

THE HOME
MISSIONARY
HE REAPETH RECEIVETH WAGES AND GATHERETH FRUIT TO LIFE ETERNAL.— John 4:36.

VOL. IV.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., U. S. A., SEPTEMBER, 1892.

No. 9.

WHEN CHRIST IS OURS.

HEAVEN above is softer blue,
Earth around is sweeter green,
Something lives in every hue
Christless eyes have never seen ;
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow,
Flowers with deeper beauty shine,
Since I knew as now I know,
I am His and He is mine.

Things that once were wild alarms
Cannot now disturb my rest ;
Closed in everlasting arms,
Pillowed on the loving breast.
O to lie forever here,
Doubt and care and self resign,
While He whispers in my ear,
I am His and He is mine.

His forever, only His ;
Who the Lord and me shall part ?
Ah, with what a rest of bliss
Christ can fill the loving heart !
Heaven and earth may fade and flee,
Firstborn light in gloom decline,
But while God and I shall be,
I am His and He is mine.

— Selected.

"YE ARE MY WITNESSES."

So widely separated from other continents by the broad waters of the Pacific is Australia, that it seems like another world. Numerous islands cluster about it, and dot the Pacific. In many of these islands missionary work has been established through the efforts of various denominations, and English-speaking people are found even in the islands where the majority of the inhabitants are little better than heathen. To these islands of the sea many publications have been carried, and these silent messengers of the truth

are doing the work to which they were appointed. The Lord has stirred the hearts of his people to make the efforts that have been made, that the inhabitants of these far-away islands may know the truth, and understand the times in which we are living.

A number of churches have been raised up in Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania, and yet the work of enlightening the people of these lands is almost at a stand-still for want of the living witness. From the light which the Lord has given me, we have no time to waste in pleasing ourselves; for now is the time to work in warning the children of men of the coming of our Lord in the clouds of heaven. Now is our day to work for these lands. Let every interest minor to this work stand aside. God calls upon those who have had the light of truth, to become a light unto others. Believers in Christ, by the present needs and privileges, you are summoned to appear, and become witnesses for your Lord. The Lord says to all who have tasted of his goodness, "Ye are my witnesses." He bids every one who trusts in him repeat his message to the world, saying, "I, even I, am the Lord and beside me there is no Saviour." The unbelieving world is waiting for your testimony, and I beseech you by the mercies of God to arise and meet their expectation. Darkness is covering the earth, and gross darkness the people; and amid the moral night that is settling upon the world, I beseech you who believe, to testify to those who sit in darkness that there is light, and that none need walk in darkness; for the true light now shineth.

Satan and his evil angels, combined with wicked men, are seeking by every possible device to bear before the world a testimony against the truth of God's word. The enmity of Satan against Christ is deter-

mined and unrelenting, and in the great controversy between good and evil, while Satan and his confederacy are bringing in their false testimony against God and his truth, in order that men may not receive the love of the truth, but believe a lie, who is burdened of soul to make plans or devise means whereby agencies may be put in operation for the advancement of truth? Will those who profess to believe the truth stand in idleness, when Satan and his hosts work with intense activity for the overthrow of the cause of truth? Will the professed followers of Christ allow him to preoccupy the field? Who will be a volunteer to witness for God in these far-off lands? Who will open the Scriptures to those who are ignorant of the words of life? Who will let his light shine out to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death?

The Saviour has said, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." He says again, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." Mohammedanism has its converts in many lands, and its advocates deny the divinity of Christ. Shall this faith be propagated, and the advocates of truth fail to manifest intense zeal to overthrow the error, and teach men of the pre-existence of the only Saviour of the world? O how we need men who will search and believe the word of God, who will present Jesus to the world in his divine and human nature, declaring with power and in demonstration of the Spirit, that "there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." O how we need believers who will now present Christ in life and character, who will hold him up before the world as the brightness of the Father's glory, proclaiming that God is love!

The dying world is before you, and you can find work to do anywhere in its borders; but what are you doing for the salvation of those for whom Christ has died? God in his providence has been preparing the way for the coming of the living agent to all lands, that men may hear the good news of salvation. All things are now ready, and the angels wait for the co-operation of those who believe the truth for these last days, that they may go forth, and work with the followers of Christ in drawing souls to God.

All heaven is interested in man's salvation, and the work may be done speedily, the kingdom of God may come, and the earth be filled with the knowledge of

God as the waters cover the sea. The great desire of the heavenly intelligences is that the character of God, so long misrepresented and misinterpreted, may be rightly represented before those who have been deceived by the devices of the enemy. Satan has imputed to God his own attributes, and is it not now time that the name of Christ should be great among the heathen? God calls for those who have been enlightened to fall into line, and begin aggressive warfare on the strongholds of the evil one.

Sabbath after Sabbath many of you hear the voice of the living preacher, but how many feel the need of bringing the truth into your practical life? How many realize that light is given you that you may reflect it upon others? There is great need that the people should be educated that they may do the part of the work that has been appointed unto them to do; but the education of church members has been neglected. If the minister would instruct his people, he might have an army to help him in diffusing the light when a crisis comes in the work. Each member of the church should do the work for which he is best adapted, and the work could be so arranged that everything would move off harmoniously, and the prosperity of a working church would be manifested in the vital interest which would spring up among those who put their energies into the cause of Christ.

When souls are first converted to the truth, they should be instructed as to what Christ expects from them in loving, whole-hearted service,—that he invites them to be laborers in his moral vineyard. However trembling may be their efforts, however imperfect their work, they should be patiently and lovingly borne with; for if they are meek and lowly in heart, the Lord can turn what appears to be defeat, into signal victory. Every soul born of the Spirit of God is to grow up into Christ, the living head. Under apprenticeship to Christ, those who profess his name are to become apt scholars, learning how to cooperate with heavenly intelligences in drawing souls to Christ. To every one the Lord has given his work.

But instead of doing the work the Lord has appointed to be done through human agencies, many are idling away the precious moments of probation. Satan has come in to preoccupy the field, and he has filled the hands of those who should have been laborers together with God, with work that causes him to exult, because the cause of Christ is left to languish by those who profess to be the followers of Jesus. The instruction of Paul to the Ephesians is applicable to us, and we should heed the exhortation.

He says, "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." "But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ." "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

From the inspired words which we have quoted, we can see that many workers are needed in the cause of God, in order that the saints may be perfected. The reason of the weakness of the church is made manifest, for these workers are lacking. No man has entered into the work of educating the members as to the duties devolving personally upon them. Men should be trained for the work of training others, that order may be found in the church, and that each one may do for the Master according to his God-given ability. It is not a matter to be deplored that those who accept the truth are differently organized and endowed; for there is work for every one, and if the people of God reach to the measure of the fullness of Christ, there must be earnest work for the individual members of the body of Christ, "that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive, but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ; from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

(Concluded in our next.)

WHAT is it to be a Christian? — A simple question indeed. And the answer is equally simple. It is to be like Christ. That comprehends the whole idea. Christianity is pre-eminently a practical matter. It must be in the heart. It must govern the life. Only thus can one be a true Christian.

REPORT FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

WORD recently received from Sister Druillard gives the following report of work done in South Africa during the past year: —

Societies 5; members 138; letters written 1066; letters received 992; visits made 1550; pages reading matter distributed 8712; periodicals distributed 9437; subscriptions for periodicals 184.

Value of subscription books sold.....	\$34,041.30
Value of other publications sold.....	1,500.70
Cash received from agents.....	19,465.39
" " " others.....	1,640.71
Received on Annual Offerings.....	583.98
" " Fourth Sabbath Donations.....	235.30
" " First Day Offerings.....	117.68
" " Orphans' Home.....	186.68
" " European Mission.....	147.78
" " Island Work.....	56.03
Donations to Int. T. & M. Society.....	19.94

REPORT OF LABOR, AUGUST, 1892.

Main Office.

RELIGIOUS WORK.

Pages books and tracts sent to foreign countries.....	60,368
" " " " " " United States.....	16,497
Number periodicals sent to foreign countries.....	4,232
" " " " " " United States.....	690
" letters written to foreign countries.....	137
" " " " " " United States.....	59

MRS. S. L. STRONG.

HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE WORK.

Pages books and tracts sent to foreign countries.....	19,788
" " " " " " United States.....	10,732
Number periodicals sent to foreign countries.....	497
" " " " " " United States.....	105

GERMAN WORK.

Pages books and tracts sent to foreign countries.....	5,080
" " " " " " United States.....	420
Number periodicals sent to foreign countries.....	555
" " " " " " United States.....	145
" letters written to foreign countries.....	8
" " " " " " United States.....	12

LENA STEINEL.

Chicago Office.

Pages denominational publications sent out.....	10,232
" N. R. L. publications sent out.....	2,838
" Health and Temperance publications sent out...	5,396
Number <i>Signs, Present Truth, and Instructor</i> ".....	1,056
" <i>Good Health and Pacific Health Journal</i> ".....	40
" <i>Sentinel</i> sent out.....	897
" letters written.....	370

JENNIE THAYER.

SCANDINAVIAN WORK.

Pages books, pamphlets, and tracts sent out.....	11,724
No. copies <i>Zions Vaktare</i> and <i>Evangeliets Sendebud</i> sent out.	1,264
" letters written.....	125

TENA JENSEN.

FOURTH SABBATH READING.

To be Read in the Churches, Sabbath, Sept. 24.

PREPARATION OF THE WORLD FOR THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE.

WHENEVER God has a message to give to the world, he not only prepares the people for it, but he also prepares the way for it to be given. The agencies which he uses to accomplish this are often unappreciated by his people, and consequently they meet with a great loss by not acting the part God would have them to act. If his chosen people refuse to move forward, others step in to do the work that God designed his people should do; for God has ordained that the salvation of souls shall be accomplished by uniting with human agencies. "Ye are workers together with God."

Said the inn-keeper who entertained the two spies sent by Joshua, "I know that the Lord hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red sea for you when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did to the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordon, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you; for the Lord your God, he is God in heaven above and in earth beneath." It was God who had put this fear in the hearts of the Canaanites to prepare the way for Israel. Josh. 2:9-11. See also Judges 7:9-14 and Esther 6:1-11.

In all such instances it requires faith in God's word and work to see these openings, and that faith which brings prompt obedience at such times, illuminates the soul and brings salvation to the believer. But where unbelief is in the heart, darkness and disaster is the result to the individual, as it looks only on the outward appearance. See Numbers 14.

When God would have the first angel's message proclaimed to the world, about half a century since, he prepared the hearts of the people for its reception. It is stated that at that time a missionary station was established in a foreign land, and the natives came to the missionaries to inquire if they had come to tell

them about the coming of the Lord. An impression rested upon the minds of thousands that the coming of the Lord drew near. It was thus that the Lord prepared the way for the first angel's message.

From the standpoint of present truth, the world is now prepared for the rays of the light of the gospel to penetrate every part of the earth. This is shown by special openings in the different parts of the world, not only by those who fear God, but many who are in gross darkness stand ready to aid in the good work, although their motives may be questioned. When God would gather his people from the Babylonian captivity, his providence opened the way, first, by granting the people of God the privilege to return from all parts of that kingdom which ruled over all the earth. Said the heathen king, "Who is there among you of all his people? His God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem." This was an opening providence; the circumstances were such that they could return without incurring the wrath of the king. It had been foretold by the prophet that they would return, but they could not so long as the disposition of the king was to hold them in oppression and bondage. Secondly, the heathen themselves rendered them assistance. This is found in the decree which granted the Jews the privilege of going to Jerusalem to build the house of God. Cyrus issued a decree requiring his people to help them "with silver and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts," etc. Ezra 1:1-4.

