

Columbia Union Visitor

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

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No. 9

GENERAL MATTER

The Bookmen's Convention

"The book work should be the means of quickly giving the sacred light of present truth to the world."

Realizing the importance of the preceding words, which I take from Testimonies, Volume Nine, page 109, another convention has been called in the interest of our books and magazines. The announcement of this convention has appeared before in the columns of the VISITOR, but we want to tell you that at this time our workers are gathering and by the time you have this paper in hand the meeting will be on in earnest.

Never before during the history of this work has greater interest been manifested, nor more literature sold. The reports that come in, ever show a continual increase in sales which shows that the blessing of God is upon the work to help in fulfilling the prophecy quoted. Last month the sales for the Columbia Union alone were over seven thousand dollars, more than double the sales for the same time of 1910, 1911, 1912. In fact it is equal to our summer reports of only a few years ago.

As the workers come in for the work of the convention, they come filled with good cheer and courage, and we are confident that 1913 will be the best year this Union has ever seen. The arrivals so far are Elder I. G. Bigelow, the Union Secretary; J. H. McEachern of East Pennsylvania; V. O. Panches of West Pennsylvania; H. F. Kirk of Ohio; G. A. Sandborn of New Jersey; I. D. Richardson of West Virginia; and C. V. Leach, recently of the West Virginia conference. We also have with us all of our tract society secretaries, as they unite with us in this convention. Elder S. D. Hartwell, J. I. Cassell, H. K. Hackman, W. B. Walters, J. S. Barrows, A. J. Bristol, and A. M. Neff, of their respective conferences were present at the opening meeting on Friday morning, Feb. 21.

It is not often that we have the plea-

sure of having our conference presidents at a convention of this kind, but at present all of the presidents, Elder B. G. Wilkinson, president of the Union, and Elders E. K. Slade, B. F. Kneeland, F. H. Robbins, R. T. Baer, W. J. Stone, J. S. McElhany, A. R. Sandborn, and H. M. J. Richards, are here in a Mt. Vernon College Board and Columbia Union Committee session, with the intention of joining us in the work of our convention. Elder R. T. Dowsett, Union auditor is also present to help in the work.

Important papers in the interest of both the field and office work are being read by different ones who have been appointed, and discussed by those present. We confidently expect this to prove one of the most profitable meetings of its kind ever held and ask your prayers for us in this, not the least, but one of the most important branches of the work of giving this last message to the world.

I. G. BIGELOW,
C. U. Field Secretary.

The Bible versus Higher Criticism—4

In 1842 at the same time that Rawlinson was preparing the way for the translation of the Assyrian and Babylonian records, P. E. Botta, a French consul, and A. H. Layard, an Englishman, independently of each other, began excavations of the mounds marking the ruins of the ancient Assyrian palaces and cities. Botta stirred the world by the discovery of the magnificent palace of the great Sargon (722-605 B. C.), covering an area of twenty-five acres. Layard located the ruins of Nineveh and explored the palace of the terrible Sennacherib, whose attack on Jerusalem was checked by the slaying in one night of 185,000 of his army by the same angel, in all probability, who had slain all the first-born of Egypt. Immense libraries were thus brought to light, and the important portions of their contents translated and published.

In the Nineveh mounds, George Smith, a representative of the British Museum, found a library of 30,000 cylinders and tablets topically arranged, which had belonged to Ashur-bani-pal (668-626 B. C.), Assyria's last strong king. The discovery of the famous creation and deluge tablets in this library is of special interest.

CREATION

There were several tablets giving the Assyrio-Babylonian tradition of creation. Anyone who will examine the translation of the inscriptions as given by Professor Price on pages 81 to 83 of his "Monuments and the Old Testament" will notice that the story parallels closely the Genesis record.

First the scribe at Nineveh endeavors to convey the idea of nothingness, followed by the creation of the earth in a chaotic form. Then the god Merodach overthrows the demon of chaos, *Tiamat*, and chaos and darkness give place to order and light. Then Merodach formed an inclosure of dust restraining the waters, and the dry land appeared. Merodach next places the sun, moon, and stars as the mansions of the gods; the assembly of the gods created the animals and living creatures, and Merodach crowns his work by creating mankind. The principal difference in the two accounts is that Genesis recognizes the one God as Creator of all things while the polytheistic Assyrians and Babylonians attribute the creation to various gods.

Referring to the seventh of the creation tablets, A. H. Sayce, Professor of Assyriology in the University of Oxford, says, "The last tablet probably contained an account of the institution of the Sabbath. At all events, we learn that the seventh day was a day of rest among the Babylonians; as it was among the Jews. It was even called by the same name of Sabbath, a word which is defined in an Assyrian text as 'a day of rest for the heart,' while the Accadian equivalent is explained to mean, 'a day of completion of labor.'"—*Fresh Light from the Ancient Monuments*, page 24.

There is occasional mention in the

inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria of a primitive sacred garden, containing a tree of life, capable of perpetuating life by means of its fruit, and accessible only to the gods and to persons of distinction. More interesting still is the discovery of an archaic Babylonian gem which "represents a tree, on either side of which are seated a man and woman, with a serpent behind them, and their hands are stretched out towards the fruit that hangs from the tree"—*Id.* p. 25. The significance of this reminder of the fall of man is too apparent to require comment.

