

THE Welcome Visitor

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

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Entered June 12, 1903,
As Second-Class Matter.

FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR MISSIONS. Annual Offering for 1903.

Can we do it? We can, if we will.

On our part it means an increase over our offering of last year.

But why not? Every year the end is nearer, the need is greater, and the time for work is shorter.

Just as much as we expect great things from God, in these closing hours of earth's history, we are to attempt great things for him.

Let every individual decide to make 1903 the banner year in his gifts to missions.

Then it will be the banner year for every church.

It will be the banner year for every conference.

And it will be the year that will open the way for the banner of King Emmanuel to penetrate deeper than ever before into earth's dark corners.

BEGIN TO-DAY to lay aside for your contribution to the \$50,000 annual offering. Only a brief time is left us to lay up treasure above. Pray as you plan, and he who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think, will devise the plans for you. A \$50,000 annual offering to missions for 1903 means a message of courage to every lone worker in the field, and to new recruits for the needy fields. Will we do it? By his grace, we will. **ESTELLA HOUSER.**

THE OHIO CONFERENCE.

SOUND THE GLAD TIDINGS.

Angels Waiting to Co-operate with Us.

ALL heaven is in activity, and the angels of God are waiting to co-operate with the human agent who will devise plans whereby souls for whom Christ died may hear the tidings of salvation. *Every soul has an influence for good or evil.* If the soul is sanctified to the service of God, and devoted to the work of Christ, the influence will be to gather with Christ. God depends upon the church for the forwarding of his work, and he expects that his professed followers will do their duty as intelligent beings. There is great need that every trained mind, every disciplined intellect, every jot of ability, shall be brought to the work of saving souls. There will be no idler, no slothful one who neglects the work of the Lord, found inside of the kingdom of heaven.

God expects his church to discipline and fit its members for the work of enlightening the world. *But let no one feel that because he is not educated he can not be expected to take part in the work.* God has a work for you to do. He has given to every man his work. You can search the Scriptures for yourself. "The entrance of thy word giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." The prayer of the sincere heart, offered in faith, will be heard in heaven.

Ministering to Others.

Souls are perishing out of Christ, and those who profess to be the disciples of Christ are letting them die.

Our brethren have talents entrusted for this very work; but they have bound them up in a napkin and buried them in the earth. What manner of entreaty can be brought to bear upon the idlers in market places that will arouse them to go and work in the Master's vineyard? What can we say to the slothful church-member to make him realize the necessity of unearthing his talent and putting it out to the exchangers? Oh, that God would set this matter in all its importance before the sleeping churches! Oh, that Zion would arouse and put on her beautiful garments! Oh, that she would shine!

This work of enlightening others is not the work of the minister only, but it is the work of all who profess the truth of God. God has given to every man his work in making Christ known to the world. We must teach the members of the church how they may effectually minister to others. There are many who are ordained ministers, who have never yet exercised a shepherd's care over the flock of God, who have never yet watched for souls as they that must give an account. Were the kind of labor of which it stands in need bestowed upon the church, many who are doing nothing would be educated to become diligent laborers in the harvest field. An education should be given to the people of God that would result in

furnishing hundreds who would put out to the exchangers valuable talents, whose use would develop men for positions of trust and influence, and great good would be accomplished for the Master.

Scores of Slothful Servants.

But instead of thus developing, the church is left to be a weak, dependent, inefficient body. The members of the church are trained to rely upon preaching, and they do little for Christ. They bear no fruit, but rather increase in selfishness and unfaithfulness. They put their hope in the preacher, and depend on his efforts to keep alive their weak faith. Because of the lack of proper instruction among the church-members by those whom God has placed as overseers, there is not one merely, but scores, who are slothful, and are hiding their talents in the earth, and still complaining of the Lord's dealings toward them. They need to be tended as do sick children. This condition of weakness must not continue. Well organized work must be done in the church, that its members may understand the manner in which they may impart light to others, and thus strengthen their own faith and increase their knowledge. As they impart the light which God graciously bestows upon them; to those in darkness, they will be confirmed in the faith. *A working church is a living church.* We are built up as living stones, and every stone is to emit light; for every one is compared to a precious stone that catches the

glory of God and reflects it to others.

