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Culture

"WEEDS grow unasked, and even some sweet flowers

Spontaneous give their fragrance to the air, And bloom on hills, in vales, and everywhere — As shines the sun or fall the summer showers — But wither while our lips pronounce them fair. Flowers of more worth repay alone the care, The venture, and the hopes of watchful hours, While plants most cultured have most lasting

powers; So flowers of genius that will longest live Spring not in mind's uncultured soil, But are the birth of time and mental toil, And all the culture Learning's hand can give: Fancies, like wild flowers, in a night may grow, But thoughts are plants whose stately growth is slow."

Come and Join Us

ONE of the fundamental positions Seventh-day Adventists have held from the beginning of their history is that God has raised them up to preach the gospel, as it is revealed in the third angel's message, to all the world in this generation.

The hour has come for our people to think and plan and work as we never have in behalf of the world-wide missionary undertaking of this cause. A better understanding must be obtained, a greater burden felt, and a greater zeal manifested regarding this great missionary enterprise. The preaching of this gospel of the kingdom in all the world for a witness unto all nations is the work of supreme importance to all men to-day. This transcends all other considerations. God has ordered it, and it must be done. This message will weigh this generation in God's balances, and determine the destiny of every soul. O, what a solemn responsibility is laid upon those who know the message and work of God for this day!

The condition we face at the present time, and the stage of the message at which we have arrived, demand that our schools shall be live missionary institutions. The faculties must possess more than mere intelligence regarding mission statistics and the needs of the great field to be worked. They must be filled with a burning zeal in behalf of this message and the work this denomination is doing throughout the world. They must impart that zeal to the students. They must fill the schools with such a warm, invigorating missionary atmosphere that those who breathe it day after day will be stimulated to put forth their best efforts to prepare for service.

The whole influence of our schools must fire the hearts of the students with zeal to push into mission fields as soon as a thorough preparation can be made. Such was the atmosphere that filled the University of Wittenberg, when Luther and Melanchthon were the leading instructors. It was this that fired the hearts of those German students, and sent them forth to set Germany and all Europe ablaze. That missionary zeal was needed then to accomplish the work that was due the world at that time. The work to be done to-day certainly calls for a zeal equal to that possessed by the Reformers of the sixteenth century. Nothing less will answer. And if possessed by our teachers now, it will make our schools similar to what Wittenberg was then.

The work we are doing in the world, and must continue to do on a much larger scale, calls for able ministers, Bible workers, editors, translators, teachers, physicians, nurses, colporteurs, and Christian business men. Each student must be given the training in our schools required to qualify him for that place in the work for which he is best suited by nature. In view of all these considerations, such a deep conviction of duty to prepare for efficient service should come upon the young men and women of this denomination as will lead them to fill our schools to overflowing.

We know from various statistics we have gathered during the last year or two that there are hundreds of our young men and women who are not attending our colleges and academies. Many are attending the schools of the world. Many more are not attending any school. We can scarcely see how either those who are in other schools or those who do not go to school, can be led in large numbers to give their lives to the work of God.

This is a serious consideration; for the Lord's cause has need of all these young people. I earnestly appeal to every young man and young woman who may chance to read these lines, to definitely join us in this educational missionary movement. A. G. DANIELLS.

Get an Education

To all our young people I would say, Get an education. The greatest mistake you can make is to neglect to obtain a thorough, Christian education, for such an education will be of far more value to you than any accumulation of earthly treasure. Education endures, while fame and worldly honor fade away. The world is filled with thousands whose worldly ambitions have been blighted. Some cherished project, after being pursued for a time, has proved to be but an ignis fatuus, to lure them on to ruin. Many devote the energies of mind and body to the accumulation of wealth. But having reached the place where they could say, "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry," suddenly something unforeseen has swept away their hoarded treasure; flood, or flame, or tornado, or cataclysm of nature has destroyed, as in a moment, that which represented their life's work, and some, because of wrecked hopes and blighted prospects, have been led to end their existence.

But a Christian education remains with one. It can not be bartered, sold, exchanged, or given away. When the ruin of the world takes place, when the loftiest work of proud, ambitious man has been destroyed, when earth's stately kingdoms have been overturned, and one universal chaos as a result of sin prevails; when human theories, dogmas, and philosophies have withered and died, a Christian education will survive in the noble lives of those who have yielded their minds to the service of the Lord.

A new school year is soon to begin. We have excellent schools, academies, and colleges. These should be filled to overflowing this year. If all our young people who are of sufficient age and who ought to be in one of our schools, should attend, we would hardly have room for them. On the farms, in the shops, and in various lines of secular business there are hundreds of young people who ought to go to one of our schools *this very year*, and begin a special training for work in the message.

In securing an education you will need to make sacrifices, but it will pay. You will be exposed to temptations, yet these must be met, and the Lord will give you strength as your day is. Without an education you will be weak and crippled all through life, and be able to accomplish far less than you will if you persevere against obstacles and secure an education. You should not delay in beginning the training of your intellect for service. If you are in our schools, plan to remain until thoroughly equipped for service in the message. If you are not in any of our schools, begin now to make the necessary preparation to be there *this year*.

G. B. THOMPSON.

Turning-Points in Life

"THE chance of a lifetime comes to every man." Often in life's pathway we come to turning-points where great results, and even destiny itself, depend on our decisions. It has been truly said that, "in the dawning of every life, there arises a star of hope. Whether that star sets over Sodom or Nazareth depends upon our purpose and our decisions in life." A great turning-point in the life of every young man and woman is the decision for or against a Christian education, as a preparation for a sphere of usefulness in God's work for this time. THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

Ease, worldly pleasure, social distinction, fame, or wealth may be the vision that presents itself to us on the one hand; but O! the glory of the consecrated life of toil for the Master! the joy of sins forgiven, the inestimable privilege of being a co-worker with Jesus in the salvation of a lost world, the great pleasure of the widening and extending of all our powers, spiritual and mental, in this life and through eternity! In this age of opportunity for young men, the greatest of all opportunities is to have a part in the closing conflict of the ages on God's side.

Dear youth, are you satisfied? This very summer is doubtless the turning-point in the lives of many. Have not many of you even thought, "It is now or never"? And that may be true of a large number who have not thought of it. "Sad will be the day for man when he becomes absolutely contented with the life he is living, with the thoughts he is thinking, and the deeds he is doing, when there is not forever beating at the door of his soul some great desire to do something larger which he knows he was meant and made to do, because he is a child of the eternal God."

"Woe to them that are at ease in Zion." Arouse yourself, young man, young woman! Determine that with God's help you will be all that he intends you should be. "Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for his children."

It is written by the spirit of prophecy that young men who might have been saved to the ministry have drifted into the worldly current because "the eventful period which decides the plans and course of life" had been allowed to pass, and the great decision for God not made, Think of it! Subtle influences drawing you gradually into the great worldly current which flows away from God! Kindly impulses, loving parents, interested friends, the heart's desire for the greatest good, high aspirations, the sweet influence of God's Holy Spirit pointing to the upward way, a preparation for and participation in the highest work committed to man - soul winning! Shall you, dear youth, be one of the large number of young people who shall enter our colleges and academies this fall, for service, and a preparation for larger service? Purpose in your heart to-day that you will.

M. E. KERN.

Get into Line

I ONCE stood before the Washington Monument, that colossal finger of stone pointing up into the very sky; but of more absorbing interest to me than the immensity of this monument to the greatness of the past, was the study of the people who crowded its base. The whole throng was moved with a single desire, and that was to enjoy the great expanse of vision which could be had only by reaching the top of this monument. This end could be achieved in two ways. One was to patiently and laboriously plod up the hundreds of steps that led to the top. The other was to take the elevator, which would rapidly and easily lift the visitor to the very pinnacle. Naturally all chose the elevator route. But this was not so easy as it sounds; because of the hundreds of people already in waiting, who had formed a line reaching around the entire side of the monument and far beyond. The forty people nearest the elevator door would be first taken. The rest must wait and slowly move up in turn to the place nearest the door.