THE DELUGE

Of the many traditions passed on to us by the Babylonian and Assyrian inscriptions the most extensive is the account of the deluge. This is recorded on the eleventh tablet of the *Gilgamesh* epic, discovered and translated by George Smith in 1872. This tablet containing 185 lines has since been translated by many scholars, and will be found on pages 28 to 32 of Sayce's "Fresh Light."

As with the creation tablets so with this account of the flood, which agrees closely with the Bible record on the following points: the building of a ship to preserve the seed of life; the destruction of the wicked by a flood of waters caused by the gods; the landing on a mountain as the flood subsided; the sending forth of a dove and raven; the building of an altar to sacrifice to the gods; and their acceptance of the sacrifice with the promise by Ea that men would not again be destroyed by a flood. The principal point of similarity is that the flood is credited in the Babylonian story to the caprice of the god Bel and is full of polytheism, while the Bible recognizes but the one God.

THE CONFUSION OF TONGUES

Mr. Smith was also fortunate in discovering fragments of a cuneiform text, which we are informed by Prof. Sayce "tells how certain men had 'turned against the father of all the gods,' and how the thoughts of their leader's heart 'were evil.' At Babylon," he continues, "they essayed to build 'a mound' or hill-like tower, but the winds blew down their work, and Anu 'confounded great and small on the mound,' as well as their 'speech,' and 'made strange their counsel.' The very word that is used in the sense of 'confounding' in the narrative of Genesis is used also in the Assyrian text."

The reader will at once recognize in the above the likeness to the Mosaic record of the confusion of tongues at the tower of Babel, which

resulted in the dispersion of mankind, and the peopling of the earth. Of the tenth chapter of Genesis which gives the peopling of the earth, Prof. Sayce writes, "There is no difficulty in showing that the statements of the chapter are fully consistent with the conclusions of modern research."

Principal Cave in his able work on the Inspiration of the Old Testament quotes extensively from the literature of ancient Egypt, Babylon, China, Japan, Siam, India, Persia, Greece, Rome, and from the legends of the North American Indians, Mexico, Nicaragua, Brazil, Cuba, Borneo, the Scandinavians, the Tartars, and the South Sea Islanders, all confirming most remarkably the Genesis record of creation, the Sabbath, the tree of life, the serpent, the fall of man, the deluge, the building of the tower, and the confusion of tongues. If only two adjacent nations of the same race and religion told the same story it might be accounted for on the hypothesis that one borrowed it from the other; but when almost every people of every race and religion scattered in all parts of the earth bear practically the same testimony as does the Bible, it can be accounted for only on the ground of a common origin and a general dispersion, each passing on from generation to generation the early history of the race.

By the confusion of tongues God brought to nought the counsels of those who challenged his Word in the building of ancient Babel; by an understanding of those same tongues he is bringing confusion upon the builders of modern Babylon in their lofty criticism of his word, and "a voice out of the tomb of thirty centuries confirms the historical accuracy of Moses and demolishes the whole system of Biblical criticism, which has taught that this portion of the book of Genesis was 'impossible of truth,' a pure imagination."

W. C. M.

NEW JERSEY

A Good Record

The records for the year 1912 are all made up now and I know that all will be glad to know what the Lord has enabled us to do in the Sabbath-school Department. The Lord has indeed blessed and we are thankful for what he has enabled us to do toward carrying the message to those who sit in darkness. We have accomplished much more than seemed possible when we began the year.

Realizing the advantage to be gained by having a definite goal toward which to work, it was decided to try to raise four hundred dollars a quarter for missions during 1912, making \$1600.00 for the year. This looked like quite a large undertaking when the offering for 1911 was considered. When Sister Plummer was told of our aim she thought, if we could not reach the \$400.00 a quarter, we might perhaps make \$1500 for the year.

When the first quarter's report was made up, it showed that our Sabbath-schools were taking hold of the plan heartily and the Lord was blessing. This report showed a gain of almost \$75.00 over the first quarter of 1911. When the reports for the third quarter were all in, it became evident that the goal we had set was altogether too low. We lacked only \$113.00 of reaching the amount in the first three quarters that we had set out to raise in the year.

Although it was rather late in the year to pull our stakes and set them forward, that seemed to be the only thing to do and all who expressed any opinion seemed to favor endeavoring to reach \$2000.00. This seemed rather large, but the Lord blessed, and, when the last report was in for the last quarter, we had passed even this amount. A comparative report for the years 1911 and 1912 follows:

	1911	1912
First Quarter	\$375.87	\$448.23
Second "	388.00	483.32
Third "	357.52	555.55
Fourth "	359.01	598.59
Total	1480.40	2085.69
Gain over 1911		\$605.29

These figures mean much to us. They mean that our people are awakening to the needs of the work, and are gladly giving of their means to help. Surely the Lord has blessed, and we are all thankful that we are enabled to have a part in spreading this message to "every nation, kindred, tongue, and people", even though we may be unable to leave our homes and go in person to a foreign field.

But we must not be satisfied to stop with what we have done, but must press forward. We have one year less to work for perishing souls than we had when the stakes for 1912 were set. We are one year nearer our eternal home. What shall we work for during 1913? If we give as much each quarter as we did the last quarter of 1912, we would have almost \$2400 at the end of the year. Our number is getting larger all the time. Can we not do a little better and make it \$2500.00 for the year? This sounds

large, but judging from this year, I am sure we can do it. This would mean about six and a half cents per week for each member.

