

REPORT of PROGRESS

THE SOUTHERN

UNION CONFERENCE



Vol. 2

NASHVILLE, TENN., MARCH 10, 1908

No. 7

"LEND a helping hand, my brother;
Sister, cheer the saddened one;
Earth is full of sorrow's children,
God has plenty to be done.
He has placed you here for something,
Some great purpose to be wrought;
See thou dost not lose thy crowning
When rewards cannot be bought."

TRACT AND MISSIONARY MEETINGS (Continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

AFTER the first letter has been written, the character of the answer received will govern future correspondence. In our letters we should not aim to present a synopsis of our faith and hope, but call attention to the literature we send, depending quite largely upon the papers and tracts to present the truth to the readers. Centered in our publications we have a wealth of resources upon which to draw, and find just such matter as is adapted to the wants of all.

Arguments should be avoided as far as possible. It is better to send a tract or a marked article to meet the case in question; if not too lengthy, it might be well to copy the same in the reply. In referring to differences of opinion, let the writer always seek to draw the correspondent toward him, and thus confidence may be secured, and the truths which at one time would have been obnoxious will gradually become interesting, and thus the law of love will help wonderfully to point souls to Christ and to his claims upon them.

When introducing unpopular truths, do not crowd them upon your readers. Move carefully and considerately. While you may be giving them some new points of doctrine, supplement these, if possible, with something of mutual interest. We should not confine our efforts to doctrinal subjects, but try to make the home better and purer by our labors. Work for the children and the youth also, and let the efforts put forth be of such a character that not only the spiritual, but the moral and physical natures will be fed.

While in our letters we seek to win the favor of those to whom we write, that the truth may find a lodging-place in their hearts, we must

see that our literature is sent out in a neat and attractive form. Packages neatly wrapped, addressed, stamped, and pasted, have an influence, and speak silently of the one who sends them.

If the individual to whom we are writing is discouraged, and expresses it, or has a need that we can supply, even though it involves some trouble, we can help by giving sympathy and aid, and thus bring a blessing to the giver as well as the receiver.

When an interest has been awakened, questions begin to come in, and literature is eagerly sought after. How easy then to direct the mind to the Bible, sending at the same time some tract, pamphlet, or book that will make the subject clear. As we engage in this labor for others, prayer should be the essential element. We must keep this thought uppermost, that without Christ we can do nothing, but connected with him we can do all things.

To the mother it is encouraging to know that God has spoken especially concerning her work. Yet even the earnest, faithful mother will not be contented to do this work, and this alone, when so many outside her own family are sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, who with one word of encouragement might be led into the light of truth. These very mothers could send papers, accompanied by letters, in which work they may interest their children; form them into a missionary band, and let them fold the papers; and above all, the little hearts can be taught to remember these souls in prayer, and the interest aroused and spirit awakened in the children will be worth the effort, to say nothing of the blessing given to the one receiving the papers and letters.

Many homes have no little ones, and the sisters can go out and do missionary work. To all such, this work can be recommended. You may feel that your education is so limited that this work is beyond you; but after thought, you will remember that there are many people in the world with less education than yourself who would be helped by a letter from you. In this work there is opportunity for all grades of education. Let all work for the class they may be best fitted to help. Many, upon receiving your papers, would feel

timid about writing if they thought you were highly educated, but seeing you are like themselves the dread is taken away. The language may not be so smooth as that of others, but the Spirit of the Saviour breathed into the letters will touch a responsive chord in many hearts.

HOW AND WHERE TO SECURE DESIRABLE NAMES AND ADDRESSES.

1. Very desirable for missionary purposes are the names and addresses secured from our regular book canvassers. For these, write to your state missionary secretary. If possible, obtain with these names the titles of the publications sold by the canvasser to each. This information will prove of great value in missionary correspondence.

2. Your state missionary secretary will also be able to furnish you with the names of the state school teachers located in your state. The state school teacher offers a fruitful field to the missionary worker. Probably no other class of people exert so great an influence upon the rising generation. In reaching them, therefore, we also reach their pupils.

3. For names of inmates of sailor's homes, deaf and dumb schools, etc., address the chaplain, matron, or superintendent. It is best to come into personal contact with hospital patients after consultation with those in charge.

