

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

HE THAT REAPETH GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL

VOL. V.

OTSEGO, MICHIGAN OCTOBER 9, 1907.

No. 40

Better Sabbath Observance.

With the divine injunction before us to "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," we shall ever find this a vital question. Neglecting to properly observe God's holy Sabbath has caused the downfall of nations, cities, and individuals. We should remember that it is the sign of loyalty among God's people from Eden to Eden.

WHEN TO BEGIN IT.

We should begin it at sunset. By this we have an easy way of knowing just WHEN to have our work all finished, our clothes clean and mended; our bath taken, shoes polished, and cooking done for the sacred hours of the Sabbath. All of our business should be put out of sight—whether it be sewing, letter writing, house work, etc., in order that we may free our minds from earthly cares.

HOW TO BEGIN IT.

The best way the writer knows is to begin it with sunset worship. The spirit of prophecy urges that the family meet together at the beginning of the Sabbath to read a few verses and pray and sing a hymn. The song should be a familiar one that all may take part. This simple ceremony so beautifully impresses us that we are in holy time that we at once dismiss all thoughts about business or secular matters. As we ask God to help us keep the Sabbath even the children are made to feel the importance of holy time.

A BEAUTIFUL FACT

that children who have week by week been impressed by these sacred hours of worship in begin-

ning and closing the Sabbath, will find it hard to dismiss the reverence from their hearts for the Sabbath.

OUR THOUGHTS.

To keep the mind from thinking about business becomes a great problem with many. To remedy this I suggest that we ask the Lord to help us think of him; that we fill our minds with God's thoughts from the Bible and our good books—further we must cultivate the habit of controlling our minds and not allow our thoughts to wander. This very training will strengthen us to be able to keep from telling many things we hear and think which would defile our own lips and mar the joy of other hearts. The writer has often reined up his mind to that pitch that for hours after the Sabbath when doing business, the thought would come, "Is it the Sabbath?" To be able to control the mind is an important factor in the formation of character.

Spend the day with the children; with good books; with our periodicals, and in walking out for fresh air and beholding the works of nature. It is well to study the Sabbath school lesson for the coming Sabbath. Perhaps you have sick people to visit and read to from some good book.

Close the blessed hours of the Sabbath with a word of prayer, then as you leave the atmosphere of prayer and break into the common duties of life, it places a strong difference between the holy and profane, and with renewed vigor you pursue your duties till another holy Sabbath eve shall in-

vite you to lay them down. And so may we ever "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

C. A. HANSEN.

Liberty of Conscience in Tennessee.

One Sunday early in the present summer, Geo. B. Thomson and D. A. Dendon, of Manchester, Tenn., were stretching a wire fence to keep the cattle out of their corn. They had always been very careful not to perform any Sunday labor in such a place or manner as would be offensive to their neighbors, and felt that it was absolutely necessary for that work to be done on that day. They were, however, observed by some men who were passing but who testified that they were really not disturbed by the work being performed.

On the 4th. of Sept. they were tried and fined five dollars and costs, amounting in all to \$47.80. They did not feel that it was a just sentence or that it would be right to pay the fine and costs. They were then sentenced to work out the fine and costs in the workhouse or jail at the rate of forty cents (40¢) per day. This meant an imprisonment of over two months for each man. As both these men were working the same farm the Judge kindly permitted one man to work the farm while the other man went to jail. Bro. Thomson went to jail first and the other brother was permitted to go about his work without even being under bonds. They evidently did not regard these men as dangerous criminals. After the first few days the door of the cell of Brother

Thomson was unlocked, and even the jail door was unlocked, so that he could have gone out freely if he had wished.

The jail was in an unsanitary condition, I believe actually dangerous, and the air was poisonous so that at first the offensive odors of his cell caused him to be sick. Through the efforts of the prison doctor these conditions were later somewhat improved. One small window, which was more than half iron bars, admitted all the light and air to his cell, except the barred door leading into the corridor. When we visited him Bro. Thomson was doing missionary work with the other prisoners.

