

The Indicator.

“ARISE, SHINE ; FOR THY LIGHT IS COME, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD IS RISEN UPON THEE.”

VOL. VI.

ROME, N. Y., FEBRUARY 19, 1896.

No. 8.

GOD'S BEST.

God has his best things for the few
That dare to stand the test;
God has his second choice for those
Who will not have his best.

It is not always open ill
That risks the promised rest;
The better, often, is the foe
That keeps us from the best.

There's scarcely one but vaguely wants
In some way to be blest;
'Tis not thy blessing, Lord, I seek,
I want thy very best.

And others make the highest choice,
But when by trials pressed,
They shrink, they yield, they shun the cross,
And so they lose the best.

I want, in this short life of mine,
As much as can be pressed
Of service true for God and man;
Help me to be my best.

I want to stand when Christ appears
In spotless raiment dressed,
Numbering among his hidden ones
His holiest and best.

I want among the victor throng
To have my name confessed.
And hear my Master say at last'
Well done; you did your best.

Give me, O Lord, thy highest choice;
Let others take the rest;
Their *good things* have no charm for me,
For I have got *thy* best.

—Selected.

SOUTH LANCASTER, MASS.

ACCORDING to appointment I met with the board at South Lancaster, Feb. 11-13. Our first work was to carefully look over the school and its surroundings, and as fully as possible take in the situation. We also visited several of the class rooms and were permitted to see the school in active operation. We also visited the Bible school which was just closing its first term of six weeks. Each member of the board was

permitted to speak to the students at chapel exercises. Though the school is not as full at present as the room will accommodate, yet we were much pleased to see a goodly number of intelligent young men and women and children evidently manifesting a deep interest in the success of their work and of the school. It was a pleasure to me to meet our New York delegation of seven. They all seemed glad to meet some one from the Empire state, and we spent what time we could in visiting and counseling with them. I would be glad to speak of each one by name ; but will simply say that “courage and progress” seemed to be their watchword, as well as that of the whole school.

The buildings and all the rooms, though not extravagant, are very neat, pleasant, and homelike. There has evidently been in all the departments much study given to the arrangements that so far as consistent with the money expended, to meet the needs and desires of the students, and they have great reason to be thankful for their good opportunities there for gaining instruction and discipline to fit them for usefulness in life.

I was permitted to get a much better acquaintance with Professor Haughey, the principal, and it was greatly appreciated. I also met and had some conversation with all the teachers.

The Word of God is made a prominent study for all classes, and a spiritual atmosphere is exerted both in the school and the home, which is encouraging indeed. The board were unanimous in their expressions of satisfaction with the efforts of the faculty to make the school a grand success.

The only thing that is necessary now to make the Academy a self-supporting institution, and a great means of advancing the cause of truth is, first ; that the different conferences in the district meet their pledges to the school and thus clear it from debt, and second ; that we send our boys and girls, and our young men

and women there to fill up the recitation rooms, and stand by the work in every way possible.

The board had several long meetings for counsel, which were regarded as profitable. It was considered one of the best meetings of the board thus far, and all members left with a fixed determination to stand by the South Lancaster Academy.

Brethren and Sisters, pray for the principal, and faculty of this school. Pray for the young minds there under training for the work of God; pray for the success of the school as a whole. If possible give of your means to help this conference meet its obligations, and the Lord will bless and establish the work of your hands.

A. E. PLACE.

ROME AND BATH ON HUDSON.

SABBATH, Feb. 8, I had another pleasant and profitable day with the Rome church. The Lord's blessing was felt in all the services, and we feel to thank Him for what He is doing for individuals, and we feel that the church is coming upon still higher ground, and this always makes our hearts glad. O, for a church that in all the walks of life, will sound abroad the glory and "power of an endless life." Why not, when the Lord is with us, and "waiting to be gracious."

