

The Indicator.

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

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ABSTRACT OF TALK TO STUDENTS IN THE SOUTH LANCASTER ACADEMY.

BY ELDER A. E. PLACE.

PERHAPS I can do no better than to relate some of the experiences that have been most effective in giving shape to my life. About eighteen years ago, I was employed as a machinist to fit myself as a civil-engineer. That was my highest ambition at that time. But I found that the Lord did not want me to be that kind of civil-engineer. A circumstance occurred one day which has had an effect upon my life ever since. I had been somewhat intemperate in my habits, seen some of the ups and downs of life, and known what it was to have a good time—I mean a bad time, a miserable time. One day, as the result of loss of sleep, I found it difficult to keep awake while at work at my laythe. I went to sleep and fell over into the laythe, and barely escaped with my life. Had I been at one of the machines which had a carrying-arm, my head might have been severed from my shoulders.

I do not believe in chance, but I do believe in providence. When I arose and saw the situation, and how narrow was the escape, I trembled from head to foot. All at once there came a voice to me, saying, “You must settle the question to-day whether you go to heaven or to hell.” I answered, “I will settle it to-day.” That evening when the whistle blew, as the sun was setting clear and beautiful in the west, the same question came to me again. I then knew the same truth that I now profess, but would not obey it. But although it was a great struggle, I lifted my eyes to God, and said, “By thy grace I choose heaven.” I then returned home to Oswego, N. Y., and the next Monday entered the Normal school at that place. I loved science and thought to fit myself to teach it. But one day while this thought was in my mind, the voice came to me again,

saying, “Suppose God should choose for you some other vocation, would you follow it?” Then after another struggle like the first, I said, “God has saved my soul, he has rescued me from ruin, I will follow in the way he may open for me.”

Upon returning home I found a letter from Elder M. H. Brown, the president at that time, in which he said, “Come to Rome and attend our State meeting.” Under the circumstances I could but go. From there I went out a short time with the tent to present the truth that I had learned to love. That fall I came to South Lancaster Academy to learn more of the Bible. The school was in its infancy, and there were but few students. I helped to fit up the church and Sister Harris’s house for the use of the school. We used to get up at five o’clock in the morning to saw wood. It was a grand experience. Sometimes it was stormy and cold; but it was not a pleasant time we sought, but to get and to do good. One sacred place in my memory is a grove toward the west from here, where some of us frequently went to pray. We prayed for the careless and disobedient in the school, that the Lord would convert those who did not love Him, and show them the right way. The Lord blessed us greatly in this kind of work. Many prayers are being offered for you now, by students and teachers in the school, and by fathers and mothers at home.

I am glad to see the progress which the school has made since that time. I hope still to be a means in the hands of the Lord of helping the school. I am glad that as a member of your school board I have the privilege of petitioning the Board of Heaven from day to day in your behalf, that you may continually have the presence of God in your work. And I trust that we may see greater and greater evidences of His care for the school, in enlarging its membership and extending its influences, that young men and women may go forth from these rooms

filled with the spirit and love of God, to take the truth to their fellow-men, and to help carry forward the work of righteousness in the earth.

THE RELATION THE SABBATH-SCHOOL SUSTAINS TO THE PRESENT ISSUE.

“FOR we are laborers together with God.” 1 Cor. 3 : 9. There must therefore be a unity of action among the workers, and a perfect harmony between the workers and Christ, for we are laborers together *with Him*. In view of the many ways in which the Word of God is being taught to-day, and the wide departure from the principles of divine truth by those who teach the Word, thus separating themselves from Jesus Christ its divine author, it would seem that the scripture above quoted is timely instruction to God’s people at this time upon the relation we sustain to God, to His people, and to His work. And my purpose in this article is to call the attention of our Sabbath-schools to the importance of this very thought, and if possible to infuse into our schools a greater degree of the true spirit of the last warning message that is now going to the world.

Never did I see so clearly, or sense so deeply the solemn character of this work, and its immediate and far reaching results. As a people we are favored with great light, and many special manifestations of divine favor, as were God’s chosen people of old. We hail with joy every omen of added light, or of God’s blessings. I sometimes fear that we do not fully appreciate these things. Do we fully sense the fact, that added light brings added responsibility, and that these responsibilities cannot be ignored, only to our peril? This, however is the case; and God is calling as never before on our Sabbath-schools, as well as upon our churches, to arise and shine. We have, far to long, been occupying a place to far beneath the dignity of our work, and long has God been calling us to arise; but how slow we have been to heed the call.

But now we find ourselves in the very midst of the perils of the last days. On every side of us the aspect is threatening. The storm-cloud is already hanging over us, and soon will burst in relentless fury upon those who are true and loyal to God. We can hesitate no longer, for we have reached the crisis, and must take our

stand and show our colors as never before; for our “light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon” us.

To no one, nor to any class, does the present situation or the Word of God appeal more forcibly than to our Sabbath-schools. The testimony of God’s spirit informs us that at this time “Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile, to take council against the people of God. Wealth, genius, and education will combine to cover them with contempt. Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will conspire against them. With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule they will seek to overthrow their faith. By false representations and angry appeals they will stir up the passions of the people. Not having a thus saith the Scriptures to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to oppressive enactments to supply the lack. To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law.”—*Testimony 32, Page 206.*

Again we read from page 207: “When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, when under this three-fold union our country shall repudiate every principle of its constitution as a Protestant and Republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan, and that the end is near, and as the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem; so may the apostasy be a sign to us that the limit of God’s forbearance is reached, that the measure of our nations iniquity is full, and that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight nevermore to return. The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress which the prophets have described as the time Jacob’s trouble.”

