

A. G. Daniels

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

HE THAT REAPETH GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL

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No. 8

From the Field.

COLDWATER.

I have spent some time with the church at Coldwater working up an interest in the circulation of reading matter. A good beginning was made and a supply of the special number of the "Watchman" was ordered. When we were ready to begin to distribute them the small-pox scare was so wide spread that it seemed unwise to make further efforts in house to house work at present.

January 25 the little church was called to mourn by the sudden death of Sister Irne L. Michael, wife of Brother John Michael, aged 37 years and 16 days. Sister Michael will be greatly missed by her husband and four children and the church members, but they are comforted with the words "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord."

The funeral was held January 29 and words of comfort were spoken by the writer.

H. NICOLA.

MUSKEGON.

When I came to Muskegon to take up the canvassing work some tried to discourage me. I was inexperienced and did not know how to meet the people, as things were not so bright at first. People would say, "you may take orders but when you go to deliver they will not take your books," but I am thankful to the Lord that I have not lost very many orders and I know that our books will sell here.

There are a number of foreign people here. The Lord has helped me to meet them, and I make an effort to sell them a book. One

lady bought three Coming Kings for Christmas. Her husband read the book and he asked her where she got it, she told him that she bought it of an agent. He said that it was the best book they ever bought of an agent. Since then the lady has ordered "Marvel of Nations."

Another lady ordered Coming King and her husband read it and he said it was truth, and that lady has ordered "Christ Our Saviour," and "Marvel of Nations." So the good work goes on and the Lord is with me. I believe the promise found in Isa. 41:10, for I see it fulfilled every day. Prov. 16:7 has been a great help to me. People who have not been in the habit of letting agents in have let me in, and in some cases have invited me back to visit with them. The Lord is working mightily to spread this message.

MRS. R. M. ROSS.

Sand Lake, Mich., Feb. 6th, 1907.
India to America.

Owing to failure of my health, I was obliged to return from the country that I had given my life to warn, and through providential openings I was safely carried to this invigorating climate, so different from the tropics. I have gained about 40 pounds since I left Bombay, and am well on my way to recovery. I am so glad I was saved for further usefulness in the message, and in exchange from India to this country the hand of God could be seen on every hand in caring for us.

This winter I have been with my people here at Sand Lake, where I could have perfect rest, and

feel that I shall soon be able to enter the field again in search of precious souls, which shall always be the highest joy and ambition of my life.

Of late I have had the pleasure of visiting the Cedar Lake Academy, where a good number of young people are preparing for service. It is plain to be seen that if all will study and prepare themselves for the sounding of the message, it will not be long till Jesus will come. It is with pleasure that I enter the West Michigan Conference again, and in doing so I ask the prayers of God's people that I may be a winner of souls.

Yours in the message,
C. A. HANSEN.

WALKERVILLE AND SHELBY.

It was my privilege to visit Walkerville; a small town of about 400 inhabitants, located in the N. E. corner of Oceana Co., surrounded by good farming land, ranging from \$10 to \$100 per acre according to improvements. The nearest railroad being Hart 14 miles away. But there is a prospect of their soon getting a railroad from Grand Rapids to Ludington, as the survey is now being made.

About 15 years ago there was a tent effort at this place, conducted by Elders Harris, Haysmer and Brink, resulting in the establishing of a small company, which run well for a time, but was broken up by removals, apostacies, and deaths.

A few years ago Bro. Wm. Holladay and family from the Waverly church located four miles north on a piece of wild land where, by hard persevering labor they have a nice home of 120 acres. (There is opportunity for others to do likewise.)

But while they were busy clearing up the home, they were not idle in watching for opportunities for doing missionary work, and handing out papers and tracts. Their hearts were made to rejoice about a week ago when one of their neighbors told them they kept last Sabbath, and when Brother Holladay received my letter stating I would be there Tuesday Feb. 5. They felt like praising God, and planned a meeting for the next day at their home, which resulted in establishing this brother and sister more firmly in the messages.

I spent one night with them before returning and he said to me before I left, "Bro. Hebner, if there was not another Adventist in the world, the way I see these things, I would be compelled to obey." Though these two aged brethren and sisters live three and one-half miles apart, yet they have decided to hold Sabbath-school and meeting as often as their health and the weather will permit. Our prayer is, that others may be added to their number, and God's blessing rest upon them abundantly.

I look upon this as a fruitful field and a good opening for a tent effort in the future.

I held a few meetings at Shelby, which encouraged many, and one brother in his testimony last Sabbath said. "I left this people years ago, not because I did not believe their truths, but from other causes and drifted about until now, I come back to you, and here is the only place I feel at home and now I desire to spend the few remaining days of my life in faithful service to the Master, all pray for me." Let us all pray for this brother and his wife also, that she may return to the fold again.

