

THE Welcome Visitor

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

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THE OHIO CONFERENCE.

"Those who accept the one principle of making the service and honor of God supreme, will find perplexities vanish, and a plain path before their feet."

FROM THE DIARY OF OUR MISSIONARIES TO CHINA.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 1903.—We took our baggage off the boat this morning and had the coolies take it to the French Hotel. It took twenty-eight of them to carry the twenty-one pieces, as they did it by hand, on their bamboo poles. The hotel rate is \$2.50 per day. As Sunday does not have any special interest to the Chinese, we were able to do business, and accordingly visited the Chinese quarters for the purpose of providing ourselves with Chinese garments. We surely had a "great time." Brother Pilquist did our interpreting for us, but we were not accustomed to such styles and colors. The Chinese idea of good taste in dress is to wear as many different colors as possible at one time. The Chinese adapt themselves to the advancing cold of winter by the addition of extra coats, and instead of measuring the temperature by degrees as we do in America, one will tell you the temperature is eight coats this morning.

Hankow is building up very fast. Two years ago there was scarcely a foreigner in the city; now there is a large foreign population. We ought to have some workers there, as it promises to become a great center in China. It is connected by river with Shanghai on the eastern coast, and with Peking on the north by the railroad, and another railroad is now being constructed between Hankow and Canton on the south, and two rivers run into it from the west. Thus it is the Chicago of China. New enterprises are springing up here very fast. The Russians have large tea factories here. Russia really has control of nearly all the tea in China, and Hankow is a great tea market.

Monday, November 2.—We went to the bank and had our Mexican dollars

exchanged for silver to-day. Pure silver is used here and is estimated by weight, being made in the form of a shoe. Although we had but little to exchange, yet the silver in bulk made quite a load to carry. When making a purchase, the merchant will cut off a piece of the silver for his pay, so that one's silver shoe soon slips away, for the Chinaman always gets his full share. In coming to inland China have your money exchanged for gold before starting, then bring it to the Hankow Bank and have it exchanged for silver. You will thus save the discounts charged for exchange. This bank will receive United States paper money, or a "gold draft" from a United States bank.

After finishing our business here, we went to the American consul for passports inland, so that we might have the protection of Uncle Sam. On account of difficulties here in obtaining passports it is better to get them in the United States before coming to China. A married lady does not need to obtain one when in company with her husband, for his passport answers for both. Single ladies, however, must provide themselves with passports, and if their father came to the United States and took out naturalization papers, they must submit a copy of these papers to the consul before he can issue them passports. A fee of three dollars is charged for this service, after which the new comer also obtains from the consul a traveling permit, which he can present to the mandarin if questioned.

Our next business was to arrange for our mail to be transferred from Hankow to Sin Tsai Hsien, so that we would be sure to receive it all right. Our freight shipment from Montgomery, Ward & Co. has arrived and passed the customs here all right, as they have an agent here. We hired twenty coolies for \$2.00 to carry the twenty boxes, which weighed two tons, from the warehouse to the railway station, a distance of three Li, or one mile.

We then bought two baskets of provisions for our journey, four heavy comforters for mattresses to sleep on, an oil cloth to cover our bedding. Thus we each had a bundle like sol-

diers carry with them. Our party consisted of ten, including two Chinamen, and Brother Pilquist hired a Chinese wash boy for us, making eleven in all. Now we are ready for the trip inland by a Chinese railway train. H. W. MILLER, M. D.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

IN the business world how often do we hear the expression, Beware of imitations.

Men are constantly trying to palm off something adulterated or false for the good and true, causing those who invest to be constantly on the alert, else they are liable to be swindled.

What would you think of a dry goods merchant who did not know what a good article of dry goods was and its value, or a grocer who did not know a good article in the grocery line and the value of it? How long would it be before their customers would leave them and the merchants fail or become bankrupt?

As in the business world so in the religious world. Ambitious and unscrupulous persons are using every conceivable means to palm off their false theories and doctrines for the true, for the same reason that the swindler in business deceives the business man; that he may dominate his fellowmen.