4. Do not forget your friends living at a distance. Generally the best missionary work that we can do is done for those with whom we are best acquainted.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS REGARDING MISSIONARY LETTERS.

1. If possible, know something about the persons to whom you write; learn what you can with reference to their religion, etc. Canvassers should be encouraged to give all information possible when handing in names to be used by missionary workers.

2. The principal objects in writing, in case the letter is sent accompanying a publication, the *Watchman* for instance, are to show from whom the paper comes, and to give the object of sending the paper. Make the letter as warm and personal as possible. One of the best objects to mention, in sending the paper, is the fact that we ourselves have been helped by its reading. Place yourself in the position of the

one to whom you are writing. It will be very helpful.

3. Instead of making particular mention of the paper, or its publishers, refer rather to its teachings, and where it has been a blessing to you.

4. Give them to understand that the paper is sent free.

5. It is a good plan to call attention to one or more particular subjects, or to mark an article or two. It is well to invite a reply, and also to send other reading matter on any particular subject in which the person is interested.

6. Where we write more than one letter to an individual, the first should be brief; then, in writing several letters later, points may be taken up more fully.

In our next article we will take up the Christian Help Work.

MRS. M. H. TUXFORD-CROTHERS.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

We have now been in this city twenty-four days. A conference organization has been perfected. We have been helping the three Bible workers what we could in their work, and have been visiting from house to house with Brother Baber. We find an earnest class of brethren and sisters here. They are warm-hearted. It is their intention to make the message sound out in this city. The Bible workers are having the joy of seeing new ones embrace the message. They have a good interest in their work. Arrangements are in operation for cottage meetings. The workers think that this is one of the most effective ways to place the truth before the citizens at the present time. Now that Brother Baber is here, the workers can find as many openings for these meetings as he can fill.

I see no good reason why the white church should not have a steady and healthy growth. They have fifty-two names enrolled upon the church book. There are a number of others keeping the Sabbath, and I think they will soon join the growing number. The tithe is coming up in this church. We have been setting this before them again. Soon the tithe among the whites in this city will pay the white workers.

At the consultation with the workers and the conference committee, it was arranged for Elder Brice to make Louisville his field of labor among the colored people. He will doubtless find all that he and Sister Whitman, the colored Bible worker, can do with cottage meetings and Bible work. Elder Baber has organized a class for the colored brethren, in which he will instruct the workers. I find this people ready to study the word of the Lord, and they have good minds to take hold of the truth. We organized a young people's society among them, and confidently hope to see this branch of the work have a healthy growth.

We go to Lexington to-morrow. Pray that we may have wisdom to do the Lord's work well in this new field.

A. O. BURRILL.

LENOIR, N. C.

In canvassing for the special issue of the *Watchman*, I am thankful for the many blessings received, and for the privilege of giving a part of the third angel's message to every one that saw the paper. There was just one person who would not look at it. The Lord surely has some honest ones in this place, who will sometime step out on the Lord's side and keep all his commandments.

Many want to know more about the truth, and invited me to come back again, but I have not done so, because we live three miles from Lenoir, and the weather has been very stormy and the roads rough, so I could not drive to town.

I have sold sixty copies of the *Watchman*, and expect to sell more in the near future.

Truly the harvest is ripe and the laborers few, especially is this so in North Carolina. May the Lord send more workers.

It is my desire to be a faithful servant in the Lord's vineyard.

MRS. CLARA CRAWFORD.

THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY WORK IN FLORIDA.

At a meeting of the Florida Conference Committee held November 9, it was recommended that one Sabbath in each quarter be devoted to a study of the principles of civil and religious liberty. In harmony with this recommendation, our first meeting was held Sabbath, February 29.

Twenty-seven years ago this message came to us as a people: "In the near future we shall see the Protestant churches unite with the world and with the papal power against commandment-keepers."

This prophecy is now being fulfilled. Nearly all the Protestant ministers of the city of Washington, D. C., recently united with the Catholic clergy in an effort to secure the better observance of Sunday; and one of the methods proposed by which to accomplish this result, is to induce Congress to pass a Sunday law for the District of Columbia.

