

The Indicator.

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

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CHRISTIAN COURTESY.

THE heart in which the love of Christ abides, will constantly manifest more and more refinement, for the spring of the life is love to God and man. This is Christianity. This is “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” This is the carrying out of God’s purpose. Divine harmony, worthy of the wisdom and mercy which God has manifested to men! True Christian growth tends upward to the full stature of men and women in Christ Jesus. True culture, real refinement of thought and manners, is better obtained through the lessons in the school of Christ, than through the most labored, painstaking effort to observe forms and set rules, when the heart is not under the holy discipline of the Spirit of God.

The follower of Jesus should be constantly improving in manners, in habits, in spirit, and labor. But this is done by keeping the eye, not on mere outward, superficial attainments, but on Jesus the model. A transformation takes place in mind, in spirit, in character. The Christian is educated in the school of Christ to cherish the graces of his Spirit in all meekness and lowliness of mind. He is fitting for the society of heavenly angels. . . . The Lord has presented to me in many ways, and at various times, how carefully we should deal with the young,—that it requires the finest discrimination to deal with minds. Every one who has to do with the education and training of youth, needs to live very close to the great Teacher, to catch his spirit and manner of work. ~~Lessons are to be given which will affect their character and life work.~~

~~They should be taught that the gospel of Christ tolerates no spirit of caste, that it gives no place to unkind judgement of others, which tends directly to self-exaltation. The religion of Jesus never degrades the receiver, nor makes~~

him coarse and rough ; nor does it make him unkind in thought and feeling toward those for whom Christ died.

There is danger of attaching too much importance to the matter of etiquette, and devoting much time to education upon the subject of manner and form, that can never be of any great use to many youth. Some are in danger of making the externals all-important, of overestimating the value of mere conventionalities. The results will not warrant the expenditure of time and thought given to these matters. Some who are trained to give much attention to these things, will manifest little true respect or sympathy for anything, however excellent, that in any way fails to meet their standard of conventionality. Anything that would encourage ungenerous criticism, a disposition to notice and expose every defect or error, is wrong. It fosters distrust and suspicion, which are contrary to the character of Christ, and detrimental to the mind thus exercised. Those who are engaged in this work, gradually depart from the true spirit of Christianity. While the gospel constantly sanctifies and ennobles the receiver, it will never lead us to cherish selfish and exalted ideas of our own ability or merit in contrast with that of others. It never nurtures pride and self-esteem. Every soul who sees Christ as he is, will abase self. He will exalt the Savior as the “chiefest among ten thousand,” the one “altogether lovely.”

The most essential, enduring education is that which will develop the nobler qualities, which will encourage a spirit of universal kindness, leading the youth to think no evil of any one lest they shall misjudge motives and misinterpret words and actions. The time devoted to this kind of instruction will yield fruit to everlasting life.

The young people among us should be preparing to work for the Master in the saving of souls for whom Christ died. Attention to mere

conventionalities, or even to mental and social improvement, should be regarded as one of secondary importance. These things have their place in the formation of character, but we should remember that the world is in gross darkness; irreligion, vice, and depravity are steadily strengthening and increasing; every teacher should feel in his very soul that the great needs of those under his care, are the regenerating power of God's Spirit in the heart, the living practice, the preparation for higher Christian attainments. This education will give to the character those softening, refining touches that proceed from Christ himself. These graces will give sweetness of character, a gentleness of manner, which can never be equaled by the superficial polish of fashionable society. Let every worker for Christ make it his highest aim to win souls to God, rather than to be looking at and teaching mere superficial acquirements. Direct your energies to the fitting of living stones for the building of God's temple.—“*Gospel Workers*,” pp. 315-319.

THE SHIELD OF FAITH.

BY EMMA L. PARDON.

“ABOVE all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” Thus writes the inspired apostle “to the saints which are at Ephesus.” The Christian has reason to thank God for this weapon. The shield is simply a weapon of defense, and inflicts no wounds. It is no marvel to my mind that the text says “above all.” I never thought of the true value of the shield of faith till just recently, and never found the study of any subject so powerful in enabling me to overcome the temptations of the evil one, as the study of the shield of faith. It is a good subject for meditation, as you work, as you rest, as you retire, and as you awake. It will repay you an hundred-fold, and you will see immediate results.