The spirit with which the different visitors met this obstacle was a good index to their character. As I waited, I watched. One young man rushed up, and regardless of the line, marched straight to the entrance. "You will have to take your place in the line," said the guard. The visitor looked down the long line, which did not appear to be moving. "How long will it take?" he said. "Perhaps an hour, maybe two," said the guard, carelessly. "But I am in a hurry and can not possibly spend so much time," said the visitor, edging up toward the line nearest the door. But the guard was relentless. "Go to the end of the line," he said, and he meant it. Slowly the visitor started for the rear. In the meantime twenty or thirty more had arrived, and, taking in the situation, had gone directly into line; so that he was now just so much farther away. He finally got into line, and after what seemed an intolerable waiting, the line had moved by almost imperceptible advances until he could see the door. But there was still waiting ahead, and nervously looking at his watch, he saw the afternoon was going. His impatience got the better of him. He decided that if he ever reached the top of that monument, he must do it in some

other way. He left the line and tried the guard at the door once more; this time with the purpose of persuading the guard by his importunity, or by money considerations if neces-

sary, to allow him to enter the next car-load. But the guard is no respecter of persons, and apparently money is no temptation. When the young man, frustrated in his attempts, at

last thought to return to his place in the line, he found the gap had closed in and refused to open to him. His attempts to enter only called the guard, who coolly explained that, having lost his place, his only chance was to again go to the farthest end of the line. The young man grew angry. He stormed and fumed at the guard, at the unjust arrangement, at the very government that is responsible. But all this did not disturb the guard, and only made the crowd smile as they moved up another step. The young man was certainly to be pitied in his confusion and distress. He could not go back to the end and start all over again, and he could not go away without visiting the top of the monument. At last, in sullen despair, he started to climb the steps. Half an hour later as we were returning from the top, we saw our unfortunate friend slowly descending after having climbed about one third of the way. He had given up the attempt.

This incident has an application to the life of every young man and woman. They all wish to rise in life,- to reach the pinnacle of success, - and it is a worthy ambition. Education and training is the elevator which is to lift them up. But to obtain an education of either the head or the hand, means long years of waiting and working. There is no short cut. The guard is unmoved by pleadings. He is indifferent to wealth or rank. There is but one way; that is to get into the line that is advancing toward an education. How many view the length of the line, and declare they can not spend so much time in waiting! How many spend enough time waiting, waiting about the gate for an easier way, or in complaining at fate for making it so hard, to have started at the very end and have worked up. How many who are well started drop out of the line and lose their place because the line does not seem to move fast enough! Many turn away in despair, while others endeavor to retrieve their mistakes by trying to climb to the top without the needed education and training.

Young man, young woman, are you in the elevator line? Are you working toward an education? Young friend, it matters not how long the line may be; how many years of pushing and waiting there are ahead, there is but one thing to do. Get into line as soon as possible. It matters not how handicapped you may be by poverty or circumstances, how slowly you appear to be moving. You are better off so long as you are in the line of education than the man on the outside of the line who appears to enjoy more freedom at present, but who can never hope to rise, because he is not in the line that leads to the elevator.

My appeal to every young person is to determine to advance by getting an education or a training of some kind. The demand in the Lord's work, as in the work of the world, is for trained workers. There is always a call and an opportunity for a mind and a hand that is trained to think and to do. The youth who improves every opportunity of the present, no matter how small it may be, will in a few years from now find himself far up the line toward the gateway of success. Begin now. Get into line. When once there, let nothing tempt you to step out.—C. C. Nicola.

Two Pictures

THE Cultured Mind looked forth upon the world, and it was glad. Though bodily toil often sent its beating waves of deadening influence upon it, robbing it as well as the body of some of its accustomed strength, still it was glad, for it understood.

It understood the meanings of life.

Study and research had taught it the laws of nature. Through the study of the heavens it understood the cause of the seasons, the reasons for storms, the mystery of plant life, and the varying

phenomena of the natural world. Understanding the laws of physics, it could appreciate the inventions which men have sought out, and instead of looking upon them as almost supernatural creations, recognized in them the fruit of the conception of ideas in intelligent minds akin to its own.

Knowing the laws of civics, it understood the purposes of government. It recognized its rights, and knew when they were interfered with. It therefore yielded intelligent allegiance to its nation, instead of either the blind servitude or the unreasoning rebellion of the ignorant.

Being illuminated by the Spirit of God, and by its study of the writings of the prophets and historians understanding the times, it was able to grasp the world-wide idea of the purpose of God for this generation, and was capable of being used as a channel, not for a *rivulet* of God's love to flow through to the world, but as a great, broad *river*, upon whose bosom many souls were borne to the great ocean of God's boundless mercy, and safely into the harbor of eternal peace.

How had the Cultured Mind attained to this plane of living? Why was it enabled to see so much more in life, so much more in common duties, to have so much higher conceptions of the meaning of existence and its ultimate results? It had obeyed the still small voice that had pointed out the way of mental attainment as the surest road to the getting and keeping of the best things in this life, and of fitting it more fully to enter upon the joyous tasks of everlasting learning to be set in the world to come. It had said,—

"Though I could reach from pole to pole,

And grasp the heavens in my span,

I must be measured by my soul,-The mind's the standard of the man."

The Uncultured Mind went forth in its physical body into the world to do its daily toil, and it was indifferent. The body of which it was a part would toil until the setting of the sun, stopping now and then for a momentary respite to straighten its aching back or the twitching muscles. At such intervals the sodden mind would look forth upon the world through the windows of the soul in a face heavy with the emptiness of ages, but it would be an unseeing look, for it would understand not.

It knew not the deeper meanings of life; to eat and sleep and be physically satisfied was life to it. The canopied heavens, with their whirling



WASHINGTON MONUMENT

A Bit of Experience

After two years of observation and study, I have seen young men of the crab-apple type, practically useless to the message so far as human judgment goes, grafted with the sprouts of true education, Christian principle and the holy life, and assisted by the power of the Holy Spirit, bud, blossom, and bring forth noble Christian characters, possessing positive qualities and faculties of body, mind, and soul to the glory of God's blessed name. The same can be done for you, young reader. Do you believe it? Our schools can help you to get hold of the throne of God.

Henry Ward Beecher said: "It is not well for a man to pray cream and live skim-milk." Very true! Gcd wants you, young reader, to be cream; and cream, you know, by a natural process, always rises to the top. There is room on top. You are wanted.

How startled and chagrined some of us would be if we could see the tables of our rating which all who know us hold. Confess completely, not just once, but often. Be entirely honest with yourself. Don't you greatly need a thorough and immediate preparation for efficient service for the Master? Don't try to deceive yourself in any way. Say, *I will; I will* with the Lord's help be in school next fall, and shall stretch every nerve to answer God's call for to-day.

H. S. PRENER.

The Value of an Ideal

EACH youth has "only one life to live! only one!" And that life is the most sacred trust placed in his hands. It is his life, with its changing circumstances, its untrodden pathway, its weighty responsibilities, and its numberless opportunities for development. It is his life, but his to give. As he passes down life's pathway, he drops this gift into Time's great contribution box. And the best gift one can give to the world is a pure, unselfish, full-orbed life.

