

Missionary

“ Nothing to do.”

“ ‘ NOTHING to do,’ in this world of ours,
Where weeds spring up with the fairest flowers,
Where smiles have only a fitful play,
Where hearts are breaking every day?
‘ Nothing to do,’ thou Christian soul,
Wrapping thee round in thy selfish stole?
Off with the garments of sloth and sin ;
Christ thy Lord hath a kingdom to win.”

Council Meetings.

WE received a cable stating that Brother Booth, from Nyassaland Mission would reach Cape Town by March 19; and at that time Brother Freeman, of Basutoland Mission, was to be here also: this led us to consider the advisability of holding a council regarding our native work. Brother Anderson, of the Matabeleland Mission, was still at Grahams-town, so we invited him to spend a few days with us. Having these brethren of experience, also a number of our brethren living here, we took up the study of the field and the best methods to get the truth before the millions of Africa. From March 19 to 26, inclusive, we held seven meetings, and we feel sure that the time was spent profitably.

The impression prevailed that it is better to plant a few mission stations which are well equipped rather than to have a larger number of small stations. Many of the natives desire education, and they will go where it can be had. To go 400 or 500 miles is a small thing for the one who is thirsting to obtain knowledge. Accordingly, it was considered best to establish a few centres, and there raise the standard and give the native the opportunity to get a good education.

The Council recommended that the Home

Board take this matter into consideration and plan for six stations along the east coast and north of the Zambesi. One of these is now located in Nyassaland, and another is being provided for in German East Africa by our German brethren. Four others were recommended to be located in Nyassaland, Abyssinia, Upper Nile, and Madagascar. To these great centres it is believed the natives will come, providing we offer them the knowledge desired; and, having obtained it, also a knowledge of the truth, many will return to teach it to their people. Thus the truth will be scattered all through these sections.

In order that we may be able to accomplish this, it was advised that we teach the native to read and write his own language, and then offer him an education in the English language, corresponding to the sixth or seventh standard. This will put the key in the hand of the native who desires an education whereby he can unlock the fountains of knowledge stored up in the English language.

Brother Booth desires to open a station in Uganda, and has gone to England to raise the necessary funds. The Council advised that the work of Brother Freeman in Basutoland be strengthened, and another teacher be sent to assist him. As we are expecting some teachers to be sent from America soon, we hope to see a mission opened ere long in Khama's country.

There is a great work to be done, but it will take both men and money. But the message must go, and it is our privilege to go with it on to victory. The Lord has great resources upon which to draw to perform His work, but He has made it possible that you and I may have a part in it.

W. S. HYATT

Parting Words.

It will doubtless be a surprise to our people in South Africa to learn that the writer feels compelled to retire, at least for a time, from active work in this needy field. It will therefore be due that reasons be given for this change in my plans and work.

The question of remaining in Africa or going elsewhere, has been one of the most difficult that I have ever been called upon to decide. For about 18 years my life has been bound up with the work of the Lord in the earth,—the giving of the last message to the world. Once during that time my health gave way so completely that it seemed necessary to follow the healthful occupation of farming for a time, which, after a few months, had the desired effect of renewing my youthful vigour, and for 13 years since I have kept steadily on in giving the message. Shortly after coming to Africa, I felt that my health was in a state of decline, but thinking that I would soon become adjusted to the climate, I continued my work, meanwhile taking care of my health, but frequently feeling depressed because I could not rally more energy to put into the Lord's service. Physical weakness has greatly hindered my work, and made me feel incompetent for public effort. It has also seemed to me that I was receiving funds for the support of my family from the Lord's treasury without giving a just equivalent in fruitful labour.

After about two years spent in this way, I have concluded that I must have a change from mental work for a time, in order that I may regain my health, and then again connect actively with the work, and, I trust, continue until the last gospel work is done for the human family. Or, it may be that a change to a colder climate will enable me to continue in the work that is dearest to my soul.

I have seriously considered going on to a farm for a few months here in Africa, but have feared that my mind would not be at rest until I could see the Mission Board in America, in person, and make an appeal for Africa. This will be my first work on landing in America.

