

The Central Advance

"Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward"

Vol. 2

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Who Is On the Lord's Side?

Who is on the Lord's side? Who will serve the king?
Who will be His helpers other lives to bring?
Who will leave the world's side? Who will face the foe?
Who is on the Lord's side? Who will for Him go?
By Thy call of mercy, by Thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side, Saviour, we are Thine!

Jesus, Thou hast bought us, not with gold or gem,
But with Thine own life-blood, for Thy diadem.
With Thy blessing filling each who comes to Thee,
Thou hast made us willing, Thou hast made us free.
By Thy grand redemption, by thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side, Saviour, we are Thine!

Fierce may be the conflict, strong may be the foe,
But the King's own army none can overthrow.
'Round His standard ranging, vict'ry is secure;
For His truth unchanging makes the triumph sure.
Joyfully enlisting by Thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side, Saviour, we are Thine!

Chosen to be soldiers in an alien land,
'Chosen, called, and faithful,' for our Captain's band,
In His service royal, let us not grow cold:
Let us be right loyal, noble, true, and bold.
Mas'er, Thou wilt keep us by Thy grace divine,
Always on the Lord's side, Saviour, always Thine.

—Selected.

A View of the Conflict

In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict.
One army was led by banners bearing the
world's insignia; the other was led by the blood-
stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. Standard
after standard was left to trail in the dust as
company after company from the Lord's army
joined the foe: and tribe after tribe from ranks
of the enemy united with the commandment-
keeping people of God. An angel flying in the

midst of heaven put the standards of Emmanuel
into many hands, while a mighty general cried
with a loud voice: "Come into line. Let those
who are loyal to the commandments of God and
the testimony of Christ now take their position.
Come out from among them, and be ye separate,
and touch not the unclean, and I will receive
you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall
be my sons and daughters. Let all who will,
"come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of
the Lord against the mighty."

The battle raged. Victory alternated from
side to side. Now the soldiers of the cross gave
way, "as when a standard-bearer fainteth."
But their apparent retreat was but an effort to
gain a more advantageous position. Shouts of
joy were heard. A song of praise to God went
up, and angel voices united in the song, as
Christ's soldiers planted His banner on the
walls of fortresses till then held by the enemy.
The Captain of our salvation was ordering the
battle and sending support to His soldiers.
His power was mightily displayed, encouraging
them to press the battle to the gates. He
taught them terrible things in righteousness as
He led them on step by step, conquering and to
conquer.

At last the victory was gained. The army
following the banner with the inscription, "The
commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus,"
was gloriously triumphant. The soldiers of
Christ were close beside the gates of the city
of God, and with joy the city received her King.
The Kingdom of peace and joy and ever-
lasting righteousness was established. God's
will was done on earth, as it is done in heaven.

Now the church is militant. Now we are con-
fronted with a world in midnight darkness al-
most wholly given over to idolatry. But the
day is coming when the battle will have been
fought, the victory won. The will of God is to
be done on earth, as it is done in heaven. Then
the nations will own no other law than the law

of heaven. All will be a happy, united family clothed with the garments of praise and thanksgiving,—the robe of Christ's righteousness. All nature, in its surpassing loveliness, will offer to God a constant tribute of praise and adoration. The world will be bathed in the light of heaven. The years will move on in gladness. The light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold greater than it is now. Over the scene the morning stars will sing together, and the sons of God will shout for joy, and God and Christ will unite in proclaiming, "There shall be no more sin, neither shall there be any more death."

This is the scene that is presented to me. But the church must still fight against seen and unseen foes. Satanic agencies in human form are on the ground. Men have confederated to oppose the Lord of hosts. These confederacies will continue until Christ shall leave His place of intercession before the mercy seat, and shall put on the garments of vengeance. Satanic agencies are in every city, busily organizing into parties those opposed to the law of God. Professed saints and avowed unbelievers take their stand with these parties. This is no time for the people of God to be weaklings. We cannot afford to be off our guard for one moment. Eph. 4:10-17; Phil. 1:9-11, 27-29.

There are revealed in these last days, visions of future glory, scenes pictured by the hand of God, and these should be dear to His church. What sustained the Son of God in His betrayal and trial?—He saw of the travail of His soul, and was satisfied. He caught a view of the expanse of eternity, and saw the happiness of those who through His humiliation should receive pardon and everlasting life. He was wounded for their transgressions, bruised for their iniquities. The chastisement of their peace was upon Him, and with His stripes they were healed. His ear caught the shout of the redeemed. He heard the ransomed ones singing the song of Moses and the Lamb.