A finely equipped ship, with valuable cargo and an enthusiastic crew, steamed out of the harbor. It had no destined port in view. Time passed. The cargo was damaged; the supplies failed; the crew died. The forsaken barge drifted midocean,—a terror to passing ships. How absurd! How sad its fate! But sadder still for youth to sail upon Life's sea without seeking a definite haven. It is pulling the oars, but forgetting to guide the boat; it is making a living, but forgetting "to make a life worth living." As the drifting ship is a terror to passing boats, so the aimless, purposeless youth is a stumbling-block to his associates. Then,—

"Live for something, have a purpose, And that purpose keep in view; Drifting like a helpless vessel, Thou cans't ne'er to life be true; Half the wrecks that strew life's ocean, If some star had been their guide, Might have long been riding safely,— But they drifted with the tide."

Each youth needs an ideal. There is no substitute for it in keeping on life's true track, and running into all its stations on schedule time. It lifted the rail-splitter to the White House; it made the Englishmen's axes ring in the back woods of America; it made John Knox pray, "Give me Scotland, or I die." It closes the eye to the tinsel of the world, and the ear to its allurements, and lays life on the altar of service for humanity.

When the life of a youth is wedded to an ideal, circumstances breed opportunities for service and advancement. Temptations are more easily resisted. The monster of despair is put under double padlock. The youth rises above ridicule, and is neither crushed by criticism nor elated by flattery. Being awakened to his personal responsibility, he seeks to make each yesterday the foothill of to-day. A noble ideal emancipates him from the paralyzing influence of a self-centered life; and life's noblest ideal is conducive to the formation of a character of purity and solidity which will stand the final test.

All must rise against resistance. There is a mental and a spiritual gravitation as truly as a physical. But "in God's hard drills are promises of promotion;" and much of the value of an ideal is found in the efforts to gain the goal. Thorwaldsen became very melancholy when he painted his ideal. He saw nothing before to urge him on to better work. While you struggle to attain, spend time in preparing to run the race. From daily experiences, from associates, from books, from circumstances and nature, draw the material for transforming the torch in your pathway into a search-light. Forget not that as Wellington did not defeat Napoleon until Blücher came, so only when the youth co-operates with the Master of all, will his efforts yield highest success.

The broad river flows on to the ocean. It never turns back; it never deviates from its course. The trees along its banks quench their thirst from its cooling waters. So the life husbanded to a noble purpose, moves continually onward in its course, pays the highest rent to the world, deals out to others the choicest blessings, and promotes in them the growth of the noble but dormant desires.

While it is never too late in life to focus it upon a noble purpose, the golden hour for fixing life upon a high ideal, is in the days of youth. A farmer planted two small trees. The one was left to grow unmolested. The other, in the course of a few seasons, had been moved three times. Years passed. The trunks of those trees were compared. The first measured twenty-eight inches in circumference; the other, only nine and one half. It is better to start right than to go back and begin over.

The ideal of greatest value to any youth is to plan to meet God's plan. This is life's grand climax; for it incarnates purity in every fiber, and truth in every cell. The ideal ever recedes, ever urges onward to greater heights, for "higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for his children."

Then set before you a noble ideal, rivet your eyes upon it, husband your efforts to it, and it will be the sun which will draw from the soil of life the beautiful bloom of manly manhood, of noble womanhood. By the contract of self-surrender, form a compact with God; for before the union of his will and yours impossibilities become re-enforcements. In your solitary moments, meditate upon this ideal. It is the thoughts we dwell upon when alone that mold our careers. As you do this, you will be of service to men, of glory to God, and no bar across your pathway shall read, "Thus far and no farther."

MATILDA ERICKSON.

From Our Schools

Can One Earn One's Way? Mount Vernon College

POVERTY is not a hindrance in this generation, with its many opportunities of gaining an education. We find, by reviewing the history of the past, that some of our noblest men and women have educated themselves by their own individual efforts and self-sacrifice. FLORA E. JUDD.

I would strongly say, Yes; for nothing comes to him who does not seek. Judging from the condition of the world to-day, there are very few young people with ordinary ability who can not secure an education if a special effort is put forth. I would not give a snap for a young man who could not make his way through most of the Adventist schools. It will and must take ambition, energy, and a way to apply common sense. The writer is competent to testify, having had experience. J. ADDISON SOFFELL.

solar system hurling majestically through space, were but twinkling specks to this Uncultured Mind. The seasons came and went; the earth throbbed with the hope of maternity in the springtime, and bore food for the strengthening of the nations in the harvest; but all the Uncultured Mind was concerned about was the crop of a few paltry acres or the pitiful garden plot of a daylaborer.

If perchance a glimmer of the divine life percolated through the mask of indifference, and even all its powers responded in the full strength of their feebleness to the warming influence of the Sun of Righteousness, it was ever limited in its sphere of influence.

Life is growth. No uncultured and untrained mind, even yielded up as an instrument of God, can spring full-fledged into the arena of combat where trained intellects and mighty sons of men daily fight against principles of right and honor, and expect to do full honor to the cause of truth. As well might a little child go out to the harvest-field and essay to do a man's full work. There is no vigorous mind but one that is in use, no strong mind that is not developed by years of patient training. Many minds are more or less in an embryotic state, or, sadder still, from years of neglect have atrophied so far as development is concerned.

But the mercy of God is proved in that it gives every soul a place fitted to its capacity. God never loses anything. God never wastes anything. God never forgets anything. The ignorant and untutored mind that yields itself to God fully will be used by him to the limit of its capacity. But — and, young friends, this is the only truth I wish to point to — while God can use an ignorant mind to his glory, he can use a cultured mind to much better advantage, if both are equally consecrated to him.

This is the hour when God wants every son and daughter of his to be developed to the highest possible degree. Conservation of energy is needed in working for the world's redemption. Skilled workmen are the kind that waste the least material and accomplish the largest results. Training and study are what make skilled workmen; it has always been so, and always will be. It will take just that to make you one.

M. E. Ellis.

Whosoever Will, Let Him Come

THE object of an education is to unfold and to lay open to the sunlight all the faculties and powers of the body, mind, and soul. "A rosebud may be a beautiful thing in possibility, but its petals must be unfolded, its tints must be developed, its fragrance evolved, before it becomes a rose, or before it answers the call of its existence." Many of our young people have reached the budding point and stopped there, but God is not pleased with this. He insists that they should blossom and be fruitful; that they unfold to the world sweet and grateful influences; that they develop into faithful, fruitful servants of God and the message, valiant soldiers of Christ, skilful swordsmen of Zion, cultivating their own gifts and faculties to the top notch of excellence.

To this end our educational institutions have been planted that the youth of our denomination might get the necessary training to be better speakers of words and doers of deeds; that they might be reliable, consecrated fishers of men, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Witness that little, old, gnarled crab-apple tree, with its sour and bitter fruit which the farmer counts useless. It is possible for some one to come along who understands that a sprout can be grafted upon the limb or body of that useless tree, and assisted by nature, make that little old tree bud and blossom and bring forth the luscious Baldwin or Ben Davis or Pippin or Harvest apple — whatever kind of apple, in fact, the will of man bids it to yield.

If a person hasn't the amount of money on hand, and has a desire to obtain an education in a college, I think it would be right and proper to plunge right in and work to that purpose and end, and I believe success will crown his efforts. H. C. FERGUSON.

Students who have not the money to take them through school, and who have to work their way through, nearly always amount to the most in after life. They appreciate the value of an education because they obtained it by hard labor. An education is needed in every line of work, therefore one should try to gain it despite all obstacles. MABEL ANDRÉ.

South Lancaster Academy

By all means; it pays for a person to attend the school whether he has money ahead or not. It will cost more effort, much more, but he will never regret the experience and the education CLIFTON L. TAYLCR. gained.