If I am not doing all that another could for the advancement of the message, then I am

in a sense a hindrance to the progress of the cause. I pray that help may be speedily secured for South Africa that will put such energy into the work that a new life and vitality will permeate our work in this whole field. The pace for a conference is largely set by its president. I preach that our workers should be producers and not consumers. Why should I not practice what I preach?

After making an earnest appeal for Africa, and after as brief a vacation from mental work as may be necessary to restore my usual vigour, I am willing to return to Africa, if it is thought best.

As I go away from the shores of Africa, I shall feel the deepest regret that I cannot continue my work in this field, but shall hope and pray that I may do more for the cause here by going and securing more efficient help than by remaining.

I trust that all of our people will be of good courage, and trust more fully than heretofore in Him who has said that "He will not fail nor be discouraged till He has set righteousness in the earth." Let us look forward with glad anticipation to the time when the final reunion of God's faithful ones will take place, when none of the inhabitants of that blest land shall ever say, "I am sick."

G. W. REASER.

Cape Conference Notice.

AT a recent meeting of the conference committee, Brother E. A. Ingle was chosen chairman, to take the place made vacant by the resignation of the writer.

Local committees were chosen to have the oversight of local institutions. All conference correspondence should be addressed to Brother O. O. Fortner. It is hoped that all individuals and societies indebted to our Tract Society, will remit promptly, and that all tithe due will be remitted at once, as funds are very low.

Praying the fulness of heaven's blessing to rest upon all of God's people in South Africa, and trusting to return to you, I remain yours in Christian fellowship. G. W. REASER.

Elder G. W. Reaser and family, Bro. and Sister Gaskell and child, Sister Van Coller and three children, and Sister Stapleford, went aboard the S. S. "Saxon" on the 8th inst.

The Field

Among The Churches.

DURING the early part of March, the writer had the privilege of a hurried visit to Kimberly, Klipdam, Graham's Town and Rokeby Park.

The trip to the northern portion of our Conference, was made at the request of the conference committee, to look after certain business interests, especially the suggested improvements to the Kimberly Baths. The journey was made much more pleasant by the companionship of Brother Mason, whose council in business matters was much appreciated. We found the treatment rooms at Kimberly in an encouraging condition, although as we expected, the patronage has not been large during the extreme hot months of summer.

Sister Wilson has returned to fill her important sphere in connection with the Baths, after a short, but much needed vacation.

It is hoped that arrangements can be made soon for the completion of the buildings and for the installation of more complete facilities for the treatment of both sexes who desire to avail themselves of the benefits of this health-recruiting institution.

A very pleasant Sabbath was spent with the Kimberly Church, as well as an enjoyable visit at the house of brother Austin. Brother Ticton is doing an excellent work in organising the children for missionary work. We formed our first acquaintance with the majority of our people at Klipdam, where we were made welcome to the home and by the kind hospitality of brother and sister Honey. We were glad to learn that nine of our people still remain to hold Sabbath meetings in our neat little church building at Klipdam, and that they greatly enjoy their services. The precariousness of diamond digging, as witnessed at Klipdam, illustrates the uncertainty of building hopes on earthly treasure, instead of seeking the eternal and unfailing riches of the kingdom of God.

From Kimberly we went to Graham's Town which was our first visit to the famous old

English Town, where we were met by Bro. David Sparrow, and kindly entertained at his home. Bro. Sparrow is planning to arrange his business affairs as quickly as possible, so that he can join Elder Edmed in the work in Natal.

Our journey from Graham's Town to Rokeby Park was made on the Port Alfred train, in the midst of a heavy rain, which was most welcome to the farmers, whose crops have suffered much from drought during the past season.

We remained with our people at Rokeby over Sabbath and Sunday, during which time brother Anderson and the writer held four well attended meetings.