A petition to the governor was circulated throughout the town asking him to release these honest, Christian citizens from the unjust sentence. This was signed by the mayor and the leading attorneys, bankers, and in fact nearly all the leading citizens of the town and community. The judge seemed to feel really sorry that these brethren determined to go to jail rather than pay the fine and costs, and offered if they would pay \$25.00, a little more than one half the legal amount, to let them go. They felt that they could not pay the fine and costs or any part of it and thus sanction this unjust law.

The Judge, however, has levied on the goods of these brethren for the amount of the fine and costs. For the twenty days Brother Thomson was in jail they allowed him eight dollars.

The sheriff stated that he had been sheriff for over a year, and deputy sheriff for some years before that, but this was the first arrest for Sunday labor he had ever known in that community, although many of the people did as much work as these Seventh Day Adventists. He did not, however seem to be able to see that these brethren were, according to his own words, arrested for keeping the seventh day rather than for

working the first day of the week. He gave us notice that the law must be obeyed and would be enforced.

Elder C. P. Bollman secured a very kind letter of introduction from Ex-governor Porter to the present governor, Mr. Patterson. We visited him without favorable results. He said that it was impossible for him to remit the costs. He said if the matter was a prison sentence he would grant our petition, but that the costs must be paid or worked out in jail.

There have been many cases of prosecution for Sunday labor in this state. We want our people all over the United States to help us in an effort in circulating Religious Liberty literature to call the attention of all the people of the State of Tennessee to the injustice of the state Sunday law. Tennessee has been the storm center in the United States for Sunday law prosecution. It is certainly time for us to arouse if we expect to do the work that is before us. Pray that God may give the people of the state of Tennessee wisdom to improve this great opportunity to send out His light and truth.

J. S. WASHBURN.

To Canvassers.

To all interested in the circulation of our literature I wish to say a word. Never was there a time when S. D. A. publications would sell as well as they do now. Much has been written and spoken about the importance of circulating the books and papers containing the truth for this time. Now is your golden opportunity. We can find room for two hundred canvassers in Michigan. Will you be one to help swell the number?

This is especially an opportunity for young men and young women who wish to get an education. Any one who is willing to work, can earn a scholarship in one of our Academies or Berrien Springs College in a few weeks. If you

have a desire to see the message advance, why not send to the Tract Society and get an outfit for one of our good books and go to work?

Four young people went from the Du Quoin (Illinois) school about July 1st. and lost almost half their time and a letter from them two weeks ago bears the news that they are about ready to enter Berrien Springs College.

An energetic person who will go out in the fear of God and trust fully in Him can earn his way through school for the remainder of the year between now and January 1st. Let us hear from you. One dozen have already decided to go. Why not join the ranks? Let us hear from you.

A. C. HAUGHEY.

Otsego, Mich.

Cedar Lake Academy.

Our school opened Tuesday, September 17, with two more enrolled than last year. The members of the Board attended the first session of the school, and we listened to a very interesting talk from Elder Haughey.

The Board decided to purchase two cows for the use of the school. The same have been secured and will be on the farm in a few days.

The school opens in the morning at seven o'clock and closes at 12:30. Chapel period is from 9:00 to 9:30. Current topics are usually discussed during the chapel hour on Monday of each week.

The school has had an increase of sixteen members since the opening and more are coming.

The beans on the farm have all been pulled and stacked, and the corn which is a very good crop has been cut.

Monday evening, September 30, all the students were called down to the parlor to find a happy surprise awaiting them. The Otsego church had sent a box to the Academy containing many very pretty fancy-pillows, spreads for the par-

lor tables, a handsome couch spread and covers for the window seats. The students were so pleased that they voted a card of thanks to the Otsego church, by all raising their hands and shouting "I."

We were pleased to have Brethren Edwards and E. A. Merriam with us October 1. Brother Edwards gave the students a very interesting talk and much good admonition.

HAROLD N. WILLIAMS.

Obituary.

Robert Bolles died at his home in Bangor, Michigan, September 9, 1907, at the age of sixty years, two months and seven days. In 1869 he was united in marriage to Matilda Marshall. To this union were born three children, two of whom died in infancy. At the age of twenty-six Brother Bolles joined the Freewill Baptist church and remained with them four years when he united with the Seventh Day Adventist church under the labors of Elder R. C. Horton. His desire was to serve Christ with all his heart at any cost, esteeming the promises of God of greater value than the approval of this world. He leaves a wife, daughter, brother, sister, and three half-brothers and many friends to mourn their loss. He died in the full assurance of faith in Christ. He will be greatly missed by the Bangor church. The funeral services were conducted by Elder J. W. Hofstra assisted by Clifford A. Russell.

