

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

"THEY REHEARSED ALL THINGS THAT GOD HAD DONE WITH THEM"

Vol. 16

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No. 3

GENERAL MATTER

ROBES OF WHITE

The wintry wind was howling,
The earth was brown and bare,
A few stray leaves from shivering trees
Were falling here and there;
Birds their southward flight had taken,
Hill and vale seemed all forsaken,
Frosty flakes were flying, whirling in the air.

While sweetly I was dreaming
Of sunny skies and flowers,
Of clover-blooming fields and lanes
And fragrant, leafy bowers,
Fleecy flakes come softly sifting,
From the skies a mantle drifting,
Robing earth with beauty in the silent hours.

I viewed the scene with wonder,
A spotless, dazzling sight.
What a perfect transformation
God had wrought in one short night!
Emblem of the robes in heaven
Which the conquerors shall be given;
For 'tis written, "They shall walk with me
in white." MRS. M. A. PULVER.

Daniel's Waymarks to the Holy City.

THE CERTAINTY OF PROPHECY

ON one occasion while Christ was talking with his disciples he said, "What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works." That the nature of that event might be more fully comprehended he added, "Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom." "And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into a high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold a white cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."¹ Here was a representation of the coming of Christ, to which he had so recently referred, and which he had promised that some should witness before they tasted of death. Christ was there glorified; Moses represented the class which will be raised from the dead; Elias those who will be translated without seeing death. Peter in his second general epistle refers to this event, and says, "We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eye witnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount." He then adds, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy."² Thus after telling what he saw for himself and what he heard with his own ears, he turns our attention to prophecy as something even more sure than eyesight and hearing; and of such prophecy he says, "whereunto ye do well that ye take heed." Since the apostle assures us that prophecy is more certain than eyesight or hearing, we may enter upon its study with the utmost confidence. Peter proceeds to tell us why we may have such implicit confidence in prophecy. He says, "No prophecy ever came by the will of man: but man spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit."³ This is plainly shown in the case of Daniel, for that which he wrote was made known to him by a dream and visions.⁴

DANIEL A LAST DAY PROPHET

There is so much said in the book of Daniel about the latter times, or the last days, that we must conclude that the book was intended for study in the last days. Such expressions as the following make its application to our time and the coming of Christ very certain: "There is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days."⁵ Further on in the same chapter in explaining some symbols he says, "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed."⁶ In another vision he describes the time when there shall be given to the Son of man "dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him."⁷ This event is referred to again in the same vision when he says, "The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him."⁸ In another vision he was shown some persecutions which would come upon the Christians when some of them should fall, "to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end."⁹ Thus this prophecy also reaches to the closing up of this earth's history. And again in the last chapter Daniel describes the time when Michael (Christ) shall stand up to reign. "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."¹⁰ Another positive evidence that the book was written for our own time is the fact that it was sealed, and was to remain sealed until the time of the end.¹¹ Thus it is evident that the book was especially designed by God as an aid to those now living in the time of the end.

THE SIMILITUDES PRESENTED BEFORE DANIEL

Daniel saw a great sea upon which the winds of heaven blew, and as a

result of the blowing of the winds upon this sea four great beasts came up out of the sea. The first was like a lion, the second was compared to a bear, the third resembled a leopard, and the fourth was so terrible that it could not be likened to anything in nature.¹²

THE MEANING OF EACH SIMILITUDE

In seeking for an explanation of the figures used in symbolic prophecy it is sometimes necessary to draw from other scriptures an interpretation; for Peter says, "Ye having the previous knowledge, that no prophecy is an exposition of its own text."¹³ One of the symbols mentioned in this vision is the "great sea." In Revelation we read, "The waters which thou sawest. . . are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues."¹⁴ Another symbol is "four winds." In the prophecy of Jeremiah we read where the word of the Lord says, "Upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds." But in the next verse he explains what he means by the winds when he says, "For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies, and before them that seek their life: . . . and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them."¹⁵ Here it is very plain that political commotion or war and strife among the nations is represented by the winds. Similar language is used in another passage in Jeremiah, where he says, "The Lord hath a controversy with the nations, . . . he will give them that are wicked to the sword." Then in the next verse he puts the same thought in symbolic language when he says, "Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth."¹⁶ The next symbols brought to view in Daniel's vision are the "four great beasts." These are explained in the same chapter. For it was told Daniel, "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall rise up out of the earth."¹⁷ And we find that the words "kings" and "kingdoms" are here used interchangeably; for further on in the explanation we read, "The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth."¹⁸ Thus with the symbols explained the prophecy is freed of all obscurity. The sea represents the peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues; the winds signify the strife and commotion among these people; and the beasts symbolize the great nations which arise as a result of that commotion.