It is thus that God has prepared the way before his people in the nineteenth century. The world for many years has been comparatively at peace as relates to missionary effort. The gates of the Chinese walled cities have been opened, and the missionary has entered and preached the gospel in every province of that vast empire. Mission schools and stations have been established, and a demand created for religious teachers of every class. Bible catechists are wanted as well as the living preacher. The Europeans have established themselves in all treaty ports, and they are a pledge to the treaty which permits the missionaries to teach in all of these countries. And what is said of the Celestial Kingdom is true of Japan, India, Africa, and the islands of the sea.

We might refer to efforts that have been put forth to carry the light into regions beyond, where God has prepared the way. Take the first trip of the "Pitcairn." She was welcomed by missionaries of all societies, as well as by the Christian natives. Who cannot see the providence of God in this? Are not these open doors, which, if not entered, will stand up against us in the day of Judgment? Not an effort on our part has met with failure; but in every attempt to enter these openings, we have wondered at the special providence of God which has been over his work in its success. And this success has been more than we ever dared to hope. Should not this lead us to serious reflection? In these open doors there is room for hundreds of young men and women who possess the Spirit of Christ — of self-sacrifice — to enter as business missionaries, teachers, preachers, colporters, and Bible workers. Where are the missionaries from the people of this highly favored land, who have had every advantage for preparation for the work, until about fifty thousand have professed to believe in the message which God has said should be preached "unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people"?

The prophet in describing the final gathering said, "I will make all my mountains a way." If mountains be used figuratively, then it would read, "all my governments;" and all governments were established by God for the purpose, that they should seek the Lord. Acts 17:26, 27. And for this very purpose, angels of God are watching rulers and nations. Dan. 4:17. "And my highways shall be exalted. Behold these shall come from far; and, lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Sinim." Isa. 49:11, 12. Sinim is the Arabian name for China. Again to his people the prophet says, "Say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Show yourselves." "I have set thee to be a light to the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth."

The angels of God have been holding the four winds, and treaties have been formed by civilized nations with the heathen nations of the world, so that there has been freedom during the present century to go to all portions of the earth. Missionaries have gone and occupied the field; the greatest obstacles have been overcome; the exclusive caste of India has been entered and permeated with the seeds of gospel truth, and schools have been established in numerous lands. They ask us for teachers and missionaries to come and act a part in warning the world. Every

foot of land in India is occupied by some mission. Thus the door is opened by Christian missionaries to go directly to the people.

The present century has also developed methods of travel, so that any portion of the earth can be reached in a brief space of time. In this respect, there is nothing that stands in the way. Certainly God's providence has gone before us and presented open doors everywhere. In many instances God has even prepared a way by moving upon the hearts of the people themselves to occupy a position where the truth might be carried successfully to them. Sabbath-keepers are found even in heathen lands as well as in civilized countries. All things are ready. The way certainly is open before us.

But even more than this, there are those of different nationalities, as it was in the Medo-Persian kingdom, that propose to aid the missionary in carrying the gospel to these distant fields. Even in this country our Bible workers have found access as teachers to the Chinese. Says one of our sisters, in speaking of a leading Chinaman who is fitting himself for a medical missionary, and gives lectures and concerts, "He has a Christian brother and mother in China. He has urged me to go to China and do missionary work. Several of the Chinese have urged me so much to go, and they say, 'We will just go with you or send to our friends, and you go right to our home.'"

When this lady objected because she had a little boy, they quickly replied, "Send him to our Chinese schools, educate him in the language, and he will be a help to you." When she said, "There are thousands of your people here in this country, and we can work here as well as to spend so much money to go there, and we would rather work here, one ventured to say, 'I pay your way, you go.'" Another said, "O my poor people, my poor people. Won't you go to teach my poor people?"

This is only one instance out of many that might be mentioned to show that there are special doors open before us among the Chinese. We have received many letters, both from China and from those interested in Chinese missionary work in this country, showing the interest that is already taken among intelligent Chinese respecting the gospel.

It is the same with Japan. A singular circumstance occurred in San Francisco but a short time since. A young Japanese named Charlie, whose father had been one of the lords in Japan and was immensely wealthy, fell heir upon the death of his father to all his father's property. This consisted of

a large silk factory, rice plantations, and large buildings in Tokio, the capital of Japan. He had been in this country seven years, and had become so Americanized that he was exceedingly anxious to take with him as many of the American ways and ideas as possible when he returned to his native land. In view of this he proposed to take with him a man and his family, the wife being a Sabbath-keeper, and pay their expenses, that he might render him assistance in his business, and introduce into Japan certain American ideas with which he had fallen in love during his stay in this country. More than this, he was also desirous of taking with him a young lady to teach the girls employed in his silk factory. He was not a religious man, but he wanted "a good girl," which means a Christian girl; not that she should teach religion in the school, but he wanted one that would be trusty. He proposed not only to pay her expenses to Japan, but give her \$60 a month and support her, and provide a translator for her, and purposed that she should live in this man's family whose wife was a Sabbath-keeper.

We also recently received the following in a letter from Hong Kong: "There is here a young Japanese, or rather a half Japanese. His father was an Englishman and his mother a Japanese. He is now twenty-two years old, and is rather a promising boy. He is coming out in the truth a step at a time, and he seems to be already alive to do something for his countrymen. He is poor. He is getting thirty dollars a month to oversee the building of some houses, but it takes all of it for his board and clothing. He has been in London as an interpreter for a firm there, so that he understands both languages somewhat."

Who will say that the providence of God has not gone before us to prepare the way and encourage us to enter the "Sunrise kingdom," and carry the precious light to that dark land? Who cannot see in these circumstances the cloud larger than "a man's hand," or hear the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees?

What we have said in reference to the openings in China and Japan might be said in reference to Africa. When one of our brethren was moved upon to go to that dark land and carry the truth, and had even started, expecting that he would be a pioneer in the work, God had already moved on the heart of another, while on the way to his field of labor in Central Africa, to accept the truth, and he had preceded the one who had thus given himself to the work.

Is it right that there should be such super-abundance of opportunities and privileges for the work in America, and not one feel moved upon to go to these foreign fields where God by his providence is preparing the way before us?

From an unpublished testimony of recent date, we quote the following:—

"The Saviour directed his disciples to begin their work in Jerusalem, and then pass on through Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth. Only a small proportion of the people accepted the doctrine; but the messengers bore the message from place to place, passing from country to country, lifting the standard of the gospel in all the near and far-off places of the earth. But there was a preparatory work. The Saviour's promise was, 'But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me.' Although thousands at home neglect this great salvation, and prove themselves unworthy of eternal life, let zealous efforts be put forth for those who are in the midnight of darkness. God will speak to the unenlightened. This light is to shine amid the moral darkness. 'I have set thee to be a light to the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.' While there are so many to be sought for, so many that are in gross darkness, shall we not cry aloud and spare not?"

Again from a testimony of May 9, we quote: "My mind is exercised day and night in regard to our missionary work. I am alarmed because there is so little genuine burden for perishing souls. The church knows her duty well if she would only contemplate the situation. There is work to be done in home missionary efforts; there is much to be done in far-off lands. Why are there not hundreds giving themselves to the work where now there is one?"

And again, "The heavenly agencies are waiting to co-operate with human agencies in the grand work of reflecting light to the world. Wherever there is even one soul converted on earth, there is a response of joy circulated through heaven. Wherever one soul is snatched from Satan's hand and given as a trophy to Jesus Christ, there is joy in the presence of God, Jesus Christ, and the holy angels, because the lost is found. I send my appeal to the churches to 'Rise and shine, for the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.' 'Ye have not,' said Christ, 'chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go forth and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he may give it you.'"

We have said nothing as to the condition of our own land, and that of civilized countries already entered, but the evidences are abundant to show that the whole world is prepared for the third angel's message.

S. N. HASKELL.

Extracts from Correspondence.

FROM an interested reader living in Canada :—

"I have been very much pleased to have the papers, especially the *Signs of the Times*, and I am indeed grateful to your society. I take great pleasure in handing the *Signs* to persons whom I believe to be interested in Bible truth. They have been so helpful to me that I thought of filling them for helps in Bible study, but I remembered the maxim, which I think speaks a great principle, 'That which I gave away, I found, but that which I kept, I lost.' I shall therefore be glad to receive the *Signs* and *Good Health* as long as your judgment and plans will permit."

"I endorse fully the grounds which I understand the *Sentinel* to advocate; namely, that there cannot be such a thing as a man-enforced Sabbath, and for the Sabbath to be rightly observed, there must be, not civil law, but a willing mind and obedient will on the part of the individual."

"No doubt you remember sending 'Marvel of Nations.' I may say that I have read it with much interest, and that its contents is to me very startling. Since reading the book, and also the general articles which appear from time to time in the *Signs*, I have been deeply stirred, and can scarcely tell sometimes where I stand with regard to this great Sunday vs. Sabbath question. I am certainly not indifferent, as I once was, as to whether Sunday is the Sabbath or not; the multitude keep the first; that was once sufficient ground for me, but God has shown me that I must have some better authority for my actions than the majority. I must say, however, that the question is in the balance with me as yet, but I believe I shall know God's will and truth in the great matter."

FROM India :—

"Very many thanks for the packages of papers and tracts sent me. The *Youth's Instructor* and the tracts will be very useful indeed. I would like three copies of the *Good Health* monthly, and of the *Youth's Instructor* I could use at least twenty; of the tracts, as many as you can send. I could easily dispose of fifty or more copies of the *Youth's Instructor* where it could do a great deal of good, but there is a limit to asking. And yet I am not sure but I am wrong to express myself in this way. The Lord says, 'Open thy month wide, and I will fill it.' He can fill it through your society as well as by any other means, better perhaps. The need is unquestioned. Young men are hungry for English reading. Our native Christian young men will read something, and if not given the best, they will read what they get hold of; as for the Hindn and Musselman young men, they read everything they get hold of, novels of the worst sort, atheistic pamphlets, anything. They are very glad of good literature, but it is most limited."

"I have no means to buy or subscribe for your papers, etc., but if any one wants to do true missionary work, here is a grand opportunity. You cannot send too much; my heart aches and longs for good seed to spread everywhere. We are trying our best to spread Marathi literature, but we cannot produce as attractive nor as efficient English literature as you can. If you will send me a big package every month, I will see that it reaches those who should have it."

"Your evangelical tracts are just what is needed. Do put my name down for a monthly package, *no stinting*, and the Lord bless you for your mercy to the young men of India. Every day, young men are coming to us full of sin's unrest. Not only young men, but old men; men of highest standing in government service, who

no longer believe in idols, but who are not ready to break caste, are coming to us. The seed-sowers in this large and beautiful city of Bombay are a mere handful. We sow all day and have no strength to reap. No one comes to our help. If you cannot send us reapers, send us your well-ground scythes; perhaps the Lord will use the little strength we have, if we have anything to use."

"I thank you for your expressions of friendship. It is an inspiration and a great comfort to feel that there is another friendly heart and hand just across the waters. May you have strength for all your duties."

FROM Boston, Mass :—

"Some time ago, some one sent me by mail a tract, 'The Judgment,' published by your people. I do not know anything of your religious belief, except what I have gleaned from outside sources which were not friendly to your cause, or rather I should say, to the truths you are called to defend and promulgate."

