

Columbia Union Visitor

"THEY REHEARSED ALL THINGS THAT GOD HAD DONE WITH THEM"

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GENERAL MATTER

THE BETTER LAND

"I hear thee speak of the better land,
Thou call'st its children a happy band;
Mother! Oh, where is that radiant shore?
Shall we not seek it and weep no more?
Is it where the flower of the orange blows,
And the fire-flies glance through the myrtle
boughs?"

"Not there, not there, my child!"

"Is it where the feathery palm trees rise,
And the date grows ripe under sunny skies?
Or, midst the green islands of glittering seas,
Where fragrant forests perfume the breeze,
And strange bright birds on their starry wings
Bear the rich hues of all glorious things?"

Not there, not there, my child!"

"Is it far away in some region old,
Where the rivers wander o'er sands of gold,
Where the burning rays of the ruby shine,
And the diamond lights up the secret mine,
And the pearl gleams forth from the coral
strand?"

Is it there, sweet mother, that better land?"

"Not there, not there, my child!"

"Eye hath not seen it, my gentle boy,
Ear hath not heard its deep sounds of joy;
Dreams cannot picture a world so fair—
Sorrow and death may not enter there;
Time doth not breathe on its fadeless bloom
Far beyond the clouds and beyond the tomb.

It is there, it is there, my child!"

MRS. FELICIA D. HEMANS.

The Advantage of our Tract Societies

We spend much time on various writings and all of us have our favorite authors, but since God has condescended to become an author and to write for us a book how much should we honor him by reading this priceless volume. Bible pictures improve with the age. Like as the great masterpieces of Raphael or Michael Angelo and the scenes of the world's masters grow more valuable with the passing years, so do the messages of the pictures of the Bible. This wonderful book written by thirty-six writers, comprising sixty-six books and spanning a period of 1600 years is

all bound together by the golden thread of the love of Christ. Listen to Moses the statesman, Joshua the warrior, Samuel the prophet, Micah the farmer, Isaiah the scholar, Amos the herdsman, Matthew the publican, Luke the physician, John the beloved, or Paul the learned, and from Genesis to Revelation every tongue and every verse is sounding out to mankind the same story.

The year 1798 marked the beginning of the end. Then came true the third verse of the first chapter of the book of Revelation, "Blessed is he that readeth and they that hear the words of this prophecy, for the time is at hand. Up to 1798 there were, practically speaking, no Bible societies, no tract societies, and no missionary societies, but when the French Revolution dared to put its foot upon God's word there sprang up in rapid succession the London Foreign and Mission Bible Society, the Hamburg Tract Society, the Berlin Tract Society, the Parisian, the Genevan, and the American. Breaking up the divine word of God in small portions as we break in morsels a loaf of bread, these outpost institutions began to turn out a storehouse of small missiles ready to be sent into the camp of the enemy.

Simultaneously with the product of the press appeared the product of the school. Young men became seized with the burning desire to go over to the distant lands, and they carried with them the books and the tracts which could be translated and put into the hands of the heathen. In 1798 the first foreign missionary society was founded and God prepared to send the last message of warning into every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.

A book may do for a library but a tract can reach every home. And great are the results produced by a tract. It is said that one young man, whose mother prayed and labored for him that he might give his heart to God, constantly resisted her efforts and went off in the paths of sin. He became a sea-diver and one day diving to the bottom of the ocean he found there a tract lying upon the

bottom. Picking it up and reading it by the light of his electric lamp he fell down and gave his heart to God in the bottom of the sea, saying, "If God loves me so much as to follow me here, even to the bottom of the ocean, how can I longer resist!"

The Koran, the Bible of the Mohammedans, has been translated into six languages. Shakespeare has been translated into sixteen languages; the Bible into nearly six hundred. God is moving every where upon the hearts of men today to send forth abroad the message of his divine word.

When Christ healed the man from the tombs and the cast-out evil spirit had entered into the swine hurling them to death into the sea below, the people of that country begged the Lord to depart from their coasts. The restored maniac besought that he might depart also in his company, but Jesus, desiring to leave him behind as a witness amongst those who wished his departure said, "Go home and tell thy friends how great things the Lord has done and how he had mercy on thee." Taking also from that place his personal presence he left behind a witness.

For centuries before he had had a divine witness in the Shekinah of God's glory in the second apartment of a heavenly sanctuary. It was from that center that God had wished the Israelites to send forth throughout the great empires of antiquity the news of the miracles wrought by the divine presence, but the Israelites failed to do this.

Even in the days of Jesus the Roman Empire had its great publishing houses. It was said that as soon as a new poem had fallen from the pen of Virgil or a new ode had been written by Horace that these were rapidly carried in manuscript form away out on the borders of the Empire, and were eagerly seized and read by the Roman soldiers around their campfires. Here again the world had gotten the better of the children of Israel. They should have had their great lines of literature flung clear out to the very outskirts of the Roman Empire, telling what great things

God was doing and what great light he was shedding around the Shekinah of his glory.