REFERENCES

1. Matt. 16:26-17:5; 2. 2 Pet. 1:16-19;
3. 2 Pet. 1:21 A. R. V.; 4. Dan. 7:1;
5. Dan. 2:28; 6. Dan. 2:44; 7. Dan. 7:14;
8. Dan. 7:27; 9. Dan. 11:35; 10. Dan. 12:1, 2;
11. Dan. 12:4, 9; 12. Dan. 7:2-8;
13. 2 Pet. 1:20; 14. Rev. 17:15;
15. Jer. 49:36, 37; 16. Jer. 25:31-33;
17. Dan. 7:17; 18. Dan. 7:23.

O. F. BUTCHER.

(Continued)

UNION

A Sabbath of Fasting and Prayer

SABBATH, January 21, has been set apart by the General Conference as a day of fasting and prayer in behalf of our work in mission fields.

The interest which God has shown in us demands on our part a display of interest in those who, spiritually and materially, are so much worse off than we were before we knew the gospel of truth. There is a living power to convert hearts. This is a truth that should be known both near and far. We know it, and because we have had this experience, we know that our hearts needed converting. We see that the things which we once loved we now hate; the things which we once hated we now love. We have experienced a conversion. We did not do it ourselves, but this great operation brought us into acquaintance with that glorious living power.

So, dear brethren, off in gay and godless Europe, off in heathen and degraded Africa, off in poor and ignorant Asia, there are souls whose worth is great in the sight of God. We should earnestly pray that the Lord will send to them, as he did to us, the knowledge of his living converting power. We should earnestly pray that his servants may be clothed with salvation, and armed with physical strength sufficient to their great task. To this end we need to spend long enough time in the antichamber of prayer, to get our hearts and our eyes fixed on God. In order to do this properly, oftentimes it demands fasting; it demands a clear head to be able to sweep our souls away from the attachment to standards as they exist about us, and catch a glimpse of the standards of the other world. If we could see the activity of heaven; if we could realize the intense interest of God in trying to raise degraded and retrograding humanity, if we could real-

ly understand what is the fullness of the love of the Spirit, I am sure that we should all manifest greater zeal not only in prayer but in active service. Shall we not all as church members, as elders, as workers, make January 21 a day of feasting with God, and of learning within the secret boundaries of our souls the mighty power there is to change hearts? B. G. WILKINSON.

A Book that the World is Needing

"WHEREVER the canvassing work is presented among our people, let the health books and the religious books be presented together as parts of a united whole. In the past the health books have not been handled with the interest which their importance demands."

These words from the spirit of prophecy should not be overlooked by those interested in the circulation of the printed page. The world to-day is groaning under a terrible pressure of suffering, which is due, of course, to sinful habits and to disregard of the laws of nature, but which nevertheless to many seems almost impossible to bear. It is hard to find men and women who could be pronounced thoroughly sound, physically and mentally. Disease of every description is on the increase, and man, who in the beginning was made in the image of God, is certainly degenerating. Many a poor creature goes on for years, catering to appetite and sinful desires, until nature gives way, and he becomes a wreck. In this condition people reach eagerly for anything that promises relief, and there are always many patent medicine dealers and unscrupulous physicians ready to take their money and give them nothing in return.

Right here is an opportunity for our canvassers. You will find as you visit the people and talk with them that they readily agree that rational remedies are, in most cases, better than medicine, yet they continue to buy it, simply because they have not been educated in home treatments and health principles. They need help, and it is for the purpose of providing this help that our health books have been written. "Practical Guide" is a book containing the very information that is needed, and it should be placed in the homes of the people. Many of the canvassers have done excellent work with our other books; but now we want more recruits to take up the sale of this splendid work.

Ladies and gentlemen alike can handle it successfully. Some of the best records in the field have been made with health books. There is nothing in them to cause religious prejudice; but, on the other hand, the reading public is beginning to understand the value of the principles which we have been advocating for years. Health is something that all are anxious to enjoy, and a book of this kind always finds ready sale. From now on we expect to see some of the best records made with this book. Who will be the first volunteer?

E. R. NUMBERS,

General Agent, C. U. C.

AT THE COLLEGE

A Thought for 1911

THERE is a great deal more truth than poetry in the beautiful hymn we often sing from "Christ in Song," "Give of Your Best." That is just what God expects from each one of his people. What nobler thing can we do than to give the best that we have to be used as God wills?

But another thought here. In order to give the best, we must get the best. Let us, therefore, with the year before us, make it one of our aims to get the very best that the year has in store for us, keeping constantly in mind the purpose for which we want the best,—not for self, nor to be wasted upon the world, but to give to the Master. The Lord will bless this kind of getting, and will help us to discriminate between the false and the true.

So let us strive during the year 1911 to get the best of health, the best education, the best experiences, the best of God's blessings. Then we shall be ready to give the best to the Master.

"There are loyal hearts, there are spirits brave,
There are souls that are pure and true;
Then give to the world the best you have,
And the best will come back to you."
S. G. JACQUES.

Mrs. J. L. Secor is visiting her sons in Chicago.

