

The South African

MISSIONARY

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

VOLUME IX

KENILWORTH, CAPE, MARCH 14, 1910.

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Offence.

WHAT regulates existence?
What is it rules this life?
Who holds the reins,—commanding
Or peace, or deadly strife?
What it it checks our efforts?
What stifles motive kind?
What lashes, galls and shackles
Man,—body, heart and mind?
What is it makes life barren,
Of noble impulse shorn,
Prosaic, sordid, dreary
As winter's sunless morn?
What is it makes man tremble?
Why hang his hands so slack?
What bows his head? What torment
See we his spirit rack?
*Offence stalks haughty, roughshod,
Through all the world's domain;
Offence, that mighty demon,
He governs things mundane.*
Offence.—Perchance no mortal
But somehow felt its sway;
Yea, even children know it,—
Offence blights childhood's day.
Offence! It shapes our clothing,
Prescribes our daily food,
Dictates our mode of living,—
We do not as we would!
Offence controls our friendships—
Makes enmity most dire;
Offence, the curse of living,—
Of hell 'tis set on fire.
Offence sits lord and master
Of humankind's concerns,
The while man's spirit jaded
In sullen anger burns.
No moment but —you see it—
There's someone *takes* offence;—
Naught happens, and we know it—
But something *gives* offence!
Think: how apply *we*, brethren,
These words —for thus they run—
"And nothing shall offend them?"—
"Give none offence, not one?"
—*Gertrude Flather.*

Begin Now.

"IF there is one work more important than another, it is getting our literature before the public." Whenever and wherever our people make an earnest endeavour to carry forward, in a systematic way, this important work, results follow. We will never have a more opportune time than the present to begin. We have on hand quite a number of the *South African Signs* which was especially designed to meet the needs in this field. This magazine was gotten out at quite an expense and with the hope that we might continue its publication as a quarterly. I feel sure that all of our people appreciate the effort that has been made to publish such a magazine in this field, but you will see that if it continues to live we will all have to stand by it and help to circulate it. Send in your orders at once and do all that you can to get it before your neighbours. This will be the strongest vote you can cast for another issue of the *South African Signs of the Times*. Then we also have a number of *Watchman* and *Life and Health* magazines. Both of these are most excellent numbers filled brim full of good things, and could not have contained matter which would better meet the needs of this field had they been especially designed with that end in view. Send for some of these also, and you will be surprised to see how many of these excellent magazines you can sell in a short time. Some of our people in the cities could profitably spend all of their time in this line of work, and would

find as others have, that beside the great amount of good they would be doing, they could earn a better living than they are now doing. Try it and see what you can do. Don't put it off until to-morrow. Start now.
E. R. WILLIAMS.

Cape Conference Sabbath-schools

THE time is near for making out the Sabbath-school reports for the fourth quarter of 1910. We trust all of our schools are planning to send in good reports. We have seen some very marked advancement in our Sabbath-school work the past year, and as we start out on this new year we are all praying and working to make this year the best in the history of our Sabbath-schools.

Last quarter there were only four schools who used any of their donations for anything, except their legitimate purpose—the mission work. To those schools who are faithful in giving all donations to missions I would say be of good courage, keep on; your example is having its influence. And to those who have dropped behind and have used their donations for other purposes I would say a little more effort, a little more courage. Just think! Only four schools and the entire South African Union Conference will be giving all donations to mission. Only a paltry three pounds and we will be able to sing the "jubilee song." Will you help? Keep your school from being the only one not in line, and if we as servants of Jesus make the sacrifice to place our schools on vantage ground,

God will pour out his rich blessing in return. We know for we have tried it. "O taste and see that the Lord is good."

The few figures given from the report presented at the conference will give an idea of what was done last year and should inspire us to renewed efforts for the year 1910.

For the three quarters of 1908 we have: total donations, £68 8 1; expenses, £17 15 7½; donations to missions, £50 12 5½.

For the three quarters ending September 1909: total donations, £83 17 7; expenses, £10 1 3; donations to missions, £71 16 0½. A gain of 25 per cent. in the total donations, and a gain of 42½ per cent. in the donations to missions. A comparison of the returns for the last quarter of each year shows an even more marked increase. For this we thank God.

Last conference year which closed September 30, we reported nine Sabbath-schools and five home schools. The quarter closing December 31, we have thirteen Sabbath-schools and eleven home schools.