The idea that the minister must carry all the burdens, and do all the work, is a great mistake. Overworked and broken down, he may go into the grave, when, had the burden been shared as the Lord designed, he might have lived. MRS. E. G. WHITE.

IN FORMER DAYS.

Six O'clock Time.

IT may not be generally known that Seventh-day Adventists observed six o'clock time up to the year 1855. That is, they commenced the Sabbath at six on Friday night and ended at six on Saturday night. In long days the sun was high in the heavens at this time, but in short days it was long after dark. In those days I was much interested in the exact science of astronomy, and this having a definite hour to commence the Sabbath just suited my precise ideas concerning time. I still think that at the beginning the days were of equal length the year round, and consequently always commenced at the same time. There is abundance of evidence that formerly there was a tropical growth of vegetable and animal life near the poles, which shows that great changes have taken place in the seasons, and consequently in the length of the days.

But there was one thing that bothered us about six o'clock time. In the absence of a timepiece it was difficult, and sometimes impossible, to tell when the Sabbath began or ended. But in 1855 six o'clock time began to be questioned, and soon there was trouble on foot. The Lord's servant was applied to for counsel, but the answer returned was, "Search the Word and you will find out." They did search the Word in earnest, and soon found that it taught sunset time. Two of the plainest texts for sunset time are Lev. 23:32 and Mark 1:32. It was somewhat humiliating to recede from our former position; but we had it to do; there was nothing else we could do. The Jews and Seventh-day Baptists always observed sunset time, and how it ever came about that our people at first adopted six o'clock time was never satisfactorily explained.

One advantage of sunset time is that it obviates the necessity of a timepiece. You can always tell when it is getting dark, even if it is cloudy. If surrounded by mountains, the same rule holds, if it is clear you can tell when the shadow of the earth reaches the zenith by simply looking up. Sabbath keeping is not compassed with the difficulties that many claim, at least I have not found them in the fifty years of my experience.

D. HILDRETH.

WITH THE WORKERS.

THE CHURCH OFFICERS' PART.

THE following quotation from the "Spirit of Prophecy" seems so timely that we reproduce it for the benefit of church officers throughout the State:—

"Why do not the overseers of the church have councils to devise ways whereby young men and women may be trained to put to use their intrusted talents? Why do not the older members of the church seek to do good, earnest, compassionate work for the children and youth? Many have embraced the truth, and yet they have not been educated as to how they may serve the cause of God and thereby grow in spiritual muscle and sinew. Let the ministers put to use all their ingenuity, that plans may be devised whereby the youthful members of the church may be enlisted in the cause of God. Why should they not be interested in the great work that there is to be done? But do not imagine that this interest can be aroused by going to the missionary meeting and presenting a long sermon: plan ways whereby a live interest may be kindled, and train up the young to do what is appointed them. Let them have a part to act, and from week to week let them bring in their reports, telling what they have experienced, and, through the grace of Christ, what success has been theirs. If the missionary meeting were a meeting where such reports were brought in by consecrated workers, it would not be dull, tedious and uninteresting. It would be full of intense interest, and there would be no lack in attendance.

"In every church the members should be trained so that they will devote time to the work, and win souls to Christ. How can it be said of the church, 'Ye are the light of the world,' unless the members of the church actually impart light to others? In seeking to point sinners to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world, their own love will be kindled, and by beholding him they, too, will become changed into his likeness.

"Will those who have charge of the flock of God awaken to their duty?"

Camden.

DEAR VISITOR: The Camden church held a missionary convention on November 22, which was a very interesting meeting. All, both young and old, took an active part in the program, which was well arranged. Interesting papers on Egypt and the needs of the

work were read by Mr. Shepherd and Miss Baldwin, Miss Rosella Draper and Miss Hattie Gibson each read well written articles, while Miss Shepherd read several timely selections from "Christian Education." Song service was given, and all enjoyed the program so well that they decided to hold another in four weeks. Yours in hope,
W. E. BIDWELL.