We do not have the Lord Jesus Christ with us to-day in bodily presence, but nevertheless he has left behind the divine presence in the form of his Holy Spirit. This wonderful guest is doing great things for us to-day. He is shedding light upon our pathway and revealing the saving truths of God. Now God expects us to establish outposts and the tract society is the ammunition house if you please. Not one great central house is all that we should have, but there should be branch houses and these should be broken up and multiplied into the tract society centers. They could conveniently reach all over the home countries and then on to the ends of the earth. One of the chief advantages then of the tract society is to give us a nearby base of supplies.

Secondly, the tract society office should be a powerful stimulus to the churches. It should and can be a generator of missionary activity. A wide awake tract society will never allow to exist within the radius of its operation a sleeping church. It has or should have upon its files not only the name, location, and elders of every church but a complete list of the composing membership. Like the little branch centers of the nervous system which keep stored up to supply when needed the filaments of the nerve extremities, these tract societies should not only be a storehouse but they should also be an overflowing reservoir. They should not only attempt to supply the demand but they should see to it that they are creating a demand. It is no bad sign when a tract society needs more help in the office to keep up with an increasing business.

Again, just as a drug store keeps on hand a supply of medicine for diseases likely to occur, the tract society is a supply center to meet great public issues when they appear. Upon my recent visit to the tract society office at Los Angeles, Cal., the secretary told me that when the Balkan war broke out they were compelled to have written immediately a 15,000 edition of a tract upon the "Eastern Question." The demand was very great, but the issue came upon them with no pamphlet ready to meet the occasion, and the run continued to such an extent that they were obliged to have a more suitable tract prepared, the total demand for these different tracts on the Eastern Question amounting even at that time to 50,000. We

know by the divine prophecy what events to expect. We are not like the great public world who open their newspapers each day astonished to find occurring a certain issue. These have been prophesied to us in advance. Suitable tracts upon these issues have been prepared and the tract society should be armed with these actualities.

The organization in this denomination of an International Tract Society was an act giving us an investment of great value. I had occasion during the four years of my labors in Europe to see of what great assistance to this cause was the Hamburg Tract Society. The Lord blessed the publishing work there and the output grew apace. Every year saw a splendid surplus of means in the treasury of the Hamburg Tract Society. When the Christiania Publishing House tried again to get upon its feet it was the Hamburg Tract Society which advanced it several thousand dollars. When the Latin publishing work was transferred from Basle, Switzerland, to Gland on the banks of Lake Geneva it was the Hamburg Tract Society which loaned her \$12,000.00 to start anew.

When the Skodsborg Sanitarium in Denmark was in distress and about to go to the wall it was the Hamburg Tract Society which put her hands down into her surplus of earnings and came to the rescue. What would this denomination have done had it not been for the publishing work. Many a time in the earlier days did the Review & Herald publishing house come to the rescue of Battle Creek College when she was laboring under heavy difficulties.

Last, but not least, I would put down the tract society as able to be one of the great centers of spiritual influence for the conference. I will never forget a scene I witnessed one day upon one of our large camp grounds. The nominating committee had just brought in its report. The slate for the coming year was the same as the year past with the exception of the tract society secretary. He had been left out.

He sat there quietly at the desk with his head bowed as the report was about to be adopted, when one old brother rose up in the midst of the audience and wanted to know the reason for the change. Well, he said "I don't know what the reasons for this change are, but I do know if it had not been for that brother there, that tract society secretary, many a time this past year would I have been discouraged and have given up." Then an old sister rose up in the audience

and she said, "God bless our tract society secretary. It was his letters which brought me safely through this year."

One after another all over the audience the people rose up in strong protest, saying that they would never permit that man to go out of office. The nominating committee gave as the reason for their objecting to his name that he had been discovered at times absent from his office when he should have been there. It came out, however, on closer investigation, that he was at home trying to save the life of a very sick wife, but when he did take up his pen he never wrote a letter which read like a bill of lading. Every letter in itself was a missionary epistle, bearing spiritual life and light and power out to the individual members scattered throughout the conference.

Give me a good tract society secretary and I will point you out an instrument of spiritual power equal to the labors of many preachers. Never should our missionary officers descend into the fruitless and freezing method of writing stiff, hard-shelled letters which read more like a freight bill than they do like an epistle sent from a man of God. B. G. WILKINSON.

Read at the Bookmen's Convention, Mt. Vernon, Ohio, Feb. 21-27.

The Tract Society Secretary and the Church—2

NO ONE TO BE IDLE

Each believer can not escape the responsibility resting upon him to set himself to work for Christ. When he took upon him the vows of following Christ, was it not that he become a light-bearer? "Too many are counting on a long stretch of a to-morrow; but that is a mistake. Let every one be educated in such a way as to show the importance of the special work for to-day. Let every one work for God and work for souls; let each one show wisdom, and never be found in idleness, *waiting for some one to come round and set him to work.* The 'some one' who could set you to work is overcrowded with responsibilities, the time is lost in waiting for his directions. God will give you wisdom in reforming at once; for the call is still made, 'Son, go work to-day in my vineyard.'"—*Special Testimonies, page 146.*

THE WORK TO BE DONE

What did Jesus do? The record states that "He went about *doing good.*" We are also told what he did. The human need about him ever ap-

pealed to his loving heart. He communicated the love of the Father to those about him in word and deed. More time was spent, we are told, in relieving the sick and helpless than in teaching and preaching. When silently working for those in need, Christ was opening the way for others to help. He knew that from lip to lip the news of what he *did* would be repeated. It was more what he *did* than what he *said* that caused his fame to be spread abroad.

