

# THE Welcome Visitor

"Surely I Come Quickly. Even So, Come, Lord Jesus."

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## OHIO TRACT SOCIETY.

"The churches are to voice the truth from the lips of the messengers, and use their talents in every way possible to make the ministry a power to communicate truth by their catching the first rays of light and diffusing the same."

### YEARS BEHIND.

EVERY means should be used to get the knowledge of the truth before the thousands who will discern the evidence, who will appreciate the likeness of Christ in his people, if they can have an opportunity to see it. There are those among us who, if they should take time to consider, would regard their do-nothing position as a sinful neglect to use the talents which God has given them.

God has given his messengers the truth to proclaim. Then the churches are to voice the truth from the lips of the messengers, and use their talents in every way possible to make the ministry a power to communicate truth by their catching the first rays of light, and diffusing the same. *Here is our great sin. We are years behind.* The ministers have been seeking the hidden treasures, and have been opening up the casket, and letting the jewels of truth shine forth, but not one one-hundredth part has been done or is being done by members of the church that God requires of them. They will, in that great day, be self-convicted and self-condemned for their slothfulness. May the Lord lead them to self-penitence, and to now see themselves and exclaim, "Lord, I am that fruitless fig tree." May the Lord forgive his people who are not doing the work in his vineyard that he has given them to do.

### Evils of Inaction.

What can we expect but deterioration in religious life when the people listen to sermon after sermon, and do not put into practice the instruction given? The ability God has given, if not exercised, will degenerate, and men and women unemployed will become as tools that rust from inaction.

*Let the missionary meeting be turned to account in teaching the people how to do missionary work. Put work into their hands, and let not the youth be ignored, but let them come in to share in the labor and responsibility. Let them feel that they have a part to act in helping and blessing others. Even the children should be taught to do some little errand of love and mercy for those less fortunate than themselves.*

The very simplest modes of work should be devised, and set in operation among the churches. If members will co-operate with such a plan, and perseveringly carry it out, they will reap a rich reward, for their experience will grow brighter, their ability will increase through exercise, and souls will be saved through their efforts. But if, on the hand, the churches are left to their inactivity, *Satan will see that they are employed.* He will pre-occupy the field, and give the members lines of work to do that will engage their energies, kill spirituality, and make them fall as dead weights upon the church.

### Set the Members to Work.

There are scores who have real ability, who are rusting from inaction, and yet many of these do not know how to set themselves at work for the Master. But let some one who has ability to devise ways whereby this talent may be utilized, lay out before these inactive ones the line of work that they could do, and let them understand that this is expected from them, and many who are now unemployed will become true laborers.

The parable of the talents should be explained to all. The members of the churches should be made to understand that they are the light of the world, and, according to their several ability, the Lord expects that his professed followers will enlighten and bless those around them. Those who have heard so much preaching ought certainly to know that if they undertake to work for the Lord, they will have divine aid.

Do not pass by the little things and look for a large work. You might do successfully the small work, and fail utterly in attempting a large work, and

fall into discouragement. Take hold wherever you see that there is work to be done. *Whether you are rich or poor, great or humble, God calls you into active service for him.* It will be by doing with your might what your hands find to do that you will develop talents and aptitude for the work, and it is by neglecting your daily opportunities that you become fruitless and withered. This is why there are so many fruitless trees in the garden of the Lord.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

### IN FORMER DAYS.

#### Rural Preaching.

AS previously stated, the first years in this Message were spent largely in trying to benefit and instruct Advent believers, but believers in the Third Message found to their sorrow that comparatively few of their former brethren would accept of the newly found light. So they were compelled to go to the "gentiles."

They would generally go to some country schoolhouse and give a "course of lectures." The result was that the first churches were principally in the country. Towns were seldom invaded, and large cities were absolutely shunned. They did not feel able to cope with the talent and learning in those places.

About the year 1870 I attended a joint camp-meeting of Missouri and Kansas. It was held near a small station called Lee's Summit, about twenty miles east of Kansas City. When I got there, I found the camp located in a woods pasture with not a house in sight. Of course the outside attendance was very small, but the brethren had a good time all to themselves.

In those days our preachers were frequently reminded of the lack of talent and learning in our ranks. One preacher made this reply, "Yes, we are all 'boys,' but we handle mighty truths."