Virginia.

DEARLY BELOVED: No doubt a word is due from us now, though we can only report progress. This city of Newport News is comparatively young, built up practically on literal battle-fields of internecine strife, and since about the year 1884. That year, I believe, C. P. Huntington, of California, famed in railroad building, began to build the great ship-building and dry-dock plant here which now employs some 6,000 to 8,000 men—some two thirds of whom are colored. Also he manipulated the terminals for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway here and sought to make a transcontinental route from San Francisco on the Pacific ocean to this tide-water point on the Atlantic ocean, all under his personal control, connecting with the Queen & Crescent and Southern Pacific lines. He is dead, and his ideal is buried with him!

Three years ago some 500 dwellings were built out in this East End of the city alone, but the "boom" is "busted" and houses "to let" are plenty, but rents are high to be ready for another rise. Neat and nice church buildings are frequent. The Seventh-day Adventists have a little plain chapel which we hope to dedicate the first week in December. The clerk's record contains some seven names with five resident members. Soon we expect to begin a series of meetings in it and continue an active campaign for the special *Signs* and literature.

As all are dependent on corporate employ for daily food, the Sabbath makes a test few can accept, but we hope to reach some. Elder Painter came to-day to help us in house to house canvass.

There are many places of historic interest here about though other demands on our time prevent us from visiting them. Old Point Comfort, Fortress Monroe, Hampton, etc., may be named. I have been across the channel and met the friends at Norfolk and Portsmouth, at the last of which is quite a little company of some twenty-five, including three or four men. May the tithe of the Lord sent from Ohio be the means of winning some souls to him. Pray for us.

M. S. BABCOCK.

OHIO TRACT SOCIETY.

WHY HE DID NOT SUCCEED.

He watched the clock.
 He was always grumbling.
 He was always behindhand.
 He had no iron in his blood.
 He was willing, but unfitted.
 He asked too many questions.
 He was stung by a bad book.
 His stock excuse was "I forgot."
 He wasn't ready for the next step.
 He did not put his heart in his work.
 He learned nothing from his blunders.
 He felt that he was above his position.
 He chose his friends among his inferiors.
 He was content to be a second-rate man.
 He ruined his ability by half-doing things.
 He never dared to act on his own judgment.
 He did not think it worth while to learn how.
 He tried to make "bluff" take the place of ability.
 He thought he must take amusement every evening.
 Familiarity with slipshod methods paralyzed his ideal.
 He thought it was clever to use coarse and profane language.
 He was ashamed of his parents because they were old fashioned.
 He imitated the habits of men who could stand more than he could.
 He did not learn that the best part of his salary was not in his pay-envelope.—*Success.*

SELF-SUPPORTING MISSIONARY WORK.

FOR years the Lord has been calling our attention to the importance of giving this Message to the people in the large cities, and also showing us that this work has been sadly neglected. We quote the following from the "Testimonies," vol. 7, page 40:—
 "When I think of the cities in which so little has been done, in which there are so many thousands to be warned of the soon-coming Saviour, I feel an intensity of desire to see men and women going forth to the work in the power of the Spirit, filled with Christ's love for perishing souls. Those in our cities—living within the shadow of our doors—have been strangely neglected. Organized effort should now be put forth to give them the Message of present truth. . . . We all need to be wideawake, that, as the way opens, we may advance the work in the large cities."

We appreciate the fact that this is a difficult problem to deal with on account of the expense. In many of the large cities tent meetings cannot be held on account of local restrictions, and hall rent is almost prohibitive. We are convinced that the work of warning the people in these large cities will have to be done largely through our publications and if taken hold of in the right way, it can be made nearly or quite self-supporting.

Our "pioneer paper," the *Signs of the Times*, can be used as an entering wedge. The special number on the subject of Capital and Labor will be a splendid one to begin with. Then let this be followed by the sale of the regular issues, securing subscriptions, and selling small books, tracts, and pamphlets. We have these covering almost every phase of the Message.

