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"Watchman, What of the Night."

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Educational.

How Can Our Church School Pupils Be Won to Christ?

Having seen the request in the Herald that the church school teachers discuss* this question through its columns, I thus comply.

This is certainly a question which is fraught with the deepest interest and gravest importance to each one of us. The Lord has spoken through the Spirit of Prophecy to the effect that, had all our missionary efforts been expended in retaining our children and youth in the truth and we had been successful in this and had done no outside missionary work, there would now be more Seventh-day Adventists than there are. So the question as to how our youth and children can be won to Christ at once recommends itself to our careful consideration.

Our church schools are of divine origin. The Lord has given explicit instruction to us to establish church schools. They are established for a definite purpose, and just as truly as their origin is di-

vine, just so truly is their mission divine.

The Lord tells us that we are a "peculiar people," (Titus 2:14) and I sometimes wonder if there is a possibility that some parents take their children out of the public schools and put them in the church schools TO SHOW THEIR PECULIARITY. I hope no one will think that this is the object of the church schools, simply a means of showing our peculiarity. Or possibly some parents reason that God has said that we should have church schools, and therefore they put their children in them, thinking that then their work is done. Or possibly some patronize the church schools because their brethren do, and they do not want to appear out of line. Certainly anyone who would thus look upon the church school work is in the wrong.

The church schools were established for the purpose of teaching our children and youth the way to Christ, and till we all realize this and work accordingly, our schools will not accomplish their mission. When all, parents, teachers, church members, even the Gentiles, and ALL realize this as they should, the church school work will take on a new light. We will no longer feel that we cannot support a school. We will no longer manifest that indifference toward this work which is such a hindrance to its true success. And when we (church school teachers) realize the true object of the church school, and that we are ambassadors for Christ, and that upon us rests the burden of human souls, we will get to work as we never have before, and will accomplish that for which this work was established. "The teacher shares this responsibility (of the parents) and he needs constantly to realize its sacredness and to keep in view

the purpose of his work.....The work he is doing day by day will exert upon his pupils, and through them upon others, an influence that will not cease to extend and strengthen until time shall end. The fruits of his work he must meet in that great day when every word and deed shall be brought in review before God." Education, page 281. So in answering the question before us, I would say that the first requisite is that we all realize that the true object of the church school work is to win souls to Christ.

Another requisite is prayer. Christ said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore....." It is because Christ has all power that we are to go and teach all nations. In other words, our hope of being able to teach the nations and of winning souls to Christ rests upon that one statement, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." It is by prayer, by communion with God that we connect ourselves with the source of infinite power. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Who does not know by experience that the soul that has been on bended knee before its Maker comes away refreshed and strengthened for the duties before it? It is said of Luther that during that greatest crisis that the Reformation experienced he spent three hours daily in prayer, and that he took this time from that part of the day best suited for work. So I would impress upon our teachers the need of secret prayer. "Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with God that sustains the soul life."

"It was in hours of solitary prayer that Jesus in His earth-life received wisdom and power." Education, pages 258, 259.

Never should we enter the school room in the morning without having first knelt in secret prayer and drawn our supply of power for the day's work. We should pray earnestly for wisdom to teach the lessons aright, and especially the Bible lessons, for although we may be able to teach the facts, it is only the Holy Spirit that can impress the spiritual lessons upon the hearts of the pupils. Then, after school closes in the evening, and the teacher is alone, let her bow in humility, thanking God for the help of the day; asking that the Holy Spirit may impress upon each heart the lessons that have been taught during that day; asking that the seed of truth may find "good ground" and be watered and grow; that during the evening the pupils' minds may be filled with thoughts of what they have learned during the day; and that those things which may have been done or those words which may have been spoken which will leave a bad impression may be forgotten, and only the good remembered. Let the teacher also bear each pupil before the throne of grace and plead with God for their souls.