"If you have any tracts or papers for free distribution to inquirers, I wish you would kindly send some to me. I am really anxious to get light on the greatest of all truths, the second coming of Christ. I have already accepted the fourth commandment, and have, to the extent of my ability, returned to that old path from which through early instruction I have wandered. I am a member of the Boston Union Bible class and have had considerable discussion with some of the members on this doctrine. There are many inquiring souls, but we cannot obtain any instructive printed matter. If you have anything to send in such cases, please to send me an assortment."

Still later he writes :—

"I received in due time the book, 'Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation,' which you so kindly sent me; also the *American Sentinel* and *Signs of the Times*. I extend you my hearty thanks for these papers and the book. As professed Christians, my wife and I belong to the Episcopal Church and to that portion of it commonly known as High Church, and the service is very ornate.

"Of late a great deal has been said about the second coming of the Lord. We believe it is a literal coming in the clouds of heaven, and in such a way that all will see him. I have often thought it would be something like the sun. Every one in all the earth can see that, and we are taught to believe that in some such manner the Lord will come, only in a more glorious manner. But after all, the coming is not so important to the individual as the personal preparation. 'Lo, this is our God, we have waited for him.' These few words describe our spiritual position at the present time. It is to us an all-absorbing fact of intense interest; we have outgrown church limitations and bonds, and stand on the revelation. There is sufficient ground to stand on, that we understand about, of which there is no doubt. We can in a quiet and patient manner occupy this, and as the Lord gives us light, we can advance."

FROM a pastor in Monterey, Mexico :—

"We enjoy your papers very much. I distribute them every Sunday among my congregation and all are anxious to receive them. Thanking you for past favors, and hoping you will continue to send them as usual, we remain."

FROM a new correspondent in Jamaica :—

"With regard to the package of literature sent me, I must return you my heart-felt thanks; they have been so full of good and wholesome reading that I must confess my inability to say which I would prefer, and will therefore leave the selection to you, as I like them all."

[STUDY FOR FIRST WEEK IN OCTOBER.]

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

CONDUCTED BY W. A. SPICER.

PAPAL EUROPE.

THE MAJORITY.

PAPAL Europe is an untried field. Hitherto, the few efforts put forth in this large portion of the Master's vineyard have been among the Protestants, the minority of the population. What is now most needed is to begin work among the majority. The question that should first be considered is, What is most needed to begin this work? For we cannot intelligently take hold of the work, till we know what is to be done.

THE WORKERS NEEDED.

First of all, we need workers of experience among Catholics. At present, we have no such workers. How shall we get them? They cannot be prepared in a college. Experience is something that cannot be learned by heart, or obtained second hand. The sole way to come into possession of it is to make it. It cannot be made from books; there is but one way to gain it, and that is by actual contact with the people. We shall never know how to work among Catholics till some give themselves to this work, and by experience learn how it is to be done.

TO BE TAUGHT OF GOD.

The question may arise, How shall we begin to work among Catholics if we do not know how? This leads us to an important consideration. By whose wisdom is the work to be accomplished?—The Lord's. Here, all are agreed. Then, if it be the Lord's wisdom, it is not ours, and never will be ours; and if we should with His help work successfully among Catholics, we could not teach to others the way to work among them; each one would have to go to the Lord for himself.

Again, the Lord does not give his wisdom in advance of the time when it is needed. Theological students spend years in collecting facts, and acquainting themselves with books to fit themselves for the ministry, and then consider themselves prepared for the work of the Lord. They preach; but what, in many cases?—Simply the facts that they have learned in school or drawn from books,—facts of their own compilation. Their work is according to their wisdom. But with the true shepherd, it is not so. He cannot collect the wisdom of God in advance of the

time for using it. His wisdom is to learn to depend on the Lord for wisdom in every effort, to become so fully acquainted with God that he can trust him from moment to moment for the wisdom needed in the particular work in hand.

A source of great weakness has been our lack of faith, and reliance upon our own efforts and human wisdom. When we have seen one in the work having remarkable success, we have tried to find out by what means or in what manner he did his work, so as to do the same ourselves. What is this but depending on our own selves, and copying one another? What is needed is to go direct to the Lord, and learn of him. This is what he invites us to do. "Learn of me." "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not."

VICTORY ASSURED.

When we rely wholly on the Lord for wisdom, no circumstances will be so difficult or complicated that we cannot find the right solution. When men of the world meet something new, they usually search the records to find something similar, and to learn what the opinions of others have been, before they render a decision; but the child of God is not thus dependent, for the Lord can give him in an instant, wisdom superior to that of all the sages of earth combined. In whatever trying circumstances he may be thrust, or whatever unheard-of things he may have to meet, the Lord knows all about it, and can help him through gloriously, and the world will be astonished at his wisdom, and wonder, and say, "Surely this . . . is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for?"

This wisdom is sufficient to enable us to labor among Catholics successfully. In the main, the human heart is the same the world over. Education and circumstances may have a modifying effect, but the basis is the same, and the power of the gospel is sufficient to reach all. When this power was manifested among his people in the deliverance from Egypt, many of the heathen that witnessed it believed, and even the magicians, the greatest enemies of God, acknowledged, "This is the finger of God." Others afar off that heard of the power and work of

the Lord, believed. The same will again be seen in the earth before the end comes.

THE CALL TO SERVICE.

It is a fact that many of the Catholics in Europe have very little confidence in the mother church. They feel the need of something better; and we are sure that when the gospel in its purity and simplicity and power is presented among them, many will receive it with joy. We believe, too, that the Lord is ready even now to send messengers among them with his truth. We have no doubt that the Lord would soon call some to labor among Catholics, if they would yield all into his hand. We have but one choice to make, and that is to yield all to God, and when we do this fully and truly, the Lord will soon bring us into the place where he would have us; he will choose our place for us, and by some means lead us to it; he will open doors of usefulness for us, and help us to do the work.

When William Miller had reached the point where he could yield all to the Lord, and promised that he would go wherever he would send him, he had scarce finished his promise when a call came, and from that first call to the close of his life, calls never ceased to come; there were more open doors than he could fill. We believe that this will be the experience of every true gospel worker, and that many will find open doors, and Macedonian cries even from the Catholics.

The great need, therefore, is that more of us fully die to self, so that the Lord can live in us and work through us, and then we shall see the work going with power to all peoples, nations, and tongues. I can never forget the remark made by Brother Olsen some five years ago,—that if we were only ready, more would be sent, and more calls would come. Here is the great need,—to get ready, to yield all to the Lord, and then the Lord can use us. Then it will not be necessary for us to call one another to fields of labor, or to send one another, but the Lord will call us, and the Lord will send us, and the Lord will work with us, and souls will be saved.

Basel, Switzerland.

H. P. HOLSER.

ENCOURAGING OMENS.

IN considering the gospel work in Papal Europe, we find it marked by certain well defined steps.

1. The introduction of the Holy Scriptures among the nations of Papal Europe.
2. Its inevitable effect: some persons becoming

more or less enlightened as to its teachings and thus opening the way for the full light.

3. The introduction of the full truth by the circulation of literature, throwing light on the difficult portions of the Scriptures.

4. Finally, the establishment of the last message, by following up the interest awakened by this literature and collecting the believers into churches.

Now how far have we advanced? But ere we can answer this question intelligently, we must observe that Papal Europe comprises a number of different countries and languages, and each has its own development more or less independent of the others.

THE SCRIPTURES INTRODUCED.

As to the first step, we have in the very commission of our Saviour to teach "all nations," the pledge that even the darkest countries will have to open their doors and permit the word of God to be circulated there. For 1260 years God permitted the papacy to overcome his saints and suppress them, when the Bible was a "forbidden book;" but the fetters have been broken, and Bible societies have been established, and to-day the word of God circulates freely in every nation of Papal Europe; and this not in an unknown tongue understood only by the learned, but in the language of the people. One can hardly realize how much has been gained by this, unless he has a just idea of the power of the word of God. And much can be learned from the pioneers, from these noble, undaunted men, who in spite of the warnings and threatenings of the Roman priesthood and the prejudice and the ignorance of the people, pressed on in their glorious work of circulating the Bible. Victory has indeed crowned their efforts, until to-day in the very sight of the Vatican, the Book so often anathematized is freely handed to the humble seeker after the true gospel.

LIGHT IS ACCEPTED.

As to the second, we know that the "entrance of Thy word giveth light;" and as the inevitable results of its circulation, souls have here and there embraced its sacred teachings as fast as they have been revealed to them, and some have been raised up who proclaim the glad tidings to their countrymen. As far as the knowledge of the writer goes, there are at least some gospel workers found in every one of these countries, and souls are rejoicing in the light they have thus received. From the study of their work we might undoubtedly gain many useful hints regarding methods of labor among the Catholics,

THE WAY PREPARED.

The third step brings us to our own work,—the circulation of our denominational literature in the various languages represented by Papal Europe. And right here I would say that we should praise God and feel encouraged by what others have done in preparing the way for this. We have the word of God in every one of these languages, and thus we can freely make use of it in getting out suitable publications; and further, as these are circulated, many have already the Bible, or portions of it, in their houses, and thus can easily refer to it, in finding quotations referred to.

OUR OWN PUBLICATIONS.

Again, in getting out publications in these various tongues, those men can serve us best whose mother tongue it is. But had no work been done before us we would hardly be able to secure such a person among the Catholics, and their work would surely be a very questionable one. One of the greatest difficulties we had in this work was to find suitable persons willing to undertake it. God has helped us indeed in this step, and we have every reason to feel encouraged. In the French and German languages we have already regular periodicals and a number of books and smaller publications. We have also some smaller publications in the Italian, and works are now being prepared in the Spanish, and a few in the Portuguese. Thus the Latin race and the Teutonic will be more and more provided for. The Lord has also opened the way for the Hungarian, and some twenty-five Bible readings are ready in this tongue. And the way is also opening for the Bohemian and Polish and also for the Slavonic. Thus we will have some publications before long in all the languages of Papal Europe.

THEIR CIRCULATION AND EFFECT.

The next thing will be to circulate them properly, and while this may be more expensive than in the Protestant countries where we send our canvassers, who can make their own way, yet the Lord wants us to carry the truth to every nation, and it will surely be easier in Europe than among the heathen nations of Africa. And as to their effect, we have the precious promise of the Lord that his word shall not return unto him void, but it will accomplish that which he designs. The reformers circulated small publications throughout the whole of Papal Europe, containing the precious seeds of the gospel, and in spite of the darkness of the Middle Ages and the power of the papacy, their effect was wonderful. What God has

done in the past, he can do again, and we have his own word as pledge that he will do it. But with us remains the duty to see that there are means with which to publish the truth and to have it properly circulated throughout these countries.

BINDING OFF THE WORK.

And now as to the fourth step but little can be reported, in view of the fact that so little has been done in the circulation of our literature and that the qualified laborers have been lacking. As this will be more pushed, some will heed the light and become themselves living light-bearers. Success is sure to those who sow with tears; they will reap with joy some sincere souls, who, scattered throughout the different parts of Papal Europe, are longing for the precious truths of the gospel.

Viewing the work from the general standpoint, we can but feel grateful as we see what God has done through human instrumentalities to prepare the way for the last message of warning to go throughout Papal Europe; it remains for us, resting on the sure promises of God's word, and encouraged by these favorable omens, to provide the means to publish the necessary literature, to see that it is being properly circulated, and that laborers are being educated in these various tongues. He who has begun the good work and carried it thus far, will surely lead it to final victory.

L. R. CONRAD.

POINTS FOR QUESTIONS.