The following quotation from “*Early Writings*” is full of helpfulness:—

“If the enemy can get the desponding to take their eyes off from Jesus, and look to themselves, and dwell upon their own unworthiness, instead of dwelling upon the unworthiness of Jesus, his love, his merits, and his great mercy, he will get away their shield of faith, and gain

his object, and they will be exposed to his fiery temptations. The weak should therefore look to Jesus, and believing in him, they can then exercise faith.”

Part, if necessary, with property, friends, popularity, pleasure, even with life itself, but never, no, not for a moment, while reason holds sway, never part with the shield of faith. As we sometimes sing:

“Give me on thee to call,
Always to watch and pray,
Lest I into temptation fall,
And cast my shield away.”

Field Reports.

KEENE CENTER.

WE arrived at Keene about dark, having had a favorable trip over the mountains, and received a warm welcome at the home of my old friend Leslie Gay. He and his wife are living on the place formerly owned by Brother I. N. Russell, who in the past was well known in this Conference. It brought to my mind the experiences of eleven years ago this month, when I made my first visit to this place and spoke in this house. Several of those who were here then have moved away, and some have died in the faith; but others have come in to fill the ranks, and still there are some left to hold up the standard of truth. The number enrolled in the Sabbath-school is seventeen. One of the demands for my presence here at this time is to help the brethren to arrange and get ready for the dedication of their—I was about to say new church building; but when I come to think that it was five years ago that we put up the building here, I see that it will hardly do to say *new* church. It is perhaps unnecessary to consider all the reasons for the long delay in finishing and dedicating this building. It was finished on the outside and painted, and the inside nearly all done except making the pews. Two or three times the brethren have been encouraged to look for help to finish and dedicate, but circumstances have come up to make it impossible without injury to work in other places; but now is the accepted time, and we look for the blessing of the Lord in the dedication. We have appointed Oct. 25 as the date.

The Canvassing Work.

Report for the Week Ending Oct. 23.

Township.	County.	Agent.	Hrs.	Days.	Ords.	Value.	Miscel.	Del.	Val.
Bible Readings.									
Harmony,	Chautauqua,	J. S. Fritts,	31	4	11	\$18.50			
Hancock,	Delaware,	C. W. Inskip,	15	4	4	8.00			
Hornellsville,	Steuben,	G. F. Evans,	44	6	7	18.50	\$3.60		
Syracuse,	Onondaga,	O. E. Tuttle,					23.85		
Great Controversy.									
Ellery,	Chautauqua,	Sarah C. Haskins,	19		4	14.00	5.50		
Middletown,	Orange,	E. S. Popoff,						79	\$212.00
Ladies' Guide.									
Jamestown,	Chautauqua,	W. S. Cleveland,	7	1	3	12.00		3	10.75
Miscellaneous sales.						32.95			
Totals,		7 Canvassers,	116	15	29	\$103.95	\$32.95	82	\$222.75

Last Sabbath we had a good meeting, though some were kept away by sickness and other hindrances. There are several here that desire baptism, and this ordinance will be administered next Sabbath, and following that the quarterly meeting will be held.

A. E. PLACE.

OLEAN AND WELLSVILLE.

I HELD quarterly meeting services with the church at Olean, Oct. 3, 4. The meeting was well attended, and I really enjoyed myself with the dear ones of this church. The preaching was practical and found a hearty response from all present. The Lord is working for this church and adding to their numbers. Five were baptized and added to the church on this occasion. I shall never forget the scene nor lose the hallowed impression at the examination of the candidates for baptism. Of the five, there sat before me a father and mother and two daughters; and I cannot express to the readers of the INDICATOR the heavenly impression the view made on my mind. It seemed to need but one touch to consummate its blessedness, and that would be for all these to sit with all the overcomers with Christ in glory. I pray that this may be so. There is a son of this family who would have been baptized with his parents and sisters, but he could not be present. Heaven bless and save the entire family. The oldest daughter is soon to go to Battle Creek to fit herself for a branch of the work

of the message. The fifth candidate was a young lady who has taken a noble stand for the truth right in the face of home opposition. May Heaven sustain her. I would like to add the experiences involved in the family referred to in coming into the truth; but the limits of the INDICATOR forbid. Will add, though, that the mother (Sister Osgood) is a sister to Brother Fred Pierce. May the Lord still work for and by the Olean church is my prayer.

