

The Advent Review

AND SABBATH HERALD.

"Here is the patience of the Saints: Here are they that keep the Commandments of God, and the Faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12.

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RESIGNATION.

God knows best; come joy or pain,
If they lift me skyward and help me to gain
A place with the saints as they walk in light,
Where weeping and hoping are lost in sight;
All will be well, if the way I've trod,
Whether gloomy or joyous, leads to God.
It matters little how or why,
If it end with a crown and a home on high.

If often in life I slip and fall,
The closer I'll cling to Christ through all;
No matter how rough the way may be,
If it ends in immortality.
Little it matters how rough the way
That my feet are treading day by day,
Though I walk through the darkness with tear
and sigh,
Tears will be banished by-and-by.

Welcome the day when the journey's done,
And the weary feet shall homeward come,
When the brow is wreathed with a starry crown,
And the heavy burdens are all laid down,—
No more in journeyings dark and lone,
But joy, and Heaven, and peace, and home,
Ended forever earth's weary night,
And we'll walk with the glorified ones in white.

L. D. SANTEE.

Parsons, Kan.

Anniversary Reports.

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL TRACT AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

IN response to call of the President, eight meetings were held during this session. The first opened with prayer by Eld. B. L. Whitney at 2 P. M., Nov. 11. The following State societies were represented by delegates, according to Article 5 of the Constitution; namely, New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska, Tennessee, Kansas, Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Missouri, and California.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved. A summary of the labor performed by the various State societies during the past year was also read. (See table in Supplement.)

The total distribution of reading matter in this country, including Annuals and periodicals, equaled about 26,701,234 pages in tract form, or 7,094,568 pages more than was reported the year before. The report also showed that \$6,773.57 more had been received for the support of the tract and missionary societies this year than last. The average per cent of T. and M. members who reported each quarter during the year was about 37. Less than 50 per cent of S. D. A. church-members are members of the tract society; consequently only about 18 per cent of S. D. Adventists belonging to churches were represented in this report. A report was also given of the financial standing of the various State societies, particulars of which will appear elsewhere.

The financial standing of the General Tract Society was as follows:—

Cash on hand Oct. 8, 1878,	\$457.17
Received on Life Membership,	1020.00
“ “ donations, etc.,	698.47
“ “ one-tenth, Illinois,	29.88
Total,	\$2205.52
Paid for Publications,	\$985.88
“ incidental expenses,“	803.37
Cash on hand to balance,	915.77
Total,	\$2205.52

On motion, the Chair appointed the following committees: On Nominations, W. C.

White, Eld. J. Fargo, and M. H. Brown; on Resolutions, Elds. B. L. Whitney, D. A. Robinson, and S. H. Lane.

At a subsequent meeting the Committee on Nominations recommended the following persons as officers for the ensuing year: President, Eld. S. N. Haskell, Battle Creek, Mich.; Vice-President, Eld. B. L. Whitney, Rome, N. Y.; Secretary, Maria L. Huntley, Battle Creek, Mich.; Assistant Secretary, Jennie Thayer, Battle Creek, Mich.; Executive Committee, Eld. S. N. Haskell, Eld. G. I. Butler, and W. C. White.

On motion, these officers were elected collectively.

The Committee on Resolutions reported as follows:—

1. *Whereas*, It has pleased God in great mercy to his erring people to repeatedly speak to them in testimonies of reproof and encouragement, through the gift of prophecy, and

Whereas, These several testimonies have not been as extensively circulated, as carefully read, and as fully heeded, as they should have been, therefore

Resolved, That the officers of the several tract and missionary societies shall regard it as their special duty to labor to introduce the testimonies into all the families of our people everywhere.

This resolution called out remarks from Elds. White, Decker, Canright, B. L. Whitney, W. C. White, and others, respecting the great benefit to be derived from these testimonies, the lack everywhere observable in those not familiar with their teachings, and the duty of our preachers to impress their importance upon the people.

2. *Whereas*, The Lord in his tender mercy has recently given a most solemn and searching testimony relative to the Judgment, of thrilling interest to our people, therefore

Resolved, That we recommend the publication of the same as soon as consistent, and that we earnestly urge the presidents of the several tract and missionary societies to immediately ascertain the number needed in their States, and order a full supply of Testimony No. 29; and that we appeal to our brethren everywhere to acquaint themselves with its important contents.

3. *Whereas*, Many of our State societies are indebted to the offices of publication, and

Whereas, Said indebtedness is a great embarrassment to them, therefore

Resolved, That we most heartily approve the plan adopted by many of the State societies, of creating a reserve fund equal to the value of publications required to be kept on hand in the State depository, and that we urge all societies that have not done this to do so at once.

This fund was explained to be a State fund, to be employed in sustaining a liberal supply of publications in each State depository, and to be under the control of the State officers. The several districts are not to receive credit for whatever sums they may donate to this fund.

4. *Whereas*, The practice of introducing important business into our tract society work by direct communication with the librarians, rather than through the medium of the officers of our State societies, has brought discouragement and confusion to these societies, and

Whereas, Such efforts have repeatedly proved unsuccessful in accomplishing the object designed in making these appeals, therefore

Resolved, That we recommend that hereafter all enterprises in which it is desirable to enlist the efforts of the tract society, be introduced through the agency of the officers of the General and State societies.

This resolution was followed by remarks from the presidents of the various societies present, W. C. White, and others, respecting the ground covered by it, and the bearing it will have upon future efforts. It was explained to include such enterprises in particular as affect the financial standing of State societies.

5. *Whereas*, It has been proved by the history of our work in the past, and confirmed by the special light which the Lord has been pleased to give us, that the tract and missionary work constitutes one of the most important departments of our cause, and

Whereas, It is necessary for the maintenance of so important a branch of the work that there should be some uniform, efficient, and sys-

tematic plan for its financial support, therefore

Resolved, That this society, adopting the suggestion of the General Conference, recommend to each State tract society the raising of a sum equal to one-third the tithes paid for the support of the ministry, for the direct support of the tract and missionary work.

An animated discussion over what has been termed "the one-third" followed the reading of this resolution. The intent of the resolution is to fix the sum to be raised, leaving the manner of raising it optional with each State society.

6. *Whereas*, In the providence of God we have at Battle Creek, Mich., and Oakland, Cal., two efficient Publishing Houses, by means of which large quantities of "present truth," in its printed form, has accumulated, therefore

Resolved, That for the year to come we will put forth our best efforts in effecting a sale of these publications, and in getting the light before those who are in darkness.

7. *Whereas*, This work is constantly increasing in magnitude, and whereas there is a great demand for individuals to act as colporteurs and canvassers, to visit and pray with families, etc., therefore

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend the presidents of the various T. and M. societies to use their influence in enlisting the co-operation of such persons in this work as can be successful therein.

W. C. White made remarks showing the great need of colporteurs in our churches. Only a small portion of the new books printed from time to time have been taken by our brethren, whereas they should be found in every Sabbath-keeping family. He expressed fears that this lack among our brethren would finally result in apostasy with many. The plan of selecting some of our most important books and offering them for sale as family libraries was recommended, and it was

Voted, That the Chair appoint a committee of three to select books for such a library, and that the chairman of this committee write an article on this subject for the REVIEW.

Elds. D. M. Canright, S. B. Whitney and G. G. Rupert were appointed as said committee.

The propriety of reducing the initiation fee to State societies to less than \$1.00 was suggested, and on motion, the Chair appointed the following committee to consider the matter: Elds. H. W. Decker, W. H. Littlejohn, and M. B. Miller. At a subsequent meeting this committee recommended that as the time and manner of paying this fee is optional with the various societies, it is the mind of the committee that it should remain \$1.00.

8. *Whereas*, Our Danish Norwegian paper, *The Advent Tidende* has in the eight years of its existence wielded a great influence in favor of the truth among the Danes and Norwegians in this country and in Denmark and Norway; and as these nationalities are largely represented in this country, and there are but few ministers to proclaim the truth among them, and

Whereas, The *Tidende* has been changed from a monthly to a semi-monthly, thus greatly increasing its usefulness as a missionary paper, therefore

Resolved, That we urge our Scandinavian brethren to take a greater interest in extending its circulation, by obtaining new subscribers, forming clubs, and earnestly engaging in the missionary work; and further

9. *Resolved*, That we recommend that our tract societies interest themselves for the circulation of the *Tidende*, by forming clubs and otherwise, and introduce it among the Scandinavians wherever they may have an opportunity to do so.

This was spoken to by W. C. White, O. A. Olsen, and others, who gave interesting particulars concerning the circulation of this paper, and the reason for changing its form and publishing it semi-monthly instead of monthly.

The present number of subscribers is about 1,450, of which 270 are in Denmark and Norway. W. C. White stated that could the *Tidende* have one thousand full-paying subscribers, and two thousand club subscribers, it would be self-sustaining. Some plans for securing this number of subscribers were

suggested; also, in view of the dissatisfaction with some on account of the change in the form of the paper, it was proposed to furnish a binder to all who renew their subscription for the same before Jan. 1, 1880. The co-operation of the American T. and M. societies was earnestly solicited for the support of the paper.

10. *Whereas*, The German population of this country, at the present time, numbers over ten million souls, many of whom, by becoming acquainted with the truth, through their native tongue, would be glad to obey the word of the Lord, and

Whereas, A German paper has been started, which has received a hearty welcome from thousands of our countrymen, therefore

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend our American tract societies to circulate the *Stimme der Wahrheit* to every German family within their reach, and

11. *Whereas*, We have received many and earnest appeals from our German readers, requesting a more frequent appearance of the German paper, therefore

Resolved, That we recommend that the *Stimme der Wahrheit*, from the beginning of next year, be issued monthly instead of quarterly.

Interesting remarks were made by Elders Decker, Grant, Lamson, and others, which evinced the fact that with proper efforts much can be accomplished among the German people. The last resolution, after further remarks, was referred to the General Conference Committee.

W. C. White recommended that the brethren try canvassing for this paper, remarking that if one thousand subscribers were obtained, it could be published monthly.

12. *Whereas*, The plan of taking the *Signs* in clubs has proved to be an efficient medium of communicating light; and whereas many are rejoicing in the truth received thereby, therefore

Resolved, That we most heartily approve the plan, and recommend all our churches, companies, and scattered brethren, to continue the use of the *Signs* in this way, until some other pioneer sheet shall be provided to take its place; also that *Good Health* be taken in the same manner.

A discussion followed respecting the evils arising from furnishing *Good Health* in clubs, in which the course of our brethren who selfishly take advantage of the liberal offers made by the Publishing Association to the tract societies, to benefit themselves, was severely censured.

13. *Whereas*, The Swedish *Harold* is as yet the chief means of spreading the truth among the Swedes, and is indispensable to the upholding and carrying forward of the third angel's message among this nationality, and

Whereas, The Swedish cause is greatly in need of help at the present time, therefore

Resolved, That we will do all we can to forward this branch of the cause by our hearty co-operation in the circulation of the *Advent Harold*.

In support of this resolution it was stated that the *Harold* is all the preacher that our brethren in the Swedish language have, and that its circulation has increased considerably during the year. Some of the discouragements under which our Swedish friends have labored were also mentioned.

