

THE Welcome Visitor

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

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ACADEMIA, OHIO, JANUARY 4, 1905.

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As Second-Class Matter.

WEEK OF PRAYER ECHOES.

COURAGE.

Oh doubting one! have faith in God:
Not always will the heav'ns be hidden
By clouds that come o'er thee unbidden.
Soon shall the sun's bright rays be shed
In mercy on thy drooping head;
Lift up thine eyes from earth's dark sod.

Oh doubting one! have courage still:
God's word to thee again is spoken:
'T will bind the heart by sins long broken:
'T will free thee from the tempter's snare,
And take from thee each worldly care,
And with new hopes thy sad heart fill.

Oh weeping one! the price is paid.
No longer for thy sins lament:
God bids thee only to repent.
Each prodigal who turns his face,
With loving arms will he embrace,
And give the crown that's for thee laid.

JAMES E. SHULTZ.

"If ever a people needed to walk before God as did Enoch, Seventh-day Adventists need to do so now, showing their sincerity by pure words, clean words, words full of sympathy, tenderness, and love."

REPORTS.

District No. 1.

SABBATH and Sunday were spent with the church at Columbus. The attendance and interest were excellent. The spirit of the Lord was especially manifested in the social service. The spirit of love and forgiveness characterized these meetings in a marked degree, for which we praise the Lord. This gives us courage; for we know that this must come before we are ready for translation.

On Monday and Tuesday we met the faithful ones of the Chillicothe church at the home of brother and sister Downing. The meetings were a source of strength to the dear ones there. Some have been passing through severe trials and have grown weary of the way, while others have gained the victory from time to time. These are pressing on with a determination to win the prize and obtain the crown which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give them at that day who love his appearing.

The remainder of the time was spent with the Wheelersburg church. The

especial message to them was received as the oracles from God. At the closing meeting on the Sabbath all bore a decided testimony to press on and hold fast until Jesus comes. The reports from the annual offering have not come in yet; however, I have reason to believe that it will be good.

R. R. KENNEDY.

District No. 6.

THE first part of the week of prayer I spent with the church at Piqua. Although few in number and with the infirmities of age weighing heavily upon them, they stand faithful for the truth, "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." As far as possible under the circumstances, they availed themselves of the privilege of assembling together and we are confident that, through the blessing of God, the readings were a benefit to every one.

From Piqua I went to Bellefontaine. The brethren there have passed through faith-trying experiences, but I found nearly all of them rejoicing in the blessed hope, and desiring to so co-operate with our great Leader that they may enjoy the final triumph. We enjoyed together precious seasons reviewing the work of the past, and contemplating that before us while seeking the Lord for guidance.

It was my privilege to spend a few days with the church at Walnut Grove. Here I made new and pleasant acquaintances. I found them all taking a lively interest in the great work for which this denomination exists. While on every hand there were eager and expensive preparations for the enjoyment of the great Yule festival day, our people I found determined not to be behind, but also preparing to make the celebrated day memorable, not in a worldly manner, but as showing an increasing interest in the important work before us. Sunday at 2 P. M., in spite of the unfavorable weather, an appreciative audience composed not only of our own people, but of many others, gathered in the church to enjoy the program prepared. Many, including some of the children, took part. Appropriate music was interspersed.

In a very effective manner the selections brought before us life in distant heathen lands, and also home scenes much nearer where the comforts and blessings enjoyed by us are unknown. The earnest portrayal of these scenes brought tears to many eyes.

Near the close of the exercises a recitation was given vividly setting before us the cruel march to Calvary, and the agonizing death on the cross of Him who died for all, that not only we, but the less fortunate in other lands might enjoy the blessings of eternal life. The exercises closed by showing in a substantial way that both young and old find not pleasure in vain enjoyment, but in taking part in sending the glad tidings to the far-off lands. We feel that the efforts put forth will accomplish the noble purpose of keeping up a lively interest in our work, and of stimulating us all to greater efforts in the Master's service.

A. C. SHANNON.

Springfield.

THE first day of the week of prayer meetings, Sabbath, December 10, it was my privilege to bury four newly converted candidates with their Lord in the solemn ordinance of baptism. They all united with the Springfield church. One was rebaptized at same time.

Our meetings were continued each day through the week with good attendance and increased interest. Elder W. H. Anderson, late missionary from Africa, was with us at three services. He gave a very interesting account of his nine years' labor in that benighted country to a good and attentive audience.