All about our homes are sick ones, sick at heart if not in body, perhaps both, rich and poor alike, who need the touch of *human kindness*. And who can estimate the value of such loving ministry? It may not be a sermon or a Bible reading needed at first. A loving interest, a loving deed, however humble or simple it may seem, may be that which God can use to reach the heart dead in trespasses and sins. Here a great field opens before our sisters. Wonderful opportunities for doing a work of a far-reaching influence in homes are in a special sense opened to them. Prejudice melts away before works of disinterested love. Hearts are prepared to study the Bible, to read tracts, to listen to what is taught, that otherwise would be steeled against anything that might be *said*, no matter how good or important it might be.

WILLING TO COMMUNICATE

In missionary correspondence, sending out papers and tracts, giving Bible readings, and telling those about us of the Bible truths God has given us, ample work is provided for all, and the diversified talent in the church may all be used. "Those who have the special oversight of the church [elders, deacons, deaconesses] should devise ways and means by which an opportunity may be given to every member of the church to act some part in God's work." To help accomplish this the conference tract society secretary is serving the church in the best possible way.

Paul wrote Timothy that he should teach the brethren, "That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, *willing to communicate*." And again, "But to do good and to *communicate* forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." All work that any one can possibly do is comprehended in these words.

A few words from one whose life is consistent are often made by the Spirit of great power in winning a soul to Jesus. The personal word, the paper handed out, the tract sent with the letter to a distant one, the

prayer at the bedside of the sufferer, the Bible study, and sometimes the loving deed *without a word*, all are ways by which we communicate the love of Christ to others. With such sacrifices God says he is well pleased. These services of love, under the increased gift of the Holy Spirit, will be manifested more and more by the followers of Christ, until the work is finished in all the earth. From mouth to mouth the tidings will go as in the days of the apostles.

Peter said, "We can not but speak the things which we have seen and heard." "And daily, in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." And what of the results? "And, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine." "For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak anything." "The gospel which is come unto you, as it is in all the world."

When this is once more repeated under the outpouring of the latter rain, the end will come. And to bring it about, God is looking to the "men and women comprising our church membership." To encourage such service is surely the highest service the conference missionary secretary, or any other worker in the conference, can render the local church.

In closing, here is one more quotation from Testimony, Volume 9, pages 117, 118, that is to the point:—

"In every church there is talent, which, with the right kind of labor, might be developed to become a great help in this work. That which is needed now for the upbuilding of our churches is the nice work of wise laborers to discern and develop talent in the church,—talent that can be educated for the Master's use. There should be a well-organized plan for the employment of workers to go into all our churches, large and small, to instruct the members how to labor for the upbuilding of the church, and also for unbelievers.

"It is training, education, that is needed. Those who labor in visiting the churches should give the brethren and sisters instruction in practical methods of doing missionary work. All the preaching in the world will not make men feel deeply the need of perishing souls around them. Nothing will so arouse in men and women a self-sacrificing zeal as to send them forth into new fields to work for those

in darkness. Prepare workers to go out into the by-ways; . . . Rally workers who possess true missionary zeal, and let them go forth to diffuse light and knowledge far and near."

And to actually accomplish this important work among the churches and companies of believers presents a task perhaps as difficult as any before us at the present time, a task that can only be accomplished by the operation of the Holy Spirit through conference leaders and believers alike.

T. E. BOWEN.

Read at Bookmen's Convention, Mount Vernon, Ohio, Feb. 21—27.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington Sanitarium Notes

The Sanitarium physicians have been carrying on this winter another successful series of health lectures in Washington under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. The last meeting is in May.

Our main building has been nearly full of patients for some weeks in the past.

Elder J. L. and Mrs. McElhane of the District of Columbia Conference, have been chosen to conduct health campaign work in Washington and vicinity in the interests of the Sanitarium.

The daughter of the French ambassador to the United States was recently at the Sanitarium. She went away much improved.

A United States Senator from California is at present our guest.

The wife of an ex-Senator, a woman high in social circles in Washington, and who is also a staunch reformer, was recently a patient at the Sanitarium, and as a result of her visit, she took home with her fifty copies of the Temperance number of the *Youth's Instructor* to circulate among her friends in Congress and in Washington during the recent anti-saloon campaign held here.

First-Day Sacredness

That's what our friends everywhere want to know. The subject, with all its strong texts, is given careful presentation in the *May Signs Magazine*. An unusually good number, this is.

OHIO

Presenting the Truth to Ministers

Some time ago I was asked by the Newark Ministerial Association to prepare and read a paper in one of their bimonthly meetings. The selection of the topic was left to my wish. The presentation of my paper occurred on Monday, March 17. The topic which I selected was, "God's Plan for the Support of the Gospel Ministry." There were about twenty-five ministers present, representing nearly every denomination in the city. In preparing the paper my only wish was that I should so present the beautiful tithing plan that the cause of God would be accorded the honor to which it is entitled, and the name of the Lord glorified.