14. *Whereas*, The general system that has been adopted in our tract societies has proved efficient and successful in accomplishing the work for which these societies were organized, and whereas the introduction of new plans at variance with this system will tend to confusion, and thus prove detrimental to the interests of this important branch of the work, therefore

Resolved, That we heartily indorse the general system already adopted, and recommend to all State societies to maintain a uniformity of action in harmony with this general plan until such time as the General Tract Society shall find it necessary or advisable to mature and recommend important changes.

These resolutions, with the exception of the eleventh, were unanimously adopted. A report having been called for from the committee on family libraries, Eld. S. B. Whitney responded (see article on "Family Libraries"), and this report was adopted.

A question having been raised respecting the price to be charged for this library, on motion of Eld. D. M. Canright, this matter, also the amount of discount to be allowed on publications to tract societies and individuals,

was referred to the Executive Committee of the General Tract Society and the officers of the Publishing Association. It was urged that as individuals now purchase publications in much smaller quantities than the tract societies, they should receive less discount on the same, also that should this course be pursued, it would encourage our brethren in their efforts to establish a reserve fund in each State society. Before the tract societies were formed it was necessary for ministers to order publications in large quantities, whereas, at the present time, they can obtain as small quantities from these societies as their circumstances require. This, with other advantages secured to them by the present arrangement, will balance a slight reduction in discount.

W. C. White then introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Whereas, The monthly *Instructor* is a good missionary paper, and its publication will provide the means of educating youth and children in the work of canvassing, therefore

Resolved, That we recommend its continuance, and urge all T. and M. workers to aid the children in increasing its circulation.

W. C. White spoke of the importance of educating children to canvass, and proposed to give books and Sabbath-school maps, as premiums, to those obtaining specified numbers of subscribers for the *Instructor*.

The cases of individuals who frequently write to the office of publication requesting the continuance of their papers after their subscription has expired, was introduced. The President stated that such cases should at once be referred to the State Secretary of the tract society where the individual lives, and that it is the duty of this Secretary to ascertain what course should be pursued in each case, and to either order subscriptions renewed or discontinued. The expense of sending our periodicals to worthy persons who are unable to pay for them, should be borne by the church society to which they belong, if it is able; if not, the district should pay it. If the district cannot do this, the State society should bear this expense.

Adjourned *sine die*.

S. N. HASKELL, Pres.

MARIA L. HUNTLEY, Sec.

FAMILY LIBRARIES.

THE undersigned, having been appointed by the action of the General Tract Society as a committee to consider the matter of a more general circulation of our denominational works among our people, would submit the following thoughts and suggestions:—

1. *The importance of the subject*. We are all familiar with the ancient adage, "Knowledge is power." But this is not all. Knowledge is one of the fundamental principles of Christian experience and character. In enumerating these principles, Peter places this the third in the list. "Add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge." 2 Pet. 1: 5. Now, as we understand faith to have a specific signification and to imply confidence in the present truth, so also we must consider knowledge as implying an understanding of the principles and doctrines of the present truth. Viewed in this light, the importance of this subject cannot be overestimated. Our work is the greatest, most solemn and important, ever given to the church; we have the highest, grandest destiny ever offered to mortals to work out, while the perils and dangers surrounding us are the most imminent and terrible to which human beings were ever exposed. The best safeguard against danger is a knowledge of its existence; the best guarantee of success is a thorough understanding of that which will secure it. And all this has been especially provided for in the production of our works. Prepared expressly to elucidate the peculiarities of our faith, written in a simple, clear, yet forcible style, and offered at a price to bring them within the reach of all, they unquestionably constitute the most efficient means, if rightly used, of making our people intelligent relative to present duties and dangers. It must therefore be the duty of all our people to provide themselves with this efficient means of improvement to the extent of their ability.

Parents should feel the responsibility resting upon them respecting their children in regard to this matter. We have met with young people whose parents were Sabbath-schoolers from the time their children were small, who were almost as ignorant of the present truth as those who have never heard of our people. Such things should not be; they need not, would not be, if parents would provide themselves with our published works, and then do their duty in studying them themselves and faithfully instructing their children from them as they ought. But the matter does not stop here. We all have neighbors, friends, and relatives, that

occasionally come to visit us, and all ought to have a good assortment of our publications to lend to such as may become interested to learn more fully our views. And here we would suggest, that, if we are interested in this matter and become more intelligent upon our faith, our conversation will be better calculated to create in the minds of our friends an interest in the truth.

2. *The plan to be adopted*. In the list of our publications the writings of Sister White stand first, and every family should have them complete; but as a special effort is being made to place these in every family among us, we would now call attention more particularly to our other works. As to a plan, we recommend the following:—

Let every family, so far as possible, get a complete set of our bound books; viz., *History of the Sabbath*, *Thoughts on Daniel*, *Life of Wm. Miller*, *Thoughts on Revelation*, *Constitutional Amendment*, *Sanctuary and 2300 Days*, *Bible from Heaven*, *Nature and Destiny of Man*, *Life of Capt. Bates*, *Science and the Bible*, U. S. in *Prophecy*, and *Thoughts on Baptism*.

These constitute a complete library of our faith, and could be put up in boxes in neat style and sold at such discount as the Publishing Association can afford. Those who have any of the above works can obtain the balance at a proportionate cost. We would urge our people everywhere to provide themselves with this full set, even at a sacrifice. The cost will probably be about ten dollars, including boxing; and there are few but that can save that amount in the course of the year for this purpose. But for those who really are not able to procure these we would recommend the following list of pamphlets; viz., *Sanctuary and 2300 Days*, *Sermons on Sabbath and Law*, *Thoughts on Baptism*, *State of the Dead and Destiny of the Wicked*, *Faith and Hope*, U. S. in *Prophecy*, *Modern Spiritualism*, *Ministration of Angels*, *Atonement*, *Three Messages*, *Spirit of God*, *Two Laws*, *Seven Trumpets*, *Matthew Twenty-four*, and *Truth Found*.

The above selection presents the prominent features of our faith, and will be found a valuable one. The cost will be only about three dollars.

Again would we urge upon our brethren everywhere to procure these books. We cannot afford to go without the instruction they contain. Let those who are able get both sets; but by all means let every family procure one or the other, not to ornament the shelves of your bookcase simply, but that you may become more intelligent upon the great truths of this time, and thus be better prepared to get the light before others.

D. M. CANRIGHT,
S. B. WHITNEY,
G. G. RUPERT, } Committee.

The libraries named above will be put up in heavy cardboard boxes, and will be ready for sale in a few weeks. The price of the books named in the first list is \$10.15. Each book will have pasted on the inside of the first cover, a printed slip with blanks in which the purchaser can write the date of purchase, the library number, and the name and address of the owner; and a note to the reader to return the book to the owner as soon as read. These slips and the box will cost 35 cents, bringing the total value to \$10.50.

The price of the smaller library, including the box, is \$3.00.

We shall ship these in quantities to State T. and M. societies, from whom they can be ordered through the librarians. We recommend that those buying complete libraries be allowed 20 per cent discount on the large library and 10 per cent on the small one.

This reduces the expense of the large library to \$8.40 net, and the small one to \$2.70. Who cannot afford a library? Of course, these discounts cannot be given to those taking only a part of the library, and thus breaking the set. PUBLISHERS.

A STRANGE CHANGE.

It has never been known since Protestantism had its birth that Catholicism has yielded a hair's-breadth to its creed, ritual, or religious habits in any way. But it is now reported that since Mr. Moody's great revival meetings have produced such wonderful results, and it is so apparent that a very potent instrumentality in these meetings has been the congregational singing, the Catholic church, which has always had choir singing, and allowed none but the singers to have their hymns in church, is now adopting congregational singing, and sending out missionaries who are preaching and imitating very much the Protestant heretics.

It is perfectly evident that a change is taking place among all who are laboring in revival work, and many are depending more upon singing than formerly, and less upon

preaching the doctrines of the gospel. In fact, modern singing has very nearly excluded doctrinal expression, and substituted an endless repetition of sounds giving very few ideas. To us it is becoming more apparent every year that solid, essential Bible truths are being more and more dismissed from worship, and something artistic, fanciful, or sensational is taking their place. Is it not possible that the prophet's prediction that, "truth is fallen in the street, and that equity cannot enter," and of the time when there will be "no intercessor," and the Judge shall "put on the garments of vengeance for clothing," (see Isa. 59: 14, 16, 17), is about to be fulfilled? Has not truth commenced already to fall in the reverence and confidence of the people? If it is so, then putting "sound doctrine" in the background because the people will not "endure" it, and substituting something sensational, which will please their "itching ears," will become a distinctly marked sign of the last days. We think this sign is very discernible at the present time.—*World's Crisis*.

PRESENT TRUTH.

WHAT is present truth? What are the great truths for our days? If we were to judge from the talk and acts of some of our people, we should think that the present truth consisted merely in keeping holy the Sabbath day. But what a sad mistake!

What are some of the leading and most important truths embraced in the third angel's message, that is now being heralded to the world for man's salvation? The question is often asked, Is the truth of God different to-day from what it was ages in the past? The great fundamental truths are the same as in the beginning, the same as when God spoke from Mount Sinai; but every age has had truths particularly applicable to the time. The truths that were proclaimed in the sixteenth century, or even the more glorious truths taught in the time of Christ and the apostles, are not the only ones for us to heed; but there are additional truths that we will mention as we proceed.

With the Jews at the time of our Saviour it was all law and no Christ; in this age the cry is, "No law, and all Christ." In order that these errors, which are equally fatal, may be corrected, God has sent out messengers over the world, who are preaching the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. And when we say, "The commandments of God," we do not mean nine of them, nor the fourth commandment alone, but every one of them. "Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."

Some say, "All I hear from your people is, the Sabbath, the Sabbath." But this is not so. Our ministers preach more upon the Sabbath commandment than any other; but why? Because it is the one that has been trodden under foot by every denomination but the Seventh-day Adventists and Seventh-day Baptists. But the seal of God is in that commandment. It is the only one that tells us of the true God, the Maker of heaven and earth. God's holy day must be restored. The breach must be made up. God must and will be honored by his people. The loud cry will go forth, and the 144,000 will be found keeping the Seventh-day Sabbath holy.

There are other truths connected with this message,—truths of vital importance. It is not in the Sabbath alone that man has robbed God. Read this: "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." Perhaps some will ask, "Did not the tithing system pertain to the Jewish dispensation, and was it not done away in Christ?" It was not. If it was necessary to give one-tenth in the Jewish age, is it not equally necessary in the Christian age? Does it cost less to support the gospel now than it did then? Listen to Christ: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith; these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." One-tenth of all our income is the Lord's. What? one-tenth of all my wheat, corn, and potatoes, and even of my butter and eggs? Can I not first take out enough to supply my family, enough oats and corn to feed my horses, and then of the remainder give one-tenth to the Lord? Will not that be all right? No; one-tenth belongs to the Lord. And the man who robs God of this, though he keep the Sabbath ever so strictly, will be weighed in the balance and found wanting. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, . . . and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven,

and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

Well, to keep God's holy day, and to give one-tenth of all my income, is a part of present truth. What next? "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, . . . do all to the glory of God." Then does present truth deal with what we eat and drink? Listen to the words of the spirit of prophecy: "The health reform sustains the same relation to the third angel's message, that the right arm does to the body." "Know ye not that every one that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things?" Are not our bodies the temple of the Holy Ghost? Then how dare a Seventh-day Adventist eat that which God has pronounced unclean and an abomination in his sight? However strictly one may keep the Sabbath, if he uses tobacco, tea, and coffee, and partakes of swine's flesh and the abominable broth, he cannot expect the blessing and favor of God. "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." "Ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Perhaps some who think that, however strait the way, we have the truth so far, will yet suppose we have a wrong idea about Christ's soon coming. They say: "All things continue as they were from the beginning, and Christ may not come for a thousand years yet, or he may come to-night." "Now learn a parable of the fig-tree. When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh. So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it [margin, he,—Christ] is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation [the one before which the darkening of the sun and moon and the falling of the stars are proclaimed as signs of the last days, and that witnesses earthquakes, fires, floods, wars, the rise of spiritualism, and wicked men growing worse] shall not pass away till all be fulfilled."

