THE CANVASSING WORK—ITS GREATEST NEED.

[The references in the brackets are designed to be read from the Bible.]

In this, as in every other department of the work of God, the greatest need is consecrated laborers, or womanly women and manly men. The time is not far distant, spoken of by the prophet, when the inhabitants of the earth will be burned and few men left, and when these few will be accounted more precious than gold. [Isa. 24: 6 ; 13: 11, 12.] It takes diamonds to polish diamonds, and since God will prize his jewels so highly in the end, how must he look upon them now, in these fleeting hours of probation, while they can be used to develop others? There are plenty of men in the world, but God cannot use them, because they have not yet accepted his truth. The work must be done by those who know the truth, and who are willing to be used. May God give us a mind to work.

Christ said to the man who wanted to stay to care for his father till his decease, “Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.” Luke 9: 60. Common labor can be performed by the spiritually dead, but none but those who have been made alive in God can do his work. The Testimony says: “To every soul that accepts Jesus, the cross of Calvary speaks; Behold the worth of the soul. Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Nothing is to be permitted to hinder this work. It is the all-important work for this time; it is to be far-reaching as eternity.” “Testimony No. 32,” page 212. And the apostle Paul, after stating the important fact that the ministry of reconciliation is committed to all who are themselves reconciled to God [2 Cor. 5: 17-21], adds: “We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain;” and he makes plain what is expected of all who have received the grace of God: so that it shall not be in vain, when he says of him: “His grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all.” [1 Cor. 15: 10.] It is labor that is required; and in order to be laborers together with God, we must be doing the same work that he is engaged in, which, so far as the world is concerned, is the salvation of souls.

When the fishermen were called to be apostles, they forsook all and followed Christ; and that, too, without any delay. Neither business prospects nor family ties had any power to hold them, although they were just then enjoying the height of prosperity [Luke 5: 6, 7]; and no doubt James and John loved their father dearly. The record is: “They immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him,” Matt. 4: 22. “They forsook all, and followed him.” Luke 5: 11. Is your business prosperous? Are you commanding a high salary because you are a good workman, or a successful teacher in the public schools? These questions being answered in the affirmative, it is very natural for you to say to yourself, “Remain where you are; it will not be wise to sacrifice so much, and you may fail if you undertake to canvass. Then your nice situation would be gone, and you could not secure another, because you keep the Sabbath.” But do you not know that the ability which you have displayed in other things is evidence that God wants you for his service, and that you would be successful in his work? Listen to the “Testimonies” on this point: “The very same ability is required in the cause of God that is now given to the accumulation of property. Managers are needed in every branch of his work, that it may be carried on with energy and system. If a man has tact, industry, and enthusiasm, he will make a success in temporal business; and the same qualities consecrated to the work of God, will prove even doubly efficient; for divine power will be combined with human effort. The
best of plans, either in temporal or spiritual matters, will prove a failure if their execution is intrusted to inexperienced, incapable hands." "Testimony 32," page 32. "Canvassers should be selected, not from the floating element in society, not from among men and women who are good for nothing else, and have made a success of nothing, but from among those who have good address, tact, keen foresight, and ability."

"Every one is not fitted for this work. Those of the best talent and ability, who will take hold of the work understandingly and systematically, and carry it forward with persevering energy, are the ones who should be selected. There should be a most thoroughly organized plan; and this should be faithfully carried out." "Testimony No. 29."

There is an imperative demand for practical business talent; for canvassing is a business that must compete with every other business. It is affected by every climatic change that affects the products of the husbandman, and by every influence that is felt in the commercial world.

Has not God made provision for this? We believe he has. Moses was fitted to lead the hosts of Israel forty years, by his experience as a shepherd for an equal length of time, and our Saviour spent the greater part of his life as a humble carpenter before entering upon the public part of his earthly mission. In the same way God has been fitting men in this generation to attend to his work now, and especially for the canvassing department. A prophecy in the book of Isaiah declares that this is true, "And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the desolate cities, the desolations of many generations." Isa. 61:4. This is the repairing of God's law, by restoring the Sabbath, the very work in which we are engaged. [Compare with Isa. 58:12-14.] So we can now say as did Christ, after reading from the first part of this chapter in the synagogue at Nazareth, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears. [Compare Isa. 61:1,2, and Luke 4:17-21.] The prophecy continues: "And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks; and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. But ye shall be named the priests of the Lord: men shall call you the ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves."

Thus it appears that at this time men who have been schooled in the various occupations and trades are to leave them, and become priests and ministers of God; and this means that they are to canvass, for they are to "eat the riches of the Gentiles," or, in other words, derive their support directly from the people; and there is no other class of laborers among us that do this. This position may seem a little strange to those who have given no thought to the subject; but we ask you to reflect upon it seriously. Is not the canvasser commissioned of Heaven, the same as the preacher? The gospel commission reads: "Go ye therefore, and make disciples, or Christians; and we repeat the quotation: "Ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles;" and again affirm that the prophecy calls for many of the farmers and shepherds among our people, to commit their earthly cares to others not in the faith, and join the canvassing army. Moses left the flocks; David did the same; and there is the work of a Moses to be done to-day, and there are many Goliaths to be slain; and every one who enters upon this work with the right spirit, if questioned, can say as did David when chided by his oldest brother: "What have I now done? Is there not a cause?"

The writer of this article wrote to all the Conference and Tract Society presidents in America, also to the secretaries and State agents, and others, asking them to state the needs of the canvassing work in their fields, and as viewed from their stand-point. We quote a few expressions from the letters received, which voice the sentiments of all:

"You ask, What are the most urgent needs of the canvassing work? — Consecrated, energetic men — leaders — men who can set themselves and others, too, to work — men who can plan, and execute plans. The great work which we are led to believe we have to perform is not so much in need of means, as just such a class of men as mentioned above. We want something more than theory, something more than plans. Our plans must be carried into effect."

"Good, godly leaders; men or women consecrated to the work, patient, apt to teach, of some business ability, and such as can hold a company together."

"The great need in the canvassing work is consecrated men, men that will put as much energy in the work of the Lord as they would in any other business of life."

"I would like to have the importance and sacredness of the canvassing work made more prominent, as well as the pressing need of more earnest, God-fearing men and women entering the field, who are willing not only to consecrate themselves to God and his service, but also to make such a thorough preparation that they can with confidence ask the Lord to work with and through them, to do that which will result in the salvation of some of their fellow-men. With consecrated workers who have a mind to study and work, with the blessing of God, I believe the highest degree of success may be attained."

"There is a great need of more who are willing to sacrifice for the truth's sake, who will not wait, expecting to have every real or imaginary obstacle removed before giving themselves to the work. More are needed to enter the work who are willing to bear responsibilities, and be a support to the cause."

Men are needed to take the State agency in several of our Conferences, but they cannot be found. The demand for helpers and leaders is much greater than the supply, and the ranks of our canvassers could with profit be increased a thousand-fold. "Pray ye therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

E. E. MILES.
SUCCESS IN MISSIONARY WORK.

The number of men and women who make a success in whatever line of work they are engaged, as measured by the standard of society, is not large; perhaps somewhat smaller than the number that make what is termed a failure in life; for the larger per cent are satisfied to occupy a medium position. The injunctions of the Scriptures would seem to forbid our being satisfied with anything short of success. "Do with thy might what thy hands find to do;" "diligent in business, fervent in spirit;" are examples of the commands and exhortations of the sacred writers.

The success attained in business or in any other calling depends more upon diligence and acquired qualifications than upon natural acquirements. Take a class of young people embracing all the different grades of intellect and classes of habits; and chances for success, as has been demonstrated over and over, are largely in favor of those who have habits of diligence and perseverance, as against those of naturally brilliant talents, but lacking in these acquired habits.

This shows that the best quality of work is reached through our own efforts, and not as a result of natural qualifications, thus proving the correctness of the observation made by a well-known writer, that "every man is the architect of his own fortune," — the one who decides in reference to his own success or failure.

These principles being true, what a great responsibility rests upon those who enter the field as laborers for God! He will not accept at our hands anything short of the best work we can do; and to do the best work, as we have seen, requires diligence coupled with perseverance that admits of no discouragement.

We would not be understood to discourage education as a preparation for the missionary work. The more education we have the better; and those who have the opportunities for getting an education should improve them to the fullest extent. Those who receive a course of instruction under competent teachers, have a great advantage over those who must study and plan for themselves without such assistance. But the latter should not become discouraged, for many of the most successful men and women have developed under just such disadvantages. A good stock of courage and determination, with a will to work, can overcome almost any obstacle.

Perhaps one of the most common causes of discouragement on the part of missionary workers lies in the failure to pursue one line of work till results are seen. In business life, we adopt some particular business, trade, or profession, and expect to work long and hard before we build up a business reputation and win success. Much thought is given to planning that every effort we make may tend to the accomplishment of our main object. We read with deep interest papers, magazines, and books that treat on the special lines of work which we have adopted. We attend conventions and lectures where our particular business is discussed, that we may not be behind in anything that might help to make a success of our work. In such things, should "the children of this world be wiser than the children of light"? If it is right that we should study and plan and work hard, early and late, nerving ourselves for every difficulty that we have to meet, that we may make a success of worldly business, is it not much more reasonable that we should do so in the Lord's work, when we have his promise of help and blessing in so doing?

Those who can devote but little time to missionary work, perhaps only an hour or two each day, or one day in a week, should be just as careful to plan their work, and should follow it up just as diligently, as if their time was wholly devoted to it. Some of the most successful missionaries have had to work for many years before any fruit could be seen. Had they given up at the end of one, two, or even five or ten years, all their efforts would have been a failure. When Robert Moffat had worked for several years among the natives of South Africa, seeing no evidences of success, and finding it very difficult to master the language, he expressed some discouragement, and thought it no use to try further. His faithful wife replied, "Our lives shall be given us for a prey, and we must not be discouraged till we can give them the gospel in their own tongue." Mr. Moffat took courage, mastered the language, translated the Bible into the native languages, and after fifty-three years of hard labor under many privations and difficulties, had the satisfaction of seeing a rich harvest of souls as the result of his efforts.

We can learn many valuable lessons from the lives of those who have consecrated themselves to missionary work. The trials through which many of them have passed make those with which we have to contend sink into insignificance. Their earnestness and devotion are worthy of our own emulation; while their perseverance, if carried out, might lead many to success who would otherwise become discouraged and fail.
PLANS FOR OUR WORK.

The General Conference Committee held a session at Battle Creek for nearly three weeks during the month of July, and several important meetings of the Executive Board of the International Tract Society were held at the same time. Inasmuch as the Home Missionary is published by the International Tract Society, we have thought our readers would be interested to know something of the plans that were laid with reference to our work.

The question of the time and place of our next annual session was one of the most important matters considered. After careful consideration by a committee especially appointed for the purpose, it was decided not to hold an annual session this fall, but to wait until the meeting of the General Conference next March. I trust that all will see the wisdom of this plan, when we say it is expected to hold a general meeting in each General Conference district during the fall or winter, and special attention will be given to instruction in tract society work, at each of these meetings, so that a larger number of people may be benefited than would be likely to go to an annual meeting this fall, held separate from any meetings of other general organizations.