The good Lord gave unusual freedom and the paper was accorded very respectful attention throughout. As soon as the reading was finished and the matter was open for discussion, there were at once a number of the members on their feet seeking recognition from the chairman. One by one they questioned me concerning the practical application of the tithing system as operated in the Seventh-day Adventist movement. There was scarcely a small corner of the entire structure of our financial system that was not eagerly enquired into. An enthusiasm marked the discussion of the subject such as I have seen in but few instances. Indeed I might say that because of its peculiar nature it was the most interesting discussion I have listened to in a long time.

In answering all the questions asked of me I felt a power supporting me which only comes to a worker in cases of special need. The discussion was not one sided by any means, though it is safe to say that 75 per cent of those present heartily approved of the plan. The leading Methodist and Baptist ministers made speeches in opposition to the plan. Their remarks were, however, so very awkwardly applied that those present having a knowledge of the Scripture teaching were, according to statements that followed, more than ever convinced of the tithing plan.

In answer to questions it was explained how the local members pay to the local treasurer, the local treasurer pays to the local conference, the local conference pays to the union conference, which pays tithe to the general conference, thus building up the structure on a broad and substantial

basis likened only to the pyramid of Egypt which can not possibly be overturned. The equitable, reasonable, and businesslike features of God's plan for supporting his work in the earth were appealed to, and lessons were freely drawn from Haggai, chapters one and two.

The man who made the strongest speech against the plan was peculiarly impelled to say at the beginning of his remarks that it was "the most unique and wonderful system" he had ever heard of in all his experience.

In presenting the subject reference was made to the principle of the Sabbath institution as a full brother of the tithe, both being on the principle of God's ownership and man's honesty in dealing with Jehovah. The perpetuity of the Melchisedec priesthood contrasted with the transitory nature of the Levitical system was also emphasized, showing that faithfulness in the paying of tithe was, and is, the test of loyalty.

At the close the chairman came to me, and warmly thanked me for presenting the subject, and congratulated our people for having built up such a "great system of church finance." May the Lord take glory to himself as a result of this witnessing for one of his beautiful truths. H. A. WEAVER.

The Scholarship Plan

The education of our young people for gospel service is an important work, and it is a work that must speedily be done. The proclamation of the everlasting gospel as a witness to all nations must be finished in this generation. The early pioneers have fallen in the front of the battle, and now upon the young men and women of this generation God is placing the burden of finishing the work that he may cut it short in righteousness.

For years, God has been laying plans and making special preparations for this very work. Schools have sprung up everywhere among us. These God designs shall be training centers from which he can draw reinforcements for the army. They should be filled with men and women who feel the burden of souls and have enlisted for service.

Parents who have been blessed with strong robust children have a responsibility resting upon them. God calls for a giving up of your sons and daughters to his service. He calls for both men and means. Shall we disappoint him? The giving up of our children to the service of God is the only way to save them from the delusions of the world. Would you not

rather part with them for a little season for the gospel's sake than bewail their eternal loss when probation is forever closed?

It, however, often happens that those who realize their responsibility most are the least able to provide for the education of their children.

"Hearken, my beloved brethren, hath not God chosen the *poor* of this world *rich* in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him." Jas. 2:5.

For the rich in faith there is always a way open. God himself sustains them and makes provision for their every need. It often happens that man's extremity is God's opportunity. This is now true of our experience, and is fulfilled in the scholarship plan which the conference has devised for the education of our young people.

Young men and young women who are in earnest about their education can go out among the people for a month or two and sell \$275 worth of our subscription books. This, with one hour a day manual labor, entitles them to a full year's education in Mt. Vernon College, board, tuition, room, light, heat, etc., all paid. What a privilege! Can the world offer such an opportunity? Oh, how Washington or Lincoln would have appreciated such a privilege in their day when young people had to toil and struggle for an education.

That which they struggled and toiled for they have used in their country's service, and we respect and adore them. The education we receive fits us for heavenly service, even the salvation of souls.

The scholarship plan is a three-fold work and brings a three-fold blessing. 1. The book work itself gives a practical education. 2. Selling our books is missionary work of the highest order. 3. It is an honorable and legitimate way of earning an education.

Those who come into school after such an experience bring the spirit of the Master Missionary with them, and their influence is such as will help others.

The time is now here when God's people have not time to work for the world. It is now that God calls for laborers in his vineyard. The clouds are gathering, and the storm is about to break. Soon we shall not be able to sell books or do anything else to advance the truth. Now is the time to work, while we have opportunity. We should arouse to a sense of our duty; consecrate ourselves and our children to God, saying, "Lord, purify and use in thy service."

Remember the Colporteurs' Insti-

tute, definite dates of which will appear later, in your prayers. Let the earnest ones come, that they may catch the spirit of the work and go forth to labor for the Master.

J. H. McEACHERN.

The funeral of Mrs. Anna Franklin Holobaugh and her two months' old child, who perished in the flood, occurred at Columbus last Sabbath. Sister Holobaugh had been one of Ohio's successful church school teachers for years and the sorrow of the husband and parents will be shared by her many friends throughout the state.

Word comes from Dayton and Piqua that all our people are safe, though quite a number have been thrown out of work.