Again, we have no charity for false doctrines. We do not countenance any modes, creeds, or doctrines for which we have not a "Thus saith the Lord." And we read that "God only hath immortality." The doctrine of the immortality of the soul originated with the devil, when he told Eve that she should not surely die.

Seventh-day Adventists all have the same Bible, and they read and interpret it alike; they are a unit, all believing the same thing; and they will not allow heathen doctrines to come into the church. The Judgment is sitting; the heavenly sanctuary is now being cleansed. Christ is soon coming, and he must find a people all of whom have the same faith. And how is this unity brought about, when other churches are so divided, scarcely two in the same church believing the same thing? I will tell you how. We have the spirit of prophecy in our midst. "Oh!" exclaim hundreds of voices, "possibly the rest might all be true; you have a Bible faith except this prophesying. That was all done away ages ago. The last visions were in Paul's day. The law and the prophets were until John; since that time Christ is preached." The spirit of prophecy was designed for all ages, and is nowhere restricted to any particular age or time, from the fall to the final restitution; but it is among the special signs of the last days. "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh; . . . and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit, and they shall prophesy." The testimony of Jesus, which is the spirit of prophecy, is the chain that links us together, keeps the wolves and false doctrines out, and makes us a unit. "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

In conclusion, let me say in the language of Paul: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. *Put on the whole armor of God*, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." For Christ "cometh quickly," and will reward every man according as his work shall be. Blessed are they that are found doing his commandments, "that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

MRS. MARIA MEAD.

Stearns Co., Minn.

A DOG'S CONSCIENCE.

A YOUNG fox terrier, about eight months old, took a great fancy to a small brush, of Indian workmanship, lying on the drawing-room table. It had been punished more than once for jumping on the table and taking it. On one occasion the little dog was left in the room accidentally. On my return it jumped to greet me as usual, and I said, "Have you been a good little dog while you

The Review & Herald.

"Sanctify them through Thy Truth; Thy Word is Truth."

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., DEC. 11, 1879

JAMES WHITE, Corresponding Editors.
J. N. ANDREWS, U. SMITH, Resident Editor.

SEVENTH-DAY BAPTISTS AND SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS.

The Seventh-day Baptists observe the last day of the week as the Sabbath of the Lord, and practice immersion for Christian baptism; hence their denominational name, Seventh-day Baptists. The strength of their positions on the weekly Sabbath of the Bible, and baptism, lies in accepting Scripture testimony upon these as meaning just what it says. "The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God." Ex. 20:10. "My holy day." Isa. 58:13. "The Sabbath was made for man." "The Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath." Mark 2:27, 28.

Accepting the literal and obvious meaning of the sacred Scriptures relative to baptism, S. D. Baptists reject all forms of water baptism excepting immersion. Jesus was "baptized of John in Jordan; and straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened." Mark 1:9, 10. "And they went down, both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water." Acts 8:38, 39. "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism." "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection." Rom. 6:4, 5. "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him." Col. 2:12. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Col. 3:1.

Accepting the same literal interpretation of Scripture on the question of the second appearing of Christ, that the Bible means what it says, which rule both S. D. Baptists and S. D. Adventists accept on the questions of the Sabbath and baptism, the figurative or spiritual coming and reign of Christ is excluded. If the Bible be allowed to speak for itself, and we be allowed to understand its words as we do those of other books, the doctrine of the second coming of Christ is clear and forcible. We will here let Christ, the angel at the mount of ascension, and Paul, testify, relative to the personal and visible second appearing of Christ, to raise and reward the just.

"They shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Matt. 24:30. "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then he shall reward every man according to his works." Matt. 16:27. "Behold, he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him." Rev. 1:7. "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thess. 4:16-18. "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Heb. 9:28. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Tim. 4:7, 8. "And behold I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Rev. 22:12.

The rule of Biblical interpretation which S. D. Adventists feel safe to adopt is, "Every text of Scripture means just what it says, word for word, excepting those passages where it is evident from the text and the context that a parable or figure is introduced." Departing from this, the only safe rule, and giving license to fanciful interpretations, has brought deplorable results. It has filled the mouths of skeptics with objections to the Bible, brought reproach upon our holy religion, and caused the enemies of the Lord to tread his word in the very dust. Approach the infidel upon the subject of religion, and with feelings of disgust he will at once

point to the confusion of sentiment, the fancies and curiosities, of the great Babylonish museum of the professed Christian world.

Christ prayed that his people might be one as he was one with his Father, that the world might know that God had sent his Son to save lost sinners. Paul prayed that the church might all speak the same thing, and be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. This happy state may be realized when the church will allow the Lord to answer that other petition, "Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth." John 17:17.

The widest difference between S. D. Baptists and S. D. Adventists is in regard to the nature and destiny of man. But here also, we intrench ourselves in the plain, literal and obvious meaning of the word. The record gives the creation, life principle, and the nature, of the first man in these words, "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Gen. 2:7. After the transgression and fall, the sentence of death fell upon Adam. "Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return." Gen. 3:16.

The two-fold nature of man, taught by those who charge us with teaching a "grossly materialistic system," is not intimated in the record of the creation and dissolution of the first man. All there was of Adam was formed of the dust of the ground. The record does not state that a second immortal Adam was put into the first. The Creator gave the creature life, and when that life ceased in consequence of sin, Adam returned to dust, unconscious, till he shall be reorganized from dust, and brought to the enjoyment of immortal life at the resurrection of the just.

The figure which Inspiration uses to represent the state of the righteous dead is sleep, from which they will be awakened by the trump of God at the resurrection of the just. This is as true of the writers of the Old Testament as of the New: "For now should I have lain still and been quiet, I should have slept." Job 3:13. "So man lieth down, and riseth not till the heavens be no more: they shall not awake nor be raised out of their sleep." Job 14:12. "Lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death." Ps. 13:3. "Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake." Dan. 12:2. "Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust." Isa. 26:19. "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth." John 11:11. "And when he had said this, he fell asleep." Acts 7:60. "The greater part remain unto this present; but some are fallen asleep." 1 Cor. 15:6. "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed." Verse 51. "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep." 1 Thess. 4:13.

In regard to the question of the destiny of the unjust, probably more changes have taken place in the religious world during the last thirty years than on any other subject in all the range of Christian theology. Where is the man who will stand before an intelligent audience and paint the horrors of an eternity of punishment in a hell of fire and brimstone, as ministers did a half century since?

"God is love" is a declaration no less true to-day than before the Universalists used it to comfort the sinner in his sins. In love he created man and gave him life. We prize this mortal life, with all its toils, and pains, its sorrows, tears and woes, above all else in this world. In love God gave his Son to die that we may have eternal life. But if the sinner will not have life, what can the God of love do with him? Will he take him up to Heaven? The holy Heaven of the Bible would be to him the veriest hell. Will God punish him in an eternity of suffering, and receive in return an eternity of curses from the sinner, and thus sin be immortalized? The voice of Wisdom and of Love answers:—

"The wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the Lord shall be as the fat of lambs. They shall consume. Into smoke shall they consume away." "For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth, and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off." "For yet a little while and the wicked shall not be; yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be." Ps. 37:10, 20, 22.

"For behold the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud; yea, and all that do wickedly shall be stubble, and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch." Mal. 4:1. In love God will let them return to unconscious dust, and in the

words of the prophet, "be as though they had not been." Obad., verse 16.

The last we hear of the wicked, with Satan at their head, represented by Gog and Magog of the Apocalypse, is that "fire came down from God out of Heaven, and devoured them." Rev. 20:8, 9.

Then comes that grand song of jubilee from a delighted Universe that the blot of sin is removed from the earth, and that the rebellious career of Satan and all sinners has ended. Phil. 2:10, 11; Rev. 5:13. That triumphant song from holy intelligences in Heaven and on earth, "Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever and ever," is not marred by the yells of the immaterial damned, and the gnashing of their immaterial teeth in some immaterial corner of the Universe. J. W.

MATERIAL, OR IMMATERIAL?

WHICH? Material, or immaterial? We have neither time nor space at present to answer this question which seems to trouble some of our respected Christian friends. S. D. Adventists rest and worship on the day on which God rested after creating the material world in the preceding six days of the first week of time. We also immerse in material water as the only mode of Christian baptism. If our faith and practice relative to the ancient Sabbath of the Lord, and baptism, makes us worthy of the brand "Materialists," the S. D. Baptists may wear it quite as well as S. D. Adventists; as they were centuries before us in faith and practice in these particulars.

And if to look for that same Jesus to come again as he ascended from Olivet, that we shall see him when he shall appear, and that he is really coming himself to raise the righteous dead, and reward them according to their works, be condemned as "grossly materialistic," the stigma rests equally upon the head of our adorable Redeemer, holy angels from the courts of glory, and the great apostle Paul.

And if holding that God "only hath immortality," 1 Tim. 6:16, and that it is brought "to light through the gospel," 2 Tim. 1:10, not as an inheritance, but bestowed as a reward, Rom. 2:7, when the last trump shall sound at the second coming of Christ, 1 Thess. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:52; and that sin and all sinners will cease to be, at the completion of the grand scheme of human redemption, Ps. 37:10, 20, 22; Mal. 4:1; Obad., verse 16; 2 Pet. 2:12; Rev. 20:9, be regarded as heresy worthy of shots from the guns of immaterialists, S. D. Adventists will hide behind the plain declarations of God's word, stand the cannonading the best they can, and hold their present positions till our immaterialistic friends give us clearer light.

But seriously, we call in question the good taste of two recent writers for the *Sabbath Recorder*, who use language not at all complimentary to S. D. Adventists. Bro. Main, in the issue for Nov. 13, under the caption, "Is it Wise?" says:—

"Is it wise and right to want to have our Conference represented in the Adventist Conference by a delegate, to pass a resolution expressing our great satisfaction at the success of that people, and in other ways to assure them how large a place they fill in our Christian esteem? As for me, I firmly believe such a course to be both unwise and wrong. Their system of doctrine is unquestionably a grossly materialistic system, and our doctrines mold our life and character; and we cannot hope to lead them out of it by fellowshipping them in it. It strikes me that here is a test of the consistency of our so-called 'close communion' views.