The treasurer's report of the financial standing of the Society for the year ending June 30, 1890, was presented at one of the Board meetings, and carefully considered. This report will be found on another page of this paper, with some explanations, and we trust all our readers will be interested in examining it carefully. Complete reports of the amount of literature circulated by the Society and the amount of time expended by each of the employees, showed to the Board that a systematic plan had been adopted during the last six months, so that the secretaries can at any time give definite information with reference to the work that is being accomplished and the amount of time and labor required to do it.

The work of the Battle Creek and Chicago offices is given in separate reports, and as monthly reports have appeared in the Home Missionary, we will not take space in this article to speak of the total amount of literature which has been circulated.

A committee of three was appointed to consider the question of preparing some tracts and other literature for the blind. It is hoped that something may be done in this direction soon.

The reports showed that more than $2,000 had been expended during the past year for the circulation of religious liberty literature by our Society, in the destitute fields of the South and West where there are no State organizations sufficiently strong to carry on this work. Our readers are all familiar with the call that has been made in the Review for several weeks, for a fund of $5,000 to meet the expenses of this kind of work; and we are glad to be able to say that much good has been accomplished by the efforts already made, and we expect the remainder of this money when raised will be judiciously used in the same direction.

An extensive correspondence has been carried on in foreign fields by the secretaries of the Society. As a result of this correspondence, quite an interest has been awakened in some places, especially on the west coast of Africa and in the West India Islands, which seems to demand ministerial labor. The president of the International Society made a request of the Foreign Mission Board for a minister to be sent to West Africa and one to the West Indies, to develop the interest which has been awakened by our correspondence. In response to this request it was decided that Elder C. L. Boyd, who has been in South Africa for several years, should be sent to West Africa early in the year 1891; and that Elder D. A. Ball, of Pennsylvania, should go to the West Indies about the first of October, 1890, and make that his field of labor.

There are many places where an interesting correspondence is being conducted to which laborers might be sent, if we only had the consecrated persons to go and the means to bear their expenses. Thus the work of the International Society is being extended to all parts of the earth, reaching even into the "dark continent," and preparing the way for the establishment of mission stations as soon as the necessary preparations can be made. The work of the International Tract Society will have to be restricted during the coming year, unless our people throughout the entire field see the importance of making liberal donations to meet the expense of literature we are sending out. We shall have more to say upon this point in the next two numbers of the Home Missionary, and hope that the fourth Sabbath donations for the month of October, all of which go to the International Tract Society, will be made exceedingly liberal throughout the entire denomination.

The present working force of the Society consists of four secretaries in the main office, and two in the Chicago office, who devote their entire time to this work, besides three who devote a portion of their time in the main office. In addition to these, the writer spends as much time as possible in office work, and has a stenographer constantly employed in assisting with the correspondence. We hope soon to see the time when the interest in our work will be so increased, and our plans laid in such a way that our work may be greatly enlarged both in amount and efficiency.

There is no limit to the work that may be done, or the good that may be accomplished by the work of the International Tract Society, if we can have the means with which to furnish publications and devoted persons to do the work.

L. O. C.
BALANCE SHEET AND STATEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRACT SOCIETY.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1890.

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Balance, Present Worth, June 30, 1890

The above statement shows the financial standing of the Society, June 30, 1890. It may be interesting to our readers to have a few words of explanation, calling attention to a few points in this statement.

About the first thing that will attract attention is that our present worth is $4,715.73 less than it was June 30, 1889. Looking at this from a purely business stand point, it indicates a net loss of that amount, and would indicate that our work has been unprofitable. The fact is, however, that the greater our loss financially, the more successful is our work, for our work consists in the gratuitous distribution of literature. The first of the two columns, headed "loss and gain," with the exception of two small items ($7.87, and $45.33), indicates the total value of gratuitous work done by the Society at its main office during the year, which would be $6,716.54. We might fill a twenty-four page paper the size of the Home Missionary, every week, with letters from correspondents, and interesting information as the result of this expenditure of publications. Besides this, $1,184.71 of the amount due from the Chicago office is gratuitous work done at that office since it was opened in December, 1889. We have received towards these amounts the sum of $2,043.56 for life membership and donations.

We believe our missionary workers everywhere will be glad to see that the International Tract Society is pushing its work forward so vigorously, and be not only willing, but anxious to assist it by contributing liberally to meet the expense of the publications which we can use to such excellent advantage. We shall give such items of our work as we have room for in the Home Missionary, from month to month, and shall be glad to give any information by correspondence that may be desired with reference to any part of it. In short, we want our readers to be kept well informed as to what we are doing with the means placed in our hands, and what it is accomplishing.
Extracts from Correspondence:

From the Rev. ——, also editor of —— Bridge-town, Barbadoes, W. I., with whom an interesting correspondence has been carried on for some time: —

"I have duly received your publications forwarded to my address, but the choicest lot came last week. Accept my best thanks for them, and for the valuable book that accompanied them. I have dipped into it enough to see that it is deeply interesting, and I shall read it carefully and prayerfully. The tracts are being appreciated. Poor people often come to me now, for a tract, and the Instructor is gladly welcomed. Your method of sending small supplies and frequently, is better than sending a large number at one time. You may be sure they are read. I have been interested in the discussion of the Sabbath question. I agree with the proposition that the seventh day is the Sabbath, but is not the first day the Lord's day, in a special sense? So I am inclined to think. I circulate the Signs of the Times widely."

From a missionary who is laboring at Nagasaki, Japan: —

"Allow me to thank you for the papers you are sending us. I put them at once in the reading-room of our school (Cobleigh Seminary), and you may be sure they will be read by many young men. I distribute the Youth's Instructor where I think it will do the most good, and also the tracts. I had at once a great opportunity of using one of the tracts on tobacco, and sent it on its way of doing good."

From a letter received later he says: —

"Thanks for the last monthly package, and for your letter of May 10. I am glad to get the whole, especially the Social Purity tracts. Thanks for your kind words of appreciative reference to my work. It is heavy indeed, but it pays."

From Montserrat, W. I.: —

"I have received the religious reading you have sent me, and I am well pleased with it as well as many others. I was one of many who bought 'Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation,' of Mr. Arnold, and I also helped him in his work while here. The people are asking me every day when he is coming back to Montserrat."

From a physician in Barbadoes, who, while attending to his professional duties, finds time to look after the spiritual interest of his patients: —

"It affords me pleasure to have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter with its accompanying package of literature, for which I am very thankful; for as I have for several years past been engaged in the great and glorious work of teaching Christianity and temperance, both by personal example and also by precept, and as the discharge of my medical professional duties frequently affords me the opportunity of speaking a word for Jesus, your publications are very acceptable, and I shall be very glad for future continued favors, including Good Health."

From a letter of later date, we take the following: —

"Your valued favor, with publications, came to hand the 5th inst. I have to ask you the favor to forward to a friend of mine at Port of Spain, Trinidad, some of your useful publications; he has promised me to judiciously distribute them in that great center of Roman Catholic superstition and error. I very highly appreciate your noble and praiseworthy motive in doing good unto others, by kindly offering to forward me some of your publications, which I shall always be most thankful for, and as my object is in common with yours, I leave the selection to you. Hoping to have the pleasure to receive another favor from you at no distant date, I remain, ——."

From a Wesleyan minister at Bussaeterre, St. Kitts, W. I.: —

"I have received your first package, and am happy to state that they are quite encouraging to those who value good literature. I will state some small results already from the reading of your publications. A poor neighbor of mine was sick for many months, and had not led a correct life. I made it my business to present him a tract on the coming of the Lord; he seemed grateful for it, and asked me to read it to him. I did so, and soon after he sent for me to call upon him, and we had a talk as to our Lord's coming. He felt the force of the exhortation, and at once made a full surrender, and saw his way clear. After this I was with him for ten nights, and on the 24th of May he passed away to rest. I gave another brother one on the poison of tobacco. After a few days he smashed his pipe in pieces. Then a sister came to me and said, 'Mr., how we ought to look for our Lord's coming!' Let us pray that the 'Lord will send more laborers into his vineyard.'"

From an old correspondent at Belize, C. A.: —

"I think your papers are well disseminated around this town, by this time, for I have many times been questioned about the doctrine of the immortality of the soul; some believe in accordance with your teaching, and some do not. It is yet dark to me, for I cannot see otherwise than when I die, I will enter into an immediate rest. The Saviour said to the thief on the cross, 'To-day shalt thou be with me in paradise.' If you would enlighten me where that paradise is, if you can prove to me that it is the grave, then I will be reconciled. Otherwise, I hold it is in heaven. Many thanks for the Signs and Instructors."

This letter from Cairo, Egypt, from which these extracts are taken, was received from another of the six students referred to in July Home Missionary: —

"I cannot express my thanks in words when I received the very good book sent me by your respected society, entitled Marvel of Nations. It will indeed teach me a lot of facts about your splendid country, in which I am sure I will be one day. Had I money to come to America, I should be in Battle Creek in no time, to consult you. It is stated that our government intends to send three of our brightest pupils to some place where English is mostly spoken, to complete their education, and I hope to be among them, for I have been for two years at the head of my class. I have had a very great interest in reading the 'Life of Bates,' which you sent me, and still more interest in reading a few lines in your Bible (which unfortunately I did not keep more than half an hour), sent to Ahmed Khails."

('Bible Readings for the Home Circle' is referred to.)

From an influential gentleman in Christiansted, St. Croix, W. I.: —

"Have just arrived from a trip abroad, and I hasten to thank you for parcels received. Please send some temperance literature and other matter to. This lady is the wife of the Anglican minister; she became very much interested in my narrative of your efforts, and I promised to communicate with you in her behalf. You may likewise send to Rev. ——. I wish you to send me catalogues of books to select volumes for the library. Two parcels just arrived from the post-office; among other things is a book entitled 'Marvel of Nations;' accept thanks. While away, I took some of your papers with me to the neighboring islands, and succeeded in establishing, or rather creating, much interest in places where your papers were hitherto unknown. God bless the noble work."
The Children's Page.

We hope that the older ones will do all they can to help make this page a profitable one for the children. In some schools it may be best to have the article read in place of the general exercises of the children's division. In others it may be better to have it read to the children while the fourth-Sabbath reading is being read to the older ones. In every case the children should be by themselves, even though it may be in one corner of the same room. Let such ones be chosen to arrange the matter as will best adapt themselves to the circumstances.

Dear Children: --

To-day we are going to talk about house-keeping in the heart. Most all little girls like to play housekeeping. They have their play-houses, and furnish them with tables, chairs, and many other nice things.

Now there is a text of scripture in Prov. 4:23, which reads like this: "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

Our hearts are the houses in which our thoughts and feelings live. Our bodies walk out of our houses every day; just in the same way the thoughts, words, and feelings come out of our hearts. "Out of it are the issues of life." A house is built for comfort, and everything is arranged so as to add to our happiness.