As the Message gathered strength, and our positions were found to be practically unassailable, courage increased; towns were entered, and afterwards cities, until the largest cities of the world were entered without fear.

As an instance of the strength of our positions, I will say that when J. N. Andrews' "History of the Sabbath" was published, although it was in the days of the "fight on the law," no one had the courage to assail it, and for years it stood unquestioned by our enemies. D. HILDRETH.

#### FROM THE WORKERS.

##### Defiance.

I ARRIVED at this place the evening after the Sabbath, October 31, just in time for the evening service. A goodly number of eager listeners were present and the Lord blessed the service. Sunday, November 1, was a busy day and one that will long be remembered by Brethren J. P. and G. P. Gaede, also those who received the Message during their recent tent effort.

At 2 P. M. we met at the appointed place of worship to consider the question of organization. The different points of our faith were carefully reviewed in the light of inspiration, nothing being kept back, and the study was listened to with close attention by all who were present. At the close of this part of the service twelve persons publicly announced themselves in harmony with the whole Message and declared their acceptance of it and their purpose to live it. One other who had previously united with the Seventh-day Adventist Church in another State, and these twelve were then organized into church fellowship. The election of the necessary church officers received the next attention, after which six willing souls were baptized by Elder Francis Fairchild, and a parting greeting concluded the service.

We were very glad to meet brethren here from the churches at Hamler and Sherwood. Others deeply interested will soon unite with both the Cygnet and Defiance companies, who were prevented at this time from doing so on account of sickness and otherwise. May the blessing of God, the grace of Christ, and presence of the Holy Spirit attend the future efforts of these newly organized churches in their efforts to give this blessed Message to the world. H. H. BURKHOLDER.

##### Pleasant Hill.

THE Lord is richly blessing here. We are of good courage. Five more are keeping the Sabbath since my last labor report. This makes eleven new Sabbath keepers here near Adams Mills. And we have four here which makes fifteen, not counting ourselves but including Sister Dunmead.

Pray for the work here. There are many openings. B. L. HOUSE.

## EDUCATIONAL.

### "PERFECT THROUGH SUFFERING."

How sweetly sorrow's hand  
Along life's minor strains,  
Into our inmost soul  
A sweeter music brings.

As harps untuned make discord,  
So lives untried by tears  
Send unharmonious music  
Across the sound of years.

And may we each remember,  
As trouble on us rolls,  
The Master's hand is tuning  
The organ of our souls.

The very sweetest story  
E'er told, or that shall be,  
Re-echoes from the heartaches  
In dark Gethsemane.

And so, in deepest trial,  
God's praises let us sing;  
And he'll fulfil his purpose  
"Perfect through suffering."

LILLA HOLDEN CAHILL.

### CHARACTER BUILDING.

CHARACTER is what we are. Reputation is what our fellowmen say of us. Character is within, reputation without. Character is the substance, reputation the shadow—the reflection.

Character comes from within. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Bad characters grow from thoughts and meditations on the object-lessons in sin that so profusely fill this old earth. No one becomes an open murderer without cherishing the seed of hate, and cultivating it down deep in his own heart. The pure and innocent child is schooled in crime through sensational and corrupt object lessons of a false home-life, vile literature, and the so called respectable theater. It is a miracle of divine power that any soul can be saved out of such conditions. So righteous character grows from the inward workings of the soul. It is the mental contemplation of the eternal God and his works and word, that purifies the soul and fits it for association with the pure surroundings of the eternal worlds.

When God would prepare an Enoch for translation, he takes him by the hand and lets him walk with his Creator. Or an Elijah, he sends him to the vale of Cherith, or the widow's home at Zarephath, or to the desolate solitude of Horeb, and there shut in with God, he drinks in new lessons of righteousness. He takes Abraham from his kindred and his father's house into a sparsely settled land. He sends Joseph to prison, to fit him to endure all the temptations of court life.