The one hundred and fifty thousand dollar fund moves very slowly here. The church at Shelby had contracted a debt in repairing their church building, which hinders many from lifting on the big fund as they would be pleased to do. Some have more than paid their

alotment, and we hope others can do so in the near future. Surely this is a paralel of the work of ancient Israel in building up the WORK of God in their days. Our Saviour said "GIVE, and it shall be GIVEN unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye meet with all it shall be measured to you again." Again he says. "From the days of your fathers ye have gone away from my ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me and I will return unto you. saith the Lord of hosts. But ye say, wherein, shall we return?" The answer is, "ye have robbed me in tithes and offerings," and so a result of this robbery, His curse rests upon us. But the good Lord still asks us to prove him, "if he will not open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing." This blessing is conditional, and the conditions are "that we bring ALL the TITHES and OFFERINGS into the store house." Just as surely as we do so, God's promise to us will be fulfilled. But one says, "I do pay a faithful tithe, and yet I am hard up." But my brother in that case you have only fulfilled the promise in part, for it says, "Bring all the tithes and OFFERINGS." The tithe is His and if I bring only that, you see, I have only brought that which belongs to him. Hence, I myself have paid nothing into his cause, and am a robber in his sight. May God help us to awake to righteousness and sin not.

The good Lord is so very anxious to open the windows of Heaven and pour us out a blessing, that he sends message after message to encourage us to greater earnestness and zeal in the good work. So let us be strong and of good courage is my prayer.

W. C. HEBNER.

Notes From Our Young People's Day.

Doubtless our readers have looked in the columns of the Herald for reports from Young People's Day. We have received several reports, but on account of so much conference matter we have not had space for them, so we will give a few notes; Glenwood: Our meetings were blessed with the presence of the Spirit of God and I believe the time was profitably spent and I hope we may often have something of this kind for the young people.

Douglas: At the close of the exercises all said that it had been a good day.

Mendon: It was the privilege of our little company to carry out the program. We have but five young people and it was necessary to call on the older members to take part. All, both old and young had some part and thus made it interesting.

Wright: We carried out the program for young people's day. I am sure that good seed was sown that will grow and bear fruit for the Master.

Kalamazoo: Sabbath, January 26, was spent profitably at the Kalamazoo church. The faces of both old and young appeared brighter as we separated. Our hope is that the impression received at these meetings will be lasting and inspire us with a desire to discharge our duty in a work so worthy of our best efforts.

Grand Rapids: I thought you would be interested to know how we observed the day. We had a good attendance both morning and afternoon. Everything went off nicely.

We heard from others and they all say that they enjoyed the day very much. We are not able at this writing to give the total amount of the offering that was given to advance the work in the Levant Mission Field.

We hope that a new interest has been aroused in the work for the

youth of our conference, and that it will not die out but will increase and the work strengthened. One society has been organized since January 26, and we believe that others will be in the near future. We hope the good work will go on and the great army of youth among us be trained for service, and carry "The Advent message to all the world in this generation."

To Our Young People's Societies.

If there are any of our societies that have not already ordered a supply of the special issue of the "Watchman" let me urge the importance of doing so at once. But very few papers ever published by our people have contained the truths for this time so concisely and forcibly presented. Almost every phase of the message is brought out in such an attractive manner and illustrated so strikingly that the attention of the casual reader is at once arrested.

No better missionary effort can be made than the placing of these papers in the hands of the people. Let the neglected reading racks in our depots and other public buildings be filled, and let them be placed by tens and by hundreds into the homes of the people, either by selling or by free distribution. Let the matter be presented before the church, and undoubtedly many will be glad to contribute toward the purchase of papers for the racks and free distribution.

Order of the Tract Society.

CLIFFORD A. RUSSELL.

Religious Liberty.

The greatest restriction to the liberties of humanity is that which is inherent in every heart, James 1: 14; 2 Peter 2:19, and therefore the only real liberty to be enjoyed by anyone is that which is secured by a personal surrender to God, for "If the Son, therefore, shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36. The individual who is thus liberated from the bondage of sin enjoys that perfect liberty of

which no earthly tribunal can deprive him.

From the day when, on Calvary, the great love of the Father for the creatures of his hand was demonstrated, and the heavens were thus closed to the suggestions and insinuations of the enemy of righteousness, the dragon has been especially wroth with the church, and has worked to harass and annoy, to deceive and overcome those who have engaged in the service, under the blood-stained banner, and one of his most successful methods is to "promise them liberty," but to make them "the servants of corruption." This is the only way we can account for the attempts now being made, as well as the attempts made all through the experience of the christian church, by those who, "professing themselves to be wise, become fools," and worship and serve the creature more than the creator," to restrict the liberties of others.

The present demand on the part of the "church element" for Sunday laws to be enacted in the U. S. congress, and in states where they have never been enacted or have been repealed, and for the enforcement of existing laws, is being made so persistently and in a way so well calculated to deceive that it is deemed important that some of the principles involved be discussed in our conference paper.

