

The Welcome Visitor.

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another."

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The Welcome Visitor

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PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE SALE OF CHRIST'S OBJECT LESSONS.

One of the main reasons why the plan the Lord has given us for removing the debts of our schools by the sale of "Object Lessons" has not been carried out more fully, because we as a people have not been made to feel the personal responsibility that rests upon us. When the Lord revealed this plan, and called upon His people to take this means for removing our school debts, there was a call for a definite, forward movement. It meant that all of our people in America must sell on an average of six books per member in order to remove the entire indebtedness. If every member had fully sensed his personal responsibility to sell six books, and had gone at it earnestly and perseveringly, the entire quota would have been sold inside of two months, and the great burden of debt would have been removed from all our schools.

This was not done. Somebody failed to appreciate his personal responsibility. Perhaps you, dear reader, did not realize this as keenly as you should, nor as you may at the present time. Had you sensed this, very likely you would have made a much more earnest and determined effort to carry out this plan than you did. Now that you have been thoroughly aroused, you feel that you must surely do your part in this blessed work. Perhaps you have taken your quota, with a determination that you will sell them. I sincerely pray that every believer in the third angel's message will in some way be aroused to a sense of his personal responsibility.

But there are some whose responsibilities are much greater than the mere selling of a certain number of

books. When they have sold their quota, it devolves upon them to help their brother to sell his. This is certainly true of Conference presidents, committeemen, ministers, Bible workers, and church elders and deacons. In a certain sense, the responsibility of selling three hundred thousand copies of "Object Lessons" rests upon the General Conference committee. Not that the members of the committee are to go out and sell this number personally. This they can not do; but they are to so place this divine plan before Union and State Conference committees, all the ministers, church officers, and the whole people that every one will be made to sense his personal obligations in this. It is God's work. The general conference committee have accepted the highest responsibilities of the denomination, to see that every feature of the Lord's work is carried out by those to whom the work pertains. In this sense they are responsible for the sale of three hundred thousand copies. If the committee fail through unbelief, indifference, or incapacity to carry this work through successfully, they fail to accomplish that for which they have been selected by the Lord and His people, and it would only be reasonable for them to step aside, and let the work fall into the hands of men who will see that it is carried through.

Passing from the General Conference, the same principle is applicable to Union and State Conferences, ministers, and church officers. Each Union Conference committee is responsible for the sale of a certain number of books per member for its entire membership. And the same is true of each State Conference committee. Each committeeman can sell his quota, and perhaps a few more; but they cannot stop there, they must see that the Conference employes, the church officers, and the brethren and sisters do their part of the work. The minister can sell his quota and many more; but his duty is not done with this; he must help every church

officer within the sphere of his influence to realize that he has a work to do for the members of his flock. He must also help every church member to sense the individual responsibility resting upon him, and must place this matter so clearly and wisely before all that they will be led to do what they see to be duty.

To me, it seems as clear as can be that when the conference committees, the ministers and other Conference laborers, and the church officers sense the direct personal responsibility resting upon them in this matter, it will be very easy for them to induce the masses of our people to take hold of this work with a will, and when this is done, it will not be long until the three hundred thousand copies of the book will be sold, and the last debt removed from our schools.

Again I state that the reason why this work has not been done before this is because very few have sensed the personal responsibility resting upon them. The Lord now calls upon us to arouse. If there is a Conference president or a member of a Conference committee, or a Conference laborer, or church officer who can not be made to sense his responsibility, he is certainly unworthy of the place he holds, and ought to step out and let some one who can be aroused to the meaning of this call from the Lord, take his place. And still further, any man who holds any of these important offices, and who sees his responsibility, but shirks it from indifference or fear, or because the work is unpleasant, is unworthy of the position he occupies, and ought to let another more worthy, and who will do the work, be placed in charge.

This is the way we reason about other things. The man who applies for the position of commander of a great ship must not only realize the greatness of the responsibility, and be willing to do all in his power to command the vessel, but he must command it. He must not only manage it on a calm sea, but in the howling storm and the raging bil-

lows. Nothing short of that will meet the mind of those who risk their lives in his care.

Looked at from this broad standpoint, the present campaign in behalf of the sale of "Object Lessons" in some of our states is full of meaning. We all acknowledge that the Lord calls us to do this work, and I rejoice to see so many of the Conference officers responding to this call so cheerfully. They are making earnest efforts to carry this work through. I believe that success will crown their efforts. If the ministers and church officers upon whom they rely for co-operation, will do their duty, if every one being paid by the tithes will persevere in this good work, a great wave of earnestness and activity will be seen, and the task will be speedily accomplished.

For this glorious result let all believers in the message earnestly pray.