It is not only wise, but perfectly possible, not only to plan to take a course in one of our schools, but to complete it. God has said that the burden of this work is to rest upon the young people, and also that we should have a preparation before entering this work. His biddings are enablings; this has proved true in the experience of many of us; and while at times it has seemed that it was impossible to go further, yet if we set our hand to the work, and are willing to cooperate with him, he will bring us the means. Many may earn their entire way through school by canvassing, thus gaining an experience in working for others, bringing the truth to many through the printed page, and then having the satisfaction at the end of a few years of having completed a course which has better fitted one to engage in God's work. C. P. CRAGEF.

Washington Training College

Two years ago last June I accepted the truth, and believed the Lord would soon come. I telt that I must attend school to study the message, and get the preparation necessary to enter the work of God. In January I went to the Washington Training College. I had but little means, but I trusted in the Lord to help me. I have been here three years, and he has not failed me once. I have found many ways of earning the required means for my schooling and the support of my family. Now I believe we have the best message to proclaim that has ever been proclaimed, and in order to give it in the best way we must have an education. God called for these schools, and he calls for young men and women to attend them. When young people say they can't afford it, let me tell you that is a suggestion of Satan. Don't listen to it, but where there is a will, there is a way. It may mean sacrifice, but the greater the sacrifice the greater the blessing. The Lord is soon to come; let us take courage and say, I will do something to help warn the poor souls that are living in sin. The Lord will then say unto us, when he comes, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

THEODORE B. WESTBROOK.

What Students Say

THE editor desired to have testimonials from the students of each of our training colleges, but responses from only two have been received. In some cases the schools had closed before the request was received by the principals.

The South Lancaster Academy has done *all*, or everything, for me. Words fail me to tell all it has done, therefore I use the word "everything." FREDA SAXILD.

South Lancaster Academy has given me an earnest desire to reach the ideal which God has set for me. ELIZABETH DUNSCOMBE.

It has been the means in the hands of God by which a fitness for his work has been gained while working with my hands to pay my way. Also a desire has been thoroughly implanted for a constant progress along edu cational lines - a beginning here which shall continue in eternity. FRANK A. PAGE.

My coming here has been the means of bringing me to Christ. If I had not come here, my life would have been utterly different from what it is now. Rose Muderspace.

I have never regretted the day that I made up my mind to come here. I can't begin to estimate the good that I have received. My ideas have been entirely changed, and I praise God with all my heart for the blessings that I have received from this Christian school. F. J. Joy.

Here I have learned of the third angel's message, and of the true Sabbath. I. SCHROEDER.

South Lancaster Academy has fixed my determination to devote my life to the service of God. It has made it possible for me to be of some use in the cause of present truth. This has been the best year of my life, and I am thankful to the Lord that he led me to this school. CLIFTON L. TAYLOR.

South Lancaster Academy has not only given me an education in books, but it has helped me to secure a deeper spiritual knowledge. BERENICE SMITH. deeper spiritual knowledge.

My experience has been a great blessing to me, and has inspired me with greater courage and zeal to go forward and get an education which will prepare me to better do the work which God has for me. I wish that all our young people could have this same privilege. CORA M. BOWERS.

South Lancaster Academy has given me a broader view of education; I have learned that it is principles and not men and women that turn the current of his-tory. The world needs individuals to represent prin-ciples. In school we may get the preparation neces-sary to represent God's principles. If we do not, others will take our places, and the work will go on without us. M. B. TEFFT.

South Lancaster Academy has been the means in God's hand of bringing my heart in closer touch with him. I believe I owe all that I ever may be to its FLORENCE CAMPBELL. influence.

The instruction received in South Lancaster Acad-The instruction received in South Lancaster Acad-emy has strengthened the desire in my heart to give my life-service to God, and to spend all of my time and energy in doing my part in giving the everlasting gospel to the world in this generation; it has helped to fit me in a measure to carry out this desire. I trust many of our young people may be led to this place, and be benefited in the same way. PAULINE SCHILBERG.

Since coming here I have had a deeper interest in the things of God. I have a greater desire than ever before to consecrate my life to the Lord and to his service. O that many more of our young people could have this privilege! CLARA M. STANDISH.

South Lancaster Academy has given me a better un-derstanding of the Bible, and makes me realize the need of more knowledge to fit myself for life's work. BERTHA RICHARDSON.

This school has helped me to set my aims higher and to do greater things for God, also to secure a better knowledge of God's love and interest for the CARRIE S. KEMMERER, young people of to-day.

Before coming here many points of present truth were obscure and uncertain in my mind; but they have become clear and more thoroughly understood. It has also given me a determination to complete my education that I may be fitted for a definite place in the closing work of this earth's history.

EMMA J. DUGAN.

I feel that I am not the same person that I was when I entered South Lancaster Academy; higher aims, and a determination for usefulness in this closing work constantly fill my mind when at leisure. I have a greater burden to have a part in the promulgation of the third angel's message, and as my special aptitude is the educational work, I am encouraged to have my purpose realized. "Have an aim, and reach it;" has appealed to me as my motto.

EVA. A. RICKARD.

South Lancaster Academy has done much for me in many, many ways. I have received great help from both teachers and students. In this school I have been taught the way to eternal life, for which I thank and praise God. IDA C. TROUT. praise God.

With a strong Christian faculty, and a like spirit pervading the school, there is to any earnest student every opportunity here for building a character that will be honored by God and man. I feel that my coming to the school was very fortunate for me. I am now preparing to do what I can in the work until our Lord FLORENCE LEO. comes.

Since I came to South Lancaster Academy last fall, I have learned to love the Lord, and because of this I accept the truth, and thank the Lord for it. A. E. KIBLER.

It has helped me to love righteousness and hate evil.

M. E. SHOUP. It has given me a greater desire to get more edu-

cation, and to interest others in the same. EDWARD SW.

It has helped me both spiritually and mentally. Money could not express the value of the instruction received. W. S. THOMAS.

South Lancaster Academy has given me an inspiration to do more faithful service for God. A. R. EVANS.

South Laneaster Academy has given me a fitting in Bible study that can never be valued. The association with those of like precious faith has helped me on the road to heaven more than anything else. R. D. BRISBIN.

When I came to South Lancaster Academy, I was surely on the road to destruction, but now I can truly say that I have a new aim in life, and that is to follow in the footsteps of the Master, and to devote my entire life to his work and service. I can not express in words how much South Lancaster Academy has done for me. MAURICE E. Rowe.

It has rubbed many of the "edges" off of me; made me more independent, better able to take care of myself. It has taught me to be more thoughtful of others and their wishes, and to improve my time more than I have been in the habit of doing. I have also re-I have been in the hast, ceived many spiritual blessings, THEODORA STEARNS,

South Lancaster Academy has filled my heart with a deep love for my dear Saviour and his work, and I believe that this school, and other schools similar to this, are the very best places to get a preparation for work in the cause of Christ. RUTH C. WILCOX.

South Lancaster Academy has helped to bring up my religious experience, and has given me a greater desire to help in the forwarding of this message. CLARA M. WORDEN.

The religious influence here has done much to make me a better Christian. I have been inspired with a for life are higher. ETHEL J. SANDERSON. My ideals for life are higher.

Mount Vernon College has benefited me not only by the facts I have learned, but by its Christian influence. It has been the means of strengthening my determination to prepare for useful work in my Master's vineyard wherever he may desire. MAYBELLE KLOPFENSTEIN.

Mount Vernon College has set forth broad principles with high ideals, that have benefited me very much. IRA J. GAULT.

Since coming here, I have learned to love the Lord, and my only reason for now being in school is that I may learn more of him, and be able to do a better work for my fellow men. I shall never regret the three years I have spent here, and I sincerely hope many more young people may have the same privilege. EDITH MAE FISHER.