It is frequently suggested that it is the duty of christians to be obedient to the "powers that be," and Rom. 13:1-6 is quoted. With this instruction we should all heartily accord, but it is well for us to understand that reference is here made to but ONE of the "two commandments on which hang all the law and the prophets," namely the "second" one. (Matt. 22:39,40.) This is made very plain in the eighth verse, and is in direct harmony with the principle enunciated by the Saviour on the subject in Matt. 22:21: "Render unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's; and unto God the things that are

God's." It must be plain to all that with this principle understood, the instruction in Romans 13 is in reference to such enactments as are made with reference to the duty of man to man, and that where law making powers interfere in any way with man's duty to "obey God rather than men." See Acts 4:19; 5:29. The words here referred to were spoken in response to the demand to be obedient to the powers that be, but because the authority of the "powers" was being used in an illegitimate way, the apostles did not yield obedience to it, and God endorsed their action by, not only setting them free from imprisonment, but gave them a direct command to do just the thing they had been commanded not to do, and for the doing of which they had been imprisoned. See Acts 5:17-20.

God is "the same yesterday and to-day and forever." Heb. 13:8. "I am the Lord, I change not." Mal. 3:6. With the Father of lights "there is no variableness neither shadow of turning." Jas. 1: 17. This was the instruction given the "three worthies" who were captives in Babylon. They understood that they should obey the laws enacted by the civil authorities so far as they did not conflict with God's laws, and so, at the command of the King, they went to the dedication of the image, but when the whole assemblage, at the sounding of the music, bowed down to the image, at the command of the King, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego stood upright and heeded not the command, because it interfered with the law of their God. Then a special enactment was made directly to them, which they also disregarded, and when the penalty was inflicted upon them the Lord endorsed their action, the "form of the Fourth" was seen in the furnace, and the fire had no effect upon them, and the King was convinced that his had been an unrighteous command.

The same was true in the case of

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Margaret Haughey, - Editor.

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School Report for Sept., Oct., Nov. and Dec., 1906.

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School.	Teacher.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Bangor	Vera Pierce		10	13	10
Battle Creek	Mrs. Flora Williams	39	44	41	38
	Mrs. Harriet Hefley	28	33	29	30
	Lottie Bell	40	40	40	40
	Mrs. C. N. Sanders	20	24	26	26
Bauer	Mildred Wilson	15	18	19	17
Bedford	Mrs. E. A. S. Clark		16	18	18
Carlton Center	Edna Cooper	11	10	14	13
Cedar Lake	Mrs. C. J. Tolf		18	21	21
Charlotte	Irma Parks	18	18	19	20
Covert	Claude Countryman	10	11	11	10
Denver Center	Mina Hastings	9	10	10	10
Glenwood	Vo Wyla Aiken	14	14	14	13
Grand Ledge	Flossie Hall	7	7	8	7
Grand Rapids	Ada Somerset	17	20	17	19
Lake Odessa	Tina Jorgensen		4	4	4
Maple Grove	Jennie Judson	6	6	3	3
Mich. Home for Girls	Maude Henry			11	11
Monterey	Grace Evans	18	18	18	17
Otsego	Eugene Waller	15	16	16	16
Paw Paw	Anna Garton	9	10	10	
Portland	Grace Davis			9	9
Wright	Winifred Trunk	6	10	12	13

Clifford Russell.

Daniel as recorded in the sixth chapter. Thus it will be in the present campaign against those who "keep the commandments" of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Let us, then, take up the work, and what our hands find to do, "do with our might," knowing that the cause is righteous, and the Lord has given us a special work of warning against just this kind of work. We will next consider the work of the Beast and his Image.

S. D. HARTWELL.

The Widow's Offering.

How natural it is for men to seek to hold this world with one hand, and to reach after the next with the other. The gift of God was costly. He gave us his most precious, priceless possession, his only begotten Son; and yet how many consider that they have really given when they have an abundance left. This is not the scripture principle of giving.

"And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury; and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two

mites, which make a farthing. And he called his disciples, and said unto them, Verily I say unto you that this poor widow hath cast more in than all they which have cast into the treasury." Why?—"For all they did cast in of their abundance, but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

This poor widow had but two mites. She gave both to the Lord. She did not give one and keep the other. What a misapprehension of this touching Bible story do those have who give, we will say, one dollar, and call it the "widow's mite." Remember, brother, there was not one, but two mites. She gave both. If you have given but one, have you followed the example of the widow, which Jesus commended? Where is the other mite? Have you kept it for yourself?

How can one who could easily give one hundred times as much claim to have given as this poverty stricken widow in Israel gave? Remember that God measures not the gift as men measure, but by what you have left, and what it

has cost you to give; and the blessing is in proportion to the sacrifice.

The glorious Saviour calls his sons in the last day who have made a covenant with him by sacrifice. The widow's two mites given by every Seventh-day Adventist, would doubtless raise one hundred times as much as is now being given by our people in all the annual and special offerings combined. Before the Lord comes, we shall certainly give the widow's "TWO MITES."

J. S. WASHBURN.

Obituary.

Died in Battle Creek, Mich., February 8, 1907, of brights disease Stephen A. Bragg, at the age of 85 years, 10 months, and 20 days, and was buried at Potterville, Mich., on Monday, the 11th. Elder McCoy conducted services on the 9th at the Janes White Memorial Home, and the writer conducted services at Potterville, at the time of interment.

S. D. HARTWELL.

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