There is one essential without which all others will be of no avail. This is that the pupils see in their teacher a Godly example. In other words, if the teacher wishes to win her pupils to Christ, she must be what she teaches. We read these words concerning Christ: "What he taught he lived. . . And more than this; what he taught, He was." Education, page 78. Again we quote from the same work, page 277, "Because there is so much cheapness of character, so much of the counterfeit all around the youth, there is the more need that the teacher's words, attitude, and deportment should represent the elevated and the true. Children are quick to detect affectation or

any other weakness or defect. The teacher can gain the respect of his pupils in no other way than by revealing in his own character the principles which he seeks to teach them. Only as he does this in his daily association with them can he have a permanent influence over them for good."

GILBERT J. ILES.

(Concluded next week.)

Duties of a Sabbath-school Scholar.

It is the duty of every scholar in a Sabbath-school to esteem it a privilege to be a learner. Moses was schooled in the wilderness forty years before he was ready for his heaven-appointed duties.

Every scholar should consider the Sabbath-school a place where they may obtain a training for greater usefulness in the cause of Christ. Each scholar should also be an example in deportment.

We are told from the testimony of God's servant that "Every youth is responsible to God for his opportunities, and for the precious light shining upon him from the Scriptures."

Every scholar is a learner and every one connected with a Sabbath-school may be a learner. "It is a noble thing to teach; it is a blessed thing to learn." So all may be scholars. But if all are scholars, where are the teachers and officers? They may be scholars also.

It is the duty of every Sabbath-school scholar to be a true representative of the Sabbath-school and show to those around them that it is the work of God. Thus some may be brought into this nursery who never had the light God has so graciously given to us.

It is the duty of each scholar to become so familiar with the lesson that something may be drawn from it for the work of the whole week.

Prayer is a duty in which each scholar may have a part. We can all pray that God will bless our work to our good and His glory, for without this weapon we shall

fail of true success. It was only after a night of wrestling in prayer that Jacob gained victory over his enemies and was able to meet them bravely.

The older scholars should be prepared to fill any position. Even the children may teach their teachers many things, because we are all learners in the school of Christ. "Except ye become as little children, ye shall not enter the kingdom of heaven."

JENNIE JUDSON.

Obituaries.

Foster.—Died at her home in Bass River, Mich., April 22, 1905, Martha A. Foster at the age of 66 years, 11 months and 13 days. Her maiden name was Wells. She was born May 9, 1839 in Clarendon, Mich. and lived there until her marriage in 1865 to R. J. Foster of Coopersville, at which place they resided for thirty-three years. They moved from there to Bass River seven years ago, where they lived until her death. To them were born four children who with her husband mourn the loss of a loving wife and mother.

At the age of twenty she united with the Seventh-day Adventist church, of which she remained a faithful member until she entered into rest. She lived an earnest, consistent Christian life. Her works testify for her love for the Saviour, and by them she being dead yet speaketh. Her last triumphant testimony given at the last service she attended the Sabbath she was taken ill, "I know that my Redeemer liveth" will long remain in the minds of those who were privileged to hear her speak, and will be a constant comfort to those who love and mourn her, though not without hope.

Funeral was held April 24 first at her home in Bass River. Words of comfort were spoken by the writer to the relatives and a large company of friends and neighbors from 1 Thes. 4:13-18. After the

service at home the remains were removed to our church at Wright. A large congregation was assembled there in the church. The writer spoke from the words selected by Sister Foster just before her death found in Rev. 14:13, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their words do follow them."

The body was entrusted to its last resting place near the church mentioned.

J. W. HOFSTRA.

Miller—Dr. Maude Amelia Thompson, wife of Dr. H. W. Miller, died March 14, 1905. A trying hour dawned upon us here in the heart of China when one of the bright lights went out. It is with aching hearts we bow to the will of the Father and lay to rest one of China's missionaries. Our hope is fixed on the resurrection.

