



VOLUME 10.

DES MOINES, IOWA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1898.

NUMBER 18.

Workers' Bulletin.
ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE
IOWA TRACT AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY,
DES MOINES, IOWA.

MRS. L. FLORA PLUMMER, } EDITORS,
JESSIE V. BOSWORTH, }

TERMS: 25 CENTS A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

ISN'T IT STRANGE.

ISN'T it strange that men will go
For miles, through mud and sleet and snow,
To cast a vote for a man of state,
To attend a lodge, or hear a debate?
But when the words of eternal life
Are to be discussed, in this world of strife,
There are so few who will come together
To hear God's word in stormy weather.

Isn't it strange?

Isn't it strange that Christians will spend
Their money for things which only lend
A deeper tinge to their selfish pleasures?
For these they lavish their richest treasures,
But ask them for money to help to win
Perishing souls from the paths of sin,
And they, with a solemn look, will say,
"I haven't the money to spare to-day."

Isn't strange?

The cause of this isn't hard to guess,
For all aren't Christians who so profess.
In the gospel they say they have a share,
For they go to church and offer prayer.
But listen, my friends, to a simple test
That is given by one who knoweth best:
The heart is set where the treasure is,
And the works will tell if the heart is His.

—Wm. Simpson.

CHURCH SCHOOLS.

My attention has been called during the past few weeks to different churches in our State that are agitating the question of a church school, and in some instances money has been raised for this purpose. Fearing that some church or company may start one of these schools without properly understanding what it means, I write this article, to call attention to some of the preliminary steps that should be taken before a school is commenced in any church. At our State Conference held in Des Moines this last spring, the following resolution was passed:—

Resolved, That in harmony with the instruction given through the Spirit of Prophecy, the President of the Conference, together with the Conference Committee, be requested to assist in the establishment of church schools wherever practicable, and to direct in their management and operation.

By this action, as stated in this resolution, the President and Conference Committee should be the ones that determine and direct in the starting of these schools. I also quote from page 40 of "Home, Church, and State Schools," a pamphlet prepared by Battle Creek College, which gives instructions on the various phases of church and State schools:—

After the church has decided that they want a church school, they should correspond with the Conference President, stating to him the situation as fully as possible, giving the number of church members who will support a school by sending paying pupils or by donations. Mention the number of prospective students who can pay their tuition and those who cannot. State what advantages you possess for conducting a school, such as buildings, school furniture, and location, the length of the term desired, and time you are ready to open the school. Any other information which would aid in the establishment of the school should be given.

The Conference President will confer with the church, and advise it to correspond with some of our schools which train teachers."

You will notice from the reading that the first step to be taken after you have decided that you want a school, is to correspond with the Conference President, stating to him the exact situation as outlined in the foregoing quotation. I have had during the past few weeks several of our leading brethren, not only of this Conference but of others, mention instances where church schools have been failures; and when asked the condition of those schools, it was always shown that they followed in their line of study, that which is marked out by the public schools, and simply had a Christian teacher. This kind of a school among us as a people, will always prove a failure, because the evil exists in the course of study, and unless a school can secure a teach-

er who has had the preparation for teaching in these schools in strict harmony with the Bible and "Testimonies," the chances for failure are greater than those for success. I feel very anxious over this matter of church schools, and desire to see our State make no mistake in this work. I believe by following the plan laid out in the quotations mentioned in this article, that God's blessing will attend all these efforts in the direction of these church schools, and that each and every one of them when started in keeping with his plan, will prove a complete success. I hope that all parties and churches contemplating a church school will correspond with Eld. Santee before proceeding too far with the preliminary work.

C. H. PARSONS.

ONE WAY OF CIRCULATING THE "SIGNS."

THE territory having been selected, and having a supply of the latest issue of the *Signs* on hand, we proceed to make a house-to-house canvass of the territory. A good plan is to work for three-month subscriptions, each number to be delivered by the canvasser. Where this is impossible, secure a subscription for one month, or sell single copies. If we fail to sell, it is better to loan a copy than to give it. If loaned, it will be kept, and more likely read than when given away. The terms should be cash in advance: 50 cents for six months, 25 cents for three months, or 10 cents per month. Under certain circumstances it may be necessary to receive payment at the close of each month after the papers are delivered. This should be done discreetly, however.