We must have a vision of the future and of the blessedness of heaven. Stand on the threshold of eternity, and hear the gracious welcome given to those who in this life have co-operated with Christ, regarding it as a privilege and an honor to suffer for His sake. As they unite with the angels, they cast their crowns at the feet of the Redeemer, exclaiming: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and

riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing... Honor and glory and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever."

There the redeemed ones greet those who directed them to the uplifted Savior. They unite in praising Him who died that human beings might have the life that measures with the life of God. The conflict is over. All tribulation and strife are at an end. Songs of victory fill all heaven as the redeemed stand around the throne of God. All take up the joyful strain, "Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and lives again, a triumphant conqueror." Rev. 7:9, 10, 14-17; Rev. 21:4.

Will you catch the inspiration of the vision? Will you let your mind dwell upon the picture? Will you not be truly converted, and then go forth to labor in a spirit entirely different from the spirit in which you have labored in the past, displacing the enemy, breaking down every barrier to the advancement of the gospel, filling hearts with the light and peace and joy of the Lord? Shall not this miserable spirit of fault-finding and murmuring be buried, never to have a resurrection? Shall not the incense of praise and thanksgiving ascend from hearts purified and sanctified and glorified by the presence of Christ? Shall we not in faith lay hold of sinners, and bring them to the cross?

Who will this day consecrate themselves to the service of the Lord? Who will now pledge themselves not to affiliate with the world, but to come out from the world, and be separate, refusing to pollute the soul with the worldly schemes and worldly practices that have been keeping the church under the enemy's influence?

We are in this world to lift the cross of Calvary. As we lift this cross, we shall find that it lifts us. Let every Christian stand in his lot and place, catching the inspiration of the work that Christ did for souls while in this world. We need the ardor of the Christian hero, who can endure the seeing of Him that is invisible. *Our faith is to have a resurrection.* The soldiers of the cross are to exert a positive influence for good. Christ says, "He that is not for Me is against Me, and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad." *Indifference in the Christian life is a manifest denial of Christ.*

Should we not see in the world to-day medical missionaries who in all the features of their work are worthy of the name they bear, who aspire to the doing of deeds worthy of valiant

soldiers of Christ? We are living near the close of the great conflict, when many souls are to be rescued from the slavery of sin. We are living in a time when to Christ's followers the promise specially belongs, "Lo, I am with you alway even unto the end of the world." He who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, He who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, bids us let our light shine brightly before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father who is in heaven. In such rich measure has light been given to God's people that Christ is justified in telling them that they are to be the light of the world.

To our physicians and ministers I send the message: "Lay hold of the Lord's work as if you believed the truth for this time. Medical missionary workers and workers in the gospel ministry are to be bound together by indissoluble ties. Their work is to be done with freshness and power. *Throughout our churches there is to be a reconversion and a reconsecration to service.* Shall we not, in our work in the future, and in the gatherings that we hold, be of *one accord?* Shall we not wrestle with God in prayer, *asking for the Holy Spirit to come into every heart?* The presence of Christ, manifest among us, would cure the leprosy of unbelief that has made our service so weak and inefficient. We need the breath of the divine life breathed into us. We are to be channels through which the Lord can send light and grace to the world. *Backsliders are to be reclaimed.* We are to put away our sins, by confession and repentance, humbling our proud hearts before God. *Floods of spiritual power are now to be poured forth upon those prepared to receive it.*

Let us now consecrate ourselves to the proclamation of the message: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Divine and human instrumentalities are to unite for the accomplishment of one great object. "The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

"They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."

ELLEN G. WHITE.

The New Year

WE are about to pass the border line of a new year. 1904 stands knocking at the door. Rapidly the closing years of earth's eventful history are passing away. Soon the last year will come and go, and eternity will open to our view. How much earnest work shall we crowd into the remnant of time intervening between now and then?

The time of the end began in 1798. We are therefore one hundred and five years down in the time of the end. Feb. 10, 1904, will complete the 106th year.

The judgment work began in 1844. The year 1904 will mark sixty years of that work in the past.

In and Around Washington

EVERY American, young or old, is interested in the capital of the nation, and now that the home of the *Youth's Instructor* is in Washington, right on the edge of the capitol grounds and overlooking them, it is safe to expect that in the columns of the paper will appear articles describing these points of national importance and interest.

So, during 1904, there will be published a series of very finely illustrated articles on points of interest in and around the nation's capital.

A few of many such places are:—

"The Capitol and Its Grounds."

"The Congressional Library."

"The Smithsonian Institute."

"The National Museum."

"The Zoological Gardens."

"Mount Vernon—the Home of General Washington."

"Arlington—the National Cemetery."

"The Soldiers' Home."

Better than ever will be the *Instructor* for 1904 and it ought to be read by everyone of our young people.