Mr. Lonnie Taylor, a former student of Mount Vernon College, was recently married to Miss Halcyon McIntyre of Pittwood, Ill. Mr. Taylor is now general canvassing agent for the Southern Illinois Conference.

The German department of the College Sabbath-school has grown so large that another class had to be formed at the opening of the second term.

In a recent letter to one of the students, Mrs. Ned Thornton describes a trip which she took with Mr. Thornton across the Isthmus to Panama City. She says: "The railroad follows the canal all the way, and we could see just what is being done. Panama city is the seaport on the Pacific side, an old Spanish town with its buildings all lying in ruins; it is very interesting. The scenery on the way was fine. The tropical jungles are everywhere. The woods here have very beautiful trees and shrubs, but they are swampy in most places. Bananas can be seen growing almost anywhere. The natives sell them from large trays which they carry around on their heads. They carry everything in that way. When they go on a trip they carry heavy trunks on their heads, women and men alike. You would spend half your time laughing, for a while, if you were here."

The College Sabbath-School

SABBATH, December 3, closed a very successful term of the College Sabbath-school. The following from the final report is a brief summary of the work of the term:—

Maximum membership	123
Average membership	111
Average attendance	97
Per cent of attendance	86
Total donations	\$75.88
Donations of classes:	
Mrs. Ethel M. Walker's	\$ 3.24
Miss Nellie Leach's	3.56
Mr. E. M. Walker's	2.98
Mr. W. E. Barr's	1.88
Professor O. M. John's (Spanish)	8.71
Mr. H. G. Gauker's	3.34
Mr. Homer Baumgartner's (German)	6.91
Elder O. F. Butcher's	4.81
Miss Bertha Spohn's	5.37
Miss Grace Purdham's	4.03
Mr. Harry Barto's	8.06
Professor C. C. Pulver's	10.29
Miss Minnie O. Hart's (Normal)	4.78
Mr. Howard Detwiler's	3.32
Mr. S. G. Jacques'	1.14
Officers	3.46

The banner class in donations and also in attendance was Professor Pulver's class, giving \$10.29 for the term, and having an average attendance of 99 per cent.

The report showed a marked improvement in the attendance of the Sabbath-school; over half of the members were present on every Sabbath of the term. The perfect membership idea is growing among the students; and we hope that before long every member will adopt it.

The donations of the term were better than those of the first term of

last year, but not so good as those of the second and third terms. Last year's donations amounted to over \$250.00. This year, with an increased attendance and a better donation for the first term, an excellent beginning has been made; and we hope by the end of the spring term to have left last year's record far behind.

DOLLIE PARKER, *Secretary.*

God or Baal in Education?

"Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose ye this day whom ye will serve." "If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." I believe that young people have problems to solve as difficult, as serious, and as baffling as any that face those of riper years. And the question of getting an education is not the least of these. If one could rely wholly upon the advice of friends, the matter would be greatly simplified in some respects. But unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, since it throws one more upon one's own resources, the advice given differs as widely as the complexion of those who give it.

I hope it is pardonable to draw an illustration from my own experience. After completing a course in secondary education I entered the Ohio State University in order to take some advanced work in English. As people enquired about my work I tried to determine their attitude toward my pursuing a course in such an institution. Some urged me to do so by all means, while others were not so outspoken in their assent. A teacher in one of our schools went so far as to assure me that my prospects were absolutely hopeless unless I completed the course and took the degree. I could not fail to notice, however, that the least encouragement come from some of our leading men.

Now it is self-evident to the believer in present truth who is versed in Scripture why Seventh-day Adventists choose to add one more to the several hundred existing religious denominations in the world to-day. But should one particularize a bit farther, and ask why we maintain a separate system of education, many no doubt would dismiss the question with the statement that we want our youth surrounded by a religious atmosphere—a missionary spirit. This is very true, but manifestly it is only half the reason. People are not saved

by groups. There is always a counteracting evil influence, and conversion is a purely individual matter after all.

Surely we can not think to improve upon, or even compete with the elaborate educational systems of the world. In either of the two great types of education—liberal and technical—the aims set are accomplished to perfection. Broad-minded and intelligent citizens are turned out, eager to grapple with present day problems and to found institutions to endure for centuries to come. On the other hand experts are trained in all departments of human activity. Should we strive to model our work upon that of the world? A few extracts from the spirit of prophecy are invaluable in the consideration of this question: "We are not to elevate our standard just a little above the world's standard; but we are to make the distinction decidedly apparent."

"The object of our schools is to provide places where the younger members of the Lord's family may be trained according to his plan of growth and development."

"The one object is to fit students for the kingdom of God."

"There is constant danger that our education will travel over the same ground as did the Jews', conforming to the customs, practices, and traditions which God has not given. With tenacity and firmness, some cling to old habits and a love of various studies which are not essential, as if their salvation depended on these things. In doing this they turn away from the special work of God, and give to the students a deficient, a wrong education."