Do you think the house you live in would be comfortable or pleasant with only bare walls? — No, it would not be a comfortable place. It must have chairs, tables, bedssteads, and many other nice things that are good and useful. So the heart will have feelings, loves, hates, and plans. If these are not good, the heart will not be comfortable. Do you think there would be any comfort, if a table was full of sharp things that ran into us every time we ate at it?

So if the heart is furnished with bad feelings, and with the love of bad things, it will not be comfortable. I said that the heart must have plans. What is a plan? — It is the thinking out of what we intend to do in the future. There were two boys who lived in the same village. One of them always had a plan. In the morning he used to plan out his work and his study, and even his play, for the day. He grew to be a farmer. His farm and work were well planned. His crops, his fences, and cattle were better than those of many of the other farmers. The other boy seldom had a plan. He became a farmer also, but he did not succeed. He was always behind; hoped something would turn up to help him, in the trouble that his want of plans brought him; his heart was not furnished well, and so was an uncomfortable house.

I said a house must have good furniture to give us comfort, and the heart must have good feelings, loves, and plans.

When girls are proud or unkind, the heart needs cleaning. When boys quarrel and swear, the bad things come from the heart. A mother found that her boy had learned to swear. She tried to show him that his heart was dirty, and needed washing; she could not do that, but as the dirty words came through the mouth, that must need washing also; so every time he said a bad word, she washed his mouth with soap-suds. Remember this, children, and whenever boys or men swear in your presence, think of the soap-suds.

I suppose you are all wondering how the heart can be cleansed, when it is dirty and full of bad things. I will tell you. God alone can make the heart clean, and Jesus will do it if we only let him in. You all know that in the spring the house has to be cleaned; the dust flies, and the scrubbing goes on, the carpets are up, windows out, and it is not very comfortable or pleasant. But how good and sweet it is afterwards! So when Christ cleanses the heart, and turns out the bad in it, it is not pleasant. Some of the sins we want to keep, but Christ must have the whole heart, and they must go. Peace and happiness come when the heart is cleansed.

But there is another thing we need in a house to help make it comfortable. We could not keep house without good food. We need good food to nourish our bodies, and keep us from starving.

In the same way the heart must have good food. All the good things you read in the Bible are food for the heart. Children as well as old people, are invited to eat of this food. There is a beautiful passage in Isaiah 55, where the good God asks us to give up eating the bread of sin, which never satisfies, and "eat ye that which is good." Children, let the heart have all the good food given in the Bible, then it will grow, and you will be great in the sight of the Lord.

Christ is said to come into the heart and sup with us. That must be a grand feast, and with good company. Here we have another thing which adds to the comfort of a house; it is good company.

In some countries there are scorpions with sharp claws and a sting in their tail. Sometimes they drop down on people in their houses, and they get into the beds, under the pillows, and into boots and clothes. They are bad company in the house.

Just such bad things as these get into the hearts. There are evil thoughts, murders, lying, and many other bad things. The Bible says the bad heart is like a cage of unclean birds. Bad things get into the hearts of children. You know that all bad company in the heart is uncomfortable.

I saw two boys fighting a few weeks ago; they had bad company in the heart. Good company always brings comfort. The way to have good company in the heart is to keep out the bad company. The best company that we can have is the Lord Jesus. He tells us that he stands at the door of the heart, and if we will open the door, he will come in and sup with us. Just think of Jesus in the heart; he brings peace and joy, and makes us very happy.

A little girl that had him for company in her heart said, "I am so happy, I want to tell everybody." When Jesus comes into the heart, he brings a great deal more good company with him, and they make us happy all the time.

Children, have you Jesus in the heart? If not, let him in to-day.

Amelia Cook.
FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Conducted by W. C. White.

PAPAL EUROPE.

France, Spain, Italy, Austria, and Belgium are so largely Roman Catholic in religion, that their united territory is called papal Europe.

For more than a thousand years Rome held all Europe firmly in her grasp; but the great moral and political revolutions of the sixteenth century, cut off England, Scotland, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Prussia, and parts of Germany and Switzerland.

"At the time of the Reformation, Spain, Portugal, and Austria were the dominant powers in Europe. Spain, that made England quiver at the terrors of her "Invincible Armada," had three times, perhaps six times, the population of England; and now England, after all the millions she has sent to colonize India, America, and Australia, has still twice the population of Spain. During fifty years, from 1825 to 1875, England gained 119 per cent; Prussia, 72; Austria, 27; France, 12; or, taking excess of births over deaths, if France be represented by 1, Austria will be represented by 3, Russia by 5, Prussia by 6, and England by 8."

Protestant nations now hold the balance of power in Europe, and are steadily gaining in numbers, wealth, prestige, and power. But alas, it is only the nations calling themselves Protestant that are thus gaining strength; the cause of Protestantism is at a standstill. We rejoice that Protestants are gaining in numbers in Catholic countries, but we must not overlook the fact that Catholics are gaining quite as rapidly in Protestant lands.

Fifty years ago the obstacles to work in papal lands were almost insurmountable. The chief hindrances at that time have been enumerated as follows: 1. A designing priesthood. 2. An autocratic system. 3. Lodging authority in man rather than the word of God. 4. Ignorance of the Bible. 5. Superstition. 6. Union of church and state. But at peril of liberty, men persevered in their efforts to circulate Bibles, and preach a pure gospel.

During the last twenty-five years, great changes have taken place. The Bible is freely circulated in Spain; and in France there is not only freedom of worship, but the order has been given for the elimination of all priests and nuns from the government schools within the next four years. In Italy, where two thirds of the people could not read or write, education is now compulsory. Protestant evangelization goes on unmolested in Rome, and Protestant churches are multiplying.

"Savonarola's dying cry was, 'O Italy, I warn thee that only Christ can save thee! The time for the Holy Ghost has not come, but it will!' What if that martyr of Ferrara could have seen Italy's history from 1848 until now! Where in 1866 a Protestant preacher was expelled for preaching, twenty years later Leo XIII. says to his cardinals, 'With deep regret and profound anguish we behold the impiety with which Protestants freely and with impunity propagate their heretical doctrines, and attack the most august and sacred doctrines of our holy religion — even here at Rome, the center of the faith and zeal of the universal and infallible teacher of the church.'"

IMMORALITY IN SPAIN AND AUSTRIA.

A correspondent of the Christian Advocate who had been traveling in Spain, expressed his views as to the moral condition of the people as follows: —

"The influence of Romanism on morality in Spain is, after all, the question of deepest significance. Making all allowance for many devout and conscientious persons in that church who are earnestly trying to serve God according to the light they have, and whose consciences are only sophisticated upon the ceremonial requirements of Romanism, it is to be doubted whether any positive influence for good upon the morality of the Spanish people is exerted by the church. Priests, as a class, are notoriously frivolous and profligate. The hardest things we heard said of them came from Catholics, and no Protestant would dare to speak publicly of them as they are spoken of by their own people. In one great city the wife of a foreign consul, herself a Catholic, declared that 'there were but three or four priests in the entire church in that city to whom an honest woman could confess.' The people consider the confessional, chiefly frequented by women, as an organized institution for the destruction of the family.

"Priests, when performing their mercenary services in the largest cathedrals, are often frivolous. In the Seville cathedral the most disreputable spectacle I ever saw in any religious edifice was presented by a number of priests, who were chanting the requiem for a deceased priest. They laughed and talked during the service, and even the leader, when not engaged in singing himself, joked and laughed with the rest of those who were unemployed, without any attempt at concealment."

"The Sabbath is the great day for bull-fights, and from the most elaborate services in the cathedrals, closing at one o'clock, the people hasten to the bull-fight, and spend the rest of the day in a manner incompatible with religion of any kind.

"The work done by Romanism everywhere, of establishing a false conscience and of treating the whole subject of moral accountability on a sliding scale, giving absolution without holding the soul to
its allegiance to God, has in Spain gone to the last degree compatible with human nature."

A long-time resident in Austria testifies that "the moral degradation is far greater than in this land among the same classes. We do not know Romanism in America. "There it fosters licentiousness, both in its grosser and more refined types, so that the maxim has been framed, 'The nearer to Rome, the nearer to hell.'"

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**THE GREATEST GOSPEL FIELD.**

Since the introduction of the gospel, no portion of the earth has witnessed so much of the work of God as Europe. The great apostle soon found his way to this field in answer to the cry, "Come over and help us." In his day, several strong churches were founded, to which more than half his writings were addressed. Early established in Greece, Italy, southern France, and Spain, the gospel made its way against heathenism in all directions, penetrating as far north as Germany in the days of Constantine. Subsequently, Europe has been the chief theatre of action in the great work of the gospel. Her various and numerous nations have produced many more Christians than all other portions of the earth combined. She has produced by far the largest number of witnesses for the truth, and the darkness of the world's midnight was lighted by the blaze of the funeral pile here more than in any other land; and when the time came to dispel the darkness engendered by the apostate church, God chose his instruments chiefly from Germany, France, Switzerland, and Italy. Here many of the great prophetic scenes so vividly depicted in the Revelation have been enacted, and will continue to be enacted till the close. Here the final judgment in the seven last plagues begins to be poured out; and when the voice of the Life-giver is heard by the sleeping saints, will not more arise from central Europe than all other parts of the earth together?

In consideration of these facts, who can doubt that the Lord will yet do a great work in this field? Will he not send the final message to a land watered by the blood of so many faithful witnesses who sacrificed all to maintain the truth? When the angel comes down from heaven having great power, and the earth is lightened with his glory, his cry is against Babylon, and where will that apply to such an extent as in Europe? Immediately following is the call, "Come out of her, my people." This call is to Babylon, and wherever the largest portion of Babylon is, the burden of this message will apply.

Judging by the experiences of the past and the prophecies of the future, central Europe will be one of the chief stages of action in the closing work. But who is to give the final call, "Come out of her, my people"? In his mercy, God has permitted man to act as his ambassador among men, and it is by man that this last message will be proclaimed. The call will be given by those that are in the light and have the truth for their time; the Lord will not send those that have not the truth. He will come to those that have the light, and will use all that are prepared for it, working through them with such power that it appears as though the voice proclaiming the message comes direct from heaven. Rev. 18:4. When we consider our obligations to God, and our duties to the world in this message, let us not forget central Europe. The Lord has led his people to begin a work here, but it is only begun; whole nations have not yet heard of the third angel's message; there is yet a great work to be done here. May the Lord put it into the hearts of many to aid with their means and talents, that this great work may be accomplished!

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**PAPAL EUROPE.**

1. What countries constitute papal Europe?
2. What part of the people there are Catholics?
3. What is the state of morality in these countries?
4. Name some of the obstacles to Protestant evangelization, fifty years ago.
5. What changes have taken place?
6. What power dominated Europe three hundred years ago?
7. What were the strongest nations one hundred years ago?
8. Which are the most powerful nations to-day?
9. Has Protestantism increased in power to correspond with the development of the Protestant nations?
10. Have Protestants ceased to protest?

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**THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.**

In connection with the midsummer meeting of the General Conference Committee, which was in session July 8–29, at Battle Creek, Mich., the Board of Foreign Missions held nine meetings, at which considerable business was transacted. Our limited space in this journal will only permit of a brief mention of some of the most important matters considered, and a more extended report will be found in the Missionary Department of the Review and Herald.