J. G. WOOD.

Coshocton.

WE desire to say to the readers of the WELCOME VISITOR, that an excellent meeting was held here from December 23-25. The program was complete with the exception of the talks to be given by F. H. Henderson and Prof. N. W. Lawrence, the latter notifying us that he could not be here in time to occupy the time allotted him. Notwithstanding that the rain

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OUR PIONEERS.

"GOD has led out men who have toiled for years, who have been willing to make any sacrifice, who have suffered privations, and endured trials to bring the truth before the world, and by their consistent course remove the reproach that fanatics have brought upon the cause of God. They have met opposition in every form. Incessant labor and mental trials in connection with this great work have worn down more than one constitution, and prematurely sprinkled heads with gray hairs. They have not worn out in vain. God has marked their earnest, tearful, agonizing prayers that they might have light and truth, and that the truth might shine in clearness to others. He has marked their self-sacrificing efforts, and he will reward them as their works have been." —"Testimonies," vol. 1, p. 419.

A DREAM OF ELIZABETH HUTCHINS.

I SEEMED to be in a large room where many people were very busy at work and talking freely. Their work and conversation did not interest me. At some distance from them I was standing at a table very busy about my work.

The door opened quietly and a stranger entered. I did not even look up to see him for I felt sure that his business was not with me.

Without taking my eyes off my work, however, I saw that his garments, which reached nearly to his feet, hung neatly and plainly about his person. He was tall and his hair hung nearly to his shoulders.

Presently he stood near my side with his head somewhat inclined, waiting for me to speak. He did not smile but he had such a friendly, familiar look, that I was sure he was some near relative of mine. Wondering if a few years absence could so have changed a brother, I asked, "Can this be Lewis Young." He gently said "No." I felt that he must be as near as a brother or a sister and again I asked. With evident marks of grief in his countenance the answer was "No." There was no sign of displeasure or blame, but a sad, patient waiting for me to recognize him. I could not, but was still sure he was a dear friend. The stranger seemed almost convulsed with sorrow, as he said. "Do you not know your brother and friend who died for you?" I knew him then. All this time my hands had been busy with my work, though my mind was diverted from it. My hands were free now, I raised

them exclaiming, "My Saviour, O my Saviour!" Then throwing my arms around him I pleaded that he would forgive all my sins, and begged the Father to forgive me for my Saviour's sake.

I awoke with the sense of the pity and compassion of our loving Saviour believing that he is often grieved because we are so absorbed with the cares of the world as even for a time to forget him, and that often when in sadness we long for his presence, he is near to comfort us, and we know him not. Oh! what a kind Saviour we have! I want to love him more and serve him better. I long to hear his voice proclaim, "Behold I make all things new."

Bellville.

IN the year 1866, Brethren I. D. Van Horn and Lawrence pitched their tent on the village lawn, much to the surprise of all the people. Nevertheless a great interest was manifested and many came to hear the strange doctrine. Soon quite a number were keeping the Sabbath.

Seeing the need of an organization, a few met at the home of Brother Loomis, banding themselves together as a church and taking the name of Seventh-day Adventists, covenanting to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Eight names were enrolled, myself being the only one left of that number.

In 1868, we erected a small house of worship, others adding their names to our number until we reached seventy-nine. But many have fallen in death and others have gone away. At present but a few remain to keep the light, the Third Angel's Message, the everlasting gospel, burning.

Nearly forty years have passed since we covenanted to keep the commandments of God. The writer is now seventy-four years of age and feels that the word of God is life, the light that shineth unto the perfect day.

T. A. MYERS.

Harrod.

DEAR READERS OF THE VISITOR: In the summer of 1866 Elder I. D. Van Horn and R. J. Lawrence held a tent meeting on the public square in Bellville. My husband and I attended these meetings; purchased tracts and books containing the Advent message and studied to know the truth. We were soon convinced that they were following the teachings of the Bible placing the word of God above the words and traditions of men. Aug. 18, 1867, we united with the church at Bellville. I have never regretted tak-

ing this step. I still love this people. They are my people and their God is my God.

On Jan. 28, 1900, death deprived me of my dear husband, leaving me alone to continue the battle of life and finish the good fight of faith. No, I have not been alone. He who promised never to leave nor forsake me has been with me. He comforts me in sorrow and cheers me with song. I am seventy-eight years of age and I know the end of my journey is not far away. I am looking forward with deep interest and pleasure to that glad day of final re-union, when we shall meet all our loved ones in the kingdom of God.

