

The South African MISSIONARY

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

VOLUME IX.

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The Old Year Has Gone.

THE old year behind us lies prostrate and dead,
Like a corse it has passed to its shadowy bed;
Its pulsations are stilled, and its breathings are o'er,
While its actions will trouble the present no more.
It is shorn of its glory, deprived of its power,
Has gone into the past like a dream of the hour,
A flower that has faded, a vision dispelled,
Or a tree which the axe of the woodman has felled.
No more will the carols which welcomed its birth
Fill the cities with joy and the hamlets with mirth;
For its journey is ended, its conquests are o'er,
And the sound of its songs will be echoed no more;
For it lies like a ship that has sunk in the main,
Ne'er to furrow with zeal Time's ocean again.

Out into the past, like a corse it is hurled
From the garden of life to the shadowy world;
From the breathings of time to eternity's space;
With a pall on its bier and a cloud on its face;
For who will remember its laughter and song,
Its greetings of joy and its lashings of wrong,
The wealth of its harvest, its winter of rain,

Or the touch that revealed both sorrow and pain?
For man is not made to dwell in the past,
To live in its vaults, and be chilled by its blast;
To bask by the fires now losing their glow,
Or be numbed by the thoughts that are colder than snow.
No, life is a battle, there are conquests before
More precious to gain than the ones that are o'er.

Then adieu to the old year! God bless the new!
May its conquests be many, its failures be few;
Its jewels shine brighter, like stars in the night,
Its hopes be inspiring, its actions be right.
Then gird on the armour, well burnish the glaive,
Disdain e're to act like the fearful or slave.
Contest for the welfare of right over wrong,
And drown all despair in your victory's song.
Look well to the Leader who rules in the fight,
There's a God overhead whose actions are right.
There's a crown for the victor, a palm for the brave,
And death for the legions who follow a slave.
Let Truth be forever your watchword and cheer,
Then all will be well at the death of the year.—J. B.

Tithes and Offerings.

WE are now entering upon the new year. The old year has closed. It is a time when most people stop long enough in the bustle of business life to calculate the gains and losses of business during the year. Many consider the question of a closer walk with God. In all of these questions there is one that constantly arises, How have we treated God during the year? He is a partner in all of our business. He gives us the rain, the sunshine, and the soil, which makes possible the raising of crops, and He gives us health for labour in our business. He also gives us the power to get wealth.

Being our business partner we should expect that since He has given so much toward the capital that pro-

duces our income, He would expect a share in the profits. He is operating the greatest business on earth, the giving of the last call of the gospel to the world in this generation. What are His resources? The profits on His investment in our business. For His investment He claims a tenth of the profits on our income, and offerings in proportion as God has prospered us. He says, Ye have robbed me in tithes and offerings. How could we rob God in withholding tithes and offerings if they are not His? Impossible.

Then in closing our accounts for the year let us not forget to settle with our business partner. Let us not rob Him, for He is the principle in the firm. Our future success depends upon maintaining a proper relation with Him. If we treat God

aright in our mutual relations, He assures us that he will open the windows of heaven and pour out in abundance showers of spiritual refreshing. Let us close the year right and start the new year on a basis that all will know that we recognise God in all of our business, and that in the increase a tithe is the Lord's. "It is Holy unto the Lord."

R. C. PORTER.

Content Siding.

As we read the different reports from time to time, it does our hearts good, and we feel that our brethren throughout the country seem to be so filled with good things, desiring to cheer and bless others, and so we also wish to let you know that we are of good courage in the Lord.

Yesterday, Sabbath, was a happy day, and we had a blessed time. Brethren Wild, Van Eden, Klix, Brother and Sister Moller, and some friends spent the day with our family—in all fifteen.

We had our usual Sabbath-school, and in the afternoon Brother Wild led in a Bible study. After he finished he asked if any felt inclined to testify to the goodness of the Lord, and then it seemed as though the Lord came in and we had such a glorious time. I have never felt the Lord nearer.

So you see although we have felt at times that we were cut off from a church, still God is everywhere. Let us hold fast to His truth that binds our hearts together.

R. C. HONEY.

Natal-Transvaal Conference.

SINCE our last report we have taken down our tent, and were thankful for the fine weather given us. The terrific storms that have since visited this city and their destructive workings have demonstrated the wisdom of this step. The last week of the meetings, two more persons decided to step out and embrace this message.