Brother J. H. McEachern spent some time at Springfield last week in the interest of the canvassing work.

Sister Bessie E. Acton visited the church at Springfield the first of the week.

VIRGINIA

Men's Hearts Failing Them for Fear

The past ten days have been days to try men's hearts in many parts of the United States. Surely the signs given by our Saviour are rapidly being fulfilled. God has hung out his signs in the heavens to show when Christ's coming is near at hand, and then he says, "And on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring, men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth."

In Test., Vol. Seven, page 83, we read, "The time is near when the cities will be visited by the judgments of God. In a little while the cities will be terribly shaken. No matter how large or how strong the buildings, no matter how many safeguards against fire may have been provided, let God touch these buildings, and in a few minutes, or a few hours they are in ruin."

How these predictions have been fulfilled in the past few years in the terrible earthquakes in different parts of the world when hundreds and thousands have lost their lives. Supposed fire proof buildings have melted and collapsed as the judgments of God have fallen upon them.

As the cyclones and tornadoes have swept over Nebraska and other portions of the West, leaving destruction in their paths, how our minds turn to these predictions of the Lord. Then before the minds of the people are at rest, devastating floods sweep over Ohio and Indiana, leaving destruction and death unparalleled in history since the flood of Noah's day. Then to add to the horrors, fire is breaking out in buildings one half submerged by water, with no fire protection, destroying large buildings and burning many of the occupants. Hundreds of bodies of human beings and animals are floating on the water in these flooded districts and persons are suffering from thirst, while surrounded by floods of dirty water too filthy to drink.

The United States government is rendering all the assistance in its power, but at best only little can be accomplished until the flood have subsided. To add to the suffering, a blinding snowstorm is said to have followed the rain. As the angels of God loosen their hold of the elements, more and more will these terrible calamities be falling upon the earth. It would seem that God is calling in almost thunder tones to his people to awaken and tell the world the meaning of these things. Of those to whom much has been given, much is required, and surely God has given us much light, and much will be required of us to give this light to all with whom we come in contact. Let us awaken as never before and warn the world of its coming judgment.

W. J. STONE.

News and Notes

Brother Hess is remaining in Virginia and will engage in the sale of our literature, and we hope to see many more take up this line of work in the near future.

Remember that this year we are asked to make the total of our offerings average 20 cents a week instead of 15 cents per member. Last year we fell short of 15 cents by quite a large sum. We hope that all will be as liberal as possible and that we may see a good gain over last year. Our Sabbath-schools can do much in assisting in this good work, and we hope that every Sabbath-school in the Conference will send in the whole of its regular donations and take another offering for running expenses.

The prospects are fair that D. H.

Kress, M.D., one of our leading physicians, will assist in a series of meetings at Norfolk following our General Conference.

Brother Mallory, who has been holding meetings at Norfolk for several weeks returned to Richmond last week, and will still labor as the way opens in the city of Richmond.

Elder W. G. Kneeland, is now engaged in a series of meetings at Hamburg. This is one of our oldest churches and nearly all the members have died, moved away, or apostatized, so the church is almost extinct. Pray for the work at that place.

Our field agent, Brother George, is in North Carolina this week delivering his last order of books. He expects his wife and daughter to return with him to this State, and they will both engage in the sale of our literature.

We hope all will remember the pledges made at our last camp-meeting to the tent fund. This money is badly needed, and but few have been paying up their monthly pledges. Will not all look after this matter and pay as fast as possible?

An excellent interest is reported in the meetings being held at Portsmouth. Week ago last Sunday, a meeting was conducted in the largest theatre in Portsmouth, under the auspices of the Guardians of Liberty, and it is reported that twelve hundred were in attendance to hear the subject, "Shall Rome Rule America." The attendance at the regular services at the hall remains about the same. Let us still remember the work and workers at Portsmouth in our prayers.

Elder Stone spoke at the First Richmond church last Sabbath morning. He took for his text Luke 21 : 25, 26, referring especially to the statement, "And upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring, mens hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." He dwelt at some length upon the recent cyclones, floods, and fires, that have been sweeping over the country, and our duty to our fellow men to warn them of coming dangers and the necessity of a preparation to stand before the Son of man. He also was present at a portion of the colored meetings and gave a short talk.

NEW JERSEY

Notes from the Office

We are glad to report that thus far the year 1913 has made a very favorable showing, and if in the following months we do as well, we shall have every reason to rejoice. In January and February of 1912 our sales of publications of all kinds amounted to \$1607.12. For the same period of 1913 our sales amounted to \$2147.14, a gain of over \$500.00. Surely this is good, for it represents a gain thus far this year over last of about one-third in publications distributed.

We have been calling the attention of our people to the importance of circulating tracts, and are glad to say that more than twice as many have been circulated thus far this year over a similar period of 1912. May the Lord bless this seed that has been sown, as well as the sowers, and may it bring forth much fruit. He says his word shall not return unto him void.

Our records likewise show a gain in the sale of our subscription books. An average of eight agents in 1912 sold over nine thousand dollars worth of books, at an average of \$1.05 per hour. We want a number of consecrated, whole-souled Seventh-day Adventists to take up this work this year. No other part of the Lord's work can give richer experiences, and a better way of winning souls for him, and if faithful time is put into the work, the same as at any trade or profession, a good living can be made.