It is evident that we are very near the great crisis when to stand true to principle and loyal to God will require an intelligent knowledge of the Scriptures, a firm faith, and an undying love for truth.

I recently prepared an article calling the attention to this movement in Washington, and giving reasons why religious legislation was contrary to every principle of good government. This article was sent to ninety-one Florida editors with the request that they publish it. It is creating quite a stir in some quarters. One minister has written and published an article in which he criticizes our position sharply. I have replied to his communication, and it is being published in some papers.

My time is very fully occupied in writing to leading men in our state, and sending them religious liberty literature. I am receiving letters from leading men, expressing their views concerning religious legislation. A prominent judge writes: "I simply desire to say Amen

to each sentence in your article. For many years I have contended against ministers and others endeavoring to form religious trusts, and requiring the state to enact laws requiring me to worship God — not in spirit and in truth. I foresee the time will soon come when laws on religion will be enacted. And when the state says I must keep a day holy, it will soon say I must go to church, — and then to what church? May God bless you in trying to free the minds of men from priestcraft. Yours for truth."

This gentleman has no faith in trying to reform the world by legislating upon religious questions.

CHAS. P. WHITFORD.

AMONG THE CHURCHES

I AM pleased to report that the work in the Cumberland Conference is onward. As a band of workers we are few in number; but each one is trying to do what he can to hasten on the Master's work, and we are seeing tangible results of our labor.

The churches are taking hold with a will, and the old-time missionary spirit is being revived. I will speak of one of our little churches located out in the mountains. It is but little over a year old, and after building a church house 28 x 40 feet, they saw and felt the great need of a church school, so started out to maintain one. This effort, after the building of a church, taxed them to the utmost. While Satan tried in every way to hinder the work and bring it to naught, the Lord overruled, and they were able to continue the school for about five months.

The brethren of this church are not blessed with much of this world's goods, but have large, liberal hearts. They saw that in order to have a school another year, some plan must be put into operation to help raise the necessary means. Sister Cyrus Simmons, of the Knoxville church, gave each of the children five cents to see how much they could raise to help their parents support the school another year. In order to help inspire a missionary spirit in the children for those in regions beyond, it was voted to give one third of the proceeds to bring this glorious truth to the boys and girls in some foreign land.

The children started out with a will. At the Harvest Ingathering all hearts were made to rejoice to see the little ones pass in their earnings to help educate themselves and bring the message to others in a far-off land. All were surprised to find that they had raised over twenty-nine dollars.

They were able to secure a good teacher, and a very successful school has now been running five and a half months. The brethren met the other day, and decided to have it continue two and a half months longer, which will make a term of eight months. They also planned to set out one half acre of strawberries on one side of the church lot to help meet the expense, and also form an industrial feature of their school. Any one reading this whose heart God may touch to help along in this undertaking by way of plants or donations, may do so by sending them to J. R. Norman, Byington, Tenn.

ITEMS FROM GEORGIA

It is unnecessary to say that a church that has made such great sacrifices for the Lord's cause is filled with a missionary spirit, and is desirous that others may receive this same message. With the help of friends, they are sending thirty-five papers a week to an adjoining neighborhood, and the people from this vicinity have already begun to call for a tent-meeting.

When we see how God is using this little church, we realize something of what all our churches might be doing for their children, their neighbors, and the regions beyond. Brethren, let us awake and put on the whole armor, and God will make us useful servants in the great harvest field. J. F. POGUE.

A PERSONAL LETTER

To my many friends and old acquaintances in the South, Greeting:—

For the past two or three years you have heard very little from me, and in these days of so much uncertainty you may have often questioned as to what has become of me. I feel that I would like to tell you that my hope and faith were never stronger than at the present time, nor have I ever been harder at work in what I believe the Lord has called me to do than during the past few years. Though the course which I have followed has not been altogether of my own choosing, having been indicated first by a personal testimony and later by God's opening providences, yet I can say that I have been very happy in feeling that the Lord has given me some humble part to act in the great work he is now doing in the earth.

No doubt the Lord knew that the experiences I would have to pass through in pioneering the establishment of a school here in the South would be just the discipline I would need in order to prepare me for a home in the kingdom. And although the fires of affliction, delay, and disappointment at times burn hot, these are but God's ways to purify my character building from the dross of impatience and lack of faith.