1. Map study of Papal Europe.
2. Of what faith are the majority of Europeans?
3. The experience needed for reaching Catholics, and how to be obtained.
4. What four steps seem clearly outlined in considering the work of the gospel in Papal Europe?
5. What pledge have we that even the darkest lands will be entered?
6. What change has come over Papal Europe since the days of papal supremacy?
7. The effect of circulating the Bible, and how is the way specially prepared for us?
8. In what languages of Papal Europe have we now publications?
9. How do many Catholics even now feel as to their church?
10. State the circumstances of Wm. Miller's call to service, and the lesson to be learned from his experience.
11. What remains for us to do for Papal Europe?

PROGRAM.

1. Opening exercises.
2. Scripture reading, 2 Thess. 2.
3. Brief sketch of the rise and character of the papacy by some one before appointed.
4. Study of the situation and needs of Papal Europe.
5. Considering foreign mission finances as reported in the EXTRA.
6. Month's progress in foreign fields.
7. Business.
8. Closing.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

WE who have a part in the proclamation of a world-wide message so solemn and so all-important as that of the third angel's message, have continual reason to remember the wonderful manner in which the Lord has wrought to prepare the way for the closing work of the gospel. It was one hundred years ago, the last day of May, that William Carey preached his sermon which resulted in the formation of societies for foreign missionary work, at a time when almost nothing was being done for the heathen. The Lord certainly inspired Carey to his task, and it was by faith in his word that he took those steps which gave new life to the work of foreign missions. It will be timely and interesting for us to glance at the beginning of his work, as the *Missionary Herald* sketches it in the June number:—

“We trust that this centenary will lead multitudes of Christians to study the life of Carey, that they may get a new impulse from the story of this remarkable man, and that they may trace with gratitude to God the progress of the foreign missionary work within the last hundred years.

“Whoever considers the case, will stand amazed before the picture of this untrained preacher, who ministered for three years to a people so indigent that they could not pay him enough to buy the clothes he wore out in their service, and to whom it was an advance in position when he was asked to take charge of a flock that could pay him ten pounds (\$49) a year, yet cherishing through all these years the thought of proclaiming the gospel to the unevangelized, and doing this notwithstanding the indifference and even the open hostility of those who were in high places in the church. In addition to preaching, he taught school when he had the opportunity, but when the scholars failed him, he returned to his shoemaker's bench to eke out his scanty subsistence, being barely able to provide food for his household, and that of the poorest quality.

“But whether teaching or cobbling, he was all the while studying the problem of the evangelization of the world. In his obscure parish at Moulton he

wrote his ‘Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathen,’ which his biographer, Dr. George Smith, calls the ‘first and still greatest missionary treatise in the English language.’

“The publication of this ‘Enquiry’ awakened deep thoughts in many minds, and yet to Carey's sore distress no practical results appeared. He was called a ‘miserable enthusiast’ for even proposing such a scheme to his ministerial brethren. But his courage was not engendered from earth. He watched his opportunity, and that opportunity came. When it was his turn to preach at the meeting of the Ministers' Association, held at Nottingham on May 31, 1792, he took his text from the prophecy of Isa. 54: 2, 3: ‘Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.’ The sermon produced an extraordinary effect. The two great thoughts which it enforced have proved like the voice of a trumpet to armed hosts, ‘Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.’ Dr. Ryland, in describing the effect of this sermon, says: ‘If all the people had lifted their voices and wept, as the children of Israel did at Bochim, I should not have wondered at the effect. It would only have seemed proportionate to the cause, so clearly did he prove the criminality of our supineness in the cause of God.’ And yet it illustrates the prevailing apathy of the times in reference to foreign missions, that, deep as was the impression made by the sermon, the ministers and others were about to depart without taking action on the subject. Carey in his distress seized hold of Andrew Fuller's arm and exclaimed, ‘And are you, after all, going again to do nothing?’ It seemed as if the heart of the preacher would break, so intense was the fire within him. Possibly, as God saw, it needed all that apathy and indecision on the part of others in order to awaken to the utmost the holy enthusiasm of the one man whom he would make leader in this enterprise. And Carey soon had the joy of seeing, at Kettering, Oct. 2, 1792, the formation of a society for propagating the gospel among the heathen. Carey had urged as part of his plan that every member of every congregation should pledge himself to earnest prayer and to the giving of at least a penny a week. Does such a proposal seem small? Notwithstanding all that has been done and the millions that are given, after a century since the sermon at Nottingham, it is still true, as Carey's biographer says: ‘The churches, whether by themselves or by societies, have yet to pray and organize up to the level of Carey's penny a week.’ . . . Would that the pulpits of Christendom might ring out this year, and in trumpet tones, the inspiring sentiments of Carey's sermon: ‘Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God!’”

[STUDY FOR SECOND WEEK IN OCTOBER.]

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

CONDUCTED BY W. A. COLCORD.

WE SHOULD WORK UNCEASINGLY.

WE have been watching with much concern the interest that our brethren throughout the field take in the various plans that are proposed for the advancement of the work. We find them divided into two classes,—those who work unceasingly and untiringly, and those who seem to work rather spasmodically. When something comes up that indicates that we are in imminent danger of persecution for Sunday labor, or that Sunday laws are about to be passed, our brethren and sisters, with scarcely an exception, are ready for enthusiastic work. But when the threatened danger for the time being seems to subside, the spasmodic class become indifferent, and it is with difficulty that we can get them to do anything at all.

When the Blair bills were before Congress, our brethren and sisters took hold with enthusiasm to circulate the petitions, as well as our literature, and thus do what they could to enlighten the public in regard to the real nature of that proposed legislation. Also, with reference to the recent petition work, asking Congress not to pass any bills committing the United States Government to religious legislation by closing the World's Fair on Sunday, they were quite ready to take an active part. Then, when Elder Jones preached those stirring sermons in the Tabernacle in regard to Justice Brewer's decision and the image of the beast, there seemed to be a general stir among us and a great desire to do something. Let us ask, Will we allow ourselves to depend upon excitement to keep us alive in the work, or will we not rather rest upon the firmer foundation that God's word is true, and that these things will surely come to pass, and work unceasingly in harmony with this belief?

These fulfilling prophecies, it is true, are indications that we are nearing the end, because we see in them clearly the fulfillment of the word of God. It is perfectly proper that they should incite us to renewed diligence. But if our interest in the work rests wholly upon the excitement that is produced when we see these stirring developments, we may be assured that our experience in divine things is not deep enough.

Suppose there should be no more remarkable developments in this Sunday issue for a short time. How would this affect us? Would we allow ourselves to become indifferent and to act as though the battle were over and we had nothing further to do? If we did, would we not be laying a foundation for placing ourselves among that class foretold by our Saviour who should say that their Lord was delaying his coming, and would therefore begin to eat and drink with the drunken, and to smite their fellow-servants who really believed and acted as though they believed that the Master was soon to appear? The value of souls for whom Christ has died, and the importance of his work in bringing to them the light of truth that they may be saved, is such that we should be doing all the time all within our power to reach them, regardless of how prophecies may be fulfilling around us. These may act as a stimulus to put forth greater exertions if possible than ever before, but the real underlying motive and incentive to labor should be the desire to enlighten others and save them from destruction.

As we reflect on these things, it would seem that God is permitting this Sunday agitation to come up by degrees to show us what we may expect, and to strengthen our confidence in the fact that his word with reference to these Sunday persecutions in the last days will surely be fulfilled. And should the movements seem to subside or be in any way held in check, this ought not to be considered as in any way an excuse for inaction on our part. We should work right along, unceasingly and untiringly, for the advancement of the cause of God; and as we thus labor, we should praise our heavenly Father that he does so hold the powers of earth in abeyance that we can be privileged to carry the great message of truth to the world, in comparative security and peace.

The evidence is not wanting to show that this Sunday movement is now to the front. God has told us that the Sabbath question would be the leading issue in the world in the last days, and we see that such is the case and that the crisis is right upon us. The questions for us to settle are, Do we believe it? Do we believe his word? If so, we should use all our God-given powers unremittingly in his service, and should esteem it a great privilege to be continually

engaged in the work of enlightening our fellow-men with reference to these great events.

As we consider this subject, we are persuaded that many of our brethren and sisters who are depending upon special excitement to urge them forward in the work, will at last be found sleeping when the message of truth carries away its victory. There is no security for us except in faithful service every day, and the only stimulus that we should need is a confidence in the word of God and our abiding love for him. Such confidence and love will be manifested in our continued labors for the salvation of our fellow-men. When we see the importance of acting in this way, regardless of our feelings, then the work of God will appear to us in its proper light.

God is patiently waiting for us to come forward to bear the part that he would have us act in his cause, and surely the privilege of being connected therewith is greater than any honor or joy that this world can afford. The young men and the young women who are acquainted with the grand truth of the third angel's message, and are connected with it, have a great work before them, and one that should call forth the powers of their being more than if they were heirs to the throne of the greatest monarchy this earth could produce.

We are told in the "Spirit of Prophecy" that all heaven is astir in making preparation for the final contest between truth and error, in this earth. Are we individually as active and faithful as we should be in the work before us? Precious time that we now allow to run to waste, we will long to possess by and by, when we are brought to confront the scenes just before us. The study of the word of God and active diligence in his work should engage every power that we possess.

Brethren and sisters, will we be unceasing and untiring laborers for God and his cause, or will we be among the spasmodic class who labor only when they have some special excitement to urge them to action?

A. O. TAIT.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO MEET THE ISSUE?

It is not for us to desire the woeful day, neither is it the thing for us to do to shrink from it when we see it is just about to come upon us. We have been told that "it is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger;" that "we should endeavor to disarm prejudice by placing ourselves in a proper light before the people;" and that we should

"bring before them the real question at issue, thus interposing the most effectual protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience." This has been the nature of the work marked out for us, and if we have thus far done the work as we should, this has been the character of the work done.

Yet, however well we may have done our work in the past, or however well we may do it in the future, we know that it will not be the means of permanently postponing the crisis; we will not succeed in allaying all prejudice; our protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience will not prevent measures of this nature from finally being passed,—have not, for such measures are already passed. For these many years we have known these things were coming. The word of God had said they would.

And now that they are here,—the crisis just upon us,—will any shrink from the battle? Will any fail to meet the issue manfully? Will any accuse their brethren of hastening the crisis and bringing upon God's people scenes of distress and affliction? Let each answer the question for himself, how he is going to meet the conflict. In Christ we may meet it as loyal soldiers, with courage and sustaining grace.

Now is the time to be putting on the whole armor of God. Now is the time to add to our faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. Now is the time to be storing the mind and heart with the truths of God's word. Now is the time to put on the Lord Jesus, who is "able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." Thus fortified and equipped, we shall, after having done all, be able to stand. W. A. C.

"God has revealed what is to take place in the last days, that his people may be prepared to stand against the tempest of opposition and wrath. Those who have been warned of the events before them are not to sit in calm expectation of the coming storm, comforting themselves that the Lord will shelter his faithful ones in the day of trouble. We are to be as men waiting for their Lord, not in idle expectancy, but in earnest work, with unwavering faith."—*Testimony No. 32, p. 208.*

WE may enjoy entire freedom in Christ Jesus, though bound in the cruelest human slavery, or confined in the darkest dungeons of earth.

[STUDY FOR THIRD WEEK IN OCTOBER.]

HOME MISSIONS..

CONDUCTED BY MISS JENNIE THAYER.

TO EVERY MAN HIS WORK.

We should give proper attention to the important statement made by our Saviour in Mark 13:34: "For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch."

It will be observed that he has given to *every* man his work; not that some are to be workers and others idlers in the vineyard of the Lord, but every man has something to do. This scripture should certainly have had a great significance to the followers of Christ in every age since it was spoken, but it would seem to be of special importance to us who are living just before the second coming of Christ. From recent testimonies given by the Spirit of God, and even as we see things around us, we could not be left in doubt in regard to the fact that the coming of the Lord is very near at hand, nearer possibly than many of us are aware; and those who have a knowledge of this truth are under sacred obligations to their fellow-men, which they should by no means disregard.

