

HOEING AND PRAYING

"Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works." James 2: 17, 18.

SAID Farmer Jones in a whining tone, To his good old neighbor Gray,

"I've worn my knees through to the bone, But it ain't no use to pray.

The Lord does n't seem to hear us now, As he did His saints of old;

I send my prayers to Him each day, But somehow they don't take hold.

Your corn looks twice as good as mine, Though you don't pretend to be

A burning light in the church to shine, An' tell salvation's free.

I've prayed the Lord a thousand times For to make that 'ere corn grow; An' why yourn beats it so an' climbs I'd give a good deal to know."

"LET US CATCH STEP"

THE work in this part of the harvest field is onward. As we view the situation, our hearts are filled with praise, yet mingled with sadness. There are comparatively few who seem at all interested in themselves, spiritually. They seem senseless to the fact that the days are constantly growing more evil.

A small foothold is being gained here and there; and knowing what a few faithful souls may accomplish, one is encouraged to sow the seed and "be never weary."

The mission schools planted here and there are as oases, and are reaching many precious children with saving truths. How we long to see a mission school in every city, town, and hamlet in Florida and wherever needed! Said Farmer Gray to neighbor Jones, In his quiet and easy way,

"When prayers get mixed with lazy bones They don't make farmin' pay.

Your weeds, I notice, are rank and tall, In spite of all your prayers; You may pray for corn till the heavens fall, If you don't dig up the tares.

I mix my prayers with a little toil,

Along in every row; An' I work this mixture into the soil, Quite vigirous with a hoe.

An' I've discovered, though still in sin, As sure as you are born,This kind of compost well worked in, Makes pretty decent corn. So while I'm praying I use my hoe, An' do my level best, To keep down the weeds along each row, An' the Lord. He does the rest.

It's well for to pray, both night an' morn, As every farmer knows;

But the place to pray for thrifty corn Is right between the rows.

You must use your hands while praying though,

- If an answer you would get,
- For prayer-worn knees an' a rusty hoe Never raised a big crop yet.

An' so I believe, my good old friend, If you mean to win the day, From plowing, clean to the harvest's end,

You must hoe as well as pray."

—Home Circle.

But the need of the hour is loving service from consecrated hearts who will labor not only in the highways, but in the byways and hedges.

O that you who read these lines may consider the surrender of self as you never have before, and come and labor anywhere for the Master while you may! There is a dearth of laborers when the need is considered. Each has some talent. O that we may know our duty and do it!

When one realizes that this people has the message — the present truth — is it not alarming how many are really content to remain comparatively idle even at their own homes, to say nothing of being willing to "come over into Macedonia and help us?"

But we who are in the heat of the conflict remember that the Master does not leave us alone, but his Spirit does direct and sustain. There are discouraging things to encounter, of course, but one appreciates enough rain with the sunshine to make the roses grow.

Who will join our happy few and helpswell the loud cry in this Southland?

Only a glance at the daily papers and periodicals tells us in no uncertain sound what the Spirit of Prophecy declared long ago. The field is open for many workers now; but does it not make you shudder with the weight of your responsibility when you realize that so soon every avenue may be closed?

"It isn't the thing you do, dear,

- 'Tis the thing you leave undone
- That gives you a bit of heartache At the setting of the sun."

Some of our records may be found full of sins of omission. Let us begin to look it over. It was positively sad to witness the anxiety resting upon some of those who have the responsibility of supplying, workers from the Southern Missionary Society, when calls came in to the Institute at Oakwood last summer and there were not enough workers to supply, the demands. That sad reply, "No workers," given to some places brought tears to eyes of waiting parents.

The sad pleas for workers from regions beyond are not more pitiful than some of these calls. Truly our greatest need is consecrated workers who are willing "to go every step of the way." Much money has been given; and by a mere glance at the scope of the work done by the Society, it would seem that the means have been wisely used. But just as the money that paid last week's grocery bill has served its time in our hands, even so means spent by the Society must be replaced continuously to keep the machinery going.