For 75 cents, a new subscriber gets the paper every week during 1904, and in addition the Publishers will send free the last seven issues of 1903, which contain the first articles in several very interesting series. Address, *Youth's Instructor*, 222 North Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

From the Field

Notes from the Field in Nebraska

FROM a private letter written by Eld. L. E. Johnson, of Broken Bow, we quote the following:—

I have just arrived home from my trip to Calloway and Oconto, where I sold seventy-five copies of the *Signs* and held a number of Bible readings. I found the people so interested that I went to bed only one night before eleven o'clock while on my trip, and two nights it was about one o'clock before I retired.

Yesterday we organized a Sabbath-school of fourteen members at Broken Bow, all but two of whom have recently taken hold of the truth. I never saw people more anxious to receive all the truth than are these people. One man, who has been keeping the Sabbath for a short time, is a marvel to all the neighbors. He cannot hold his peace day or night. He talks to every one he meets. Another man and his wife, with whom I recently read until after one o'clock at night, kept their first Sabbath yesterday. They would hardly let me come away without promising them that I would come back and hold some meetings in Oconto this winter.

On my way home to-day the Spirit of the Lord impressed me to drive into a man's yard. He was just going out to water his cattle. I showed him the *Signs*, and gave him one to read. After talking with him about twenty minutes, he said that neither he nor his wife were members of any church, but that they were studying to know which is the right way. I got out of my buggy, took out my Bible, and there preached unto him Jesus, and gave him the Third Angel's Message. He was deeply impressed when I showed him the true Sabbath as the only sign that we are worshipers of the true God, and that Sunday is a counterfeit, introduced by Satan to deceive people. He wanted to know where I lived, and where we held our services. I supplied him with tracts, which he promised to read. He lives near a school-house in a small valley where there are twelve or fourteen families. They have a Sunday-school, but no one to preach to them. I believe this will be a good opening for some meetings this winter. There seem to be so many openings to hold meetings in the school-houses here in these hills where they have never heard the message.

I expect to go out northeast from here tomorrow and help Brother Lee deliver his books. This will give me an opportunity to get acquainted with those in this section whom he has found interested while canvassing. He tells me there is another school-house out there where they have Sunday-school, and have a minister come once in two weeks, paying him \$12.50 each trip. I hope the way may open for me to preach the message to them.

Elders Robinson and Nettleton and Brother F. H. Hahn, conducted quite a successful series of meetings in the Beatrice Seventh-day Adventist church. The services began Friday evening, December 18, and closed the following

Sunday evening. The missionary spirit among the church members was revived. They increased their club of the Capital and Labor number of the *Signs* by an additional five hundred and twenty-five copies. The city was divided into districts, and is to be thoroughly canvassed for the paper.

Elder Robinson and Brother Hahn, the State Agent, spent the week of prayer with the churches and companies at Dunbar, Aurburn, Nebraska City, Talmage, Julian, Brock, and Beatrice.

The good work with the Capital and Labor number of the *Signs* still goes on in the Nebraska Conference. Up to the present time 28,500 copies have been ordered, and nearly all disposed of. One sister in Lincoln recently sold ninety-three copies in one day. Another sister has sold 750 copies, nearly all of which she sold for 10 cents each. These papers are just as good to sell right through the month of January as they have been during December. Who will give us a few more good lifts to enable us to round the thirty thousand corner? Nebraska, according to the last reports from the Signs office, heads the list so far, and is nering her proportion of the 1,000,000 copies. This is a case in which it is all right to endeavor to stand at the head. Come, brethren and sisters, "hee-o-hee" for the 30,000!

Plans are being made for a vigorous campaign to get the truth of the message before the masses in the great city of Omaha. It is planned to have a competent corps of workers doing house-to-house work during the winter, and a series of revival services held in the church, preparatory to opening a strong public effort toward the end of March. A request has been made to the General Conference that Elder Luther Warren come to Lincoln to conduct such a series of services, beginning at the close of the Central Union Conference, about March 15. It is possible that this Omaha campaign may close up with the Nebraska state camp-meeting some time in August.

It is expected that the following arrangement will be carried out in District No. 1, in connection with the quarterly meeting, January 2 and 3. Elder R. F. Andrews will meet with the church at Seward; Eld. W. B. Hill at Beatrice; and Eld. D. Nettleton with the company at Falls City. The writer has accepted an urgent invitation to meet with the Hemingford church.

A gentleman to whom Elder R. F. Andrews sold a copy of "Christ's Object Lessons," gave the book to a man who was to be hung, to read. He says the man told him he was greatly benefited by reading the book. This gentleman has offered to take Elder Andrews around and introduce him to people who will be canvassed for the book. Brother Andrews has been quite successful in following this plan of canvassing for the "Object Lessons."