Sister Miller was the eldest child of Cassius and Rachel Thompson and died at the age of 24 years, 10 months and 10 days. She was born in Branch county, Michigan, near Quincy. When yet a child her parents moved to Allen township, Hillsdale county, Michigan. After the completion of her public school education in the fall of 1894 she entered the Quincy High school completing her course in 1897. One year later, in the fall of 1898, she entered the American Medical Missionary College. After pursuing her prescribed course of four years, she graduated from that institution June 19, 1902, being the youngest of her class. July 2, 1902 she was united in marriage to Dr. Harry W. Miller. Shortly afterwards she with her husband entered upon their professional work, acting as physicians of the Chicago Branch Sanitarium. In the spring of 1903, being impressed with the need of the millions in China, they volunteered to go and carry the gospel to her eastern sisters. After a few weeks of preparation they left for

their chosen field, reaching the interior of China Nov. 7, 1903. They remained at Sin Tsai Hsien for a year. During this time she studied the difficult language and used every opportunity to help and teach the native women. At Sin Tsai Hsien twin boys were born to them but after a few hours of life, their mother gave them up to wait the coming of the Saviour. After parting with her own little ones her heart went out for the poor children of China, and in this work she never neglected an opportunity to make life more pleasant and tell them of a God who loved them. When one of her kindergarten children learned she would not recover, she refused to eat and began crying. Then she asked her mother to pray for "Shang te" God to heal Mrs. Miller.

In the latter part of August, 1904 Sister Miller and her husband undertook the very difficult task of opening up a new mission seventy-five miles north of Sin Tsai Hsien at Shang Tsai Hsien. While she was well at intervals she worked energetically in mastering the language and teaching the gospel as well as caring for the large number of sick children and women that filled the dispensary every day. Their work there has been remarkably successful.

During her illness her hope and courage found many expressions which we cherish to our comfort. Shortly before her death, which she knew was near, she gave messages for all her friends in America. She said, "I will wake in the New Jerusalem." She died of "Sprue" or "Psilosis," a disease of the tropics of China and India. We could not believe that she would be taken from us, and as we have seen the power of the great Physician manifested in the land, we besought the Lord to heal her according to James. Although we do not understand the reason, we know God's ways are just and above our ways. May the seed of a consecrated life laid down in the line of

duty and self sacrifice be watered of God to bring forth a glorious harvest of souls from China ere the soon-coming of our King. It was a consecrated prayer which filled her heart with joy and cheer amid the difficulties and caused her ever to rejoice in the privilege of the service for the salvation of Sinim's daughters. She counted not even her own life too dear to give up for them.

She leaves surviving her besides her husband, a mother, sister and brother and many other friends and relatives. The funeral service was held in a room where she had spent days learning this difficult language. Dr. A. C. Selmon spoke words of comfort from the book of Revelation, which she was able to repeat. At her request she was laid away in the Chinese dress, as that was what she wore when well. A small lot of ground was secured just outside the city wall, where interment was made and a mound will mark the place, as is the custom among these people.

CARRIE ERRICHSON,
CHARLOTTE SIMPSON.

Meeting in Eastern Polynesia.

G. F. JONES.

On the island of Raiatea, and up one of its lovely valleys hidden between high, picturesque mountains, and on the bank of a crystal mountain torrent, fed by many high cascades not far distant—a fit place, indeed to remind us of God's righteousness, which is like the great mountains—was the place chosen for our conference of the Eastern Polynesian mission.

Here is the school farm which Brother Cady has begun with Sister Ann Nelson as teacher. One of our many considerations was that this ideal spot should be a missionary training home for native laborers, and it seemed to us no better place could be found for such a work.

All our discussions were directed to the one supreme end of speedily

carrying the message to all places in this generation, and God witnessed his approval of the meeting by blessing abundantly with His Holy Spirit. It was felt by us to be the best we ever attended.

