

Eastern Tidings.

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A 20TH CENTURY HYMN.

"So busy, O so busy," is the cry on every side,
"There's much to do, and workers few,
while on the moments glide;"
And weary hearts are fainting oft beneath
their load of care;
And willing hands have grown too weak the
burden's weight to bear.
"No time to rest, no time to wait for
strength to be renewed,
No time to tarry till the soul with power
is endued;
The tasks increasing every day, this life so
near its close;
We cannot rest," the toilers cry, "until
death brings repose!"
O burdened hearts, can it be true, this is
the Master's will?
Are you to labour every hour and never to
be still?
These vessels are so very small, our cups
will not run o'er
Unless we seek the fountain's brink for
filling more and more.
Take time to sit at Jesus' feet and hear
His blessed word;
Wait there, like Mary, till your soul to
Love's best deed is stirred;
Then break the alabaster box, and let its
perfume sweet
Spread with the Gospel's joyful sound,
and make the earth replete!—*Selected.*

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SATAN'S METHOD OF ATTACK.

In a former article it was clearly shown from the Saviour's own testimony, that Satan's attack on the spirit of prophecy would come from the inside of the camp of the professed people of God. It may be interesting to the reader to know in what way he will attack the people of God. How will he carry forward his warfare? How can we discern who are enemies, who become agents of Satan to weaken

the people of God in regard to the spirit of prophecy?

Solomon said, "The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done; and there is no new thing under the sun. Is there anything whereof it may be said, See, this is new? It hath been already of old time, which was before us." Eccl. 1:9, 10. We shall therefore expect to find in the Old Testament Scriptures this mode of attack clearly illustrated. Human nature is the same; God never changes; and Satan's attacks upon the human family are the same in principle; but their intensity increases as we near the end, because "he knoweth he hath but a short time."

In the days of Jeremiah we have illustrations of all the principal methods of warfare used by Satan against the people of God. In the thirty-sixth chapter of Jeremiah we have a fitting illustration of one means by which Satan will create doubt and suspicion regarding the testimony of the prophet. Baruch was the private secretary of Jeremiah, and was often sent to the king, to the nobles, and to the people to read messages that the seer had given. On a certain occasion the princes said unto him, "Sit down, now, and read it in our ears." So Baruch read it in their ears, "and when they had heard all the words, they were afraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words."

But they were anxious to know if all that Baruch had written were the words of the prophet, so "They asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, how didst thou write all these words at his mouth? Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book." They gave the king the testimony. He rejected it, and cut the testimony with his penknife, and threw it into the fire. "Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah after that the king had burned the roll. . . saying, Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first, . . . and there were added besides unto them many like words."

It will be noticed that because the testimony was so cutting and strait, they questioned whether the private secretary had not mixed in his own words. So they asked him if he wrote all the words at the prophet's mouth, or, in other words, Did not the words that would be rejected contain something of human judgment? Have any of the readers of these lines ever heard questions of this kind raised concerning the voice of the spirit of prophecy?

Again, in the forty-third chapter of Jeremiah from the first to the seventh verses, we have proud men rejecting the testimony, and saying unto the prophet, "Thou speakest falsely. The Lord our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there; but Baruch the son of Neriah setteth thee on against us, for to deliver us into the hands of the Chaldeans, that they may put us to death, and carry us captives into Babylon."

Here was another objection raised against the testimony. This was by the professed believers in the testimony. Jeremiah was the acknowledged prophet in Israel; but because the testimony was not in harmony with certain men in Israel, they declared that it was false, and that Baruch, the secretary of the prophet, had influenced the prophet to write against them. Their own judgment was set up as superior to the testimony itself.

Is there any such spirit at the present time? Has any one who reads these lines ever heard anyone say that the prophet was influenced to write this or that?

This was the ancient method that Satan used to attack the testimony of the prophet in the camp of Israel. The same old devil is not dead, but will work "with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved." S. N. HASKELL.

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BURMA.

It was my privilege again to meet the Brethren and Sisters at Burmah; and I am thankful to say that those who took their stand for the truth sometime ago are still steadfastly holding on and are zealous to advocate the truth as they learn. There are some who have taken their stand recently and others who are now in the balances. One Burmese Brother lost a very good position about two years ago for the sake of the Sabbath, and since that time he has been doing all he could in giving different points of truth to the people. In fact he has

given his whole time, not receiving any remuneration. As I talked with this brother and saw how earnest he was and how faithfully he was studying the word of God, his appeal for help greatly stirred my heart and I promised that we would do all we could to get some one to go to Burmah and work among the Burmese people, and learn the language. He has already written a tract entitled "The Law of God written in the Heart." What we need very much is to get our literature published in the Burmese language.