Notice to Young People.

Owing to certain conditions, it is necessary to make some changes in regard to ordering the books for our Reading Course. Note carefully the following directions:—

The books will be studied in the order named:—

"Early Writings," .75

"Into All the World," cloth .50; paper, .35

"Outline of Mission Field," free to all who order "Into All the World;" will be sent at the same

time such order is filled, or later.

World map, showing prevailing religions, .50

"Pastor Hsi," cloth \$1; paper, .65. It may be possible to secure this book bound with another, giving the story of Hsi's life to the time of his conversion. Watch the Review and Instructor for announcements.

Order direct from the Review & Herald Pub. Co., Takoma Park, Washington, D. C., (Early Writings may be ordered from Tract Societies or other publishing houses if desired.)

Remember, young people, that "wise men may lay up knowledge" (Prov. 10:14.) The greatest theme we can consider is the plan of salvation; and the greatest work in the world to day is the giving of gospel to a lost world.

M. E. KERN.

Lesson for Missionary Volunteers Sabbath, October 12, 1907.—

Signs in the Social World.

1. By what does Christ compare the days just prior to His coming? Luke 17:26, 28.

2. What does the Apostle Paul say about these days? II Tim. 3:1.

3. Of what kind of perils does he speak? Read the first four verses of this chapter. Note 1.

4. Name some of the most striking sins mentioned here.

Ans. Blasphemy, pride, disobedience of the children to their parents, without natural affection, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

5. What is blasphemy? Ans. An offence against God and religion, either (a) by impiously denying the Almighty, His existence, or providence; or (b) contemptuous reproaches of Jesus Christ; or (c) by profanely scoffing at the Holy Bible, or exposing it to contempt or ridicule. Evil or profane speaking of God, derogating from His power, or claiming His attributes. Have you noticed the exact fulfillment of the above statements?

6. Is it true that the children are more disobedient to the parents

in these days than in times past? What is your experience?

7. What is the result of pride upon every individual? Luke 21:34. Note especially the last clause of this verse.

8. What will take place in our hearts when pride, fashion, feasting, and the cares of this life, which are a natural result of the foregoing, fill our lives? Same verse, the last clause.

9. Will the day of God come upon His people unawares? I Thess. 5:4, 5.

10. Give some statements verifying what we read in II Tim. 3:4, that men are greater lovers of pleasure than lovers of God. Note 2.

11. What class of people have all these sins laid at their door? II Tim. 3:5.

12. What does Christ say of the days before the flood? Matt. 24:37, 38.

13. How can eating, drinking and marrying constitute a sign of the times since God ordained, or instituted these things? Ans. It is not the use, but the abuse of them which Christ said would prove to us that we are in the last days.

14. Should we eat or drink for mere pleasure? What principles should regulate us in eating and drinking? Eccl. 10:17.

15. How close is the unity between man and wife according to God's idea? Gen. 2:24. Read also 21-23 verses. Is the world regarding marriage in Scripture light?

16. What was done in Noah's time in regard to choosing a wife? Gen. 6:1, 2. Note 3.

17. What does God say about the imaginations and thought of mankind just before he brought the flood upon the earth? Gen. 6:5. What is God's own report of Sodom and Gomorah? Gen. 18:20. Note 4.

18. Were the people warned who lived before the flood, of their coming destruction? Gen. 6:14. Heb. 11:7. How long a time did God give them in which to repent

The West Michigan Herald.

Issued every Wednesday by the West Michigan S. D. A. Conference, Otsego, Michigan.

Rate: 25 Cts. per year (50 numbers) in advance.

Entered Sept. 23, 1903, at Otsego, Mich., as second class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1878.

Margaret Haughey, Editor.

OFFICERS.