The canvasser should secure a regular list of patrons, thus seeking to make his work permanent. It is not

wise to spend our efforts selling single copies. In working on a permanent list, one can cultivate a growing interest, and "water the seed" sown, by speaking a word in season, and by continuing to supply the paper and such other reading matter as may be "meat in due season." Many good results are lost by not following up the work in this way. It is like a farmer who sows the seed, then, instead of cultivating the crop and destroying the weeds, enters new fields and sows more seed, to be neglected and choked out by the weeds, and finally to die without producing a harvest. Let us heartily co-operate with the workings of God's Spirit, and follow the wisest plans of labor, that the greatest good may result, and souls be saved in the kingdom.

As the papers are issued weekly, it would be impracticable to follow a regular canvass. Yet one should be familiar with the eight or ten departments found in each and every issue,—general articles, editorials, question corner, etc. Call attention to these and to the excellent articles in your sample, which are instructive, cheering, and helpful. Read the headings, the names of the writers, and the countries from which they write. Then give the terms, and invite them to take it for three months. Many will gladly take the paper. All can do something in this work. May we each do all we can.

U. P. LONG.

FORGETTING HOW TO SING.

WHEN visiting a gentleman in England I observed a fine canary. Admiring his beauty, the gentleman replied: "Yes, he is beautiful, but he has lost his voice. He used to be a good singer, but I was in the habit of hanging his cage out of the window, the sparrows came around him with their incessant chirping, gradually [he ceased to sing and learned their twitter, and now all he can do is to twitter, twitter." O, how truly does this represent the case of many Christians; they used to delight to sing the songs of Zion, but they came into close association with those whose notes never rise so high, until at last, like the canary, they do nothing but twitter, twitter.—D. L. Moody.

"Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture."

FIELD REPORTS.

RUTHVEN.

We came to this place about Sept. 1, and continued meetings in the tent until the heavy snowstorm in October. We then held a few meetings in our church, but only a few attended, as it was so far out of town. Bro. Guthrie went to Spencer and held a few meetings, then returned home.

By invitation I have been holding a few meetings in the Christian church during the past week. Last Sunday I spoke to a full house on "Righteousness by Faith." The Lord willing, I shall speak there again next Sunday morning and evening. Some are quite friendly, and appear to be interested. Theseeds of truth have been sown in love, and what the result will be we cannot tell. We trust the meetings have been a great blessing to the church.

During the past week I have been visiting a good deal from house to house, have held fewer public meetings, and sold some books. We trust the Lord to bless the seed sown. I shall close the meetings Sunday evening, if all is well. The Lord is in this work, and we have no reason to fear.

Nov. 4.

J. S. HART.

RUSSELL.

THE meetings at Russell closed Oct. 16. We have been in this place since June 24, but the interest seemed to demand it. A few decided after the meetings closed, to obey all of God's commandments. We determined to remain in the place as long as people were deciding for the truth. We have had opposition from the first. One of the ministers preached against us nearly every Sunday since we came, and finally sent off for another one to come and make the matter clear(?) to the people. We reviewed him once in the tent. Some of the members of that church are now keeping the Sabbath. Fourteen have signed the covenant. Of these, three or four were already keeping the Sabbath before we came, but three or four others are obeying who have not yet signed it. Many more are almost persuaded, and there is a good prospect of others uniting with us. All those who have started are adults.

We have held a Sabbath-school since we came, with an attendance of from twenty-five to forty. The Sabbath-school donations amounted to about

\$10.00. A few of the friends from Chariton assisted by their attendance, and in other ways. We hope they will continue to do so. We expect to hold meetings near Russell this winter. Bro. Starr was with us for one week near the close of the meetings. His assistance was appreciated very much. He baptized one while here. A few more expect to receive that ordinance later on. Most of those who started had been previously baptized. We take courage, and are thankful to God for the work he has done here, but we hope and expect his Spirit to lead others in this place to forsake all and follow him.

FRANK A. WASHBURN.
CHAS. T. ADAMS.
MARTIN HENRICKSEN.

RODNEY.

OUR meetings at this place closed October 16. Bro. Jeys had gone home a week before, to prepare for quarterly meeting. Rodney is close to Smithland, where present truth has been preached for more than a quarter of a century. Consequently most of our congregation had known these things for years, yet we had a fair hearing.