"Again, they would undoubtedly overthrow every one of our churches in a day, were they able to do it. And this is something they certainly have a right to do. We would convert all the churches in the land into Sabbath-keeping churches, if we could. But it does not seem to me to be either right or wise to tell them that we are exceedingly glad, unless we really are, that they are so successful in making inroads upon our churches, and in spreading heresies that are so full of moral poison.

"A prominent member of one of our small churches, and a Seventh-day Adventist minister, called upon another prominent member, to whom the suggestion was made by the visiting brother that the church might be transferred to the Adventists. It is but just to say that Eld. White assured the writer that this minister is not to receive a preaching certificate another year. (He is, however, again on the field.) But are they prepared to do a wholesale business, if it be necessary, in the same direction, and so give good proof of their sincerity?"

Again Elder Main says, "And such a people are in danger of employing questionable methods and measures."

No comment needed. We will say, however, that what Eld. White has said to Eld. Main and his brethren in public or private, he will be happy to meet again before competent witnesses at any proper time and occasion. The minister of whom he speaks came over from the no-law Adventists not long since, and brought with him much of the peculiar lawlessness of that people, and has taken such a course that he failed to get his credentials renewed at his Conference at its last session. Our people have no use for him. They have done their duty; and if this man will preach without credentials and support from S. D. Adventists, neither Elder White nor his brethren can stop him. If Elder Main thinks he can silence him, he can have the job. It is the veriest childishness to make us responsible for his being "again on the field."

Elder Wheeler, in the *Recorder* for Nov. 6, says: "The Adventists are steadily on the move, and as they stimulate thought, there is more and more demand for Seventh-day Baptists. This will increase. The errors of the Adventists are so numerous and in some instances so absurd, that they will be rejected more and still more as they are investigated."

Thank God that our errors are being rejected, and the Lord's truth we hold and teach is being received by hundreds. May the prophecy of Elder Wheeler not fail, that our errors be rejected more and still more as they shall be investigated. That word "investigated" reads well, and we suggest a change in the exercises on this wise: Let investigation take the place of this wholesale dealing in unqualified assertions, rash declarations and unworthy insinuations. May God pity S. D. Adventists that they are so few in numbers, and so unworthy the name they hold and the doctrine they teach. But to show whether our views are being rejected by the discriminating public mind, we can record an increase during the last Conference year of twenty-seven ministers, fifty churches, and eleven hundred and fourteen members. "During the last year," says the editor of the *Sabbath Recorder*, "we decreased in numbers twenty-seven."

These good men may imagine that they are doing S. D. Adventists, and all the rest of the world, great favors in dealing out upon us their sweeping assertions to pass into print in the venerable organ of the S. D. Baptists. But they are taking a bad way to help us. One ounce of proof will do us more real good than a hundred weight of assertions and harsh denunciations.

But we are happy to know that the reliable men of the S. D. Baptist ministry are not pleased with these unchristian thrusts. The objectionable circumstances on the part of S. D. Adventists which have given rise to unpleasantness between the two bodies, we have referred to in previous articles. We as a people have not been able to control all those who preached S. D. Adventism. And if the S. D. Baptists find similar difficulties in a few cases, the entire body should not be judged by them, and consigned to the dark regions of heresy. It would be better for the cause of S. D. Adventists to-day, if they had as few unreasonable and unmanageable men as the S. D. Baptists. The movements and growth of the S. D. Baptists have been slow, while our movements and growth have been rapid. Time and discipline have fanned away the chaff, removed the hay, wood and stubble, and consolidated them. With us it is astonishing how the chaff flies sometimes, and the hay, wood and stubble move off from the gold, silver and precious stones, as if under Divine direction, as the creatures moved into Noah's ark. Had it not been for the elements of confusion and insubordination brought in among us by the no-day-first-day Adventists, and if in exchange S. D. Adventists could have started in with the experience, education and refinement of the S. D. Baptists as a body, with the mighty truths we hold, we would now have an influence over the public mind a hundred-fold what it is.

We have no fears of the results of this matter. A better understanding of the real feeling of the body of S. D. Baptists toward S. D. Adventists will exist. These things, unpleasant for the present, will work out good in the end. S. D. Adventists will be better understood, and, at least, will be regarded as a body of sincere Christians; and we in return will love and respect the S. D. Baptists, and observe the Golden Rule with greater care,—“Do unto others as you would have them do to you.”

J. W.

THE HOLIDAYS.

We are rapidly approaching the season of the holidays, and many conscientious ones are now questioning what course they may pursue that will be pleasing in the sight of God. By the world the holidays are spent in frivolity and extravagance, gluttony and display. It is the prevailing custom at this time to make and receive presents. And it is no small burden upon the mind to know how to distribute these gifts among friends so that none will feel slighted. It is a fact that much envy and jealousy are often created by this custom of making presents.

Thousands of dollars will be worse than thrown away upon the coming Christmas and New Year's in needless indulgences. But it is our privilege to depart from the customs and practices of this degenerate age; and instead of expending means merely for the gratification of the appetite, or for needless ornaments or articles of clothing, we may make the coming holidays an occasion in which to honor and glorify God.

We advise all our brethren and sisters to make a decided reform in regard to these festal days. Those who appreciate the gift of God's dear Son to save them from ruin, now have a favorable opportunity to give tangible proofs of their gratitude by rendering to God their thank-offerings. Let old and young lay aside their mites as sacred offerings to God. If we would give to the cause of our Redeemer one-half as much as we have bestowed upon our friends, we would do much good and receive a blessing for giving.

Let us seek to faithfully represent Christ on the coming festal days by imitating his example as he went about doing good. It is impossible to enjoy the approbation of God while living for self. As Christians who profess a living faith in the near coming of the Son of man, keeping all of God's commandments, let us make earnest efforts to draw near to God through Jesus Christ, and make a covenant with him by sacrifice. In our principles of action we must be elevated above the customs and fashions of the world. Christ came to our world to elevate the minds of men to the divine level, and to bring them into sympathy with the mind of God.

As every blessing we enjoy is brought to us through the condescension, humiliation, and sacrifice of Jesus Christ, we should render to him our best gifts, above all not withholding ourselves. The infinite sacrifice which Christ has made to free us from the guilt and woe of sin, should work in every heart a spirit of gratitude and self-denial which is not manifested by the world. God's gift of Christ to man filled all Heaven with amazement, and inspired at his birth the angelic song, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Christmas day, precious reminder of the sacrifice made in man's behalf, should not be devoted to gluttony and self-indulgence, thus exalting the creature above the Creator. Let us who are partakers of this great salvation show that we have some appreciation of the gift, by rendering to God our thank-offerings. If we would indulge less in feasting and merriment upon these occasions, and instead make them the means of benefiting humanity, we should better meet the mind of God. It is a pleasure and gratification to exchange gifts with our friends; but are there not nobler and more glorious objects for which we may give our means, and thus do good by shedding light upon the pathway of others?

There are many who have not books and publications upon present truth. Here is a large field where money can be safely invested. There are large numbers of little ones who should be supplied with reading. The Sunshine Series, Golden Grains Series, Poems, Sabbath Readings, etc., are all precious books, and may be introduced safely into every family. The many trifles usually spent in candies and useless toys, may be treasured up with which to buy these volumes.

Children need proper reading, which will afford amusement and recreation, and not demoralize the mind or weary the body. If they are taught to love romance and newspaper tales, instructive books and papers will become distasteful to them. Most children and young people will have reading matter; and if it is not selected for them, they will select it for themselves. They can find a ruinous quality of reading anywhere, and they soon learn to love it; but if pure and good reading is furnished them, they will cultivate a taste for that.

Especially efforts should be made to exclude

from our homes that class of literature which can have no beneficial influence upon our children. Many times I have been pained to find upon the tables or in the book-cases of Sabbath-keepers, papers and books full of romance, which their children were eagerly perusing.

There are those who profess to be brethren who do not take the REVIEW, Signs, Instructor, or Good Health, but take one or more secular papers. Their children are deeply interested in reading the fictitious tales and love stories which are found in these papers, and which their father can afford to pay for, although claiming that he cannot afford to pay for our periodicals and publications on present truth. Thus parents are educating the taste of their children to greedily devour the sickly, sensational stories found in newspaper columns. All such reading is poisonous; it leaves a stain upon the soul, and encourages a love for cheap reading which will debase the morals and ruin the mind.

Parents should guard their children, and teach them to cultivate a pure imagination and to shun, as they would a leper, the love-sick pen pictures presented in newspapers. Let publications upon moral and religious subjects be found on your tables and in your libraries, that your children may cultivate a taste for elevated reading. Let those who wish to make valuable presents to their children, grandchildren, nephews, and nieces, procure for them the children's books mentioned above. For young people, the Life of Joseph Bates is a treasure; also the three volumes of Spirit of Prophecy. These volumes should be placed in every family in the land. God is giving light from Heaven, and not a family should be without it. Let the presents you shall make be of that order which will shed beams of light upon the pathway to Heaven.

Anciently the children of Israel were commanded to keep three annual feasts each year: the Passover, the Feast of Tabernacles, and the Feast of Weeks. The Lord gave directions that on these occasions their gifts and offerings were to be consecrated to him, and none should appear before him empty-handed. But in our day it has become fashionable to observe these festal occasions in a manner that would divert the mind from God instead of bringing glory to his name. Those whom God has blessed with prosperity should acknowledge the Giver, and feel that where much is given much will be required.

Our holidays have been perverted from their intended use. Gifts are lavished upon one another, and praise which should have been given to God, to whom all these things belong, is bestowed upon poor mortals.

Our houses of worship in Oakland and Battle Creek are under the pressure of debt. The Dime Tabernacle belongs to us all; we should all have a special interest in it. In order to accommodate the students at the College, the patients at the Sanitarium, the laborers at the Office, and the large number of worshipers constantly coming in from abroad, the erection of this spacious house of worship was a positive necessity. Great responsibilities rest upon those at Battle Creek, and also upon those whose arms should be reached out to sustain these interests at the great heart of the work. Not in all the world is there a battle field for truth and reform like this. Great interests are involved here. The Sabbath-school and College are educating the young, and determining the future destiny of souls. There is here a continual necessity of devising ways and means for the advancement of truth and the conversion of souls. Our people are not half awake to the demands of the times. The voice of Providence is calling upon all who have the love of God in their hearts to arouse to this great emergency. Never was there a time when so much was at stake as to-day. Never was there a period in which greater energy and self-sacrifice were demanded from God's commandment-keeping people.

We are now nearing the close of another year, and shall we not make these festal days opportunities in which to bring to God our offerings? I cannot say sacrifices, for we shall only be rendering to God that which is his already, and which he has only intrusted to us till he shall call for it. God would be well pleased if on Christmas, each church would have a Christmas tree on which shall be hung offerings, great and small, for these houses of worship. Letters of inquiry have come to us asking, Shall we have a Christmas tree? will it not be like the world? We answer, You can make it like the world if you have a disposition to do so, or you can make it as unlike the world as possible. There is no particular sin in selecting a fragrant evergreen, and placing it in our churches; but the sin lies in the motive which

prompts to action, and the use which is made of the gifts placed upon the tree.

The tree may be as tall and its branches as wide as shall best suit the occasion; but let its boughs be laden with the golden and silver fruit of your beneficence, and present this to Him as your Christmas gift. Let your donations be sanctified by prayer, and let the fruit upon this consecrated tree be applied toward removing the debts from our houses of worship at Battle Creek, Mich., and Oakland, Cal.