Encouraging letters were read from Elder S. N. Haskell, relative to the work to be done in Africa, India, and China. There are "open doors" in each of these countries, and a great need of laborers. What is most needed are teachers and missionary nurses, who can also act as Bible teachers. To labor in these lines of work successfully, one or two years of special study are necessary. One hundred young men and women should be preparing to enter these and similar fields.

Earnest appeals for laborers to be sent to them were read from Sabbath keepers in the island of Ruatan, the West Indies, and the Gold Coast, West Africa. Also most interesting communications from our laborers in Europe, South Africa, and Australia. The missionary ship was named Pitcairn, and Elder E. H. Gates of Colorado was chosen to superintend our missionary work in Polynesia. Brethren A. J. Reed of Massachusetts and J. I. Tay of Cali-
california were selected as assistants. The Pitcairn is to be supplied with a large and well-chosen library for the use of the missionaries, with a stock of dry goods to be used in place of money in purchasing necessary supplies from the islanders, and a full supply of religious books in the several languages in which we publish. It is expected that the Pitcairn will sail early in October.

In response to the appeal for help from the west coast of Africa, it was decided to recommend Elder C. L. Boyd of South Africa, to visit the Gold Coast, Cape Palmas, Sierra Leone, and other points as the way may open. It was also voted that Elder D. A. Ball of Pennsylvania go to the West Indies, to develop the interest which has been awakened through the reading of books sold by Brother Wm. Arnold, and by correspondence from the secretaries of the International Tract Society.

A code of By-laws was adopted, to govern the action of the Board, and standing committees were chosen as follows:


On Africa, South America, Mexico, and the West Indies.—L. C. Chadwick, E. B. Miller, and R. M. Kilgore.

On Oceania.—D. T. Jones, L. McCoy, and R. A. Underwood.


Questions of finance occupied a large place in the councils of the Board. The committee on appropriations, whose report is given in another column, found that $68,800 would be necessary for the maintenance of our work from June 1, 1890, to June 1, 1891.

A plan was outlined for the organization and work of local advisory committees in mission fields, and various propositions looking to the opening of new missions, and the fitting up of workers for the same were considered. These we shall refer to in future articles.

W. C. WHITE, Secretary of the Board.

MISSIONARY APPROPRIATIONS

FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1891.

CENTRAL EUROPE.
For laborers in Germany, Russia, and Switzerland $4,000
For laborers and publications in Bohemia, Austria, Poland, Russia, Italy, Roumania, France, Belgium, Algiers, Spain, Portugal, and Holland 3,400
For Hamburg mission and school 1,900
For Les Signes and Herold 500
For improvement of printing facilities at Basel 1,800
For translation and publication of new books 3,000

$14,600

SCANDINAVIA.
For laborers in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden 3,700
For colporters' schools 800
For improvement of printing facilities at Christiansa 1,500
For interest on debt 500
For new books 2,000

$8,500

GREAT BRITAIN.
For laborers in England, Ireland, and Scotland 2,800
London mission and school 3,225
For Present Truth 1,225
For publishing and canvassing work 1,750

$9,000

SOUTH AMERICA.
Exploring the field and training of workers 1,500
Transportation of self-supporting missionaries 2,000
Stock of books 1,500

$5,000

MISSIONARY SHIP.
Construction 12,000
Fittings and stock 2,300
Missionary force 2,300
Officers and crew 2,300
Running Expenses 2,300

$32,000

MISCELLANEOUS.
A mission to the Jews 1,500
Africa, transportation and support of laborers 3,000
Organization and training of canvassing companies in Australia and South Africa, including time and traveling expenses of E. M. Morrison 1,600
Exploring new fields, and training of workers for India, China, and Japan, including the traveling expenses of Brethren Haskell and Magan 2,700
For the West Indies 900

$9,700

Total $68,800

BY-LAWS OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE.

ARTICLE I.

The President of the General Conference shall be chairman of the Board of Foreign Missions, and shall, after each regular election of the Board, appoint, unless otherwise provided for, such standing committees as are created by these By-laws.

ARTICLE II.

Section 1. The Foreign Mission Secretary shall be secretary of the Board, and his duties shall be to maintain a regular correspondence with superintendents of missions, and with the supervising committees of the Foreign Mission enterprises under the management of the Foreign Mission Board; to make regular reports of the condition and wants of the mission, to the Board, or to such standing committees as may be created for this purpose by the Board; to communicate the decisions of the Board to its agents in foreign countries; and to report to the Conference at its sessions, the workings of the Board, and the condition, progress, and wants of its foreign missions.

Sec. 2. The treasurer of the General Conference shall be treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board; and it shall be his duty to receive all money belonging to the Board, to keep an account of the same, and to disburse it by order of the Board, and to make a full report thereof annually to the Board.
**ARTICLE III.**

Section 1. The Board shall meet semi-annually, at such time and place as may be decided upon by the Board, or appointed by the president.

Sec. 2. Special meetings may be called by the president and secretary when such meetings shall be considered necessary to the interest of the work in foreign fields.

Sec. 3. Seven members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**ARTICLE IV.**

Section 1. The standing committees of the Board, for the present, shall be:

(a) A committee of three on Europe and Asia.

(b) A committee of three on Africa, South America, Mexico, and the West Indies.

(c) A committee of three on Oceania.

(d) A committee of three on education and qualifications of missionaries.

(e) A committee of three on finances.

(f) A committee of three on appointments and general reference.

Sec. 3. The Board may appoint such other committees from time to time as the Interests of its work demand.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the committees on the education and qualifications of Missionaries, to look out those who have a burden for the foreign mission work, and lay out for them a course of study, and encourage and assist them in preparation for missionary work.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Finance to present to the Board, annually, a report of all the funds received and expended, and an estimate of the funds necessary to carry on the work of the Board for the succeeding twelve months, and to suggest plans for the raising of funds for foreign mission work.

Sec. 6. The Committee on Appointments and General Reference shall nominate persons for appointment by the Board, and take into consideration such miscellaneous matters as do not belong to other standing or special committees.

**ARTICLE V.**

The Board may appoint advisory committees in different mission fields to take an oversight of the local work, when they consider it to be for the interest of such fields.

**ARTICLE VI.**

No missionary shall be sent abroad until he has first passed a careful examination by the committee of education, as to his educational and spiritual qualifications, also by a competent physician as to his physical ability for such a work.

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### FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFERINGS.

The first column shows Christmas offerings, and the second first-day offerings for quarter ending March 31, 1890.

#### MICHIGAN.

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Total, $3,012 58, $492 36.
As it is now about one year since the organization of the National Religious Liberty Association, it was thought that a general statement of the work accomplished by the Association, and its present financial condition, would be of interest to the readers of the Home Missionary.

Most of those interested in the Association will remember that the Press Committee constituted the germ from which the present organization developed. The Press Committee was organized in the fall of 1888, and as its name indicates, for the special purpose of securing the publication of articles on religious liberty questions, in the newspapers of the country. The work of the committee was successful beyond their expectations, but it was soon seen that an organization was necessary, which could include in its plans of operation the circulation of literature, lecturing on the principles of religious liberty, securing of signatures to petitions to Congress and State legislatures, protesting against religious enactments, the defense of persons prosecuted for the violation of unjust religious laws, etc.

July 21, 1889, a mass-meeting was called in the Tabernacle at Battle Creek, Mich., and the Association was organized with an initial membership of 110, and a Constitution and By-laws were adopted. During the summer and fall many members were added, in different parts of the country, and the Association was generally indorsed and encouraged, wherever its principles were properly presented.

A call was made for a meeting of the Association, Oct. 24, 1889. In response to that call twenty-nine States were represented by members present. At this meeting officers were elected for the ensuing year, a more perfect organization effected, and plans laid for the prosecution of its different lines of work. Since that time, the membership of the Association has steadily increased. During the month of July 439 new members have been added. The vice-presidents, secretaries, and press agents in the different States number 75, the local press agents, 600.

During the year the Association has secured the publication of general articles, and reports of the persecution of its members in Tennessee and Georgia, in the leading papers of the country, and in hundreds of local papers. These articles and accounts have drawn out numerous editorials in defense of the principles of religious liberty, and favorable to the work of the Association. By this means the Association has become favorably known to the public. 1,683,391 pages of literature have been printed and circulated in the interest of religious liberty. Lectures have been delivered and reported in the newspapers in the several States, and although this branch of the work has suffered for lack of laborers, the work, in nearly all cases, has been successful. Especially is this true with the mass-meeting held in Washington, D. C., Utah, Nevada, and California. The Association has sent its representatives to the national as well as State legislatures, to oppose the enactments of religious laws; and their marked success can only be explained by the recognition of the directing providence of God. Congressmen have been (to use the words of a prominent Washington paper) flooded with letters from every State and Territory in the Union, protesting against any legislation relating to Sunday observance, or any religious amendment to the Constitution. This was largely due to the agitation of the matter in all parts of the country by the Association. At last accounts, over three hundred thousand individual signatures to the petition against religious legislation, had been presented to the present Congress.

Over $1,000 has been expended in the southern field, defending persecuted members, and distributing literature, and no work has done more to bring the Association, its principles and objects, before the general public, than has the defense of these cases. Nearly $2,000 has been expended in the printing and circulation of literature which has been furnished free, or at the actual cost of publication.

The Association enters upon its second year with most favorable prospects. It is now known throughout the entire country, and has the confidence of the friends of religious liberty, and the respect of its opponents. Its representatives will therefore be heard more willingly, and greater results attend their work.

The Association had overdrew its account June 30, but the renewals, new membership fees, and dona-
tions are now coming in rapidly, and on these sources we depend for funds for an aggressive campaign the coming year.

Among the plans contemplated by the Executive Committee, are,—

1. The publication of a book entitled "State Papers," which will give congressional and judicial action regarding Sunday laws, together with the Bills of Rights and Sunday laws of the several States. This work will be placed in the hands of congressmen, judges, lawyers, etc. The work will contain over three hundred pages, and is nearing completion.

2. Another work especially adapted for use in State Legislatures, will be prepared, and placed by competent persons in the hands of legislators of the different States.

3. The management of the King case, which has been postponed until October next, on account of a failure on the part of the State Supreme Court to hand down its affirmation of the decision of the Circuit Court, before the adjournment of the latter, will constitute one of the most important lines of work which the Association has before it.

4. The circulation of petitions will continue unabated, as will also the publication and circulation of literature.

5. Greater efforts will be made to utilize the public press, which has thus far taken so marked an interest in the question of religious liberty.

6. Leaflets are now being prepared, adapted to the school-district canvass, and plans are being laid by the different States, to push this successful plan, during the fall and winter.

7. Greater efforts will be made to place one or more lecturers in each State, who will devote all their time to lecturing on the principles of religious liberty.

Friends of religious liberty can aid the Association by promptly paying their annual dues, securing new members, making and securing donations, and cooperating generally in the plans of the Association.

QUESTIONS.