I have not only received benefit along intellectual lines, but, best of all, I have been brought nearer to my Saviour. I know more of what he wants me to be. I am more determined to live as Jesus lived, and see him coming in the clouds with power and CHAS. STERLING. great glory.

This school has been of great benefit to me, along both spiritual and educational lines. My faith in God and the Bible has been much strengthened; and my knowledge of the blessed truth as it is revealed in Jesus has increased. I am glad that there are such schools where young men and women may fit them-selves for workers in God's cause.

CHARLES GLASCOCK.

While working among the East Indians of British Guiana, South America, I was made to feel the need of having a proper Christian education, without which I was convinced my efforts in trying to get these peo-ple to believe in Jesus would be almost a failure. After praying that an opportunity might be given me to get such an education, through the providence of God I came to Mount Vernon College. I can truthfully say that this college is enabling me to get such a preparation as will help me to be an efficient and faithful worker among Hindus and Mohammedans. CHAS. C. BELGRAVE.

Had I failed in every study, I should not think the past school year ill spent. My faith in God has been increased, and my only desire is to perfect a char-acter that will be acceptable unto God. M. EVA FLEMING.



Lesson Study for the Young People's Society

THIS number of the INSTRUCTOR is crowded full of well-written, inspiring articles concerning the needs of the world for the service of our young people, and the preparation on the part of the young people to be able to meet those needs the most successfully. A very helpful program can be prepared from the matter found in this number. Would it not be well to devote a part of the hour to the reading by the members of the Society that paragraph or article in the paper that made the strongest personal appeal to the reader?

If the leaders, before attempting to prepare a program, will thoughtfully read the entire paper, I am sure an effective program can be arranged, and a helpful service will result.



How One Valued Education

DR. SCHAUFFLER, of New York, said he remembered that, when he was a boy at home, his father would sometimes say: "'Mother, we must go without butter on the table for a while.' He never said: 'We can not afford to let Mary take music or German.'

"When we children asked why we could not have cake and pastry, as our neighbors did, he would say: 'We can not afford to have those things and an education too. These things for the table are a gratification for a few minutes, but an education is forever." Out of that home went educated men and women who have been world-wide in their influence and power to bless. - Jennie M. Bingham.

Keeping Engagements

A FRIEND of mine was having a private conference with President Roosevelt, discussing a matter of much importance, when his personal telephone bell rang. The President answered, and a boyish voice said, "Who is this?"

" It is the President."

"Is Archie there?"

"He is not here, but I think he is somewhere about."

"Well, he promised to come and play with me at 2 P. M., and now it is 3 P. M., and he has not come, and I am very much disappointed."

"I will look the matter up at once," said the man of affairs. He spoke with as much interest and determination as would have been manifested over any question of statecraft or public policy. Turning to the house telephone, he soon located Archie, and said: "Did you have an engagement to meet a playmate at 2 P. M.; and, if so, why have you not kept it?"

"O, yes, I promised to meet one of the boys, but I forgot all about it.'

"Go to him at once, and apologize."

The President then gave his son a homily on the morality of keeping an engagement, something like this: Not to keep an engagement is to be guilty of a species of falsehood, and it should be as carefully avoided as any other variation from the truth. Charge your mind with

the fact so that you will be in no more danger of forgetting it than you would be of forgetting any moral or religious duty. Such action is a great help in the development of a manly character. If you play fast and loose with these promises, you will lose the fine sense of duty, and undermine your whole character.

If you keep engagements as a boy, you will keep them as a man; if you are careless with them now, you will have to learn

forget that honor and manliness require you to Mr. Butters, the Plymouth oculist, pronounced my keep all your engagements, or to make timely and adequate explanation .- Selected.

What a Blind Man Accomplished

DR. JAMES GALE, who died early in March in his seventy-fourth year, was probably the most wonderful blind man who ever lived. The victim of a terrible and crushing physical affliction in his early youth, he triumphed over it by sheer force of mind and character, and won for himself the proud but pathetic title of the "blind inventor," by which he was known all over England.

That, however, conveys but a faint idea of his various claims to distinction. His many degrees included those of doctor of philosophy and master of arts. He was a fellow of the Royal Geological Society and the Chemical Society. He made many valuable scientific discoveries. His inventions covered a wide range, from rapid-fire, breech-loading rifles to electrical alarm-clocks.

As a doctor he once saved a millionaire's life, and was paid the largest fee ever recorded in the annals of medicine - two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

He did a score of things any one of which would have sufficed to win distinction for a man possessed of all his faculties. His greatest achievements were those which would seem to demand good eyesight above everything. The man himself was a greater marvel far than any of the wonderful things he did.

His death was entirely unexpected. He was a sturdy, vigorous man, on whom the burden of old age rested so lightly that he carried himself as straight as a pine tree.

Dr. Gale lived in a modest, four-story mansion in Adelaide Road, Hampstead. The place is called "Galesmead," and on the door was a large brass plate, with the words, "Dr. Gale, Consulting Electrician."

Accepted Little Assistance in His Blindness

To a member of the press, who was calling upon him a short time previous to his death, Dr. Gale said: ---

"I have made it a principle all my life never to allow any one to assist me. From the earliest days - I lost my sight at fifteen, and now am over seventy - I have done everything that was possible alone.

" My boyhood was spent in the town of Tavistock, Devonshire, and I attended the local

school there before I became blind. For some years I had noticed that something was wrong with my sight, but I was so sensitive about this defect that, for a long time, I managed to conceal from my parents and teachers the nature of my trouble.

"I concealed my trouble for a considerable time, and then the family doctor was called in. I doubt if my sight could have been preserved even with the most skilful attention; but, whatever the chance there was of it, he destroyed by ignorant treatment. When I was taken to competent oculists in Plymouth, my case was hopeless. What mental and physical agony I suffered during the gradual eclipse of my sight no hu-

new principles, or be a failure in life. Never man tongue could convey. Nevertheless, when final doom, I being then sixteen years of age, it came as a most terrible blow, and for some minutes I could not speak; there was a great lump in my throat, and a tear in my eye. Mr. Butters sought to comfort me by telling me that his own sight was failing, and that, in a few months' time, he, like me, would be blind.

"'Ah, yes,' I said, bitterly, 'but you have seen the world. I have not, and never shall.'

"I remained thinking for a minute or two, and then, summoning up all the grit I possessed, I said: 'If God wills it, he knows best. What must be will be. And,' I added, putting my hand up to a tear that trickled down my face, 'God helping me, this is the last tear I shall ever shed for my blindness.' It was.

How He Kept up His Studies

"My father did all he could for me," Dr. Gale went on. "When I became blind, he gave me the choice of either having two persons read to me and write for me, or else of going to some institution for the blind. I decided to employ



secretaries to read to me, and by this method and by closely training my memory I soon found that I was able to make considerable progress in my studies. In those early days I was deeply interested in chemistry, and, before many years, I managed to master the subject fairly well so far as it then went.

"On one occasion I was experimenting with some gunpowder. In order to deaden its explosive effects, I mixed it with some fine sand. To my surprise, I found that the explosive power of the powder was destroyed. In after years, when I wished to invent a non-explosive form of gunpowder, I made this childish experience the basis of my experiments, and was successful, not only in inventing a non-explosive powder, but in enlisting the substantial interest of the British, French, and other governments.

Some of His Inventions

"While speaking of my inventions, I might mention that I also designed an ammunition slide gun, by means of which one hundred and fortysix shots per minute could be fired from a rifle, a fog shell, a balloon shell, and the rudder bell cartridge. I also invented various electric alarmclocks, with fire and burglar alarms. It might be interesting for you to know that I carried out the first electric-light installation at Plymouth for the Horticultural Society's exhibition."