I have seen no place in Africa which reminded me so much of some of the farming districts in western America, as the Rokeby district, and yet the difference in the kinds of crops grown, and the presence of the ostrich convinced me that I was in Africa. Two thoughts were forced upon our minds while at Rokeby; First, the possibilities for the development of workers from our young people there, if they only have a training for the work. Second, the opportunity of our brethren there who speak the Kaffir tongue so fluently, of saving souls for whom Christ died, from among these brothers of ours, whose skin is darker than our own.

May both of these swift passing opportunities be improved to the glory of God.

Would that we had fifty such strong country churches in Cape Colony as the one at Rokeby Park, and yet strength is only retained by exercise.

Our people at Rokeby have very kindly offered to entertain our missionaries from Rhodesia who are compelled to seek a more healthful climate for occasional vacations.

G. W. Reaser.

Bloemfontein.

WHEN I came to Bloemfontein, the latter part of February, I was disappointed to learn that all the interested ones had left for their homes in other parts of the country, as they had all resided in the refugee camps which had recently been broken up. Some had gone to Johannesburg, and some to their homes in different parts of the Orange River

Colony. I looked the field over, and after talking the matter over with Sister Wocke, who told me that all who were interested had left, I decided to begin holding Bible studies in her house, inviting Sister Court, who had just recently come from the Cape.

One and sometimes two outside of our ranks have attended nearly all the studies, which have been and continue to be a season of refreshing to us all. I had hoped to receive books and tracts from the office soon after arriving here, as I had written for some previous to coming here; but they did not reach me until March 23, just a month after I arrived. In this delay Satan seems to have been seeking to hedge up the way and to discourage me, for no sooner did the books arrive than I was taken with influenza, which kept me for a whole week unable to do anything. but I knew the Lord had a care over His own work, and over me who am the least of all His children and not worthy of the name. So on March 31 I felt well enough to go out to canvass, and the Lord blessed abundantly both in taking orders for "Coming King and speaking to the people. I hope in the near future, as I become a little acquainted with the people, to devote some time on Sundays to doing tract work, and through canvassing and tract work I trust soon to have my time employed holding Bible studies with families and also giving individual Bible readings. I believe canvassing is one of the best means of becoming acquainted with the people, as well as of placing precious truth in their homes.

I am glad Sister Wocke has also felt encouraged to give a little time, as she can spare it, to canvassing. The Lord is blessing her, and she is netting a good experience, and her courage is good. I believe if all our dear sisters would take a little time each week to carry precious seeds of truth to those who do not yet know and enjoy this "blessed hope" (Titus 2 : 13) instead of gossiping and criticising other people's actions, they would enjoy a far richer experience in the things of God, and they would have something to talk about to cheer and encourage the hearts of those who are discouraged. The end of all things is at hand! The Lord grant we may all realise this, and consecrate ourselves to His service to hasten that glad day, saying with our lives, "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly."

G. W. SHONE.

Natal-Transvaal.

THE readers of the MISSIONARY, who have ever travelled long distances by sea, will doubtless have experienced a feeling of hopeful joy, as they have been told that their journey is nearly over, and that a few more days will suffice for its completion. Is not this Message in which we have a part, like a storm tossed vessel nearing her desired haven, and should not we all lift up our hearts in gratitude to God as we see mile after mile of our voyage accomplished? Yes, we are the crew of the vessel, and God has placed it in our power to hasten her voyage. We all may fill some humble part,—the humblest is needed—and if faithful to our Master, shall receive our reward at the journey's end. Every order taken by the canvasser, every soul reached, every reading held by our Bible workers, every prayer offered by the faithful heart, is another shovel of coal thrown into the furnace to raise the steam necessary to speed the vessel on her way, and helps to hasten the voyage.

How good it is, then, to read the reports of crew's labours, from month to month in our MISSIONARY! How our hearts should rejoice as we realise that these efforts will not be fruitless, and that every soul reached means one less to reach.

We are encouraged by the good reports which come in from our agents week by week, and as we hear from them of precious souls reached, we pray that God will bless our faithful canvassers, and lead them to those who are starving for truth. Our work has prospered this month, under the blessing of God, and 293 orders have been taken by our agents. This means the truth in some phase is presented to at least that many homes, and so the message speeds on.