1. What organization constituted the germ from which the National Religious Liberty Association has developed?

2. What was the object of the Press Committee?

3. What other lines of work made it necessary for a broader and more general organization?

4. When was the Association organized, and when was the first general meeting held?

5. How has the Association been received?

6. How many State officers has the Association?

7. What success has attended the work with newspapers?

8. How many pages of tracts have been printed and circulated by the Association?

9. What can be said of the mass meetings held by the Association?

10. What success has attended the Association's representatives in their opposition to State and national legislation on religious questions?

11. How many individual signatures to petitions against religious legislation, have been presented to the present Congress?

12. How much money has been expended in the publication and circulation of literature? How much in the defense of members, and the circulation of literature in the South?

13. What was the condition of the finances of the Association, June 30?

14. Upon what does the Association depend for funds to conduct its future work?

15. What are its plans for the future?

16. What can friends of religious liberty do to aid in this work?

Many letters containing encouraging words for the National Religious Liberty Association, and offers of co-operation, have been received. For lack of space, we can publish but a few extracts.

From a letter received from a prominent New York lawyer: —

"Its [the Association's] motto, 'No religious legislation whatever,' is mine, and the best exposition of my own views of the matter, are found on page 10 of the pamphlet sent me in your letter, under the heading of: 'My reasons for signing the petition against religious legislation.' To every one of the sixteen reasons there given, I most heartily say, 'Amen;' and although I cannot subscribe to the Declaration of Principles, not being by religious belief a Christian, I am heartily in accord with the Association and its work, and shall endeavor to co-operate with it, 'on the outside,' in doing what little lies in my power to keep religious liberty assured to our common country. Hoping for the successful issue of the fight, I remain, sincerely yours."

From a letter received from a Detroit lawyer: —

"I am heartily in sympathy with the end sought, and which, I trust, will be attained by your work. I shall always deem it a pleasure to aid you in any way that may tend to liberate religious nations, or to stamp out narrow-minded prejudice, or ranking bigotry."

From a letter received from one of the editors of the American Sentinel: —

"Inclosed, you will find postal note for $1.00 to renew my membership to the National Religious Liberty Association. I want the Association to have the money, and I want to have the honor of being a member of the Association, in good standing. All things considered, I think that the N. R. L. A. has, in the single year of its existence, made a wonderful record. May it live till the work closes up, and be the means of doing even more in the future than in the past."
HOME MISSIONS.

Conducted by L. C. Chadwick.

USE OF PERIODICALS.

For several years the members of our tract societies have made the use of periodicals quite a prominent part of their missionary work. Any one who has read the reports of the different tract societies, from quarter to quarter as they have appeared in the Review and Signs, will remember that the "number of periodicals distributed" has always been included in these reports.

A glance at the annual reports of our tract societies shows the following interesting figures: The number of periodicals distributed for the year ending Oct. 1, 1882, was 555,942; in 1883, 586,078; in 1884, 1,921,920; in 1885, 1,460,796; in 1886, 1,806,774; in 1887 (nine months), 981,189; in 1888, 1,469,836; in 1889, 1,353,743.

This makes a grand total, for a little less than eight years' time, of 10,136,278, or an average of over one and one-fourth million of papers each year, that have been loaned or given away by the missionary workers who have reported.

How important it is that a work which has become so large as these figures show the distribution of our periodicals to be, should be done thoroughly and efficiently. When our work first commenced, and we had but few papers to work with, there was more time and thought given to the plans for their circulation; but during the last few years, as our work has grown larger and larger, and we have had additional papers published with which to work, there seems to have been less attention given to instructions in this line of work. It is our desire to make the Home Mission department of this paper a source of assistance to the members of all our tract societies who are trying to carry forward different lines of home missionary work. The reader will notice by comparing the number of periodicals distributed each year from 1882 to 1889, that the largest number was distributed in 1884, since which time there has been a falling off, although the number of members has been constantly increasing. Doubtless this is caused by the rapid increase of the sale of our subscription books, which has been pushed forward so vigorously for the last four or five years.

It is a very difficult matter to keep all the different branches of our work moving along together, giving each its proportionate share of attention. The tendency is to boom one thing awhile, and then drop it and boom something else. This is not right. As the membership of our tract societies increases, there ought to be a gradual increase in the amount of work accomplished in every phase of which we have any knowledge.

Let us look at the facilities within our reach for the circulation of periodicals. See how the Lord has directed the arrangement of our postal laws so that now papers can be mailed at a very small expense, to any part of the earth, and, in a remarkably short space of time, the lessons of truth which they contain can be placed in the homes of our friends and acquaintances, with silent prayers accompanying them, that the Lord will grant the aid of His Spirit, to impress the truth on the minds of those who read.

We are living in an age when the world is flooded with papers of all descriptions. From the presses of the large publishing houses in our great cities, millions of papers are sent out daily. The world is all absorbed in the tumult of business and commercial affairs, and yet it is a fact that is being demonstrated over and over again, that there are among all classes of people, and in almost all parts of the world, those who are honestly searching for light and truth who gladly accept the papers furnished to them.

Every one who loans or mails even a single copy of our papers, ought to feel the importance of the fact that even a small action like that is a part of the Lord's work, and as such ought to be done as carefully and prayerfully as some more conspicuous effort.

It is very necessary to have good plans and methods, and to follow these plans as far as practicable in all our work; but it is a very easy matter to do our work in a formal, stereotyped manner, and there is no doubt but thousands of our excellent papers have been mailed, loaned, and given away in a mechanical way, without an appreciation of the importance of the object for which the effort is put forth.

We cannot hope to make much of an impression on the minds of the people of the world with our papers because of any superiority in their appearance, for the secular papers of the present time are far ahead of us.
in this respect. We have no authors or writers with any great reputation in the religious world to attract the attention of the masses. The only way by which we can hope to gain access to the hearts of the people is by asking the aid of the Spirit of God, to impress on the minds of the honest hearted the lessons of truth which are contained in the papers we distribute.

Another important thing for us to do is to study the papers that we distribute very carefully, and as far as possible use only such copies as we know to contain articles especially adapted to the case of the person in whose hands we place them. It is true, this cannot always be done, as our missionary workers are often furnished with a miscellaneous list of names, to whom they send a supply of reading matter without knowing anything about their intellectual, moral, or spiritual condition. In such cases the first papers sent should be such as will not arouse any prejudice, but awaken an interest and prepare the way for more. In past years it has been necessary to use such miscellaneous lists of names, and send them a general letter with the first supply of papers. But now there are facilities for securing lists of names with which an intelligent correspondence can be commenced from the very beginning. We have an army of about 1,000 canvassers in the field, and they are brought in contact every day with people who are in a favorable condition to be profited by a judicious supply of reading matter accompanied by a kind, intelligent, Christian letter.

If our canvassers learn to read human nature as they should, and are careful and observing, noting all the points of interest that occur in their conversation with different people whether they sell them a book or not, they will be able to furnish a list of names to the missionary workers in each State, and with each name some information in regard to the religious belief of the person, or some subject in which they are especially interested, so that even the first paper sent should be such as will be specially adapted to the case. This plan, if carefully studied and carried out, will do away knowing anything about their intellectual, moral, or spiritual condition. In such cases the first papers sent should be such as will not arouse any prejudice, but awaken an interest and prepare the way for more. In past years it has been necessary to use such miscellaneous lists of names, and send them a general letter with the first supply of papers. But now there are facilities for securing lists of names with which an intelligent correspondence can be commenced from the very beginning. We have an army of about 1,000 canvassers in the field, and they are brought in contact every day with people who are in a favorable condition to be profited by a judicious supply of reading matter accompanied by a kind, intelligent, Christian letter.

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What papers shall we use? is a question that is often asked. For many years the Signs of the Times has been printed to use as a pioneer sheet for missionary work. Not until the judgment reveals the result will it be known how much good has been accomplished by the circulation of this valuable paper. It has found its way to almost every part of the civilized globe, and hundreds of instances have been known where the Signs has been the means of leading people to accept the truth of God.

Commencing with July 1, 1890, the size of this paper was reduced, and the price cut down to $1.00 per year, or 90 cents when taken in clubs for missionary work. This places it within the reach of all to take clubs and use them freely. Although the paper is smaller, it will be nearly if not quite as valuable as in its larger form, as it will contain the very best of the matter that it formerly did, and be specially fitted for pioneer missionary work. There should be a diligent effort made to circulate this paper much more extensively than ever before.

The American Sentinel can be used to good advantage in clubs to disseminate the principles of religious liberty.

The Good Health and Pacific Health Journal ought to be sent out in large numbers, to awaken an interest in the minds of the people on health subjects.

The Youth's Instructor finds interested readers in all homes where there are young people, and Our Little Friend will be a friend to all the children.

We have papers in Danish, Swedish, German, French, and Dutch, for persons who read these languages, so none of our missionary workers need to be without material with which to work.

/ One rule should always be regarded carefully: never send out even a single paper to a person without writing, so he will know where it comes from. Much effort has been expended in vain in mailing papers without any correspondence, and the papers have been worse than thrown away. The people have not read them, but have been annoyed by having papers sent to them without any knowledge as to who sent them, and the publishers have had to take all the blame. We should all be willing to profit by the experience of others on this point, and be careful about our work in the future. We are engaged in the work of the Lord, and it is worth our best effort and attention.

PROGRAM.

1. Song, Hymns and Tunes, No. 1057.
2. Responsive Reading. Romans 12.
3. Season of prayer.
4. Song, Hymns and Tunes, No. 1254.
5. Short talks on the subject of the lesson.
6. Comparison of methods and experiences in this line of work.
8. Closing song.

Note.--During the time used for business, every society should consider the advisability of increasing its clubs of papers for missionary work, or if the society is not taking any clubs, it should plan to do so at once.
Health and Temperance.

Conducted by Mrs. C. E. L. Jones.

The Living Present.

Let us think less of what appears,
More of what is; for this, hold I,
It is the sentence no man hears
That makes us live, or makes us die.
Trust heresy less; seek more to prove
And know if things be what they seem;
Not sink supinely in some groove,
And hope and hope, and dream and dream.

Some days must needs be full of gloom,
Yet must we use them as we may;
Talk less about the years to come,—
Live, love, and labor more to-day.
What our hand findeth, do with might;
Ask less for help, but stand or fall,
Each one of us, in life's great fight,
As if himself and God were all.

—Good Health for June.

Importance of Healthful Dress.

Very much has been said and written on this subject, especially during the last few years, and many different ideas advanced as to the correct mode, and the evil effect of what is termed fashionable dress. Most of what has been said and written has been directed against the dress of women; and we cannot deny that for many reasons, at least, this is just; for it is true that the apparel of the “fair sex” has become very complicated, and, instead of promoting comfort and grace of figure, as it should have done, has become a source of perplexity and discomfort, and is responsible for many aggravating and fatal diseases.

The dress should not be such as to hinder in any way the most perfect development of the body. The organs of the body and their different functions are very delicate and wonderful. In order to promote the most perfect action of all, attention must be given to the manner in which the body is clothed.

Take, for instance, the vital organs located in the thorax. The heart, which consists of several sets of strong muscles, occupies the central position in the chest, and its work is to send the blood to every tissue in the body. Large blood vessels are situated here also, to carry the blood into the lungs for purification. Yet this part of the body is often compressed without mercy.