The Sabbath-school department of the General Conference has set out to raise a million dollars for missions in the next four years. Shall we do our part in raising this? When we think that the Sabbath-schools were twenty-four years raising the first million, it seems like a tremendous undertaking, but it would mean only a little more for each Sabbath-school than they have been doing. Let us remember that the silver and the gold are his and it is he that gives the power to get wealth.

One Sabbath-school in the conference had set out to raise \$150.00 for the year, or about \$35.00 more than last year. When they learned of the new goal that had been set, they pulled their stakes and set them at \$200.00. I have faith to believe that they will reach it, too. Will not others follow this example? Let us all do our best and leave the result with the Lord.

H. A. MAY.

WEST PENNSYLVANIA

West Pennsylvania Conference and Church Officers' Convention Altoona, Pa., March 4 to 9, 1913.

All who plan to attend the conference should note that the church is on the corner of Sixth Avenue and Union Avenue. Those coming on the train should take the Eldorado car at Eleventh Avenue (Pennsylvania R. R. Station), and get off at Twenty-fifth St. and Union Ave. Then walk one block on Union Avenue to the church. We shall have to furnish a number of beds so we trust that bedding will be brought by the delegates.

This is the last copy of the VISITOR that will be published before our conference begins at Altoona. We wish to ask the VISITOR family, especially that part of it which belongs to West Pennsylvania, to pray most earnestly that the blessing of God will be with us at that meeting. If possible we hope to see you at the meeting, that we may also have the benefit of your presence and counsel at this important gathering.

Elder B. F. Kneeland and Elder W. F. Schwartz attended board meetings in Takoma Park, D. C., last week.

Elder J. W. Watt reports that eight persons are keeping the Sabbath at Kane.

The Conference Sabbath-school

There are a large number of families scattered throughout the West Pennsylvania Conference who are deprived of the privileges of the Sabbath-school. No one can afford to miss the blessings which will come through this channel. We are therefore instructed that "means should be provided by which the Sabbath-school may be taken to those who cannot come to it." This led to the formation of the conference home department Sabbath-school.

All our isolated Sabbath-keepers were invited to join. They were provided with the home department envelopes, which take the place of the class record. After the study of the lesson and any other exercises which may be desired, the envelope should be marked, and donation inserted. At the close of the quarter the envelope with the donations should be sent to the Sabbath-school secretary, from which the report of the school is made.

The plan has met with hearty approval and the school, which was organized last June, gives hope of becoming a permanent factor in the Sabbath-school work. At the end of the first quarter about 20 reports were received representing a membership of 43, the offerings amounting to \$19.64. Last quarter the school numbered 69 and the offerings amounted to \$46.14.

We trust that as the conference Sabbath-school becomes better known and its members more familiar with its plan of organization, we shall see a steady increase both in membership and donations, and that this school, which is one of the youngest, may become one of the strongest, and be a source of great help to our isolated Sabbath-keepers.

MRS. B. F. KNEELAND,
Secretary.

Those whose who expect to attend the Altoona conference meeting should write to Elder W. F. Schwartz, 521 Union St., Holidaysburg, Pa., stating if furnished room is required. A number of spring cots with cotton mattresses will be provided, and those who are willing to use these should bring with them what bedding they can and let Elder Schwartz know of their desire.

Two have begun to keep the Sabbath as the result of the meetings being conducted at Continental Hall on Center Avenue, Pittsburg, by Elder A. N. Durrant.

Sabbath-school Notes

During the year 1912 the Sabbath-school donations to missions amounted to \$1992.75, which is a gain of \$850.28 over the previous year. The 13th Sabbath offerings amounted to \$434.14, or nearly one-fourth of what was given during the year. Where shall we set the mark for 1913?

The home department work brings many blessings to the school which faithfully cares for its isolated members. We are glad that six of our schools are carrying this department, but we hope that by the close of another quarter many more may be added to the list. The number of home department members in the local schools is 25, but it should be many times that number. Shall we not set ourselves to the task of bringing every believer in this conference under the influence of the Sabbath-school?

For the fourth quarter of 1912 the Adah Sabbath-school averaged 19 cents per member, while the Indiana Sabbath-school with a membership of 34 had an average weekly attendance of 32. Another item of interest which we note in the quarter's record is that the Erie Sabbath-school has added a home department of seven members, and has made a substantial increase in offerings to missions.

We should now begin to prepare for the 13th Sabbath offering, March 20, as another needy call will come to our schools at that time. Let us lay by our quarters now, and help the children to earn their offering. The part we may have in thus carrying forward the work of God in heathen lands is one of our highest privileges.

Last quarter each child in the Washington Sabbath-school was given five cents with which to earn his offering for the thirteenth Sabbath. When the day came each child had increased his mite ten or twelve times. The dollars were only a small part of the blessing that came to the school.

Be sure to notice carefully the report of West Pennsylvania Sabbath-Schools printed in the VISITOR this week. We feel very much encouraged by the splendid showing made by most of our schools and we trust that 1913 will continue the excellent gains made in 1912. If your school is one of those with small average donations, kindly study your situation and try to make improvements.