We are glad to welcome several new workers into our corps, and we trust that next month may find the number again increased. All are of good heart, and rejoicing in their labours. We ask that the prayers of all God's people may follow the canvassers. Help us, brethren, with your prayers, and you will share the blessing.

C. H. PRETYMAN.

Elder Hyatt expects to leave next week with Elder Freeman for Basutoland.

Johannesburg.

I am so glad that I am able to communicate with other labourers in the field through our valuable paper, the MISSIONARY. I can assure you I look forward to its visit every month with much joy. I was so glad to see from Eler Reaser's report that so many were offering themselves for the South African field. I am sure there is plenty of work. Truly, as the Saviour said, the fields are already white even unto the harvest.

I am full of gratitude to the Lord for the way He has blessed me and made me a blessing to many others. Truly there is a great work to do, even in the medical missionary work. This week I took a lot of the *Sentinels* and *Health Journals*, and found a very ready sale for them. I can assure you they are much appreciated, and when I tell the ladies they are printed by our College students, they seem more pleased to take them. Several have paid me for a quarter, and I shall mail them each month to them.

I only work on an average of 4 hours a day, and by my reports you can see the Lord does bless me. I had the misfortune to sprain my foot in my last delivery, and think it better not to work too long hours. The roads here are in a fearful condition; still amid it all I am of good courage and can say, "All my life long have my steps been attended, surely by One who hath regarded my ways."

As ever your sister in the Master's work,
C. HOWARD.

• Our Sabbath Schools. •

Singing.

I have been thinking for some time that I should like to say something about our singing in Sabbath School. We all look upon it as a part of our worship but sometimes as I listen I wonder if God accepts it as such.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord and to *sing* praises unto thy name O most High." Psalms 95 tells us to "come before His presence with thanksgiving and make a *joyful* noise unto Him with Psalms."

Ps. 96 tells us we are to "sing unto the Lord." Psalm 98, "make a *joyful* noise, make a *loud* noise, *rejoice* and sing praises." There are so many texts referring to our singing and the manner in which we should do it, but, I think Psalm 47, gives the reason why so many times the singing is such a failure. The seventh verse: "sing ye praises with UNDERSTANDING." I wonder if it can be possible that we let the beautiful words roll off our tongues without comprehending their meaning, and just dwindle along intent only on the sounds we are making?

A singing master tells us to open our mouths. Some sing with the teeth closed, thus making a sound resembling singing through a comb, a sort of amusement very dear to the hearts of children. Others, well calculated by voice to take a leading part, will lap one word over onto the next, prolonging the tones, keeping in that way a few notes behind the leader, while others are frightened to sing up to time, fearing lest God will be dishonoured by their "singing fast" as they term it. We can never get any life into our singing while while we drone and sleep over it. In consequence of all these things the singing drags, we are not refreshed and God is dishonoured.

We are to look up and rejoice for "the Lord taketh pleasure in his people."

When I hear that soul stirring hymn "Revive us again" sung to the time of the Dead March in Saul, I, for one, am not much revived. And I would be glad if we could sing more of the Advent Hymns. Let the children learn them and catch the advent spirit that breaths in every word.

Let us remember each Sabbath as we arise to our feet to sing, that the angels are with us, and coming, as they do, from where all is order and sweet harmony, let us strive to sing up to time and with the spirit and the understanding. What must their record be as they look upon us standing half asleep and droning out our hymns? Why should we be sad? We ought to be happy and bright, making "a joyful noise" unto the Lord. Let us all work together to improve this part of our worship.

I. M. MASON.

—Elder Tarr's report came in late and we gave it the space intended for the Printed Page.

Educational.

Our Needs.

WE fully believe that our brethren throughout Africa are in full sympathy with the work of Union College, and that we can claim this sympathy as long as the institution keeps in the straight path of the message. We believe also that God has a purpose in the College, not yet fully realised since its existence, viz., to train the youth for His service; to train them not only mentally, but spiritually and physically as well. The College was established, then, to give our young people an all-round development that will make them practical and valuable workers for God.