CHRISTIANN MOCK.

DEAR VISITOR: I will endeavor to write a few lines in regard to my first experience in the Third Angel's Message.

It is thirty-five years since I heard this precious truth. The first sermon I heard on the Sabbath was preached by Brother William Cottrell. I commenced to search the Bible to see if these things were so. In about five or six weeks I commenced the observance of the Sabbath. The following winter Elder A. O. Burrell presented the Message in its fulness and purity in Hustead, O. I accepted it all and united with the Bowersville church in Green Co., O. I found the company there a plain, humble, devoted, loving Christian people.

At this place I first met our venerable Brother Mears, the first president of the Ohio Conference. I am sixty-eight years old, and live in Hustead on the farm where I was raised. The Lord has been good to me, showed me my sins and helped me to put them away, for which I praise his holy name.

DORCAS A. HILL.

WELCOME VISITOR: Up to the age of twenty I was a common worldling. I do not remember of ever having prayed up to that time. I lived in northern New York near the Canada line, and was born at Malone, Franklin Co., June 3, 1833, consequently I am now past seventy-one.

My mother accepted the truth in 1852, and naturally was solicitous for my conversion. She was then living in the adjoining county of St. Lawrence, near Norfolk, and invited me to come where she was. Accordingly I went there in the beginning of the winter of 1853. I found a company of Adventists there who were keeping Saturday. I was interested in the advent doctrine from the start. The first ministers I heard were Elders C. W. Sperry and A. S. Hutchins from Vermont. The preaching coupled

with the reading of literature and the Bible, soon convinced me that the Advent doctrine was all right. But the thing that moved my heart was the spiritual and devoted lives of the believers.

There were several families, prominent among them being that of Lewis Haskell, who were in the time movement of 1844. The spirit of that movement was still felt at that time, and was what moved me. I was converted to God and his truth early in the spring of 1853. A daughter of Lewis Haskell afterward became the wife of Elder C. O. Taylor of New York and is still living.

The first summer of my Sabbath keeping, I worked on a farm for a Sunday keeper, and lost two days. He thought it would be easy to convince me of my error. Every Sabbath morning I walked five miles to the Sabbath meeting. In the winter of 1854 I heard Elder James White and wife, and Elder J. N. Andrews. In the spring of 1854 I took a horse through to Vermont for Brother Sperry. I reached Lake Champlain the first of April, and after some hesitation crossed on the ice, but was glad to reach Barton Landing on the Vermont side safely some time after dark. I worked in Vermont that summer for one of our ministers by the name of Evert. In the fall I returned to New York, and 1855 found me in central New York where I visited the Review office, then located in Rochester. In 1856 I went West, stopping at Battle Creek where the Review office was afterward located. Brother White advised me not to settle in Wisconsin on account of the bad state of things in that State at that time.

I took a trip as far north as Madison, Wis., but returned and worked that summer for a brother about forty miles south of Chicago. The next year I went to the western part of Illinois and joined the company at Clyde, Whiteside Co. Here was my first experience as Sabbath-school superintendent. I was also one of the building committee in the erection of the church edifice. For a number of years at this period I was a contributor for the *Review and Herald*. While living in this section I made frequent trips to southern Wisconsin where I became acquainted with Isaac Sanborn, J. G. Wood, and others. My experience has been marked by many trials and many blessings, and also by many remarkable answers to prayer, and it is by grace of God that I continue to the present, having observed the Sabbath for over fifty-one years without missing a single holy day.

D. HILDRETH.

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pent up for the last two months came down mingled with ice, the people came until they had the new hall in the Selby building well filled. Brother Anderson left for his old home in Indiana Monday morning at 4:45, having completed his stay in Ohio.

Elder Burkholder's talk was appreciated by all. Brethren Shultz and Richardson's talks were timely and full of interest. Elder B. L. House conducted a praise service Sunday afternoon in which confessions were made; others acknowledged their faults and put them from them. The Lord came near and all rejoiced that if faithful we will soon be beyond the necessity of repentings, but all will be praise and the joys of the redeemed shall never cease. J. O. MILLER.

District No. 4.