THE Mission family has been increased by Brethren Earnest Freeman, and James Symonds, uniting with us. We now have two tents erected on our grounds for the accommodation of our large family. The work is going nicely forward. Some disappointment was occasioned by the loss of a few orders when the workers' made their first delivery, but we are thankful to God for the large measure of success that has been enjoyed, especially when remembering that it is the first delivery many have made. With but one exception, all paid their way, and had a balance in hand with which to commence the next month's expense.

THE first thousand copies of the new magazine, *The Signs of the Times*, arrived last week, and we are

delighted with it. We sincerely congratulate those responsible for its production, upon the rich merit of their work. Our mission workers greatly enjoy selling it. They have been out only a few hours, and have already sold over four hundred copies.

OUR steam bath works well, and we have given several treatments successively. We expect the donations from this source will support our nurse, Sister Fourie. Her experience is demonstrating the value of mission work experience to our training nurses. Sister Fourie is also one of our best saleswomen.

ELDER W. H. HAUPT reports that three intelligent Zulus have lately embraced the truth through their own private Bible study, in the following way:—They were connected with a Lutheran Mission in Natal, and were in training for the ministry. In studying the Bible they became convinced that they should observe the seventh day Sabbath of God. They inquired of their missionary teacher as to the correctness of their conclusions. The teacher admitted that the Bible enjoins the observance of the seventh day, and allowed them to keep it. Later they found that they were also authorised to work six days, which they began to do. The missionary objected to this, and mildly ordered them to leave the mission. Not thinking that he meant them to leave, they remained until one day the missionary burnt down their homes and gave them into the hands of the police under the charge of insubordination, for which they were incarcerated in prison. Up to this time they did not know of any one else keeping the Sabbath, but while in prison heard of some of our brethren near by, to whom they reported themselves upon being released from jail. They are now in regular employ of Sabbath-keeping farmers. These men also received light on the subject of baptism, and the use of unfermented wine and bread at the Lord's supper, simply from their own study of the Bible.

Is not God paving the way for our mission to be established among the Zulus? "Also, O Judah, He hath set an harvest for thee." Shall we not thrust in the sickle and reap?

ACCOMPANIED by Elder W. H. Haupt, the writer spent last week-end with the little company of believers at Bethal, where we enjoyed a refreshing experience. We held meetings on Friday, Sabbath, and Sunday, and the whole company, with a few visitors, were present at the last meetings. Brethren Gradwell and Richards came in with their families on short notice, travelling eighteen miles in pouring rain by bullock waggon. On Sunday morning we added two new members by baptism, the impressive service being held at the river, where quite a number of the citizens and many natives were present to witness the solemn rite. At the ordinance meeting which followed, after some stirring testimonies, Brother and Sister Mare were received into the church, each member extending spontaneously the right hand of fellowship. At the close of the last meeting, Brother J. J. Kemp and Sister De Beer, were elected to officer the company for the ensuing year. We are grateful to God for the evident growth of this company. The children have planted potatoes and other vegetables in their missionary garden, the proceeds of which will swell the annual offering soon to be taken. We were introduced also to a missionary hen.

DURING the above meetings we were pleased to meet the natives who have accepted the truth at Bethal. They have built a church as far as the walls, but could not place the roof for want of funds with which to purchase the material. Hearing of this the mission family at Johannesburg gave a breakfast thank-offering of £2 3 0, which greatly encouraged the natives. The leader is a very superior native, and seems thoroughly in earnest. He entreated us to baptise him, as also did others. But we suggested that as soon as their build-

ing was completed, we would send some one to hold meetings and instruct them more fully, and then baptise them altogether. This prospect pleased them greatly. They have been true to the message for many months, and we trust that Elder Armitage can soon visit them. We believe he will find in them a suitable constituency for the commencement of the Zulu Mission. We regard this acceptance of the truth by so many natives in one place as an act of divine providence in directing our choice in the location of that mission.

BROTHER and Sister Evelyn Tarr are to be congratulated on the gift of a little daughter on the 4th inst. Sister Tarr will return to Rhodesia next week.

HERRERT J. EDMED.

Notes of Encouragement in the Canvassing Work.