My brother, my sister, what are you planning to do to get some of our precious books and papers read in the homes of the people during the long winter evenings? There are thousands of people who are just waiting to have some consecrated person bring them a book or paper, to enable them to get hold of the blessed truth which is so dear to our hearts. One of the most attractive books we have yet seen, and one which tells the blessed story of the message for our time in a pleasing and interesting style, is "The Story of Daniel the Prophet." Any person with the love of Jesus in his heart, and a love for the souls of those who are out of the ark of safety, can sell this book. There are scores of other books also which can be sold by those who can devote but little time to this line of work.

We should like to correspond with several sisters who have a burden to take up the work of regularly selling the *Signs*. We are prepared to make a liberal offer to any who will engage in this work, giving their whole time to it.

In planning your winter missionary work, do not forget the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons." This is one of the best books to place in the homes of the people ever written.

Do not forget the Master's message to every one just now is, "When we have entire, whole-hearted consecration for service, the Lord will recognize the fact by an outpouring of His Holy Spirit without measure." He will surely recognize the fact when it is a fact, but never until then.

A. T. ROBINSON.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 23, 1903.

A Word from Broken Bow, Nebraska

AT the request of Bro. L. E. Johnson, I went to Broken Bow, December 4. The first day there was spent pleasantly, and I trust profitably, in visiting old acquaintances, as Broken Bow was my home for nineteen years. Sabbath, December 5, we held Sabbath-school at the home of Brother Johnson, after which we had a short meeting.

My purpose in coming here was to reorganize the church, which, though having a name, has been practically disbanded for ten years or more. As I was the only member left of the original church, it seemed quite proper that I should be present when it took on new life. The church was reorganized with nineteen members. L. E. Johnson was elected elder, and Mrs. Alice Johnson, clerk. In the evening we came together again and celebrated the ordinances of the Lord's house. Those who were privileged to be present were happy that they could walk in the footsteps and example of the Master. May the Lord bless this church that it may be a light in this needy field, and when the work is finished, and the Master calls the reapers home, may they come with much rejoicing bringing many sheaves with them.

L. E. KOON.

Newman's Grove, Nebraska

WE are much encouraged in our work here. Eight persons have decided to obey the truth out on South Branch, 15 miles northwest of here, and one here in town. The interest is increasing, and Bro. P. O. Johnson and I are taking new courage. The Lord is strong in the weak, and merciful to the erring ones.

A. C. ANDERSON.

"I've found a Friend; oh, such a Friend,
He loved me ere I knew Him.
He drew me with the cords of love,
And thus He bound me to Him;
And 'round my heart still closely twine
Those ties which naught can sever,
For I am His, and He is mine,
For ever and for ever.

"I've found a Friend; oh, such a Friend,
He bled, He died to save me:
And not alone the gift of life,
But His own self He gave me.
Naught that I have my own I call,
I hold it for the Giver:
My heart, my strength, my life, my all,
Are His, and His for ever."

Educational

Conducted by L. H. Hoopes

College View Church School

THE church school in College View has been operating now over three months, and is in a prosperous condition, for which we are thankful to the Lord.

We have had difficulties to contend with, which are common to all our church schools. Then we have our own peculiar difficulties. Those conditions which we cannot overcome at present, we are trying to make as pleasant as possible.

We planned for about sixty pupils, but the first morning we had seventy-two. The enrolment has been almost one hundred for about six weeks. We have had three teachers since the second week, giving their whole time to the school. The primary teacher has the first three grades; the intermediate, the fourth and fifth; and in the grammar department we have the sixth and seventh grades. Miss Emma Runck had charge of the primary department until recently. It is now in charge of Miss Westphal. Miss Mary Kinneberg has the intermediate, and the writer, the grammar grades.

There is much in the work to make us feel encouraged. The Lord has spoken in regard to the school work, and He has told us of the plans for us, which, if followed, will give us good success. He has given us the ideal plan, but in all things we have not as yet found it possible to follow the outline; yet He gives us His blessing as we strive to meet His mind.

Our rooms are not what we should like, but we are grateful for what we have. We certainly need a proper place for our school. College View should rise to the demands of God in this thing. We need suitable books also, and are glad that some have a burden to prepare them. Cannot someone rise to the occasion and furnish means to cover the expense of getting them out? This would certainly be to the glory of God.

During the week of prayer, meetings were held with the pupils. The collection in the school amounted to \$13.92. In one of the rooms a box was prepared about two months ago, and the pupils, instead of spending their pennies for sweetmeats and the like, saved

them to put into this box. When the box was opened it was found to contain \$6.41.