AFTER the close of the Young People's Convention I left Mount Vernon with Brother Ira Gault. We drove forty-two miles, reaching Rows Friday evening. I found all of good courage. We held several good meetings with them. Tuesday we went to Spencer, reaching there the same afternoon. I held two meetings with them. All the members were not present on account of sickness. All seemed to be firm in the truth. The offering there was eight dollars and fifty cents. None present gave less than a dollar, and some who could not come sent their offerings.

Friday morning Brother Rusk met me at Wellington and took me to his home. I spoke the same evening to a fair audience. They had held their Readings daily and had enjoyed much of God's blessing in them. I held the last meeting with them Tuesday night.

Their offering amounted to twenty-five dollars. The brethren seemed to enjoy giving and I know that God's blessing rested on them; even the children had their offering. Thus another week of prayer has passed.

W. E. BIDWELL.

Alliance.

DEAR WELCOME VISITOR: We wish to praise the Lord for his goodness to us. For six years we have been without an elder and never had quarterly meeting during that time. But we believe our heavenly Father knows what is good for us, so with his help, we have learned to be patient and wait on the Lord.

Elder C. C. Webster came to us for the week of prayer. We had a good meeting the evening before the Sabbath. Sabbath the Lord was in our meetings and blessed us. Elder Web-

ster gave us a good talk on just the things we were in need of. Sunday morning after the reading, he gave us a talk on the work of the church and the duty of the officers. At seven o'clock we met to reorganize the church. One brother was given the right hand of fellowship, after which the officers were elected. We are once more an organized church.

Elder Webster ordained the deacon and the deaconess for the work the Lord has for them to do, and it was a precious meeting for the Alliance church. The Spirit of the Lord was present, and all expressed themselves more determined than ever to forward the work of the Third Angel's Message. After the Monday morning meeting Elder Webster left for his other field of labor. We met every evening and read the readings and prayed the Lord to bless Elder Webster and the other churches as he had us. The offering for the week of prayer was five dollars and twenty-five cents.

RACHEL RICE.

Morrow.

DEAR VISITOR: It has been some time since I have written to you, so thinking that you would be interested in knowing how the Message is progressing at this place, I will endeavor to tell you. Since my last report we have moved to the little city of Morrow and proclaimed the Message there. We have not confined ourselves to the city, but have gone out into the country, and in every home where we found people interested in the truth, we have given it to them. We are thinking of going to Lebanon, and by the Lord's help, give the Message to the people of that place. We have a few faithful Sabbath keepers in Morrow, who are rejoicing in the truth.

While visiting, I have sold a number of our books and have also sold about sixty sets of the *Family Bible Teacher*. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

During the week of prayer I went to Wilmington and labored with the brethren and sisters of that church, and surely the Lord blessed during the time that I remained with them. I found several people who are much interested in the truth and need attention. These wanted me to call and study the Bible with them; but I had to tell them that I could not at present, as I had to go to another appointment, but would be glad to get their addresses and write to them on the truths which the Bible contains for the people today. They gave me their address.

There are people hungering for the truth everywhere and yet sometimes we are asking the Lord what to do.

O, if we could only open our eyes and take a glance over the world, I am sure every one of God's professed children would find plenty to do. O, that we could see our sleepy condition and realize the times in which we live. Surely we are living in perilous times—in the last days and the end. The Lord is soon coming. Are we ready to meet him? "Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion." "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."

In unity there is strength, so let all who profess the name of the Lord say, "All that the Lord hath said, we will do." If we do this, the Message will go to every nation, kindred, tongue and people quickly.

I went from Wilmington to Washington C. H. and remained there the remainder of the week of prayer. I could hardly get away from Wilmington for there was so much to do, and the brethren wanted me to remain with them two or three weeks longer to keep up the interest and visit those who are interested and give them Bible studies.

Surely the Lord gave showers of blessings during the week of prayer, and all desired a closer walk with the Lord. Why not have the week of prayer continue until the Lord comes? God tells us to "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." Are we doing our God given duty? "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found." I am of good courage in the Lord.

F. E. GIBSON.

Defiance, Sherwood and The Bend.

THE week of prayer proved to be a time of interest to our people of the above named places. The first part of the week was spent at Defiance, holding one meeting every night. A good interest was shown.

Wednesday night I met with the German church at Sherwood and stayed with them till Sabbath noon. Here, too, the brethren and sisters showed a deep interest in the things presented to them. All felt they should do more than they had done. Some consecrated themselves anew to the Lord and his cause.