The Omaha Exposition and the festival week at Sioux City took away several interested ones at the most important time, and it takes but very little pleasure seeking to destroy all interest in eternal things. The people were attentive to our temporal wants, and also donated in cash \$9.79. Six expressed their purpose to obey God's holy law. These will meet with the Smithland church when possible. A little labor was also bestowed on that church, which I hope will prove to have been a blessing to them. I rejoice in the privilege of being a co-laborer with God, and earnestly desire to be found ready for the garner when the harvest is gathered in.

We expect to move to Sac City next week, where we will probably remain for some time.

Nov. 3.

J. O. BEARD.

GRANT CENTER.

SINCE coming here, I have held meetings four miles west of Arispe, at Grant Center schoolhouse, and have had a fair attendance from the first. The interest seems to be on the increase. Most of those in attendance are heads of families, and we hope some of them, at least, may accept the truth as they see it in the word of God. I am thankful to God that I can be an instrument in his hands to carry this message to a dying world.

GEO. A. LARSON.

THE BOOK WORK.

WHAT ARE WE?

"BELOVED, now are we the sons of of God." To whom is God speaking? —To the 'beloved,' to us. What does he say to us?—"We" are the "sons of God." When?—"Now." In considering the life of my Elder Brother, I find it was spent in toil. He says, "I work." John 5:17. Peter says that Christ is an example, and "that ye should follow his steps." 1 Peter 2:21. It is also written, "He that saith he abideth in himought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." 1 John 2:6.

After Christ had finished his life on earth, and just before he left, he gave us a comission to go and do the work he had been doing. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." Matt. 28:19.

I am so thankful that this command is addressed to the canvasser as well as to the minister, Bible worker, or medical missionary. Speaking of the canvassing work, the Spirit of God tells us that it is a good work, "its object high and elevating." Those also who cannot spend their whole time in laboring with the people, but who can assist in any way those who are able to do so, are truly sons and daughters of God, and equal sharers of the blessings.

Beloved, let us all enter the cause unitedly, and whenever we see a chance to lift, do so with all our might. By so doing, we shall meet the approval of God. H. B. TILDEN.

LETTERS FROM CANVASSERS.

IDA CHURCH, CRESTON: "At the close of another week I am of good courage, for I know the Lord is guiding me. The majority of people seem to know all they care to in regard to the coming King, but there are a few who want to know the truth. I realize more every day that the Lord does not need our work, but we need the experience to perfect our characters."

ELSIE FULTON, BLADENSBURG: "My health has improved a great deal, and if it is the Lord's will, I shall canvass what I can this winter in my home territory, during good weather. I realize as never before the importance of getting present truth before the people. My heart's desire is that I may be a bright and shining light in this dark and sinful world, and to carry the truth to those that are in darkness, according to the light the Lord has given me."

MARTIN J. FRITZ, COLLEGE VIEW: "I really enjoyed my work in Iowa, although I had a great deal of opposition, but I am sure the truth will gain the victory at last. Many honest souls are not finding in their churches what they are seeking for. One young lady said, 'For a long time I have wanted to know something about the judgment.' She will find her desire in 'Great Controversy.' I also hope to see some of my relatives take their stand for the truth soon."

BRO. H. F. LAMB, of Onawa, writes: "Not long ago a gentleman stopped me and asked if I had any copies on hand of that little book called 'Steps to Christ.' He said, 'I saw one at Mrs. — that she got of you two years ago, and I think it the finest book outside of the Bible that I ever saw. I want to hand one to a friend of mine who is in the valley of decision, to help him to Christ.' The man who wanted this book is a good business man, and a member of another church. Of course I got him the book."

CANVASSING REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCT. 28, 1898.

PROPHECIES OF JESUS.

	Hrs.	Ord.	Val
*Burton Church, Fern.....	28	1	\$1.75
Lewis Hilliard, Spencer.....	26	6	10.25
Fred Scharf, Glenwood.....	40	6	11.00

THE COMING KING.

H. B. Tilden, Eddyville.....	17	2	\$2.00
Pearl D. Bascom, Cedar Rapids..	11	1	1.50
Sarah Duerksen, ".....	10	5	4.50
Anna Duerksen, ".....	13	1	1.00
Ida Church, Creston.....	29	4	4.00
Cathinka Henriksen, Milford.....	22	14	14.00
Christine Henriksen, Hartley.....	29	11	11.00
Dora Rasmussen, Rock Rapids	19	17	17.00
Susan Haskell, Mason City.....	14	1	1.00
Mary Haskell, ".....	16	7	7.00
E. A. Mitcheltree, Norwalk.....	7	1	1.00

STORY OF REDEMPTION.