All the blood of the body passes, for purification, through the lungs, which are composed of many thousands of very delicate little air cells, which receive the air as we inhale it. As we breathe, the heart forces the blood into the lungs, and there the impurities are removed, by contact with the oxygen in the air we breathe. For this reason our clothing should be so made as to permit free breathing, not only of the upper part of the lungs, but of the lower as well.

It has been claimed by many physiologists that it is natural for women to breathe only with the upper part of their chest, while men use the lower part of the chest and the diaphragm; but by careful study it has been proved that women breathe as men do, if their respiratory organs have not been so compressed that they cannot use the lower part of them. When we breathe properly, it brings into action all the abdominal muscles, as well as those of the chest.

There is a variety of poisons being generated in the body all the time, which pass off through the excretory organs; but the most deadly poison of all is eliminated through the action of the lungs, and is thrown off with the breath.

Very recently experiments have been made showing that a very little of this poison gathered in a vial and injected into the flesh of a rabbit, will cause death in a short time. Part of the work of the heart is to distribute the blood, after it has been purified by the lungs, to different parts of the body. If the respiration has not been full and free, it can be seen at once that some of the poison that should have been removed by the lungs, remains in the blood and is carried back through the system, and in time will cause serious diseases, and oftentimes death.

The diaphragm is a very strong muscle attached to the lower part of the chest, and serves an important purpose in the act of breathing. In exhaling, it contracts, and acts as a sort of pump to force the blood out of the liver, which is a sponge-like organ situated just below, and a little to one side of, the stomach. It contains about two pounds of blood, which, when the diaphragm contracts, is forced out and sent through the portal vein to the heart. The dress of most of our civilized sisters, is made in such a way as to prevent the expansion necessary in deep, full breathing; and thus the natural action of the diaphragm is hindered: and here again the work of purifying the blood and eliminating the poison from the system, is prevented, and serious trouble is the result. Thus will be seen the harm of wearing anything that compresses the waist in any way.

Our clothing should be, as nearly as possible, equally distributed over the body, that the same temperature may be had for all organs of the body. To do this, it is necessary that the under-clothing be made to fit the limbs, as they need as much protection as the trunk, if not more. If the under-garments are made in one piece, this will help do away...
with some of the extra thicknesses. Extra belts around the waist should be avoided; and when it is necessary to have skirts with belts, they should be arranged to hang from the shoulders, either by being attached to suspenders, or by being buttoned to a waist. When it is necessary to suspend several garments from the same waist, two rows of buttons may be used, arranged one above the other. Yet if we have our bodies properly protected, we shall not have several bands coming together around the body, and, indeed, with a little care and trouble, we need have no bands except the outside dress, which may consist of a basque and a skirt, though we recommend to sew these together as soon as practicable.

In arranging the clothing this way, the weight is equally distributed, and the body is evenly clothed; the heart and lungs are not cramped into smaller quarters than the Creator gave them, and the liver and other digestive organs can do their work properly.

Another important point to be considered in women's dress, is the weight. Many times, the outside dress weighs five or six pounds; add to this the usual number of skirts and underclothing, and we get some idea of the weight of the average costume. Not much wonder that so few are able to walk but short distances without being all tired out.

In the selection of material and the arrangement of clothing, too much attention is paid to the appearance. While this should not be lost sight of, the health and comfort of the body should be considered first. Much might be said about the best materials to be used; but there are so many kinds of material, cheap and expensive, that all are able to select for their clothing material suited to almost any season and climate. One thing should not be forgotten, and that is, to dress according to the season and weather. Many times, in the heated part of the summer, we have a cool day; at such times we should not forget to add another garment; or if in the fall or early winter there comes a warm day, it will be necessary to lay aside a heavy garment for a lighter one.

A few words about the decorations of dress. We, as Seventh-day Adventists and followers of Christ, should be very careful about our dress and appearance. The dress should be made in good taste, and adapted to the wearer. In the selection of a gown, the material, color, and design are some of the points that should receive attention. Strict rules in these things cannot be laid down for every one. We must to some extent be left to decide what is suitable and what is not. But let us not forget that we are representatives of Christ in the world, and that we should use great care not to let our example be on the wrong side of this question. Satan reaches many of the young by tempting them on the point of dress. We should study how to take a consistent position on this important theme. Many have been disgusted and discouraged by a slovenly and unbecoming attire, which we know is not in accordance with the life and example of the great Teacher. We do not want to follow the world, but we do want to represent our Master.

PROPER ADAPTATION OF CLOTHING.

No one will deny the position, second to none, which dress occupies in the administration of necessity, comfort, and convenience to mankind; and yet one does constantly overlook it, by ignoring all its claims except as they are imposed by fashion. The idea of the real purpose of clothing enters little into the purchasing of material for, or the making of, a new gown. If it meet the demand of the times in fabric, texture, and color, it is taken, regardless whether or not its heat-conductive or non-conductive qualities are suited to the season or to the person's relative cold or warm "bloodedness;" and in the style advised by the modiste to set off a good figure or conceal a poor one, it is made, regardless of the health, comfort, or convenience of the wearer.

The absurdities of this custom will send one for an afternoon's promenade on a hot summer's day, in an au fait broadcloth street suit, heavily garnished, and in the cool of the evening to a lawn party, in the thinnest of thin muslin draperies, half denuded of the underclothing, in the bargain, the better to show off the round whiteness of arms and throat, more than suggested through veilings of filmy lace. The appropriateness of the garment to the condition of the weather or the wearer, seems never to be taken into consideration; if it conforms to the latest whim for the occasion, it is enough.

Now it does not signify that because a dress is suitable for one season, it is equally suitable for another; or even that a garment perfectly comfortable for one stage of a day's wear may meet the requirements of another portion of the same day. Changes in the clothing should be made in conformity to changes in the temperature, even in the course of a few hours; for it is no rare thing, in our climate, for a day to run the gauntlet of forty degrees' difference. Neither can thin, sensitive persons emulate those through whose veins the rich blood warmly courses, in appropriating the coolest of materials, even in the height of the heated season.

Persons who have a care for health and comfort, then (and such are generally those who have a care for the exhibition of propriety and good sense, also), when they purchase material, will do so with a view to the uses to which it is to be put; and reference to these uses will be carried out in the making. Other considerations beside mere appearance will enter into the wearing of garments, and they will be changed as many times a day as the wearer's comfort and the state of the weather may necessitate.

S. I. M., in Good Health for July.

PROGRAM.

1. Opening Song.
2. Prayer.
3. Responsive Reading.
5. Discussion of subject, 15 minutes.
7. Closing Song.
Canvassers' Department.

Conducted by C. Eldridge.

The query is made, "Why can we not have an annual report of the canvassing work?" and echo answers, Why? We will say that we have tried to secure such a report for several years in the past, but have as often failed. Much time has been spent during the past four years in the preparation of a tabulated annual canvassing report, using whatever matter we had at hand in its compilation; but we found, after it had all been gotten together, so meagre and incomplete it was, that it would have been a disgrace to our boasted system of canvassing had we given it publicity. So we have laid it sorrowfully aside, with the hope that a blank could be prepared so simple in form that there could be no excuse for not giving us the information so often requested and so greatly desired.

From the very complete monthly reports which have been received in the Home Missionary from time to time, we had hoped to present a complete annual report. The year closed June 30, and we have received but five reports, out of which (we blush to say it), but two are made out in a shape to be of any use to us, and we cannot tell from what State they come. Is there not a curse pronounced upon those who do the work of the Lord deceitfully (margin, negligently)? Those whose duty it is to fill out these blanks should do so at once. Our brethren in different parts of the country want to know what has been done during the year. It is just and right that they should know. Nothing will so enlist their interest, sympathy, and co-operation in the canvassing work in general as to be made acquainted with the movements of our forces in the field, and become cognizant of the progress of the work. An annual report is due. It is our duty to furnish it, and we must have it.

Hints about Canvassing.—No. 6.

We wish to have impressed upon every mind the fact that canvassing is a part of the sacred work of God for this time, and that its greatest need is consecrated laborers. Listen to the following declaration from the Testimonies: "The press is an instrumentality by which many are reached whom it would be impossible to reach by ministerial effort." "The canvassing work is God's means of reaching many who would not otherwise be impressed with the truth." Several Conferences each report over a score of conversions to the truth from reading during the past few months. Eighty-five conversions have been reported thus far for the past year as a result of the canvassing work, and only seven States have been heard from yet. As a witness to what is being accomplished in different places, we quote from a letter recently received from one of our Conference presidents: "Some hopeful conversions, and many accepting the truths of the message, are the visible results I find wherever faithful work has been done by the canvassers. I have a list of thirty persons who have accepted the truth through the influence of the canvassing work, that has come to my knowledge within a few months past."

The canvassing work is still in its infancy; but more books have doubtless been sold than many of our people are aware of. To give you the facts, we have to enumerate about 60,000 copies of "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation;" 75,000 copies of "The Great Controversy," Vol. IV.; 125,000 copies of "The Marvel of Nations;" 15,000 copies of "The Life of Christ;" 150,000 copies of "Sunshine at Home;" 25,000 copies of "Sunbeams of Health and Temperance;" and 175,000 copies of "Bible Readings for the Home Circle," besides small editions of "From Eden to Eden," "Prophecies of Jesus," and other books.

There are now employed in this work probably not less than 1,000 persons in the field, and 400 in the publishing houses and depositories. The future magnitude of this work we dare not predict; but it is evidently designed to be, in many respects, the largest factor in the closing work of the message. It is largely through this means that missions must be established in numerous places in foreign lands, as they have been during the past few years in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Europe, Canada, and the Southern States.

The results that we now see arising from this work are only a few drops accumulated, as it were, from the mists of the great Niagara of volume and power that will appear in the future, or as a few dippings from the boundless deep. The seeds are to be sown that will produce a harvest of a thousand in a day.

New Books.

One evidence that God wants a large number to enlist in the canvassing work is the fact that, in his providence, new books are being multiplied. As it will be of interest to all to know what may be expected in the line of new books, we take the following from a letter from Brother C. Eldridge, under date of July 15, 1890:—

"The books in course of preparation are, 'Patriarchs and Prophets' in the English, Danish, Swedish, and German; 'Bible Readings' in the Danish, Swedish, German, French, and Holland; 'From Eden to Eden' is already published in three languages, English, French, and German. As to when these books will all be ready, we cannot tell. 'Bible Readings' will be out in Danish, Swedish, and Holland about the first of September; 'Patriarchs and Prophets' will be out in English in about two weeks from now [August 1]. They are published at
The Review and Herald and Pacific Press, with the exception of the English edition of 'From Eden to Eden' which is only published at the Pacific Press, and all the foreign books, which are published only at the Review and Herald in this country. Nothing but 'Bible Readings' is being published in Canada; yet the Review and Herald will supply Canada with any books needed. 'Bible Readings' and 'From Eden to Eden' are published in England; 'Life of Christ' and 'Great Controversy' in Danish, are published at Christiana, and in German and French at Basel. 'Great Controversy' in Danish, German, and French is being published at the Review and Herald, and will be out in a short time.'

