER A. G. HAUGHEY has been in Academia a few days recuperating his health, and looking after some business. He has now returned to Michigan and hopes to take up his work by the beginning of the new year.

THE Mount Vernon church have just completed one of the most profitable seasons for a long time. The week of prayer brought a new experience to many, and revived others that had been waning. A number yielded their hearts to God for the first time, and all were gladdened by the marked presence of God's Spirit.

"Our missionary paper, the 'Signs of the Times,' is doing its work everywhere, and is opening the way for the truth to be more fully presented."

CANVASSERS' REPORTS.

(For week ending Dec. 11, 1903.)

Alice Edwards, Findlay.—Great Controversy: value of orders, \$9.50; helps, \$14.25; total, \$23.75.

Louretta Mitchell, Dayton.—Miscellaneous: value of orders, \$18.

*Fred Trout, Mansfield.—Miscellaneous: value of orders, \$3.25; deliveries, \$42.25.

*Two weeks.

A BEAUTIFUL AND VALUABLE BOOK.

THAT interesting book of travel, "By Land and Sea," by Elden G. C. Tenney, has sold its entire edition and has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date. It is less than the former, but contains the amount of matter, and on much paper. There are 392 pages and 150 illustrations of a superior character. It is interesting, instructive, wholesome, and beautiful, and make an appropriate gift. It is especially good reading for the Herald Pub. Co. as a trade price reduced to \$1.50, usual discount to branches, societies, and agents. Order Tract Society, Academia, O.

THE MISSIONARY TRAINING-SCHOOL CORRESPONDENCE.

"Laborers Should Improve Themselves"

UNDER this heading there appears in the Spirit of Prophecy, the following instruction:—

"Having learned the simple rules, they should bend their minds to the acquisition of knowledge in connection with their labor, so that they may be 'Workmen, that need not be ashamed.' They can master one branch of science after another while engaged in the work." This applies to active workers in the cause. It applies with equal force to the Christian who is living a quiet home life, for in the church of Christ there is no man who has not active duties to perform. "Golden moments are thrown away in unimportant conversation, in indolence, and in doing those things which are of little consequence, that ought to be used every day in useful employments that will fit us more nearly to approach the high standard."

Not every one can put himself under an instructor in a regularly organized school, but every one can study in his own home. For the benefit of those who cannot enter school, the Missionary Training-School of Correspondence makes it possible for one to do systematic studying without leaving home. The student need not give up his occupation; he can do much toward gaining an education without the expense connected with a course in an institution.

If you are interested for yourself or others, send for full particulars concerning the course offered, tuition, credits given, etc.

Address, Missionary Training-School of Correspondence, Berrien Springs, Mich.