The Jews wanted to rival Rome in imperial glory, the very thing in which Rome was supreme, while they neglected the more exalted work that God had given especially to them. Our business is not to train men for worldly occupations. State and other institutions do that admirably.

But shall we not adopt progressive measures in our work? It is well to remember that there is, as some one has said, such a thing as "progression toward the devil."

"We have not many years to work" (and this was written more than ten years ago). There is no time now to fill the mind with theories of what is popularly called 'higher education.'"

By giving a disproportionate amount of time to other than Bible study, I believe there is danger of students losing the true perspective of things, as it were, and of being actually educated out of the truth.

But, it may be asked, will not such

a conception of educational work tend to weaken the course of study, and thus fail to provide the adequate mental discipline? In answer to such a query consider the following:

"The depth of human intellect may be measured; the works of human authors may be mastered; but the highest, deepest, broadest flight of the imagination cannot find out God."

"The understanding adapts itself to the comprehension of the things with which it is familiar, and in this devotion to finite things it is weakened, its power is contracted, and after a time it becomes unable to expand. All this is false education." "The knowledge of God is as high as heaven and as broad as the universe. There is nothing so ennobling and invigorating as the study of the great themes which concern our eternal life. Let the youth seek to grasp these God-given truths, and their minds will expand and grow strong in the effort. It will bring every student who is a doer of the word into a broader field of thought, and secure for him a wealth of knowledge that is imperishable."

If, then, some abstruse science or the like were found to interfere with a fuller study of God's holy word, should there be even a moment's hesitation in the choice?—"It is not well to crowd the mind with a class of studies that require intense application, but are not brought into use in practical life. An education of this kind will be a loss to the student, for these studies take away his desire and inclination for the studies that would fit him for usefulness and enable him to fulfil his responsibilities."

Christ could have imparted to men knowledge that would have surpassed any previous disclosures, and put in the background every other discovery. He could have unlocked mystery after mystery, and could have concentrated around these wonderful revelations the active, earnest thought of successive generations till the close of time. But he would not spare a moment from teaching the knowledge of the science of salvation. His time, his faculties, his life itself was appreciated and used only as a means of working out the salvation of the souls of men. He had come to seek and to save that which was lost, and he would not be turned from his object. He allowed nothing to divert him." Our problem is that of "adopting the plans that were followed in the schools of the prophets."

"The youth should be encouraged to attend our training schools for

Christian workers, which should become more and more like the schools of the prophets. These institutions have been established by the Lord, and if they are conducted in harmony with his purpose, the youth sent to them will quickly be prepared to engage in various lines of missionary work. Some will be trained to enter the field as missionary nurses, some as canvassers, and some as gospel ministers."

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you," if not in this world, then in the world to come.

GURNIE YOUNG.

CHESAPEAKE

Does It Pay to Canvass?

THOUGH I have not been able to spend all my time canvassing, I have had some experiences which were full of blessing. The Lord has been with me, according to his promise, and I am realizing rich results from my labors. Satan tries often to hinder me; but when I am fully trusting in the Master, his efforts are defeated. When he hedges up the way in one place, it opens in another.

I have been laboring for some time in a little town of nine hundred inhabitants, and in all my experience I have never found a more needy field. A great many seemed to know nothing about the Bible. Many doors were thrown open to me, and I was invited to teach the Scriptures. Here I felt my inefficiency; but often I had to stay longer than I would, to answer questions.

"Great Controversy" is the book for which I have been canvassing. In one house, through one lady, I took five orders. I always have "Best Stories" with me, and offer it to mothers who have small children. One lady told me she had never seen a small book with so many explanations of the Bible; another bought it to use herself in beginning a study of the Bible. In one wealthy home which I entered the lady told me she would look at my book, but would not buy one, as she already had more than she could read. I talked to her of the calamities which are coming upon the earth, and she asked me if I believed the Lord is coming soon. Of course that was what I wanted most to talk about; and she ordered "Great Controversy" before I canvassed her. When her husband came in, I showed him the book, and they also ordered "Ministry of Healing." The Holy Spirit worked mightily in that home.

They said they very seldom went to church, for they found no spirit in it.

The pastor of the church was the last person I canvassed, but I had met him before, having twice attended his church. On the first Sunday he asked me to teach a class of young ladies in the Sunday-school. The lesson was on temperance and the second coming of Christ. "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; when his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is nigh, even at the doors." They were so pleased with the way I taught them that I was asked to review the school on the following Sunday. It was not a task I would have chosen, and I felt unable to do it; but the Lord had opened the way, and I must step into it. I never felt my weakness more than when I walked up to the front of the room to review that school; but I told them so much more about the subject than was in their lesson that the minister and many others expressed a wish that I would come and help them to better understand the Bible. I could but praise God for the blessing that came to me at that time; and I hope that this report may prove an encouragement to some weak worker like myself.