This has been the motive of their leader, the Arch Deceiver, ever since our earthly struggle began. Among these deceptions may be mentioned, Christian Science, Mesmerism, Spiritualism, Free Thought-ism, New Thought-ism and many other isms might be enumerated if space would permit. The first four mentioned are more generally known, although no more misleading than the last of the five, namely, the "New Thought."

A prominent writer of the New Thought doctrine enumerates a number of moral virtues which she calls her creed. Chief of which are unselfishness, kindness, gentleness, cheerfulness and generosity. Are any of these new to the true follower of Christ? We would ask such writers where they get such graces; if they were not in the infallible Word of God before the New Thought was ever heard of.

All truth and virtue originate with God, and are revealed in his word, and are as old as time. Whoever assumes to put forth anything new, or better than God's Word as a rule of life, is a deceiver, and should be regarded by the religious world as the swindler is in the business world. And even more so, as our interests at stake in this case are spiritual and eternal, while in the other they are only temporal.

This New Thought writer ends by saying, "Each soul is its own redeemer, there is no other law but love," ignoring Jesus as our Redeemer. Is there anything new in this?

This is also as old as time. Satan has always been thus trying to deceive man and teach him to magnify self and ignore Christ and his law. So we say in the religious world as in the business world, "Beware of imitations." And the only way to be fortified against being deceived is to know the truth, which is Christ Jesus as revealed in his Word.

Waterford, O. SANA VINCENT.

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING IN DEFIANCE.

SABBATH, January 2, was a day for remembrance in the experience of the newly organized church at Defiance. The announcement had been made for the quarterly meeting, but on Sabbath morning it was cold, the snow falling fast, and the storm was severe. It took much faith to believe that many would be there. One old and feeble sister, who had looked forward with anticipation to this event, we feared would not be able to come in such a storm; but to our surprise she was there. Also another sister, living about six miles away, had come on the train. All had made an extra effort to come.

The Lord blessed in a special manner. All felt the solemnity of the occasion. Jesus has said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." With many of them this was a new experience. Nevertheless it had its marvelous effects. All felt thankful to be present and for occasion to partake of the emblems of the broken body and spilt blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The aged sister expressed herself as thankful that the good Lord had given her strength once more to come, now she seemed satisfied like Simeon of old, who had seen the Lord.

May God bless this and every other church. The interest is increasing. Our Sabbath meetings are well attended, as also the Wednesday night prayer meetings. J. P. GAEDE.

OUR WORK AND WORKERS.

"Men may profess faith in the truth; but if it does not make them sincere, kind, patient, forbearing, heavenly minded, it is a curse to its possessors, and through their influence it is a curse to the world."

HOLD FAST.

THE Lord exhorts us to "hold fast that which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." During the past year, we have had several requests from those not of our faith to canvass for our books. Can it be possible that the Lord is working on the hearts of others to take up this long neglected line of work, and take away our crowns because of our neglect? I hope all will ask themselves this question, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" As surely as we ask with a sincere desire to know the Lord's will, so surely will the same definite answer be given us that was given to Paul. Do not wait until hard times come and close other avenues of labor, and thus force you to knock for admittance; but begin now to plan to take up the work if circumstances are such that you cannot enter now. N. S. M.

Dayton.

DEAR VISITOR: I still look forward to your weekly visits. Sometimes I feel disappointed because you know so little about your contributors. I think you ought to have a little space for each worker. Perhaps the reason you know so little about us is because we do not appreciate you enough to write a word of encouragement. I will confess I have neglected you, and if you will forgive me this time I will try to do better hereafter.

I am enjoying my field of labor very much. I am kept very busy. I am conducting on an average about ten readings each week. Some of the readers have taken their stand for the truth and are ready to unite with the church. Others are in the valley of decision. Brother J. O. Miller is to be with me for a while. I assure you we need him very much. We will be able to give him all the work he can do. The interest demands the renting of a hall for Sunday night meetings on the West Side. We expect to begin this work next Sunday evening, January 17.

We had no trouble in selling the 150 Signs of the special number at ten cents each. We only regret that we did not order 500 or 1,000. We also have been able to dispose of quite a number of the "Object Lessons," and

don't expect to quit till all are sold. We are of good courage in the Message. Pray for us.