When the Saviour says that he has left to *every* man his work, there is no chance for us to frame an excuse. We may say that we are not qualified, or that we have no ability, yet there stands the statement of the Saviour,—to *every man his work*. We have emphasized the thought that to *every* man there is a work, but you will notice that the Saviour says, to every man *his* work. Then it is not that every man has a work, but every man has *his* work. His work may perchance be to preach the gospel. If that be his work, he should do it faithfully and well. Possibly, the work of another may be to teach in one of our schools. Another may be best fitted to work as a Bible worker, another as a canvasser. Each one must learn for himself what *his* work is, and then faithfully perform it in the fear and strength of the Lord. "But," says one, "I could not qualify myself to teach in the College, to stand in the desk to preach, to enter the Bible work, nor am I so situated that I can go out as a regular canvasser. Then, what is there left for me to do? Can I do anything?" Let the Master answer,—

"To every man his work." Let no one seek to excuse himself. The statement is unqualified, and there is therefore something for all to do.

We will state further, that the individual who is converted to Christ, and has thereby tasted of the joys that come to the pardoned sinner, will hardly seek to be excused from carefully urging upon the attention of others this great salvation, no matter how limited may be his opportunities for doing it. The first thought in the mind of the disciple of Christ is, How can I bring others to enjoy the blessings that I am enjoying myself? And if when the duty and responsibility of laboring for others is pressed upon us, we find ourselves framing excuses, is it not really an evidence to us that we ourselves are not drinking at the living fountain?

All around us there are those who are liable to suffer eternal death, and knowing that the fullest and freest salvation is provided for every one of them, how can we keep from studying to bring before them a knowledge of the world's Redeemer, and his saving truth for this time? Perhaps you will say, "I know this and have thought about it a great deal, but have considered that what I could do would be so little that it would be really of no consequence." Yet, from the word of the Master, we would understand that even this little would be your work, for he has said that *every* man has something to do.

From studying the parable of the talents, we see that it was the man that had *one* talent that hid it in the earth, and said to his lord, at his return, that he had not put it out to the exchangers that it might bring returns in his service; and we will also observe that those servants who put out their talents to the exchangers were able to double them. This parable should teach us a very important lesson: First, that the person who has very moderate abilities or opportunities for serving in the Master's cause, is the one who is most liable to make excuses and do nothing; and secondly, that the one who improves upon the privileges that he has, finds that his opportunities and abilities for doing good are thereby greatly increased. Then if we feel that we are able to do but little in the cause of God, we have the comforting assurance that by performing that little faithfully and well, it will

enable us so to increase our powers that we may after awhile accomplish very much more.

Perhaps, now, you are ready to say that you would be glad to do something in the cause, if some plans of work were only suggested. First of all, we would say that the most important thing is to have our own lives in harmony with the truth we profess. If our daily walk before those with whom we come in contact is such as to commend the truth that we profess, that, in itself, will accomplish a great deal for the advancement of the cause. There is nothing that speaks more clearly in favor of our faith than for those who profess it to properly represent the teachings of the Master in their intercourse with their fellow-men. The consistent Christian life speaks more forcibly than any words that we may utter. But there are none of us who cannot do more than simply live the truth before our neighbors, all important as this is. In fact, those who may be contented with this only, will sooner or later find that the truth itself is leaking out of their hearts. The truth, in order to be preserved and kept alive in our own hearts, must be communicated to others.

There are a number of ways in which we can speak the truth to those with whom we come in contact. We can present it to them in conversation, can hand them out our literature, or we may write them letters, and thus call their attention to its great principles.

And now that the long evenings of the fall and winter are coming on, we trust that our people everywhere will take particular pains to do all that they can in the way of circulating our various publications. We are not speaking this to the canvassers and the other workers who are already in the field devoting their whole time to the work, but we speak particularly to those of our number who feel that it is necessary for them to remain at home. Perhaps there are brethren and sisters living near you who are discouraged and on the back-ground and who do not read our church papers. Why not begin by going to them to interest them in taking the *Review*, the *American Sentinel*, and the HOME MISSIONARY, that they may keep informed in regard to the progress of the work and what our people are doing? Certainly, all of our people should read these important papers in order that they may keep abreast with the times. Then, after attending to this, why may not our brethren and sisters all unite in circulating among their friends and neighbors, our pioneer papers, particularly the *Signs* and the *American Sentinel*?

It seems to me that if a thorough canvass for the

Signs and the *Sentinel* was made each fall and winter in every neighborhood where there are Sabbath-keepers, that thousands of subscribers could be obtained to these periodicals, and by this means much be done toward advancing the truth. We would like to see our brethren and sisters organize and divide up the territory in their immediate neighborhoods, and make a thorough trial of this kind of work. Then, after canvassing their own neighborhoods, let them push the work into the surrounding country, just as far as their opportunities and circumstances will permit. We believe that a great and good work could be done in this way, and we would be glad to see an active interest taken in it. It would not only encourage and help those doing the work, but it would thereby be the means of enlightening thousands of people and of leading many of them to the Saviour.

In connection with this canvass for our periodicals, we would have opportunity to distribute many of our tracts and pamphlets, as well as some of our books. We believe there is a large number of our people who perhaps could not go out into the canvassing field for a business, who could devote several days, or possibly weeks, out of each year to work of this kind; and we know that if they would take it up earnestly, much good would be accomplished thereby. There is still another class who perhaps might not be able to devote even a few days or weeks to work of this kind, but who might send out our publications through the mail and write letters in connection therewith.

All should seek to do something, and we should enter the work, not so much because it is our duty, but because we prize it as a great privilege to do something for the Master who has given himself for us.

We will take pleasure in corresponding with any of our brethren and sisters in regard to the work, and in rendering them any assistance that we can in their missionary enterprises. We pray that the Lord may guide us, and that this fall and winter may see more done in spreading the light of present truth than has ever been accomplished in any previous year during the history of the message.

A. O. TAIT.

PROGRAM.

1. Song, Hymns and Tunes No. 1251.
2. Scripture reading, Matt. 25: 14 - 30.
3. Prayer.
4. Business.
5. Reading of the article
6. Considering plans for work as suggested by the article.
7. Song No. 1343.

[STUDY FOR FOURTH WEEK IN OCTOBER.]

HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE.

CONDUCTED BY W. H. WAKEHAM.

TEA AND COFFEE.

HISTORY.

THE early history of the use of tea and coffee seems to be involved in considerable obscurity. The absence of historical facts is compensated for by early mythical stories. The manuscript contained in the *Bibliothèque* of Paris indicates that the use of coffee was known as early as the year 875 A. D. It was first used in Abyssinia, where the plant is indigenous, and from there its use spread to Southern Arabia.

The Mohammedans found in coffee an excellent preventive of sleep during the prolonged religious ceremonies at the mosques. Its use at this time was strongly opposed by the priests and by Mohammed, but the desire for stimulation soon over-balanced all these influences. The knowledge of, and taste for, coffee spread but slowly out from Arabia, and did not reach Europe until the middle of the sixteenth century, when coffee-houses were established in Constantinople. Another century elapsed before it was introduced into Great Britain. From the date of the introduction of coffee into civilized countries, only two hundred years ago, the consumption of tea and coffee has increased rapidly until 1,000,000,000 pounds of coffee and 3,000,000,000 pounds of tea are consumed annually.

Coffee is the favorite drink of France, Germany, Sweden, and Turkey. In Germany an amount equal to fourteen pounds to each person is consumed annually. The amount consumed in China is estimated at 2,000,000 pounds annually, being five pounds per head.

Tea is the favorite drink of the English people, and its consumption has increased from 1.22 pounds per head in 1840, to five pounds per head in 1887. At the present time 100,000,000 pounds of tea are imported into England annually. Next to England, the United States is the greatest tea importing nation, 72,105,000 pounds being imported in 1885. It is used largely in Holland, and with the exception of the English and the Chinese, it is used by the Dutch more than by any other nation.

In the production of coffee, Brazil heads the list, producing more than all other countries combined. Of the 320,000,000 pounds of coffee exported in 1872

by Brazil, the United States absorbed 200,000,000 pounds. Coffee is also extensively produced in Java and Ceylon. The amount of coffee used in Great Britain has declined in the last thirty years, owing, no doubt, to the more prevalent use of its rival — tea. But in all other countries its use has rapidly and steadily increased.

DESCRIPTION.

Coffee is the seed, or berry, of the coffee plant, of which there are about twenty-two species. The *coffea arabica*, a native of Abyssinia, is the common coffee plant, from which the greater part of the coffee of commerce is produced. The common coffee shrub, or tree, is an evergreen plant, growing from eighteen to twenty feet high, with smooth, shining leaves six inches long, and dense clusters of beautiful, snow-white flowers, having a rich, fragrant odor. One variety growing in Western Africa is said to produce sixteen pounds annually per plant, but usually it is far less prolific.

Tea consists of the dried leaves of the tea plant. It is a native of China, where it has been cultivated for the last thousand years. It has been doubtfully spoken of by Confucius, who wrote 550 B. C., but is known to have been used in the sixth century A. D. From China it has been introduced and cultivated in other countries, especially in India.

The tea plant is an evergreen shrub, growing from three to five feet high. The stem is bushy, with numerous leaves from two to four inches in length. The flowers are white and slightly fragrant. There are two principal varieties in commerce, commonly known as green and black tea. Both kinds are produced from the same plant. Green tea is obtained by drying the freshly gathered leaves by heat upon plates until shriveled. Black tea is obtained by allowing the leaves to lay in heaps a long time, to undergo a kind of fermentation, before drying them. Green tea sent out of China is almost universally faced or glazed by a mixture of gypsum and Prussian blue, both of which substances are extremely poisonous.

COMPOSITION.

The peculiar exciting effect of coffee is due to an alkaloid substance, caffeine, which, when extracted, occurs in long, snow-white, silky, opaque crystals.

This peculiar substance is by most authorities regarded as identical with the theine of the tea plant. Besides caffeine, coffee contains tannic acid, and a small per cent of gum fat, sugar, and volatile oils. These oils give to coffee its peculiar aroma and some of its stimulating qualities. Caffeine is also found in the leaves of the coffee plant, as well as in the berry, but the leaves are not commonly used as a beverage.

The principal ingredients of tea are theine (an alkaloidal substance which is identical with caffeine), tannic acid, and volatile oils. Both theine and caffeine belong to the same class of chemical substances, as strychnine, morphine, cocaine, etc., and when taken into the system in sufficient quantities, produce similar effects.

The effect of tea on the system is very similar to that of coffee, since the active principles of each are nearly identical.

EFFECT ON LOWER ANIMALS.

By experiments which have been made on lower animals with reference to the active principles of tea and coffee, it has been shown that both theine and caffeine produce a rigid condition of the muscles resembling the *rigor mortis*, or stiffness of the muscles which follows after death. Sometimes there is a peculiar twitching and trembling of the muscles, which is almost identical with the effect produced by strychnine. This is often followed by a complete paralysis of the muscles. It has been further shown that this substance not only causes paralysis of the muscles, but also of sensation. An instance is cited by an eminent English author, where a quantity of tea taken by a horse caused great excitement and probably loss of sensation, as the animal killed itself by dashing its head against a stone.

EFFECT ON THE HUMAN BODY.

