

The South African MISSIONARY

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

VOLUME XI.

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The Present Situation.

G. W. SHONE.

"THE world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel *has nearly reached its COMPLETE fulfilment.* Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place." (Test Vol. 9. page 14). "God cannot forbear much longer. . . . There will be a series of events revealing that God is Master of the situation" (Id. page 96). "We are on the *very verge* of the time of trouble, and perplexities that are scarcely dreamed of are before us." (Id. p. 43). "Intense earnestness should now take possession of us." "At this time—a time of overwhelming iniquity—a new life, coming from the Source of all life is to take possession of those who have the love of God in their hearts, and they are to go forth to proclaim with power the message of a crucified and risen Saviour." (Id. page 44) "The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and *the final movements will be rapid ones.*" (Id p. 11). "Every church member who has a knowledge of the truth is expected to work while the day lasts. . . . The night is at hand. Let the church arouse and do her appointed work. . . . Eternity stretches before us. The curtain is about to be lifted" (Id. page 26). "We cannot afford in the few days we have here on earth to spend our time in trifling and nothingness." "Only when we seek the Lord as little children, when we cease picking

flaws in our brethren and sisters, and in those who are seeking to carry faithfully the responsibilities of the work, and seek to get our own hearts right with God, can He use us to the glory of His name." (Id. page 106). The end is near, stealing upon us stealthily, imperceptibly, like the noiseless approach of a thief in the night. . . . The truth is soon to triumph gloriously, and all who now choose to be labourers together with God, will triumph with it." (Id. page 135). The foregoing extracts need no comment for they are self-evident. The situation in Turkey to-day means much to us as a people. For years we have been proclaiming to the world that the exit of the Turk from European soil is a sure evidence (based upon the prophecy of Dan. 11: 40-45, 12: 1, 2) that the end of this present age is at hand. Step by step the prophecy concerning this power has been accurately fulfilled, and almost, as with open vision, we can see the last scene in the drama about to be acted. Even though the Lord in His long-suffering mercy should at the crisis step in and save the situation, and Turkey still be allowed to retain part of her European possessions, yet it cannot last much longer. The recent alliance between England and Russia, removes the one great obstacle to Russia's acquiring the coveted possession of Constantinople. England, the source of Turkey's help in the past, has no reason now for intercepting Russia's designs, as an ally, which she had as an enemy. Are we prepared for the issue? Some are looking into the future for the fulfilment of Dan. 11: 40-45, whereas all

has been fulfilled excepting the last verse, which will find its fulfilment when the Turks, driven from Europe, will make Jerusalem their capital city and seat of government. Others, looking from a human standpoint at the great work still to be done before the Lord can come, settle down at their ease, and plan for the future here in this old world. It is a trick of Satan's to get God's people to look too far into the future for the coming of the Lord, and thus neglect the needed preparation, and so that day will come upon them unawares, and find many unprepared. The Lord has never said that every nation, every city, town, and village shall hear the living preacher. Jesus said,—"Ye shall not have gone through the cities of Israel, till the Son of Man be come." (A.R.V. Matt. 10: 23). The Bible has been translated and circulated among all nations. God holds us responsible for doing our part, but the Holy Spirit, through the Bible (Eph. 6: 17) will enlighten minds to see His Truth, where they do not have the privilege of hearing the human messenger. The Lord will work Himself, and cut His work short in righteousness. He will finish His work while many are expecting that there is still much to be done. Are we ready for our cases to come up in the Investigative Judgment? Do we know the experience of living a victorious life, over the sins which have so long held us in bondage? How is it brethren and sisters? Have we been crucified with Christ? Is Gal. 2: 20 our experience? To those who have possessions of houses and lands,—are you placing these at the Lord's

disposal? Soon your wealth will be of no use to either the cause or yourselves. "To those who love God and have means, I am bidden to say, 'NOW is the time for you to invest your means in sustaining the work of the Lord.'" "The money that we refuse to invest in the work of the Lord, will perish." (Vol. 9 page 131). "The Lord NOW calls upon Seventh Day Adventists in every locality to consecrate themselves to Him, and to do their very best, according to their circumstances, to assist His work." (Id. p. 132). We must make haste, and get ready, to meet our Saviour, for we are "Homeward Bound." Blessed Assurance!

Showers of Blessing.

"LORD, we hear of showers of blessing
Thou art scatt'ring full and free."