I. H. HENDERSON.

Virginia.

DEAR VISITOR READERS: Newport News sends greetings in the new year, and some here even would write you and touch hand to hand with you all individually in the "blessed hope" were God's will so done. But the glad day draws on when all the faithful in him shall see "eye to eye" and abide safely where the mansions are preparing by his own pierced hand for them.

The little band here took a hand in distributing the special Signs, and gained rich reward during the week of prayer, in a close daily study of the readings and in studies along lines brought out in them. Annual offerings were small, but according to ability. The Lord did not call Israel because they were a great nation, only a few in number, nor bless the "widow's mite" for its nominal value. Within this more than kindly rule may be found room for this little band and its "mite" of an annual offering.

Quite a goodly number were, and are, very much interested in the series of Bible studies held in the little chapel recently dedicated, but closed during holidays and not resumed as yet. In a city like this there is great need of a number of active laborers united in spirit in a quick and searching effort to stir up the masses for whom so many divertive scenes are presented.

Mrs. Babcock and myself have canvassed portions of the city allotted to each, distributing invitations to the meetings, Signs and other literature, and forming personal acquaintances as the way opened. As a result we have more work to do, and Bible readings to hold, than we can attend to, with our regular meetings and domestic matters. She is out now giving her second reading to-day, in nice and respectable homes.

It is written, "The just shall live by faith," and if any one desires to see a test of this truth let him go to a city like this and he will see at least how thousands are yielding to the "powers that be" and trying to live without faith as an apparently worldly necessity. The many thousands in the three chief cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Newport News lying about the shores of Hampton Rhodes, in human view, depend directly or indirectly on a very few ship yards, railway terminals, and ocean traffic combinations, for bread to keep "soul and body together." Slaves to soulless corporations, which, as they

claim, of competitive necessity, regard neither God nor man in their death struggle for temporal gain. By no means not a few of the "corporate bound" see and accept the Message, the last call to flee for their lives from the impending burning, but "how can I." Pray, O pray for the poor and oppressed in the cities of the world and the blind who cannot see the "way cast up" for the ransomed of the Lord to walk in.

We can see ahead only by the clear light of God as he reveals his secrets to us by his word, but we trust for the faith of Jesus, and to shrink not from any known duty, but embrace every blessed privilege his providence provides concerning us, hoping that what talent he lends us may be found doubled at least when he reckons with us, his grateful servants, in that great day when the books of account of "the deeds done in the body" shall be examined before the Ancient of days in presence of the countless hosts of glory that gladly do his bidding. 3 John 2.

M. S. BABCOCK.

Dayton.

DEAR WELCOME VISITOR: I have been impressed several times lately after reading the various experiences of the brethren and sisters in giving this last warning Message to the world, to express my thoughts regarding the way of giving the Third Angel's Message through the use of the *Family Bible Teacher*.

I find this to be an excellent way of introducing the truth to the people, and if nothing more than the weekly visit, it shows to them that we have a personal interest in their soul's salvation. Many express their appreciation at each visit of the good they receive from reading the lessons, and all seem to realize that it is the truth. I also hold one or two Bible readings each week with some of my readers, and sometimes have an attendance of eight or ten who are much interested. I believe some of them will yet obey the Lord and keep the Sabbath.

I feel thankful to my heavenly Father for the blessings received in this work, and for the privilege of helping spread the Message in these last days. It is gratifying to see the results of the power of God working on the hearts of the people, for many are hungering and thirsting for a better knowledge of the truth. I feel greatly encouraged and want to be among the faithful ones when the Lord makes up his jewels. Let us all arise and shine, and hasten on the glad day of deliverance. Yours in the Message,

HARRY U. JACOBS.

HOME AND SCHOOL.

"Day by day God instructs his children. By the circumstances of the daily life he is preparing them to act their part upon that wider stage to which his providence has appointed them. It is the issue of the daily test that determines their victory or defeat in life's great crisis."

THE VALUE OF BIBLE STUDY.