A word to the wise is sufficient.

E. G. WHITE.

OUR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

At our recent General Conference, the subject of our foreign missions received much attention. Perhaps the press of business and the want of time would not permit all that careful consideration which such an important subject demanded; but we can truly say the deepest interest was felt in their prosperity. The hearts of our people in America are drawn out toward our dear Brn. Andrews, Loughborough, and Matteson, who have left us to go among strangers away in distant lands, to preach the precious truths of the last message, and toward their fellow-laborers who have united with them in the work. We know they must experience hardships and trials of peculiar difficulty, which we can little realize in America. It is in all our hearts to sustain them by our earnest prayers in their behalf, and by our means as duty shall require. We feel that these are our missions, and nothing fills our hearts with greater joy than to learn of their prosperity. These dear brethren we know to be men of God, who would peril their lives to advance this cause and save precious souls for the Master. We greatly miss them, and feel their loss in the work here; but we know they are engaged in a branch of the work of the utmost importance, and for this reason we will try to bear patiently the loss we feel in their absence.

When we take into consideration the final out-come of these missions, now in their infancy, the work, under God, they are yet to accomplish in warning the world of its approaching doom, and in gathering out a people prepared to meet the Lord in peace, our hearts are overwhelmed at the thought of the importance of their work. Think of the hundreds of millions of our fellow-men in Europe and the eastern world who are ignorant of God's truth, and exposed to his wrath. The coming of Christ is just before us. "The great day is near, and hasteth greatly." These missions must expand till their influence will be felt in all those countries. God has precious jewels there whom his work is sure to reach if we wisely improve the time, and make the best use of the means at our command. Bro. Andrews is located among the French and Germans, and is publishing, in their tongues, the great truths God has given us. Bro. Matteson has opened up a good work among the Scandinavian peoples, and encouraging progress is already being made. Bro. Loughborough has obtained a foothold in old England, upon whose dominions the sun never sets; and thousands of copies of our papers and tracts are being circulated there, and are being sent by English ships to all parts of the world. Reports recently received of this branch of the work are of thrilling interest, and suggest thoughts of what may and will be when these enterprises are firmly established and in full operation.

Thus we see that many of the leading races and nations of the world are already having access to the light of present truth. And it is safe to say that there is no nation in Christendom or the world that may not be reached through them when these missions become fully established and do the work God would have them do. Hence we consider these by far the most important missions we shall ever establish till the close of time. Lesser ones may grow out of these; but these are the most important of any we shall ever see. We cannot, therefore, be too careful in perfecting their establishment, and laying their foundation securely. Every important building must have a good foundation; it must be firm and solid.

Mistakes are liable to be made, and possibly may have been made already, in reaching out too far before we are prepared to do our work thoroughly. Those who come among us who have never had the benefit of a thorough acquaintance with our past experience, our doctrines and manner of labor, need careful instruction before they are fully qualified to build up the work properly. This is a peculiar work. Nothing exists in the world like it. Experience with other religious bodies in their manner of labor rather disqualifies than assists in labor

among us. Those who have had this experience have much to unlearn before they are prepared to help build up this cause. The dear brethren of large experience who have gone to Europe to found these missions, will need to use special care in instructing those who join them in labor there, so that their work may be well done, and the believers there may be thoroughly established in all the truth. If they are not, great evils will result, and the work will have to be done over at great disadvantage. Economy in the use of means must be carefully looked after, and many such lessons as have been learned in the earlier days of our history in America must be taught.

The first and most important work is to get these three leading missions thoroughly established, not merely in one town in each of these countries, but with separate churches here and there in each. The branches thus formed may support and strengthen each other, while uniting to sustain the important interests where our publishing work may be located. When these missions are firmly fixed, it will be time to establish others in distant countries. We firmly believe we can in this way work more successfully and economically than to reach out too far before we are prepared to hold what we have already started.

Our publishing work in Europe is also a matter of the deepest interest. Already papers are issued regularly in French and Danish, and publications in German and other tongues are being sent out. We must soon issue papers in English from England. Means have been raised in this country for founding the publishing work there upon a stable basis. Many important and perplexing questions connected with this subject are arising, and the most careful plans and the closest investigation will be required in order to use money in the most economical manner and accomplish the important work we have in view.

We long to see the day when thousands of our periodicals shall be regularly circulated to all the English speaking dependencies of the British crown, as well as to other countries in Europe. But this, like every other important enterprise, must be built up from small beginnings, as the providence of God opens the way. It is much better to grow up gradually than to get ahead of Providence and suffer losses which will discourage our hearts and weaken our hands.

We have reached a point of much interest and great perplexity. Our General Conference, in considering these matters tried to weigh them well, and while determined to do nothing rashly, nor lavish money unnecessarily, yet they mean to forward the work with ever-increasing momentum till the end shall come. God's work cannot stop; it must not stop; it will not stop. Victory is before it. We must increase the efficiency of our missions. We must see our publishing work so consolidated and strengthened that it may exert a great influence in foreign countries.

In order to secure these results, it is decided to have a general meeting of our missionaries at some central point in the old world, with some from America well qualified by their experience in the message and the publishing work, that they may counsel together as to the best means to forward these important interests. There are many important objects to be secured by such a council, among which are greater unity of effort, more system in the use and application of means, and greater efficiency and thoroughness in the work. We believe the time has come for a council of our missionaries in Europe. "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety." These brethren can be a help to each other. Brn. Matteson, Jaspersen, and Brorsen, from the Scandinavian countries; Dr. Ribton and Bro. Bertola, from the Orient; Bro. Loughborough from England; Elds. Andrews, Ertzenberger, and others in Germany and Switzerland, and others whom these brethren may think it wise to invite, can meet with such persons as the General Conference Committee may see fit to send from America.

We believe such a meeting would be of immense benefit to the cause in Europe. This will involve some expense; but it is cheaper going to Europe than to California, and we have never regretted sending help there from time to time. We believe plans might be laid which would, in the end, be a great saving of expense. We think some point in Switzerland would be the most central for such a gathering, and most productive of good to the cause. Such a meeting ought to be held as early as February, if not before.

We would counsel our missionaries abroad to plan such a meeting at once, and correspond with the General Conference Committee in regard to it, as to when and where it shall be held. Our work is onward, and the Lord is giving us special light as to our duty. For years we have been talking of starting the publishing work in England. We feel that now we have come to the time for action. We firmly believe our people everywhere will be ready to support these missions as the providence of God opens the way before us.

GEN. CONF. COMMITTEE.

THE RIGHT TIME.

WE have now reached the most important time of the year for our missionary workers. The harvest is over, and at this season publishers urge out their agents to place their reading matter in thousands of families, for their entertainment during the long winter evenings. Seventh-day Adventists should not be behind in this respect, and allow the children of this world to be wiser in their generation than the children of light. Each president and officer of our tract societies, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, should at once bring into line his army of workers, and move forward. The cloud is rising, and the providence of God calls us to take advance steps.

There are before the tract societies two special fields of labor,—home missionary work, and labor for those outside of our faith. Hundreds of our brethren and sisters are dying spiritually for want of activity in the cause of God. Such should be visited, prayed with, and encouraged to take hold anew in the service of the Master. In many of our churches the blood of precious souls will be found in the skirts of those filling responsible positions, because of a neglect of home missionary work. Those holding positions in our tract societies and in our churches should know the standing of each member connected with the church. They should ascertain if all are taking our periodicals.

THE ADVENT REVIEW AND SABBATH HERALD should be in every household. There is no reading matter which can fill its place. We are acquainted with the influence of this paper upon families from Maine to California, and have never known a family of Seventh-day Adventists that had not the privilege of reading this paper, in which there was not a lack. It is our church paper, and a means of grace to help the church. The constant appeals it contains are designed to point the mind to our present duty, and hence it is a great spiritual help. These appeals cannot be found in any other periodical issued by Seventh-day Adventists. Shall we let our brethren die a spiritual death in our midst, while we associate with them daily, and do not put forth an effort to save them? We cannot afford it. If we do, it will appear against us in the day of Judgment. If a family is too poor to pay for the paper, the church should supply it. A few years ago, when a few leading brethren were personally acquainted with all our churches, every family who professed our views took the REVIEW. Our numbers have largely increased, but those taking the REVIEW do not increase in proportion, and many families are not taking one of our periodicals. Some one is responsible for this.

We appeal to our missionary workers everywhere. Look after those connected with you in church fellowship. The name of each individual brother or sister, and the names of their children, should be on the s. b. book. The testimonies should not only be in each church, but should be read by each family. All should become interested in the missionary work.

In view of the Judgment, and for the sake of souls for whom Christ died, this work should not be neglected. Commence now; do not wait one week. Remember you are your brother's keeper; and God will inquire as anciently, "Where is thy brother?"

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

There is no one phase of the missionary work at the present time that is accomplishing so much for the spread of the truth as the remailing of *The Signs of the Times*. The Judgment alone will reveal the good accomplished by so doing. Could our eyes be opened, and could we see the moral darkness which rests upon the people and view the work of our vigilant missionary societies, we should see rays of light emanating from them to all parts of the world. We wish here to state, for the encouragement of those interested in this branch of the work, and also for those who edit and publish this pioneer paper, a few things which we know to be true.

1. Our missions in England, Italy, and Egypt were commenced by remailing reading matter, and largely *The Signs of the Times*.

2. We have those interested in the Sabbath reform in the islands of the Mediterranean Sea, in Turkey, Scotland, Ireland, Africa, India, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, and in nearly every Southern State in this country, besides British America and other portions of the world. This has been accomplished through reading matter sent them, and the *Signs* has been the most prominent instrument, under God, in awakening this interest.

3. Since the vigilant missionary societies have become more fully organized, there is a

gradual increase in the number of permanent subscribers to this paper, until at the present time, taking from one quarter to another, there will be an increase of over one thousand this year. And these subscribers are not our brethren, but individuals living in all parts of the civilized world. Frequently individuals receive the paper sent by some V. M. society, and thinking it came from the *Signs* office, they will subscribe for it, and then because they have subscribed, they may never respond to the letter sent them by the one who mailed the *Signs*. With these facts before us, comes the important question,

WHAT WILL OUR TRACT SOCIETIES DO THIS COMING WINTER?

Will we increase our clubs of the Signs? We are fast approaching the time when this message will swell into the loud cry; will our tract societies now slacken their hand in this work? Will our V. M. societies lessen the number they are now taking, for the coming year? Our efforts should increase. We are acquainted with a number of V. M. societies in the country who are taking from one hundred to three hundred copies, who could use, if they had them, five hundred copies. Others are not having that interest and success. We have been led to ask, Why are not all V. M. societies thus successful? Their lack is attributable (1.) to a lack of consecration and devotion to the work; (2.) to a failure in the method of conducting the society; or (3.) to not having proper persons to manage it. This last evil grows out of the two former. A remedy for the first is found in being baptized with the spirit of the third angel's message. A careful examination of the Constitution for the tract societies, and following the method there recommended, will remedy the second evil; and then the third will no longer exist. Enclosing five cents to the REVIEW AND HERALD will bring you, by return mail, one of these constitutions.

WHAT IS WANTED.