He sends Moses into the wilderness forty years to tend sheep, to correct the

mistakes of his Egyptian training. The mother's early influence was not enough to perfectly counteract all those years of court training. Forty years of solitude with helpless sheep and lambs, alone with God much of the time, were necessary to fit him for the leadership of the Lord's chosen people. John the Baptist is brought up in the desert with father, mother, and God. He finished the perfecting of his character in Herod's prison. Paul goes to the solitudes of Arabia for three years, to receive the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Master drew his disciples from corrupt surroundings, shut them in with himself, prepared them to receive his Holy Spirit, and finally sent one of them to the lonely isle of Patmos, to receive the finishing touches of divine grace and have revealed to him saving truths for us in these last days.

God asks us to shut our eyes from seeing evil, and stop our ears from hearing of blood. He says to us, "Come, my people; enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast."

God would have his people keep separate from the world so that his life and Spirit and word can come in and make them grow in righteousness. Thus may one good thought after another from the Lord be cherished in the heart, and formed into righteous principles, that will bear fruit unto eternal life.

God asks us now to separate ourselves from the world and be shut in with him and his word and his works, that characters may be built out of none but pure material, that will stand the trials of this world, pass unharmed through the scenes of the judgment and the fires of the last day, and shine eternally in his kingdom.

Ought we not with Christian love to do all in our power to surround the little ones here with the atmosphere of heaven, and thus save them from many of the sorrows of sin? In so doing shall we not be building on the sure foundation gold, silver, and precious stones? Will not our characters be made stronger and better by such a course?

The eternal elements that form immortal characters are in God's word and works. By absorbing them daily in study and meditation, as we eat and drink the physical elements that build our bodies, we build characters for an eternity with the angels and holy beings of other worlds—"A good foundation against the time to come, that we may lay hold on eternal life."—*Atlantic Union Gleaner*.

## TOLEDO SABBATH-SCHOOL.

DEAR WELCOME VISITOR: I am sending you two letters from our home department, and also will say a word for the Toledo Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath-school.

We have enjoyed the choicest blessing of God in our last quarter's lessons in searching the deep mysteries of the gospel. We found we were not to be ignorant concerning the mystery of God, for when we are yielded wholly to him, he has promised to reveal to us the great truths of his word. Then we may rejoice in the hope of the glory of him. We feel the unity of the Spirit as never before, and will press on to the end, when we can join hands and shout the victory and say, "This is our God, we have waited for him;" and praise his name, he will say, "Come ye blessed of my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

Please remember us in your prayers, that we all may continue faithful till Jesus comes. Your sister in Jesus' love,  
MRS. ETTIE ELSTEN.

## HOME DEPARTMENT LETTERS.

DEAR BRETHREN AND SISTERS OF THE TOLEDO SABBATH-SCHOOL: Accept my sincere thanks for letters received. I thank and praise God for his keeping power. What has impressed me very much is that he has made known to us the mystery of his will, and that in the fullness of time, he will gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and in earth. I want to be one of that number that will be gathered with the faithful. Your sister in Christ,

MARY SPENCER.

MY DEAR SISTERS IN CHRIST, AND ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE TOLEDO SABBATH-SCHOOL: Your kind letters of July 20 and August 29 were received, also reports of school. Please accept my sincere thanks. I have studied the lesson every Sabbath. What has been the greatest help to me, has been the daily study of the lesson and the application of these instructions to myself, grasping by faith the promised blessing of God, that I may be strengthened with power through his Spirit, that Christ may dwell in my heart through faith, to the end, and being rooted and grounded in love, I may walk worthy of the calling where-with he has called me. Dear brethren and sisters, let us seek earnestly for that charity and love, that we may receive the best gifts of the Spirit of God. May God bless each member of the Sabbath-school. I remain your sister in Christian love and unity,

MRS. RETTA WETHERBY.

## MISSIONARY.

"The things of this world are soon to pass away. This is not discerned by those who have not been divinely enlightened, who have not kept pace with the work of God. Consecrated men and women must go forth to sound the warning in the highways and by-ways."

## THE MISSIONARY RALLY.

LAST week we mailed the readings for the Missionary Rally. We had only enough to mail one copy to each church and company. We hope that each one who received a copy has already selected the ones that are to read, that they may be prepared to enter into the spirit of the reading at the appointed time. Let us make this an occasion long to be remembered.