A. G. DANIELS.



TO APPEAR IN THE MARCH
SENTINEL OF CHRISTIAN
LIBERTY.

Do you want to know what the Roman Catholic theory with regard to the relation of church and state is? And do you want to learn this first hand from an ardent Catholic who knows what it is, who thoroughly believes in it, and who states it frankly and unequivocally? Then do not fail to get the March Sentinel of Christian Liberty and as many numbers thereafter as are necessary, and read the series of articles which commence in that number on "The Catholic Theory of the Relation Between Church and State." These articles will be a reproduction of an essay on this subject by an able Catholic writer, originally published by authority and under the editorial direction of Cardinal Manning. No friend of religious liberty who really desires to serve that cause at this time should fail to read these articles carefully, for he who does read them thus will realize better than he has before the striking similarity between the theories now developing in the religious world outside the church of Rome and that which has been the very genius of the Papacy throughout her history.

The frontispiece will be very timely and suggestive in view of the present widespread agitation of the Sunday question. It will be entitled

"The Modern Diana—Its Genesis and Evolution."

Did you know that "our national Christianity" is to be one of the "exhibits" at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis? Read W. N. Glenn's ringing article on this subject in the March issue of the Sentinel of Christian Liberty.

In the case of seventh-day observers Sunday laws plainly interfere with parents in the proper training of their children, and add greatly to the difficulties with which they must contend in this matter. This point that is seldom thought of in this connection is one of the several good points made in the article in the March Sentinel of Christian Liberty, entitled "Sunday Laws and the Rights of Conscience."

Did you know that there was a marked aggressiveness of late throughout the United States and Canada for the compulsory Sunday closing of all places of business, amusement, etc.? The "Sunday Enforcement" department of the Sentinel of Christian Liberty will keep you fully informed in regard to what is being done in this direction. This department in the March number of that magazine will be especially full.

A very timely article in the March Sentinel of Christian Liberty will be one applying the principle of trademark laws to the present live Sunday question. It deals with a fact that has a most vital bearing on this question.

Twelve numbers—one year's subscription—all of which will be equally as good as this one can be secured for only \$1. Every individual should be a subscriber; every church should have a club for missionary work.

Address orders to Ohio Tract Society, Academia, Ohio.



QUESTIONS ON "TESTIMONIES ON SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK."

February Study, pages 58-61.
Four Week:
February Study, Pages 58-61.

1. How may teachers avoid being superficial in their work?
2. Distinguish between the value which we may receive from other's ideas, and relying wholly upon their opinions.
3. How do we "lose much?"
4. What will enable the Sabbath-school worker to "speak with power?"

MOTHERS IN EDUCATION.

"Just as verily as the minister has his appointed work, the mother has hers." (R. & H., Dec. 5, 1899.)

These words from the Spirit of the Lord should come like a ray of light to the burdened mother who is wondering what she can do to further the message for our time. Perhaps she is desirous of joining the general workers in the church meeting; but evenings away from home, leaving little ones without a proper guardian, is always dangerous. Perhaps a missionary visit in the neighborhood seems to be needed in order to get the truth planted in the community; but it would be impossible to take all the children; and, too, their going might spoil the effort, or object of the visit. Perhaps an urgent appeal for help in a foreign field with its many needs is inviting her, but how can she possibly do anything for that field with all these children demanding her care? Really, what is there that she can do to serve God, and to hasten His coming? Is it true that she must drop out of the work entirely, and have no part in the progress of the message? Must she just simply always stay at home and wrestle with the common duties and humdrum of life, leaving her "more fortunate" (?) sisters to do the work of the Lord, and enjoy the blessings of bringing souls to a knowledge of the truth?

Many mothers find these questions crowding in upon them, and because of the impression, that unless one is "directly connected with public religious work," she is not doing the will of God, there is a tendency to discouragement. The Lord says this is a mistake, for every one has a this work more clearly outlined than thos work more clearly outlined than has the mother. Listen! "By educating their children to love God, and fear to offend Him, parents can just as surely serve God as can the minister in the pulpit." And again, "The Lord is served as much, yes more, by the faithful home worker, than by the one who preaches the Word."

Mothers, your appointed work stands second to none, for upon the faithfulness with which you do your work depends largely the success of all others who follow. Yours is the foundation work upon which all other workers have to build, and if the foundation be well laid, the superstructure will be easily and surely

built.

Do we long for an opportunity to work for Jesus? Let us remember that no greater work is given to man than the home work of the mother. Nothing is to hinder this daily God-given work. All else must be subordinated to it. During the early years of childhood is the mother's opportunity to do an enduring work. It is the "come to work and watch and pray and encourage every good inclination. This work must go on without interruption. You may be urged to attend mothers' meetings, and sewing circles, that you may do missionary work; but unless there is a faithful, understanding instructor to be left with your children, it is your duty to reply, "The Lord has committed to me another work, which I can in no wise neglect."