SATAN is constantly seeking to divert the attention of the people from the Bible. The words of God to man, which should receive our first attention, are neglected for the utterances of human wisdom. How can he who is infinite in power and wisdom, bear thus with the presumption and effrontery of men?

In an age like ours, in which iniquity abounds, and God's character and his law are alike regarded with contempt, special care must be taken to teach the youth to study, to reverence, and to obey the divine will as revealed to man. The fear of the Lord is fading from the minds of our youth, because of their neglect of Bible study.

God does not want us to be content with lazy, undisciplined minds, dull thoughts, and loose memories. He wants every teacher to be efficient, not to feel satisfied with some measure of success, but to feel his need of perpetual diligence in acquiring knowledge. Our bodies and souls belong to God, for he has bought them. He has given us talents, and has made it possible for us to acquire more, in order that we may be able to help ourselves and others onward in the way of life.

It is the work of each individual to develop and strengthen the gifts which God has lent him, with which to do most earnest, practical work, both in temporal and religious things. If all realized this, what a vast difference we should see in our schools, in our churches and in our missions! But a large number are content with a meager knowledge, a few attainments, just to be passable; and the necessity of being men like Daniel and Moses, men of influence, men whose characters have become harmonious by their working to bless humanity and glorify God,—such an experience but few have had, and the result is there are but few now fitted for the great want of the times.

God does not ignore ignorant men, but if they are connected with Christ, if they are sanctified through the truth, they will be constantly gathering knowledge. By exerting every power to glorify God, they will have increased power with which to glorify him. But

those who are willing to remain in a narrow channel because God condescended to accept them when they were there, are very foolish; and yet there are hundreds and thousands who are doing this very thing.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

THE LAST LINK.

AS we study into the "deep things of God," by aid of the Holy Spirit, we discover, as it were, a great chain extending from the garden of Eden to the second coming of Christ—a chain of God's representatives in the midst of a sin tossed world. Over its restless billows, they have held up the beacon light of a Saviour's love, and have given to us a living example of the words, "Thy word was a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." And these representatives were "not disobedient to the heavenly visions," but "forsook all and followed him." They walked in close communion with Christ, and learned to sacrifice everything—except the truth of God.

Being endued by the Holy Spirit with "power from on high" to reprove the world of sin, they became a target for the fiery darts of Satan. The great adversary of souls, alarmed at the loss of so many subjects from his kingdom, brought forward all the artillery of the hosts of darkness to overthrow these servants of the living God. How my heart raises grateful praise to God to find that so many stood firm, and esteemed the riches of Christ above the treasures of this transient world!

It is the Spirit of Christ that breathes through the pages of both the Old and the New Testaments. Wonderful are the works of Christ, and yet he says to his representatives today, "Greater works shall ye do than these because I go to my Father," "And these signs shall follow them that believe: in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them: they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh"—not sparingly, as a few drops, but his Spirit is to be poured out. We are to be endued with more of the power of God than has been given to any generation of people since the world began. What a grand truth, and with it comes the solemn warning, "Unto whom much is given, of him shall much be required."

We are called upon to stand firm as the last link of this wonderful chain,

and shall we expect ease, self-indulgence, or the approval of the world? Do we expect to be less persecuted than those who with their life-blood welded the other links? God forbid. Oh, what a glorious privilege to partake of the sufferings of Christ, that having endured the cross, we may be accounted worthy to wear the crown.

RACHEL R. HESS.

SOWING FOR AN UNHAPPY MARRIAGE.

PEOPLE are continually asking how it can be that such a lovely young woman as Miss So-and-So could ever consent to marry such a cheap, questionable character as she did.

The solution of the problem is easy enough. Like the self-respecting young man who despises the very sight of a drunkard, but sees no harm for himself in indulging in a few drinks just for fun, so respectable and high-minded girls will permit young men whom they suppose to be decent (for the only reason that they don't know how indecent they are) to take them to parties, theaters, dances and strolls in the park.

All the while the girl feels that she would not marry such a man for anything, but then she isn't going to be so foolish as to lose such a good chance of having what she considers some innocent pleasure, little realizing that later on she will atone for it with bitter tears which in her pride, she will try to hide from her friends. But her misery will write itself upon her careworn face in such an unmistakable manner that even a stranger can not help observing it.