And not only have we heard, we have felt the copious showers, and our thirsting souls have indeed been refreshed during the past week at the church of "Rustica". For we have passed through a week unprecedented in the history of this little company. The Spirit of the Lord has been at work, hearts have been convicted, and six precious lives have been gleaned for the Master in the course of a few days—almost hours. Three baptismal services have been held in succession, and the impression made upon the hearts of those who witnessed, promises to bear yet further fruit, and that right speedily.

Six weeks ago Miss Harvey, an invalid, came down to "Rustica" in search of health. She had some little knowledge of the Message through reading our papers, and her mind was searching for the full revelation of Gospel Truth. Spending much time in study, the light soon found an entrance into her heart, and on Friday Nov. 8th—the day

before her birthday—she requested baptism, so that she might begin the new period of her life in a closer walk with God. Scarcely an hour before the service was to commence, "Mother" Lavender, seeing the preparations for baptism, asked "Won't you take me too?"—So these two dear souls were buried with their Lord.

The next day it became apparent that others were desirous of taking the same step, and a similar service was appointed for the following Wednesday evening. On Monday afternoon a cab drove up to "Rustica", and out stepped an old lady with her trunk. She had come alone from Somerset West—not knowing or understanding a word of English—unannounced, to see whether perhaps she could be baptised. As she was not able to stay long, we gathered a small company on Tuesday afternoon, and in a brief Dutch service led this aged mother (she is 75 years old) to the waters of regeneration.

When Wednesday came, three candidates were ready for baptism. One of these, who has been a member of the home circle for over three years, and has consequently heard the Truth in all its fulness, had made up her mind that she would not be coerced or persuaded by any human agency, but waited for the direct call of the "still small voice" within her heart,—and when it came, she hesitated not a moment, but immediately decided to obey her Lord, and with Him "fulfill all righteousness". Together with her were baptised Hilda Choice—the patient sufferer, whose case has won the sympathy of so many hearts,—and a coloured sister.

Can we not truly say with the Singer of Old: "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes"?

FRIEDA ELFFERS,
Church Clerk.

"God Speed the Right."

I WISH to tell the readers of the MISSIONARY of God's goodness to me. For some time now two or three have attended a meeting held in my music-room on Sabbaths. This meeting has not been a regular one owing to illness and the inability of some to attend on account of various duties. Last Sabbath (9th) I was glad to see Mrs. Boswell, who is a member of our church, and two others who are members of the Wesleyan church. We spent a most enjoyable afternoon in singing hymns, prayer and reading portions from God's word and from our papers. We also had a Bible study on the Gifts of the Spirit. The two ladies who joined us are earnest christians and to me it was indeed a pleasant experience to meet with them. We have decided to have a meeting on Sunday afternoons to enable these dear people to come regularly, and they intend to bring others with them also. There is a great deal of opposition here, but we trust in God and would like the readers of the MISSIONARY to remember us when they kneel at the Throne of Grace. LOUISE C. WESSELS.

"Balmoral Castle", Oct. 21.

DEAR MISSIONARY Readers:—

The last twelve days have separated the writer from the Cape by more than 4,300 miles. There still remains over 2,000 to travel before the 6,707 miles are covered and the first lap of my journey finished.

The sea so far has been ideal, the good ship gliding on her way without a halt. To-morrow we reach Madeira, and the 150 passengers will be given the privilege of a few hours on land.

The first week of the voyage the weather was delightfully cool and pleasant, then as we reached the tropics it grew hot enough to quite take the ambition from the most ambitious. The excessive heat lasted but a few days, and now that it is cooler again, life and activity have

returned. We expect it still much cooler after leaving Madeira, and today the seamen are busy taking down the awnings that have so graciously sheltered us from a tropical sun, and are putting up the canvas to shelter us from the cold winter winds of England.

I am still holding my record as a good sailor, and am enjoying the trip very much. Each evening brings me "one day nearer home"; and as truly are we, all, one day nearer our eternal home, and will reach the harbour in due time if our ship is not stranded on the way; and it will not be if our Captain is on board. I am glad for the privilege of knowing that He is on board, and is safely guiding His children over the sea of life and will anchor them at last securely in the heavenly harbour.

I cannot say that I am making my exit from Africa without "looking back". I find pleasure in so doing. God has been very good to us during our four years' stay, and our hearts are knitted to both work and workers. I used to fear somewhat to sing "Anywhere, dear Saviour, to work for Thee," lest I might be asked to go to Africa, but I can sing it now and mean it. Truly dear brethren and sisters I am glad for my experience in Africa; glad that I came, although at the time it was hard to so decide, for like father Abraham, we knew not where we were going, or what awaited us. It was far better than we thought, and we do not regret for a day that we came, but are thankful to God that He made us willing to come.