We give a four weeks' report from the following named canvassers in the Natal-Transvaal Conference, also a five weeks' report. These reports came in consecutively; that is, they followed one another and were not picked out from a large number covering much time. The four weeks' reports are: W. J. Williams, £36; E. M. Howard, £40; T. G. Crouch, £47; J. H. de Beer, £50.—Total, £173. The five weeks' reports are: T. G. Crouch, £73; E. Enochson, £81; H. Schmidt, £94; E. van der Molen, £95; Miss C. Dixie, £99.—Total, £442.—Grand total, £615. This record shows an average per week for each worker of £15 worth of orders, which is a good average considering the fact that some of the canvassers are just beginning. One day Sister Dixie secured £7 5 6, Brother Howard £8 5 0, and Brother van der Molen £9 9 6.

Brethren Schmidt and Van der Molen sent in their reports for week ending December 3rd, and the two amounted to £61 18 6.

We also have good news from the

Cape Conference. Brother Jubber is getting the students, Willie George, Eric Smith and Percy Tarr, started in Port Elizabeth. Their first week's work amounted to over £30. Willie George stood first, his report being £14 9 0. Our youngest canvasser in South Africa, Hugh Williams, the fourteen-year-old son of Elder E. R. Williams, is making quite a record in Kimberley with *Coming King*. A few days ago he secured twelve orders, £4 4 0, in eight hours.

The total orders for books and sales of papers since the first of September, in the South African Union Conference, so far as reports show, amount to £1430 8 8.

We have given the above figures not because we wish to emphasise the money side, but because we wish to set forth the wonderful manner in which the Lord is closing His work and fitting us for the home of the saved. Beloved, let us all take our place in this closing work of God.

G. H. CLARK.

Encouraging Reports.

BELOW are a few extracts from personal letters received from some of our students who are in the field endeavouring to earn a scholarship. They speak for themselves, showing what a blessing this work of scattering the pages of truth can be to those who take hold of it. We pass them on hoping they may be an encouragement to others as they have been to us.

From Willie George,—“I am glad of this experience in the field. It is showing me many things wherein I am weak and defective. I am especially enjoying our private studies in the morning. The Lord is blessing us greatly. I am only now realising the blessedness of keeping close to Christ. I want you to remember me in your prayers that the canvassing experience will be the means of taking away those traits of character which are not Christlike, and perfecting in me those which

The Paper Work.

Cape Conference, for week ending Dec. 17, 1909.

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
J. Vermaak,	Uitenhage,	Signs,	40	1 0 0
B. de Beer,	Kopjes, O. R. C.,	Misc,	32	8 1 0
Totals,			72	9 1 0

The Book Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending Dec. 17, 1909.

Name	Place	Book	Hrs	O. ds	Value	Helps	Total	Del'd
E. van der Molen, Nigel,	D. R.	40	13	14 6 6	1 5 0	15 11 6	5 11 0	
H. Schmidt, Volksrase,	D. R.	12	8	8 8 0		8 8 0		
E. M. Howard, Troyeville,	D. R.	27	16	13 9 6		13 9 6		
Mrs. Howard,	} Bezuiden- hout Valley,	D. R.	18½	14	11 6 6		11 6 6	
C. A. Dixie, Jeppestown,		D. R.	25	13	12 3 6		12 3 6	
F. J. Blake, Fairview,	C. K.	29	10	3 0 0		3 0 0	1 4 0	
T. G. Crouch, Melville,	D. R.	39½	13	12 18 0		12 18 0	6 14 6	
Totals, Agents 7			191	87	£75 12 0	1 5 0	70 17 0	13 9 6

Cape Conference, for week ending Dec. 17, 1909.

Philip Evert, Kimberley,	G. C.	24	15	9 15 0		9 15 0		
Lewis Williams, „	G. C.	25	10	6 5 0	7 0	6 12 0		
Irwin Williams, Beaconsf'd,	G. C.	24	14	10 7 0	3 6	10 10 6		
Hugh Williams, Kimberley,	C. K.	23	31	10 17 0		10 17 0	7 0	
W. A. George, P. E'beth,	G. C.	36	9	5 12 6	3 5 0	8 17 6		
Eric Smith, „	G. C.	40	9	5 10 6	4 0 0	9 10 6		
Percy Tarr, „	H. M.	37	15	4 17 6		4 17 6		
M. Schonken,	} Observatory, & W'dstock, P. H.	27	3	9 0		9 0	9 0	
Totals, Agents 8			236	106	£53 13 6	7 15 6	61 9 0	16 0

South African Missionary

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will make me a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. The work is hard but I am enjoying it. Last week I took twenty orders for *Great Controversy* and ten for *Steps to Christ*. The courage of the company is very good."