We want our ministers and officers to take hold of this matter immediately. Each company of our friends, wherever the English language is spoken, should have a club of the *Signs*, varying from ten to five hundred copies, in proportion to the size of the company, and the means which they can command to pay for them. They can be paid for in monthly installments. The Constitution gives full directions for getting up a club, organizing a V. M. society, procuring addresses of persons to whom to send the paper, etc.; every Seventh-day Adventist should have one. Individuals living alone should take a club of the *Signs*, and remail them weekly. Villages should be canvassed by devoted men and women. Hundreds of our brethren and sisters who take no especial interest in the missionary work, with proper encouragement would take hold and do something.

We feel anxious about this matter. Our ministers do not feel the importance and burden of this work as they should. It requires prayerful thought and study to do God's work successfully. Shall we not arouse as never before, and put the armor on? There is no failure in this work. God's special providence is over it. Not a week passes but we learn of individuals or companies in different portions of this country and in far-off nations, that are embracing the truth, some from reading the Bible, and others from a stray tract providentially falling into their hands; but more from reading the *Signs* than from any other one means.

God would teach us a lesson from this. If we would co-operate with him, we must be up and doing. We are not half awake to the importance of the present hour. All the powers of fallen angels and wicked men combined cannot stop the work of God. The Almighty arm is beneath it to uphold it and carry it forward to a successful issue. God's promises are to those who identify their interests with his precious cause, so that whether we triumph or not depends upon the course we pursue. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." 2 Chron. 16:9.

WHY STAND YE HERE IDLE?

Hundreds of our brethren who are now doing nothing, should take hold of this work. Our publications, containing the precious truths for this time, must be judiciously distributed until they fall like the leaves of autumn upon every portion of the civilized globe; and at present there is nothing better adapted to this work than *The Signs of the Times*. Those who now use their influence and utmost efforts in encouraging words, prayers, and means to spread this work, will

share in the reward when Christ comes to give every man according as his work shall be.

To the sisters especially do we appeal. When the V. M. societies were first organized, it was with the view of bringing into the service of God talents which were buried in household cares. Not that any should neglect these home duties, but that all might have a consciousness of doing something which would directly tell in sending out the light and truth. The influence of all is greatly needed, and God holds us responsible for the talents which we possess. To mail a few copies of the *Signs*, write a few letters, and seek God's blessing upon the work each week, will divert the mind and bring joy and gladness to the soul. Do not say that you have not time. Read Sr. White's article in the latter portion of the T. and M. Constitution. Take the time in which you are fostering pride in your children's hearts by decorating their persons and dress with ruffles, flounces, etc., to do this. One work will bring bitter anguish and tears of remorse in the day of Judgment; the other, glittering stars in the crown of righteousness which you may wear in glory. Which do you prefer? This question need not be asked; we know which each would choose. There should not be a single company of our people who understand the English language without a club of the *Signs*, for this winter and the coming year. Let the sisters feel that here is a field for them. The brethren should help them pay for the paper and assist in every possible way. My young sisters, here is a field of labor for you. Do not let your life be an aimless and fruitless one, bearing nothing but leaves. Think of God and Heaven, and precious souls for whom Christ died. Do something each week which can tell directly to the advancement of God's work.

Families living alone should have a club of the *Signs* to work with. This work need not be confined to the sisters alone, but as the brethren have leisure through the winter months they can apply themselves earnestly to the work. All, all, should lift, and lift together in the cause of present truth; now is the working time, and God will bless the workers.

We wish it understood, that what we say here to our American brethren, we also say to our Norwegian, French, and German brethren and sisters. God's cause is one. The providence of God has given us periodicals in these various tongues, and they should be widely circulated. We confidently expect to see a work accomplished this coming year that we have never witnessed in any year since this message began to be proclaimed. We say to our friends everywhere, Have courage in God. The cloud is rising. Go forward! The sea will divide, and those who pass through will sing the song of Moses and the Lamb, upon the other shore.

S. N. HASKELL.

MICHIGAN T. AND M. SOCIETY.

THE first meeting of the eighth annual session of the Michigan T. and M. Society was held according to appointment, in the Tabernacle at Battle Creek, at 5 P. M., Nov. 9, 1879.

President in the chair. Prayer by Eld. Haskell. The minutes of the last annual meeting were then read and approved, after which the report of labor performed during the year was read. See table.

Churches that did not report: Alaeidon, Almont, Birch Run, Bronson, Burlington, Carson City, Colon, Convis, Howell, Kendall, Marshall, Mattawan, Olivet, Parkville, Pierson, Sheridan, Watrousville, and Westphalia.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Debt at beginning of year,	\$1072.85
Paid out during the year,	5303.89
	\$6376.74
Received,	6306.33
Due Offices Oct. 31,	\$70.41

Eld. Haskell spoke of the financial advancement of the society since last year, and also of the increase in membership. He called attention to the fact that only about one-half the members of our churches are members of the T. and M. society, and as only one-fourth of the T. and M. members reported any labor performed, it would indicate that about one-eighth of the Michigan Conference were actually connected with the T. and M. work. He recommended that the next annual report show a radical change in this respect.

On motion of E. R. Jones, the Chair appointed the following committees: on Nominations: W. C. White, D. H. Lamson, and W. A. Towle; on Resolutions: E. R. Jones, M. B. Miller, and W. H. Littlejohn.

Adjourned to call of Chair.
SECOND MEETING, 1:30 P. M. Nov. 12.—W.

C White, chairman of the committee, presented the following nominations:—

For President, Eld. J. Fargo, Greenville; Vice-Presidents, Elders E. R. Jones and M. B. Miller of Battle Creek, and Eld. A. O. Burrill of Marshall; Secretary and Treasurer, Jennie Thayer, Battle Creek.

Directors: Dist. No. 1, F. D. Snyder, Pittsford; No. 2, James Roberts, Concord; No. 3, M. B. Miller, Battle Creek; No. 4, Alex. Carpenter, Otsego; No. 5, E. H. Root, Coopersville; No. 6, F. Howe, Lyons; No. 7, F. Squire, Pompei; No. 8, E. S. Griggs, St. Charles; No. 9, Wm. Ostrander, Elmwood; No. 10, Samuel Woodhull, Linden; No. 11, C. N. Stuttle, Vernon; No. 12, John Sisley, Spencer Creek; No. 13, Geo. O. States, Memphis; No. 14, J. F. Carman, Pottersville; No. 15, L. G. Moore, Hastings; No. 16, Leonard Lawrence, Rochester.

As Article II. of the Constitution of the T. and M. Society reads: "The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, State Secretary," etc., the report of the Nominating Committee could not be accepted unless this article be amended. On motion of Eld. Littlejohn, Art. II. was amended to read as follows: "The officers of this Society shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents," etc. The report was then accepted, thus electing these nominees to their respective offices.

Eld. E. R. Jones, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, submitted the following, which were adopted:—

Whereas, Convincing evidences have been given in the conversion of very many to the truth, that the tract and missionary work is of the Lord, and a powerful means of spreading abroad the light of the third angel's message; therefore

Resolved, That we urge every member of the T. and M. society to take a deeper interest and manifest greater activity and perseverance in this work.

Resolved, That we earnestly request the ministers of our Conference, the elders and the leaders of our churches, and the librarians of the various T. and M. societies in the State, to labor earnestly and persistently to the end that all the members of our churches, and all others interested in present truth, who do not already belong to our T. and M. societies, shall immediately become members of the same.

Whereas, The Publishing Association has been greatly crippled in its usefulness by the necessity which it has been under of furnishing to the different State T. and M. societies large amounts of tracts on long credit; therefore

Resolved, That we recommend that the State T. and M. Society of Michigan shall raise a reserve fund of \$3,000.00, to enable it to purchase publications and periodicals without asking for credit on the same.

Resolved, That we recommend that the matter of raising the above reserve fund shall be referred to Elds. J. Fargo, E. R. Jones, M. B. Miller, and A. O. Burrill, and the different T. and M. directors of the State, with the request that they shall take steps for the raising of the same by subscriptions and donations, as soon as may be.

At a meeting of the ministers and directors of the Michigan T. and M. Society, held in the Office Chapel at 5 A. M. Nov. 16, the previously offered resignation of Alex. Carpenter, Director of Dist. No. 4, was considered, and after remarks from several, was rejected by a rising vote of the directors.

THIRD MEETING, 9:30 A. M. Nov. 17.—The power of directors to pay the expenses of any director was called in question, and the T. and M. Constitution being referred to, it was found that no such provision was made therein. On motion, the Chair appointed W. H. Littlejohn, W. C. White, and E. S. Griggs a committee to consider the Constitution, and prepare such amendments thereto as will make provision for paying the necessary expenses incurred by directors while in the discharge of their official duties.

Adjourned to call of Chair.

FOURTH MEETING, 9:15 P. M. Nov. 20.—The following resolution was unanimously adopted, after extended remarks had been made by Elds. Fargo, Miller, Jones, Burrill, and others, in regard to the importance and bearing of the resolution, and the necessity of earnest and systematic effort on the part of our T. and M. workers:—

Resolved, That we, as ministers of the Michigan Conference, and directors of the T. and M. society, will put forth a persistent effort to get all our people in this Conference to pay a tithe into the Conference treasury, and a sum equal to one-third of that tithe into the T. and M. fund.

Moved, by Wm. Ostrander, that our State Secretary be properly remunerated for her services during the past two years. Carried.

It was further moved that the amount of remuneration be decided by the Conference Committee. Carried.

Adjourned to call of Chair.

J. FARGO, Pres.

JENNIE THAYER, Sec.

NOTE.—The address of the Secretary in Dist. No. 16 is Sophia Wilson, Holly, Mich.

VERMONT T. AND M. SOCIETY.

THE eighth annual session of the Vermont T. and M. Society was held in connection with the camp-meeting at Essex Junction, Sept. 11-16, 1879.

The Chair appointed Brn. E. P. Farnsworth, C. N. Pike, H. W. Pierce, Committee on Nominations.

SECOND MEETING, Sept. 15.—Prayer by L. Bean. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Committee on Nominations presented the following names: For President, Eld. A. S. Hutchins, Irasburg; Vice-President, Eld. L. Bean, Bordoville; Secretary, T. H. Purdon, Middlebury; Director of Dist. No. 1, C. P. Whitford; No. 2, H. Peebles; No. 3, C. E. Powell; No. 4, H. W. Jackman; No. 5, D. Wilcox; No. 6, M. Augusta Green.

After remarks by Elds. Geo. I. Butler, A. S. Hutchins and Bro. W. C. White, with reference to increasing the reserve fund, pledges were made amounting to \$254.25, to be paid on or before June 1, 1880.

THIRD MEETING, Sept. 15, 8 P. M.—Prayer by Bro. L. Smith. Minutes of second meeting read. Encouraging and instructive remarks were then made by Eld. Geo. I. Butler and W. C. White.

A. S. HUTCHINS, Pres. THOS. H. PURDON, Sec.

ILLINOIS T. AND M. SOCIETY.

THE State quarterly meeting of this Society was held at Pittwood, Ill., Oct. 19, 1879, at 9 A. M. Meeting opened in the usual manner.