The outlook in Burmah is encouraging. It is now a little over two years since the work was started in Burmah, and the seed-sowing has certainly not been without fruit. As I said before, there are some who are now making their decision and some who are interested in the different points of truth. Since returning from Burmah, a communication from Brother Meyers states that one of these Brothers is desirous of identifying himself with us as a people. He is a man who has had considerable experience in Gospel work and has been studying the special points of truth for some time. To take this step he is anticipating, means a sacrifice from a worldly point of view; but when made with eternal interests in view how great the reward will be if he takes the step with heart filled with the love of Jesus. It was a great encouragement to me to meet the Brethren and Sisters in Burmah and to see the spirit of earnestness which they manifested in giving the truth which has brought so much joy to their hearts, to those who have not yet heard the special message for this time, and to note the spirit of hospitality which is so marked in Burmah. On every hand there are open doors for aggressive work, and we hope to see a harvest of souls from this field.

J. L. S.

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CEYLON.

WE are much encouraged in reporting the progress of the work in our newly-acquired mission field of Ceylon. The barriers of prejudice which were at first raised up against us are fast being broken down, and some are being led into an appreciation of the truths which we are commissioned to proclaim. The "first fruits" of labour have already appeared in the very dear christian family with whom we live. The eldest son, Mr. Henri Tussaint, has begun the observance of the Sabbath of the

Lord, and is the first Sabbath-keeper in the island of Ceylon. He is a school-master and an active mission worker and, by the blessing of God, he will now become an able worker in making known the truth of the third angel's message.

We have experienced much of God's blessing in opening up the work here by cottage meetings. Definite results have been seen from time to time in the conversion of souls, and we pray that these souls may continue to "walk in the light" until they shall stand "complete in Him." I will mention one case of a Planter who had become paralysed while on his estate. His family brought him down to the sea-side, and it was there where we came in touch with him. As we visited from day to day, this family became conscious that we knew of a salvation for both body and soul. They attended our little meetings and one of the daughters was drawn nigh to God, and accepted Him as her Saviour. The father then expressed his desire to attend, and was finally brought in by his servants. The text that evening was from Corinthians. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature," and it proved to be a message of life and health to him. He opened his heart to God and received strength such as he had never known before, and he has walked alone from that same day.

We have also opened up meetings on Sabbath morning. Two weeks ago three other men joined us, and we studied the scriptures together, remaining together the whole day. Two of these expressed their desire to dedicate God's sacred hours to His service. We hope these two young men will continue with us and grow into the whole truth even as it is in Jesus.

While we thank the Lord for what we have seen, we feel that we should, in a more public way, open up a vigorous campaign in this place. If we could secure a good public hall giving cordial invitations to the people, we believe we should have a favourable response. There is no aggressive evangelistic work being done here, and we are sure that God has given us just what these people need. But if such a work is to be carried on it will call for funds and also for more workers. Any investment that God's dear children make in this needy field would be speedily honoured of heaven. This is the hour in which to re-dedicate ourselves and our means to the cause of God. The work will soon close and opportunities of giving to the cause will invite us no more. Let us give of our best today, and so lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven.

H. A.

SIMLA.

How we, each month, welcome EASTERN TIDINGS and eagerly look its pages through to see how the message is going in India!

We always read with much interest the reports from different parts of the field and, no doubt, all will be interested in the work here in Simla.

From time to time different ones of our workers have been here and scattered the seeds of precious truth. The Lord has promised, "My word shall not return unto me void," he has carefully watched over the seed sown here, and, as a result, lately four honest-hearted people have begun to keep the Sabbath.

One of these, a young lady, was making her home at the Y. W. C. A. After taking her stand she told the lady in charge, who replied, "I fear you have been over-persuaded." "No, said she, I fully understand the step I have taken, and am convinced from the Scriptures."

Another, who is nurse in a family here, was having Bible readings. It was decided to take up the Sabbath question in the next reading. In the meantime she studied the subject and, as a result, kept the next Sabbath even before the reading was given.

We can see how the Lord by his Spirit is calling out the honest-hearted ones.

Our work is to sow the seed, and leave the results with God.

The Lord is blessing the paper work, and thus far one hundred and ten have subscribed.