Brother George A. King has been engaged in this work in New York City for many years. We quote the following from a letter recently received from him:—

"I think the time has come when we can work faster with the Message by using the *Signs of the Times* as a pioneer for the book work as well as for Bible work and ministerial work. I have been working for several years on the difficult problem of reaching the people with books in these large Eastern cities. We have sold many thousands of dollars' worth of books and have done a good work, but I think it is clear now that for the future the *Signs* or some other paper will have to play an important part in our work here."

The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few. C. H. JONES.

AS IT APPEARS TO THEM.

It is often necessary to see ourselves as others see us in order to appreciate our own condition and responsibility. This is so forcibly illustrated in a report from India, and applies to us in our work just now so faithfully, we reproduce it in the following clipping:—

"The Bible women of India recently were most powerfully impressed by the words of an old Mohammedan woman in one of the villages which they visited. After giving their message she asked, 'How long ago is it since Jesus, about whom you speak, died for sinful people?' The Bible women explained that this took place a very long time ago. 'Then why,' said the old woman, 'has God never told me of this? Surely he ought to have let me know of this long ago!' The Bible women remonstrated against anyone blaming God in this way; whereupon the old woman replied with vehemence and earnestness, 'Where

have you been all this time, that I have never heard of this wonderful news? Look at me. I am now an old woman. All my life I have said the prescribed prayers. I have given alms. I have gone to saints' shrines. My body is dried up and become as dust from fasting. And now I am told that all this is useless, and that Jesus died to take away my sins. Where have you been all this time, and what have you been doing that I have not heard of this before?' The Bible women were conscience stricken."

A RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE.

We have reached the period of the year in which the evenings are long, and multitudes will devote time to reading. It is our privilege to supply many of these with our books. Thousands of our smaller books, such as contain present truth for this time, can be sold.

Within a few weeks many books will be purchased and presented to friends as holiday gifts. An excellent one for this purpose, and one that forcibly presents the Message, is the book recently issued, "Our Paradise Home." It presents in a brief, expressive, earnest manner, the plan of salvation, from paradise lost, to paradise regained. Though it is not yet four months old, nearly thirty thousand have been sold, and many hearts have been cheered and warmed with the reading of its thrilling truths.

Many of our brethren, sisters, youth, and children should sell this messenger of truth by thousands. It can be used by our canvassers as a help when selling larger volumes. Who will engage in this work immediately? Cannot you, reader, sell and deliver a large number before Christmas? If you desire to make a holiday present, this little book will make a valuable one.

It is a subscription book, and gives a large discount to agents. It is finely illustrated by original engravings. Two bindings. Cloth, 50 cents; board, 25 cents. Order of the Ohio Tract Society.

CANVASSERS' REPORTS.

(For week ending Nov. 20, 1903.)

Mary Hubbell, Roseville.—Great Controversy: value of orders, \$9; helps, \$11.50; total, \$20.50.

Mrs. E. Y. Smith, Mount Vernon.—Ladies' Guide: value of orders, \$15; helps, \$7.50; total, \$22.50.

Mrs. George W. Spies, Lima.—Coming King: value of orders, \$18; helps, \$8.50; total, \$26.50.

F. E. Wagner, Mansfield.—Miscellaneous: value of orders, \$16.90.

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 Dec. 4 at 4:33 P. M.

THE week of prayer begins December 12.

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

THE Springfield brethren plan to begin the erection of a new church building this week.

A REVIEW of the life of Christ by means of a stereopticon lecture was enjoyed by the friends at Academia Saturday night in the Academy chapel.

AFTER a brief vacation, the work at the Academy has again been taken up, with nearly all students in their accustomed places. We feel thankful for the rest, and take courage.

ON account of advanced age and poor health, Elder S. N. Haskell intends to spend the winter in the South. He and those associated with him will be located at Nashville, Tenn.

ELDER J. O. MILLER and W. E. Bidwell conducted services in the Academy chapel last Sabbath, the latter speaking first of the canvassing work, and the former following with an account of his recent experience at Rows.