There are many who have never had to learn sacrifice in anything; but the time now is when it must be learned. God requires it of rich and poor, weak and strong; and there is genuine joy in loving, willing sacrifice for the Master.

The tyrant selfishness surely rules us with a rod of iron; yet we render such faithful service to this monster!

Let us catch step with reason, love, and sacrifice, and give body and soul, time and talent, all to Him who so freely, yet painfully, gave His life to redeem all.

You and your means, be both ever so insignificant, are needed now in the service of the Master.

MRS. L. P. WHETSEL. Jacksonville, Fla., R. F. D. 2.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

To THE dear friends who have helped us by donations for the work here, I wish to say: Our building attracts the attention of many. Every day some one is inquiring concerning it. It is admired by many. When they ask concerning the building, we give them the message. Thus we are given many openings for gospel conversations.

We hope that our brethren and sisters will help us to erect the buildings we need. The donations you have sent us, what you are sending, and what you are going to send, will not be lost.

Now is the time that the work among my people in the city of Atlanta should be pushed with all the energy that we The steps that have can put into it. been taken in pruchasing the lot and building here in this wicked city mean much to the workers in this field. What do they mean to my brethren and sisters throughout the various conferences? Do we realize that the Lord has brought to many minds, since the purchase of our building; the knowledge of this glorious truth. Preachers and professors of colleges have made inquiry concerning our work. They now see that there are elements of stability in our work. We should be what is mentioned in Deut. 28: 13; 4:5-8,

We have been despised by many, and have been misrepresented from the pulpits; but, thank God, the "memorial" which he has erected, which stands within a block of the two largest colleges in Atlanta; has condemned a great deal of this. At the Spellman Seminary they have now six hundred students. At the Baptist College they have between four and five hundred. What reason has the Lord in placing us near these colleges and in that neighborhood?

What we desire now is to finish our church and school building and then erect treatment rooms. The gospel ministry and the medical work should go together. In Testimonies, Vol. VI, we are told: "By these combined agencies, opportunities are given to communicate light and to present the gospel to all classes and all grades of society." We have all classes and grades of society in our city. The Lord has given us a good start. Can we take hold now and see what blessings are in this move? Can you help us with your means and prayers? When you send your means to this work among my people, you will be blessed in many ways. Many who have sent their large and small donations to the Southern Missionary Society for Atlanta are rejoicing now.

Do not be afraid of sending your money to the South. State the place to which you desire your money to go, and it will be put to that use.

W. H. SEBASTIAN. Atlanta, Ga.

AN ENCOURAGING REPORT

It is indeed with a grateful heart that I send you this report of my work. As stated in one of my previous letters, I began school with seven students, and now have enrolled thirty-six. My daily attendance is from twenty-two to twentyseven. There are many others who promise to come soon.

I have never had a set of children that liked Bible study more, and especially since they learned 2 Tim. 3:15. Professor Rogers was here with us a few days. He will be able to tell you more about our school. The children love their teacher and their school, and are inviting other children to come with them. Sister Elizabeth Smith has taken quite an active part in sewing.

Sister Frances Johnson, from Denver, Colo., has sent me a barrel and bag of second-hand clothing and shoes. May God bless her in her labor of love, and may she hear from our Father the blessed words mentioned in Matt. 25: 34 - 40. Truly the things came in time of need. Many little feet and backs are covered, also larger feet and backs.

As I visited the homes of the children's parents, O how they asked me to teach their children to be loving and obedient. Brethren, pray that God may give me sanctified wisdom to deal with these tender hearts.

I am holding Bible readings with several families. The two past weeks one of the ladies with whom I am reading, as we studied the subjects of righteousness by faith and the Sabbath, broke down in tears. She said she could not sleep at night for the truth she has seen in God's Word. She went to Sister Elizabeth Smith and asked her pardon for all that she used to say about her and the truth. It will not be long before she obeys God's law.