N. S. M.

BROTHER J. E. FULTON, after spending a year in Australia, where he has taught in the Avondale School, has returned to Fiji, to spend the vacation. Although the health of Mrs. Fulton and himself does not yet warrant their remaining on the islands indefinitely, their short stay will be a means of strength to the work there. Brother Fulton writes encouragingly of the work. There have been a number of accessions during the year, and others are awaiting baptism. He is looking forward to the time when they will be able to again take up permanent work among these people for whom they have labored so long.

## A LETTER FROM JAPAN.

DEAR WELCOME VISITOR: Your welcome visits are still much appreciated, and it is but a fair return for us to send you a word of news occasionally. The past few days have been so full of interest and encouragement that I thought your readers might be interested in our experiences.

Last Sabbath, October 17, we had our Sabbath-school and meeting as usual in the class-room at our house. We had a good attendance of our own people, and several others were present. Brother Kuniya spoke in Japanese. A Brother Watanabe, who recently accepted the truth in Kobe, was received into the church.

Next morning I went as usual to teach a class in English Bible at the home of a Japanese pastor. He conducts services in his own house, and invited me to teach the class for students of English. About eight young men were in my class; several have

been very regular in attendance, and seem quite interested. I hope by this means to reach some in that part of the city.

In the afternoon several of the brethren accompanied me to the Sumida River, where Brother Watanabe was baptized. We go by train to a station some miles distant, as there is no good place for baptism near us. We returned in time for our Sunday evening service, at which over twenty were present. I spoke from Luke 1:35, and Brother Kuniya translated. At the close of the meeting four young men rose for prayers. Then the brethren remained for a short meeting, by prayer and testimony encouraging Brother Watanabe as he goes to his home province to present the truth to friends and neighbors.

Early next morning we started with the children for Yokohama to meet our missionaries on their way to China, as their boat was due that day. Brother Burden and his family met us at the railway station. The boat was quite late, so that it was about noon before we went aboard. Here we found Dr. Miller and wife, Dr. Selmon and wife, Miss Ericson and Miss Simpson, all on their way to China; and Brother Rees and wife from Portland, Ore., who go to Kobe, Japan, to assist in the medical work as nurses. We all went ashore and spent the afternoon showing our guests some of the curious and interesting sights of a Japanese city. Toward evening we returned to the boat, and spent a pleasant hour together. The great work we have to do in these Eastern countries was the principal theme of conversation. All these workers were well, reported a good voyage, and were of excellent courage. At 6:30 P. M. we returned to shore, and took the first train for home.

Our days are not all so full of incidents as those three days were. But we are trying every day to do something for the Master to hasten his coming. The interest in our work is growing, and people are accepting the truth in various places. The war cloud hangs low over the far East, but we are praying that the winds of strife may be held a little longer. There is much to do for the Master, and we need workers and means to push the work. We ask our friends at home to remember us and our needs at the throne of grace. Yours in his service,

F. W. FIELD.

Tokyo, Oct. 23, 1903.

THE interest in mission work which has been aroused among our people is increasing. Let us continue to aid the work with our prayers and means.

# The Welcome Visitor

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE

Ohio Conference of Seventh-day  
Adventists

Price, 25 Cents a Year in Advance.

N. W. LAWRENCE - Editor.

Sabbath begins Nov. 20 at 4:38 P. M.

THE blue pencil mark here means that your subscription has expired. Renew at once.

THERE have been several new additions to the school roll of the Academy during the past week, and one or two have dropped out.

THE department heading on the first page of this issue should have been "The Ohio Conference" instead of "The Ohio Tract Society."

WANTED.—To correspond with earnest Seventh-day Adventist young men and women who have the true missionary spirit and desire to prepare themselves to become missionary nurses. Address W. L. Secor, Academia, Ohio.

By the time this paper reaches all its readers, the Missionary Conventions will have begun. We pray that this occasion may result in something more than a mere form of words. God's will is that this people shall arise and finish his work. These conventions will contribute to this end, or result in failure. May the motto of each attendant be, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

WE request a special reading of the first page article of this issue. Two or three readings will be better still. In it are the principles of life for us in the State of Ohio,—suggestions, cautions, instruction intended to save us from irreparable loss, from eternal ruin.

"To obey is better than sacrifice, the Lord hath said;  
To hearken when he commandeth than an offering made."