MRS. A. ALDERMAN of Youngstown, Ohio, reports for their little company a good meeting on Sabbath, November 21. Plans for future work were formed, and will be carried out according to the Lord's direction. Though their company be but few in number, she says, "We do feel the 'Presence' when we meet together from time to time—his promise is not to large companies only, but even 'where there are two or three.'"

WE take pleasure in recommending to our readers again the little temperance journal, *Save the Boys*, No. 5, of Vol. I, just received. It is expected that the January number will

be of special value, and as one has said, "It should circulate wherever there are boys—and that is everywhere." Price 30 cents per year, 5 cents per copy, or 2½ cents each in lots of ten or more to one address. Address H. F. Phelps, 118 W. Minnehaha Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minn.

INDICATIONS OF A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN.

WE are pleased to state that the laborers of the Conference have willingly entered upon the present "Christ's Object Lessons" campaign, and say they will push it to a finish. It has been a source of encouragement to note the fact that not one word of complaint has appeared in all the letters that have come from the different workers. We sincerely hope that the same spirit will be manifested by all the brethren and sisters of our Conference, and that with this united effort the work may soon be done.

If every copy of the book already within our State, and lying upon the shelves at the office, could be sold, the school would be freed from the reproach of debt and the heavy burden that has so long been hanging over our heads would be forever gone. With this relief, and the payment of the pledges that have been made, and others which we believe will yet be made, we would have on hand a sum sufficient to make much needed improvements in the different recitation rooms.

What a blessing this would be to our work! It would give new life and inspiration to the teachers, and add to the interest of the students and to their attachment to the school. How and where could money better be expended? Here young men and women are receiving a fitting to fill creditably responsible positions in the Lord's work.

Then, too, it is upon our sons and daughters that the future success and final triumph of this closing Message must depend. And because of this, they need more than an ordinary training. Our Message must go to the educated of earth. It must go through the greatest of hinderances and opposition. God will surely require at our hands every possible effort to qualify our youth for what awaits them in the future.

If any whose eyes fall upon this article would desire to make a donation to the school to help free it from debt, the same may be sent to the Ohio Conference, Academia, Ohio, and it will be gratefully received and due credit and recognition will be given.

H. H. BURKHOLDER.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES BADGES.

To those who will agree to spend some time each week selling the *Signs of the Times*, either on the street, in stores, or from house to house, we will furnish free of charge a ribbon badge, containing the words, "Signs of the Times." This will give the impression of a band of workers, organized to circulate this paper, and will at once indicate the business of the individual wearing it. Address the Pacific Press Pub. Co., Oakland, Cal., or 18 West Fifth St., Kansas City, Mo.

H. H. HALL.

NOTICE.

THE office of publication of the *Bible Training School* has been removed from 896 Eighth Ave., New York City, to South Lancaster, Mass. The management of the paper will not be changed in any way. It will still be devoted to the interest of house to house work. The managers of the *Bible Training School* hope to greatly increase the usefulness of the paper during the coming year. The paper will still contain the Third Angel's Message in its simplicity. Subscription price is twenty-five cents per year. All communications should be addressed to *Bible Training School*, South Lancaster, Mass.

IN AND AROUND WASHINGTON.

EVERY American, young or old, is interested in the capital of the nation, and now that the home of the *Youth's Instructor* is in Washington, right on the edge of the capitol grounds and overlooking them, it is safe to expect that in the columns of the paper will appear articles describing these points of national importance and interest. So during 1904 there will be published a series of very finely illustrated articles on points of interest in and around the nation's capital.

A few of many such places are: the Capitol and Its Grounds, the Congressional Library, the Smithsonian Institute, the National Museum, the Zoological Gardens, Mount Vernon—the Home of General Washington, Arlington—the National Cemetery, the Soldiers' Home.

Better than ever will be the *Instructor* for 1904, and it ought to be read by every one of our young people.

For seventy-five cents a new subscriber gets the paper every week during 1904 and in addition the publishers will send free the last seven issues of 1903 which contain the first articles in several very interesting series. Address, *Youth's Instructor*, 222 North Capitol St., Washington, D. C.