

Columbia Union Visitor

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

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THE CROAKER

Once on the edge of a pleasant pool,
Under the bank, where 'twas dark and cool,
Where bushes over the water hung,
And grasses nodded and rushes swung,
Just where the brook flowed out of the bog,
There lived a gouty and mean old frog,
Who'd sit all day in the mud, and soak,
And do just nothing but croak and croak.

Till a blackbird whistled, "I say, you know,
What is the trouble down there below?
Are you in sorrow, or pain, or what?"
The frog said: "Mine is a grewsome lot!
Nothing but mud, and dirt, and slime
For me to look at the livelong time;
'Tis a dismal world!" so he sadly spoke,
And voiced his woes in a mournful croak.

"But you're looking down," the blackbird
said;

"Look at the blossoms overhead;
Look at the lovely summer skies;
Look at the bees and the butterflies—
Look up, old fellow! Why, bless your soul,
You're looking down in a muskrat hole!"
But still, with his gurgling sob and choke,
The frog continued to croak and croak.

And a wise old turtle, who boarded near,
Said to the blackbird: "Friend, see here:
Do not shed your tears over him, for he
Is wretched just 'cause he likes to be!
He's one of the kind who won't be glad:
It makes him happy to think he's sad.
I'll tell you something,—and it's no joke—
Do not waste your pity on those who croak."

—Joe Lincoln.

SEPARATION OF ISRAEL FROM IDOLATORS

ANOTHER subject to which Nehemiah's attention was called on his return to Jerusalem, was the danger that threatened Israel from intermarriage and association with idolaters. "In those days," says Nehemiah, "saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab; and their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people." This assimilation to the language of the heathen was an indication of the inroads made by heathenism. In many families, children,

trained by heathen mothers, were prattling around them in the tongue of several idolatrous nations with whom the Israelites had intermarried. These children, as they grew up in the habits and customs of heathenism, became idolaters of the most dangerous class, because they were connected with the people of God.

These unlawful alliances caused great confusion; for some who entered into them were persons in high position, rulers of the people and men connected with the service of God, to whom, in the absence of Nehemiah, the people had a right to look for counsel and correct example. God had carefully excluded the heathen from uniting with his faithful worshippers; but the divinely erected barriers had been broken down, and as a consequence of mingling and intermarrying with other nations, the Israel of God were fast losing their peculiar, holy character. Nehemiah knew that ruin was before the nation if this evil were not put away, and he reasoned with these men on the subject. He firmly and fearlessly declared, "Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves." He presented the case of Solomon, and reminded them that among many nations there had arisen no king like this man, whom God had favored, and to whom he had given great wisdom. But the idolatrous women whom he connected with his house by marriage, led his heart astray from God, and his example had a corrupting influence on all Israel. The commands and threatenings of the Lord, and the fearful judgments visited upon Israel in past generations, aroused the consciences of the people. The strongest and most endearing ties that bound them to idolaters were broken. Not only were future marriages with the heathen forbidden, but marriages already formed were dissolved.

Some men in sacred office pleaded for their heathen wives, declaring that they could not bring themselves to separate from them. Nehemiah replied, with solemn sternness, "Shall we then hearken unto you, to do all this great evil, to transgress against

our God in marrying strange wives?"

A grandson of the high priest, having married a daughter of the notorious Sanballat, was not only removed from office, but promptly banished from Israel. "Remember them, O my God," exclaimed Nehemiah, "because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites." He adds: "Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business." No respect was shown for rank or position. No distinction was made. Whoever among the priests and rulers refused to sever his connection with idolaters, was immediately separated from the service of the Lord.

How much anguish of soul this needed severity cost the faithful workers for God, the judgment alone will reveal. Every advance step was gained only by fasting, humiliation, and prayer. There was a constant struggle with opposing elements.

Many who had married idolaters chose to go with them into exile; and, with those who had been expelled from the congregation, they joined the Samaritans, a heathen people who had combined with their idolatrous worship many of the customs of the Jews. Hither some who had occupied high positions in the work of God now found their way, and after a time they cast in their lot fully with them. Desiring to strengthen this alliance, the Samaritans promised to adopt more fully the Jewish faith and customs; and the apostates, determined to outdo their former brethren, erected a temple on Mount Gerizim, in opposition to the house of God at Jerusalem. This spurious religion continued to be a mixture of Judaism and heathenism; and their claims to be the people of God were the source of schism, emulation, and enmity between the two nations from generation to generation.—Mrs. E. G. White.

"He who empties his purse into his head puts it where no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."

WHAT SHALL SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS DO WHEN SUNDAY LAWS ARE ENFORCED?

THE following is a testimony received by Elder P. G. Stanley in reply to a letter sent by him to Mrs. E. G. White:—

"I will try to answer your questions as to what you should do in the case of Sunday laws being enforced. The light given me by the Lord was, that when the people were moved by power from beneath to enforce Sunday observance, Seventh-day Adventists were to show their wisdom by refraining from work on that day, devoting it to missionary effort. To defy the Sunday laws, will but strengthen in their persecution, the religious zealots who are seeking to enforce them. Give them no occasion to call you law breakers. If they are left to rein up men who fear neither God nor man, the reining up will soon lose its novelty for them, and they will see that it is not consistent, convenient for them to be strict in regard to the observance of Sunday.