I have also been called to give treatments to the sick; and I believe that this, too, was the Lord's doing. Let us never say we can not, but let us say we can, for this is the truth; and He who gave us this knowledge to give to others, said, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end."

I am now helping to relieve a family in which four members have typhoid fever, and I hope my stay may prove a blessing to them.

On my return home I missed the morning train at Felton and had to remain all day; but the Lord blessed even this disappointment. I went into the postoffice to ask the postmaster for a donation to the Harvest Ingathering, and a lady whom I had never canvassed became interested, having heard of a copy of "Great Controversy" I had sold. She asked me if I had the book with me, and I had. She bought a copy in the best binding, paying cash for it, and ordered another for a friend. I felt that the Lord had impressed me to carry that book. I know that he is with me, and I intend to press onward in this work as much as I am able. I shall endeavor to put in more time in the warm weather, as I am not able to do much in the winter. I beg an

interest in the prayers of those who believe this truth, that I may receive strength to spend in this good work. I love it, and am determined to go forward in it as my Lord leads.

"Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

ELLA R. WHALEY.

Miss Alice M. Fieldberg, educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Chesapeake Conference, should henceforth be addressed at 2 London Ave., Station D, Baltimore, Md., instead of at Washington, D. C., as formerly.

NEW JERSEY

SEND in subscriptions to the COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR now, and get the reports of the conference proceedings which will be printed in it. It costs only fifty cents to get it for a whole year, and it will help you to keep in touch with the work in your conference and in the Columbia Union.

The General Conference has set aside Sabbath, January 21, as a day of special fasting and prayer that the Lord of the harvest will send consecrated workers into the great unworked cities, and that means may be provided for pushing forward the work in these neglected fields. With the large part of our population located in cities, many of which have never been entered by the living preacher of the third angel's message, there are reasons why the brethren and sisters living in New Jersey should enter most earnestly into this season of prayer. Without the aid of the Spirit of God, our task is a hopeless one. But the boundless power of the Almighty awaits our call, and the Lord is anxiously urging us to accept the priceless gift. Let us humble ourselves before God, and with earnestness seek for the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

Brother E. R. Brown, auditor of the Columbia Union Conference, was at the office this week, auditing the books of the conference and the tract society.

When this reaches our readers the annual conference will be in session. We trust that you will continue to pray that the Spirit of God may guide in all the deliberations of the conference.

WEST VIRGINIA

A SABBATH-SCHOOL of eleven members was organized by Brother Richardson at New Cumberland, W. Va., with John McHenry as superintendent and T. C. Book, Jr., as secretary and treasurer.

Brother Leach, our energetic canvassing agent, recently introduced a new recruit into the field. From the way in which this brother takes hold of the work, Brother Leach says he will soon be among our best canvassers.

Elder Robbins is at Charleston, where he expects to hold a series of cottage meetings. He will be with the Charleston brethren for three or four weeks.

Elder Province will be with the Parkersburg church January 21, when he will hold the quarterly service. He then goes to Kanawha and Walker, to hold a few meetings with the church at each place.

Elder John F. Steele has already organized a Sabbath-school at Martinsburg. Thirteen or more are in attendance.

Brother H. C. Smith, a canvasser, sends us a most interesting letter this week. He says: "About six weeks ago Brother Wagner delivered a copy of 'Daniel and the Revelation' to a young man who keeps a shoe repair shop. This young man has now been keeping the Lord's Sabbath for three weeks. He attended our Sabbath-school and church services yesterday, and is showing the greatest interest and earnestness; he wants the whole message for God's people at this time, and even asked us when and where to pay tithe, etc. We are trying to give him all he desires and all the word of God teaches. Through this one book and this young man, there is another person who says he also wants to keep the Sabbath. Last Sabbath he was absent from the service on account of illness, but we look for him next Sabbath. Praise the Lord in his goodness!

"Then we have two more families who purchased 'Daniel and the Revelation,' and who seem to be, and are, very much interested, and have asked for Bible readings.

"Pray for us, that we may be able

to keep up the interest until we can get help in Clarksburg."

Brothers Wagner and Smith are indeed gospel canvassers. Pray, brethren, for all our canvassers, that the Lord may give them still greater power with those with whom they may come in contact.

EAST PENNSYLVANIA

Reading

SABBATH, January 4, was another good day for the Reading church. It was the day appointed for quarterly service, and surely the Lord came divinely near to us. It was an all-day meeting, Sabbath-school being held at 9:30 A. M., preaching at 11:00 A. M., and quarterly services at 2:00 P. M.

Our minds were in a special sense drawn to the great Creator; first, because we gathered to celebrate the memorial of our Lord's death; second, because there were those who presented themselves to bury the old man in baptism and henceforth walk in newness of life, thus reminding us of our Lord's resurrection; and third, it was the Sabbath, the rest day of our Lord and Creator. The morning service was closed by a baptismal scene, seven souls following their blessed Lord in baptism.