We are grateful for the good hand of our God upon us. We do not feel that we have a model school in all respects, but we are sure that we are improving, and feel that our students are learning lessons of truth and holiness.

E. H. CURTIS,

Principal.

Among The Church Schools

SINCE my last report I have visited the school at Des Moines, Iowa, where Miss Grace O'Neal is teaching. The regular school work was rather broken into the day I was there, as they were preparing to have a Thanksgiving program in the evening. I was very much impressed with the program rendered, and, so far as I could judge from it, and from the school work I saw, the Des Moines school is doing very superior work.

Miss Ruth Kane is also teaching a small school in Des Moines. Reports of her work are very favorable, though I was unable to visit her school while there.

While at the Educational Council, held at Kansas City, Mo., it was decided to systematically search out those of our young people in the various conferences who should be engaged in the church school work, and encourage them to prepare for it. It was decided to furnish these with the reading circle lessons. Four leaflets on educational topics are also to be prepared by Jan. 1, and given a general circulation among our people in this Union Conference. Plans were also laid for making nature study in our church schools more effective, and at the same time assist in that work at Union College.

After the council I visited the school in St. Joseph, Mo., where Mrs. Florence Lemmon is teaching. Her school was opened under difficulties, but through faith and consecrated efforts, these have disappeared. At this writing I am at Sioux Rapids, Iowa, where Miss Edna Schee is teaching. She has eighteen pupils enrolled, and they are having much of God's blessing in the school. A united church and a prayful effort have assisted in making this school a real encouragement to the work there. The school work this year is the most successful I have ever seen it. Truly God's hand is in this work.

FLOYD BRALLIAR.

Health and Home

Home Ties

CLOSER, closer, let us knit
Hearts and hands together,
Where our fireside comforts sit,
In the wildest weather;
O, they wander wide who roam
For the joys of life from home.

—James Montgomery.

The Mother of Augustine

PARENTS have a great and responsible work to do, and well may they inquire, "Who is sufficient for these things?" But God has promised to give wisdom to those who ask in faith, and He will do just as He said He would. The mother of Augustine prayed for her son's conversion. She saw no evidence that the Spirit of God was impressing his heart, but she was not discouraged. She laid her finger upon the texts presenting before God His own words, and pleaded as only a mother can. Her deep humiliation, her earnest importunities, her unwavering faith, prevailed, and the Lord gave her the desire of her heart. To-day He is just as ready to listen to the petitions of His people. His "hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear," and if Christian parents seek Him earnestly, He will fill their mouths with arguments, and, for His name's sake, will work mightily in their behalf in the conversion of their children.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

The Best Kind of a Missionary Society

THE family is the unit of government and the strength of the nation. So the character of the families in the church determines the character of the church. The church will be a missionary church when the families comprising the church are missionary families. Therefore the best kind of missionary society is the family missionary society. This missionary society is brought to view in "Testimonies," Vol. VII, p. 11, where, speaking to parents, it says: "Let them [the children] unite with you in opposing the evil by which Satan seeks to destroy the souls and bodies of human beings. Share with them the secret of the cross, the secret that to you means sanctification, redemption, and eternal

victory. As you take your children with you into the service of the Lord, what a victory you gain."

Such a family will be a united family, and united in a glorious cause. What will be the result of such missionary societies?—"If this work were faithfully done, if fathers and mothers would work for the members of their own families, and then for those around them, uplifting Christ by a godly life, thousands of souls would be saved."

And what will be the result upon the churches?—"When God's people are truly converted, when they realize the obligation resting upon them to labor for those within their reach, when they leave no means untried to rescue sinners from the power of the enemy, the reproach will be removed from our churches."

M. E. KERN.

Cleanliness*

THE whole subject of sanitary science may be comprehended in one word—cleanliness. Its meaning is "freedom from dirt, filth, or extraneous matter."

The subject of cleanliness is one of the simplest and most intelligible of all the sciences. Its essentials are plenty of pure water, an abundance of fresh air and sunshine, together with attention and carefulness.

Poverty is no just excuse for uncleanness. The poorest clothes may be kept clean, and the house, though ever so poor and meagerly furnished, may be kept cleanly and wholesome. More depends upon the character and habits of the people who occupy a house than upon the house itself. The story is told of an Irish landlord who removed his tenants from their mud huts into the beautiful dwellings he had erected for them. When he afterwards visited his estate, his disappointment knew no bounds. The new houses were as dirty as the mud huts had been. The pig was still under the bed, and the hens on top of it. The beautiful concrete floors were as dirty as the mud ones had been. The windows were broken, and the yard had grown up full of weeds. The trouble was he had gone about his reformation in the wrong way. Reform, to be effectual, should begin in the individual. He should first have taught the people the beauty of cleanliness and comfort.