I can say that the lessons I have received have been good for me, and my faith in this precious message has not grown dim. Never were the evidences plainer than now, that God is with his people. That scripture, "Surely the Lord will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret to his servants the prophets," has been most wonderfully demonstrated to this denomination during the past few years, and why should any of us doubt whether God is with us or not? and if God be for us, who can be against us?

I feel like saying to all my brethren, *Courage!* Let us hold fast our confidence firm unto the end. The darkness thickens around us, the clouds are gathering, the storm is soon to burst upon us: but we have a shelter, thank the Lord. A "covering" is being drawn over the faithful ones, and we shall stand triumphant at last.

Yours in faith and hope.

J. O. JOHNSTON.

At this writing our canvassers' institute is in progress here in Atlanta. We are encouraged by having with us about one dozen persons who are taking the class and preparing to enter the work as canvassers. Some of these, however, may not be able to put in full time. We were expecting some others, but they were detained on account of sickness.

Let our hearts go out to God in earnest prayer for these dear souls, and for this most important branch of the Lord's work.

In our meeting with the Atlanta church, Sabbath, February 29, the Holy Spirit seemed to impress hearts in a special manner as the progress of the message and its needs were presented. At the close of the service, a call was made for any who desired to present themselves to God, and to forsake all and follow him, to come forward. Four precious souls responded, and with them we sought the Lord for his blessing. We are expecting to see these souls find freedom in Christ and a place in the Master's service.

I went to Alpharetta February 21, and spent several days. I received a hearty welcome, and greatly enjoyed the hospitable homes of the brethren at this place. I spoke to the church several times on this occasion, and was glad to see the Spirit of God come in, and hearts touched by it. This led to some confessions, and I trust to a better experience in the things of God, and a more united effort to build up the work. I was thankful to find a good church school being conducted here, under the management of Sister Rochelle Philmon. She has nearly twenty pupils. A healthy interest on the part of the church is manifested in the school, and we fully expect the signal blessing of God upon the work, and that the church will be strengthened.

I know the brethren and sisters of Georgia have become sufficiently acquainted with the little paper called REPORT OF PROGRESS, and enjoy its weekly visits so well now that they would not want it discontinued; but it is costing the Georgia Conference twenty-five cents each year for each person getting it. We have been sending it to all in the state for the past year, and desire all to have it another year; but we feel that if the matter is set before you in an intelligent way, all will be glad to contribute the subscription price for the year 1908, and perhaps double the amount to pay for the cost of sending it last year.

It is through this medium that we hope to keep all informed as to the progress being made in our conference. We cannot use the *Watchman* for this purpose. Inasmuch as at our last conference at Nashville it was decided to make REPORT OF PROGRESS a weekly paper, and not to raise the subscription price, I feel quite certain that all will desire to avail themselves of the opportunity offered, and send in at once the amount needed to pay for this valuable paper, sending same to Brother M. L. Woodall, No. 16 Whitehall Terrace, Atlanta, Ga.

GEO. W. WELLS, *President of Georgia Conf.*

CANVASSING REPORT

One week ending Feb. 21, 1908				
NAME—	Book	Hours	Value	Deliv'd
CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE				
M J Weber.....	BFL GP	20	8 00	
J A Caldwell....	BFL MISC	22		26 95
FLORIDA CONFERENCE				
T H Dobb.....	MISC	17		3 10
GEORGIA CONFERENCE				
S G Dent.....	BFL MISC	45	75 60	82 55
D A Fisher 2 wks..	MISC	53	17 20	9 95
J D Andrews.....	GC	31	30 75	2 00
Mrs R O Terry.....	D&R	7	5 76	50
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE				
Jas H Anderson....	NTP	36	68 30	
C L Collison....	BR D&R BFL	39	53 25	53 25
G S Rogers.....	D&R MISC	26	18 50	6 75
NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE				
Mattie S Reynolds..	D&R	11	3 00	2 50
H B Tilden.....	CK	32	35 45	13 45
SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE				
F A Evans.....	sofP	11	1 00	12 00
J B Rise.....	CK	33	12 00	15 00
S H Swingle.....	sofP	6	1 50	18 00
H Martin.....	CK	40	26 00	25 00
TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE				
Wm J Keele..	WATCHMAN	40	23 90	23 90
Mrs Alice Patton....	D&R	3	7 85	9 75
Mamie Moore.....	D&R	28	27 75	17 30
RECAPITULATION				
Cumberland Conference..		44	8 00	26 95
Florida Conference.....		17		3 10
Georgia Conference.....		136	129 31	95 00
Louisiana Conference....		101	140 05	60 00
North Carolina Conf....		43	38 45	25 95
South Carolina Conf....		90	40 50	70 00
Tennessee River Conf....		71	57 50	40 95
Grand Total		502	\$413 81	\$324 95