From England I will send a few lines and also from New York. I shall look forward eagerly from week to week for the MISSIONARY, that I may know how the work goes in Africa.

MRS. R. C. PORTER.

"THE most important times in a man's life are when the Spirit of God speaks to him."

Weekly Report of Book and Paper Sales.

The Book Work.

NAME	PLACE	BOOK	HRS	ORDS	VALUE	HELPS	TOTALS	DEB'D
Cape Colony Conference, for week ending Nov. 15, 1912.								
*A. W. Tickton, Kroonstad,	B.R.		43					30 0 6
*Irwin Williams, P. E.	C.O.S.	45	47	8 4 6	2 18 6	11 3 0		2 2 0
J. J. Birkenstock, Claremont,	S. of D.	3	2	13 0		5 0	18 0	
N. Bulgin, Wynberg,	S. of D.	13	11	3 11 6			3 11 6	
E. A. Smith, Claremont,	S. of D.	13	6	1 19 0	12 6	2 11 6		
H. M. Sparrow, Observatory,	S. of D.	23	16	5 4 0			5 4 0	
L. R. Sparrow, Observatory,	S. of D.	23	16	5 4 0			5 4 0	
L. S. Williams, Rondebosch,	S. of D.	14	12	3 18 0			3 18 0	
& Newlands,								
W. S. Hyatt, Claremont,	S. of D.	30	21	6 16 6	1 8 0	8 4 6		
Miss L. Liesching, Wynberg,	S. of D.	19	10	3 5 0			3 5 0	
Total, Agents		10	126	131	£11 15 0	5 4 0	£43 19 6	£32 2 6

*For week ending Nov. 8.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending Nov. 8, 1912.

A. W. Dixie, Jo'burg,	G.C.	37	5	3 15 0	1 10 0	5 5 0	28 18 6	
*W. J. Rothman, Bloemhof	Misc.	31	23	2 6 9		2 6 9	2 6 9	
E. Enochson, Pretoria,	P.P.	27	1	17 6	6 6	1 4 0	6 1 0	
E. v. d. Molen, Maritzburg,	P.P.	31	1	1 1 0	2 12 6	3 13 6	12 4 6	
Total, Agents		4	126	30	£8 0 3	£4 9 0	£12 9 0	£49 10 9

*For week ending Nov. 1.

The Paper Work.

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
Cape Colony Conference, for week ending Nov. 5, 1912.				
M. C. Morgan, City & Sea Point,		Sentinel	129	10 9
Miss L. Liesching, Wynberg,		Sentinel	40	5 6
Total, Agents	2		169	16 3

A Canvasser's Experience.

I WANT to tell you of how God answered my prayer. I have been interested in some people living in the house here, a gentleman and his family who moved in about the time you were here. I first began lending them papers, and he read all the continued articles in the *Review* by Elder Spicer entitled "The Hand of God in History." I then took them the *Signs of the Times*, and he read the articles on Religious Liberty. But as they seemed to incline just a little toward the Sunday Law movement, I then got them interested in "Patriarchs and Prophets." I read in it each evening myself, but I have been faithful in placing it in their hands every day during the day-time as they seemed to like it. I told them that I should like to sell them one, and each night I have prayed for them and asked God to let them buy one for themselves, and to-night

I was over-joyed when she said they had become greatly interested in the book and she would order one for her son. So I am writing for one at once, to the Cape. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

I believe I can sell "Patriarch's and Prophets"!

NINA EMMERSON.

The Eastern Question Special Sentinel.

IN the last issue of the MISSIONARY I made a call for the inauguration of a special campaign for the purpose of giving the December number of the *Sentinel*, which will be devoted to the study of the Eastern Question, a circulation of 10,000.

This campaign was launched here last week by Pastor W. S. Hyatt and the Church officers at Claremont and Cape Town, and the Doctors and Matron at the Sanitarium, together with the officers of the Cape and

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"Alrewas", Waterloo Green, Wynberg, C.P.

Free State, and Union Conferences. Already orders have been received, accompanied by the cash for 15,000 copies.

This is far beyond our expectation. We shall now ask that the number be increased to 25,000. It has been suggested that the orders may reach 50,000. We shall not object to this but we will urge that all orders be sent to the office at once that we may know how many to print.

R. C. PORTER.

De Wachter.

PROF. ELFFERS is planning to run practically the same matter in the Dutch paper for December. It will be the same matter adapted to the Dutch-speaking people. There should be a special campaign inaugurated for an extensive use of the December issue of *De Wachter*. Send in your orders at once that he may know how many to print. R. C. PORTER.