Let the young woman who comprehends what such a life would mean to her, earnestly and prayerfully consider if she is even in the smallest particular sowing for such a harvest, and, if so, resolve by the help of the Lord that she can not afford to take ever so slight a risk.—*The Life Boat.*

Dayton.

DEAR VISITOR: I wish to drop you a line or two. The Lord is very good to me. I am employed by the Computing Scale Co., and have but little time to do much missionary work, but I am doing a little. I visit with the *Family Bible Teacher* about 175 homes each week, and am also conducting a few cottage Bible readings. In one home I have had as high as fifteen. I sold fifteen of the "Capital and Labor" number of the *Signs* to my fellow workers in the shop, and could have sold many more had I had them. May the good Lord help us all to give the Message.

GLEN MEDARY.

The Welcome Visitor

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE

Ohio Conference of Seventh-day
Adventists

Price, 25 Cents a Year in Advance.

N. W. LAWRENCE Editor.

Academia, Ohio. January 20, 1904.

Sabbath begins Jan. 22 at 5:05 P. M.

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

"THERE is nothing like an obedient to-day to reveal God's will to-morrow."

SEVERAL new students have arrived at the Academy since the close of last term, and more are expected.

LAST Sabbath's service in the Academy chapel was conducted by Elder C. A. Smith, speaking from James 3:17.

A REPORT from Elder W. W. Miller, Medical Missionary Secretary, came a little too late for this issue, but will appear next week.

A LETTER from Sister Ella McIntyre, one of our missionaries to Egypt, is in hand, and will be published next week. She reports all well and of good courage.

THE suggestion is now heard occasionally that the Mount Vernon church will soon be obliged to build a new place for worship, as the full capacity of the Academy chapel on the Sabbath is already taxed.

ELDER WEBSTER met in quarterly meeting with the little company at Youngstown, Ohio. The members spent a very enjoyable occasion. The ordinances of the Lord's house were celebrated—a privilege not heretofore enjoyed for a number of years. They report three candidates ready for baptism.

TO housewives who desire an excellent cooking oil guaranteed to be purely vegetable and absolutely free from injurious chemicals, we can recommend the "Hygienic Cooking Oil," made by Dr. O. C. Godsmark, 2005 Magazine St., Louisville, Ky. A card written to him will bring circular and prices.

SPECIAL.

NOTICE.

THE Ohio Tract Society can now furnish "Story of Daniel the Prophet" to our canvassers at the regular discount.

FROM THE CHURCHES.

Toledo.

THE Toledo company held their regular quarterly meeting on Sabbath, Jan. 2, 1904, at 10:30 A. M.

Pastor D. E. Lindsey was present, and after the usual opening exercises, read portions of the chapter on "Tares," from "Christ's Object Lessons," drawing therefrom timely admonitions for church members of the present day.

There were no additions to our present membership. The ordinances were celebrated. Owing to a severe blizzard but eighteen members were present to participate.

ANNA M. NICHOLAS, Clerk.

Laura.

DEAR VISITOR: As you are about the only source of information as to the movements of the Ohio Conference coming directly to us, we cannot think of not having you to visit us the coming year. I enclose twenty-five cents for which please visit me each week during 1904. I will do all I can to make you "welcome" into our home, and I trust that you will not be disappointed in not finding us at home. In the year to come you will no doubt bear many precious messages which we are not now permitted to see, for we are living in a "grand and awful" time, grand because of the possibilities before us, awful because of the responsibilities which rest upon us. Very truly yours, J. I. CASSELL.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOREIGN PUBLISHING ESTABLISHMENT.

SABBATH, February 6, is the day appointed on which to take up a collection for the purpose of establishing the foreign work on a firm footing. It is expected that all the churches throughout the country will contribute liberally towards this work. We have no doubt but that this will be done. We know, dear brethren, that you have always had a great interest in foreign work. Now by a united effort we may enable the International Publishing plant to do its appointed work.

F. H. WESTPHALL.