In consequence of his inventions, Dr. Gale received flattering recognition, not only from Queen Victoria and the prince consort, but also from Napoleon III, of France, the then czar of Russia, and the rulers of many other countries, besides, as already mentioned, having degrees conferred on him by many learned bodies.

How He Earned \$250,000 Fee "People have come to me with some remarkable complaints," Dr. Gale went on. "One man



came who was suffering from paralysis, the result of lead poisoning, and every doctor had given him up. I placed him in a bath, treated him electrically in the water, and in the course of time I managed to get white lead oozing from the roots of his finger nails.

" It was the same with my millionaire patient. Sir William Ferguson gave him just six days to live, and advised me, for the sake of my professional reputation, not to touch the case. He had gangrene of the big toe and aneurism of the same leg. He was too old a man to operate on, otherwise Sir William would have taken off his foot. I took him, believing that I might cure him by electricity and massage. Before long I had got the bad place down to the size of a dollar, then down to a pin head, and then, finally, he was cured, and lived several years afterward. He was so grateful that he insisted on paying me a fee that was the largest sum of money I believe ever bestowed for medical service upon any physician - two hundred and fifty thousand dollars .- Young People's Weekly.

Is a Training Necessary?

THIS is a question that faces every young person. Life, character, and destiny are before us. Time and endowed talents are the means at our disposal, and the use we make of them at the present time determines what our future life, character, and destiny will be.

Time is the workshop, talents are the tools, experience is the workman that molds character. Experience is made up of environments in which we place ourselves, or in which we are placed. We are given the privilege of choosing and making our own environments, hence our character is the product of our own choosing. Therefore our environments will be no excuse for a careless or misdirected life.

In view of these stern facts, and in the face of the opportunities God has given our young peop e, under the proclamation of the third angel's message, for taking part in the most glorious work that can be given to men, a most solemn question confronts us with immediate demands. What will be our training for the part God designs that we should do? He has a place for every consecrated young person. "Not more surely is there a place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the place designated on earth where we are to work for God." We may not, at first, know this place, but God knows it, and he will direct us to it if we trust and follow.

"Sometimes the youth may mistake a call to preparation for a call to service." "Some who contemplate becoming missionary workers may think themselves so far advanced that they do not need all this particular drill, but those who feel thus are the very ones who stand in the greatest need of thorough training." "Many feel that they are fitted for a work that they know scarcely anything about, and if they start in to labor in a self-important manner, they will fal to receive that knowledge which they must obtain in Christ's school."—"Gospel Workers," page 287.

287. "Young men who desire to enter the field as missionaries, colporteurs, or canvassers should first receive a suitable degree of mental training, as well as a special preparation for their calling. Those who are uneducated, untrained, and unrefined are not prepared to enter a field in which the powerful influences of talent and education combat the truths of God's Word."—"Gospel Workers," page 292.

The way some young people, as well as older ones, treat the matter of fitting themselves for life's work, one would come to the conclusion that they did not think it important to attend school. A lack of desire to receive a training for service in some line of work denotes the absence of ambition to make the best of life, no definite object — drifting. The young person whose perception has been quickened by a realization of the world's need simply can not remain indifferent to the situation. As soon as he comes to realize this, he will sense the need of receiving the best possible training for his work.

This is why Seventh-day Adventists have established schools, and the Adventist young person who fails to put forth every effort within his power to avail himself of training offered by them is not realizing the world's greatest need. "The Third Angel's Message to the World in this Generation," is our watchword.—W. E. Hancock.

How William Cobbett Got an Education

THE truth of the scripture that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom," has many striking illustrations. William Cobbett was a poor private soldier in the British army a hundred years ago - a time when the private soldier was not cared for as he is to-day. "I learned grammar," says Cobbett, " when I was a private soldier on the pay of sixpence a day. The edge of my berth was my seat to study in, my knapsack was my bookcase, a bit of board lying on my lap was my writing table. I had no money to purchase candle or oil. In winter-time it was rarely that I could get any evening light but that of the fire, and only my turn even of that. To buy a pen or a sheet of paper I was compelled to forego some portion of food, though in a state of half starvation. I had to read and write amid the talking, laughing, singing, whistling, and brawling of at least half a score of the most thoughtless of men." Still, notwithstanding these discouragements, Cobbett discovered a way out of ignorance - a way that led to fame, and honor, and knowledge. He succeeded in producing books which will remain as models of their kind so long as the language lasts.

Many a man has found his conversion to Christ the inspiration for a struggle toward wisdom and achievement that has transformed him intellectually as surely as divine grace has changed him spiritually.— Selected.

The Success of One Man

CHARLES D. WALCOTT, who recently stepped from the post of director of the Geological Survey, which he had held for many years, to become secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, has won

> his way to the front in the face of tremendous financial difficulties.

Very early in life he determined to become a geologist. He had no money with which to attend either a technical school or a college, and the necessity of earning his own living took

up most of his time. At eighteen he went into a steel and hardware establishment, where the hours were long and the work hard, yet never so long nor so hard as to prevent him from devoting some time out of each day to study. Later, in order to get nearer to nature, he threw up his post and went to the country, where for five years he labored as a farm-hand, devoting every minute of leisure to tramping over the hills of New York, hammer in hand, chipping away at the rocks he came across.

When twenty-six years old, he became a member of the New York Geological Survey, thus for the first time earning his living from the work to which he had devoted himself in his leisure time for thirteen years. Three years later he went to the United States Geological Survey, receiving a salary of only fifty dollars a month at the start.

After this, however, his rise was rapid. His attainments, so painfully acquired, were thorough. Step by step he climbed, as his splendid qualifications became known, until, a few years ago when the former director of the survey retired, Mr. Walcott was unanimously recognized as the natural successor to the place. To-day his reputation as a scientist is second to none. He has been honored by degrees from several of our leading universities, is a member of the leading scientific societies of the world, numbering more than a score, and has been awarded medals by the foremost foreign geological societies. His new post gives him enlarged opportunities for scientific work in other lines, but lines kindred to those he has so long followed.— Christian Endeavor World.

"I Think I Can"

A TOMBSTONE in a certain large graveyard bears this inscription, "He meant well, he tried a little, but he failed much." What can be more lamentable than for young people to neglect to make the most of themselves because of discouraging circumstances? "Nature arms each man with some faculty which enables him to do easily some feat impossible to another."

An acorn is not responsible for the kind of seed it may be, but it is responsible to make the most of the sunlight, the dew, and the rain in developing its physical possibilities of growth. Does not the tiny daisy have a mission to perform, as well as the great pine which raises its head hundreds of feet above the modest flower? Even though we can not pass the boundaries of the possibilities set in the germ of life, we can prevent the dwarfing or half development of our being. Our grand object in life is not so much to determine what we shall be as to develop into what we were intended to be.

These golden days are laden with opportunities. Living in this enlightened age and country, in which opportunities surround us on every side, how can we sit with folded hands, asking God to do the work for us for which he has already given us the necessary ability and strength? We should not wait for opportunities. We should make them, as thousands of noble examples encourage us to do.

To the unbiased and ambitious young man or young woman a college course offers the most attractive and probable way of securing high ideals and a large capacity for usefulness.

True education consists in drawing out and developing all the human faculties and the preparation of the individual to grasp and improve the opportunities and responsibilities of life.

"The specific place appointed us in life is determined by our capabilities. Not all reach the same development, or do with equal efficiency the same work. But each should aim just as high as the union of human with divine power makes it possible for him to reach."—"Education," page 267.

"Remember that you will never reach a higher standard than you yourself set. Then set your mark high, and step by step, even though it be by painful effort, by self-denial and sacrifice, ascend the whole length of the ladder of progress. Let nothing hinder you. Opposing circumstances should create a firm determination to overcome them."—"Christ's Object Lessons," pages 331, 332.