I believe the interest in the Sabbath-school is becoming greater as we realize that it is the real means of feeding the individual members of the church and keeping them alive to the importance of the truth. "Show me the man or woman who is regular in attendance, and interested in the Sabbath-school, and I will show you one who is the most active in all the works of the Church."

I believe we can look forward to the new year with confidence that the Lord will bless in the work of our Sabbath-schools if we give the time and thought to this branch of His work that it calls for—considering its importance. Let us all say, Here, Lord, am I; use me in helping forward the work of the Sabbath-school.

H. S. BECKNER.

Errata.

FIRST page article of the issue of February 28, second column, tenth line, insert the word *incentives* for incentives.

Our Local Papers.

THE Claremont church is raising a fund to be used in sending the *Sentinel* and *Wachter* to interested persons. Will our canvassers and workers please send names to Miss Jane Page, Kenilworth, Cape (our librarian), with plainly written addresses of persons to whom you would like to have the papers sent?—state which paper.

Would it not be in keeping with the message for all to increase their clubs? The *Sentinel* will cost you one half-penny each, plus postage. For terms for *Wachter*, write Prof. H. Elffers, "Rustica," Wynberg.

Why should not our canvassers and all our people solicit subscriptions for these papers? The price of the *Sentinel* is only 1/6 per year, and the *Wachter* 2/6. A sample copy would not be heavy to carry with you, and I am sure you could take many subscriptions. Many will read a paper who will not buy a book, others will gladly have both.

I wish once more to request our people to subscribe for our local papers, and read them; then I believe you will want to place them in the hands of others. Issues of importance are just before us in this land, the meaning of which we desire to tell the people through our papers. Who will help to give them a circulation without delay? The quarterly *Signs* will be out soon. Send 3d. for sample copy, and then send orders to the Tract Society, 56 Roeland St., Cape Town.

I. J. HANKINS.

Praise to God.

WE wish to record our praise to God for His many blessings to us. While far from those who are dear to us, He does not forget nor leave us. Chief Jonathan has loaned us a large building to live in as long as we wish, and has told one of his men to give us milk from his cows. Thus since reaching here we have received an average of about two quarts of milk each day. Chief Jonathan has

given us some peaches and tells us to send for more as we wish. Another chief had his women bring us quite a supply of brushwood. The Rev. Deiterlein, a white missionary about eight miles away, has given us a few pears and apples and promises all the quinces we want.

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein." "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

HOMER C. OLMSTEAD.

ANNIE V. OLMSTEAD.

Our Sabbath-Schools.

THE experiences of our Grahams-town Conference are surely as "the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees" when the Lord promises to go out before His people into the ranks of the enemy and claim His own. But at such a time the message to Israel is "Bestir thyself." How much we need to bestir ourselves along the line of Sabbath-school work; especially in our home department! Most of us are doing something for the members of our families but how many of us are doing anything for our servants? They are just as dear to our heavenly Father as we; and remembering this, shall we not do all we can to tell them of His infinite love for them?

A systematic study of the Sabbath-school lessons provides an excellent means for accomplishing this purpose. Does the following sentence from *Early Writings*, page 137, appeal to you? "I saw that the slave-master will have to answer for the soul of his slave whom he has kept in ignorance; and the sins of the slave will be visited upon the master."

Brethren and sisters, knowing that your privileges measure your responsibilities will you not bestir yourselves and give to those who work for you, in your homes, on your farms, these precious Sabbath-school lessons which, if heeded, will mean eternal life to them? Forget their social standing in the world, the colour of their skin,

etc., and see in each one of them that value which Jesus set on every human being. "The hidden selfishness of men stands revealed in the books of heaven. There is the record of unfulfilled duties to their fellowmen, of forgetfulness of the Saviour's claims." "He would have us understand that we are responsible to do good and to realize that in shunning our work we are bringing loss upon ourselves. To those who were doing nothing He said, 'Why stand ye here all the day idle?' We are to work while it is called to-day; for the night cometh in which no man can work."

Is native work unpromising, disappointing? "Cast thy bread upon the waters, for *thou shalt find it* after many days. He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap. As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, . . . even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all."

"Coming, coming, yes, they are,
Coming, coming from afar;
From the wild and scorching desert,
Afric's sons of colour deep:
Jesus' love has drawn and won them,
At the cross they bow and weep.