M. Byrket was appointed Secretary pro tem. Reports of labor were given, followed by remarks by J. W. Tait, Director of Dist. No. 9, who spoke of the necessity of laboring more diligently, and doing all in our power to advance the truth; he also presented the importance of attending to the financial condition of the society.

The President, Eld. R. F. Andrews, then called the attention of the society to various important items before the meeting,—the German paper, which has been lately introduced, also the French paper, showing the necessity of faithfully canvassing for these periodicals, among our French and German friends.

ADJOURNED TO CALL OF CHAIR.

SECOND MEETING.—This meeting was held at 12:30 P. M.

The following resolutions were adopted:—Resolved, 1. That our brethren throughout the State should arouse to greater earnestness and zeal in the missionary work.

2. That the Sabbath-school and health and temperance work should be especially remembered.

3. That in localities where there are German people, efforts should be made to introduce the German paper, and obtain subscribers and interested readers for the same.

4. The tract concerning the Pocasset tragedy should be freely circulated in all localities where this terrible deed is charged to S. D. Adventists, and thus save the cause of truth from reproach.

5. The church library, consisting of eight volumes of Sister White's works, should be placed in every company of Sabbath-keepers within the bounds of our Conference, and we urge the directors, and T. and M. officers in the several districts, to see that these matters are attended to, and faithfully carried out.

ADJOURNED SINE DIE. R. F. ANDREWS, Pres. MARY BYRKET, Sec. pro tem.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WISCONSIN T. AND M. SOCIETY.

THE seventh annual session of the Wisconsin T. and M. Society was held at Hundred Mile Grove, Wis., Oct. 16-20, 1879.

FIRST MEETING, Oct. 17, A. M., 1879.—Eld. H. W. Decker in the chair.

Report of the last annual session read and approved.

Voted, That the Chair be authorized to appoint the usual committees, also a committee of three to suggest any changes in the districts. These committees were appointed as follows:—

On Nominations, G. C. Tenney, A. D. Olsen, and O. A. Johnson; on Resolutions, G.

C. Tenney, T. B. Snow, and Wm. Kerr; to redistrict the State, O. A. Olsen, S. S. Smith, and N. M. Jordan.

Adjourned to call of Chair.

SECOND MEETING, Oct. 17.—The time was occupied in discussing the subject of dividing the State into ministerial divisions, and in considering the wants of the cause generally in our State.

Adjourned to call of Chair.

THIRD MEETING.—Prayer by O. A. Johnson. The committee on redistricting the State reported, recommending as follows:—

That a new district be formed of the three northern tiers of townships in Richland Co., and that that part of Vernon Co. lying north of Richland Co. be known as Dist. No. 18. Also, that half of Wood and Portage counties be taken from Dist. No. 13 and added to Dist. No. 7; and, that the west half of Jackson Co. be added to Dist. No. 6.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows: For President, H. W. Decker; Vice-President, O. A. Olsen; Secretary, Librarian and Treasurer, Mrs. Mattie A. Kerr.

Directors: Dist. No. 1, Thomas Bickle; No. 2, E. R. Gillet; No. 3, A. D. Olsen; No. 4, C. K. Ackley; No. 5, T. D. Waller; No. 6, J. B. Ingalls; No. 7, J. J. Smith; No. 8, C. W. Olds; No. 9, W. H. Canfield; No. 10, Wm. Hanson; No. 11, E. A. Whipple; No. 12, E. G. Olsen; No. 13, E. J. Rice; No. 14, T. B. Snow; No. 15, Orcutt Burr; No. 16, J. C. Neilson; No. 17, E. G. Olsen; No. 18, O. A. Johnson.

The Committee on Resolutions reported as per table in another column.

1. Resolved, That we hereby urge upon our people the patronage of our German paper, and recommend obtaining subscribers, securing interested readers, and the raising of clubs, both by churches and individuals.

2. Whereas, The Health Annual for 1880 possesses many points of excellence for missionary work, and the price is made very low; therefore

Resolved, That we urge the cooperation of our people in a liberal circulation of the Annuals in all parts of the State.

Resolved, That we recognize the hand of God in the health and temperance movement which has been inaugurated, and we recommend all members of the T. and M. society to identify themselves with its interests, and aid in the organization of local clubs and in forwarding the interests of this enterprise.

Resolved, That we call upon our T. and M. workers generally, and our ministers in particular, to interest themselves in behalf of the prosperity of our institutions at Battle Creek, especially by influencing those who may be benefited thereby to become patients at the Sanitarium.

Voted to adjourn.

FOURTH MEETING.

The report of work for the past quarter was as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item and Count. Includes: No. districts (17), members (410), reports returned (241), members added (12), families visited (332), letters written (340), signs taken in clubs (181), new sub. for review (9), signs (8), Good Health (3), Instructor (23), other periodicals (95), pages of pamphlets loaned (19,273), pages tracts given away (53,119), periodicals distributed (3,222), Annuals given away (2,129), Donations to tract fund (\$170.29), Book sales (\$6.85), Periodicals (\$33.35).

The report for the past year was read as per table in another column.

The Treasurer's report was as follows:—

T. AND M. FUND.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes: On hand at beginning of year (\$30.40), Received during the year (1,688.51).

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes: Total (\$1,718.91), Paid out (1,669.74), By cash to balance (\$49.17).

GENERAL FUND.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes: On hand (\$12.66), Received during the year (470.74).

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes: Total (\$484.40), Paid out (470.65), By cash to balance (13.75).

By vote, G. C. Tenney was appointed to audit the Treasurer's account. It was also voted to allow the Secretary \$50.00 for services during the past year. The financial standing of the districts was read. The Auditor's report was accepted.

Meeting adjourned sine die. H. W. DECKER, Pres. MATTIE A. KERR, Sec.

MICHIGAN T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with 14 columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Pages Pamphlets loaned, Pages of Tracts given away, Periodicals distributed, H. Annuals sold and given, For members' p and donations to tract fund, Sales, Periodicals, Total. Includes names like F. D. Snyder, E. P. Giles, R. Sawyer, etc.

JENNIE THAYER, Sec.

VERMONT T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with 14 columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Pages Pamphlets loaned, Pages of Tracts given away, Periodicals distributed, H. Annuals sold and given, For members' p and donations to tract fund, Sales, Periodicals, Total. Includes names like W. J. Cross, C. F. Worthen, etc.

T. H. PURDON, Sec.

A. S. HUTCHINS, Pres.

ILLINOIS T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with 14 columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Pages Pamphlets loaned, Pages of Tracts given away, Periodicals distributed, H. Annuals sold and given, For members' p and donations to tract fund, Sales, Periodicals, Total. Includes names like Dr. W. C. McNett, Robert Vickery, etc.

The churches at Watseka, Gibson City, and Pittwood failed to report.

LIZZIE S. CAMPBELL, Sec.

WISCONSIN T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with 14 columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Pages Pamphlets loaned, Pages of Tracts given away, Periodicals distributed, H. Annuals sold and given, For members' p and donations to tract fund, Sales, Periodicals, Total. Includes names like Thomas Bickle, Wm. S. Higley, etc.

MRS. MATTIE A. KERR, Sec.

NEW YORK T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with 14 columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Pages Pamphlets loaned, Pages of Tracts given away, Periodicals distributed, H. Annuals sold and given, For members' p and donations to tract fund, Sales, Periodicals, Total. Includes names like Eld. R. F. Cottrell, S. N. Wright, etc.

*Tent laborers and others working in connection with no particular district. In addition to the cash receipts above given, \$118.25 has been received from ministers acting as agents of the Society.

The churches at West Pierrepont, South Pierrepont, New Connecticut, Norfolk, Tine, Mannsville, and West Monroe failed to report. MRS. B. L. WHITNEY, Sec.

PENNSYLVANIA T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter (Pages Pamphlets loaned, Pages of Tracts given away, Periodicals distributed, H. Annals sold and given), Cash Received (For members' p and donations to tract fund, Sales, Periodicals, Total).

The churches at Jamestown, Wheeler, Catlin, and Oswayo failed to report.

ADDIE BOWEN, Sec.

NEW ENGLAND T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

ELIZA THAYER, Sec.

IOWA T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

The church at Elk Horn failed to report.

LIZZIE HORNBY, Sec.

OHIO T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

All the church and district quarterly meetings were held on time, and were seasons of interest and profit, but we held no State meeting. A report was received from every church society.

J. B. GREGORY, Sec.

D. M. CANRIGHT, Pres.

DAKOTA T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

A report has been received from each church society.

D. T. BIGGS, Sec.

KENTUCKY T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

BETTIE COOMBS, Sec.

GEORGIA T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

Mrs. R. SCARBOROUGH, Sec.

COLORADO T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

ALICE J. GREEN, Sec.

KANSAS T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

The church at Otter Creek failed to report.

Mrs. ADA A. DAWSON, Sec.

MINNESOTA T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

The churches at Kenyon, Round Grove, Irving, Manannah, Weston, Steele Centre, Dundas, and Lake Ellen failed to report.

NETTIE G. WHITE, Sec.

CALIFORNIA T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

The churches at Guenoc, Sacramento, Rocklin, and Christine failed to report.

BARBARA C. STICKNEY, Sec.

NEBRASKA T. AND M. SOCIETY REPORT.

Table with columns: No. of District, NAMES OF DIRECTORS, No. of Members, No. Repts returned, No. Members added, No. Families visited, No. Letters written, No. Signs taken in clubs, No. new subscribers for all periodicals, Distribution of Reading Matter, Cash Received.

The churches at Nebraska City, Weeping Water, Farmer's Valley, Waco, David City, York Creek, Raeville, Ord, and Dublin failed to report.

Mrs. ANNIE E. SHEPHERD, Sec.

ANNUAL SUMMARY OF TRACT AND MISSIONARY LABOR.

Table with columns: STATE SOCIETIES, No. quarters reported, No. church members, No. T. & M. members, Per cent reporting each quarter, No. members added, No. families visited, No. letters written, No. of Signs taken in clubs, No. of subscribers obtained for periodicals, No. of pages of tracts and pamphlets distributed, No. periodicals distributed, No. annuals distributed, Rec'd on donations and membership, Received on sales, Received on periodicals, Total.

*Taken from mailing list of Signs of the Times.

TENNESSEE STATE QUARTERLY, T. AND M. MEETING.

THIS meeting was held at Edgefield Junction, Oct. 14, 1879, in connection with our camp-meeting. Reports for the quarter were received from all the churches,

Table with financial data for Tennessee State Quarterly meeting, including members, reports, and book sales.

During the quarter there was pledged \$180.25, to create a missionary fund. This sum will be raised to \$250.00, before next quarter, \$29.25 having already been paid.

G. K. OWEN, Pres. CLINTON OWENS, Sec.

IOWA T. AND M. SOCIETY.

THE first meeting of the seventh annual session of the Iowa T. and M. Society was held on the camp-ground at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sept. 25, 1879, at 4:30 P. M.

The Secretary's report was called for and read, as follows:—

Table with financial data for Iowa T. and M. Society, including members, reports, and book sales.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Table with financial data for Treasurer's Report, including receipts and payments.

Report accepted. The following Committee was appointed on Nominations: C. A. Washburn, J. T. Mitchell, and A. W. H. Millard.