Brethren, you cannot realize the spiritual thirst that is around us. Sister Smith went out to sell "Story of Joseph" about forty miles from Brunswick, about two months ago. She not only left the seed of truth there; but it was watered by the Holv Spirit and has brought forth fruit. There are now two families keeping the Sabbath.

We are receiving calls for help. May the words of God take possession of those who are sitting at ease in their homes and burn in their hearts (Jer. 23:29; 20:9), so that they may be willing to say, "Here am I, Lord, send me." Isa. 6:8.

I have no other desire under heaven but to work for Christ until He comes. Pray for me. R. E. WILLIAMS.

Brunswick, Ga.

FROM ELDER LOUGHBOROUGH

DEAR BRETHREN: In a former letter I promised to pay the \$9 each for the teaching of Eva Lena Sharpe and Chanie Rowe, of Yazoo City, Miss. I have requested the treasurer of the Pacific Union Conference to enclose draft for \$18 in payment of that promise.

I have daily prayed for those girls by name, and I hope they are making good progress in their studies and in the Lord's service.

I am in the best health I have had for many years. The Lord's blessing and a change of climate have done much for me. I have attended one hundred fortyfour meetings since August 11; have preached seventy times, and traveled sixteen hundred miles.

The Lord bless you all in your work. I received a good letter from Brother Bollman not long since.

J. N. LOUGHBOROUGH. Sanitarium, Wahroonga, N. S. W.

REPORT FROM GREENVILLE, MISS.

DEAR FRIENDS: We shall try to give you an idea of what our little school is doing.

Since we began active work September 21, our roll has been steadily growing every week. With the exception of three or four, none of our scholars have ever been to the mission school before. When we consider the fact that they come from the large public school, where they do as they please, and many of their parents advise us to whip them, we are glad to say that only one scholar has received punishment since we began teaching. It is just wonderful to us to see how readily they obey the rules of the school. They all love the Bible studies, and the little ones are trying hard to commit to memory all they can from the Bible.

Now I wish to say that the majority of our scholars and their parents are not blessed with much of this world's goods. I hope, therefore that many of our friends who have received much of the Lord's blessings will not forget the dear souls for whom we are laboring here in this place. Clothing, shoes, fruits, and anything along that line will be highly appreciated by them, and I know the Lord will be pleased.

S. D. MILLER.

PRAYING FOR A BETTER DAY

WE are praying to see a better day for the work in this field among the colored people. There are so many who do not know Jesus. Sometimes we wish we could just meet our white friends face to face and talk with them and tell them all of our sorrows and joys about this much disliked race of people; yet not disliked by all, which gives us courage. We praise the Lord for those who really love and work for the salvation of the black man.

So we in our weak way will put in all the time we can to help give this truth. Pray for us and we will ever pray for you. CORNELIA T. MURPHY.

A GOOD SUGGESTION

I ENCLOSE a small amount from the Self-denial Box. Perhaps it might be well to suggest in your little GOSPEL HERALD that unexpected savings might also be put in the Self-denial Boxes. For instance, one is traveling, or elsewhere, on expense, and some one gives a meal or night's lodging, so he saves so much. Or perhaps one is made a present of something which is a necessity and would have been paid for otherwise. I have found a blessing in trying to render to the Lord in this way some of his goodness to me in filling the hearts of others with kindness toward me, even though they might not feel like donating to the missionary work.

ELVA G. WILCOX. Guthrie Center, Ia.

CHEERING WORDS FROM FLORIDA

We were compelled to teach two months without any benches or desks whatever, using only borrowed chairs and boxes. However, when we were at the most difficult point, with children coming in every week and nowhere to seat them, God did as He always does when He sees our needs and knows that we are doing the best we can. He sent Brother F. R. Rogers to see about the school. Brother Rogers arrived here about eight o'clock Tuesday morning. He ordered the lumber in the forenoon, and by eight o'clock Wednesday morning the school-room was filled with good, substantial desks. Brother Rogers had to work until nine o'clock at night, but he seemed to be never weary of working.