Every department of the College contributes towards this training. In fact the schooling begins with the rising bell, and only closes with the retiring bell. The time spent in the class rooms during the day is but a small portion of the training. In the kitchen, dining-room, and laundry; on the farm, at meal times, doing their private room work, etc., are valuable parts of the student's training, much more important than mere book learning. Such training develops self-reliant and practical young people.

How important, then, that every department of this institution should be fully equipped with the best appliances! Good workmanship is not turned out with poor tools. The kitchen should possess a good stove, the laundry good tubs and plenty of hot water, the dining room should be a model of completeness, and the class rooms should contain all that is necessary to fully illustrate and explain every subject taught.

The Union College is far from being this ideal training school. There are many things sadly needed,—actual necessities that cannot be dispensed with—and because we have failed in the past in purchasing them, we make this statement of our needs in the hope that some kind and liberal-hearted brother may supply them or the funds to purchase them.

HOT WATER.—As much as we believe in the principles of hydrotherapy, and as much

as we claim for hot water as a potent agent in health, all we have of it is heated on the stove. For our fifty students in the home there should be hot baths provided at least once a week. In our teaching of simple treatments, a bathroom supplied with hot water and the necessary appliances is indispensable. £25 will fit up a long-wished-for and much-needed system of hot water.

MAPS, BOOKS, ETC.—We are practically destitute of school paraphernalia. Our maps are old and worn and out of date. Physiology charts, manikins, and sections to better illustrate this important study are required. Our library shelves are empty. Good books are wanted. £10 is needed here.

A STOVE.—The most essential adjunct to good cooking is a first class stove. All practical housewives know this. For years the College has suffered with a poor stove. A good second-hand one was purchased recently for £10. The money still remains to be paid.

May God put the desire into the hearts of our brethren to send us practical help, that we may improve the facilities of our school in order that your children may have the best of training.

“The silver is mine, and the gold is mine. Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. The world is mine and the fulness thereof.”

C. H. HAYTON.

THE first quarter of the school year is in the past. God has blessed the school in many ways. A new quarter begins April 22. Are there not more of our young people throughout the Colony ready to join us? Opportunities are offered to a few young men to earn half their way. Write for particulars.

OUR hearts were made glad when on April 6, £350 was paid over to the bond holders as the first instalment on the College debt. Nearly all this money was raised through the sale of “Christ's Object Lessons.” The debt now stands at £2,250. Let us thank the Lord for this good beginning and take courage for the future. Let every one help by selling one or more copies of “Christ's Object Lessons,” and the debt will soon be paid.

Stockenström District.

I HAVE just returned from Blinkwater where I have been holding a series of meetings for the past month, developing the interest created by the labours of Brethren Moko and Haupt. Blinkwater is a farming community situated eight miles from Fort Beaufort and extending about six miles up a beautiful fertile valley.

In order that all might share equally the advantages of the meetings, it was arranged to hold them at three different farm houses. It was gratifying to see the interest manifested; the people coming every night from several miles around to attend the meetings. Never have I enjoyed more freedom in presenting the message; and the people seemed so hungry for the truth that it was difficult to close even after we had been together over an hour and a half.

During the twenty-four days that the meetings continued, twenty-eight sermons were

preached, six Bible readings given, and sixty-six visits made.

On Sunday morning, March 22, a baptismal service was held at the river-side when ten precious souls were buried with their Lord, and rose to walk in newness of life. At this service some were present who had not attended any of the previous meetings; and we were afterwards told that these persons were deeply impressed with the service. Eight others have decided to keep the Sabbath, who expect to be baptised in the near future.

A Sabbath School of twenty-five members was organised with Brother Holmes as superintendent and Brother Woods as secretary. Brother James Moss was chosen treasurer for the company.

The unusual number of young people seeking after spiritual things was to me an evidence that we should lay plans to establish a church school at that place, in order that these youth be saved to the cause of God.

East London,

D. F. TARR.

April 6, 1903.