Since we came to Reading, July 22, 1910, thirty-one souls have united with the church. Four of these have been baptized at camp-meeting. Three others who are not members of the church are keeping the Sabbath. The Lord has greatly blessed the efforts of the summer. Much credit is due to the faithful work of Sister Weiss, who was associated with us as Bible worker. Likewise the work of Brother and Sister Rhan, who were also connected with the effort, was indeed appreciated.

Our annual offering up to date amounts to \$169.17, and still more is yet to come in. The Ingathering campaign shows activity. Although the campaign is over, some are yet at work. Thus far we have reached \$197.54; it will, however, pass the \$200 mark.

To God we ascribe all the praise and glory, for he only can give success. C. S. WIEST.

VIRGINIA

To the Believers in Virginia

Now that you are receiving the VISITOR, and we have had an introduction, I wish to say something about our work and workers. First, our work is the same as that of all

Seventh-day Adventists,—The carrying of the third angel's message to the world, and especially to the home conference. It is a great, solemn, and sacred work; and demands our very best.

Second, our workers: at present we have five ordained ministers at work, and two licensed Bible workers; also our teachers in the Academy, and the departmental secretaries. Elder Hottel is working in the northwestern portion of the state, and God is blessing his efforts. Elder E. H. Huntly, from Spokane, Wash., will soon join our force, and will for the present labor in Richmond. Sister Rice is laboring there earnestly as a Bible worker. Elder Hanna and Brother Hennage are erecting a church building at Dillwyn, Va., where they labored the latter part of the summer. Elder Warnick has returned to Danville to take up work for the colored people. And Elder Muntz has gone to Mount Vernon to get the benefit of the special winter course. At present I am helping the church at Stanleyton to get the light of truth before their neighbors. Miss Florence Swan is the secretary of the Sabbath-school department, and would be pleased to hear from all isolated Sabbath-keepers. Our school is not so well patronized as we wish it were, but it is doing a good work, and we predict that next year we shall have a full school and a prosperous year. Pray for all these workers, not forgetting Brother Neff in the office.

Our duty: first, have you taken a lively interest in the "Ministry of Healing" campaign? Have you read the book? If you have not, you have missed much. If you will but study it, it will fill you with enthusiasm. Have your friends know the excellent things it contains. There is much in it that will help you. We are to sell this book for the relief of our sanitariums. While it is our duty to do this, the doing of it will bring us a blessing, will bless our neighbors, and will relieve our institutions of their burden of debt. If you have taken no books as yet, take some at once. Read them carefully and sell them. If you have taken some, sell them at once and send the money to Dr. A. M. Neff, 1615 West Main Street, Richmond. And you can sell them. It is the slothful man who says, "There is a lion in the way." The money is needed now, and we must get it and pass it on.

Second, the Union Conference Committee passed a recommendation that we should all give to a fund known as

the educational fund twenty-five cents a quarter,—"a quarter a quarter". This will require a little effort, but only a little. It can be done if we will "just remember". This should begin the first of January, 1911. Let us not fall down on this duty, but do our part well. Let the church officers keep these duties before our people. Num. 6: 24 - 26.

STEWART KIME.

Your Pledge

A number of pledges to the tent fund still remain unpaid, and as we are in need of money now to meet demands upon us from this fund, we shall appreciate it if you will send in the amount of your pledge as soon as possible.

Perhaps there are some who have not pledged to this fund, but who are willing to help us out at this time. Anything that you can send will be gladly received.

It is very necessary that we have tents to carry on our work during the summer, and these tents must be paid for. We are still owing on the tents that were purchased last summer. Let us come forward and do our part in helping to advance this work in every way we can.

Pay the money to your church treasurer, or, if you are away from a church, send it directly to A. M. Neff, 1615 West Main Street, Richmond, Va.

Good Territory

NINETEEN hundred and eleven is here, and we shall begin the new year by telling you something of the Old Dominion. It has been some time since you have heard from us; however, we have not been idle. We have been looking for some one to come and work this field.

We have learned that many erroneous views are held in regard to this state. In order to correct these views, I mention some facts heretofore not given.

Many have the idea that the state of Virginia is small, and also very poor. This is not the case; we have an area of fifteen hundred and ninety-seven square miles,—more than the state of Ohio, and almost as much as the two combined conferences of Pennsylvania. There are one hundred counties in the state, some of them almost as large as the state of Rhode Island. The last census gives us a population of twenty-one hundred thousand. One can readily see the amount of territory we have; the

Canvassers' Reports

Ohio, Week Ending January 6, 1911

Name	Place	Book	Days	Hrs	Ords	Value	Helps	Total	Del
H. Kirk, Jefferson Co.		GC	4	31	17	57 00	6 00	63 00	
F. E. Hankins, Jefferson Co.		GC	4	31	12	36 00	1 75	37 75	
J. Randolph, Marion Co.		DR	4	32	8	27 00	22 45	49 45	
W. Holst, Union Co.		DR	4	25	1	3 00	2 50	5 50	2 50
M. Krimp, Cuyahoga Co.		BR	5	35		87 50		87 50	
L. H. Waters, Crawford Co.		BF	3	21	22	24 50		24 50	
Totals			24	175	60	\$235 00	\$32 70	\$267 70	\$2 50