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

Annual Report of Missionary Work for Year Ending Dec. 31, 1907.

Missionary letters written.....	619
Missionary letters received	454
Bible readings held.....	481
Cottage meetings held.....	135
Missionary visits made.....	1,283
Subscriptions obtained for periodicals	88
Periodicals sold	1,667
Periodicals loaned or given away....	5,421
Number of books sold.....	82
Pages of books or tracts sold.....	80,478
Pages of books or tracts loaned....	21,212
Pages of books or tracts given away	8,352
Hours spent reading to others.....	181½
Hours spent in Christian Help work..	467½
Articles of clothing or bedding given away	165
Persons supplied with food.....	248
Persons helped	4
Persons interested	86
Children brought to Sabbath-school..	40
Gospel conversations held or calls made	92
Number of societies.....	16
Number of societies reporting during the year	13

JESSIE V. BOSWORTH, *Secretary.*

Report of Progress

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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Editor: E. J. Burnham; Associate Editors: S. B. Horton, Mrs. W. M. Crothers

Application made for entry as second-class matter at Nashville, Tenn.

ELDERS G. A. Irwin and C. F. McVagh have been absent from Nashville since the late conference session closed; but they are now both back in Nashville for a few weeks.

J. M. RAINES, R. F. D. 2, Blythewood, S. C., desires late, clean copies of the *Watchman* and other denominational publications sent post-paid for free missionary distribution.

NOTICE!

COPIES of the following numbers of REPORT OF PROGRESS are wanted in order to complete important files: Vol. I; Nos. 1, 3, 11, and 14; Vol. II; Nos. 1 and 3.

Any one having copies of these issues which they will send for the purpose mentioned, is earnestly invited to mail same to L. D. Randall, care of Southern Publishing Association, Nashville, Tenn.

TO KENTUCKY SABBATH-SCHOOLS

AS I HAVE been appointed Sabbath-school secretary of the Kentucky Conference, I desire to have the addresses of the different Sabbath-schools throughout the conference, also the isolated members.

Let us make the work of our conference a success. I hope each school will be interested enough to report, no matter how small the report. The Lord can and will bless us here in the Kentucky Conference, if we will only be faithful in performing our duty.

I believe we have reached the time when we cannot afford to be negligent concerning the third angel's message, and that we must arouse to action; so let us work earnestly, and whatever we do, let us be faithful in reporting.

MISS DOLLIE H. CALLENDER.

Henderson, Ky., R. F. D. 4.

FLORIDA ITEMS

IN the next issue of REPORT OF PROGRESS, we hope to be able to announce the faculty for the Ft. Ogden school.

GOOD reports are coming from the tent-meeting at Morriston, conducted by Elder L. T. Crisler and Brother Wm. Branson. Brother Branson is being especially blessed in his canvassing work.

EARNEST L. MARTIN, son of Brother W. F. Martin, was united in marriage, Thursday night, February 27, to Miss Amy L. Granger, in the Baptist church at Ft. Ogden, Elder Parmele officiating. A large circle of friends of

the young couple join in wishing them a happy and useful future.

THE following good word comes from Elder L. H. Crisler, concerning the work in Jacksonville, where he and Sister Crisler are laboring: "Two united with the church a week ago, and there will be at least four more next Sabbath. The church building is all paid for, and I have the deed." This is indeed a cheering report.

ELDER R. W. PARMELE recently visited Punta Gorda, Ft. Ogden, and Wauchula, holding meetings at each place. He expects to begin a series of meetings in Orlando about March 6. This is in response to a petition signed by the members of the church and a number of those not of our faith. At the close of this series of meetings, the Young People's and Sabbath-school Convention and the Canvasers' Institute will be held.