"One does not receive the mark of the beast because he shows that he realizes the wisdom of keeping the peace by refraining from work that gives offence, doing at the same time a work of the highest importance. When we donate Sunday to missionary work, the whip will be taken out of the hand of the arbitrary zealots who would be well pleased to humiliate Seventy-day Adventists. When they see that we employ ourselves on Sunday in visiting the people and opening the Scriptures to them, they will know that it is useless for them to try to hinder our work by making Sunday laws.

"When a man, black or white, is arrested for Sunday breaking, he is placed at a great disadvantage,—he is humiliated, and it is well nigh hopeless for him to obtain a fair trial. Often when Sabbath-keepers in the southern states are arrested for working on Sunday, they are sent to the chain gang, where they are forced to work on the Sabbath. The Lord does not command them to place themselves where they are obliged to dishonor his holy day. Our churches should understand the methods to be used in avoiding this difficulty. Sunday can be used for carrying forward various lines of work that will accomplish much for the Lord.

"On this day, open air meetings and cottage meetings may be held. House-to-house work can be done.

Those who write can devote this day to writing their articles. Whenever it is possible, let religious services be held on Sunday. Make these meetings intensely interesting. Sing genuine revival hymns, and speak with power and assurance of the Saviour's love. You will learn how to work, and will reach many souls. I was instructed that in this way they would be able to defeat the purposes of the enemy. Thus will they be able to accomplish much more than they could do any other way.

"God has given us plain directions regarding our work. We are to proclaim the truth in regard to the Sabbath of the Lord, to make up the breach that has been made in his law. . . . The law for the observance of the first day of the week is a production of apostate Christendom. Sunday is a child of the papacy, exalted by the Christian world above the sacred day of God's rest. In no case are God's people to pay homage to it. But I wish them to understand that they are not doing God's will by braving opposition when he wishes them to avoid it.

"Thus they create prejudice so bitter that it is impossible for the truth to be proclaimed. Make no demonstration on Sunday in defiance of the law. If this is done in one place, and you are humiliated, the same thing will be done in another place. We can use Sunday as a day on which to carry forward work that will tell on the side of Christ. The people must be given the truth, straightforward positive truth. The Lord has not given his people the work of making a tirade against those who are transgressing the law. In no case are we to make a raid on the other churches. Let us remember that, as a people trusted with a great truth, we have been neglectful, and positively unfaithful."

Brother Robert S. Greaves, writing from Smyrna, Turkey, under date of August 9, after speaking of the rejoicing throughout the city because of the change in governmental affairs, tells of two who have embraced the truth as the result of their labors. One Armenian lady, who before they came had heard about the Sabbath, and a young Greek, who also had had his attention called to the Sabbath, who had opposed it, are now rejoicing in the new-found truth. Brother Greaves still craves an interest in the prayers of God's people in the homeland.

THE BLESSING OF WORK

Live for God in common things.

Do your work purely and faithfully when there is no one to say it is well done. Make the unwritten history of your life faithful in good words wisely spoken, in kind deeds thoughtfully done, in the silent expression of meekness and purity and love. Cherish the feeling of companionship with Christ in all the walks of life. Do not despise or neglect anything that was of sufficient importance to receive the attention of the son of God.

Some strange satirist, half in humor and half in earnest, says, "Satan invented work, Sabbathless Satan." It is all a mistake—a mistake which has filled the world with bitterness and woe. All needed and profitable work is of God. Work is the honorable inheritance and the healthful discipline of the sons of God. Work is a ladder let down from heaven on which redeemed men climb to the seats of the blessed. Work makes the feeble strong, the timid brave, the poor rich, the wretched happy. Man attains the perfection of his being by becoming a co-worker with God in filling the universe with light and blessing.

Idleness is the invention of the great adversary who entices man away from his God-given work in Paradise, and who ever lies in wait to deceive and destroy unwary souls. The tempter comes in the hours of ease, and he is most sure of his prey when he finds men with nothing to do. Idleness enfeebles the mind and shrivels up the heart and debases the soul and takes away all the meaning and beauty and joy of life. The most pitiable and wretched man on the face of the earth is the man who has time and health and riches and nothing to do. For the lazy man, life has no purpose and labor has no reward. For him the flowers have no perfume and the birds no song. In vain for him the morning spreads its glories on the mountains, and the evening sets its stars in the sky. He knows nothing of the greatness which patient effort and high achievement give to character, nor of the divine joy with which self-denial fills the soul. He makes himself a burden to every enterprise for the world's advance, a blot upon the immortal page where the brave and the good are writing their names for eternity. It were better to be a brute and sweat in the harness or tug at the plow than possess the faculties and the soul of a man, and yet refuse the work which God has set for man to do.—*March*

OUR CHURCH SCHOOLS

"THIS matter has been plainly presented before me. I saw in different places new companies of believers being raised up, and meeting-houses being erected. Those newly come to the faith were helping with willing hands, and those who had means were assisting with their means. In the basement of the church, above ground, I was shown a room provided for a school where the children could be educated in the truths of God's word. Consecrated teachers were selected to go to these places. The numbers in the school were not large, but it was a happy beginning.

As the work was being pressed forward, I heard the voices of children and parents singing:—

'Except the Lord build the house,
They labor in vain that build it;
Except the Lord keep the city,
The watchman waketh but in vain.

'Praise ye the Lord.
Praise the Lord, O my soul.
While I live will I praise the Lord:
I will sing praises unto my God while I
have any being.
Put not your trust in princes,
Nor in the son of man in whom there is
no help.