OHIO

Our Opportunity

Surely the prophecy of Joel 2: 28, 29 is being fulfilled. The Spirit of God is stirring the world; it is melting the hearts of the people just now as never before. "And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just: to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Luke 1: 17.

The Spirit is now going before the people of God turning the hearts of the disobedient to hear their words. I have been in the book-work for about five years, and I never saw the above text of Scripture fulfilled as it has been the last six months.

We can tell the present truth to the Catholics and many of them exclaim "It's true! It's true!" and their hearts are turned to the wisdom of God's word. I have had some of these experiences just recently myself. I never saw books sell so readily as they do now. While God's Spirit is softening the hearts of the disobedient let us go break to them the bread of life. I hope that in the very near future we will have so large a band of workers that one state agent will not be able to handle the work in Ohio.

Brother F. E. Wagner sold \$12.00 worth of books for cash last Sunday. Brother Reichenbach says, "The only thing for a Seventh-day Adventist to do now is to sell books." Leslie Waters has just completed Miami County with "Coming King."

Mrs. S. D. Philips has recently taken up the book-work, and is having splendid success in Toledo. We were sorry to lose the joy of reading Brother and Sister J. B. Reichenbach's report this week. Brother C. V. Leach is absent also; he went to West Virginia to make a delivery for his Sister Hazel. Who will volunteer to fill the place made vacant by Miss Hazel Leach who will soon start to school?

We are glad to welcome Brother Glen Draper to our ranks of colporteurs again. Brother Schick of Akron is having many good experiences there. As Brother B. F. Harrison has had a great deal of experience nursing, he is doing good work with "Practical Guide," in Miami County. Brother George Circle took orders for \$23.00 last week in the shop, where he works. I think he will soon put his heart's desire to action. H. F. KIRK.

Piqua

Upon the recommendation of the conference committee. I moved to this city about January 27 to advance the cause of truth. I found the field ripe for harvest. The brethren and sisters comprising the small company here have done nobly in letting their lights shine for God and for present truth. Soon after arriving, they were able to give me a list of persons who are somewhat interested. Feeling that they want a part in assisting the honest in heart to get a knowledge of the third angel's message, they have decided to furnish a large number of the "Family Bible Teacher" and tracts with which to carry on the work.

I have several appointments in homes already for Bible study and cottage meetings. Besides the regular appointments, there are good prospects of a few more in the very near future. The outlook is very encouraging. It is the writer's sincere desire that many here will decide to take their stand on the Lord's side and become affiliated with those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.

Heretofore the Sabbath services have been held in the homes of some of the members. It having been decided that their was not sufficient room to accommodate the people, and that it would be best for the good of the work, we have decided to look for a public place where we can have our Sabbath services and Sunday night meetings.

RALEIGH FRENCH.

Bainbridge

While holding meetings in the town hall at Bainbridge, the writer was invited by the Methodist minister of that place to give an address on temperance in his church Sunday evening Feb. 9. There was also present a minister from the next township. The church was well filled with an attentive audience. The Lord blessed in the presentation of the position of Seventh-day Adventists upon this most important subject.

This meeting gave us favor with the people in general, and through seed sowing during the last few weeks, through the preaching of the word, the reading of tracts, and the books that were sold, there are some who are seriously investigating this truth, and we believe will accept. The families of brethren Laughlin, Reichenbaugh and others, also Brother O. D. Wolcott, and Sister Kennedy rendered valuable assistance during our meetings. W. J. VENEN.

Districts 5 and 6.

While the larger part of pioneer labor in Ohio seems to have been bestowed on the northwestern part of the state, we find that much remains to be done. In many places where the message was given years ago a younger generation has taken the place of those who once heard.

In some places where strong active churches have been, but a remnant remains. This, however, does not spell defeat as, for instance, Brother and Sister T. F. Emans, formerly members of the old Gilboa church, trace the membership of that church to some sixty other Seventh-day Adventist churches. In many instances these faithful brethren have gone into new fields, giving the message, and became the nuclei that in later years developed into influential churches.

During the last year nearly all the churches in this district enjoyed an increase in tithes and offerings. Several churches report an increase in membership. Sabbath, Feb. 1, we were privileged to baptize three adults and receive them into the Findlay church.

May the Lord's blessing rest upon his people to make this the best year of their experience.

J. J. MARIETTA.

VIRGINIA

Richmond No. 2

Richmond Church Number Two recently enjoyed help from Brother Kinney, of Danville, for ten days. The sermons were filled with helpful thoughts and his stay was much enjoyed. He spoke each time to a good audience of interested listeners, and much pastoral help was given the church. A good impression was made upon those outside the faith.

At this writing Elder Muntz is with us and we look and pray for good results from his labors. There is an increased interest in the book work, and many homes are being opened for Bible readings. Elder Kinney reorganized the young people's society and they are getting down to active work. Sister Jemerson is leader.

Before Brother Muntz came Brother Taylor, the local elder, conducted some very helpful studies. It is interesting to watch the little company pressing together and each learning that he has a part to act in giving the last warning message to the world. In union there is strength.

It is to be hoped that a church building may be secured, ere long.