West Virginia, Week Ending January 6, 1911

T. M. Butler, Marion Co.		GC	10	66	3	9 00	6 00	15 00	145 30
W. McElphatrick, Lewis Co.		DR	5	40	11	29 00	9 05	38 05	16 05
H. Smith, Harrison Co.		DR	4	34	11	33 00	5 80	38 80	9 30
F. Wagner, Harrison Co.		DR	5	33	12	38 00	2 25	40 25	3 00
Totals			24	173	37	\$109 00	\$23 10	\$132 10	\$173 65

Ohio, Week Ending December 30, 1910

H. Kirk, Jefferson Co.		DR	4	19	14	43 00	15 00	58 00	
F. Hankins, Jefferson Co.		DR	4	18	13	38 00	6 00	44 00	
Enos M. Horst, Hocking Co.		GC	5	40	1	3 00	3 50	6 50	58 00
Totals			13	77	28	\$84 00	\$24 50	\$108 50	\$58 00

Virginia, Week Ending December 30, 1910

K. Oertley, Wytheville		CK		16	5	5 50	25	5 75	25
A. Schenke, "		CK		17	3	4 50		4 50	
Totals				33	8	\$10 00	\$ 25	\$10 25	\$ 25

Grand Totals: Value of Orders, \$518.55 Deliveries, \$234.30

only question is, where are those to work it?

To give the readers a short description of the state and its resources, I will quote from an article on Virginia written by Mr. George W. Coiner, a man who has traveled extensively, and is acquainted with conditions here. He writes: "Virginia, named for Elizabeth, England's virgin queen, carries a certain charm in the pronunciation of its soft, harmonious syllables that appeals to everyone endowed with a love for the beautiful; a land of great forests, beautiful mountains, peaceful valleys, rippling streams, salubrious climate, health-giving waters; was the chosen home of the Indians, the haven of rest for the first English settlers, the birthplace and cradle of the great American Republic. . . . From the shores of the east, where the ceaseless waves ever beat, and the thousands of green trucking fields of the tidewater, making winter a name only, the traveler is led on to the battleground and the aristocracy of middle Virginia, through the roll-

ing grassy fields, murmuring brooks, and beautiful homes of Piedmont, up to the mountains of blue, with their mineral springs and health resorts, which separate us from the granary of the South, the Valley of Virginia, one of the most fertile valleys in the world. We pass to the picturesque mineral-laden Alleghenies, which form the western boundary of the state. Our journey is not completed until we visit the great southwest, where the cattle graze upon a thousand hills, and where the vast iron and coal fields yet scarcely touched will yield a great treasure to the energy of man.

"The reasons that influenced the first settlers to locate on Virginia soil are just as potent to-day as they were 300 years ago. Men want mild climate, good water, and sunshine. Virginia gives the opportunity of going out every day in the year in comfort, with none of the extremes of heat and cold that prevail in less favored localities. . . .

"For salubrity of climate, kindness of soil, nearness to markets, and hospitality of the people, Virginia ex-

cells all other states. The skies of Virginia are illumed with hope, and her people, bravely and conservatively, are each year building a broader, a richer, and a more glorious commonwealth."

Think of a state with so many resources and natural advantages being a mission field; for as such it is recognized. Many of our brethren who have a burden for Southern work forget this, however, when seeking a place for missionary efforts. Virginia has sometimes been called the gateway of the South, and such it has indeed proven to be in our work. Brethren bent on helping the needy South have passed straight through this mission field to its sisters farther south, where already more is being done to enlighten the people than is being done in Virginia. This has left us to struggle alone, and we are badly in need of help. This is as much Southern in custom as in any state south of the Mason and Dixon line.

We need several good resident canvassers, those who are willing to endure hardship as good soldiers. There will be much to contend with; but are not the souls of Virginia as precious as those of other lands? The gospel is to go to every part of the earth—that takes in Virginia too.

Our experiences in the field have been varied. The people welcome us to their homes and are glad to get the books. When we go to them as Christians and tell them why we are working, our deliveries are usually good. In a few instances among the laboring classes we have had poor deliveries, but these are not common occurrences. I have just finished a delivery of "Great Controversy" and "Past, Present, and Future," in what I considered almost the poorest territory in the state. I made a very good delivery—the orders that were lost, in the case of both white and colored people, being caused by sickness or death. There were none who did not wish to have the book, and they expressed their regret at not being able to take it. If one could live in the territory as a resident, he could deliver almost every book.

We sincerely hope that some one who has this work at heart will be impressed to come this way. We want those who have the love of souls. Any one who desires to come will be given all the help which is in our power to render. Let us hear from you soon. Address us at 717 Greenwood Ave., Barton Heights, Richmond, Va.