'Praise ye the Lord from the heaven:
Praise him in the heights.
Praise ye him, all his angels:
Praise ye him, all his hosts.
Praise ye him, sun and moon:
Praise ye him, all ye stars of light.'

Ps. 127:1; 146:1-3; 148:1-3.

"The establishing of churches and the erection of meeting houses was extended from city to city. In each place the believers were making a united, persevering effort, and the Lord was working to increase his forces. Something was being established that would publish the truth. This is the work to be done in America, in Australia, in Europe, and wherever companies are brought into the truth."

Here is a view of what the Lord expects of his people; and, step by step, they are approaching the standard placed before them. In our own conference the church-school work has been quietly yet steadily growing. During the past year, thirteen schools were held in Ohio. While only eight of this number can be written upon our list for this year, only two really sent their children back to the public schools. Others united, forming a stronger school, and in one school of advanced pupils the studies were completed by all and the students

entered higher work. To the number remaining, eight new schools have been added, so that we feel that we are indeed gaining ground. As the schools have strengthened in numbers they have also become better organized; similar text-books are used in all the schools; competent teachers are required; and uniform work is demanded.

Our schools are at last being recognized as bearing an important part in the proclamation of the Third Angel's Message. The words of the Lord have been proven to be true, and songs of rejoicing are indeed being heard in many places as parents and children unite in praising the Great Teacher. BESSIE E. ACTON.

THE SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK IN WEST VIRGINIA

DURING our camp-meeting at Charleston, Aug. 27-Sept. 6, 1908, a recommendation was presented to the effect that we still encourage our schools in giving their entire donations to missions. An interesting discussion followed. All seemed to be in perfect harmony on the subject. Although this plan has been working but a short time in our Conference, it is making a good record, and we believe will soon be a complete success. The secretary's report showed that nearly all our schools are giving the entire amount of their regular contributions to missions, and meeting the home expenses by special donations, or by each individual paying for their own helps. Our hearts are made glad to see the cloud rising, and we expect God's blessing on those who are working in harmony with his plans.

It was further recommended that all our canvassers and scattered Sabbath keepers be faithful in studying the Sabbath-school lessons, and at the close of each quarter send in their report and donations to the State Sabbath-school secretary. It was stated that some of our Home Department members are the most liberal givers we have, and we hope soon to be able to report the same of every one.

What a blessed privilege we have of helping carry the last warning Message to the world! Is it not a wonderful fact that God has a work in the earth, that we may every one have a part in and thus be co-workers with him?

Dear brethren and sisters, I wish you could all have attended our good camp-meeting at Charleston, which seemed to me as good a meeting as

was ever held in West Virginia. The Lord was there to lead by his counsel, and to impress hearts with their need of an entire consecration. It is certainly true that we are living in the closing scenes of this world's history, and soon the final decision will be made. The Lord is not willing that one of us should perish, but, there is no way to salvation but by confession and obedience.

We are told in Prov. 28:13, that "he that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy," and again "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Dear brethren and sisters, don't you think it is time that we are making a clean work of it, not only confessing, but forsaking everything that we know of in our characters that the pure eye of God cannot approve? We certainly cannot afford to trifle with sin any longer if we ever expect to have a home in the kingdom prepared for those who are faithful in that which has been entrusted to them. May the Lord help every one of us to be humble, and obedient to every requirement of his word.

We hope that all will begin now to plan for the camp-meeting next year. By saving a little of their earnings each week it will be quite easy to gather a sufficient amount to carry you through the entire meeting.

"To talk doubt means defeat. To talk courage means success." Which do you desire most?

Anyone desiring information concerning the Sabbath-school work, or blanks for report, will please write Mrs. M. L. Meredith, 1826 seventeenth Street, Parkersburg, W. Va.

As ever your sister in the blessed hope,
MRS. M. L. MEREDITH.

"A queer country this is, where the only things of interest you have to show me are the graves," said a newcomer who had joined the mission forces in Africa. "Yes," was the reply, "but they are the milestones of Christianity to regions beyond." Another missionary, illustrating the brave spirit actuating the advance into such dark climes, said: "Though every step be over the grave of a missionary, Africa must be redeemed." Soldiers of Christ are needed whose hearts beat with this true heavenly courage, who are not daunted in the face of hardships to enter the great mission fields with the Third Angel's Message.

WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

THE twenty-first annual session of the West Virginia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was held in connection with the camp-meeting at Charleston, West Va., Aug. 27 to Sept. 6 1908.

The conference was called to order by the president, Eld. J. M. Rees. Elder Robbins of West Pa. Conference entreated the Lord that his blessing would rest upon us.

As many of the regular elected delegates were not at the meeting, it was unanimously voted that all church members present be invited to sit as delegates during the proceedings.

The president's address showed that some progress had been made during the past year. One new church has been organized and the churches at Charleston, Walker and Culloden have been strengthened by the addition of new members.

The following recommendations were adopted:—

1. *Resolved*, that we express our heartfelt thanks to God for his protecting care and prospering hand which has been over us the past year in all branches of our work; and also in the financial support which he has extended to us through the Columbia Union and Indiana Conferences.

2. *We recommend* that we heartily co-operate with the Mission board in the plan for the Thanksgiving Ingathering, in the distribution of the *Review and Herald* among our friends and neighbors, and receiving from them a free-will offering for the support of our foreign mission work.