One good sister gave us a clock, and the Southern Missionary Society sent us three yards of blackboard. The only thing we need now to make the school capable of doing good primary work, is some maps, thimbles, needles, thread, and scraps to keep the smaller children busy. If any of the readers of the Gospel, Her-ALD feel like doing something to help these poor children, they can easily do so by saving their scraps of cloth, colored thread, etc., and sending them to us. The children will appreciate it as well as the Lord and myself.

EVA DELONEY.

Fernandina, Fla.

YOU OUGHT TO HAVE IT

OUGHT to have what? — Why, "The Sabbath in Prophecy," or "Seven Inspired Predictions of a Sabbath-Reform Movement to Take Place in Our Day," by Elder W. H. Littlejohn. Single copy, post-paid, 5 cents; five copies, 20 cents. Address the author, W. H. Littlejohn, Route 4, Battle Creek, Mich.

RECEIPTS FOR NOVEMBER 1908

THE following report is for the donations received during the month of November, 1908.

	Donations.	Amy Wiseman50
	H Sorenson\$19.00	Friends 4.00
	Mrs M M Sommer. 2.00	E D and L. B.
	Oklahoma Conf 1.92	Hurlburt 5.00 Mrs W S Jefferson 3.00
	Gracie Hunter51	Mary Beck x.00
	Eliza L. Richmond. 2.00 L. M. McNutt90	Mr and Mrs S C
	Mrs B Amundson. 3.50	Mansfield
	Indiana Conf 25.00	Mrs James Smith50
	Lydia Johnson 7.00	Wisconsin Cont 3.14
	Mrs E Eldridge85	E. Mich. Conf 1.02 Indiana Conf 2.07
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2	Louise and Bertha	Mr and Mrs Floyd
	Bisseger 50.00 J B Sheppard 1.00	Brown 4.65
	F H Schramm 5.05	Brown 4.65 Mrs Eva L Cope
	F H Schramm 5.05 Mrs J E Churchill25 Eld G H Branch20	Newark Church 4.24
	Eld G H Branch20	Christiane Ras-
	Mrs M A Whiteside .05	mussen 1.50 Mrs Anna M Rice 2.00
	Mrs C J Anderson 10	S S Post 3.16
	Mrs B F Rowe 3.15	Roscoe and Dessie
	B C Chandler 1.00 Myra Wheaton 10.00	Cummins
	Mrs Elizabeth Lock 5.00	Mary and George Werfield
	A Mock 5.00	Werfield36
	O C Godsmark 1.60	Rees Zirkle 1.14
	A Friend 15.00	Total\$43.29
	Libbie Dunn 10.00 O S Stevens70	
	Mrs Geo H Scott30	For the Support of Min-
	Mis Geo II Scott30	isters Working for the
	Total\$172.08.	Colored People
		Mary Spencer \$100.00
	From the Self-	J C Mikkelsen 10,00
	Denial Boxes	Albert Miller 5.009
		F H Schramm 4.95
	Lydia A Brown\$1.50 Mrs M A Clement. 1.50	A Friend 5.00 A Friend 2.00
	Annie Isaac 1.00	A Prienu 2.00
	Ruby, Effie, and	Total\$126.95
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Southern Missionary Society North Station, Nashville, Tenn.

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WE are compelled to again disappoint our readers in the matter of half-tones of our Nashville and Atlanta buildings. We expected to have the pictures ready ere this, but work has progressed more slowly than we anticipated. We hope to have them ready for the February number.

WHY is it that we have made so little progress in the training of nurses?— Simply because we have not been supplied with the necessary facilities for that line of work.

THERE is great need of trained colored nurses in our work in the South. Therefore the education and training of nurses should be one of the strongest features of our schools.