But what is the specific work of the mother? It is to educate her children. What are they to be taught? "To love God, and fear to offend Him." With these two principles as the basis of all her work, her teaching may branch out, ultimately embracing every detail of this life. Let her "bring her children to Jesus for His blessing. She is to cherish the words of Christ and teach them to her children. From their babyhood she is to discipline them to self-restraint and self-denial, to habits of neatness and order." These are the first and most important lines to be followed in the home work. These constitute the framework of a righteous character, of a useful life, of a son of God.

But one says, "I am not a teacher. I know so little myself, how is it possible I have been called to so great a work? My own training has been so deficient, I feel wholly unprepared. How am I to begin?"

Yes, the Lord says, "It is a wonderful work to make home pleasant, and all it ought to be." But He also says, "If the heart is given to God the humblest talents will make the home life all that God would have it." Praise the Lord! There need be no lack for the least of us. God is all-sufficient to every believing, trusting soul. Mothers, take courage. Fruits for eternity await your consecrated service. And even in this evil time, when so many children enter the sanctuary of the Lord with hearts steeled against the Word as it is spoken, this promise is for you: "The mother can bring her children up so

that they will come with open, tender hearts to hear the words of God's servants." Blessed promise! May the reality of it be seen in every family. Here is the opportunity of our time in which to manifest faith; for trained children are to be used by the Lord to give the very last of the closing message to the world. According to your faith be it unto you.

Mothers, while calls are being made for mission fields; for various branches of the work in home fields; for the different lines of church work, never for one moment forget that you have a definite special call. The Lord is in need, and these are His own words regarding it: "The Lord has need of mothers who in every line of the home life will improve their God-given talents, and fit their children for the family of heaven."—N. W. Lawrence in *The Southern Watchman*.



THE FORWARD MOVEMENT
A Revival of the Study and Practical Application of the Physical Side of Spiritual Truth in its Relation to the Second Advent of Our Lord.
"PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD."

THE WATER OF LIFE.

There are things to be seen that these natural eyes of our body cannot discern. With these eyes we cannot see God, for they are but physical, and spiritual things are spiritually discerned; but we are to be spiritual now and here, before we receive spiritual bodies, and so are to be able to discern things. With our natural eyes we can see the springs of water coming from the rocks in the mountains, or gushing out of the earth in the plain; but when we use the reason that God has given us, we know that the earth is not the real source of that water. Whence does the water come, that we see springing forth so pure and refreshing from the rock? The answer is given in the Bible, and if we really thought, we should know it without being told. When the children of Israel were in the desert, and were famishing for water, God told Moses to smite the rock in Horeb, the dry place, and as he did so, water gushed forth and ran like a river. The rock itself had no water, but the Lord stood upon it, and the people "drank of that spiritual Rock that went with them; and that Rock was Christ."—1 Cor. 10:4. He is the producer of all things. From Him

everything comes. The water that we drink day by day comes from Him as directly as does the river of water of life that John saw, and is in reality but the overflow from it. If we believe this simple truth, and know that we drink only of the river of life, we shall have new life day by day, and that daily life will be the life of heaven. Only so can we live pure, Christian lives.

We must consciously receive the life of the Lord, and then we shall allow Him to direct it in His own way. Then will He see to it that our ways are right. But we must remember that the life has been perverted and put to base uses, and that therefore it is necessary for us to be careful that we take the life in its purity, "fresh from the throne of glory."

In the case in the desert there was not room for all at one time to take the water just as it gushed forth; but all can come at once and the same time to the throne of grace, and all can take the life that is given, before it is defiled by the curse. We cannot afford to be indifferent in this matter. God gives His life to us by various means, and under various forms—in food and drink and light and air, as well as by the Holy Spirit aside from any of these agencies; and in taking these gifts of God we should be most solicitous to receive them direct from His hand. We must see that we get the life in the simplest and purest possible form, before it has been loaded with the curse. Our diligence and care in this respect will indicate and be the measure of our desire to receive the Holy Spirit, which seals us children of the Everlasting Father.

E. J. WAGGONER.



WANTED.

Middlefield, Ohio.—Our church building at this place is completed with the exception of seats, pulpit and organ. We cannot see where another dollar is coming from, yet we believe the Lord will complete the work if we are faithful. If any one has a second hand organ that they wish to give to the Lord's work please ship it to me at Middlefield, Ohio, and it will be thankfully received and appropriated to the Lord's work.

C. C. WEBSTER.



"Rejoice in the Lord always."

tidings From the Field.

Toledo, O., Feb. 11, 1902.