Brother Gates gave us most opportune lessons. The first Sabbath we met together a tender feeling of repentance and weeping came upon all. It was remarked by an old resident that Raiatea had never before seen such a meeting. The same tender spirit was present all through, and a hearty praise meeting closed the conference. The following Sabbath five young people were baptized, one of whom was a little native from our Rarotongian school, and whom we left at Raiatea with Sister Nelson. We then separated to our respective fields of labor, feeling thankful for the spiritual blessings we received, and renewed with strength to "press the battle to the gate."

News and Notes.

Give, if thou canst, in alms; if not, afford,
Instead of that, a sweet and gentle word.
—Herrick.

Elder I. D. VanHorn has moved on a farm. His address is Battle Creek, Mich., R. D. 7.

Elder Fred Brink is looking after the interest at the King school house which was aroused by the Cedar Lake Academy students.

Miss Jennie Nelson, assistant secretary and treasurer of the conference, has returned to the office. We are glad to see some improvement in her health.

We quote the following from a letter written by Miss Mildred Wilson, who is teaching the church school at Maple Grove: "The children are taking hold of the missionary work in earnest. I am glad to see the interest and hope it will continue. We have a school garden and the children take a great interest in it."

Brother B. E. Simms is canvassing in Kalamazoo.

Miss Margaret J. Bilz spent a few days last week in Grand Rapids visiting Dr. Patience S. Bourdeau.

Elder C. A. Hansen is planning to hold a tent meeting in Kalamazoo as soon as the weather is favorable.

February 25 the first Seventh-Day Adventist church in Cuba was organized in Havana, with 13 members.

Mrs. Ella Brackett, wife of Bro. Ezra Brackett, is at the Battle Creek Sanitarium. We are glad to know that she is improving in health.

We understand that Elder S. M. Butler will not be able to attend General Conference, as it is impossible for him to leave Cedar Lake on account of school duties.

The meetings of the Grand Rapids Young People's Society are increasing in interest. They are studying the different phases of the truth, having just completed the Sabbath question.

Elder A. G. Haughey and Miss Margaret Haughey left Otsego Monday to attend the General Conference. They have promised to furnish the readers of the Herald some General Conference items.

"It is right to love beauty and desire it; but God desires us to love and to seek first the highest beauty, —that which is imperishable. The choicest productions of human skill possess no beauty that can bear comparison with that beauty of character which in His sight is of 'great price.'"

"From all the countries of the world the Macedonian cry is sounding, 'Come over and help us.' God has opened fields before us, and if human agencies would but co-operate with the divine agencies, many

souls would be won to the truth. But the Lord's people have been sleeping over their allotted work, and in many places it remains comparatively untouched. To the call, "Whom shall I send?" there have been few to respond, 'Here am I; send me.'"

It is estimated that there are five million natives in India who can speak the English language, and year by year the number is increasing. In large cities the rising generation is fast getting hold of it. When we consider that there are more young men every year attending college in India than in England, and thousands are taking their degrees every year, some idea can be gained of the rapidity of the introduction of Western education. Is not this an evidence that God is opening the door for the entrance of His word in this land? And can we not see Him going out before us, and hear in the wide diffusion of English education in India the voice of God saying, "Now, just now, is the time to take hold in earnest in the East?" Come along, then, comrades in the home land. Delay no longer.—J. L. Shaw.

The quarterly meeting of the Kalamazoo, Otsego, Allegan, and South Monterey churches was held in Kalamazoo last Sabbath. On account of the inclemency of the weather, there were not as many present as usual. The day was an extremely showery one on the outside, but we are glad that the showers were not all on the outside, for some showers of blessings were felt. Sabbath-school was held at 10:30. An interesting review was conducted by Brother W. E. Cornell of Battle Creek. Elder C. A. Hansen occupied the pulpit at 11:30, basing his remarks on Daniel 3. After an intermission of an hour and one half, Elder A. G. Haughey spoke, using John 12:32 as his text. The next quarterly meeting will be held at South Monterey the first Sabbath in August.