F. G. WARNICK.

Richmond

Sabbath, Feb. 1, was an important occasion for the Richmond church. The ministers and elders feeling the necessity of a closer walk with God, and realizing that something must be done for our churches everywhere to arouse them from their slumbering condition and put away sin from amongst us, devised a plan which presented itself as feasible. Elder Stone led out in a very forceful discourse on "Unity," showing the basis of true unity and church reform. "This," said the speaker, "must come through the spirit of prophecy, as this is the gift which brings all the other gifts. When this gift is confirmed in us and lived out by the church, then and not until then, will we see the hand of God in our midst."

As a result of this, and former studies held by the writer, our first meeting was held Sunday night with the avowed purpose of carrying out a systematic hunt of the Testimonies along essential lines. Last night's subject was "Object and Importance of the Testimonies." Various officers and members of the church took part.

The power of God was greatly manifested in this our first meeting. A secretary was elected and a summary of the references and thoughts will be given to each member of the church. Three nights each week will be given to this study. J. H. N. TINDALL.

News Items

There are reported by our workers for January eight new converts to the faith. While this is not a large number, we are glad to see the new year start off with this good report.

We are glad to see an increase in the tithe over the month of January, 1912, of \$41.78. We sincerely trust that we shall see an increase each month during the year 1913. over the corresponding months of the year 1912.

For four weeks or more we have been endeavoring to secure a place for meetings in Richmond. We first made a thorough investigation of the east side of the city, but found nothing suitable that we could secure. Then we tried to find a place in the central part of the city where we could put forth the strongest effort yet made in Richmond, and, although prospects were favorable at first, everything seemed closed against us. We have now succeeded in securing the Auditorium in the school building

at Barton Heights, one of the best suburbs of the city, and will begin meetings next Sunday night. The Lord has seemingly gone before and given us favor in the eyes of the people, and we desire to see a finished work in Richmond.

Many excellent reports come to us of persons embracing the truth through reading the *Signs of the Times*.

Elder Mallory has been in Norfolk for the past two weeks assisting Elder Muntz in a series of meetings.

Elder Tindall spoke at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church at Richmond Jan. 18, and Sunday night Jan. 19. Baptismal service was held after the preaching service.

Sister Rice of Alberene writes that the people have been glad to receive the Harvest Ingathering *Signs*, and that she has a few more to distribute.

Brother L. O. Gordon reports that five have accepted the truth at Newport News as a result of the meetings that have been held by himself and R. C. Gardner.

Elder Kinny has been holding meetings at the colored church in Richmond for the past two weeks. The meetings have been a source of strength to the colored brethren and sisters.

Two students have been called home from the Academy on account of sickness and death, and they will not return to the school. This leaves only seven boarding students in the home.

Dr. Olive Ingersoll's mother, who had been failing in health for the past year or more died last week, Tuesday, at the home of her daughter in Richmond. The funeral was held at the residence on Thursday afternoon at three o'clock. Elder McElhany of Washington, D. C., conducted the services assisted by Elders Stone and Tindall.

Brother J. H. Tevaut who has been a member of the Mt. Williams church for many years is quite sick at his home in Winchester. We trust that he may soon be restored to his usual health.

In an accident at his saw mill near Sutherland, Brother Ashton Lewis of Ford, had one of his legs broken and badly mashed. He is getting along as well as could be expected at this time.

Elder McElhany, president of the District of Columbia Conference, and wife were pleasant callers at the office last Friday.

Brother Joseph Thomas of News Ferry is now working for Dr. Ingersoll at the Virginia Sanitarium.

Sister J. E. Gardner, of Hampton is spending some time at the Virginia Sanitarium in this city.

Elder Leslie Muntz of Norfolk, came to this city last week to spend several weeks in labor with Richmond Church No. 2.

Gottlieb Fahrner, elder of the Guinea Mills church, has lately moved from Dillwyn, Va., to his former home in West Virginia.

Brother R. C. Gardner who has been laboring with Brother L. O. Gordon in Newport News came to this city ten days ago to connect with the work here.

A. M. Neff attended the Bookmen's Convention at Mt. Vernon, Feb. 21-27.

Brother and Sister W. H. George, of Shawboro, N. C., spent several days last week in this city and were pleasant callers at the office. Brother George is a native of this State and is one of North Carolina's successful canvassers.

Elder W. J. Stone attended an important legal meeting of some of our institutions at Washington, later visiting the Academy at New Market and counselling with the brethren there. From there he went to Mt. Vernon, Ohio, to attend a meeting of the Columbia Union Conference Committee, and a board meeting of the Mt. Vernon College. He expects to be absent about two weeks.

E. E. Aplin, of Yellowstone Park, Wyoming, made a short visit to our office a few days ago. He is home-seeking near Richmond.

The less men think, the more they talk.