Good reports come from a number of our workers who have been putting in more or less time selling papers. A teacher writes: "Brother Turner Battle sold \$6 worth this week and \$5 worth last week. His brother Joel also sold quite a number, but did not do quite so well because he spent most of his time giving Bible readings." This was in a section where times are said to be hard.

WHEN in the winter of 1903 Elder Butler and others visited the Alabama Normal School for colored teachers, they asked particularly about what obstacles stood in the way of graduates of the various departments. They knew that colored men who were skilled mechanics had to meet the opposition of the tradesunions, and that there was prejudice against the colored man in many professions. But they were assured that the colored man or woman who is a well trained nurse will have a hearty welcome among both races. "There is no prejudice from any quarter," said the teachers, "against the trained colored nurse."

THE earthquake that recently devastated Sicily and a part of southern Italy was the most destructive of any earthquake of modern times. In the number of human lives destroyed it exceeded even the Lisbon earthquake which occurred in 1755. In the matter of the destruction of property, the Sicilian earthquake probably did not equal that of San Francisco, for the reason that the cities destroyed were less wealthy.

> "How long, O Lord our Saviour, Wilt Thou remain away
> Our hearts are growing weary Of Thy so long delay.
> O when shall come the moment When brighter far than morn, The sunshine of Thy glory Shall on Thy people dawn?"

It is a strange fact that there has been a marked increase in the number of earthquakes in recent years. The old earth, instead of becoming more stable, is becoming more unstable. According to the cooling down and shrinkage theory, by which " science falsely so called " attempts to account for earthquakes, these disturbances ought to be growing less frequent. But as before remarked, they are steadily increasing. This is according to our Saviour's prediction. Is it not just possible that after all the Bible is right and that science is wrong? So we believe.

AN APPRECIATED VISIT

WE were favored recently by a visit from our superintendent, Professor Rogers, for whom we had anxiously looked since October. Though the children had never seen him, they all seemed to recognize him as soon as he entered the door. Others began to exclaim upon seeing his hat and umbrella, "O, our superintendent has come."

His visit has been a blessing to us and quite helpful to the children. They were very sorry when he left, and are now eagerly looking forward to spring, when he promises to return. We have experienced a different atmosphere throughout our school-room ever since his visit, and his return will be gladly welcomed by all.

Mrs. A. E. Gibson.

THE need of thoroughly trained nurses to work among the colored people has long been apparent to all. And the fact that well-trained colored people are welcomed as nurses in the families of white people is also a well-known fact.

ANNUAL MEETING

THE first annual meeting of the Southern Missionary Society, a body corporate under the laws of the state of Tennessee (in effect auxiliary to the Mississippi Society of the same name), will be held in the chapel of the Southern Publishing Association, 24th Ave. N., Nashville, Tenn., at IO A. M., Jan. 8, 1909, for the election of a Board of Trustees, and for the transaction of such other business as shall legally come before said meeting.

N. B.— The members of the Executive Committees of the Southern and Southeastern Union Conferences are the members of this Society, and under the statutes of the state of Tennessee, each member is entitled to one vote, either in person or by proxy.

> C. F. McVagh, Pres., C. P. Bollman, Sec.

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

THIS is to notify all concerned that the eleventh annual meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Missionary Society, a corporation of the state of Mississippi, will be held at 209 Fayette St., in the city of Vicksburg, Miss., at ten o'clock, A. M., January 27, 1909, for the election of a board of directors and for the transaction of such other business as shall properly come before said meeting.

C. F. McVAGH, Pres.,

C. P. BOLLMAN, Sec.

For SALE.— Sample 5-gal. trial cans of our \$4.00 high grade salad and cooking oil at \$3.25, F. O. B. Chicago, New York, Cincinnati, or New Orleans.

Two 5-gal. cans will be delivered to one address for single can freight charges; invite some one to order with you and divide the freight expense. Address — A. O. EXCHANGE.

Box 2, East Des Moines, Iowa.