We can go to the top and secure a good education if we say with Paul, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," and are as persistent as a little engine I heard of the other day.

A loaded freight-train was trying to climb a steep grade, at the top of which were the railroad yards. The train got stuck and could not move. It whistled for help to a lightning express train, which had just come in from a long journey. The train whistled back, "I can't come; I am tired; I have just completed a long run." Then the stalled train signaled to a limited ex-



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press to come to its assistance, but no help came. In its desperation the engine again signaled for help, this time to a little thirty-inch drive-wheel yard engine, which responded favorably and started down the track, saying, "I think I can!" "I think I can!" "I think I can!" "I think I can!" The engine coupled on, and the two engines pulled. All the time the little engine said, "I think I can!" "I think I can!" "I think I can!" and the summit was reached. The small engine uncoupled, and started off on another track, saying, "I thought I could!" "I thought I could!" "I thought I could!" "I thought I could !" C. L. BENSON.

Words of Counsel

WHAT sweeter message could our King send than this he has sent to us, that a large part of the burden of this closing work will fall upon our youth? And yet sometimes it would almost seem as if even these words from heaven had fallen upon ears deafened by the music of this world. The King sends word that he needs you, and what reply have you made? You say, I must have a preparation. Yes, indeed; the best it is possible to get, and God will aid you.

Let no one say the way is hedged up to him. Satan, with all his forces, can not, and God will. not, prevent you from obtaining the true education the Lord wants you to have; and it will be worth to you far more than it can possibly cost NED S. ASHTON. you to secure it.

God can use all classes of men and all grades of intellect in his service. But our schools are established to stand for and to give that training which will enable the gospel worker to do his work most effectually - most quickly and most thoroughly. FREDERICK GRIGGS.

The training-school is an integral factor of every mission field in this wide world. In many features of the work the pupil may be engaged in the field of his choice even while he is pursuing his literary studies. The mission fields look to the schools for trained laborers. God has need of every entrusted talent. There is a place for every one to fill. He says to each one, Go and improve thy gift. L. A. HOOPES.

THE needs of the wide world appeal to us for ministers, physicians, nurses, and teachers. We believe that our greatest lack is not the means to send the men, but it is the properly trained men, fitted to answer the calls that come to us from Europe, Africa, and Asia. In every country we have entered, we need young men and women who know what it is to fight the good fight of faith, and to teach others how to fight it. A whole army of such youth are needed. As the young people flock to our schools, our earnest prayer is that they may there be able so to submit to the will of God for them, that they shall come forth sharpened and prepared for the struggle against darkness, superstition, unbelief, ready to respond to the Master's call, and willing to remain at their post until they have finished the work he has committed to them. L. R. CONRADI.



III - Abraham's Visitors

(July 20)

LESSON SCRIPTURES: Gen. 17:1-5; 18:1-8,

17-33. MEMORY VERSE: "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Heb. 13:2.

Lesson Story

1. When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him again, and said, "Thou shalt be a father of many nations. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy

name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee."

2. One day when Abraham was sitting in the door of his tent in the heat of the day, he looked up, and saw three men coming toward him. One of these was the Lord himself; the other two were angels; but Abraham did not know this, for they were all dressed like travelers going on foot from one place to another.

3. It was a rule of Abraham's to be kind to all strangers; so when he saw the three weary men, he ran out to meet them, and asked them to come in and rest under the shade of a tree. "Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet," he said, " and I will fetch a morsel of bread, . . . after that ye shall pass on." And the men answered Abraham, "So do, as thou hast said."

4. "And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth. And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it. And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat."

5. When the men had eaten and rested a while, they rose up, and looked toward Sodom, the wicked city where Lot now lived. As they started on their journey, Abraham went a little way with them. Then the Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do?" So sending the two angels on ahead, the Lord told Abraham that the cities of Sedom and Gomorrah were so wicked that he had come down to visit them.

6. Abraham understood that the Lord would destroy these wicked cities, and as he thought of Lot and his family, he feared that if the city of Sodom was destroyed, they would lose their lives. For though Lot had only pitched his tent near Sodom when he went to the plain, it was not very long before he had his family moved into the city to live.

7. Then Abraham pleaded with the Lord to spare the city. "Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city," he said, "wilt thou ... not spare the place for the fifty?" And the Lord, who is so full of mercy, answered: "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes."

8. "And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes: peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it."

9. Then Abraham asked the Lord to spare the city if forty righteous should be found there; and the Lord said he would spare it for forty. And Abraham said, Perhaps there will be thirty there. And the Lord answered again, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." Again Abraham pleaded for the city. "Peradventure there shall be twenty found there," he said. And again the Lord answered, "I will not destroy it for twenty's sake."

10. "And he said, O let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

11. "And the Lord went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place."

Questions

I. Tell the story of last week's lesson. Who, came to Abram when he was ninety-nine years old? What name did the Lord give to him at this time?

2. Where was Abraham sitting one day? When he looked up, what did he see? Who were these men? Did Abraham know them?

3. How did Abraham treat all strangers?

What did he do when he saw these men? What did he urge them to do? How did the men answer? What does our Memory Verse tell us we should not forget?

4. What did Abraham ask Sarah, his wife, to prepare quickly? What did Abraham himself do? Describe the meal that he took out to the weary strangers under the tree. What did Abraham do while they ate?

5. After the men had eaten and rested, what did they do? Who went with them? What did the Lord say? Where did he send the two angels? What did he now tell Abraham he was going to do?

6. Why was Abraham so anxious that the city of Sodom should not be destroyed?

7. For how many righteous persons did Abraham first ask the Lord to spare the city? What did the Lord say he would do?

8. What did Abraham then ask? How did the Lord answer?

9. Tell how Abraham still pleaded for the city. How did the Lord answer Abraham each time?

10. For what small number did Abraham finally ask that the city might be spared? What did the Lord say he would do?

11. After this where did the Lord go? Where did Abraham return?



III - God's Covenant Broken

(July 20)

MEMORY VERSE: "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." James 2:10.

Questions

1. What did Adam bring into the world by his disobedience? Rom. 5: 12.

2. In disobeying God what did Adam transgress? Hosea 6:7; see margin.

3. Then what is the penalty for the violation of God's covenant? Deut. 30: 18; note 1.

4. In what form did God declare his covenant to his people? Deut. 4: 12, 13.

5. Prove that Adam and Eve in transgressing God's covenant broke the ten commandments. Rom. 5: 12.

6. With which commandment did their transgression begin? Gen. 3:6; Rom. 7:7.

7. Mention other precepts of the law which they broke in this first sin. Col. 3:5; Ex. 20:15, and other scriptures.

8. What is true of those who violate even one precept of the law? James 2: 10.

9. Show how the angels broke God's covenant when they sinned, just as Adam and Eve did in their first sin. Compare Isa. 14:13, 14, and Gen. 3:4, 5; note 2.

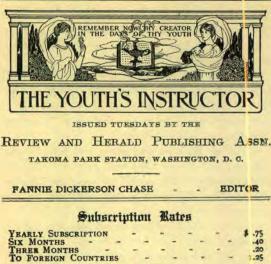
10. Into what condition did the violation of God's covenant bring man? 1 John 3:15.

II. Is the same true of the fallen angels? 2 Peter 2:4, 9; note 3.

Notes

1. We have found in our study thus far that God has given to all, both angels and men, the power of choice. But the condition of the covenant between God and his creatures is "obey and live." And since harmony can not exist where there is sin, it can only be brought about by the destruction of all who persist in choosing to do wrong. Hence death must be the penalty for, and consequence of, sin.