SECOND MEETING, Sunday P. M., Sept. 28. The Nominating Committee reported as follows: For President, Eld. Geo. I. Butler, Mt. Pleasant; Vice-President, Eld. J. H. Morrison, Schonberg; Secretary and Treasurer, Lizzie Hornby, Davenport; Director Dist. No. 1, F. H. Chapman, West Union; No. 2, J. T. Mitchell, Lisbon; No. 3, W. H. Hankins, Sigourney; No. 4, Jas. S. Houseman, Mt. Pleasant; No. 5, Noah Hodges, Sandyville; No. 6, Jacob Shively, Woodburn; No. 7, A. J. Stiffler, Winterset; No. 8, Thos. J. Bryceson, Soldier Valley; No. 9, J. W. Ballard, Hook's Point; No. 10, S. M. Holly, State Center; No. 11, G. W. Hoskins, Danbury; No. 12, Ole Olsen, Emmitsburgh; No. 13, A. C. Hardy, Forrest City. The nominees were duly elected.

THIRD MEETING, Sept. 29, 6 A. M.—Encouraging remarks were made by Elds. Butler and Farnsworth in reference to the financial condition of the society. Interesting instances of persons being prepared to receive the truth by the faithful labors of tract workers were then related; and the necessity of each member entering more heartily the missionary work if we would see souls brought to Christ the coming year was fully set before us.

As the tree is fertilized by its own broken branches and fallen leaves, and grows out of its own decay, so men and nations are bettered and improved by trial, and refined out of broken hopes and blighted expectations.—F. W. Robertson.

MISSOURI T. AND M. SOCIETY.

THE fifth annual session of the Missouri T. and M. Society was held at Windsor, Henry Co., Mo., Oct. 12, 1879. Opened with prayer by Eld. Geo. I. Butler. Officers present: Eld. Geo. I. Butler, President; Eld. J. G. Wood, Vice-President; D. C. Hunter, Secretary; H. H. Fisher, N. W. Allee, A. E. Flowers, J. F. Klostermeyer, Directors. Three directors absent. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

On motion, the Chair appointed a Committee on Nominations; viz., Wm. Evans, H. H. Fisher, and J. M. Gallemore.

Adjourned to call of Chair. SECOND MEETING, Oct. 13, 1879.—Prayer by Eld. C. H. Chaffee.

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows: For President, Geo. I. Butler; Vice-President, J. G. Wood; Secretary, D. C. Hunter; Director of District No. 1, H. H. Fisher, Gallatin, Daviess Co.; No. 2, Wm. Evans, Hamilton, Caldwell Co.; No. 3, A. E. Flowers, Kingsville, Johnson Co.; No. 4, J. F. Klostermeyer, Rockville, Bates Co.; No. 5, Clarence P. Santee, Poplar Grove, Jasper Co.; No. 6, W. H. Beddoe, Rolla, Phelps Co.; No. 7, H. D. Clark, Macon City, Macon Co. All of whom were severally elected.

The Secretary presented his annual report, as follows:—

Table with financial data for Missouri T. and M. Society, including members, reports, and book sales.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Table with financial data for Missouri T. and M. Society, including membership and donations.

Geo. I. BUTLER, Pres. D. C. HUNTER, Sec.

QUARTERLY REPORT OF NEVADA V. M. SOCIETY, OCT. 1, 1879.

Table with financial data for Nevada V. M. Society, including members and reports.

FINANCIAL STANDING OF THE T. AND M. SOCIETIES.

THE following table shows the approximate financial standing of the various State tract societies, after the completion of the last quarter's business. All dues from districts and unpaid pledges are not included. Upon the basis here employed, the following State societies have a balance in their favor; viz., Iowa, \$387.68; Ohio, \$308.21; Nebraska, \$268.78; New England, \$1805.71; New York, \$506.60; Michigan, \$200.64; California, \$698.71. Other societies doubtless have a balance in their favor, but not having the necessary data, it is impossible to give it at this time.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY.

Table with financial summary for various states, including Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Nebraska, etc.

THE TIME TO WORK.

THE present month is without doubt the best time in the year for our tract and missionary societies to work. The past season was generally a prosperous one for farmers, and there is less of the usual cry of "hard times" than there has been, so that not only is this the best season of the year for booksellers, canvassers, and agents, but this year is more favorable for this work than either of the last three years has been.

There are thousands of families where our papers should be read, that could be induced to subscribe for one or more of them if our brethren and sisters would introduce these papers, bearing precious truths, before the people have subscribed for other papers.

The recent General Conference has occupied the time and thoughts of so many of our leading workers that we are a month late in issuing the Supplement and starting the canvass. But if our T. and M. officers and members will begin at once, very much can be done in a few weeks. The REVIEW AND HERALD, Signs of the Times, Good Health, Youth's Instructor, Advent Tidende, Advent Harold, and Stimme der Wahrheit, should each receive attention from those best qualified to work for them.

The REVIEW will continue to be our denominational paper, and should be read by every S. D. Adventist. Price, \$2.00 per year, with "Way of Life" as premium to new subscribers.

The Signs of the Times will be our pioneer paper for missionary distribution. Price, \$2.00 per year, with "Way of Life" as premium to new subscribers. In clubs of ten or more copies for missionary use, \$1.20 each copy per year.

Good Health should be introduced into twenty thousand families before March first. Its usefulness in the past is abundantly attested by those who have read it, many of whom would not dispense with it for ten times its cost.

During the coming year each number will contain a large amount of valuable and interesting matter on the subjects of Health, Temperance, Popular Science, General Literature, and other topics of interest. The practical information in its pages on sanitary science, public and domestic hygiene, and topics of kindred nature, gives it a scope and field of usefulness peculiar to itself, and unoccupied by any other journal.

An illustrated article on practical hygiene, or some other topic of general interest, will appear in each number, as a new and permanent feature of the journal in the future. In addition to this, the department of Questions and Answers, which has contributed so much to the success of the journal in the past, will be revived in a practically useful form, and made more valuable than ever before. Notwithstanding the increased value to the reader, and the additional expense to the publishers, the same liberal offers made to old and new subscribers for 1879 are renewed for 1880, with some new and magnificent offers in addition. For particulars read last cover page, the offers on page 382, and the club list, in Good Health for December.

The same liberal terms are offered to canvassers who obtain over twenty subscribers for Good Health for 1880 as were given in 1879, and in addition to this a magnificent list of valuable prizes is offered to those who can only canvass their neighborhoods, and thus get from three to twenty subscribers. We have space for only a few of these offers. For full list, see list of prizes in December number of Good Health.

We offer to those obtaining new subscribers for Good Health at \$1.00 per year without premium, and \$1.25 per year with Household Manual as premium, the following prizes:

Table with prizes for subscribers, including Young Man's Counselor, Young Woman's Counselor, Plain Facts for Old and Young, etc.

Illustrated Quarto Family Bible, 10 00 Oxford S. S. Teacher's Bible, No. 716, 10 25 Letter Copying Press, with Copying Book, Rubber Pads, Brush, and Water Bowl, all complete, 10 00 The Youth's Instructor can be introduced into thousands of families by a prompt effort on the part of our canvassers, ladies, and young people. Even children have canvassed for the Instructor with good success.

There will be two editions of the YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR for 1880:—

1. The Monthly Edition, 8 pages. Price, 50 cents. 2. The Weekly Edition (with Sabbath-school Department), 4 pages. Price, 75 cts. The "Child's Poems" will be given as a premium to each new subscriber for either edition at the above prices. Those who have taken either edition and change to the other, are not new subscribers.

LIST OF PRIZES.

If you will send us six new subscribers for the INSTRUCTOR, Monthly or Weekly, or both, we will send you your choice of Sunshine Series for Little Ones, Song Anchor, or one of the three volumes of Golden Grains: Vol. 1, The Hard Way; Vol. 2, The School-Boy's Dinner; Vol. 3, Grumbling Tommy.

For ten new subscribers, your choice of Vols. 1, 2, or 3, of Sabbath Readings; or the Game of Life. For fifteen new subscribers, your choice of The Life of Captain Joseph Bates, Thrilling Life Sketches, or the Bible Atlas and Gazetteer.

For twenty new subscribers, your choice of No. 7 Old Testament Map of Palestine, or No. 9 New Testament Map of Palestine, size 42x28 inches, or Cruden's Concordance, the Bible Dictionary, or Bound Volume of Weekly INSTRUCTOR for 1879.

For thirty new subscribers, your choice between one of the Double Sheet Maps of Palestine, size 58x41 inches; No. 6 Old Testament Palestine; No. 8 New Testament Palestine, or the "Bird's Eye View of Palestine," a beautiful chart of the Holy Land.

For fifty new subscribers, your choice of a Nonpareil Oxford Teacher's Bible, with Index, Concordance, and Maps (an entirely new edition), size, 4 1/2 x 7 1/4 inches; or Cloth Map No. 5, the Peninsula of Mt. Sinai, illustrating the wanderings of the Israelites in their journey from Egypt to Canaan.

Librarians, and S. S. officers should encourage those young people to canvass who will have a good influence wherever they go and who are most likely to succeed. In some places several of the S. S. scholars may join together and earn a map for the school.

We have mailed to the secretary of each State T. and M. Society packages of the agent's subscription books, in which the name and address of each subscriber is to be taken, subscription blanks on which to send in the names to the Office, and instructions how to canvass. These, with the premium book as sample, constitute a complete outfit. Those wishing to canvass who have the premium will be furnished with the remainder of the outfit free on application to the Office or to the T. and M. officers. The premium can be obtained from the T. and M. Society or from the Office, by mail, for thirty cents.

If this is pushed before the holidays are over, thousands of subscribers can be obtained.

The Advent Tidende is now published as an eight-page semi-monthly, size 21 1/2 by 30 inches, a little smaller than the REVIEW. It is a neat-looking and ably conducted paper, intended as a pioneer sheet for the Danish-Norwegian people of Europe and America. Terms to American subscribers, \$1.00 per year. To new subscribers the Way of Life will be given as a premium, for \$1.25. In clubs of ten or more copies to one address for missionary distribution, 60 cents per year for each copy. To European subscribers, \$1.25; with Way of Life to new subscribers, \$1.50.

The Svensk Advent Harold will be changed somewhat in form and name. Its title will be Advent Harolden. It will be a sixteen-page monthly, printed on heavy tinted paper, with out covers; size of page, 7 1/2 x 10 1/2 inches; size of whole sheet, 30x42 inches. It will be stitched and trimmed, and the tinted paper will make it so neat in appearance that its old friends will scarcely miss the cover. It will contain three-fourths as much reading as it does now, and the price will be reduced in proportion. Terms to American subscribers, 75 cents per year; to new subscribers, with the Way of Life as a premium, \$1.00; to European subscribers \$1.00 per year; with Way of Life to new subscribers, \$1.25.

The Stimme der Wahrheit, the last, though by no means the least important of our papers, will hereafter be issued monthly, eight pages the size of Advent Tidende. Price to American subscribers, 50 cents a year. In clubs of ten or more to one address, for missionary distribution, 30 cents a year per copy. To European subscribers, 75 cents a year.

We hope our brethren of other nationalities will appreciate the liberal terms on which these last three papers are offered, and that they, with our American brethren and tract societies in those parts of our country where there are many who speak the German, Danish, and Swedish, will give these papers a very wide circulation.

W. C. WHITE.