1. *On the Digestive System.*—The effect of tea and coffee on the human system seems to be quite as deleterious, when taken in any considerable amount, as on the lower animals. Both tea and coffee, when taken into the stomach, diminish the amount of gastric juice secreted. This is naturally due to the presence of tannic acid, which acts as an astringent, and checks the secretion of the gastric juice of the stomach. The effect of tea is more marked in this respect than coffee, which is probably due to the fact that it contains a larger amount of tannic acid. Not only do they interfere with the digestion of the stomach, but they affect the whole digestive system, and produce inactivity of the bowels and torpidity of the liver, and develop a condition commonly known

as biliousness. When their use is kept up for any length of time, a peculiar form of dyspepsia is developed. On account of insufficient secretion of gastric juice, the food is not thoroughly digested, but undergoes fermentation, with the formation of gases and other poisonous substances.

2. *On the Circulation.*—The first effect produced on the circulation is that of stimulation, causing the heart to beat more rapidly and with greater force. This, however, is soon followed by a reaction, and the heart beats slower and weaker than in does normally. When their use is long continued, it develops a chronic condition of irregularity in the heart's action, the pulse becoming very irregular and intermittent. This effect occurs in some persons even after drinking only a single cup of coffee.

3. *On the Nervous System.*—The most marked effects of this beverage are seen by their action on the nervous system. These alkaloid substances, when used to any considerable extent, are temporarily, if not permanently, injurious. At first they seem to excite the nervous system and produce a pleasant sensation, but this effect is followed by depression, and a sinking sensation at the stomach, flatulency, and unsteadiness of muscular power, tremulousness of the limbs, pallor of the surface of the body, not infrequently depression of spirits amounting almost to despondency. A very marked influence, especially of coffee, on the system, is that of producing wakefulness, or if not a total absence of sleep, the mind is in a peculiarly stupid condition. Frequently there are imaginations and hallucinations, nightmare, headache, and sometimes nausea and vomiting, and not infrequently neuralgia. All these conditions are brought about by the poisonous effect of tea and coffee on the system.

There is nothing in tea or coffee that gives energy to the body. Neither of them is a food. The poisonous substances contained in them at first stimulate and then depress and poison the whole body. Not a few persons then resort to alcoholic stimulants for relief; but such relief is only temporary, and increases and confirms the mischief that has already been done.

Certainly no good can come from the use of tea and coffee. Like all other stimulants and narcotics, they are deceptive. There is nothing in them that gives strength to body or mind, but on the other hand, they are most emphatically poisonous, especially when used in large quantities and for a considerable length of time.

The influence of tea and coffee on the young is even more marked than on adult persons. In early life the nervous system is not fully developed. It is constantly undergoing changes, and is in a sort of an unstable condition, and consequently is more susceptible to influences that are brought to bear upon it. If tea and coffee are bad for adults, they are most certainly bad for children. If children are not allowed to use these beverages when young, they will have no appetite for them when they have reached the years of maturity.

W. H. RILEY.

CANVASSERS' DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY F. L. MEAD.

PROGRESS OF THE CANVASSING WORK.—NO. 2.

HOW THE WORK STARTED.

WHEN the work first started, the agents worked where they chose, and changed their location as often as they wished. They carried from one to six different books with them, and canvassed for them all. That is, when they failed to secure an order for one book, they would then try another, and another, until the whole list had been presented, provided the customer held off long enough.

The canvassers bought their books of the tract societies, on time, to be paid for as soon as delivered; but up to date, many of them have not been paid for; possibly some of them have not yet been delivered.

In the early days of the canvassing work, there were no printed canvasses, no report blanks, guarantee slips, no HOME MISSIONARY to tell about the progress of the work, no canvassers' institutes or schools, no State agents, no organized systematic plan of work, no nothing.

Notwithstanding the fact that the helps and agencies above mentioned were not in existence, yet there were men who believed that the canvassing work, which is so extensively engaged in by the agents of different publishers to sell their works, could also be the means of selling books containing the truth, and thus become a powerful agency in carrying the message of truth to the world.

It was reasoned that this would open up an avenue whereby many could engage in the diffusion of truth, who otherwise could not do so. Many could sell books, who could not possibly preach or hold Bible readings, and it was believed that it would prove a recruiting field for laborers, and develop latent talent which would otherwise lie dormant; that in this field many workers could be developed who would make suitable laborers to go to other fields as missionaries. It was urged that many would buy and read our books if they had a chance, who could not, or would not go to a church to hear preaching; thus they would receive the truth, when otherwise they would have no opportunity to receive it. It was claimed by the friends of the canvassing work, that if it could have the support, good-will, and the religious zeal of the denomination to push it forward, it could be made to succeed. It was argued that canvassers could visit the homes of the people, sell books, and thus sow the seeds of truth, so that when the minister entered the field to give a course of lectures, he would find it all prepared as a result of the books scattered there.

About this time, many doubting Thomases appeared on the arena, and presented almost legions of arguments against the proposed plans. To sell our books by subscription was declared to be an impossibility, especially those published in Battle Creek; that as soon as it was known to be an Adventist book, that would settle the question; that agents would starve to death on what they could earn canvassing for books made at the Review and Herald Office. Some declared that so far as they were concerned, they would prefer that the canvassers keep away from any field they were to enter to hold a course of lectures, preferring to prepare their own field rather than have it done by a book agent. These, and many other like objections were raised to the canvassing work.

Others looked at the matter quite differently. They saw, however, that before the work could be made a success, a well defined plan of operation must be devised; that it must be conducted in a systematic manner, or confusion and disappointment would follow in place of desired success. It was, however, quite evident that it was one thing to see what was needed, but quite another one to provide a plan that could be safely followed everywhere; for if a general plan was adopted, it must be a "universal plan," one that could be followed and bring success among the intelligence of the East, the enterprise of the North, or the push of the West; that would reap the same results in the hospitality of the South, and amid the conservatism of the different nations of Europe. However, the undertaking was assumed, plans were laid, and the work was finally started.

If all the different plans tried, and resolutions adopted for carrying forward the canvassing work, could be compiled into a book, it would be an interesting volume to study. We have the time and space to mention but a few of them here. We find among the first plans suggested, was what, for lack of a better name, we will call the "entering wedge plan," which was something like this: The agent was to take "Sunshine at Home" or some other book of like nature, that no one could object to, and canvass for it, and "give as a premium" a bunch of tracts or pamphlets, a religious periodical, or health journal; or else to solicit directly a subscription for some health work, and thus become acquainted with the people, and so get several little "entering wedges" started, after which the larger theological wedges could easily follow in quick succession. When this was first proposed, some were ready to pronounce it "excelsior," but after trying it a while, it was abandoned for better methods.

BOOKS SOLD AMONG THE SCANDINAVIANS IN JULY, 1892.

[THE following report, containing many interesting items, has been kindly translated by Eld. J. G. Matteson for use in the HOME MISSIONARY.]

The Lord has blessed the work of our Scandinavian book agents the last month. We cannot but praise the Lord when we see that in spite of all opposition, we have obtained more orders in July than in any previous month.

For some time I have been visiting our agents. Some of them find bitter opposition, both from the clergy and from the church members. We are all, nevertheless, of good courage in the Lord, and rejoice in the blessed hope of soon seeing him face to face. For his sake they suffer with joy, revilings and derision in the daytime, and often they have to seek a shelter for the night in a stable, a barn, or a haystack in a field.

We are thankful for the fruits which we see of the efforts of our book agents. Brother Holmsten writes from Minnesota that a man in Grand Forks county has begun to keep the Sabbath, and several others are interested, as a consequence of reading a copy of "Bible Readings" sold last year.

Brother Calm has brought several souls to the truth, in Chicago, and during this time has sustained himself by selling our books.

Brethren Simons and Johnson write from North Dakota that there is not only a prospect of gaining four young men for the truth, but that they will make laborers in the mission field, to bring light and truth to others.

Brethren Freeman and Peterson, who labor in Goodhue county, Minn., had the joy, the other day, of seeing a family begin to keep all the commandments of God, and they hope that two more persons soon will join them.

Brother Olaf Olsen, Mankato, Minn., writes of a family that is deeply interested in the truth. Similar reports come from many other places. This is very encouraging, not only for the laborers, but for all who are looking for the great day of deliverance.

The book agent walks through rain and storm, from house to house, to rich and poor, with the gospel of our Saviour's soon return. He does not always meet friendly looks when the door is opened. He does not always hear pleasant words, when with an earnest prayer in his heart, he begins to exhibit his book, in order to show people the wonderful truth and promises of God. Sometimes he is treated as a dangerous person, whose object it is to lead them into false doctrines. In spite of all this, the agent hastens over mountain and valley, from place to place, knowing that the gospel of the kingdom must be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations (Matt. 24:14), "and they, whether they will hear or whether they will forbear, . . . yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them." Eze. 2:5.

Yet this is not all the missionary work the book agent performs. He not only sustains himself and his family (if he has one), but by his tithes he helps to sustain preachers and Bible workers. Through the work of our book agents our printing offices furnish work for many hundred men and women, who are thus helping to preach the truth. The book agent is also a great help to our tract societies; and by his donations he helps to advance the work of God, both in our own country and in foreign lands. Besides all this, he, as well as the preacher, leads souls to embrace the truth. It is truly a noble work, although it may seem like a humble one in the eyes of some.

Brethren and sisters, who among you will take part in this branch of the work? We need men and women who fear none but the Lord, and hate nothing but sin. Such persons will prosper, and the blessing of God will follow their steps.

The following shows the work of sixty-six agents in the month of July:—

Orders for "Bible Readings," 246; "Sunshine at Home," 183; "Prophecies of Jesus," 329; "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation," 5; "Life of Christ," 53; "Great Controversy," 1738; in all, 2554; total value, \$6858.70. Other books sold, \$102.69; in all, \$6961.39. Books delivered, 432; value, \$1368.20.

This work has been done in 5597 hours, and the books have been exhibited in 7224 places; 2554 orders have been received, which makes about one order for every three exhibits.

NORWAY.

During the four weeks ending July 23, six book agents have been active in Norway, and a part of the time twelve have been in the field. They have taken orders amounting to \$1333.80, and at the same time delivered \$217.35 worth of books. One brother took orders in one week amounting to \$105.03. This is a success so uncommon in the old country, that it looks like a miracle. The Lord is truly blessing this branch of the work in a wonderful manner.

SWEDEN.

From Sweden we have report for the week ending July 22. Twenty-two agents have labored more or less during this time, and have received orders for books amounting to \$331.02. They have also delivered books to the amount of \$142.56.

DENMARK.

The agents have had still more wonderful success, as was noted in the HOME MISSIONARY last month. Eighteen book agents received in three weeks \$1546.44 worth of orders. This makes, on an average, \$28 a week to each canvasser, while our Scandinavian agents in America have sold \$26.50 worth each, on an average.

May the Lord bless the work, as well as the laborers, is always my heart-felt prayer.

ZACH SHERRIG.

THE UNITED KINGDOM.

GREAT Britain is a land of fog and smoke, a land where sunshine is nearly unknown, a dismal, damp, cold land, a land of giants and walled cities, as regards the canvassing work, and a land from which our workers would be glad to escape.

□ The above is all a mistake, but such was the impression we received of this country before coming here, and no doubt there are many of the readers of the HOME MISSIONARY who have about the same idea.

We are free to admit that during the early winter, we have some disagreeable weather, it being so dark occasionally that one cannot see across the street. But such fogs only last a few days at a time, and during the most of the year, one could not ask for better weather. The summer months are free from the oppressive heat of America, and we are hindered in our work very little by the rain.