I met with the Wellsville church in quarterly meeting, Oct. 10, 11. This meeting was also largely attended, and was an excellent meeting. Owing to my long acquaintance with the dear ones of this church, and the many blessed gatherings here in the years of the past, it is ever like going home to meet the members of this church. We had excellent liberty in the services of this occasion. Two were baptized, and four united with the church. This church is anxious for an effort for the citizens of the place, and they hope for a tent company. May the Lord grant the desire as soon as practicable, if such is His will. The meeting closed with a most refreshing social service. Sister Lindsay's testimony was decidedly refreshing, and it brought to my mind the associations and blessed experiences of the past with those now sleeping in Jesus, and really added a fresh tint to the sweets and glory of the fruition of the Christian's hope, so soon to be realized. I was glad to meet Brother and Sister Knapp at this meeting. I was glad to find Sister Calferna Stillman much improved in health; also to find Brother

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and Sister Simkins firm, of good cheer, and hopeful. May the Lord bless this entire church.

I am now engaged in holding meetings in Hornellsville, following our tent effort here; I will report the work here later.

J. W. RAYMOND.

JUST OUT.

"STEPS TO CHRIST."

The plates and copyright of this most excellent book are now owned by Review and Herald Publishing Co., and a chapter has been added, entitled, "God's Love to Man." A frontis-piece has also been added representing the Savior as extending his hand to save Peter, as the latter began to sink. The book now has over 160 pages as against 153 in the former editions, and altogether it is greatly improved, while the price is reduced to 60 cents, with the usual discount to agents. The book should be placed in every family, and from now on to the holidays is the best time to do it.

"MODERN SPIRITUALISM."

The Review and Herald Pub. Co., have just issued a new book from the pen of Elder Uriah Smith, bearing the above title. The writer takes up the subject as brought to view in the Sacred Scriptures, and follows it to its present stage of development, making numerous quo-

tations from the Bible, and also from eminent writers of modern times. The book contains about 150 pages, and four full-page illustrations. The appearance of this book is timely, and it should receive the liberal sale to which its merit entitles it. Price, in cloth, 50 cents, paper, 20 cents, with usual discounts to agents.

"THE GOSPEL READER."

The above is the title of a new book just gotten out by the International Tract Society. It is a companion volume to the "Gospel Primer," and is to the youth and middle-aged what the latter is to the children. It has over 190 pages, and is filled with Bible stories written in a pleasing and attractive style, calculated to interest the general reader, and can hardly fail to prove a good selling book. Price, in board covers, 50 cents, in cloth, 75 cents. Now is the time to take orders for the holiday trade. Secure territory and begin work at once.

APPOINTMENTS.

I have arranged to meet with the church at Dickinson Center, Sabbath and Sunday, Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. The meetings will begin Friday night, Oct. 30, and we hope to have as large an attendance as consistent.

A. E. PLACE.

NOTICE.

Those having appointments for Sabbath and Sunday, November 14, 15, will please get them to this office not later than Monday, Nov. 9, as Brother Israel is contemplating making a short visit to his parents in Massachusetts; his father being now confined to the bed with a broken limb.

W. A. WILCOX, Sec'y.

Obituary Notices.

BRISTOL.—On Wednesday, Oct. 14, 1896, Sister Sarah M. Bristol, after years of peculiar weakness and suffering, quietly fell asleep in Jesus, in the sixty-third year of her age. The funeral services were held at the home, Friday morning, words of comfort being spoken from Titus 2: 13, after which we followed her remains to the cemetery in Kirkville, where they were laid to rest beside other friends. Sister Bristol's experience is so well known that it is not necessary for me to add more than to say that we laid her away in the confident hope of her having a part in the first resurrection.

S. B. WHITNEY.