Cape Colony Canvassing Report for March.

Agent.	Territory.	Book.	Hours	Ord.	Misc.	Value.			Delivery	Value.		
						£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
A. Tickton	Kimberley	G.C.		42	25	32	12	6	44	21	3	6
Mrs. Stapleford	Woodstock	L.G.	50	26	4	29	9	6	26	24	19	0
Miss Austen	Uitenhage	D.A.	28	28	80	37	12	0	4		1	0
G. W. Shone	Bloemfontein	C.K.	20	29	13	8	7	6				
4 Reports.			90	105	122	108	1	6	74	46	3	6

Natal-Transvaal Canvassing Report for March, 1903.

Agent	Territory	Book	Ord.	Value			Value of Helps			Total		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Smith	Johannesburg	H.H.B.	4	6	0	0	18	0		6	18	0
Mrs. Howard	"	"	56	105	0	0				105	0	0
J. H. Camp	Maritzburg	"	22	35	0	0				35	0	0
F. C. Ernst	"	G.C.	82	55	15	0				55	15	0
H. Schmidt	Pretoria	"	86	86	10	0	3	8	6	89	18	6
Mrs. Strachan	Johannesburg	"	7	5	10	0	18	0		6	8	0
Miss Smith	"	"	8	6	2	6	2	2	0	8	4	6
Mrs. Ernst	Maritzburg	C.O.S.	28	6	6	0				6	6	0
8 Reports			293	306	3	6	7	6	6	313	10	0

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SABBATH SCHOOL SEC., Mrs. J. A. Chaney.

—The International Tract Society, Cape Town, has just received a new supply of health foods and health waists.

—The amount of annual offerings received from the Cape Town church at the close of the week of prayer was £32 5s., and from the Claremont church, £16 5s. If all the other churches do as well in proportion, we will have a handsome sum for the support of missions this year.

—Just as the last number of the *MISSIONARY* was coming from the press, Elder A. W. Kuehl and wife arrived at Cape Town. They have been waiting a month for a permit to proceed to Johannesburg. During their enforced stay at the Cape, Elder Kuehl has been doing some work for the German company which is much appreciated.

—We have a supply of small envelopes for distribution to the church members in which the six-pence-per-week offerings may be placed. A suitable inscription is now being printed on these envelopes, after which a

supply will be sent to each church and company in South Africa. The church officers are requested to see that these envelopes are properly distributed each Sabbath, one to each family. The envelopes are to be returned the following Sabbath, with the offerings in them, and a new supply given out.

—Subscribe to the *MISSIONARY*, if you are not already a subscriber; if you receive the paper, then introduce it to others and secure their subscription. There is no better way to enlist their interest in the message for South Africa than to get them to take the paper that tells about the progress of this work. Subscription price, 2/6 per year.

—Brother Willie Commin, who has done good and faithful service in the Cape Town office for two and a half years, has given up his work here in order to help in operating his father's recently-purchased farm near Wellington. In the office we have, besides the writer, Brother F. Hall, whom most of our readers know as a former canvasser, and Brother Wilfred Ingle, of Claremont.

—No doubt our readers will be bitterly disappointed on reading the announcement from Elder Reaser of his return to America. The *MISSIONARY* sincerely regrets the circumstances which caused him to deem it necessary to leave this needy field. We hope that under the beneficial influence of another climate his physical and nervous debility may give way to a fully restored constitution, that his life and talents may be employed in the cause which he loves till the work is finished.

—The *MISSIONARY* learns with many regrets of the death of Elder Uriah Smith, who stood at his post as editor of the *Review and Herald* almost from its beginning. He fell suddenly from a stroke of apoplexy while on his way to the Review office. He had in his pocket an article which he had just written, urging the brethren to loyalty to the third angel's message.

—The address of the Durban branch of the Echo Publishing Company is Holme's and Dunn's Chambers, West Street, Durban. All of our people in Natal and the Transvaal are requested to send to that address for all books and supplies, except periodicals, which may be obtained by addressing the Cape Town office.