It is true that those who first started the canvassing work in Great Britain had what we might call rather a hard time, but this was owing more to a lack of proper books to sell, and to the adoption of wrong methods, than to the nature of the field. Those same canvassers who met with such difficulties at first, have made a grand success of the work since adopting the principles and methods which underlie all successful book canvassing.

The coming of Brother Morrison to England, one year ago last May, marked a new era in the book work here. He advocated that the same methods which work successfully in America and the Colonies would work in Great Britain. This was strongly opposed at first by some of those who had been working on the installment plan, but after giving it a trial, none cared to go back to the old way.

In the large cities, where the most of our canvassing has been done, the people are more approachable than in the large cities in the States. But during the past few months it has been demonstrated that (the same as at home) the people in the country towns are still easier to reach. Those who are beginners have no difficulty in making a success of the work, in small places, from the start.

A few figures taken from the weekly summary may be of interest. During the first six months of 1892 there were 10,028 orders taken for our books in the United Kingdom, the total value being \$21,010.44.

The average number of agents at work has been 31½, making \$670.55 the average value of orders per agent. We believe this will compare favorably with what has been done in any other field by the same number of workers during that time. □

Do we have successful deliveries? The reports show a loss of nearly 28 per cent in the large cities, but in the smaller towns the average loss of orders is only about 10 per cent. It takes determined will and hard work to succeed here, the same as elsewhere, but we believe that Great Britain, instead of being a hard field, is proving to be one of the best in the world in which to sell our books.

The Lord is preparing the way before his people for the spread of this precious truth, and we have no reason to think that he has passed by the British Isles. On the other hand, we have many evidences of his special help, and we give him the glory for all that is being done. But our greatest need at the present time is more workers. In Great Britain and Ireland there is a population of about 40,000,000, or nearly two thirds that of the United States. Excluding London, with its 4,300,000, which is larger than the three largest cities in the United States combined, there are four cities with a population above 500,000; thirty containing over 100,000, and forty-three with over 75,000. The country is dotted with smaller places, which are rich fields for the canvasser. But at present we have less than one agent to each million of the population. If we had abundant resources here from which to draw recruits, the prospect would be more hopeful, but the total number of our people in this field is only about two hundred.

Who of our brethren and sisters that read this are willing to say as did the prophet of old, "Here am I, Lord, send me"? What if we do have to say "good-by" to our friends? What if we do have to tear away from associations near and dear to us?

"A little while, our Lord shall come;

Let us the precious hours redeem,

Our only grief to give him pain,

Our joy to serve and follow him.

"A little while,—'t will soon be past,

Why should we shun the shame and cross;

O let us in his footsteps haste,

Counting for him all else but loss."

Birmingham, England.

N. Z. TOWN.

THE CANVASSING WORK IN SWEDEN.

THE canvassing work has been prospering. The book sales during the year amounted to \$6235.57. During the last six months, orders have been taken amounting to \$6249.46, and books delivered amounting to \$4012.68. In January last, we got the new book, "Bible Readings," and 2190 orders have already been taken. This is very encouraging, and we hope that the book sales this year will far exceed the sale of any year previous.

The canvassers have had many interesting experiences which we cannot here take space to mention. One interesting case is that of a young policeman, who had been an infidel. Last winter he became converted. Having found the Saviour himself, he longed to make him known to others, and so he wanted to go out canvassing. Having a good income as policeman, and a family to support, this was no small step to take. But in May last he left his work and his family in Stockholm, and went out hopeful and happy to engage in the canvassing work. He began taking orders for "Prophecies of Jesus," and has had remarkable success.

E. J. ÅHREN.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

THE past month has not been wanting in last-day disturbances in our part of the field. While thousands of Pennsylvania troops have been sent home, as many thousands have been called into service in New York on account of labor troubles there. The daily papers, as usual, are filled with the record of mysterious murders and deeds of violence, and just now the dread spirit Cholera is haunting our shores, ready to materialize at any moment. I am glad to announce that we also see the forces of good asserting themselves to some extent in the extension of our work and the conversion of souls.

We are expecting to see a new impetus given to the work as a result of the seven camp-meetings that we are in the midst of just now in our district. Added spiritual power and increased numbers may be the immediate results, and later on, some more extended and thorough courses of instruction for canvassers than we have been in the habit of having in the past. The necessity of these longer courses seems evident to all, and provision is being made for them. We are anxious to increase the volume of our work and to make improvement in every way; hence suggestions to this end from any of the readers of the HOME MISSIONARY would be greatly appreciated.

E. E. MILES, *Dist. Agt.*

43 Bond St., New York.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

ALL who are watching the progress of the canvassing work in this field, will not fail to see that it is moving steadily forward.

We have just closed two of the best canvassers' institutes that have ever been held in this district. At the one in Atlanta, Ga., we had fifty canvassers present. Five States were represented. Also the Cumberland mission field.

At the close of the meeting in De Leon Springs, Fla., twenty canvassers entered the work. Florida certainly has her share of the workers, and they express themselves determined to do all they can to induce others to enter the field. They do not ask for help from other States, but propose to develop it among themselves. I like their spirit, and can only say, Go on, brethren.

Brethren Mead and Curtis were present at both meetings, and their instruction was right to the point. All expressed themselves well pleased. It was just what was needed. We were very thankful to have Brother Mead with us so long, and trust that this may not be his last trip South. We were somewhat disappointed that Elder Kilgore could not be with us, but Elders Wilson and Crisler took his place. They conducted the morning and evening meetings, which were precious seasons to us and will be long remembered by those present.

I am now in Florida, and will remain here until

September 10. It was thought best for me to remain and help Brother Page drill and instruct some of the new workers.

The prospect for getting the truth before the people of the South was never better. Crops are generally good, and notwithstanding the low prices paid for cotton, all our agents are doing good work in securing orders for their fall delivery.

The Lord is blessing us, and we hope that our brethren in the North and West will not lose their burden for the Southern field; for we believe there are many honest people only waiting to have the truth brought to them, who, after receiving, will help us send the message. In North Carolina we have not a single worker, and in Mississippi we have but one.

Where are the young men who will pay their own way to these States, and who have the moral backbone to stick to the work? Will some one respond? If so, we will give you a hearty welcome among us; but we will not recommend that you come South for your health, but come to stay, — come to work.

A. F. HARRISON.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

THE steady, confident tread of the canvasser is still heard throughout the district. The experience of the past few months proves that there is a power for those who engage in the Lord's work, which can endure floods, and storms, and "heated terms," and be ready for better and more effective work when the elements are more favorable. True, there were those who quit work during the season because it was "too wet" or "too hot," and they are still waiting for a more favorable time. But it is as true now as it was three thousand years ago that the Lord does not depend upon great numbers to do his work. He is still saying: "What man is there that is fearful and faint-hearted? let him go and return unto his house, lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart."

So if the Lord sends some home who have signed contracts to work six months, we know he can be honored more by the character of the work done than by great numbers. The same power that gave the victory to Gideon, and the three hundred who were with him, will give it now.

Many who went out the past season are young in life, and the only preparation they received was two weeks at an institute. Some of these, as well as more experienced workers, are preparing to go to Battle Creek to school this year.

But there are those throughout the district who desire to become better fitted for the work, who cannot get the means now to pay tuition and board. For the benefit of such, one Conference has already decided to hold a canvassers' school, and we trust other Conferences in the district will follow the example. The Saviour's words in Luke 10:2 are still ringing in our ears, and we know when "the Lord of the harvest" sends out laborers, they will not return to build a new house, or dedicate one that is already

built. Neither will they marry a wife that cannot go with them, nor buy a piece of land, or oxen to be proved.

There is territory in our own district yet unoccupied, but it would do some of our workers good to heed the "Macedonian cry" which has been coming from District No. 2 for years.

But who will go, and who shall we send? Four camp-meetings have been held in the district during the month of August, which have been largely attended by canvassers. This will account for the report not being larger. But we believe the most favorable portion of the season is just before us, and by employing diligence and energy in proportion to the importance of the work intrusted to us, we expect great things during the next four months.

R. B. CRAIG.

ORDERING AND DELIVERING BOOKS.

THE next three months will be very important ones for a large number of our canvassers, as during this time they will be delivering the books for which they have been taking orders during the past two to six months, and much depends upon the manner in which they enter upon the work whether they are successful or not.

The farmer counts his work according to the amount of his harvest. So with the canvasser, he is successful according to his delivery. This is his harvest.

To insure a good delivery, one should take good, reliable orders, and have a clear understanding with the customer in regard to the time when the book is to be delivered, the price of the book, etc.

In order that nothing be left undone which would administer to one's success in delivering, every canvasser should carefully heed the following suggestions:—

1. Be sure to order your books in time for them to reach you before the time of delivery begins.
2. In ordering, be careful to order just what is desired, using the order blanks for this purpose.
3. Keep a copy of the order, so if mistakes occur, you will know just what you ordered, and all about it.
4. Give specific shipping directions as to which railroad you desire your books to come over. Great difficulty is often experienced for neglecting to state what route the books should take, especially if they have to pass through "transfers," like Chicago, St. Louis, or the Minnesota transfer in Minneapolis. If this is done properly, the books will get through in short time, but if not, they are very liable to be greatly delayed. What is said of the above transfer points, is equally true of other important transfer points.
5. After you have received your books, before taking out any to deliver, go through the whole lot, and see if they correspond with the order sent, and the bill you have received from the tract society. If the order is correct, report that fact to the tract society at once. If the order is not according to the

bill sent, have a friend go over the count with you, and then report at once any inaccuracies you may discover. This will save much annoyance, which otherwise is liable to occur.

POSTPONING DELIVERIES.

Do not postpone the delivery of a book if it can possibly be avoided in a proper manner; but if you find it necessary to postpone a few orders, have each customer pay you fifty cents or more on the book, as a guarantee of good faith that they will take it when you come the next time. Do not threaten to take the law, and thereby force any one to take the book. Such a course is a reproach to the canvassing work and every one connected with it.

F. L. M.

THE CALL TO LABOR.

THE life of a nation comes and goes, each century forming a period of more or less importance in the nation's progress and achievements. We are now closing the fourth century of American history, and it is the grandest and most wonderful century of the world's existence. This century has accomplished more in human progress than all other centuries combined. Since the world began, there has not been so remarkable a manifestation of divine providence as the discovery of America, and the establishment on this continent, of universal liberty.

Here we pause, as we realize the fact that the world is soon to be deprived of its liberty. The great prophetic truths are being fulfilled, and we are just upon the dawn of eternity. It is magnificent, sublime, as we look by faith into the near future and see the blessed Redeemer gathering his faithful people home; but so many are going down without hope. What a lamentable scene, indeed, to look upon! The question is, What are *we* doing? God has called us to a work, and given us a means by which we can reach the lost and hopeless. In view of this, which should have the greater weight, the needs of the people or the needs of ourselves? The making of money or the salvation of souls? The perishable wealth or that which is imperishable? These are vital questions and may God help us to answer them as we will wish we had in the day of judgment.

We find in Matt. 10:16, "Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." This is the Saviour's instruction. Serpents and doves are striking emblems of wisdom and innocency. Probably the thing in which Christ directed his followers to imitate the serpent, was in its tact and caution in accomplishing its purpose; and by imitating doves, was meant to avoid doing injury, thus making their fellowmen justly angry against them. We see how the Saviour used tact in meeting the people, and we should always be careful and not mistake craftiness for tact; for there is a vast difference between the two. But as we study his word, we will partake of his Spirit and be led to do as he did. Thus it will be his will wrought in us. W. H. THURSTON.

REPORT OF THE CANVASSING WORK FOR AUGUST, 1892.

