

The West Michigan Herald.

"Watchman, What of the Night?"

VOL. III.

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THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD.

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Educational.

How to Become Better Teachers.

Primarily considered, the art of teaching is the gift of the Spirit of God. Natural aptness in the use of this gift should be amplified by a careful study of the life and methods of Jesus, the greatest teacher that the world has ever known.

The first requisite of a successful Sabbath-school teacher is an abiding connection with Christ, the Living Vine from whence flows all spiritual life and power. If the teacher is interested in the lesson, his class will quite likely be interested in the recitation. To make the recitation more interesting, the teacher himself must become more interested. This may be effected by prayer and careful study. The teacher should make no display of his own understanding, but should hide behind the Word of the Lord. When a question is asked by a member of the class, the teacher would better appeal to the other members for an answer, reserving

his own modest view of it as a last resort. In so doing the Spirit of God may flash a thought through some mind that may prove to be a new ray of light. Let the teacher, if possible, acknowledge it to be new to himself. Thus he may make the recitations more and more interesting by leading the members of his class, perhaps unconsciously to themselves, to become instructors one of another.

Sometimes a question of much interest may arise, the discussion of which might properly occupy the whole time of recitation. Such discussion should not be interrupted for the purpose of gaining time to formally and hastily consider all the remaining questions of the lesson. Nothing to divert attention from an important thought thus brought out should be encouraged. It would be better to leave the discussion at the highest point of interest when the tap of the bell announces the close of the recitation. Let the teacher supplement his effort by silent, prevailing prayer.

A. SMITH.

Influence of the Sabbath-School.

The influence of the Sabbath-school is determined by the influence exerted by the members of the school as individuals at all times and in all places.

Could we more fully realize (as we are told by the Spirit of Prophecy) that "our influence surrounds us as an invisible atmosphere which is unconsciously breathed in by all with whom we come in contact," what an awful dignity it would give to life. There is not an atom in this broad universe from the tiniest mote in the sunbeam to the great leviathan of the waters, from the lonely flower by the wayside to the loftiest tree of

the forest, from the little babe in its mother's arms to the gray-haired sire, but has its influence on its surroundings. And our Heavenly Father has given us the freedom of choice as to what our influence shall be. We may, by choice, become as the rose, which when bruised and crushed only sends forth sweeter fragrance, or like the alabaster box, which only when broken can bestow its sweetest blessing. Then we will feel that—

"Life is not living just for to-day.

Life is not dreaming all the short way:

'Tis living for others to lighten the load,

'Tis helping our brothers and trusting
in God."

Picture in your minds a Sabbath-school composed of such members! Even one such life would be to worldly men as a glimpse of heaven, while several would be a power in a community.

A Sabbath-school teacher should realize that a great responsibility rests upon her; she should feel a burden for each member of her class. She may find there one who seems careless and unattentive. By scolding and censure, or even by a look, she may drive him beyond hope; but oh! open your alabaster box of love and, though you may never know the result in this life, he may be one of the brightest gems in your crown up yonder. You may also find he has a tender chord which will vibrate and touch another, and the influence of that class be felt, God knows how far.

The wise man has said, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." We cannot forget our childhood days. The lessons of truth upon a child's mind are never forgotten. Though he may drift away into the world, some day as the cobwebs are swept from the walls of his memory, he will see there the picture of the dear old

Sabbath-school at home; he will hear those prayers for the youth; he will see his loving parents with bowed heads pleading for their son, and hear the good old hymns; and even after those years of wandering the influence of that school may bring him back to the fold. So we should not be discouraged if we do not see the fruit of our labors at once. It is so in all lines of work. It is ours to do faithfully the work the Lord calls us to do and leave the result with him. By becoming discouraged, we may as teachers and officers drive them to despair. Talk courage, come before your class bright and fresh, full of cheer and vigor, and you may impart more to them in your manner than in your words; and this not only applies to officers and teachers, but to every member of the school. Perhaps you think it sometimes hard to do this, but enter your closet and have a little talk with Jesus before going to the house of God. Catch a few beams from the Son of Righteousness and carry them with you. He is never discouraged, and if He comes in and fills our hearts we cannot be discouraged, but will feel that deep longing to see souls saved, and even our cheery "Good morning" may inspire some one to attend worship.