Friday night a big wagon load of us went to The Bend, where we have several members and others interested, and held a successful meeting. The offering at Sherwood amounted to \$20, and at defiance \$6.60, which has been forwarded to the treasurer. We pray God, to bless the means given, and inspire us with greater activity.

JOHN P. GAEDÉ.

The Welcome Visitor

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE

Ohio Conference of Seventh-day
Adventists

Price, 25 Cents a Year in Advance.

BESSIE E. RUSSELL - Editor.

Academia, Ohio. Jan. 4, 1905.

Sabbath begins Jan. 6 at 4:33 P. M.

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

MR. CHARLES COTTRELL, formerly a student at the Academy, made a short visit on his way to California.

A FRIEND in Cleveland, O., has forwarded, through Elder D. E. Lindsey, ten dollars for Brother W. H. Anderson's work in Africa.

WOULD you touch a nettle without being stung by it, take hold of it stoutly. Do the same to other annoyances, and hardly will anything annoy you.

OWING to lack of space in the Pioneer Edition, many articles received could not be published, there not being even room for a notice to this effect. Many facts not generally known are brought out in these experiences and should cause us to go forward with renewed energy and zeal.

IN harmony with the action of the board of the Mount Vernon church school, we, the said board, do hereby notify the patrons of said school that the rate of tuition has been raised from one dollar to one and one-half dollars a month. This rate to be regarded during the entire year.

L. C. MITCHELL, Sec.

WE are glad that so many who have been connected with the beginning of the Third Angel's Message in Ohio have given us the privilege of learning of that work in its infancy. As we contemplate the work of to-day, we can truly say, "What hath God wrought?" To-day Ohio is not only supporting workers in nearly every section of the State, but has two representatives in China and three in India who receive their financial support from the brethren and sisters in the State. Ohio's sons and daughters are scattered throughout the world's wide harvest field, earnestly endeavoring to finish the work the pioneers began under such adverse circumstances.

To stand for the truth when everything is against it, and single handed do a work of faith, means more than many of to-day realize by experience. What impresses me most, is the fact that these aged believers in the truth, have not grown weary of the way, but that their faith in the Message is brighter than ever before. May we who are children in the truth and its early hardships, so appreciate their experience, and our advantages, that we may be made strong for the time which is soon coming and will demand of us the same true, unflinching adherence to the truth that we may be able to stand firm and immovable to the end, and with these of the early years gain a triumphal entrance into the eternal city.

CANVASSERS' REPORTS.

(For week ending Dec. 16, 1904.)

William Campbell,* Hamilton.—Coming King: 50 hours, value of orders, \$51.50; deliveries, \$44.

G. A. Hopkins, Ashland Co.—Coming King and Best Stories: value of orders, \$22.50; helps, \$2; total, \$24.50.

(For week ending Dec. 23, 1904.)

Emily A. Kay, Youngstown.—Coming King: 1 hour; value of orders, \$2.50; deliveries, \$100.

A. L. Hussey, Mercer Co.—Coming King and Best Stories: value of orders, \$3; deliveries, \$22.75.

J.O. Young,† Cygnet.—Miscellaneous: value of orders, \$24.65.

*Two weeks.

†For week ending December 9.

OBITUARY.

MITCHELL.—Died at his home in Academia, O., Dec. 8, 1904, with dropsy, Elder H. M. Mitchell. It was at the time of the Young People's Convention when the Conference Committee, and several other ministers were present to speak words of comfort to the dear family. He was a very exemplary man, as a father, and as a business man. There are but few men his equal. Honest, noble, pure, conscientious, Christian. He loved the Third Angel's Message and filled several official positions in the State and also in the General Conference. The highest ambition of his soul seemed to be to please his Heavenly Father and do good to all men. When I received the message to come to assist at his funeral I felt very sad and lonely. For eleven years we were associated together in Conference work, and I had learned to love him as myself. However, we do not mourn as those who have no hope, for we are sure he is ready with his work well done, waiting the first resurrection. He leaves two most excellent children, one brother, three sisters and a noble mother-in-law to mourn their loss. His children are both firm in the faith, and fitted to fill places of trust in the Message. May the blessed God keep and comfort them and the aged brother, D. K. Mitchell.

E. J. Van Horn.