Notice.

SUBSCRIBERS to oversea papers and periodicals are reminded that their subscriptions (in most cases) expire on Dec. 31st. To ensure getting your papers regularly without a break, it will be necessary to send in your renewals, with the amounts due to the Secretary, 56 Roeland St., without further delay.

MRS. AND MISS STEELE wish to avail themselves of these columns to express their deep and heartfelt gratitude to Drs. Williams and Dunscombe for their great disinterested kindness to them in connection with the death of their son and brother, recently who had been a patient at the Sanitarium. Mr. Hugh Steele could never say enough about the kindness and devotion of the Sanitarium staff, from the doctors downwards, and spoke with especial gratitude and affection of Mr. Billes and Nurse Joe, to whom also his mother and sister wish to express their thanks. When all things are revealed, it will possibly be seen that Mr. Steele's stay at the institution and his intercourse with the two doctors, who spent valuable time reading to and praying with him, were the means of his conversion.

Yearly Subscriptions.

While distributing this special number of the *Sentinel* and the *De Wachter*, a large number of annual subscriptions may be taken if all devote themselves to the work of taking annual subscriptions at this opportune time. The price is so small and the value of these papers is so great that annual subscriptions are easily taken. Let us all do our best to extend their circulation.

R. C. PORTER.

Fallen Asleep.

ON the night of Monday November 11 at Hlobane, a mother in Israel fell asleep in her Lord.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the husband, children and relatives of Sister C. J. A. Birkenstock. We pray that the Lord may comfort them with the surety of a speedy reunion where "we shall part no more." Our sister will be deeply missed, yet we cannot grieve for her, for of her the Lord has said in the words of the Bible dear to her;—

"Zalig zijn de doden die in den Here sterven van nu aan. Ja, zegt de Geest, opdat zij rusten morgen van hun arbeid."

Notes

—The next General Conference will be held at Washington, D. C., May 15 to June 8.

—I have had good times at Krugersdorp and victories were gained.—*H. J. Edmed.*

—Sister Helen Williams arrived at the Cape at the beginning of the month, and is carrying on Bible work preparatory to the camp-meeting.

—Joseph and Mable Japtha were telegraphed home to Uitenhage last week to attend the funeral of their mother. The family have the sympathy of the MISSIONARY family in their sad bereavement.

—Brother Henry Wessels and family have come to the Cape from Rhodesia in the interests of their health. We are sure that all of our people at the Cape will welcome among us this family of pioneer Sabbath keepers.

—We are glad that our canvassing work has been blessed of God so far. Many blessed experiences have come to those who have taken up the work. The report among other canvassers is one week early, but we hasten it that others may rejoice with us. More next week.—*G. H. Clark.*

—Our readers will be glad indeed to hear from Sister Porter and receive her promise of more letters. In a personal letter, Mrs. Porter writes: "I have made friends on board with several nice people, so do not feel alone. The time passes quickly and pleasantly. I am observing my health principles on board, eating no meat, and getting on finely."

—After the service on Sabbath morning November 2nd, three souls were buried in baptism at the Claremont Church, Pastor W. S. Hyatt officiating. They were Brother Smith who united with the Cape Town Church, Brother Floyd Tarr who united with the Claremont Church and Sister May Bowley. The two latter are both students at the College.

—In a letter from Pretoria Bro. C. H. Shaw speaks thus of his work: "This is the first month of the summer, and the best since we came to Pretoria. Our work is increasing: we have had patients from Johannesburg, Premier Mine, and even from the Free State, and now the farmers are coming from the surrounding districts for treatment. Most of our work is among and for the Dutch people; they appreciate very much what we do for them. We have had difficult and trying times during the past year: our work has been hampered for the lack of proper apparatus, yet with the Lord's blessing we have been able to accomplish much. We have met with opposition too from other establishments such as Turkish baths, Electric and Massage institutions, yet with it all we have been able to establish a good connection, and can look forward to a prosperous season."

—We are glad that this issue shows that our churches and small companies are beginning to awaken to the importance and privilege of telling what the Lord is doing for them and in their midst. The Mission^s have always known and exercised the pleasure of doing this, but we feel convinced that the Lord is not confining His manifestations and His blessings to them, but that, at this time, His stately steppings and His mysterious ways are being seen in all our companies. Will not every church, then, every company, no matter how small it be, make up its mind to report to the glory of the Master, and for the encouragement and cheer of the brethren. Let us testify to our blessings with joy and thankfulness, we will thus lay ourselves open to receive more and greater favours.