A person's character is oftentimes plainly expressed in his countenance. If our lives are hid in Christ, our faces will beam with holy joy, peace, purity, and love, and we will be a bit of sunshine every where we go, awake to every opportunity to perform a loving act. It is not so much the great things accomplished in our lives that make beautiful characters as the little every-day duties well performed, as one little girl expressed it—"just filling in the chinks." If we begin to look for these little opportunities and make the most of them, our lives will expand as an opening bud, which will blossom out in all its beauty when it is transplanted into the

garden of God over yonder on the banks of Life's River.

Just as each life expands, so the Sabbath-school may grow step by step, searching deeper and deeper into the treasures of God's Word, singing His praises with spirit-filled hearts, talking with Him and pausing to listen to His voice speaking to us, looking the harvest fields over and developing workers to fill the places of trust in the needy fields. Ah! my brethren and sisters, if we had such schools there would not be a dearth of workers or means. And why may they not be such? All that is needed is that every one of God's children begin to humble the heart before Him and seek Him as they never have before. If each one of us at this convention will begin to-day, it will have a transforming power, not only at Allegan, Otsego, and Monterey, but as far as our prayers and means can go; and we will never know the result until that glorious morning when we shall be found in His likeness and be satisfied. There we shall meet as a Sabbath-school where we will not talk of the poor heathen, where we need not plead for forgiveness of sin, nor look at our many mistakes and failures, but will all join in one grand song of adoration and praise. Then we will know how far-reaching has been the influence of these little Sabbath-schools, as we clasp the hands of those whom we will remember as having been in our little school, perhaps in our class, years before. What a glorious gathering that will be!

HETTIE L. OLSEN.

Report of Sabbath-school Convention at Bauer.

Sabbath and Sunday, November 25 and 26, a general meeting of the churches at Grandville, Allendale and Bauer was held at the last named place. Members of the Wright and Agnew churches were also present a part of the time. We also greatly appreciated the help of Brother Hartwell and Sister Haughey, who were present.

A Sabbath-school convention was held on Sunday, which we hope was of profit to all who attended. The program contained in the October number of the "Sabbath-school Worker" was carried out as fully as possible by members of the different Sabbath-schools represented. In the opening remarks by the superintendent the thought was brought out that in the business world it is necessary to call conventions for the advancement of the interests of the associations represented. So in the Sabbath-school, by meeting and exchanging ideas in regard to the manner of carrying on the work of the school, much help may be obtained.

Many excellent ideas were advanced, both in the papers read and in the discussions which followed. One of the most interesting topics discussed was "The Kind of Teacher I Like." Many points were brought out in this discussion which might be of profit to us who are teachers.

Many expressed themselves as having greatly enjoyed the exercises, and we hope seed was sown which will spring forth and bear fruit for the Master.

MILDRED WILSON.

From the Field.

MAPLE GROVE, GRAND LEDGE, POTTERVILLE, DIMONDALE AND BAUER.

November 10 to 15 I spent with the church at Maple Grove, beginning meetings on Friday night and continuing each evening until the 15th.

On Sunday, the 12th, a Sabbath-school convention was held in which the schools of Hastings and Carlton took part, and a very profitable occasion was enjoyed. While some of the brethren looked upon a convention at this place with fear and apprehension on account of lack of experience on the part of the local officers, at the close it was almost unanimously voted a complete success, and a

sentiment favoring frequent gatherings of the kind in the future was expressed.

The church was somewhat encouraged by the meetings held, as some interest for this time was manifested by outsiders, and some of the members who were becoming careless and indifferent were brought to see the importance of faithfulness in the service of God.