	STATE.	No. canvassers	Av. No. of Reports.	Days.	Hours.	Books Deliv'd.	Value.	Orders Taken.	Value.	Miscel. Sales.	Total Value.	Total for Dists.
Dist. No. 1.	Atlantic.....	25	....	246	1,290	846	.....	710	\$1,917 45	\$91 45	\$2,008 90	
	Maine.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Maritime Prov.	11	8	128	767	16	\$ 41 00	491	1,151 50	.....	1,151 50	
	New England ...	29	23	447	2,298	396	1,040 25	1,014	2,524 50	25 45	2,549 95	
	New York	19	19	332	2,326	612	1,249 45	1,506	3,757 75	45 25	3,803 00	
	Pennsylvania.....	44	21 1/2	387	2,064	463	.....	1,099	2,543 30	230 32	2,773 62	
	Quebec.....	7	5 1/2	91	540	58	118 25	205	393 25	11 45	494 70	
	Virginia.....	75	5	78	410	165	389 50	285	725 25	64 15	1,178 90	
	Vermont.....	21	13	190	1,250	218	.....	643	1,573 75	28 20	1,601 95	
	West Virginia .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$15,562 52
No. 2.	Alabama.....	9	5 1/2	92	737	194	340 75	264	550 25	8 55	558 50	
	Cumb. Mts. Field.	10	4	70	659	67	141 75	158	349 00	7 11	365 11	
	Florida.....	10	4 1/2	83	666	203	493 75	183	518 99	3 15	522 13	
	Georgia.....	26	10 1/2	179	1,429	197	495 25	587	1,427 00	23 47	1,450 47	
	Louisiana.....	7	5	116	926	98	231 00	608	1,229 00	11 75	1,240 75	
	Mississippi.....	1	.....	2	18	.....	.....	8	15 00	.....	.....
	North Carolina..	7	1 1/2	12	96	33	72 00	8	16 00	35	16 35	
	Tennessee River..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,183 31
	Indiana.....	25	16	261	1,699	384	981 40	558	1,385 60	.....	1,385 60	
	Illinois.....	46	.....	176	884	376	1,001 50	553	1,398 00	.....	1,398 00	
No. 3.	Michigan.....	35	26	385	2,302	481	1,249 46	833	2,187 75	59 80	2,247 75	
	Ohio.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Ontario.....	42	28 1/2	435	2,803	274	680 00	1,400	3,310 25	.....	3,310 25	8,341 60
	So. Dakota.....	15	13	.....	2,532	.....	52 75	989	2,535 00	72 20	2,607 25	
	Iowa.....	.....	25	422	.....	144	368 75	1,319	3,317 69	164 65	3,422 34	
	Manitoba.....	4	4	80	706	1	2 50	432	1,020 00	.....	1,020 00	
	Minnesota.....	49	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,347	8,136 40	.....	8,136 40	
	Nebraska.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Wisconsin.....	38	25	325	1,912	409	1,112 00	679	1,588 00	34 35	1,622 35	16,808 34
	Arkansas.....	11	2	88	520	7	15 50	358	739 50	25 50	765 00	
No. 4.	Indian Territory..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Kansas.....	35	.....	481	3,790	703	1,769 75	746	2,435 50	122 77	2,568 27	
	Missouri.....	47	39	428	3,132	330	790 25	878	2,161 00	221 70	2,382 70	
	Texas.....	16	8	66	412	24	64 70	218	614 75	12 15	626 90	
	Colorado.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,342 87
	California.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	602	1,954 70	1,027	3,627 95	143 10	3,771 05	
	North Pacific.....	12	9	149	1,033	.....	.....	421	1,152 50	.....	1,152 50	
	Upper Columbia..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,923 55
	Great Britain ...	39	27	419	2,775	.....	.....	1,291	2,803 87	.....	3,803 87	
	Germany.....	12	.....	191	1,396	.....	.....	308	383 00	75 00	458 00	
For'n.	Central Europe.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	South Africa.....	14	11	155	601	380	1,185 41	540	2,116 24	.....	2,116 24	
	Australia.....	37	27	435	2,088	801	2,981 16	1,371	4,851 14	220 20	5,071 34	
	New Zealand.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Norway.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	So. America.....	1	.....	17	.....	.....	.....	68	241 25	.....	241 25	
	West Indies.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	540 75	.....	540 75	12,231 45
	Totals.....	781	428	6,966	44,061	8,482	18,822 78	25,355	65,238 13	1,702 07	68,393 64	68,393 64

NOTES FROM THE FIELD.

The report for the West Indies is for two months.

Eight Conferences have practically decided to hold a canvassers' school the coming year.

The largest report we have ever seen for one week was from Minnesota for the week ending July 15. Fifty-five agents took orders amounting to \$2476.75.

The canvassers' institutes just closed in District No. 2 were attended by between seventy and eighty

canvassers. We count these among the most successful institutes we have ever attended.

When good farm hands will work from twelve to fifteen hours per day and six days per week, for fifteen dollars to twenty dollars per month, what wages ought a canvasser to expect to earn, who works only from five to fifteen hours per week?

CORRECTION.

IN the tabulated report of last month, District No. 2 was credited with only \$79,365, whereas it should have been \$5129.66. The totals for districts was \$76,099.76; it should have been \$80,435.77.

THE HOME MISSIONARY.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE

INTERNATIONAL TRACT AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Price, 25 cents per year.

W. A. COLCORD, }
W. A. SPICER, } EDITORS.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., SEPTEMBER, 1892.

It is one thing to know God's word by *memory*, and quite another to know it by *heart*.

LETTERS received from workers in all branches of the work and in all parts of the field are courageous and joyful in tone, and tell of richer and deeper personal experiences, and the consciousness of new life and power in the service of the Lord.

A MOST effectual way of reaching the hearts of men to do them good, is through the aches of their bodies. A little kindly attention in cases of sickness is magic in winning the confidence, respect and attention of another. Of Christ it is written that "he healed their sick." Much of his time was spent in this kind of work. By this means he won his way to the hearts of the masses, and "the common people heard him gladly."

THE following clipping from the *Message* does not give a flattering aspect to the official declaration that "this is a Christian Nation:"—

"The neediest mission fields of America are certainly our great cities. Think of the unchallenged statement that three quarters of a million of people in Chicago are without sitting accommodation in all the churches of the city. Think—ininitely worse—of the fact that what church accommodations there are will probably never be crowded."

So the *Church at Home and Abroad* likewise says:—

"The population of San Francisco is about 300,000. The entire seating capacity of all its churches is 55,000. This leaves 245,000 in San Francisco without church privileges."

THE AMERICAN SENTINEL SPECIAL.

THE many developments in the direction of the formation of the image to the beast, during the past few months, have led the publishers of the *American Sentinel* to decide to issue a special number, under date of September 22, that will not only be valuable for the regular subscribers to that paper, but will make a splendid document to place in the hands of those who may not be acquainted with the issues in-

volved in this subject. We greatly desire to have our brethren and sisters in every part of the field make a strong effort to extend the circulation of this special issue of the *Sentinel*. It will be just the thing for you to send to your friends and relatives that you desire to have interested in the truth; and above all, it should be placed in the hands of all your neighbors, and persons living about you as far as your opportunities will allow you to reach them.

For orders for one hundred or more, this issue of the *Sentinel* will be sent out at the rate of one cent each, and if our brethren and sisters will take a special interest in circulating it, it may result in securing a large number of permanent subscribers to this important paper. Send your orders to your State tract societies where possible. Orders may also be sent directly to the *Sentinel*, 43 Bond St., New York.

We trust that the friends of the cause in all parts of the field will take a live interest in circulating as many copies of this number of the *Sentinel* as they possibly can. The matter that it will contain will be the choicest and strongest that the editors can write upon these live issues. The work is very important, and we trust that every one will feel it a privilege and duty to bear a part in it.

A. O. TAIT.



Chicago & Grand Trunk R. R.

Time Table, in Effect June 26, 1892.

GOING WEST.				STATIONS.		GOING EAST.			
p m	a m	a m	p m			a m	p m	a m	p m
7.15	3.00	12.00	7.00	.....	Boston.....	7.00	8.00	9.25	.....
9.45	6.00	8.30	8.00	.....	.....New York.....	9.55	7.40	5.07	.....
a m	a m	a m	p m	.....	.....Buffalo.....	8.40	5.60	4.20	.....
12.10	6.20	6.25	1.00	.....	.....Niagara Falls.....	a m	p m	a m	.....
a m	a m	a m	p m	.....	.....Boston.....	7.30	4.10	3.10	.....
1.35	7.45	8.00	2.45	.....	.....Montreal.....	8.05	9.50	.....	.....
a m	.....	p noon	.....	.....	.....Toronto.....	8.00	7.00	.....	.....
8.30	.....	3.00	12.00	.....	.....Detroit.....	a m	p m	.....	.....
a m	p m	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.35	5.25	.....	.....
9.30	8.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
p m	.....	p m	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11.30	.....	8.00	.....	.....	.....	9.25	7.45	9.25	.....
.....
Day	R. C.	Lmd	Pacific	.....	.....	Mail	Lmd	Atle	Day
Pass.	Pass.	Exp.	Exp.	.....	.....	Exp.	Exp.	Exp.	Pass.
am	pm	pm	pm	.....	am Dep.	pm Arr.	am	am	pm
6.50	8.49	12.22	8.40	.....	.....Port Huron.....	10.01	.....	.....	12.10
8.05	5.10	1.27	10.07	.....	.....Port Huron Tunnel.....	9.56	12.25	7.30	8.50
8.35	5.47	1.55	10.47	.....	.....Lapeer.....	8.15	11.20	6.15	7.35
.....	4.05	.....	8.00	.....	.....Flint.....	7.30	10.47	5.40	7.05
7.15	4.40	.....	8.25	.....	.....Detroit.....	9.25	.....	7.45	9.25
7.50	5.15	.....	9.00	.....	.....Bay City.....	8.37	.....	7.15	8.37
9.05	6.50	2.22	11.20	.....	.....Saginaw.....	6.50	.....	6.40	8.00
10.02	7.55	3.07	12.20	.....	.....Durand.....	6.50	7.20	5.03	6.35
10.29	8.30	3.24	12.52	.....	.....Lansing.....	5.10	9.30	4.00	5.40
11.15	9.25	4.15	1.50	.....	.....Charlotte.....	4.34	9.01	8.25	5.11
11.53	pm	.....	2.35	.....	.....BATTLE CREEK.....	9.40	8.20	2.40	4.30
12.40	.....	6.45	8.30	.....	.....Vicksburg.....	2.33	7.40	1.48	.....
1.20	.....	6.20	4.10	.....	.....Schoolcraft.....	2.21	.....	.....	am
2.45	.....	7.35	5.45	.....	.....Cassopolis.....	1.25	6.58	12.45	8.07
4.50	.....	9.30	8.00	.....	.....South Bend.....	12.45	6.20	12.00	2.35
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....Valparaiso.....	11.10	5.00	10.30	1.20
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....Chicago.....	8.40	3.00	8.15	11.25
p m	pm	am	pm	.....	.....	Dep.	am	pm	pm

Where no time is given, train does not stop.
Trains run by Central Standard Time.
Valparaiso Accommodation, Battle Creek Passenger, Port Huron Passenger, and Mail trains, daily except Sunday.
Pacific Limited, Day, and Atlantic Expresses, daily.
Meals served in C. & G. T. Dining Cars on all through trains.
W. E. DAVIS, Ticket Agt., Chicago.
A. S. PARKER, Ticket Agt., Battle Creek.