*Ethan A. Brown, Waverly.....	20	3	\$3.25
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BIBLE READINGS.

D. P. Powell, Castana.....	3	\$6.50
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DELIVERIES.

	Books.	Value.	Lost.
Ethan A. Brown.....	27	\$31.25	2
Mrs. E. A. Mitcheltree.....	1	1.00	0
Dora Rasmussen.....	1	1.50	0
Anna Duerksen.....	1	1.00	0
Sarah Duerksen.....	1	.50	0
Pearl D. Bascom.....	2	2.00	0
H. B. Tilden.....	3	3.00	1
Carl Rasmussen.....	11	16.00	0
Fred Scharf.....	2	4.50	2
H. G. Miller.....	41	82.25	5
Burton Church.....	5	8.75	2

SUMMARY.

No. of agents.....	18
" " orders.....	83
Value of ".....	\$96.75
" " helps sold.....	\$18.05
Total value.....	\$114.80
Value of deliveries.....	\$151.75
*Delivering.....	

"PRAYER must buckle on all the other parts of the Christian armor."

THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. JESSIE L. ADAMS.

GOOD WORDS FROM SABBATH-SCHOOL OFFICERS.

MOLLIE LONG, DUBUQUE: "The interest in our Sabbath-school is on the increase. I visited from class to class one Sabbath. I was much pleased with the manner in which the lessons were conducted, and with the interest manifested in them. The review showed that much time had been spent in studying at home. The Lord is blessing in the work here, although the opposition is greater than during any previous quarter in the work here. Pray for the efforts made to advance the message in this dark city."

IDA G. PINES, BOONE: "Our Sabbath-school seems to be growing every Sabbath. The interest is increasing. We have so many things to be thankful for. It is my earnest prayer that the Lord will continue to bless and guide us in his glorious work."

MRS. JULIA SANTEE, MARSHALLTOWN: "We are of good courage in the Sabbath-school work. O, for a closer walk with God, that we as parents, teachers, and officers may know how best to work for the salvation of those around us."

MRS. L. L. PECK, MANSON: "Although few in number, and having small donations, we enjoy our school, and the children try to learn God's word, and seem to love to give what they can for missionary work."

CLARA E. BAIR, SAC CITY: "I enjoy the study of the Sabbath-school lessons. We always have such good lessons. I hope it will not be long until we have a Sabbath-school in our town."

WINNIE STEVENS, LECLAIRE: "Our school is still of good courage, and trusting in the Lord to give us strength to press forward toward the 'mark of the prize of the high calling.'"

ETHEL L. CROW, FONTANELLE: "Although few in number, yet we have a good Sabbath-school, and are thankful for any hints that will tend to make it better."

ELLA B. COX, THAYER: "We are of good courage in the Lord, and are striving to do better each day."

MRS. F. A. HILL, WAVERLY: "We love to work for the Master now, for soon we may not work."

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

Workers' Bulletin.

DES MOINES, IOWA, NOV. 8, 1898.

—STATE MEETING, Osceola, Nov. 15—21, 1898.

—WEEK of prayer services for all our churches and companies, Nov. 23—26, 1898.

—BRO. WILL WILBUR, of Sandyville, attended the Des Moines Sabbath-school convention.

—BRO. WILLIAM GUTHRIE was a guest at the Conference Home last Wednesday night, as he was on his way to Benton.

—LAST Monday Elds. Santee, Stevens, and Hansen, members of the Conference Committee, met at the Conference Home to audit the quarterly reports of the laborers, and plan for the advancement of the work in general.

—SISTER MINNIE PETERSON, clerk of the Council Bluffs church, writes that nine members have recently been added to the church there. Eld. Luther Warren, who has been laboring in Omaha, has visited that company occasionally this fall, and greatly encouraged the workers and members.

—BRO. R. D. R. TOPLIFF, who has been assisting in the work at the mission at Clinton, has been assigned to similar work in the mission at Sioux City. Sister Topliff has gone to Battle Creek, Mich., for an extended visit with friends, and Miss Maud is spending the winter with her sister Mrs. H. V. Adams, Highland Park, Des Moines.