*A paper read at the College View, Neb., church, Sabbath, Oct. 24, 1903.

Building new houses, making sewers, keeping public streets clean, etc., on the part of the state or municipal authorities, is not enough to ensure the health and cleanliness in a community.

If dirt and the seeds of disease are allowed to accumulate about each separate home, all these things will avail but little. There must be active co-operation on the part of the people themselves. Each family and each individual must take a personal interest and exercise care in the matter. Otherwise little permanent results can be obtained.

Dirt is demoralizing and degrading. It is associated with drunkenness and wickedness. It is the dirty parts of the cities that are the dangerous parts. Just in proportion as people are orderly and cleanly, they are respectable.

Cleanliness promotes industry, comfort, thrift, health, patience, modesty, morality, and life, while uncleanness tends to indolence, carelessness, poverty, indecency, disease, degradation, and death.

Cleanliness is one of the distinguishing features between civilization and barbarity. A nation progresses in civilization according to the habits of order and cleanliness practiced by the people. One of the first steps toward civilizing a degraded man is to place him in a clean, healthy home, and teach him cleanly habits. This is generally one of the first things missionaries have to do when entering upon their work among the poor and degraded in our large cities and in heathen lands.

Habits of cleanliness in the daily life and surroundings are essential to good health, without which we cannot attain to our brightest hopes and highest ambitions.

It is to a lack of knowledge of cleanliness and attention given to the little, common, yet most important things of daily life, that thousands perish every year. A large per cent of the mortality of young children is due to uncleanness as well as to improper diet. Such diseases as diphtheria, typhoid fever, bubonic plague, and others, which carry off their victims by the thousands and tens of thousands, originate from preventable causes. They come as a consequence of a violation of the laws of cleanliness.

About three years ago the bubonic plague broke out in several of the large cities of Australia. The doctors who spoke and wrote on it termed it a strictly "filth disease," and the remedy prescribed for its removal was to "clean

up." Accordingly large gangs of men were employed at great expense to the government to wash, cleanse, and sewer the dirty parts of the cities. Whole sections, in some instances, were burned down in order to clear out the rubbish and destroy plague-infected buildings. Disinfectants were used freely, and furnished for use by the whole city free of charge. Great fear took hold of the people, as no one knew but that he would be the next to show symptoms of the dread disease and be carried away to the pest house. Among other preventives recommended against catching the disease was a warm bath daily.

It was known that rats carried the disease. Accordingly a reward was offered for every rat caught, and large numbers of men were employed for the sole purpose of killing these rodents. The rats thus caught were taken charge of by the health officers and cremated. People almost feared to buy a bag of potatoes lest a rat infected with bubonic plague had been on them. The steamers arriving from other ports were kept at a distance from the wharves, and large tin funnels were placed on the hawsers, or cables, which held the boats in place, to prevent the rats getting from the shore on to the boats. It cost many thousands of dollars to clean up the cities and wipe out the plague.

Cleanliness of the body as well as of surroundings is essential to health. The surface of the body is provided with tiny openings called pores, which act as sewers to carry away the waste matter from the system. There are about two millions of these over the entire body. Unless obstructed, they are at work constantly. In order to feel bright and active, frequent bathing is necessary.

Ventilation, especially of the sleeping rooms, may also be considered under the laws of cleanliness. The breathing of foul, impure air enfeebles the body, and causes a feeling of stupor and mental depression. It costs no more to breathe pure, fresh, invigorating air than it does to breathe close, impure, vitiated air; for it is one of God's free gifts, and if we do not have it, it is our own fault. Health and activity are dependent upon the vitalizing action of pure air upon the blood. The little birds that flit so rapidly through space breathe an abundance of pure air; while the sluggish toad who sits so contentedly in the quagmire breathes almost none at all.

The young colored lady student of Tuskegee

Institute showed good, practical common sense when she took for the subject of her graduating essay, "The Proper Care of the Bedroom."

Besides being an essential to health and prosperity, there is also a moral aspect to cleanliness. The connection between the mind and body is intimate. One acts and reacts upon the other. The mind is more or less influenced by the outward surroundings. It is impressed and educated by what is seen as well as by what is heard. Habits and customs weave themselves into the whole character. Purity and elevation of thought will naturally result from habitual purity and cleanliness of body and home. High thinking and low living do not go together. Clean thoughts and unclean habits and surroundings are not compatible with each other. The body is the temple of the soul, and should be kept in a proper condition to be a fit residence for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Our senses are given us for a purpose. Wherever there are foul odors and unsightly views we may know a work of cleansing needs to be done. Order and cleanliness are twin sisters. They go hand in hand. Those who allow heaps of rubbish to accumulate about their houses are lacking both in good order and due regard for health. It is an easy matter to fall into disorderly habits; to allow sticks, pieces of broken boards, piles of tin cans, rubbish, and the like to lie about. All this is obnoxious to good taste. A person of orderly mind will seek to remedy such defects. Even a bent-over post he will endeavor to straighten up.