Sabbath and Sunday, November 18 and 19, I spent with the church at Grand Ledge, where two meetings were held with the church in their place of meeting and one in a school house about two and one-half miles from the city. The church members at this place are very much interested in missionary activity, maintaining an active missionary society, taking part in the various enterprises carried on by our people, the result of which is shown in the influence exerted in the community.

A portion of the following week was spent in company with Brother John Carman visiting among the members of the Potterville and Dimondale churches, encouraging all as best we could to faithful service in the Master's vineyard. There are many ways of working, and if all would improve the opportunities which come to us in our daily contact with the world, our own souls would be greatly encouraged and much good would be accomplished.

Sabbath and Sunday, November 25 and 26, was spent at Bauer attending the convention at that place, concerning which others will doubtless write.

S. D. HARTWELL.

MUSKEGON.

The work at Muskegon has been started several times, but never completed. Each time an interest was awakened and then neglected. Consequently the work once accomplished "raveled out" to a great extent.

Quite an interest has lately been aroused as a result of the faithful labors of our Bible workers, Misses

Edna and Edith Wilbur. We have rented a church in which we hold our Sabbath-school and weekly meetings. We are working and praying that the church may be revived, many new ones added to our numbers, and that our work may have a strong hold in Muskegon.

H. C. PITTON.

Financial.

November Receipts.

Barotseland Mission	\$ 5 00
Cedar Lake Academy	14 66
Haskell Home	25
Merchandise	52 47
Mission Board Offerings	101 91
On Account	236 40
Sabbath-school Offerings	28 94
Salary of Elizabeth McHugh	45 00
Self-Denial Fund	10 13
Southern Field	74 03
Southern Missionary Society	50
Tithe	1,483 89
Weekly Offerings	80 24
West Michigan Herald	1 35
West Michigan Sanitarium	625 32
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	\$2,760 99

November Tithe Receipts.

Allegan	\$122 30
Bangor	24 52
Bauer	31 70
Bedford	63 17
Benton Harbor	48 25
Burlington	13 14
Bushnell	15 74
Carson City	45 05
Cedar Lake	125 82
Ceresco	43 00
Covert	26 88
Denver	5 18
Dimondale	19 20
East Michigan Conference	26 92
Grand Rapids	191 32
Grandville	10 92
Greenville	229 54
Howard City	6 40
Individuals	9 92
Lakeview	13 40
Lowell	3 80
Lyons	17 69
Mecosta	14 73
Mendon	11 88

Monterey	91 44
Morley	12 40
New England Conference	60 55
Northern Illinois Conference	1 00
Ohio Conference	9 05
Orange	23 21
Otsego	20 17
Paw Paw	43 89
Potterville	40 50
Shelby	4 31
Trufant	26 00
West Leroy	30 90

\$1,483 89

A Note of Thanks.

To our friends in the churches of West Michigan:

We desire to publicly express our grateful thanks for the Christian sympathy and practical help our friends have given us in our work for souls, and to state that all our rooms are now furnished. We have a sufficient supply of sheets, pillow cases, and towels for the present. If there are those who would be pleased to still assist us, we would be glad of corn, oats, butter, and wheat for flour. These articles would be thankfully received and make our labors in the cold of the winter much less arduous, as soliciting at this season is somewhat difficult. Also we would have more time to fill calls to speak in other churches on the work God is doing here, which is arresting the attention of other denominations. We praise the Lord for all the wonderful opportunities he opens before us as He goes with us day by day.

We need the prayers of our dear brethren and sisters and appreciate their help in this way.

W. H. MCKEE,

M. D. MCKEE,

N. H. RICHMOND.

Obituary.

HALLOCK.—Died near McBride, Mich., Bertha Hallock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Hallock, aged ten months and ten days. Job. 1: 21, formed the basis of the funeral discourse by the writer.

M. C. WHITMARSH.

News and Notes.

Sabbath, November 18, seven Emmanuel Missionary College students were baptized in the St. Joseph river.

Miss Okelia Jackson, an Indian girl who has been attending the Emmanuel Missionary College, went to Ontario last week to teach a church school among the Indians.