From Eric Smith,—“Just a line to let you know how the work is going. This week has been very trying. The work seemed especially hard. The Mormons have been all over the town, and both themselves and their work are disliked. We are mistaken for them at almost every door. Our courage is still good. We are ready to press the battle harder.”

From Lillian Lawrence,—“The Magazines came a week ago to-day, and we started work the following Monday. King William's Town is a hard place to sell Adventist literature. Yesterday I sold twenty in an hour and a half. I went to two stores where I had some friends and they took me around to several who took the paper and promised to subscribe if they found it interesting. I have had some fine experiences.”

From Johanna Vermaak,—“As to the papers I have only sold fifty up to the present. I can not say that I am discouraged, as I am gaining an experience that I would not lose for anything in the world, even if I do not succeed in gaining a scholarship. Some people like to argue about the truth and keep me for nearly an hour sometimes bringing up different points of our faith, and the Lord has helped me greatly in laying before them the truth we hold so dear.”

C. P. CRAGER.

Read This, Everybody.

THE Cape Conference treasury is empty. December's salaries are not paid. Ministers and workers can't

go to the camp-meeting unless they have their railway fare at once. Will treasurers and others please send tithe in hand *immediately*.

J. V. Willson, *Treas.*

Roll of Honour.

Previously reported,	17	17	3
R. C. Honey,	1	0	0
Durban Church,	1	0	0
J. G. Cooks,		5	0
B. P. de Beer,		2	6
Gertrude Flather,		2	6
Total,	20	7	3

Another Year.

ANOTHER year is dawning.

Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.

Another year of progress,
Another year of praise;
Another year of proving
Thy presence “all the days.”
—*Frances Ridley Havergal.*

Notes.

—THERE will be no issue of the MISSIONARY on January 17th and 24th on account of the camp-meeting.

—THE UNION COLLEGE PRESS extend to its readers good wishes for a prosperous and a happy new year in the service of Christ.

—A wire from Kimberley on Sabbath informs us of the serious illness of Sister Williams. Prayers are requested. Further notice next week.

—Sister H. C. Olmstead returned to Basutoland on the 28th. She was accompanied the greater part of the way by nurse Henderson who will spend her vacation with relatives.

—Our student canvassers are meeting with good success in their work. The universal testimony is: “I am so glad that I entered this work. The experience is just what I needed.”

—One of the girls at the Solusi Mission was struck with lightning during a storm a few days ago. She

was seriously burned; but hopes are entertained for her recovery.

—Miss Tersha Page, who has been spending some months in America in the interest of her profession, returned home on the 20th. She visited the Washington, and Battle Creek Sanitariums, studying three months at the later place. She was well pleased with America, but better so with Africa.

—Brother Clark, our Union Missionary Agents, says: “This work is simply marvelous in my eyes, and almost every day some one says ‘I want to canvass.’ This shows us that the glad day is soon coming when God's people will be ready to do their work, and enter their appointed home. My heart overflows with gladness that I am in this land, and having a part in hastening the Saviour's coming.”

—Are you a reader of the MISSIONARY? If not, send in your name and address and become one. If you know of any isolated members not receiving it, send in their names. Again we repeat that we desire to reach every family of Sabbath-keepers in the Union. Can you not help to make this possible? If the clubs going out to our churches are insufficient, a notification card will result in its increase. Some inspiring reports along all lines are now coming out, and we want them to inspire every Adventist in South Africa, and to do this we must reach all.

—Elder Rogers writes that the native headman and children are urging the establishment of more schools. The native headman of several villages came to our station and begged for a teacher. Elder Rogers had to tell him that every teacher was engaged. He turned away disappointed, saying he hoped they would give them one soon. Later a good church member offered to go, and the native church was trying to raise money sufficient to pay his salary. Eight shillings were given on the Sabbath by them for this purpose, mostly in pennies, to whom a copper is about like a pound to white people. Thus the fourteenth out-school in Nyasaland was opened with an enrolment of twenty-six.