2. Satan coveted power and position. He exalted himself above God. Those who followed him and fell with him place him above God in their minds. Hence all fallen angels violated God's covenant in the same way that Adam did. 3. By these acts of sin both angels and man lost eternal life, and were shut up under condemnation to death.



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One Tenth Pay Their Way

MR. JOHN CARVER says college statistics prove that one tenth of all the students attending colleges and universities in the United States are self-educating, earning every cent necessary for their living and tuition. What young men of the world can do from worldly interests alone, our young men and women need not fear to attempt for God and truth.

Our Needs

WE need a well-disciplined, cultivated class of young men and women in the sanitarium, in the medical missionary work, in the office of publication, in the conferences of different States, and in the field at large. We need young men and women who have a high intellectual culture, in order that they may do the best work for the Lord .- Mrs. E. G. White.

Is It You?

Some of our young people who ought to be definitely planning to enter one of our trainingschools the coming autumn are thinking that they can not give up their home associations, their business prospects, and worldly pleasures for a course of study in one of our schools. In their hearts they are saying that they can have an easier, better time if they settle down at home and give up the idea of going to school. They may perhaps be saying that they can do as much for God where they are and without further education; but if all such will delay making a final decision until they have thoughtfully read every word of this paper, I believe the angel of God will point them to some one of our training schools, and say, "This is the way, walk ye in it." I believe, too, if they will reverently follow the angel's bidding, blessings manifold will come to them. Now is the time for hundreds of our young people to awake to their responsibilities and opportunities. Let them cut loose from all worldly pleasures and attractions, and give themselves up to an earnest preparation for the Master's service. This is their safety. A few years ago a North German Lloyd steamship was in the harbor of Gibraltar. The captain gave orders to get up the anchor. "The engine puffed at its task, but went slower and slower, until finally the crank broke, and a hundred feet of chain shot out. The anchor was caught in the rocks. A gale was blowing, and a heavy sea running. The ship began to drift rapidly upon a fleet of British men-of-war. The captain rushed down from the bridge, and shouted instant orders to cut the chain. A mechanic with a huge coldchisel and sledge began to cut one of the mighty links. When only a thin strip of metal was left, the captain himself assumed the final responsibility, and with a small hatchet cut the last vestige

of iron. The link split open like torn cloth under the great strain, and the vessel left the valuable anchor, chain and all, in the bottom of the harbor, and in a few hours reached a sea where all was calm and peace." So God often calls us to cut the chain that holds us to the past, with all its old associations, and sail out through wind and waves, firm in the assurance that he will bring us to a sea of safety. And we may know, whenever we are bidden to do this, that by obedience to the command our opportunity for service will be greatly enlarged.

You Owe It to the Lord

THE young person who rightly values knowledge and mental power, will not allow ordinary difficulties to deter him from realizing the full fruition of his educational aspiration and endeavor. What if it does take hard work to get the money, the reward is worth infinitely more than the cost. Thousands of young people have thought it worth while to endure much for the worldly advantages to be gained by a thorough course of study; others for the sake of the personal satisfaction and pleasure have put forth strenuous effort to secure an education; but our own young people have received direct command from the Lord to enter our training-schools, and fit themselves for service in the Master's work. They owe it to the Lord, as well as to themselves, to obey this command. The Saviour has done his part for their salvation, and he still stands ready to render them any needed assistance. But he calls upon them to lend a helping hand in his work for the world. As he sees the end approaching, and the conflict growing more intense, he urges them to make haste to prepare themselves, that when the final call comes, they may be ready to work faithfully by his side in the last service for the salvation of the world. Will you, as one of our young people, heed his admonition to begin immediate preparation?

It is said that the Saviour yearned to have the rich young ruler relinquish his heart's hold upon his worldly possessions, and to ally himself to him; for he saw that the young man possessed abilities and traits of character that would make him a valuable worker. But when the young ruler chose riches rather than the preparation for service to which the Saviour was calling him, the Master was greatly grieved.

You may be one to whom the Saviour is looking as longingly as he did to the young ruler. Will you, too, disappoint him?

Thoughts for Parents

As a church, as individuals, if we would stand clear in the judgment, we must make more liberal efforts for the training of our young people, that they may be better fitted for the various branches of the great work committed to our hands .- Mrs. E. G. White.

How to Interest the Youth in Education

WE can not arouse the youth on the subject of education until we ourselves feel the value of an education. I once visited a church in the interests of a school. In that church I met a young lady whose apparent usefulness led me to endeavor to persuade her to attend college the following year. Her parents admitted the wisdom of the step, but saw no need of incurring the necessary expense. I urged the matter home; I prayed with them, and finally, in leaving, I earnestly laid the matter on their conscience.

A month rolled away. The State camp-meeting came. Upon arriving on the ground, among the first persons whom I met were these parents and the daughter. Without waiting for any remarks from me, the mother exclaimed, "O, you know that when you left our home, we felt that

we could not spend the money to send our daughter to school! We have now changed our minds. Shortly after your departure our best horse died. Following this we lost our finest cow. When buying animals to replace these, we felt guilty. We were ashamed to think that we could find money to expend on our cows and horses, yet we had hesitated to invest enough to train our daughter for God's service. We have now decided to send her to school."

This is the first way I would suggest of bringing young people to the place of education: Lay it upon the consciences of their parents, their guardians, or the youth themselves.

The most powerful means which urges on the uninstructed to secure an education, is conversion. I labored in a church in Wisconsin to arouse the son of a certain Sabbath-keeper to go to school. He seemed to have no ambition, either earthly or heavenly. All my efforts on him were lost until the grace of God seized his heart and brought him captive to the cross. Immediately he enrolled himself as a candidate for the ensuing year.

In this line church elders can do much. One of the ablest young workers in France, who attended our Paris school, was a young man, converted, instructed, and inspired in the truth by the faithful, spiritual labors of the church elder. From my experience in the circle, I can say, Thank God for consecrated church elders.

A third way is to impress upon the young the fact that true education is a missionary training. There is a nobleness in the youth which craves to do the right. The evil in their character has not, as in later years, overshadowed the good. If they see nothing in education but hard study, their inspiration may not rise very high; but if they are taught to consider it as a training for the advancement of the kingdom of heaven, their spiritual ambition will be excited, as well as their intellectual. For this reason many true young men turn their faces to Moody's training-schools. Press home upon the attention of the youth the possibility of their obtaining an education which will make them not only useful on earth, but also builders of the kingdom to come, and they will respond.

To the distribution of suitable literature we owe the awakening and useful development of many a youth. I recall a college roommate who was started into training for greater responsibilities by this means. He cared for his father's sheep, and had no thought or ambition other than that he would be a sheep raiser all his life. One day a canvasser leaped over the fence and persuaded him to buy a book setting forth the principles and possibilities of education. From that hour on my friend seized with inspired resolution the ladder of growth, and his eye was fixed on the highest round. Alternately attending and teaching school, he paid all expenses through the different grades until he went forth from the university a successful doctor. Let suitable literature be prepared on this subject, and widely distributed. Let it be pithy, inspiring, setting forth the ways and means. It will deposit the seed of success in the hearts of the young, which later, like the leaven, will expand his three measures of meal - body, intellect, and spirit.

Much might be said upon the benefits of providing a little financial encouragement. The announcement of financial provision, however small, for worthy students, has often proved the crutch which has helped many to walk. One year's attendance at school produces great results for new students. One year will open his eyes to possibilities, will place before him unthought-of models, and will impregnate his brain with new ideas and ideals. These ideas set up a ferment. which never rests until the product stands before us, a visible achievement. Make all effort, I say, financial and otherwise, to get the young people B. G. WILKINSON. to school.