President,	A. G. Haughey
	Otsego.
Vice President,	M. N. Campbell
	12 Graves Ave., Battle Creek
Secretary and Treasurer,	E. A. Merriam
	Otsego
Asst. Sec'y. and Treas.	Fred Green
	Otsego
Educational Secretary,	Clifford Russell
	Otsego.
Medical Secretary	L. J. Otis, M. D.
	202 S. Fuller St., Grand Rapids
Religious Liberty Sec'y.	S. D. Hartwell,
	345 John St., Charlotte.
Sabbath-school Sec'y.	Margaret Haughey,
	Otsego

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A. G. Haughey, M. N. Campbell, S. D. Hartwell, J. W. Hofstra, E. A. Merriam.

of their sins? Gen. 6:3. Did they repent?

19. The people being warned through Noah for one hundred and twenty years, they should have been acquainted with the coming destruction; but were they? Matt. 24:38,39.

20. Why are men ignorant of God's judgements when God gives them such plain warnings? II Pet. 3:4,5.

21. What is our duty in this matter? Isa. 58:1.

NOTES.

1. We are living in many perils as is also mentioned in Luke 21:25. We have perils on land, perils on sea; earthquakes, disastrous eruptions of volcanoes, destructions by storms and cyclones, destruction of life of all kinds by the wholesale, steamer accidents, railroad disasters, mine explosions, etc., all of which kill hundreds of people every year; but Paul does not speak of these perils; they seem as it were small in comparison with the moral perils of the last days. It is not the world of which he speaks in this chapter, it is the so called church of the lowly, meek and

righteous Nazarene. When this condition is prevalent in the place where we naturally would go for refuge from these things, how great the peril really is! God help us to live unspotted in this "present evil world."

2. Note the expenditures for needless things, or for mere pleasure, and compare the amount of this with the small sum paid for foreign missions. For chewing gum \$15,000,000, for ornamental jewelry \$60,500,000, for coffee and tea \$98,229,310, for soft drinks \$107,536,000, for confectionery \$178,000,000, for tobacco \$949,500,000, and for whiskey, gin, rum and beer \$1,744,447,672; and for foreign missions the insignificant sum of \$7,500,000.

3. Previous to this time the children of God had not intermarried with the children of the world. They had been guided by principles of God. Beauty was not their first consideration, but the fear of God. Now they looked upon the countenance, and saw that they were "fair." God warns us against this sad mistake. God's people should not marry the children of the world, no matter how "fair" or intelligent they may be. Until they are born again they are "daughters of men," children of this world, which means of Satan's domain. His domain is the realm of darkness. Can light have sympathy with darkness? The Lord says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." Please read II Cor. 6:14-18.

4. What God said to Noah in Gen. 6:5, 11-13, is a striking picture of our own days, just as Jesus said it would be in the days prior to his return. The cities of Sodom and Gomorah are used by Jesus to portray the conditions of the cities of the last days.

J. W. HOFSTRA.

News and Notes.

E. A. Merriam made a business trip to Cedar Lake one day last week.

We hope every Sabbath-school secretary will send in a report this quarter and send it promptly.

The October "Life and Health" is called the Educational number. It is full of good things.

Clifford A. Russell left Otsego last week to visit the following church schools: Paw Paw, Glenwood, Covert, and Bangor.

Miss Edna Wilbur spent a few days recently in Otsego visiting her sister Edith, who is connected with the conference office.

A worker's council will be held in Battle Creek October 17-22. All of the West Michigan Conference workers are expected to be present.

Elder J. W. Hofstra and family returned to Otsego last week. Elder Hofstra remained a few days to get the Holland Sabbath-school lessons ready to send out. He returned to Grand Haven last Friday, where he is conducting a tent meeting. Brother Collier is assisting in the meeting. They report a good interest.

Sabbath, October 5, Elder A. G. Haughey organized a church at Buchanan of twenty-one members. Elder W. E. Videto was present and baptized four. Several of our younger workers have labored at this place and this is some of the fruits of their labors. At present H. C. Pitton and Myron B. Butterfield are conducting a tent meeting and it is hoped that others will be added to this church.

NOTICE.

We hope all those who made pledges at the Hastings Camp-meeting to help Dr. Charles Cave start the medical work in Barbadoes will pay them as soon as possible. The Doctor expects to return to Barbadoes soon and desires to have the money before going. Send the money to E. A. Merriam, Otsego, Mich.