A REPORT of the work of Elder C. B. Stephenson and Brother Mitchell, which was intended to accompany the letter concerning Florida Day, arrived too late; but is too good to keep, and we take the liberty to present it below:—

"For the information of my dear brethren and sisters in our conference, who, I am confident, have offered many prayers for 'our workers,' and have paid a faithful tithe to support them, to 'hold up their hands while the battle was on,' I beg to submit a brief synopsis of my work since camp-meeting.

"In company with Brother John R. Mitchell I began lectures in Waukula County, following up the work of Brother Mitchell last summer near Crawfordville or Shell Point. We went to that county at the urgent request of Sister Andrew, who had been all alone in the faith for some twelve years.

"About the middle of November we began a course of lectures at Medart, five miles from Shell Point. By invitation we used the school-house, the people furnishing lamps and taking care of us most of the time free of cost. The lectures continued until about the first of January. Some who had ceased church-going attended nearly every service, walking two miles.

"The interest kept up well until the close. At the last service I gave opportunity for those who had made up their minds to obey God and keep his commandments to so express themselves by giving me their hand. Seven came forward. Then we took an expression from all who had been benefited by the services, and desired our prayers. Nearly every one in the house came forward. The tender Spirit of the Master was there, as evidenced by the tearful eye.

"A professor attended nearly all the meetings, and theoretically accepted all the message. He told me that he expected to obey the commandments with no great delay. Two ministers were among our attendants. One was on the verge of making the change when I left. He was well supplied with reading matter, and I am hopeful of him.

"At the close of the Medart work (about January 1) dear Brother Mitchell was compelled to return home, owing to failing health. His efficient help was much missed.

"I moved three miles west, and began lectures in the Bonnett Pond school-house. The attendance was good. A leading Methodist and his wife began keeping the Sabbath there. Others seemed much interested. I continued work at that place until January 28. I have since spent nearly two weeks in Alachua County, at Jennings Lake, preaching and visiting, doing house-to-house Bible work, pressing out into some new territory.

"I am sure that if all our brethren and sisters could go around with the ministers, and see for themselves the people's great need of the third angel's message, and hear the expressions of gratitude from those who were in darkness, they would return home resolved to give and pray more that laborers might be sent forth in greater numbers. The condition of the Lord's flock is as sheep without a shepherd,—scattered and torn, many bleeding—spiritually—and ready to die. There are many whole counties in our own conference that have never had a note of the message that has brought light and hope to our own hearts. Shall we refuse to hear their cry longer by closing our purses, thus limiting our laboring force? or shall we open wide our hearts and pocket-books, and send forth more laborers into the harvest?"

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

ALL our people in this newly-organized territory have now learned that we have begun to take our place among the sister conferences in the Southland. Everything being new, we expect that we shall have to do as those do who are beginning in their new homes. All the churches from which we have heard seem pleased that the time has come to be bearing the duties of this work in this way.

The four ministers and three Bible workers are taking hold of the work in a good spirit. There is not sufficient money in the treasury to pay them reasonable wages. We shall have only about sixty-five per cent. of the amount that they should receive. Those who can, will be willing to make sacrifices to start the work. When some of our people in the North know how we have to do for lack of means to start the work here, they will send us something. In the meantime we ask the Sabbath-keepers in this conference to make an extra effort to send to the treasurer promptly all the tithes and offerings. To each Seventh-day Adventist in Kentucky comes the word of the Lord, "Bring ye the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house." Mal. 3:10, Am. Rev. When Israel was rebuilding Jerusalem in the time of Nehemiah, the enemy pressed hard upon the Lord's people. Some of them refused to bring the tithe into the storehouse, and the ministers were driven to the fields to get food with which to feed the family. The Lord by the prophet sternly reproved the people for this, and they sincerely repented. When repentance came, then came the word of the Lord, "From this day will I bless you." Haggai 2:19. This is what the Lord will do for every one in this conference who will render to him his just due. The treasurer is Mrs. Clara Russell, 214 E. Jacob St., Louisville, Ky. A. O. BURRILL.