V. O. PUNCHES.

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OHIO

Columbus

We celebrated the ordinances of the Lord's house last Sabbath, and all enjoyed the spirit of unity and harmony which prevailed. After a short study of "one-ness," based on the 17th chapter of John, we had a social service preceding the ordinance of humility and the communion service. The burden of the testimonies given was more unity in the service of Christ, and less of the spirit of criticism, which too often prevails in the hearts of men. Truly it was a day of refreshing for us all; "how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity".

The Lord is greatly blessing the church, and encouraging us to press together in His service. We never had a pastorate we liked better, or a church we enjoyed more than the Columbus church. Our constant desire is to see it grow stronger in the service of our God, and be a blessing in this important missionary center.

JOHN FRANCIS OLMSTED.

The conference committee met at the office in Academia Monday and Tuesday, January 9 and 10, to audit the books of the conference and the Conference Association, and to transact other important business.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Thornton recently attended the funeral of Mrs. Thornton's father, at Loyal, Wisconsin. They have since gone to Tennessee to labor.

A young people's convention will be held in the Akron church, Sabbath and Sunday, January 27-29. A number of conference workers are expected to be present. Members of neighboring churches are cordially invited to attend.

Dr. Venen held quarterly meeting with the Akron church Sabbath, January 7.

Brother Marietta spent Sabbath, January 7, with the church at Cincinnati.

Brother W. C. Moffett spent January 8-10 with the Newark and Pleasant Hill churches. The latter has recently organized a young people's society.

Miss Nellie Underwood, a Bibleworker of East Pennsylvania Conference, is visiting Miss Rebecca Miller of the Pleasant Hill church, while taking a much needed rest.

Brother Raleigh French, one of our Columbus Bible workers, is taking the special three months' course for workers at Mount Vernon College.

Brother Fred Numbers, general agent, and Elder F. H. Henderson, missionary secretary, paid a short visit at the conference office last week.

During a revival conducted by a popular evangelist, the young people of the Akron church distributed over 40,000 pages of our tracts. The Akron young people's society reports \$110.00 raised for home and foreign work during the last quarter.

The donations of the Mount Vernon church Sabbath-school for the fourth quarter of last year were \$94.21. Those of the whole year amounted to \$346.85. Add to this the donations of the College Sabbath-school during the nine-month months, and the result is over \$600.00 for missions during the year 1910.

The December report of the Zanesville missionary society shows that it has an active membership. The following are some of the items of the report: missionary visits 38, hours spent in Christian help work 83, sick persons assisted 14, treatments given

5, meals provided 5, articles of clothing given away 24, tracts lent or given away 39, papers lent, mailed, or given away 635, books lent or given away 6, retail value of all literature given away \$2.18, missionary letters written 14, periodicals sold 79, periodical subscriptions 20, "relief books" sold 5, other books sold 24, retail value of all literature sold \$17.85, Bible readings or cottage meetings held 11, number attending the Bible readings 17, number of children brought to the Sabbath-school 4.

Our first supply of five hundred copies of the Morning Watch Calendar is exhausted, but more are on the way. The General Conference reports that 18,000 have been sold already, and still they are going. If you have not obtained one yet, do not delay. Order from the Ohio Tract Society.

Married

At Smithsburg, Md., six o'clock, Wednesday evening, January 4, Miss Carrie L. Hoke of Hildebran, N. C., and Mr. Alvin Ross Padon of Smithsburg, Md., were united in marriage by Elder John F. Steele, assisted by W. L. Adkins. The bride recently graduated at the Washington, D. C., Sanitarium. They will reside in Smithsburg, Md.

OBITUARIES

BISEL.—Barbara Ellen, daughter of Gabriel and Catherine Acton, was born December 14, 1849, and died near Chester-ville, O., January 3, 1911, aged 61 years and 20 days. February 21, 1868 she was united in marriage to Dr. Abner Morton Mann, to which union four children were born. After a battle with pulmonary trouble Dr. Mann died January 17, 1884. On May 7, 1892 she was united in marriage to George Bisel, with whom she lived until summoned by the messenger of death. Sister Bisel was in her usual health until a few days previous to her death, when she was stricken with a severe attack of pneumonia, with fatal results. About forty years ago she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Seventh-day Adventist church of Waterford, Ohio, remaining a faithful and beloved member until called to her final rest. She was gifted by nature with a happy, cheerful disposition, which, being adorned with the religion of Christ, won for her a large circle of warm friends, who are greatly saddened at her sudden and unexpected departure. She leaves a husband, two children, four grandchildren, two brothers, one sister, and a large circle of other relatives and friends to mourn their loss. These, however, need not weep as those without hope. We believe she was prepared for the change, and we laid her to rest until the resurrection morning, when we hope to meet her in our Father's kingdom. Words of comfort were spoken by the writer, from I Thess. 4:13-18.

H. H. BURKHOLDER.