Whereas, The Spirit of prophecy has said that to a large degree through our publishing work is to be accomplished the work of the angel of Rev. 14:1-4, which we believe to be the angel of the "loud cry," and,

Whereas, Our ministers and church elders are looked to for advice by all of our people as to what line of work they should engage in, therefore,

3. *We recommend*, that our conference workers and church elders give special attention to looking out suitable persons for the canvassing work and report the same to the president of the conference who in turn will place the matter in the hands of the state agent for further development.

Whereas, All our canvassers should be instructed as to how to labor from house to house for the Salvation of souls in harmony with God's plan,

4. *We recommend*, that a canvassers institute of two week's duration be

held at such a time as may be agreed upon by the Columbia Union Conference Committee, and at such a place as the local Conference Committee may decide upon.

We further recommend, that all our people give their hearty support to this institute.

Whereas, It is of the utmost importance that all our people be actively engaged in the spreading of our Message,

5. *We recommend*, that the churches and isolated Sabbath-keepers spend as much time as possible in selling and distributing our tracts, periodicals and books for home workers.

6. *We again recommend*, that a fund be raised by donations for the purpose of sending Liberty to each member of the Legislature and that our churches supply the county officers with the journal.

7. *Whereas*, The Indiana Conference has so materially assisted us in sending Elder Steele to our conference and supporting him for one year, we desire to express our hearty thanks to them, and

Whereas, We are still greatly in need of his services and have no visible means for his support, we hereby request that this appropriation be continued for another year.

Whereas, We have seen a material increase in our Sabbath-school offerings during the past year as a result of devoting all our donations to missions,

8. *We recommend* that this plan be continued.

9. *We would further recommend*, that every one of our scattered brothers and sisters who cannot attend a local Sabbath-school, faithfully study the Sabbath-school lessons and send their report together with their donations, at the close of each quarter, to the state Sabbath-school secretary.

The officers elected to serve for the coming year are as follows: President, J. M. Rees; Vice-president, S. F. Ross; Conference and Tract Society Secretary and Treasurer and Missionary Secretary, Pearl L. Rees; Educational and Sabbath-school Secretary, Mrs. M. L. Meredith; Religious Liberty Secretary, J. F. Steele; Conference Committee, J. M. Rees, S. F. Ross, J. F. Steele, A. T. Halstead; C. J. Foote; State Agent, D. W. Percy.

Ministerial Credentials were given to J. M. Rees, J. F. Steele, L. E. Sufficool, W. R. Fogg, P. W. Province.

Missionary license, to C. J. Foote, Pearl L. Rees, Beryl Cummings, M. L. Meredith, S. F. Ross, and D. W.

Percy. All other names referred to the conference committee.

J. M. REES, Pres.

C. J. FOOTE, Sec.

WEST VIRGINIA

The West Virginia camp-meeting was held in a beautiful grove in the city of Charleston, August 26 to September 6. The location of the camp was not so convenient for the majority of the people as a location in some other place might have been, but that the work already established there might be strengthened, and owing also to the fact of Charleston's being the capital of the state, it was thought best to locate there this year.

Those who had the arrangement of the camp in hand were early on the ground and when the time came to begin the meeting all things were in readiness. The weather was delightful, and from the very first all hearts were made glad with the thought that God was going to bless the meeting.

The outside attendance at the night services was good, many taking a lively interest in the subjects presented and seemed anxious to learn more about the great themes of the Bible truth for this generation.

Elder Rees gave a stirring talk on the first Sabbath. The Holy Spirit came with power; hearts were melted; souls were reconsecrated to God, and all felt the holy influence of that power that inspires to nobler activity, higher aspirations, and a more sacred relation with Christ. Their happy experiences continued throughout the entire meeting and at the close many returned to their homes better men and women as a result of the meeting.

Several laborers were present from outside conferences, and rendered valuable assistance in the different lines of work of the Conference. It is hoped that brighter days have dawned for this Conference and that a continued and constructive work may be carried forward this year. Perhaps there is nothing, outside of an abiding trust in God, that conduces so much to strengthen that hope than the fact that West Virginia has the services of an efficient president, Elder J. M. Rees, whose deliberation, foresight, and restless energy have brought order out of chaos so many times in the past. With earnest co-operation on the part of every member of the Conference, with a trust in God that knows no defeat, and with a fervent hope that the great work of proclaiming the Third Angel's Message to the ends of the earth speedily, great things will surely be accomplished.

J. F. STEELE.

WEST VIRGINIA NOTES

We hope that you will read carefully the resolutions adopted by the Charleston Conference, and then do all in your power to help carry them out.

After the close of the camp-meeting, Elder Suffcoo moved the large pavilion down in the City, and quite a number remained in Charleston to assist the workers located there in the services and to engage in the canvassing work. Those who stayed are, Elder Province and wife, Harry Metcalf and wife, John L. Hall, Grace Artlip, and Hazel Amick.

D. W. Percy, of New Jersey, who was elected State Agent, has arrived in our State and is located at Charleston for a few weeks where he is helping the canvassers to get started. He will be glad to correspond with anyone interested in this branch of the work. We welcome Brother and Sister Percy to our State.

Recommendation six reads in part that "A fund be raised by donations for the purpose of sending *Liberty* to each member of the Legislature." It will take about \$18 to do this, and at the camp-meeting \$11.75 was raised. We believe there are many in our Conference who will be glad to assist in this good work, and if all will help just a little we can soon have the remainder, \$6.25.