I have quoted from the Testimony at some length, that I might be able to place before our schools the importance of this time, and our perilous situation, as well as our attitude, as we are viewed, from the standpoint of the Christian world. As our schools are able to see the situation, they should unitedly labor to hasten the

The Canvassing Work.

Report for the Week Ending Feb. 28.

Post-office.	County.	Agent.	Hrs.	Days.	Ords.	Value.	Miscel.	Del.	Val.
Bible Readings.									
Canaseraga,	Allegany,	F. A. Evans,	33	6	5	11.00	1.00		
Glen,	Montgomery,	Wm. Seewald,	38	5	10	22.00	3.96		
Sidney,	Delaware,	C. W. Inskeep,	19	3	5	8.00			
Patriarchs and Prophets.									
Rochester,	Monroe,	M. A. Millington,	30	5	12	31.50	1.50		
Miscellaneous sales,						6.46			
Totals,		4 Canvassers,	120	19	32	\$78.96	\$6.46		

work of God to its final consumation, which will close with the sealing of God's people, and the glorious triumph of the truth.

But how can our Sabbath-schools sustain any relation to this important work. We will consider this subject next week.

S. M. COBB.

Field Reports.

BINGHAMTON.

THE Lord is blessing the work here. Although being left alone, (Elder Cobb having been called away to assist Brother Lorenz in the work at Newfane) I feel much encouraged. Six precious souls have begun to keep the commandments of God. Others are deeply interested, and one more has promised to keep next Sabbath. Our attendance is not large; but those who come seem to be earnestly inquiring for light and truth.

The city papers have given very favorable reports of the meetings, and several who have just commenced to attend have told us that they heard we were having excellent meetings. Thus the Lord is working, by causing the people not of our faith to carry favorable reports from one to another. Brethren and sisters, pray for the work in Binghamton.

A. R. HYATT.

EAST DICKINSON.

WE have been in this place four weeks, and some have shown a good interest. In several instances they have changed their views. Some acknowledge the Bible Sabbath. For the last week or two we have been much broken up by

severe storms, common in this part of the country. As it is not possible for the people to go to meeting, we think it best to close them for a time.

C. O. TAYLOR,
H. H. WILCOX.

OUR LABORERS IN THE FIELD.—BRIEFS.

Sister Keim reports interesting experiences in the Bible work in Syracuse.

Elder W. A. Westworth is also having a good interest at Loch Sheldrake, Sullivan County.

A good work is being done in Rochester. Sister Dower feels encouraged in the Bible work there.

Some have lately accepted the truth at Binghamton, where Brother A. R. Hyatt is holding meetings.

Elder Raymond's daughter has been quite low, and he has been with her for a few days; but is now on his way to test the interest at Sidney.

Elders C. O. Taylor and H. H. Wilcox report quite a good interest to hear at East Dickinson, Franklin County. They have held their meetings in a school-house.

A good interest and attendance is being had at Centerville, Sullivan County, where Brother W. W. Wheeler is in charge. He reports much of the blessing of the Lord in his meetings.

Since Elder D. A. Ball closed his meetings at Bath-on-Hudson (nearly across the river from Albany) another, a husband and father, has accepted the truth to go with the Albany company.

A good interest and large attendance has been reported at Newfane, Niagara County. Brother

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J. P. Lorenz started the work and was having a good interest when he was threatened with measles, and Elder S. M. Cobb was sent to assist.

Elder J. B. Stow has just started meetings at Lakewood, on Chautauqua Lake. A brother who owns a large hotel there has kindly opened it, free of charge, for Brother Stow to hold meetings. (If any one else has such accommodations for meetings, let us know.)

Elder H. L. Bristol reports a good work at and around Natural Bridge. He had quite a discouraging time in trying to start the work at Carthage; but we are glad to report that he is of good courage. Severe storms kept the people away so he was obliged to postpone the work there, for a time at least. We hope to organize a church in the near future at Natural Bridge.

The good work being done in new fields is having a stimulating effect upon some of our churches, and they report good missionary meetings.

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so."

ITEMS.

"THERE are two things which will make us happy if we attend to them. The first is never to vex ourselves about what we cannot help, and the second is never vex ourselves about what we can help."

"The sweetest word in our language is *love*."

"The greatest word is *God*."

"The word expressing the shortest time is *now*."

"These three make the sweetest and the greatest duty we can perform: *Love God now*."

"*Now* is the accepted time, *now* is the day of salvation."

An M. E. minister of ——— writes us that he is convinced of the truthfulness of our position as a people, and expresses a desire to be connected with us and our work.

In ——— a minister who for some time has been at the head of the ——— Mission, a man of influence and power, has just recently cast in his lot with the remnant people of God.

In ——— a prominent minister writes that he is in harmony with us as a people, and wants one of our ministers to come and supply his pulpit for a time in his absence, and wants him to *preach the truth*.

A. E. PLACE.

NOTICE.

\$1.50 worth of seeds and bulbs for 65 cents.

25 cents will buy 1 package, each of beets, cabbage, celery, carrots, cucumber, lettuce, parsnip, onion, pepper, radish, and tomato. 25 cents will buy 1 ounce choice mixed sweet peas (15 colors) 1 package best pansy seed. 2 named gladioli, May and Maria lemoin. Very beautiful. 25 cents will buy 12 varieties of gladioli. A few samples were on exhibition at camp-meeting. Or the whole of this collection sent postpaid for 65 cents. Address W. C. Eaton, Jeddo, N. Y.

A NEW idea in an old form—The Gospel-graph. In nine cases out of ten a telegram is a life or death message. The messages of Rev. 14:6-13, are life or death messages to the whole world, in every case. Send two-cent stamp for samples to Chas. H. Harris, 24 Mari-gold St., Buffalo, N. Y.