—A "SABBATH RESCUE CONVENTION" was held at Washington, Iowa, last week. The promoters of that work do not seem to be anxious to give much publicity to the proceedings. At least no report has yet appeared in the State daily papers. Bro. Frank A. Washburn was in attendance at the meeting, and we hope for a report from him later.

—A NEW wagon designed especially for colporteur use has just been completed in Des Moines, and sent to Ruthven. It will be fitted up with a stock of Bibles, books, tracts, and stationary. Bro. John Anderson, of Ruthven, will take charge of this work, and travel through the country, going from house to house, thus placing the messengers of light for this time in the homes of every one who will receive them.

—SISTER MAGGIE POLAND, an isolated member at Sac City, writes: "I enjoy the good Sabbath-school lessons very much. They are a feast to my soul. It has been a long time since I was inside of a church, almost twelve years. I am a cripple, and can get around but little. I have not stepped my foot on Mother Earth but twice since last spring. I wish to be saved in that eternal home where sickness and sorrow never come." Would it not be good missionary work for some one to note the addresses of some of these who are thus "shut in," and write them occasionally? A good, cheery letter carries sunshine with it.

—ONE of our librarians in sending in her report writes: "The Lord willing, next Wednesday the ladies of our society are going to spend the day with a widowed lady. We will take provisions, and material for clothing; also our thimbles, needles, and thread, and what is unfinished at the close of the day, we will take home with us and finish. In my next letter I will tell you of the success of this new undertaking."

—THERE comes to our table a very neat booklet entitled "Sketches From the Field and Woods." It is a collection of the poems of Julia H. Duffie. We recommend it as an especially appropriate gift to young people. It will surely open the mind of the reader to a keener appreciation and enjoyment of the beauties of nature. It is tastily illustrated, and dainty in appearance. Price 25 cents.

—1,000,000 is a very large number, but that many copies of the *Signs* will be printed bearing date of Jan. 5. This quarter centennial number is prepared especially for missionary work. How many copies are you planning to use? The thanksgiving number of the *Signs* is also especially fine, and it should have a large circulation.

—THE *Illinois Recorder*, published at Chicago says: "Miss Nellie Knapp came to this city last week from Battle Creek, and is being entertained by Mrs. S. H. Lane. Sister Knapp was at one time an esteemed worker in this city, but is now connected with the Iowa Conference."

—THOSE desiring to send articles of clothing, bedding, etc., to the Sioux City mission may ship to Eld. H. R. Johnson, Sioux City, Iowa. The shipping bill should be mailed to him at 4037 Jefferson Avenue.

—MRS. S. A. RIDDLE, of Prairie City, was a caller at the Office last Wednesday.

—PREPARATIONS are now in progress for the erection of a church building at Glenwood.

—ELD. D. P. GAEDE has been at the Good Cheer Mission, Clinton, for a few days' treatment, and left Nov. 4 for Olin.

—MISS HATTIE PERRINE, of Libertyville, is preparing to go to Battle Creek, Mich., to take the nurses' training course.

—BRO. J. M. WHITNEY, of Nevada, last spring planted a patch of potatoes and beans, for use in mission work. The first of the week he, accompanied by Bro. S. E. Barnhart, drove to Des Moines and donated the product,—twenty-five bushels of potatoes and seven bushels of beans,—to the Beacon Light Mission.

A BEAUTIFUL COPY.

I HAVE received the first-page illustration for the *Signs* of Nov. 17. It is a full-page illustration, and is beautiful. It is the thanksgiving number. All who will send for extra copies and distribute them will be doing the best of missionary work. The list of articles for that number denotes a feast indeed. Price in quantities of 5 to 25 copies, 2 cents each; 25 to 100 copies, 1½ cents each; 100 copies or more, 1¢ cents each. Order at once so that you can have them in time.

CLARENCE SANTEE.

LOOKING UNTO JESUS

OR
CHRIST IN TYPE AND ANTI-TYPE.
BY URIAH SMITH.

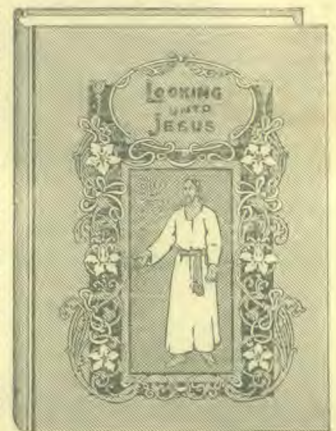
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