Since our last report, death has laid her brawny hand upon three of our number and they have been laid to rest to await the return of the Life-giver. During the camp-meeting, Sister Ross, of Walker, mother of S. F. and William Ross, was called to rest. Last week Elder Steele went to Chester to preach the funeral services of Sister Emily McCoy, and this week Father Mead was buried.

Elders Rees and Steele began a series of meetings in Parkersburg the 20th. The attendance has been very good from the first, the tent being well filled each night. Brethren, pray that the Lord will bless the tent efforts this fall. PEARL L. REES.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

To our Canvassers:—

The Spirit of Prophecy says that our books are being used by the Holy Ghost in bringing souls into the truth, and we are seeing these words fulfilled from time to time. A few days ago a mother and daughter drove nine miles from their country home to the city to be baptized and to unite with

the believers of the Third Angel's Message. This all came about by reading a book entitled "Bible Reading for the Home Circle," which was bought fourteen years ago. In sowing the seeds of truth, our Father waters it and causes it to bud in his own time.

Word came to me that a man living out in the country three miles from Philipsburg, was keeping the Sabbath. I went to see him, and to my surprise, I found a man with his wife and daughter keeping the Sabbath. This family learned the truth by reading "Daniel and the Revelation," they are now anxious to be baptized.

These things show that God is getting his people ready for his coming. Be of good courage fellow-worker, as you sow the seed beside all waters. Jesus will soon come, and then a glorious reward will be given to all his faithful workers. Your brother,
W. F. Schwartz.

Hollidaysburg, Pa.

Lock Haven, W. Pa.

Fifteen days were spent with this new company, and in the midst of trials such as come to all new companies, their faith is strong, and they are of good courage in the Message. While there, we held two baptismal services, baptising four persons. Before leaving, we held quarterly meeting, which was a rich feast to all, and at this meeting five were received into the church fellowship. The Lord is still working mightily in this field, and many opportunities are given for work. Your brother,

Eld. W. F. SCHWARTZ.

Hollidaysburg, Pa.

Erie, Pa.

We closed our effort in Erie September 16. Our tent was pitched in a part of the city which was largely Catholic, in fact Erie might be called a Catholic city, for with a population of 70,000 there are 50,000 Catholics.

Our audiences were not large at any time during the tent season, but those who did attend came quite regular. Five persons were baptized, two others are keeping the Sabbath, and fifteen or twenty others are truly interested in the Message for this time. Elder Robbins will take up personal work with these interested ones giving them Bible studies in their homes, and we hope to see some of them take up the line of duty soon.

While we have not seen the immediate results of our work in Erie that we had hoped for, yet we are thankful to God for what has been accom-

plished and for the outlook for the future of our work in Erie. The Lord has blessed us as we have labored together for which we praise his name. Brethren, pray for the work in Erie.

J. W. WATT.

F. H. ROBBINS.

AN IMPORTANT TESTIMONY

In the *Review and Herald* of April 28, 1896,—more than twelve years ago,—the following sentences were a part of an article by Sister White entitled "Our Children Need Our Care":—

"Who can determine which one of a family will prove to be efficient in the work of God? There should be general education of all its members, and all our youth should be permitted to have the blessings and privileges of an education at our schools, that they may be inspired to become laborers together with God. They all need an education that they may be fitted for usefulness in this life, qualified for places of responsibility both in private and public life."

Notice the testimony: *all* our youth should have the benefits of an education—not a few of the brightest and most promising ones, but *all*. And notice again: *all* our youth should have the benefits of an education *at our schools*. Will not the home high school do? Will not the state university do?—No: these are not *our* schools. Parents, if you have children of school age that are not in our schools, this is a testimony direct to you. It says put all the youth in our schools. Shall we do it? Do we dare not to do it? It is time to obey the voice of the Lord.

D. D. REES.

Mt. Vernon College.

"Many teachers imagine that in order to interest children, it is necessary to expect an extravagant exhilaration of manner, which will quickly communicate itself to the little folks; but while this means may be effectual to the extent of creating seeming enthusiasm yet the results are not most satisfactory. Such a nervous stress does not best fit pupils to receive sound and serious impressions. A quiet, unaffected manner is far better. Children soon become accustomed to the intoxication of excitement, and thus lose their moral susceptibility; and if the artificial stimulus is withdrawn, the ammunition which it produces will die out. An old proverb truly declares that one who is born in a storm must live in a storm."

CHESAPEAKE CANVASSING ITEMS

Brother C. E. Jones is doing good work in Honan Co. His first three reports amount to \$125.42.

Here is a good delivery,—\$187.50 as the result of 20 days' work. Brother W. C. Wright was the worker.

Brother Buell is having good success in Frederick Co., but expects soon to move his family into Baltimore Co.

Brother Mitchell says he is in the work to stay. He too expects to locate his family in the center of his county soon.

Brother J. W. Siler is greatly enjoying his work in Frederick Co. He expects to move his family to Frederick City in about a month.

Four students—Wirth, Lush, William and Arkebaure—from the Foreign Missionary Seminary at Takoma Park, lately delivered \$1230.88 worth of books. Brethren Lush and William have nearly \$400 more to deliver.

Brethren Johns and Scott are hoping to locate in or near Upper Marlboro, Prince George Co. Brother Johns has just finished canvassing Montgomery Co. He has already delivered over \$360 worth of books there since the first of July among the colored people alone.

It has been the writer's privilege to see the new "Coming King" prospectus. It is a very beautiful and attractive one. We are confident that many orders will be secured for the \$2 binding. We understand that the prospectuses and books are to be ready at once.