The spirit of cleaning up is catching. The story is related of a little girl from a back alley who at school was induced to wash her hands and face. Seeing her improved appearance, the whole family began to wash up. The neighbors, noticing the improvement of the family, caught the spirit, and they too began to tidy up. Before long the whole alley was cleaned up; and all as the result of one little girl washing her hands and face. Even little children catch the spirit. When they see older ones making a raid on the rubbish, of their own accord they will join in and help in the work.

It is an old saying that cleanliness is *next* to godliness. But we think the statement may be improved, and the truth more nearly expressed in the saying that "cleanliness *is* godliness." Cleanliness is purity, and to be pure is to be like God. God designs that we shall be clean.

When He brought His people out of Egypt He gave them explicit instructions in regard to cleanly habits and wholesome sanitation. No impurity was to be allowed in the camp. All refuse or decomposing matter was to be either buried or burned. And as God does not change, He can be no less particular with His people in this respect to-day.

Of all people in the world Christians ought to be the most cleanly. And of all *Christians* in the world, we, who have received such an abundance of light and instruction on these matters, should be models. Everything around our dwellings should be clean and neat. Sinks, sewers, drains, vaults, etc., should be frequently and thoroughly disinfected. Dry earth, coal ashes, air-slacked lime, and raw carbolic acid (a poison) diluted with water, make good disinfectants. Decayed fruit and vegetables should not be allowed to remain in the cellar. Weeds, burrs, and rubbish should be destroyed. For these no disinfectant is equal to fire. Anything like vermin should not be tolerated. Every plant has its parasite, every living thing its pest. All parasites, pests, weeds, thistles, and thorns are the result of sin. And just in accordance as we hate sin, so we should hate these, and endeavor to exterminate them. A person who can sit contentedly amidst squalor and dirt, can remain contentedly in sin. It is not enough that we have a knowledge of the laws of health and temperance. We must put into practice what we know, or our knowledge is of no account.

In our person we should be models of purity and cleanliness. Especially should we see that everything about us is scrupulously clean on the Sabbath, when we come to appear before the Lord. The Lord has told us in His word that no filthiness or uncleanness should exist in our midst, and has admonished us to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and of the spirit, perfecting holiness in the Lord.

The thought that we are soon to enter heaven and associate with the pure and holy angels should inspire us to habits of pure and holy living.

MRS. ANNA L. COLCORD.

MIND AND BODY.—I find by experience, that the mind and body are more than married, for they are most intimately united, and when the one suffers, the other sympathizes.—*Chesterfield*.

Woman's True Kingdom

THE home is the true kingdom of woman, where her rights can never be dethroned. All pure love, all right thoughts, all religion, if you would have them live, must have their roots beneath its altar. This conviction impels me to say to every woman who has a home, Let home stand first before other things. No matter how high your ambition may transcend its duties, no matter how far your talents or your influence may reach beyond its doors, before everything else, build up a true home. Be not its slave, be its minister. Let it not be enough that it is swept and garnished, that its silver glistens, that its food is delicious. Feed the love in it, feed the truth in it, feed thought and aspiration, feed all charity and gentleness in it. Then from its walls shall come forth the true woman and the true man, who together shall rule and bless the land.—*Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher.*

Sabbath-School Dep't.

Sabbath-school Lesson Notes

LESSON XIII—GATHERING OUT OF HIS KINGDOM ALL THINGS THAT OFFEND

IN the beginning Satan misrepresented God, as an arbitrary ruler, and claimed to be able to establish a better government. After less than two thousand years of experiment, Satan's rulership had so far ruined this world that there was but one righteous man left and the Lord had to drown the world by a flood and save that one righteous man through whom the promised seed or rightful rulership should be perpetuated. In less than five hundred years more the world was again brought so near the brink of ruin that the Lord saw but one righteous man left, and He called him out from the surrounding darkness and promised to make of him and his seed a righteous and a holy nation. Thus the Lord sought to establish His form of organized government in the territory usurped by Satan. His purpose was that the righteous and holy principles of His government should prevail over all evil, until His kingdom should fill the whole world. It was only Israel's disloyalty to their king that made it necessary for the Lord's plan to be worked out in another way. Satan thus gained a further right than he had hitherto possessed, that is the right to

bring this world to utter ruin and desolation. This made it necessary for the Lord to plan to take His people to heaven to remain a thousand years while the earth is desolate. Then the commission will be given to the angels to "gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: these shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father." Matt. 13:41-43.