Coming, coming, yes, they are,
Coming, coming from afar;
All to meet in plains of glory,
All to sing His praises sweet;
What a chorus, what a meeting,
With the family complete!"

MRS. A. P. TARR.
S. S. Sec., S. A. U. C.

Notice.

THE MISSIONARY list is now being revised. Some names are being omitted from the list where there is a club going to the church where they reside. These will get them in the club and so save the postage of sending separate. If any can not get it through the club, please notify us at once so as not to miss any numbers. If others can get it through the church club, and yet are receiving it under separate cover, will let us know about this, it will be appreciated. We must use care in the ex-

pense, and yet we desire that every family of Sabbath-keepers shall have the paper. If any addresses need correcting please inform us. If those who change their address would drop us a line at the time it would save some expense, and also save the paper to them. Let our canvassers make a note of this last item. Address SOUTH AFRICAN MISSIONARY, "Wynnton," Selous Road, Claremont, Cap.

Somabula Out-School.

ELDER STURDEVANT writing under date of March 1, says that he received word in the last mail from the government that we must withdraw out teachers from the Que Que Reserve, one of the Somabula Mission out-schools. This school has been in operation for two years, and there are nearly two hundred attending the Sabbath services. The book sales on

The Paper Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending Feb. 18, 1910.

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
Mission Company,	Johannesburg,	Signs,	205	5 2 6
		Sentinel,	25	6 3
		Watchman,	80	2 0 0
		G. Health,	48	12 0
Totals,	1 Agent,		358	8 0 9

Cape Conference, for week ending Feb. 18, 1910.

Q. H. Jubber,	P. Elizabeth,	Signs,	3	1 0
M. Schonken,	Salt River,	"	8	4 0
Violet Armitage,	Grahamstown,	"	3	1 6
P. F. C. Ahlheldt,	"	"	15	7 6
Totals,	4 Agents,		20	14 0

The Book Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending Feb. 18, 1910.

NAME	PLACE	BOOK	HRS	ORDS	VALUE	HELPS	TOTALS	DEL'D
Mission Company, Jo'burg,	S. D.		51	25	8 2 0	1 7 0	9 10 0	6 2 3
C. A. Dixie,	Adville,	D. R.	31	18	16 10 6		16 10 6	1 14 0
E. Howard,	Sophatown,	D. R.	14	19	14 6 6		14 6 6	
Mrs. Howard,	Judith Paarl,	D. R.	10	6	4 9 6		4 9 6	
E. Van der Molen,	Standerton,	D. R.	30	7	5 19 0	1 17 0	7 16 0	4 9 0
T. G. Crouch,	Pretoria,	D. R.	28½	9	8 0 6		8 6 6	
B. Piercy,	Christiana and Klerksdorp,	P. P.	26	8	8 5 0		8 5 0	
* H. Schmidt,	Vryheid,	D. R.	21	5	5 5 0		5 5 0	
† "	Heidelberg,	D. R.	17					11 17 6
‡ "	Standerton,	D. R.	24					22 7 0
§ "	Volksrust,	D. R.	21					20 18 6
Totals,	8 Agents,		273½	97	£71 4 0	3 4 0	74 9 0	07 8 9

* For week ending Jan. 30. † Feb. 4. ‡ Feb. 11. § Feb. 18.

Cape Conference, for week ending Feb. 18, 1910.

Q. H. Jubber,	P. E'beth,	C. O. S.	32	48	8 16 0		8 16 0	
J. D. le Riche,	Bethlehem,	G. C.						
	Man.		18	15	18 18 0		18 18 0	
V. Armitage,	Grahamst'n,		13	3	18 6		18 6	6 6
I. B. Burton,	Grahamstown Location,	C. K.		8	2 12 0	8 4 0	10 16 0	
W. A. George,	P E'beth,							8 5 6
Totals,	5 Agents,		63	74	£31 4 0	8 4 0	39 8 6	8 12 0

South African Missionary

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Editor: - - - Mrs. R. C. PORTER
Kenilworth, Cape.

this reserve last year amounted to about ten pounds.