Every Seventh-day Adventist in New Jersey should have the *General Conference Bulletin*. Our missionaries and workers from all parts of the world will be present and daily reports will be given of the entire session. Plans will be laid for the furtherance of the work, experiences will be related by the missionaries, sermons will be preached by the leading brethren, — all of these you can get through the *Bulletin*. Order now. Price 50 cents for the session.

After a connection with the New Jersey Tract Society as field agent for the past four or five years, Brother C. E. Grey has resigned his position, and with his family, will leave about April 3 for the Golden State, where he expects to join his parents. Brother Grey has done faithful work in New Jersey, and the many friends whom he leaves behind will wish him God-speed in his new field.

At a recent meeting of the conference committee, Brother G. W. Holman was appointed field agent for New Jersey, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Brother C. E. Grey. Brother Holman, for a number of years, filled a similar position in the Pennsylvania Conference, and the brethren and sisters of that state feel that we have made a wise choice in his selection. He and his family will be located in Trenton, and mail for him may be addressed to the conference office. We trust our brethren and sisters will give Brother Holman a hearty welcome and assist him all they can in this important work.

We are glad to report the new Trenton church building is well under way and the roof is being put on. The church school and conference headquarters will occupy the first floor and the auditorium the second floor. The building is 30 x 59, two full stories above ground.

Elder Hanhardt reports the following: "We had baptismal services at Paterson yesterday. I baptized two Holland sisters and one German sister. We also celebrated the ordinances, in which all, Germans and Hollanders, took part. It was a good meeting, for the presence of the Lord was with us."

An exceptional opportunity is offered to take up the sale of "Patriarchs and Prophets" and "Easy Steps." These two books cover the lessons which are now being studied, by the International Sunday-schools. Our publishers have prepared little booklets give the lessons for each Sunday and the pages in these two books refer to the subject; so that they make a fine commentary on each Sunday's lesson. Sunday-school teachers will appreciate this valuable assistance, and this is a grand opening for some of our brethren and sisters to take up this work. We will give full particulars upon application.

That Bible reading,—"First Day Sacredness"—in the *May Signs Magazine*, is apparently just the one that millions and millions of the ministry and laity are anxiously searching for. Let us hand it to them, so they will have the opportunity of studying and proving their ground on this perplexing and absorbing subject.

The extra seven thousand April *Signs Magazines* were insufficient for the demands, so ten thousand extra for May are being run. They will be ready early; get your orders right in.

Do It Just Now

"Isn't it awful." This is what we hear on all sides as the people read of the cyclones, floods, and fires that have recently devastated the country. The Bible speaks of "men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after the things that are coming upon the earth."

Brethren and sisters, now just now, is the time to tell these people why these awful things are coming upon the earth, and what they may look for in the future, and how they may prepare to escape them.

Now is the time to sell our books on the second coming of Christ. The people are aroused. They will buy. Such books as "Coming King," "Heralds of the Morning" and "Past, Present, and Future," will have a big sale. We want several persons in each county to take up their sale. Do a good work at good pay. Worldly publishers are getting out books about the flood, but what satisfaction can they give the people? Our books give them the reasons for these disasters and the refuge therefrom. Write at once for outfit and territory. Now is the time.

Our tracts on the signs of the times should be distributed now. While the people are stirred by the loss of life and property, let us be stirred to give them the message. Note the following tracts; and order a supply at once:

Signs of the Times	1 cent
What Do These Things Mean?	1 "
Is the End Near?	½ "
Heralds of the Morning	1½ "
Signs of the End	1 "
Coming of the Lord	½ "

The new printed envelopes for distributing the "Family Bible Teacher" will be ready this week. This entire course of Bible studies costs but ten cents, and is fully explained on the envelope. Every one can do missionary work with it. Be sure to order at least one set, so that you may be able to appreciate its value.

President Woodrow Wilson gives a splendid talk in the *May Signs Magazine*. It alone will sell the Magazine. But there are seventeen others just as good and important. You will want ten or twenty of them sure.

The attractive cover and the eighteen unusually timely articles of the *May Signs Magazine* are all strong selling points. It is just the one for the agent.

Canvassers' Reports

West Pennsylvania, Week Ending March 21, 1913

Name	Place	Book	Days	Hrs	Ords	Value	Helps	Total	Del
Chas. Dunham, Pittsburg		DR	5	36	24	87 25		87 25	7 20
Alva Davies, Pittsburg		CK	5	35	24	42 00	7 00	49 00	11 40
J. S. Glunt, Tyrone		GC	2	12	2	6 00	5 20	11 20	11 20
W. H. House, Norwich		BF	2	10	6	20 00	2 45	22 45	
J. A. Kimmel, Huntingdon		PPF	3	25					77 04
Ivor Lawrence, Blair Co.		PPF	5	38	22	34 00	6 50	40 50	8 75
E. Rogers, Fulton Co.		CK	4	38	11	16 50		16 50	
J. Perkins, Pittsburg		CK	4	16	11	17 50	1 50	18 00	8 75
Totals	8 Agents		30	210	100	\$223 25	\$22 65	\$245 90	\$124 34