Evening after the Sabbath I took the train for Albany, arriving there a little before midnight where I found my brother-in-law J. W. Tedd awaiting me. A portion of the day Sunday was spent with Elder Ball in looking over the work in Albany and Bath, and also the work throughout the State. In the afternoon and evening I spoke at Bath on Hudson, where Elder Ball has been holding meetings for a time. I was much pleased to see the interest that was manifested. Several noble souls have taken a stand for the truth, and others are deeply interested. It is hoped to organize the Albany and Bath companies into church relation, and call it the Albany church. My heart beats with gratitude to God that we can report this work from our capitol city. May the work in this important city in our Conference be often remembered before God at the throne of Grace.

About nine years ago I was sent to Albany to assist in opening the city mission work there. Reading and lecture rooms were secured on

State Street just above the capitol building, and opened to the public. That plan, however, was abandoned after a fair trial because of its expense. Considerable canvassing has been done there. Bible work has also to some extent been carried on; but we have found it a very conservative city, but notwithstanding all the hindrances the work has gradually progressed. Precious seeds of truth have been sown, and now we feel encouraged with the prospect of organizing a church there. The report of this will doubtless soon appear in the INDICATOR. From this place I go on to South Lancaster, Mass., to attend a meeting of the Academy board.

A. E. PLACE.

THE THEORY OF CANVASSING.

In our canvassers minds the first thought should be to do the people good by placing in their hands helps in studying the Scriptures. After looking our books over carefully and reading them, select one. One is enough for any man or woman. Then make a special study of that book; order a prospectus and canvass. The canvass is a description of the book, written generally in choice language, and very much superior to any home made canvass. The trouble with some is they say too much that is not important or interesting, and thus tire out the people. It is important to know when we have said enough on any subject, and to say it in the best words, and to use the best construction. A good canvass or description has these qualities: it is clear, concise, forcible, and good language is used. Some home made canvasses lack all of these qualities. Clear means easily understood. Concise means boiled down, expressing much in few words. Forcible, the synonyms are: powerful; efficacious; strong; potent; cogent.

Now take the prospectus and canvass, and study them together until you can describe the book in an interesting manner, without hesitancy. There should also be expression and emphasis given in the proper places. To simply repeat a lot of words without any inflection, in a sleepy monotonous tone, will not have the desired effect. It is just the same in reading. A book agent on a train was told that Senator — was in the car, and that he would wager the agent could not sell him a book, as

The Canvassing Work.

Report for the Week Ending Feb. 14.

Post-office.	County.	Agent.	Hrs.	Days.	Ords.	Value.	Miscel.	Del.	Val.
Bible Readings.									
Sidney,	Delaware,	C. W. Inskeep,	14	4	8	13.75			
Glen,	Montgomery,	Wm. Seewald,	24	4	4	9.00	1.25		
Cortland,	Cortland,	Fred McAlister,					2.50		
Arkport,	Stueben,	F. A. Evans,	33	5	3	8.25	1.50		
Patriarchs and Prophets.									
Rochester,	Monroe,	M. A. Millington,	30	5	13	32.50	5.00		
Miscellaneous sales,						10.25			
Totals,			101	18	28	\$73.75	\$10.25		

the senator would never allow an agent to show him a book. The canvasser went over to the senator and told him he would like to call his attention to some remarkable statements in the book he was reading, and he would like to get his opinion about them. This aroused the curiosity of the senator, and the agent sat down and read to him some choice things. he was an excellent reader. The senator said, "What book is that?" It was only a few minutes before he sold him the book, and never revealed the fact that he was an agent.

J. R. CALKINS.

A MISSIONARY LETTER.

THE Rome church Tract Society is sending out the *Signs of the Times* and *Sentinals* to different parts of the State. After sending a few copies members write to the parties, saying the papers are sent free, and asking them if they would like them continued, etc. Here is a letter from a gentleman in answer. They generally receive answers to about one fourth of the letters sent.

"DEAR FRIEND: Your postal of the 28th ult. received and noted. I wondered to whom I was indebted for copies of *Signs of the Times*; I thank you for sending them. I find the papers very interesting, especially the article on the Lord's coming, as I am much interested in this event. Soon after my conversion, about two years ago, I began studying the teachings of the word on the second advent. I believed there was more in the doctrine than was usually taught in the churches. The study was a great blessing to me, and I hope through me to others.