A. T. ROBINSON.

Notices

Appointments

I WILL visit Petersburg, Neb., Jan. 12, 13; Albion, Jan. 14, 15; Cedar Rapids, Jan. 16; Meadow Grove, Jan. 18, 19.

B. M. GARTON.

Canvassers' Institute

A CANVASSERS' institute will be held at Boone, Iowa, beginning December 29, and continuing six weeks. It is hoped that this institute will be well attended by those who have decided to heed the Lord's call to carry the publications containing present truth to those who know it not. God's children are to move forward like an army of well-disciplined soldiers. Shall not many improve the opportunity to prepare to do efficient work in the Master's vineyard?

C. W. HARDESTY.

Notice

THE office of publication of the *Bible Training School* has been removed from 896 Eighth Ave., New York City, to South Lancaster, Mass. The management of the paper will not be changed in any way. It will still be devoted to the interests of house to house work. The managers of the Bible Training School hope to greatly increase the usefulness of the paper during the coming year. The paper will be filled with the Third Angel's Message in its simplicity. The subscription price of the paper is twenty-five cents a year. All communications should be addressed to Bible Training School, South Lancaster, Mass.

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News and Notes

The Special Course at Union College begins January 6.

Miss Katie Coleman is at present visiting friends in Kansas.

The article in the *Review* of December 24 by Sister White is worthy a very careful reading.

Eld. R. F. Andrews preached a very practical and effective discourse at the College View church, Sabbath, December 26, from Col. 3:4-8.

Our California friends are sending a copy of the *Capital and Labor* number of the *Signs* to all the editors and to all the school teachers, 8,000 in number, in their field.

The work on the building purchased by the International Publishing Association is progressing rapidly. The building has been plastered and painted, and the heating furnace placed.

The Pacific Press reports that orders for over 500,000 copies of the *Capital and Labor* number of the *Signs of the Times* have been received, and that they are still coming in at the rate of about 25,000 per day.

There is a vast difference between being sorry for sin and sorry because your sin is found out; between confessing your sins and confessing some other person's sins; between seeing your own faults and seeing some other person's faults.

All new subscribers for the *Youth's Instructor* who send 75 cents for the paper for the year 1904 will receive free the last seven papers for 1903. Thus each new subscriber will get all the articles in the new series for boys entitled "Around the Work-table."

It was recommended at the General Conference Council held at Washington, D. C., October 7-21, that a collection be taken up the first Sabbath in February for the benefit of the International Publishing Association to assist them in purchasing the necessary facilities to carry on their work. We hope that our people throughout the Central Union Conference will bear this in mind, and contribute as liberally as possible to this worthy enterprise.

Do not fail to read the article in this issue of the *ADVANCE* entitled, "A View of the Conflict," by Mrs. E. G. White.

The brethren of St. Joseph, Mo., are pushing the work with the *Capital and Labor* number of the *Signs of the Times*. Great success is attending their efforts, though the paper has met with some opposition.

The International Publishing Association has ordered a new four-roller cylinder Miehle press, size 39 x 53, at a cost of \$2,750, on which it expects to print the four foreign papers, besides books, tracts, pamphlets, etc.

C. W. Hardesty, Central Union Conference Canvassing Agent, reached College View last week. He has for some time been canvassing in St. Joseph, Mo., and has met with good success in taking orders. His work was mostly confined to canvassing among the employees of the Swift Packing Co., and the St. Joseph Brick Works.

Eld. E. T. Russell attended a general meeting at Blencoe, Iowa, December 9-13, and reports a most excellent meeting. Elders Starr and Frederick, and Brother Crouse, State Canvassing Agent of Iowa, were also present. Many who attended the meeting reconsecrated themselves to the Master, and some for the first time gave their hearts to God.

There has been quite a religious awakening among the students of Union College during the week of prayer, and many of them have given their hearts to God. Union College has not witnessed so great a revival season for many years. We are sure this will encourage the hearts of many parents who have sent their children to this institution with the hope that they would receive spiritual benefit.

A Neglected Field Near Us

THERE is in this country a great, unworked field. The colored race, numbering thousands upon thousands, appeals to the consideration and sympathy of every true believer in Christ. These people do not live in a foreign country, and they do not bow down to idols of wood and stone. They live among us, and again and again, through the testimonies of His Spirit God has called our attention to them, telling us they are human beings neglected.

Missionaries are needed to work for the colored people, and missionaries are also needed to work for the poor white people of the South. This broad field lies before us unworked, calling for the light that God has given us in trust.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.