A PRIVATE letter from Sister G. A. Irwin, of Australia, a former resident of Mount Vernon and matron of the Academy, informs us of the welfare of the entire family, and of the progress of the work in that field. She mentions especially how the Lord is blessing both the Wahroonga Sanitarium and the Avondale school. Many of our readers will be glad for this word from these friends.

THE song by Brother Henry DeFluiter may be obtained from the VISITOR office either as a premium for new subscribers, or postpaid for twenty-five cents. A goodly number have availed themselves of the premium offer, but it is still open for others. Every new yearly subscriber to the VISITOR may have a free copy of the song. Any present subscriber may receive a free copy by sending a new subscription with their own renewal.

## CANVASSERS' REPORTS.

(For week ending Nov. 6, 1903.)

Alice Edwards, Findlay.—Great Controversy: value of orders, \$13.75; helps, \$15.35; total, \$29.10.

Mary Hubbell, Crooksville.—Great Controversy: value of orders, \$18.50; helps, \$23.25; total, \$41.75.

Mrs. E. Y. Smith, Mount Vernon.—Ladies' Guide: value of orders, \$6.50; helps, \$12.40; total, \$18.90.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Wagner, Mansfield.—Miscellaneous: deliveries, \$34.55.

Fred Trout, Mansfield.—Miscellaneous: value of orders, \$8.50; deliveries, \$7.15.

## NEWS FROM OVER THE SEA.

ANOTHER letter from Dr. H. W. Miller, just received, gives an account of meeting Prof. Field at Yokohama and spending the few hours of their allotted time with him and other friends there in looking over the city. Using the doctor's own words, he says, "My, how glad we were to see him!" and adds further, "The professor is growing old fast, and he looked quite poor; but he says that he is and has been in good health ever since he landed in Japan. Mrs. Field is looking well, and the children are just as strong and healthy as they looked in America."

After visiting the city and forming a very favorable opinion of Japan and the Japanese, all returned on board the "Empress of India" where "farewell" finally had to be said, and the steamer moved on to Kobe, the next stopping place. Here Dr. Lockwood came on board and took them to visit the modest Japanese sanitarium of that place. They found all well and of good courage, and having enjoyed a very pleasant time, soon found themselves on board the steamer, bound again for China. We have the promise of more news soon, telling us of their arrival and reception in their chosen field of labor. May the Lord's blessing attend them till their work is finished and the Lord comes to reward his faithful servants.

## ONE MILLION COPIES.

THE announcement that we made a short time ago that a special edition of the *Signs of the Times* on the subject of "Capital and Labor" was soon to be issued seems to have touched a responsive chord in the hearts of our people everywhere. Most encouraging letters have been received from Conference presidents, and others, endorsing the plan and promising hearty co-operation.

One million copies seems to be the smallest number named to be circulated, and Nebraska comes first with a definite order for 15,000 copies. This order was given when the brethren thought that the paper was to retail at ten cents. Now that it is to be sold at five cents per copy, we trust they will double the order. Elder A. T. Robinson, the president of that conference, has sent a stirring letter to all the churches, calling them to action, and others are taking hold of the work vigorously.

In view of this, we have placed an order for paper for one million copies, and we confidently expect they will be called for. The only question in our minds is, Will this be enough? In view of the importance of the question on which this special number treats, and the intense agitation of the subject in all parts of the world, we ought to dispose of two million copies or more. Orders should be sent in at once. Address your State Tract Society, or *Signs of the Times*, Oakland, Cal.

C. H. JONES.

## THE SPECIAL "SIGNS."

THE retail price of this special number will be five cents per copy.

Five to twenty copies, at 4 cents each.

Twenty-five or more copies to one address, 3 cents.

Single copies will be mailed direct from the office of publication to lists of names furnished, at the following rates:—

1 to 20 copies.....	5 cents
25 to 99 copies.....	4 cents
100 or more copies.....	3½ cents

This price includes addressing, wrapping and postage.

Orders should be sent in at once. Address your State Tract Society, or *Signs of the Times*, Oakland, Cal.

C. H. JONES.

## OBITUARY.

DETERLIE.—Died at Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 1, 1903, little Anna Deterlie, age 4 years, 1 month and 15 days. The deceased was born in Dayton, Ohio, Sept. 16, 1899. She bore her suffering patiently. Funeral services were held by the writer.

F. H. HENDERSON.