OHIO TITHE RECEIPTS

JANUARY 1913

Akron.....	\$ 131 23
Alliance.....	.....
*Barnesville.....	.....
Bellefontaine.....	49 53
Bellville.....	22 26
*Broughton.....	.....
Bowling Green.....	116 12
Camden.....	50 16
Canaan.....	3 77
Canton.....	9 56
Chagrin Falls.....	.....
Charloe.....	.....
Chillicothe.....	.....
Cincinnati.....	100 56
Cleveland.....	6 00
Cleveland German.....	42 12
Clyde.....	39 90
Columbus.....	.....
Columbus S. D. A. Mission.....	11 75
*Conant.....	.....
Conneaut.....	.....
Corsica.....	20 53
Coshocton.....	55 82
Cygnat.....	.....
Dayton.....	24 14
Defiance.....	3 50
Delaware.....	22 00
Delta.....	.....
Derwent.....	.....
Dowling.....	3 00
Dunkirk.....	.....
East Liverpool.....	12 03
Elgin.....	.....
Findlay.....	49 25
Greenspring.....	3 60
*Gilboa.....	17 20
Hamler.....	49 78
Hamilton.....	56 05
Hicksville.....	26 49
*Jackson.....	.....
Jefferson.....	12 95
Killbuck.....	38 53
LaGrange.....	26 83
*Lakeville.....	.....
Lakeview.....	.....
Laura.....	14 61
Leesburg.....	91 01
Liberty Center.....	17 20
Lima.....	.....
Locust Point.....	.....
Mansfield.....	.....
Marion.....	31 06
Marshfield.....	.....
Massillon.....	.....
Medina.....	.....
Mendon.....	.....
Mount Vernon.....	292 88
Newark.....	109 40
Norwalk.....	48 64
New Philadelphia.....	.....
Ohio City.....	.....
Pemberville.....	.....
Piqua.....	8 10
Pleasant Hill.....	32 16
Powell.....	.....

Canvassers' Reports

District of Columbia, Two Weeks Ending February 14, 1913

Name	Place	Book	Days	Hrs	Ords	Value	Helps	Total	Del
Mrs. L. Dennis, Washington		CK	6	28	16	24 00	4 00	28 00	15 00
Wm. Bull, Washington			4	10	14	21 50	1 25	22 75	
L. Godwin, Washington		CK	9	48	63	96 50	3 00	99 50	8 75
J. Smith, Washington		CK	3	5	17	26 50	2 50	29 00	
F. Smith, Washington		CK	10	48	83	124 50	1 50	126 00	12 50
A. Taltamus, Washington		CK	8	31	61	90 00	25	90 25	
W. William, Washington		CK	10	53	96	148 75	4 75	153 50	
Mrs. L. Godwin, Washington		CK	2	8	3	5 00	50	5 50	
Totals	8 Agents		52	223	353	\$536 75	\$17 75	\$554 50	\$36 25

Chesapeake, Two Weeks Ending February 14, 1913

J. Jones, Rehobath, Md.	GC	10	61	49	91 50	22 35	113 85	1 50	
D. Percy, Wycomico Co.	GC	10	65	25	62 00	13 00	75 00	105 20	
Anna Seeney, Baltimore,	BF	8	33	64	66 00	6 75	72 75		
T. Barritt, Baltimore Co.	PPF	4	23	26	49 00	3 35	53 35		
M. Pettibone, Baltimore Co.	PPF	3	23	19	32 50	1 00	33 50	1 50	
G. Lawrence, Cecil Co., Md.	DR	4	32					125 65	
Totals	6 Agents		39	237	183	\$301 00	\$46 45	\$347 45	\$233 85

East Pennsylvania, Week Ending February 7, 1913

F. Willruth, Scranton	CK		38	19	30 00	8 80	38 80	27 30	
S. L. Burkhart, Chambersburg	CK	5	36	7	11 00	1 25	12 25	5 25	
Mrs. H. Tranger, Allentown	CK		14	6	9 00	2 00	11 00		
G. Unger, Lehigh Co.	DR	1	7	5	8 00	50	8 50	25	
J. Pyle, Chester			9					4 50	
Stella Grube, Coopersburg	GC	1		1	5 00	75	5 75		
R. Towne, Spring City	GC	4	15	1	3 00		3 00	3 00	
Mark Hale, Goodon	DR	3	18	8	25 00	75	25 75	70	
W. Dunkinson, Chambersburg	PG	3	9	1	3 00	5 60	8 60	3 00	
Jones & Abbott, Kingston	DR	4	50	68	113 00	23 50	136 50	33 20	
Totals	11 Agents		21	196	116	\$207 00	\$43 15	\$250 15	\$77 20

West Virginia, Week Ending February 14, 1913

W. McElphatrk, Fayette	DR	5	43	22	59 00	21 55	80 55	2 75	
J. Fabner, Randolph	GC	9	55	10	31 00	6 40	37 40	3 50	
H. Smith, Pocahontas	DR	2	10	8	26 00	3 50	29 50	3 00	
T. M. Butler, Greenbrier	GC	5	28	5	16 00	3 00	19 00	2 50	
A. Halstead, Logan	DA	3	18		31 00	12 25	43 25	1 75	
Totals	5 Agents		24	154	45	\$163 00	\$46 70	\$209 70	\$13 50

West Pennsylvania, Week Ending February 14, 1913

A. Brownlee, Washington	PPF	5	43		42 50		42 50	38 70	
A. Davies, Pittsburg	CK	3	20	9	13 50	3 60	17 10	40 20	
J. Glunt, Blair Co.	DR	5	30	4	16 00	1 70	17 70		
C. Guenter, Olean, N. Y.	GC	4	31	8	25 00	20 40	45 40	4 50	
J. Kimmel, Huntingdon	DR	4	18	2	6 00	11 60	17 60	3 90	
E. Rogers, Fulton Co.	CK	5	41	12	19 00		19 00		
Totals	6 Agents		28	183	35	\$122 00	\$37 30	\$159 30	\$93 50