The workers are praying earnestly that the Lord will yet over-rule that our work there may go forward. The Church of England wish to start work there, and are influencing the authorities to withdraw our teachers. The students want to come over to the Somabula station to school if our school there is closed up, but Elder Walston says it will be impossible to take them at present on account of their already over-crowded condition. They are putting up the frames for several new huts so as to accomodate more students, but will have to wait for the grass to grow before they will be able to thatch them. Elder Walston was planning to accompany Elder Sturdevant to Salisbury to interview the educational secretary to see if some plan could not be reached whereby our school might be allowed to continue on this reserve. If a European teacher could be stationed there our school might go forward unmolested. Let us "pray the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His vineyard," and then do our part in answering our prayer. Is there not some one ready to answer "Here am I, send me?"

College Notes.

A CLASS is just starting in oil painting with Mr. Gordon Rowland as instructor.

—Still the work of fruit canning continues. Grapes have been the order of the day and this week brought 100 dozen pineapples from Rokeby Park.

—We were glad of a talk in chapel one day last week by Elder Williams. His words of inspiration were appreciated by the teachers and students.

—Since our last report the following

persons have been added to the home family,—Nellie George, Hubert Sparrow, Ivan Sparrow, Irwin Williams, and Murial Tarr. Others are coming and still there is room for more.

—The students prayer-meeting held Friday evenings are a source of continual strength to our school. The earnest testimonies given from week to week give evidence of a good Christian experience on the part of those that take part.

—Our class in vocal music under Doctor Barrow Dowling of Cape Town is progressing well and will be of material help to our students. He is without question one of the most capable instructors in vocal music at the Cape, and we feel it a privilege to have his aid in this work. Several also are taking private lessons of him.

—The work of the Bible Seminars promises to be a strong feature of the school this year. In the young ladies Seminar, Mrs. I. J. Hankins, who has had a good experience in the field as a Bible worker, is assisting our young ladies in their work. In the young men's class, Elder Hankins conducted an interesting study last week on the way to build up a sermon. He promises to help us from time to time. The week previous Brother Ryan conducted a study in Scripture reading, also giving some pointed suggestions on gesture and expression.

C. P. CRAGER.

Notes.

—SISTER BUTTERFIELD of near Gwelo, Rhodesia, is ill with fever.

—Brother Frank Hall left last week for Durban. He goes to enter one of our sanitariums there as a helper.

—Elder Hankins has organised a Bible class with the Plumstead Sanitarium nurses. Several of the patients attend making the class of more than ordinary interest.

—Brother H. C. Olmstead says "My books to study the Susuto language have come, and I am diving into them. How I do want to get

the language. Mrs. Olmstead is learning many hymns to play and sing for Sabbath services, as this is a great attraction to the natives."

—The people around the Somabula Mission have been seized with a great desire for our books. An order has just been received for four hundred and thirty-five books, and aside from this order, all that the office had of several other kinds.

—We will all read Brother Beckner's report on the Sabbath-school work with interest. How lonesome those four schools that he mentions must be. We feel sure they will not long make a gap in the line. Let us show a solid front in Africa for missions.

—There are between 5,500 and 6,000 daily papers in circulation in the world to-day. Germany publishes more than 900; Great Britain prints 250, and Paris about 150—more than the number printed in the cities of London, New York, Philadelphia, and Boston combined. The *Le Petit Journal*, Paris, has the largest circulation in the world. Every nation on earth has thus provided facilities for the carrying of the last message to the entire world. Are you one of the carriers?

Cape Colony Conference.

REPORT OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS
FOR FOURTH QUARTER, 1900.

CHURCHES	TITHE	F. D. O.	AN. OF.
Bloemfontein	£ 13 14 6		
Beaconsfield	9 14 1	£ 1 5 0	£ 1 16 10
Claremont	58 8 11	1 19 4	6 9 4
Cathcart	16 8 3	19 0	
Cape Town	5 17 6		
East London			
East London Location			
Heisterbach	64 6 9	1 9 9	
Klipdam	3 5 6	12 6	1 9 3
King Wms. Town	3 5 9		
Port Elizabeth	2 15 0		
Parow	5 17 0	3 9	14 4
Rokeby Park	65 16 10	1 2 0	3 18 0
Rustica	84 5 2	2 7 6	4 3 0
Salt River			
Uitenhage		15 0	
Wilgehoek	5 0 0		1 5 10
Individuals	40 18 10	2 9 6	3 10
Komgha			1 1 3
Adelaide			6 9
Total	£379 14 1	13 3 4	21 8 5

J. V. WILLSON