"I find to follow Christ it is necessary at times to be *peculiar*. And many of us who take God's Word as it is, free from the accumulated interpretations of apostate churches, are accounted peculiar—the holders of queer doctrines. I am open to the truth, praise the Lord, and I thank Him for leading me as far as He has. I have the kindest of feelings for the Seventh-day Adventists. When I was in the world and of the world, I lived in the west and knew something of them. I like the paper for its fearless assault upon Sunday. I cannot write here just how I feel about that. I had often thought of it before I saw a copy of the *Signs of the Times*. It seems the Christian church is the victim of circumstances in that matter. Our churches are in many ways far from the pure and simple teachings laid down by Jesus in Luke 6. But, blessed be God, many from among the churches are "looking up," and waiting for Him to come who shall restore all things.

"I guess you will think I am not very decided as to my position regarding one point touched upon here; but you will pardon me if I am, for I am but a beginner in the Christian life. I do not know whether you are a brother or a sister; but may God bless you in your effort to spread the truth. I will subscribe for the paper shortly, but cannot just at present. Thanking you for your kindness, I am yours in the Master's service."

"Church and State," is the title of an excellent new tract, R. L. L. No. 36 extra. It is a discussion of the late Encyclical of Pope Leo.

The Indicator,

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MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

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Entered at the Post Office in Rome N. Y. as second-class matter.

XIII, by Rev. Geo. B. Kulk, pastor of the M. E. Church of Battle Creek, Mich. Coming as it does from outside our denomination, it is especially valuable for missionary work among the popular churches. Price 2 cents each, \$1.00 per hundred.

ITEMS.

—Bro. E. S. Popoff is studying this winter. He is stopping in Rome.

—Bro. M. A. Vroman is attending school at Binghamton this winter. He enjoys the school and is improving.

—Bro G. F. Evans has been doing well canvassing at Wellsville, N. Y., formerly the headquarters of the Pa. conference.

—The past two weeks have been hard on canvassers as the roads are blocked with snow, and it has been extremely cold. In some parts of the state as low as 49 degrees below zero.

—We are pleased to see the good spirit some are taking in doing missionary work with our literature among their neighbors. "Still there's more to follow." When the spirit of the Master is seen in the lives of those who do this work

its results are most gratifying.

—Good reports are coming in from our laborers in the field. Satan is contesting every inch of ground, but the workers are of good courage in the Lord. We believe many earnest prayers are ascending daily to the heavenly throne of grace that success may attend their efforts. This is right. Brethren and sisters and workers, pray on and work on, and victory is sure and soon. The dear Saviour is praying for us all.

—The message to Joshua a little before crossing the Jordan was, "Be strong and of good courage only be strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, etc." Again it is repeated, "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Is not this the keynote to the success of the message to-day? Let us all sing it with heart and voice, and those who cannot sing try. "Half the burden lies in trying."

—Conference cash received Jan. 16 to Feb. 12: West Valley, \$17.00; Randolph, \$35.51; South Russell, \$6.00; Sinclairville, \$73.47; Middle Grove, \$3.70; Pierrepont, \$13.54; Norfolk, \$5.00; Wilson, \$7.06; Syracuse, \$75.00; Collins Center, \$5.00; Gouverneur, \$1.00; Fulton, \$2.50; Ebenezer, \$15.44; Buffalo, \$103.99; Roosevelt, \$3.42; Olean, \$67.81; Wellsville, \$43.45; Black Creek, \$10.40; Rome \$44.61; Jeddo, \$31.68; Nunda, \$4.75; Lincklaen Center, \$70.56; Keene, \$8.00; Ellicottville, 90.03; Genoa, \$37.57; Jamestown, \$54.13; Steamburgh, \$1.50; Lancaster, \$3.00; Wheeler, \$17.25; Individuals, \$10.68.

Wanted.—A girl or woman to do general housework. Sabbath-keeper preferred, must begin work April, 1. Good reference given. Address, James D. Kimble, Fero, Chemung County, N. Y.

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