Virginia, Two Weeks Ending February 7, 1913

W. Eekhout, Norfolk	PPF		56	13	21 50	8 25	29 75	7 50
W. Hess, Norfolk	DR		42	24	31 50	4 25	35 75	
F. Nixon, Richmond	COS		24	10	10 00	80	10 80	5 65
M. Jemerson, Richmond	PPF		6	2	3 00		3 00	5 00
Totals	4 Agents		128	49	\$66 00	\$13 20	\$79 30	\$18 15

Ohio, Week Ending February 14, 1913

B. F. Harrison, Miami Co.	PG	5	35	8	24	00	11	85	35	85
G. Draper, Erie Co.	GC	5	41	9	28	00	7	75	35	75
J. S. Randolph, Delaware Co.	ES	5	41	9	30	00	5	40	35	40
*W. Sellers, Miami Co.	PPF	10	34	25	39	00	7	60	46	60
L. H. Waters, Miami Co.	CK	5	33	15	22	50			22	50
*J. Reichenbach Montgom'y Co.	BR	8	52	12	39	00			39	00
J. Schick, Summit Co.	GC	5	33	3	9	00	10	50	19	50
Marie Flenner, Butler Co.	BF	4	10	9	9	00	7	75	16	75
Mrs. S. Philips, Lucas Co.	BR	4	15	5	15	00			15	00
Mrs. Reichenbach, Montgy Co.	Mag	2	12				14	65	14	65
C. Reichenbach, Geauga Co.	CK	7	57	28	46	00			46	00
Totals	11 Agents	60	353	123	\$261	50	\$65	50	\$327	00
					\$80	90				

*Two weeks.

Grand Totals: 51 Agents Value of Orders, \$1927 40 Deliveries, \$553 35

Ravenna	39	73
*Reedsville		
Rows		
Sherwood		
Spencer	72	23
Springfield	121	78
Toledo	138	67
Troy	8	54
Van Wert		
Walnut Grove	18	54
Washington C. H.		
Waterford	6	00
Wengerlawn		
Wilmington	9	11
*West Mansfield		
Wheelersburg	35	00
Youngstown	36	52
Zanesville	71	84
Individuals	71	65

TOTAL \$2,279 33

*Companies

Report of West Pennsylvania Sabbath-schools

QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1912

Church	Members	Att'd'ce	Don.	13th Sab.	Av. per Member
Adah	12	9	\$29 71	\$ 7 05	19
Albion	17	17	6 47	3 28	03
Allegheny 1	28	20	35 45	7 60	09
Allegheny 2	18	13	17 61	1 42	07
Altoona	45	25	11 11	1 00	02
Bradford	23	19	25 04	8 05	08
Burrows	20	10	1 00	20	004
Butler	15	9	12 10	35	06
Carter Camp	7	5	6 66	2 30	07
Clearfield	19	17	9 93	3 50	04
Corry	14	11	12 77	4 23	06
Corydon	25	16	13 79	3 69	04
Condersport	28	24	35 89	4 93	10
Conference S. S.	69		46 14	16 39	05
Dubois	9	7	1 94	15	01
Edinboro	4	3	6 02	2 62	10
Eldred	7	5	8 99	2 00	10
Erie	39	25	28 64	12 28	05
Huntingdon	18	13	4 30	1 00	02
Indiana	34	32	12 56	1 43	02
Jimtown	28	20	12 13	81	03
Johnstown	42	32	40 63	17 06	07
Lock Haven	8	7	2 96	1 50	02
Meadville	10	7	10 23	79	07
Midway	22	5	2 00	20	007
Millport			3 40	30	
North Warren	24	16	25 45	6 38	08
Pittsburg 1	92	62	69 71	23 21	05
Pittsburg 2	16	12	7 06	2 75	03
Port Allegheny	10	9	7 06	2 29	05
Raymond	12	9	7 03	2 46	04
Ridgway	7	6	6 29	75	07
Russel	10	8	3 44	29	02
Six Mile Run	44	28	11 31	2 75	02
Somerset	8	7	4 68	75	04
Union City	8	4	2 28	1 23	03
Verona	12	8	4 52	1 35	03
Washington	40	27	46 13	16 14	09
Willow Creek	5	5	1 32	50	02
Wrights	11	10	1 88	79	01
Waterford	6		5 68	3 00	07
Totals	866	562	601 31	168 77	07

TOTAL RECEIPTS, ALL SOURCES

Tithe	\$2279 33
Tract Society	964 92
Sabbath-school Donations	392 31
Missions	159 44
Harvest Ingathering	57 92
Religious Liberty	1 00
Annual Offerings	86 72
\$300,000 Fund	60 00
Weekly Donations	82 78
Mount Vernon College Fund	64 50
Colored Work	2 30
T. & H. Collections	
Orphans and Aged	25
India	26 00
Native Worker Africa	75

TOTAL \$4,178 22

H.D. HOLTOM, Treas.