What provision are we making for the circulation of these books, and others which will follow? The rule should be, new workers for new books, only drawing upon the experienced canvassers for leaders for the recruits. We are glad to see the work reviving with 'Great Controversy' in English. We believe there is a great future for this book.

**MINOR NEEDS.**

In what we have said about consecrated laborers, we have included all such qualifications as constancy, perseverance, diligence, order, method, system, honesty, singleness of purpose, and right motives. All of these things are urged by our correspondents, as well as the necessity of the liberal, sympathetic, and hearty co-operation and support of the Conference officers, such as a canvassers' fund to help some get a start in the work; semi-yearly meetings to hear the experience of others; systematic and continued correspondence by the State agent and the secretary, and communications among the canvassers themselves; and institutions for class drills. But there is one thing that we would not like to pass by unnoticed, and that is the necessity of a more thorough and general understanding of the nature of canvassing as it is now being carried on among us. Many are too apt to confound it with worldly canvassing. They fail to see that this is God's work, and that it is prompted by his love abiding in the heart, and a desire to bless and save souls; and that angels of God prepare hearts and minds to respond favorably, and then go with the canvassers to aid them in the work. This is the case, however, and the people are impressed with the contrast between the selfishness and boldness displayed by others, and the spirit that characterizes our workers. They are glad to treat them well, and take their books. We are also fearful that our people generally, and even the canvassers themselves, do not appreciate the advantages already provided. To use the words of one of our district agents, "We have an abundance of instruction in the 'Testimonies' and the Home Missionary; our reporting system is good, and enables the State agent to see just what needs developing or counteracting on the part of each worker. But as yet our advantages are not utilized to nearly their full capacity." He might have said the same of the advantages provided in our most excellent system of organization, our institutes for education and drill, and the assistance which is offered in the field.

**BENEFITS.**

The benefits arising from this work are many. It affords employment for our young people, and thus saves them to the cause, and from worldly entanglements. It is truly encouraging to see what an army of youth have entered this field of usefulness, and the remarkable progress they are making in Christian growth and the development of real manhood and womanhood. It gives a chance for all who have average abilities to work directly in the cause, and to support themselves while doing so. This is what we have been looking for and expecting,—that the developments in the work of the message should finally be such that nearly all could devote themselves to it. We do well to recognize the fact that here is an open door for us to enter. Shall we not consider this matter seriously, and act wisely? Why should we hesitate to respond to God's providence in this respect? It keeps men from going into worldly pursuits, and becoming overcharged with worldly cares, against which the Saviour has warned us; and it affords an avenue of escape for those who are already in this condition. It raises the spirituality of the families and churches from which the canvassers are taken, and it helps the spirit of work and liberality in the entire Conference. It is a "stimulus and a tonic" to the worker, and "new fervor and zeal" to stir the churches as they see something accomplished. It brings intelligent, reading people into the truth,—"faithful men" who are "able to teach others also:" and having themselves embraced the truth through reading, they recognize our publications as able ministers to be employed in the conversion of others; and instead of calling for a preacher to be sent, they take the publications, and go themselves. It develops workers for other departments of the cause.

Our future ministers and Bible workers are now being trained in the canvassing work, and those who come from this school will have acquired some self-reliance, some enduring qualities, and they will be fitted to do pastoral labor. It lets in floods of light upon the great financial problem, as it is labor that not only pays for itself, but it helps support other departments of the cause, by the percentage that goes to the tract societies and the publishing houses, and also by increasing the donations and tithes of the workers. This latter effect is produced by increasing the earnings of some, and by bringing all where they can see their duty more clearly, or where they have a greater desire to help in every way they can. It is a pioneer work, which prepares the way for the Bible reader, the minister, and for the influences that go with the religious liberty movement. The opposition will awaken curiosity concerning our literature by speaking against it, and this will cause people to read it if they have it in their homes. Our work now is to get it circulated as fast as possible, so that the people will have the books in their possession to read, and thus the agitation will work in our favor instead of against us.

The benefits that will appear in the eternal world, we will not attempt to describe. E. B. Miles.
The condition and prospects of the canvassing work in Canada are very encouraging at the present time, and there are a number of interesting features. One of the canvassers of the Maritime Provinces has been at work along the Atlantic Coast and some of the islands. He has a yacht with which he goes from place to place, and finds this method of transportation at once convenient and economical. His work is chiefly among fishermen, and is proving quite successful. Others of the maritime canvassers are also at work among fishermen. One good large company is at work in the famous Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia, a region noted for the production of great quantities of apples. As the crop prospects are good, they are having quite encouraging success. From no region have we received so numerous and emphatic statements of the kindness and cordiality of the people as from this field.

In some portions of the interior of these provinces, very bitter opposition is being manifested, particularly from the pulpit and press. Quite severe denunciations have been dealt out. The results of this opposition are varied. In some instances the effects have been to prevent the successful delivery of books, while in others, the testimony is that it proved a help rather than a hindrance. It seems to depend largely upon the tact of the canvasser in managing the situation.

The English speaking portions of the Province of Quebec have been quite thoroughly canvassed for "Bible Readings," and the Quebec canvassers have been assigned territory in Ontario. Eight Quebec canvassers have been at work in Ontario, and for the most part, have had very encouraging success. They have thus far delivered 100 per cent of their orders.

In Ontario we have recently had our canvassing force quite largely increased by canvassers from Battle Creek College, also others from the States, so that we now have, aside from the Quebec canvassers who are at work in this province, about thirty persons engaged on "Bible Readings." They are all at work in companies, and as crop prospects are good, their success is generally quite satisfactory.

The six canvassers who went from Minnesota to Manitoba, are all doing well, and some of them have made quite remarkable records. Their success is rendered thus favorable in consequence of the good crop prospects.

We have already commenced the printing of a third edition of "Bible Readings," to meet prospective demands. Our first edition was 5,000 copies, the second, 10,000, and the present edition the same. As we imported upwards of 3,000 copies from Battle Creek, it will thus be seen that a goodly number of this excellent book are being placed in Canadian homes.

We are constantly in receipt of information showing that the precious seeds of truth thus distributed are taking root and bearing valuable fruit. People of decided worth are accepting present truth through this means. The Lord is blessing the work and the workers.

Our constant endeavor is to impress upon canvassers that they should always remember that they are contributing to a common cause. Their contributions consist of their personal conduct, their influence, and methods of labor. All these contributions have their effect. That effect is either for or against the common cause. It either raises or lowers the standard. The ideal standard is 100 per cent. If all the contributions of the canvassers are 100 per cent, then the whole will be 100 per cent; but just in proportion as the contributions fall below 100 per cent, so the entire cause is affected for the worse. We hope all will try to realize this continually, and ask themselves at all times whether their contributions will raise or lower the standard of the common cause. Remember that this matter should enter into and affect your language, manners, dress, diet, hours of labor, rest and recreation, correspondence, study, devotion, spirituality, secular business transactions, weekly reports to the office, orders for books, remittances in payment for books, in short, every feature that can be named. Now it is manifest that in order to have the whole of anything free from defects, all the parts must be equally so. Now it will be a simple matter for you to give a separate examination to each of the different features that have been named, and such others as suggest themselves to you regarding yourself, and endeavor to ascertain wherein certain defects lie, and what those defects are, and how to correct them. In this way you will be able constantly to raise the per cent of your work, and come nearer 100 per cent.

G. W. Morse.

A DEFENSE OF THE BOOK.

The following is an article that appeared in the Daily Times, June 19, 1890, printed in Moncton, N.S., in answer to an abusive letter published in the same paper, accusing our canvassers of fraud. We do not know the party, but think he has assumed a very appropriate nom de plume. It will certainly interest our canvassers to learn that they have friends among their subscribers that will defend them.

"Editor Times: That book fraud noticed in the Times of the 16th seems to be giving the agent considerable trouble on account of the refusal of parties that have signed for it to take the book when delivered. Now, although I am not interested particularly in the religious body the said agent represents, if indeed I am at all aware of his religious creed or principles, I must say there is something about the whole matter that is really worth investigating. And if the book or the agent is really a fraud, you cannot give too much publicity to the fact. As one who signed for the book and paid for it, and has since examined the contents, I fail to see where the fraud comes in. I find the book gives the reader a great array of scripture texts on all the subjects treated upon, and so far as I can see, they are given without note or comment, and to an unprejudiced mind it would be most difficult to discover to what body of people the author really does belong. But apart from author, book, or agent, and in the interest of relig--
ious liberty, I for one record a public protest against the religious system or man who would in this enlightened age rush to the secular press to denounce and persecute a man on account of his religious views, as the Rev. Mr. Hall, Baptist minister of Sackville, has done, and for no better reason apparently than that this agent had not condescended to ask his permission before seeking subscribers for his book. The reverend gentleman little thought as he went to the Sackville Post with that persecuting article for publication, that he was bringing a blush upon every honest Baptist cheek as they read it and remembered what the fathers of that denomination had suffered in this country to maintain religious liberty. A Baptist myself, I feel perfectly at liberty to criticise the action of the reverend gentleman, but the castigation will apply equally well to reverends of other denominations in this and other towns, from whose flocks we should hope to have a similar protest in the interest of religious liberty. Let us have done talking about the pope of Rome.

"Moncton, June 18."

BE YE CLEAN.

On page 119 of "Testimony No. 33," we read the following impressive words: "I feel urged to address those who are engaged in giving the last message of warning to the world. Whether those for whom they labor see and accept the truth, depends very much upon the individual workers. The command from God is, 'Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord.'" In consideration of this important announcement, how careful we should be of our words and actions at all times, and particularly so while bearing the vessels of the Lord.

The canvasser should realize that in going from door to door soliciting orders for our books, his work has only just begun. We often find that taking orders is the most pleasant part of it. The trials, difficulties, and perplexities are to be encountered when the time comes for delivering the books. Do we expect people to keep their word and take the book when ordered, or will they scatter abroad? Without me ye can do nothing." Are we taking Christ along with us? If not, let us invite him to accompany us, and if we are the ones to go forth proclaiming the truths for this time, he will go with us, and give us his grace and power, commensurate with the importance of the truths he would have us promulgate. I fully believe that every worker should be thoroughly drilled in his business, and familiar with the book he is attempting to place in the hands of the people. In addition to this, he must have learned in the school of Christ, that his soul may be possessed of those graces, patience, meekness, gentleness, and love, and he be enabled to gather with Christ, and not scatter abroad.

A. F. Harrison.

New Orleans, La., July 1, 1890.

HELPS ON THE WESTERN PRAIRIES.

"GREAT CONTROVERSY," VOL. IV.

[That there is another side to the question of using side helps, our readers will be pleased to know. The following from Brother Burdick, while in harmony with the general sentiment expressed in the Home Missionary upon the subject of "helps" and "peddling," shows that an exception should be made for those working upon the western prairies. We are glad to hear from him, and to open our columns for a presentation of his side of the case for the benefit of our readers.—C. E.]

Certain fundamental principles underlie success in any enterprise, but the carrying out of details often depends much upon time, place, and circumstances.