Ohio, Week Ending March 21, 1913

C. V. Leach, Guernsey Co.		PPF	5	41	46	81 00	1 55	82 55	5 05
J. S. Randolph, Delaware Co.		ES	5	37	11	36 00	55	36 55	76 15
Mrs. J. Sellers, Miami Co.		Misc	5	40	79	37 75		37 75	
John Schick, Summit Co.		GC	8	35	3	8 00	4 50	12 50	29 50
H. A. Rossin, Coshocton Co.		BR	2	11	2	6 00	3 95	9 95	1 00
Mrs. S. D. Phillips, Lucas Co.		BR	7	33	6	18 00		18 00	25 00
B. F. Harrison, Miami Co.		PG	1	5	2	7 00		7 00	3 00
Marie Flenner, Butler Co.		BF	2	6	3	3 00	3 20	6 20	
Totals	8 Agents		35	208	152	\$196 75	\$13 75	\$210 50	\$138 70

Chesapeake, Week Ending March 21, 1913

J. E. Jones, Worcester Co.		GC	3	20					180 05
D. W. Percy, Wycomico Co.		GC	8	41	18	47 00	20 00	67 00	
G. W. Lawrence, Cecil Co., Md.		DR	4	28	7	15 00	18 00	33 00	4 25
M. S. Pettibone, Harford Co.		PPF	4	15	15	28 00	5 75	33 75	
T. H. Barritt, Baltimore Co.		PPF	5	31	25	48 00	3 00	51 00	1 00
Anna Seeney, Baltimore City		BF	1	4	7	7 00	50	7 50	
Totals	6 Agents		25	139	72	\$145 00	\$47 25	\$192 25	\$185 30

District of Columbia, Week Ending March 21, 1913

*W. A. Williams, Washington		CK	9	38	33	50 00	2 75	52 75	88 50
L. A. Godwin, Washington		PPF	3	21	19	30 50	1 75	32 25	11 75
R. A. Towne, Prince Co.		GC	5	26	14	42 00	2 75	44 75	
Frank Smith, Washington		CK	3	17	17	25 50	50	26 00	76 00
Totals	4 Agents		20	102	83	\$148 00	\$7 75	\$155 75	\$175 25

East Pennsylvania, Week Ending March 21, 1913

F. Willruth, Scranton		CK	5	29	17	28 00	16 75	44 75	22 50
S. L. Burkhardt, Chambersburg		CK	5	32	9	13 50	50	14 00	
Mrs. F. A. Brownell, Scranton		CK	5	4	4	6 50	3 60	10 10	
*Mrs. H. Tranger, Allentown		CK	6	24	4	6 00	5 95	11 95	
F. A. Brownell, Scranton		GC	4	13	4	16 00	4 60	20 60	59 70
S. H. Swingle, Lackawanna Co.		SP	3	32	16	25 50	8 25	33 75	17 00
Mrs. H. Gerhart, Bethlehem		Mag			149	14 90		14 90	14 90
Totals	7 Agents		25	54	\$110 40	\$39 65	\$150 05	\$114 10	

Virginia, Two Weeks Ending March 21, 1913

W. B. Eekhout, Norfolk		PPF	36	12	29	50	6 50	36 00	40 50
W. Hess, Norfolk		DR	27	13	37	50		37 50	79 00
K. Oertley, Roanoke		PPF	28	21	32	00	1 50	33 50	
Totals	3 Agents		91	46	\$99 00	\$8 00	\$107 00	\$119 50	

*Two weeks.

Grand Totals: 36 Agents Value of Orders, \$1061 45 Deliveries, \$857 19

WEST VIRGINIA

We wish to call your attention to the *General Conference Bulletin* for the coming session of the General Conference, May 15 to June 8, and we solicit your subscription for the same. We will send the *Review* for three months, and the *Bulletin* one year to any address.

On Sabbath, March 15, the church at Clarksburg was organized once more. Elder Gibson of Charleston was present and gave a very instructive sermon, after which the election of officers took place. We will be able to give the place of meeting soon.

Elder Charles Baierle of Wheeling was in Fairmont March 25 to attend the auditors' meeting, and also to make arrangements for the summer's work. While here he gave a very interesting stereopticon lecture on Egypt to an attentive audience.

Elder Robbins is holding meetings, and visiting the isolated members this week at Elkins and Glady.

We were glad to have Brother S. F. Ross with us at the meeting of the directors of the book society. Brother Ross has been in poor health for some time and we are all glad to see him looking better.

WEST PENNSYLVANIA

Johnstown

From Feb. 21 to 24 I was in Johnstown, where I held a meeting each day, binding off a part of the interest at that place. Since the last baptismal service, five new persons have accepted the truth; three of this number were baptized on Feb. 22 at 11 A.M. and at 3 P.M. were received into church fellowship. Two others were also received by vote, making five souls that were added to this church. Two persons who are keeping the Sabbath, are preparing to unite soon.

This city with its seventy thousand people, and an interest among many at present, ought to have a tent effort this summer in the center of the city, where no effort has ever been held; all efforts heretofore have been held in the east and west ends of the city. Pray that men and means may be given to fill these many calls.