OBITUARY

GRAVES.—Sister Etta Graves of Carson, Va., was born in 1861 and died Feb. 7, 1913, being 52 years of age. She married her present husband in 1886, and was the mother of nine children, five of whom are living, and six step-children. She united with the Baptist church in 1879, but changed her views seven years ago and became a Seventh-day Adventist. Last summer at our camp-meeting she was baptized by Elder Muntz and united with the Richmond No. 2 church. Before passing away, she called the members of her family to her, and expressed her unshaken faith in the threefold message and her hope of being in the first resurrection. She gave counsel to her husband and children, then calmly fell asleep in Jesus. Sister Roxie Graves, one of her daughters, is a Bible worker in our conference. Services were conducted at her late residence by the writer speaking from Ezek. 24: 17, 19, and Isa 57:1, 2. A procession about half a mile long followed her to her last resting place.

F. G. WARNICK.

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR
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WALTER C. MOFFETT - - EDITOR

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WEST VIRGINIA

Special Notice

The first annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Seventh-day Adventist Book Society will be held at the Society headquarters, Fairmont, West Va., March 4th, at 9:30 A. M., for the election of officers and for the transaction of any other business that may come before the Board.

F. H. ROBBINS, *President.*
J. S. BARROWS, *Secretary.*

F. H. Robbins is in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, this week attending an important meeting of the Columbia Union Conference Board.

We expect to have Elder R. T. Dowsett, the conference auditor, with us Feb. 26.

Mrs. T. M. Butler of Marlinton, West Va., is spending a few days with Mrs. J. S. Barrows. Mr. Barrows is attending the meeting of secretaries and bookmen now in session at Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Last Sabbath a consecration service was observed by the Sabbath-schools in the conference. Martinsburg reports an excellent meeting, all members taking part in the service.

Brother Will Robbins and family of Morgantown, visited the Fairmont church on Sabbath, Feb. 15. Brother Robbins gave us a very interesting and instructive discourse along the line of the Sabbath-school lessons. We invite them to come again.

AT THE COLLEGE

The College China Band

About a year ago at Mt. Vernon College, Dr. H. W. Miller gave a stereopticon lecture on China. He stirred up such a deep interest among the students that a "China Band" was soon organized, which continued throughout the remainder of the school year.

The same missionary spirit was again manifested this year, which caused the band to be reorganized. The members meet every Friday evening, with Dr. Miller as leader. It is the object of this band to study the conditions which will have to be met by those of its members who expect to make China their future field of labor. Among those subjects which are given special study are the climate, the diseases, the language, and the manners and customs of the people.

Letters from the workers in China, written in both English and Chinese, have been read from time to time, telling of the work now being done there, thus keeping awake a deep interest in this field. Pictures illustrating China have also been shown. Often the missionary spirit is increased by talks from visitors who have spent portions of their lives in China.

This band, which is ever increasing, now has a membership of about seventeen. These are Dr. and Mrs. Miller, Elder and Mrs. James E. Shultz, Prof. and Mrs. Pulver, Mrs. Esta Miller, and Misses Alice Miller, Josephine Smith, Ruth Atwell, Janette Bidwell; also Messrs. James Smith, Charles Paden, John Hottel, Alfred Holst, Clarence Morris, and D. E. Lindsey, Jr. Five of these have been workers in foreign fields, and are eagerly awaiting their return soon. The rest are preparing to go to China next fall or soon after. It is planned that this band shall remain in the College as a permanent one. Several other students are expected to join, so while some will be leaving, others will be filling their places. FLOY HUMPHREY.

The following officers were elected by the College young people's society last Sabbath to serve during the last term: president, M. V. Eusey; vice-president, Ray Corder; secretary, R. E. Clarke; treasurer, Miss Floy Humphrey; organist, Ruth Robbins; asst. organist, Louise Bensel; chorister, H. C. Baumgartner.

The officers elected for the Mount Vernon College Sabbath-school for the term beginning February 22, are superintendent, Prof. Pulver; secretary, Miss Edwards; assistant secretary, Mabel Cassell; organist, Miss Louise Bensel; chorister, Mr. Holst.

The report for the term just ending was a good one. The largest membership was 118 and the average membership 116. On two Sabbaths our attendance was 104 but the average attendance was 96 making the per cent 82.

The total donations were \$194.97 which goes beyond the record of any past term. There were two special donations, the first amounting to \$70.62 during the week of prayer, and the other \$33.34 for the dollar a day offering. The Lord has blessed our Sabbath-school greatly and we want to make this ensuing term the best yet. FERN F. BENSON, *Secretary.*

Evening after the Sabbath Elder J. L. McElhany of Washington, D. C., formerly our missionary to the Philippines, gave an interesting and instructive stereopticon lecture taking his hearers to New Guinea. All four of the numbers in the lecture course have pointed the students to the mission fields, and there are many hearts in M. V. C. which beat in sympathy with those of her many representatives in the regions beyond.

Miss Hazel Leach having earned a free trip to the General Conference session by selling \$1000.00 worth of books has returned to the College for the spring term.

During the College Board meeting and the Bookmen's Convention now in session, the chapel period has been given over to short talks from the men of experience gathered here. The College has been highly favored in the influences of this nature that have been enjoyed throughout the year.

Two of the students in the Modern History class, Vernon Hagmann and Merritt Eusey presented the "French Revolution" at the young people's meeting Sabbath afternoon, February 15.

The young men of the College Ministerial Band held their opening meeting in the South Vernon school house Sunday night, February 16, when Ray Corder spoke on "The Word of God." Last Sunday night Howard Detwiler presented "The Plan of Redemption." The attendance is encouraging.