By the time these lines reach the VISITOR readers, a canvassers' institute will have been held at Wilmington, Del. As a result of the camp-meeting and tent meeting some have taken their stand for the truth and are ready to enter the great harvest field. May the Lord impress all with the great and solemn reality of the present hour, and help us to "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit and perfect holiness in the fear of God." G. H. CLARK.

Eld. J. J. Nethery and wife have been compelled to remain in England, instead of returning to Egypt, where they have been laboring the past two years. They will labor in the South England Conference. A young man and his wife from Europe have been selected to go down into Egypt to continue the work.

CANVASSERS' REPORTS

Chesapeake, Week Ending Sept. 19, 1908

Name	Place	Book	Days	Hrs	Ords	Value	Helps	Total	Del
J. Jones, White Haven, Md.,	CK	5	40	35	\$50 25			\$50 25	\$ 6 00
E. Mitchell, Gist, Md.,	CK	5	31	3	10 50	\$17 50		28 00	
J. Paden, Middletown, Md.,	CK	3	17	1	1 00			1 00	19 00
J. Siler, Frederick Co., Md.,	CK	5	39	30	40 50			40 50	
W. Spicer, Princess Anne, Md.,	CK	4	23		4 00			4 00	59 50
C. Jones, Howard Co., Md.,	CK	3	24	18	25 50	3 05		28 55	
D. Johns, Bowie, Md.,	DR	5	46	27	64 75			64 75	
J. Howard, Prince George's Co.,	CK	4		38	51 00			51 00	
J. McNichol, Parkton, Md.,	GC	2	16	5	15 75	1 40		17 15	70
Mrs. Lukens, Hagerstown, Md.,	GC								35 25
H. Lukens, " "	GC								24 75
B. Arkebaure, Middletown, Del.,	CK	11	110						354 88
W. Wirth, Dover, Del.,	CK	12	120						479 25
Totals,			59	466	157	\$263 25	\$21 95	\$285 20	\$979 33

Eastern Pennsylvania, Week Ending Sept. 18, 1908

R. Spangenberg, Lackawanna,	DR	5	30	10	\$23 50			\$23 50	\$10 00
E. Casselmeyer, Montgomery,	DR	4	28	11	20 25	\$2 10		22 35	
H. Gauker, Berks Co.,	DR	5	40	9	19 75	4 55		24 30	4 55
N. Bigart, Chester,	DR	3	19	8	13 25			13 25	
A. Pulsis, Dauphin,	DR	4	18	3	4 50			4 50	5 00
H. Gauker, Berks,	DR	2	18	1	2 75			2 75	118 00
L. Randall, Susquehanna,	HM	4	40	5	8 75	5 25		14 00	37 80
M. Hackett, Luzerne,	HM	4	31	5	8 75	1 34		10 09	6 00
G. Hackett, Luzerne,	HM	4	31	2	3 50	4 12		7 62	11 50
Mrs. Hirlinger, Lancaster,	CK	5	21	26	26 00			26 00	
" " " "	COL	3	14	15	17 25			17 25	
W. Seigle, Lycoming,	CK	5	40	14	15 00	7 30		22 30	14 45
B. Donachy, Dauphin,	CK	5	30	14	15 00	50		15 50	13 25
S. Diehl, Union,	BS	3	20	4	2 00	1 00		3 00	1 00
Totals,			56	379	127	\$180 25	\$26 16	\$206 41	\$221 55

Virginia, Week Ending Sept. 18, 1908

C. Grey, Riverton,	CK	33	11	\$11 00	\$ 8 75	\$19 75	\$ 4 45
L. Overstreet, "	CK	31	13	16 50	1 05	17 55	2 20
C. Stebbins,* Staunton,	CK	57	29	35 50	4 75	40 25	
C. Grey,* Parksley,	CK	71	59	79 50	75	80 25	97 45
J. Woody, Staunton,	CK	28			35	35	
W. Genter, Parksley,	CK	37	60	65 50		65 50	
E. Wilson, Takoma Park,	DR	10	1	2 75		2 75	11 00
J. Hayes, Beale,	DR	45	13	33 50	12 20	45 70	4 25
J. M. Hayes, Alexandria,	DR	39	3	5 50	4 95	10 45	4 95
" " "		57		7 50	1 75	9 25	17 50
K. Oertley, Radford,		36			3 75	3 75	25 60
Mrs. McRae, Hampton,					35	35	
Totals,		484	192	\$257 25	\$38 65	\$295 90	\$167 35

New Jersey, Week Ending Sept. 18, 1908

G. Blinn, Trenton,	GC	4	23	16	\$38 50	\$ 50	\$39 00	\$ 50
R. Funk,† Irvington,	GC	2	12	1	2 75		2 75	2 75
" " " "	GC	4	23	4	12 00		12 00	
C. Woertz, Elizabeth,	GC	3	22					7 25
J. Rambo, Greenwich,	DR	4	31	10	21 25	14 00	35 25	11 00
H. Province, Woodbury,	DR	3	19	4	13 00		13 00	
B. H. Welsh, Summit,	BR	5	30	1	2 75	50	3 25	197 65
P. Valenta, Caldwell,	BR	4	27	1	2 75	1 25	4 00	12 25
Totals,		29	187	37	\$93 00	\$16 25	\$109 25	\$231 40

West Virginia, Week Ending Sept. 18, 1908

J. Jennings, Berkeley Co.,	DR	5	39	6	\$ 8 60	\$2 25	\$10 85	\$21 75
P. Province, Charleston,	DR	4	19	3	10 25		10 25	
H. Waggoner, Morgan Co.,		3	30					46 00
Totals,		12	88	9	\$18 85	\$2 25	\$21 10	\$67 75

*Two Weeks.