W. F. SCHWARTZ.

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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE

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WALTER C. MOFFETT - - - EDITOR

Entered as second-class matter March 25, 1908, at the post-office at Mount Vernon, O., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all subscriptions and make all money orders payable to your tract society.

The check mark here indicates that your subscription has expired. Kindly renew at once.

Important Notice

Colporteur's institute at Springfield, Ohio, postponed because of flood. Watch for future announcements.

The following refers to some of the contents which will appear in the *May Watchman*.

God's Message for Today.

The Rich Man and Lazarus.

The Attitude of Popular Christianity toward the Jews.

An Epidemic in Crime.

Some May History: Historical Extracts Showing Response of Bible Predictions.

Political Conditions and the last Message in Turkey.

"Prepare War."

Recollections of Life in the East Indies.

In view of the recent disasters by fire and flood through the agency of which the Lord is no doubt endeavoring to gain the serious attention of men we believe the time has fully come to arise as one man and give the message for this time, by circulating this truth-laden magazine.

Subscriptions can be obtained by properly setting forth the meaning of the things that are coming on the earth. In addition to the articles above mentioned the Outlook Department will contain comments on the very latest events possible before going to press.

The *Watchman* gives the trumpet a certain sound! Send the tract society two subscriptions at \$1.00 each and secure the third subscription to yourself or one of your friends.

Rates in quantities 10 to 40, 5 cents. 50 or more, 4 cents.

The Times of the End

A prophecy, clear, specific, striking in its specifications and particulars, of this very century, this very generation in which we live. Not a prophecy of events centuries in the past, but a prophetic drama now upon the world's stage, the beginning acts of which are not far in the past, the remaining now before the world or soon to appear. God has given us just such a prophecy as this, one that will not demand the study of ancient history that we may understand it. We see and live in its very atmosphere. The *Signs of the Times Weekly* will briefly, but conclusively, present this prophecy in eight different articles. These studies will enable us to watch the progress of events in connection with the fulfillment of the prophecy. Its culmination marks the end of the age, and that end is rapidly approaching. A great seven-fold sign.

GOD'S TRUE WITNESSES

Is another series of articles which will soon begin in the *Signs*. They are of primal importance. God's cause is on trial before the world. Men are denying him, denying his book, denying the atonement, denying Protestantism, as they never have been denied before. Has God given us witness—witness unimpeachable—upon which we can depend? He surely has, and there will be taken up a study of God's great two-fold witness of the ages—his testimony concerning his purpose, his Son, and his church—a series consisting probably of about eighteen articles.

To secure these two extremely valuable and interesting series, you should send in a six-month's subscription right away. Your neighbors should have them, too. Five or more to one address, 50 cents each; to separate addresses, 65 cents each. Single subscriptions, 90 cents each. Order through your tract society office.

These will be just the studies for use at public efforts and by Bible workers. Your subscription should commence with April 15.

A Correction

By fault of the writer, in our first article on the bookmen's convention the notice was sent out that it was "the first of its kind in the history of the cause." This notice should have read, "the first of its kind in the Columbia Union Conference."

Just prior to holding our convention at Mount Vernon, the Pacific Union held a like meeting, but on a much larger scale. I. G. BIGELOW.

A look at the list of articles for the *May Signs Magazine* will convince you of their importance. It will also show you their splendid selling features. They are:—

A sermon by President Woodrow Wilson.

Heralds of the Morning.

The Coming Conflict.

Joaquin Miller and Spiritualism.

Spiritualism More Popular.

Prophecy on Spiritualism.

The Same Old Sophistry.

Blaming It on the Fire.

The Power that Rules the World.

Prepare War! Wake Up the Mighty Men!

The Warning for the Times.

Labór's Seductive Enemy.

Police Graft.

Violence.

Explaining the Mystery of the Seed.

Why this Difference in Sabbath Observance?

Bible Reading:—First Day Sacredness.

WANTED.—A single man to work on the farm by the year. Must be a Seventh-day Adventist. Must be able to take full charge of the work. Must give Seventh-day Adventist minister as reference. The farm is pleasantly situated. Near S. D. A. church. For further particulars address W. L. Adkins, 38 E. 7th St., Frederick, Md.

OBITUARY

WILLIAMS.—Mrs. Millie Williams was born in Stokesland, Va., Oct. 15, 1856, and died Sabbath morning, March 22, 1913, of pneumonia, at Houston, Pa. Sister Williams was married Feb. 28, 1874, and was the mother of ten children, five of whom, with her husband, twelve grandchildren, and three adopted children survive her. She was an example of devotion, sincerity, and kindness to her family, acquaintances, and church duties. She was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church of Midway, Pa. Besides raising her own and three adopted children, she also cared for several years for four to six other motherless children. She was in very truth a mother in Israel. The A. M. E. church, in which the services were held, was crowded with sympathizers of both races, as a token of the esteem with which they regarded our sister. The writer spoke to the audience on the blessed hope of the glorious resurrection which is speedily hastening on, being assisted by the pastors of the A. M. E. and Baptist churches of Cannonsburg, Pa. Sister Williams last words to her daughter Fannie were the words found in 2 Timothy 4:6-8, which were also used by the writer.

A. N. DURRANT.