The *Oriental Watchman* takes well with most people here, and many welcome it as an old friend; but we also find those who are lovers of pleasure and care little for religious things.

We meet at 4-30 Sabbath afternoon to study the Sabbath School lesson. There were ten present last Sabbath.

Pray for the work in Simla.

MRS. W. O. JAMES.

NEWS AND NOTES.

As I returned from Burmah, I received most encouraging reports from all workers throughout India and even in the newly-opened Island of Ceylon. Honest souls who have heard the special message for this time give evidence that the truth has been doing its work, and have walked out in obedience to the Word.

In Colombo, Elder Armstrong writes that the situation is opening more and more each day;

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and he feels that the time has come to make a public effort in the city. In a recent letter he says: "As you know we are alone and without means. I am not so anxious to ask for workers, for I am conscious that other fields would suffer, as our labourers are so few, but I would ask—believing the time to be ripe, to engage a public hall, and begin a vigorous campaign of aggressive warfare—what means could be allowed for defraying expenses? I find halls are scarce and costly; but you may be sure we desire to curtail all needless expenses." He sent a most earnest appeal to the Calcutta Church, which was presented at the meeting last Sabbath and we believe that the Lord will move hearts to respond to this call. Of the young man who has recently accepted the truth, Brother Armstrong says, "He is proving himself a worker, and we feel that as he is really the first to accept the truth in this island of Ceylon, he will do much in bringing it before many, as he is well known in the different centres of Christian learning."

THE report from Simla which you will see in this number, will certainly bring joy to all your hearts.

WE have come to a time when every Seventh-day Adventist must stand ready to give out this message with no uncertain tones. The message of Christ's quick-return to this earth is the message we have to press home to the people now, and the spirit of prophecy tells us that if these truths are rightly presented they will bear fruit. We are living in a time, dear Brethren and Sisters, when we must keep pace with this message. I hope each one is receiving the benefit of our good paper, the *Review and Herald*. We cannot afford to miss one of these papers, for they are filled with instruction and counsel for each one of us at this time, and if we do not avail ourselves of the blessing which the *Review and Herald* brings to us each week, we will be spiritual losers. The articles from the pen of Sister White which appear in each number need to be carefully studied by us all. If there are any who are not receiving the *Review and*

Herald, we hope they will see their way to subscribe soon.

WE have received the welcome intelligence from the Mission Board, that more workers are to be sent to this field shortly, and I know that it will be a great source of encouragement to you all to know that our forces are to be strengthened. We shall be glad to welcome these new workers to the field. Let us remember them in our prayers, that the Lord will bring them safely to this field and make them a means of great blessing.

J. L. S

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR TRACT-WORKERS.

THE introduction of the "Envelope Plan" in the distribution of our tracts carries me back to my first acquaintance with this work. It was about the year 1896, in a village in America, that a lay member of the Adventist Church of that place came to my door with a package of tracts enclosed in a neat envelope, which he asked me to read, saying he would call for them in a week or two. I cannot say that I was prejudiced against, but I think at that time I was utterly indifferent to the views held by Seventh-Day Adventists, so I carelessly placed the package on my drawing-room table without opening it, and scarcely thinking of the contents, until the gentleman called to ask me how I had enjoyed reading them. It was with a little confusion that I was obliged to explain that I had given them no attention, but excusing myself, and leaving him outside, I went for the package to return it to him, when, to my further confusion and shame, it was not to be found. I felt I could not leave the man longer standing in the cold while I continued my search, so I invited him in, but my searching seemed in vain, the package had completely vanished from sight. I think the fact that I had lost the literature which he seemed to consider of value, made me more affable and willing to enter into conversation than I otherwise would have been. Be that as it may, I soon found myself asking questions and an interested listener to some thoughts on the Sunday school lesson which at that time was in the book of Daniel. I was a teacher of a bright class of young ladies, and I realized that here was a person who could give me valuable aid in studying my lesson, so an hour was easily and profitably spent in study. My husband coming in, he too became interested in the manner of handling these sacred topics, and when our visitor arose to go, it was with a hearty goodwill that we together gave our assent to his expressed desire to come and hold Bible-readings with us.

The rest of the story is easily told. Six months of bi-weekly and tri-weekly studies, a thorough searching of the Bible and history,—a good deal of prayer, the opposition of the Church with which we had for many years been connected, all these, together with the leading of the Holy Spirit, enabled us to see the Truth and take our stand for it. SARAH J. OLNEY.