Mankind is apt to run from one extreme to its opposite, but we should use care not to go so wild. Because some so-called "helps" are hindrances does not prove that all are, or because all are hindrances under some circumstances does not prove them so under all circumstances. In thickly settled territory where canvassers go afoot, it would be a burden to carry a valise full of small books, but not so on our western prairies, where it becomes necessary to drive a horse (houses average a mile or more apart). Webster's Handy Dictionary is "useful," is "desired," and "meets with ready sale," and therefore is a success. Many have none, and it requires but few words to sell one. Just say, "It explains over 25,000 words for 25 cents; 1,000 words explained for a penny, no one (or family) can afford to go without it," and the sale is made if at all. Hundreds buy, and none regret it; and no less books are sold on present truth. Again: when settling for board, take out a souvenir album, letting the pictures string to the floor, and say, "Here is an album of Garfield, the martyred President, showing scenes in his life from his cradle to his tomb;" but few words are needed, a sale is made, and money saved to the canvasser.

Sometimes a pamphlet on present truth, or a package of health science leaflets will pay for a meal or a night's lodging; where otherwise cash would be required, and I think it is better than indorsing the amount on a guarantee card, unless the latter will secure an order where without it you would fail; but discretion is also necessary. Carrying "helps" can easily be carried to extremes, and detract from our regular work. I would not think it best to carry many varieties at once, and never a peddlers' Valise of Yankee notions. Yours in the work,

R. A. Burdick.

"GREAT CONTROVERSY," VOL. IV.

The French, German, and Danish editions of this book will be ready for circulation by the time this number of the Home Missionary reaches our readers. In order to get these books into the hands of our people at the earliest possible moment, as well as to bring them within the reach of all, the same plan will be adopted as given in the Home Missionary for July for the circulation of "Patriarchs and Prophets." Namely, twenty-five per cent discount from the regular price, for ninety days.

C. E.
EXTRACTS FROM THE CANVASSERS' REPORTS FOR MAY.

SOMERSET HOUSE, ROLAND ST., CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA, June 1, 1890.

Brother Oldfield reports that he has not been able to do much the past month on account of poor health. He hopes soon to begin work with "Bible Readings" in East London, King William's Town. Brother Lansman is still near Pietermaritzburg. He reports that he enjoys reading the Home Missionary. We have not yet heard what he has done the past month. Brother Groenewald has been at work at Lady Smith, and the small towns near. He and Brother Lansman expect soon to have a team and cart to work the country. Brother Groenewald reports that he has enjoyed much of God's blessing in his work, the past month, as he has tried to consecrate himself to the work, and seek for wisdom to know how to get the books that teach the truth, into the homes of the people. God has given special help, and he has been able to take 141 orders for "Bible Readings."

Brother Visser has worked along the railroad from Beaufort west to Hanover. He has used Holland "Daniel" and Holland "Revelation," also English "Thoughts." He has delivered in these small towns about 150 books. He writes that to know that the brethren pray for him is a help, and that he joins every Wednesday evening with them in asking God's blessing on the canvassers and their work.

Brother Webb finished his delivery at Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp, delivering about 350 English and Holland "Daniel and Revelation." He is now at Pretoria, and reports that it is hard work to take orders, also that he has not been well; still he is of good courage, and can see that God is hearing the prayers of his people in behalf of the canvassers, and that the way is being opened in a marked degree, and prejudice is not allowed to prevent the people from taking the books.

Brother Burleigh has worked the past month mostly in the suburbs of Johannesburg, and has done well. He reports money scarce, and the people constantly changing about; that it is hard to find the man this week, that gave his order last week. He has delivered $629.20 worth of books. He writes in his last letter that he often thinks that no class of workers has more real love for the truth, or anxiety that it should reach the people, than the canvasser. He is happy in his work, and amid all the toil and care, he feels that he is gaining a daily experience that he trusts will fit him for more efficient work in the future. He can see often that God's spirit leads people to take the book, even after they tell him that they do not believe the Bible, and do not care to read religious books. He tells them that the book "Thoughts" treats on the prophecies, and when they read it and see how that which was prophesied long years ago has been fulfilled to the letter, it will cause them to see beauty and harmony in the Bible that they have never seen.

The prospectuses for the Danish "Bible Readings" are now ready. The Holland will be ready in a week, the Swedish, September 1, at which time "Bible Readings" in the Danish, Swedish, and Dutch will be ready for shipment. Canvassers can arrange for their delivery accordingly.

N. H. Druillard.

THE CAUSE IN LOUISIANA.

As I am one of the canvassers sent to this field, I have had an opportunity to see the work move on with uninterrupted and increasing success, for which I feel to praise the Lord. Yet my heart is often pained when I reflect how much more might have been accomplished had we only had the living preacher to step in and follow up the interest awakened by the "Bible Readings" placed in the hands of the people. We have no doubt but that the General Conference is fully cognizant of the importance of thorough, concentrated work over that of a promissory nature, and that it has it under consideration; yet we cannot help but feel that a great loss to the cause is being sustained from a lack of laborers in the great field. I am fully persuaded that a company of commandment keepers might have been brought out at each point where our company of canvassers has operated, had it been possible for the living preacher to have stepped in and followed up the advantage gained. While the interest to hear was good at that time, it is now doubtless on the wane, and would probably require as great an effort to arouse the people as though no labor had ever been bestowed. It would prove a great incentive to the canvassing work, and encourage the canvasser to renewed activity and increasing perseverance, could he but have the comforting assurance that people are fully embracing the truth as a result of the efforts he put forth to place the books in their hands.

Many times the seed of truth sown in the heart produces only a tender sprout, which soon withers and dies for the lack of timely culture and nourishment. We know that the Macedonian cry is heard on every hand, and while we deplore the loss that is being sustained thereby, we can only bide our time, and pray that the Lord of the harvest may send forth more laborers into the whitened field.

J. B. Thayer.

PROSPECTUSES.

The prospectuses for the Danish "Bible Readings" in the Danish, Swedish, and Dutch are now ready. The prospects for shipment are sure now. The Swedes will be ready in a week, the Danes, September 1, at which time "Bible Readings" in the Danish, Swedish, and Dutch will be ready for shipment. Canvassers can arrange for their delivery accordingly.
Send in your orders for this most excellent book. We are prepared to fill all orders for any style of bindings. Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and the Dominion of Canada, will order from the Review and Herald; all other States will order from the Pacific Press, Oakland, Cal., or Pacific Press, 43 Bond Street, N. Y. We can see no reason why the States ordering from the Pacific Press cannot be equally well accommodated as if ordering from the Review and Herald, and without much more delay. Try it.

All the canvassers working in the Pacific Press territory, and for Pacific Press books, will apply to their offices for prospectuses, also when working in the following territory, which they control for subscription books published by the denomination: Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, and all territory west thereof; including Australia, New Zealand, and the islands of the Pacific.

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**CONDENSED REPORT**

Of the CANVASSING WORK IN SWEDEN, NORWAY, AND DENMARK,

May 1, 1889 to May 1, 1890.

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Total: $5,419.13 $4,376.60 $1,187.03 $10,882.76

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**REPORT OF THE CANVASSING WORK FOR JULY, 1890.**

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**TOTALS**: $90,333.94 $1,558.44 $91,892.38 $60,712.51
BATTLE CREEK, MICH., AUGUST, 1890.

Some very interesting extracts from letters received from editors in the South, to whom the Sentinel has been sent, are just received from the secretary of the Chicago office, but we have not the space to print them.

Elder Dan. T. Jones left July 31 for Missouri, where he will spend most of the month of August. He will attend the Missouri camp-meeting, and probably the one in Arkansas also, and will take a little rest from his arduous office duties.

M. A. Shutz delivered a lecture in the gymnasium at the Sanitarium the evening of July 29, on the present condition of Russia, and will speak in the Tabernacle Sunday evening, August 10, on the religions of Russia, giving an account of his own arrest and escape.

It will be noticed that the report of labor of the Chicago office is less in some respects than last month. The records show, however, that publications have been sent to quite as many individuals, but the publications have been smaller in size.

Brother Chadwick started August 5 for a ten-weeks' trip attending camp-meetings at Homer, Mich.; Marion, Ohio; Frankfort, Ind.; Saginaw, Mich.; Bloomington, Ill.; the general meeting in Nebraska, and both the northern and southern meetings in Kansas. Short reports from these meetings will appear in the next two numbers of the Home Missionary.

Since our last issue, two more Tract Society workers have fallen in death: Elder J. E. Robinson, President of the Atlantic Society, and Elder A. D. Olsen, formerly President of the Minnesota Society. Both of these brethren died in Colorado, where they had gone, hoping in vain for recovery from that dread disease, consumption.

REPORTS OF DONATIONS.

This month we publish full reports from several States, of the first-day offerings for quarter ending March 31, and of the Christmas offerings also. We have written to all the Tract Society secretaries, asking for similar reports, and we hope to present all in the next number, that do not appear in this.

The following is a translation from a report in the French Signs of the Times of July 3:

"A brother who had embraced the truth in America, writes us from Constantinople that several persons interested in the truth in that city, and who during the last four years have assembled in private houses to hold their meetings, have been forbidden to do so by the sultan. Nevertheless several observers of the Sabbath have gathered from time to time at the house of one of the brethren to worship God together on the seventh day. The neighbors soon began to inquire why it was that these men came together there every Saturday, and told these brethren to discontinue their meetings, or they would be obliged to denounce them to the police. Since then, they have not been able to hold their regular meetings. One of the members of this little flock is a converted Jew, another an Armenian, the third a Greek, and the fourth a Greek of Asia Minor, whose mother tongue is Turkish. Therefore the Greek, Armenian, and Turkish languages are represented in this little nucleus of seventh-day observers in Constantinople."

THE WORK AT OUR MAIN OFFICE.

Report of work done at the main office of the International Tract Society at Battle Creek, Mich., for the month ending July 31, 1890.

Religious work.

Pages books and tracts sent to foreign countries 40,139
" " " " United States 654
Number periodicals sent to foreign countries 2,025
" " " " United States 566
Number letters written to foreign countries 148
" " " " United States 44

Mrs. S. L. Strong.

Health and Temperance work.

Pages books and tracts sent to foreign countries 16,434
" " " " United States 1,116
Number periodicals sent to foreign countries 137
" " " " United States 30
Pledges 91

Mrs. C. E. L. Jones.

National Religious Liberty work.

Pages tracts and pamphlets 237,832
" " " " Sentinel 891
" " " " English petitions 100
" " " " German 2
" " " " Manuals 91
Letters written 1,107

Albert Hopkins.

Scandinavian work.

Pages tracts and pamphlets sent 12,262
Number periodicals sent 2,110
Number letters written 179

Tena Jansen.

CHICAGO OFFICE.

Report of labor for the month of July, 1890.

Pages denominational and N. R. L. publications sent out 6,420
" " Health and Temperance publications 2,460
No. Signs, Present Truth, and Instructors 288
" " Good Health and Pacific Health Journals 104
" " Sentinel 921
" " N. R. L. manuals 974
" " letters 1,995

Jennie Thayer.