Mrs. W. H. McKee and Miss Maud Henry of the Michigan Home for Girls spent last Thursday in Otsego looking up the matter of text books for their school.

We have a supply of Sabbath-school quarterlies for the first quarter of 1906. Send in your orders early and be ready to begin the study of the lessons the first Sabbath of the first quarter of the new year.

There will be a Sabbath-school Convention at Paw Paw December 30 and 31, and the Sabbath-schools at Waverly, Hartford, Bloomingdale, Bangor, Covert, and all other near-by schools and churches are invited.

We sincerely hope that this week of prayer will prove a great blessing to the brethren and sisters of the West Michigan Conference. "Pray, yes pray with unshaken faith and trust. The Angel of the Covenant, even our Lord Jesus Christ, is the Mediator who secures the acceptance of the prayers of his believing ones."

Many of the readers of the "Herald" will be glad to learn that the Sabbath-school lessons for our German, Danish-Norwegian, and Swedish brethren are printed in the three foreign papers, published at College View, Nebraska. These papers also contain the Intermediate Lessons for Children, translated from the "Youth's Instructor." Write to the publishers for sample copies. Special rates on clubs for Sabbath-school and missionary

work. Address the International Publishing Association, College View, Nebraska.

Battle Creek.

A recent letter from Dr. Julia White speaks highly of the work in Loma Linda, Cal., Sanitarium.

Elder Taylor gave the reading in the Tabernacle on Sabbath morning to a very attentive congregation.

During the week of prayer the Battle Creek Sanitarium has appointed two daily services, one at noon-day and the other in the evening. Elder Jones and Elder Taylor have charge of these services.

A collection was taken up by the church for the Dorcas society recently, amounting to some \$45. This will be greatly appreciated by the members of the society, and used to good advantage.

Sabbath-school at 10:30 a. m. next Sabbath in the Sanitarium chapel, followed by preaching service. A devotional meeting will be held in the chapel daily at 1 p. m. for the entire family.

The week of prayer in Battle Creek opened Friday night with a discourse from Elder Jones on the Federation of churches. He gave a very interesting account of the proceedings of the Federation of Ministers recently held in New York, and of the work they did in connection with the Sunday law. Elder Jones finished this discourse Sunday evening. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the church is divided into about forty groups, each of which meets by itself and conducts its own reading each evening. On Friday night there will again be general services in the Tabernacle.

Services were held in the Sanitarium chapel for the first time last Sabbath. This room, which is located in the south end on the ground floor, has been used for var-

ious purposes since the building was erected. Last week the pipe-organ was removed from the gymnasium to its permanent location in the chapel, and the room put in readiness for use. The services were conducted by Elders McCoy, Tenney, and Jones. Elder Jones' sermon, based on 1. Sam. 12:23, was intensely interesting and a fitting introduction to the week of prayer. Elder Jones voiced the sentiments of many when he expressed thankfulness that at last the Sanitarium family could gather to worship God in a place set apart for that purpose.

Cedar Lake Academy Notes.

Mr. Ralph Lewis, a student from Petoskey, arrived at the Academy Wednesday, December 6.

The classes in vocal music are growing in interest. They recite in two sections,—one for beginners and one for more advanced students.

We have the promise of Elder S. E. Wight, president of the North Michigan Conference, to make us a visit after the holiday season. He will receive a cordial welcome.

Workers from the Academy were distributed last Sabbath as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Moses Whitmarsh at Frost; C. J. Tolf at Lakeview; J. Drury Reavis at Howard City; S. M. Butler at Mecosta.

The students of the Academy, assisted by the principal of the school and the elder of the church, are giving series of discourses covering the various points of the message, in two schoolhouses, two and one-half and three and one half miles respectively from Cedar Lake.

Harry Clawsen, Francis McCoy, O. V. Rumsey, Glenn Straight, Arthur Gurney, and Oliver Denslow, Academy students, went on a missionary campaign in the neighborhood of the Graffville schoolhouse last Sabbath afternoon. This is one of the school houses where the Sunday evening services are being held.