Dear Visitor—It may be of interest to your readers to know something of what we are doing in this prosperous city. I am enjoying my labors in this field, and the church is working in harmony in all lines. We have been renters all the years since our organization, but are now planning to build. Our reasons for it are many, but several may be found in the following testimonies: "Steps should be taken to secure church property for the cause of God, that the work may not be retarded in its progress. A stormy time is before us, and the church should awake to make an advance move, that they may stand against the plans of satan."—Vol. 1, p. 211.

"Every believer should be whole-hearted in his attachment to the church. Its prosperity should be his first interest. Those who really feel a deep interest in the advancement of the cause will not hesitate to invest money whenever and wherever it is needed."—Vol. 4, p. 18.

"All should feel that they are not proprietors, but stewards and that the time is coming when they must give an account for the use they have made of their Lord's money. Schools are to be established in various places, publications to be multiplied, churches are to be built in the large cities, and laborers are to be sent forth, not only into the cities, but in the highways and hedges."—Vol. 5, p. 382.

Houses of worship are needed, where the people may be invited to hear the truths for this time. For this very purpose God has entrusted a capital to His stewards. Get your means where you can handle it for the benefit of the cause of God. God has a work for His co-laborers to do in the cities."—Vol. 5, p. 465.

"When the Lord sees His people restricting their imaginary wants, practicing self-denial, not in a mournful regretful spirit as Lot's wife left Sodom, but joyfully for Christ's sake, then the work will go forward with power."—Vol. 6, p. 104.

"We must plan wisely, that the people may have an opportunity of hearing for themselves the last message of mercy to the world. The peo-

ple should be warned to make ready for the great day of God which is right upon them: We must do our utmost to reach men where they are. The world is now reaching the boundary line in impenitence and disregard for the laws of the government of God. In every city of our world the warning must be proclaimed. All that can be done should be done without delay."—Vol. 6, p. 32.

We are not strong financially, but trust the Lord to turn the hearts of the people to help us in this important enterprise. Fifteen have united with the Toledo church by letter or baptism during the last three months. Two more will unite next Sabbath, and we hope for quite a number more soon. We have started a Bible school for all who wish to learn how to give Bible readings. Some twenty are attending and many more will when we can better provide for them. I have the pleasure of giving a study at the Sanitarium Branch each Thursday and at the mission on St. Clair street each Sunday evening. We are favored with a study from Dr. Rand every two weeks.

This is a prosperous city and it needs at least a dozen Bible teachers and as many canvassers. I wish to appeal personally to all the saints scattered abroad to help us in the work of erecting a house of worship. With greeting to all.

D. E. LINDSEY.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Sister Ella M. Talmage writes from Canton, "I am busy and prospering."

Elder W. H. Wakeham spent last Sabbath and Sunday in Columbus.

Brother W. W. Miller occupied the pulpit at the Mt. Vernon church last Sabbath.

No canvassers' reports this week as the canvassers have been attending the canvassers' institute at Columbus.

We hope to have a report of the canvassers' institute for the paper next week.

Brother N. S. Miller went to Columbus last Friday to be at the closing days of the institute.

Brother J. B. Blosser, L. U. Can. Agt., gave the office a call last week. He held two meetings with the students in behalf of the canvassing work.

Sister Nellie M. Stevens writes from Cleveland, "Our work keeps me

busy. Remember us at the throne of grace."

Elder C. A. Smith writes from Hamilton: "We have experienced much of the blessing of the Lord in the work here. The Lord has given us much favor with the people notwithstanding unfavorable circumstances."

A few of the Sabbath-school secretaries and church clerks have not sent in their quarterly reports. Are you one of them? If you wish to be represented in the state report please send in your report immediately, as the state secretary is requested to send in her report as soon as possible.

BRIEFS.

"The number of workers in the ministry is not to be lessened, but greatly increased. Where there is now one minister in the field, twenty are to be added; and if the spirit of God controls them, these twenty will so present the truth that twenty more will be added."

"Our thoughts are odors, and we cannot seal them, So close with actions but they will creep out; And delicately fashioned souls will feel them, And know them sweet or vile beyond a doubt."

"Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop; but a good word maketh it glad."

"O Thou who are our life and meetness!

No death shall daunt us or amaze, "Hearing these words of power and sweetness,

"Lo! I am with you all the days. Amen!"

"The simple prayers indited by the Holy Spirit will ascend through the gates ajar, the open door which Christ has declared, I have opened, and no man can shut. These prayers, mingled with the incense of the perfection of Christ, will ascend as fragrance to the Father, and answers will come."

"After Jesus had seen the open heavens, satan tempted Him. The more the blessing, the keener the temptation, for you are worth tempting."

"More persons are ready to shrink from sinners, than are ready to shrink from sin."