†Week ending September 11.

‡Week ending September 6.

READING COURSE NO 2

THIS world has from the beginning been the battleground in the great controversy between good and evil. Now as we near the close of its history, the struggle is intensified. Every effort is being put forth by the adversary to thwart the plans of God. Everyone is called into service. Many of our youth have volunteered, but this is not sufficient. Each must receive a thorough training in order to become a good soldier. "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life: that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

One of the best preparations we can make for service is to obtain a thorough knowledge of the conflict in which we are engaged. This will demand earnest study.

We can be greatly helped by taking up the Reading Course which will commence the first of October. This has been prepared by those who are devoting every energy to promote the welfare of the youth. Two books are to be studied, "Great Controversy" and "Daybreak in the Dark Continent," the lessons being given through *The Youth's Instructor*. Our first reading course has been a great benefit to many. Let us not give up our systematic reading. Who are ready to take up the new course? Please send in your names for enrollment.

Things Needed for Course 2

The Youth's Instructor, Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C. \$1 per year.

"Great Controversy," by Mrs. E. G. White. Cloth, \$2.75; full law sheep, \$3.75; full morocco, \$4.75.

"Daybreak in the Dark Continent," by Wilson S. Naylor. Cloth, 50 cents; paper 40 cents.

Order "Great Controversy" from the Tract Society, and "Daybreak in the Dark Continent" through the Review & Herald, Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C. BESSIE E. ACTON.

CONCENTRATING AND CONCENTRATED WEALTH

The leading article in the *Signs of the Times Special* for October will be on the subject of "Finance." Carefully prepared statistics will be given showing the rapid concentration of wealth into the hands of a few men who are able to control all the great industries and commodities of the country. This is creating a feeling of dissatisfaction and unrest

Ohio, Week Ending Sept. 18, 1908

R. Corder, Muskingum Co.,	DR	5	41	6	\$17 50	\$5 00	\$22 50	
O. Pember, Wood Co.,	DR			2	5 50		5 50	\$29 75
S. Ragon, Cleveland,	CK	3	10½	11	12 50	3 75	16 25	
C. Forker, Muskingum Co.,	CK	1	10	2	2 50		2 50	
E. Sharp, Scioto Co.,	BF	3	22	37	38 75	1 75	40 50	
M. Coleman, Huron Co.,	CK	2	8	5	5 00	70	5 70	
Totals,			14	91½	63	\$81 75	\$11 20	\$92 95
								\$29 75

among the masses, and the article will show that this state of things will naturally lead to the conditions spoken of by the apostle James, which reads as follows: "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered: and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as if it were fire. You have heaped treasure together for the last days." James 5: 1, 2, 3.

This question of finance is one of the most perplexing and difficult problems before the world to-day, and it is one in which nearly every person is interested. Just one year ago a financial crisis came upon this country like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky. It was wholly unexpected. There was no good reason for it, nevertheless it came; and some are now predicting a still greater crash in the near future. The student of prophecy knows exactly what these things mean, and it is his duty to tell it to others.

The cover design will be very attractive, showing the five great money centers of the world,—namely, Wall Street, New York; Bank of England, London; Le Place de la Bourse, Paris; Treasury Building, Washington, D. C.; and the Royal Exchange, London, England.

The first article in the journal, as usual, will be "Notes on Current Topics," taking up and commenting on the most important events in the social, political, and religious world, showing the bearing they have on the fulfillment of prophecy. This will be followed by editorial articles on practical Biblical themes to encourage honest investigation and Christian living.

The other regular departments of the journal will be unusually strong. Contributors who are specialists in their lines have been secured to write on themes of living interest and moment to all thinking people.

This October number, dealing with the question of finance as it does, and coming right before the presidential election, will doubtless meet with a ready sale. It will contain sixty-four pages, the same as previous numbers and will be ready to mail September 15. Let the orders come in early.

Subscription Price

Single copy,.....	10	cents
5 to 25 copies, each.....	5	"
25 to 500 copies, each.....	4	"
500 and over, each.....	3½	"

The regular subscription price for the monthly special (twelve numbers) is \$1 per year.

Foreign subscriptions, \$1.25.

Agents wanted in every city and town.

Address, *Signs of the Times*, Mountain View, Cal.

TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS,
NOTICE

The pupils' lesson sheets, accompanying the first section of the "Standard Graded Course of Sight Singing," recommended by the General Conference Text-book Committee are now ready for mailing. Send in your order at once so that your pupils may get the benefit of these effective exercises at once. Address Recorder Press, 843 East 46th St., Chicago, Ill.

GERARD GERRITSEN.

At a cost beyond all reckoning the continent (Africa) has passed from prehistoric darkness to twentieth century daybreak. It is estimated that of explorers over six hundred died as a direct result of the death-dealing climate and the consequent hardships of travel. Of missionaries the number is unknown, but in 1902 seven of the leading missionary societies in the United States furnished lists showing that the average length of service of the missionaries under their auspices had been eight years, and that since 1833 these seven societies had given 195 lives for Africa. When it is remembered that these are but seven of the ninety-five societies working in Africa, one can form some idea of the cost in the lives of missionaries. The roll of honor of those who, through the centuries, as conquerors, geographers, explorers, colonizers, missionaries, soldiers, statesmen, have contributed, bit by bit, here a little, there a little, to the sum total of knowledge concerning Africa, or to its present state of development, represents almost matchless achievements.—*Daybreak in the Dark Continent*.

The COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

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BESSIE E. RUSSELL - Editor

Entered as Second Class Matter March 25, 1908,
at the Postoffice at Mt. Vernon, O., under the
Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Miss Nina Hamilton left last week for Washington, D. C., to finish the nurses course at the Sanitarium.

In Sister P. Alderman's poem on the first page of VISITOR No 35, the word "world" in the fifth line of the third stanza should read "word". "O slow of heart to know the word."

Miss Florence Chrisman has connected with the Conference office as stenographer, and Miss Pengelly will do the stenographic work for the College offices.

Brother C. V. Hamer has been confined to the house by sickness for a few days. He is improving, and hopes to be in his accustomed place to-morrow.

THE INGATHERING FOR MISSIONS

We trust all of our readers have seen the announcement of the Thanksgiving Ingathering plan, which provides for all the members of our churches in the United States to solicit for donations for missions during next Thanksgiving week. If any are not familiar with this plan, we would be pleased to send them circulars containing the full details.

There is manifested a commendable interest in this plan in all parts of the field. Everybody seems to think it just the thing to do, and many are beginning now to plan so they can spend all of Thanksgiving week, gathering in money for our needy missions. Eld. S. N. Haskell thinks it is time to claim the promise of the prophet Isaiah. He says:—

"I am glad the Thanksgiving plan is meeting with favor. We read in the Bible that the wealth of the Gentiles shall flow into the work of God, and I have always been a firm believer in getting help from the outside. Every meeting house that we have ever built, if I remember rightly, and I have built many, we have always gotten plenty of money from the outside. I have thought that sinners are

under obligation to the righteous. You remember that God could not destroy Sodom until he had gotten the righteous out of the city, so sinners have much to be thankful for through the influence of the righteous around them. The time was that the Religious Liberty movement was carried so far that it was thought a sin to accept a favor from government. I wrote to our Religious Liberty brethren at the time, citing the example of Cyrus, and how God used him to accomplish his work in the earth. I hope this plan will be a great success and that a large sum of money will be received to advance the cause."

Let all begin to plan now so they can have at least the greater part of Thanksgiving week to solicit for donations to missions.

THE VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

The twenty-fifth annual session of the Virginia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in the Seventh-day Adventist church, Richmond, Va., November 3-8, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, and transacting any other business which may properly come before the Conference. All churches should attend immediately to the election of delegates to the Conference, and send their credentials to A. M. Neff, New Market, Va.

The first meeting of the Conference will be held at 9 A. M., Tuesday, November 3, 1908. Let all delegates be present at this meeting, that the work may begin promptly.

There will be evening services, and one Bible study each day.

H. W. Herrell.

HELPS FOR TEACHERS

Bible Nature Series Nos. 11 and 111

Bible Nature Series No. 1 is all in type and will be ready for use by the middle of October. This first book of the series has been prepared for use in the fourth grade in our primary schools, and can be secured from the Pacific Press, Mountain View, Cal.

Numbers 11 and 111 of this series are in preparation, and neostyle may copies now be secured from month to month as they are being graded and adapted for use in the normal department of Walla Walla College. Numbers 11 and 111 are designed for use in grades five and six, and teachers who desire to use these lessons the present year can obtain copies by addressing Walla Walla College Normal Dept., College Place, Wash. Price of neostyled les-

sons for numbers 11 and 111 of the series, \$1. each, post-paid.

IS LIFE AND HEALTH IMPOR- TANT

"The light God has given us on health reform is for our salvation and the salvation of the world.

"The people are in sad need of the light shining from the pages of our health and temperance journals. God desires to use these journals as mediums through which flashes of light shall arrest the attention of the people and cause them to heed the warning of the Message of the Third Angel. Our health journals are instrumentalities in the field to do a special work in disseminating the light which the inhabitants of the world must have in this day of God's preparation. They wield an untold influence in the interests of health and temperance and of social purity reform, and will accomplish great good in presenting these in a proper manner and in their true light to the people.

"Let none think that the circulation of the health journal is a minor matter. All should take hold of this work with more interest, and make greater efforts in this direction. God will greatly bless those who take hold of it in earnest, for it is a work that should receive attention at this time."—Mrs. E. G. White.

Send for sample copy and special rates to agents.

Prices

Single copy, 10 cents; 2 to 25 copies, 5 cents a copy; 25 to 500 copies, 4 cents a copy. Special rates on orders of 500 or more copies. The regular subscription price is 75 cents. Ten or more copies one year, to one address, one order, 45 cents a copy. Foreign subscriptions, including Canada, \$1 a year.

OBITUARY

McCoy.—Died at her home in Chester, West Virginia, Sept. 17, 1908, Mrs. Emily McCoy. Sister McCoy was born in Beaver County, Pa. about 54 years ago. On May 12, 1901, she was baptized in the faith of the Third Angel's Message, and immediately after united with the Seventh-day Adventist church at Chester. She had a sound Christian experience, and until the day of her death possessed strong faith and a firm belief in the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Her death came suddenly after only about a week's illness. She leaves a husband, eight children, five sisters, and one brother to mourn her death. JOHN F. STEELE.