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The West Michigan Herald.

"Watchman, What of the Night."

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Evangelical.

The Laodiceans.

WM. COVERT.

The early church was called upon to give light to the world. (Mat. 5:14.) The purpose of this light was to lead men to God. (Verse 16.) The splendor of their example on earth drew thousands into the fold of Christ. The service which this church rendered to the cause of righteousness, is symbolized by a crowned rider on a white horse, going forth to conquest.

As long as the church kept its first love, this zealous service continued, and there were added to their number daily "such as were being saved." It was the waning of this early love that caused the light in their candlestick to grow dim, and their evangelistic success to lessen.

The conquest of the Prince of Peace was so effective while the church retained the glow of its first love, that Rome's war drums were kept muffled, and tens of thousands newly converted from the ranks of

sin, sang loud praises to God. Wherever the man with the bow and the crown went forth on the white horse there was victory; but it was all by peace.

It is the first love of Ephesus that the church of Laodicea should have in order for it to bear faithful and true witness for Jesus. This quality will be secured when the gold, the white raiment and the eye-salve is obtained from the One who is knocking at the door.

Will the luke-warm professor who thinks himself rich and increased in goods, let Jesus come in? Will he buy these precious things? They can be had without money. Only the heart's affections are given for them. And even the price paid is returned to the purchaser. It would be very improper for one who is wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked, to go about telling the people that he was heaven-sent with the true riches to dispense to all the world. Who would believe such a message proclaimed by one so miserable and poor?

Does the luke-warm condition of the Laodiceans have anything to do in holding back the Third Angel's message from the world? Has this church heeded the counsel which pleads of it to buy the fire-tried gold, the white raiment, and the eye-salve? If it has not done this, then what is its condition? If it has heeded the counsel, what then is its condition and where does it stand? What great event comes next after the church is made ready for its song of triumph? Can the church answer these questions if it does not know its own condition?

Be Earnest.

We are living in an earnest age. All the forces of the human intelligences are intensely alive. Be in

earnest. Redemption is an earnest business and cost its Author every drop of His crimson blood. The Holy Ghost is intensely in earnest. Everything in heaven and in earth and hell is in earnest, but man. It is an awful thing for a Christian, redeemed by the blood of Christ, and destined to an eternal future of weal or woe, to be frivolous or trifling. Oh friend, think if that day you are wasting were to be cut off the end of your life, instead of the middle; how quickly you would awaken and tremble at the thought of trifling! If every hour you waste were deducted from the sum of your life, how frightful the sacrifice would seem! And yet it is even so. God help us to be intensely aroused to life's solemn meaning!—A. B. Simpson.

"As the blossom cannot tell what becomes of its perfume, so we are unconscious of the extent of the power which we exert over others. Whether we wish it so or not, the silent influence of each life goes on unceasingly. Every word that falls thoughtfully or thoughtlessly from our lips is filling up the measure of blessing or cursing in this world. Every act of our lives is fraught with weal or woe to others, as well as to ourselves. We shall as certainly reap the harvest of the seed sown by our unconscious influence, or by our influence carelessly exerted, as we shall reap the harvest of the seed planted with a careful hand."

"Make this world as true and as good as you can. And the best way for you to help on this end is to be yourself true and good. Live a real life, but cultivate the ideal, and remember that the highest ideal you dream out is far below the possible reality that God purposes for you."

Educational.

Personal Work With Children.

It is a well-established fact that in order to gain any sort of controlling influence over children, we must first of all get close to their lives and affections. We must know them thoroughly; and they, in turn, must know and trust us.

We cannot easily deceive them as to our worthiness. A child's eyes are clear and keen, and though he may be innocent of the falseness and sham of the world, himself, yet he can detect it in the grown-ups with an almost marvelously unerring judgment. A child's confidence is a sacred thing; he does not bestow it upon one until he sees that the recipient is worthy. It is plain, therefore, that we must strive to be worthy of the love and confidence we seek; then we may teach them to trust us, and they will see that we are in sympathy with their lives, their joys and sorrows.

We must not try to talk down or live down to them. We are going in the wrong direction if we do that. Children live in the clouds, at their best moments; they aspire to ideals of perfections which we would not dream of. They have not been taught soberness of judgment and reasonable proportion by life's bitter failures, and far be it from us to lower their standards or their enthusiasms. Rather let us if we can, rise to their levels, and be one of them and with them. Then we can lead them as we will.

Can we bring about this close companionship between ourselves and our pupils in class-work alone? I think not. That work needs the aid, the strengthening, of the personal touch of the teacher upon each individual pupil's heart and life. It is only when we can draw each heart to us by a separate cord of individual love and interest that we can bind the class into a whole, mighty for good and strong in possibilities.

If we will be strong factors in the lives of our pupils, we must know them in their home lives, their school lives, their work and play. We may call upon them; we may gather them in our own parlors, greet them on the street; but always we should be their friends and ready helpers. Do we not stand somewhat in the same relation to them as the pastor of the church does to their fathers and mothers? Let us, then, if we accept the office, try to fill it well.

But it is the confidential, tenderly spoken word, to one child alone, at some golden instant of opportunity, which weighs in the balance of life's decisions. A word of earnest, heartfelt praise to the boy or girl who has tried and gained some small victory over sin; a gentle word or look of sorrow for one who has failed, with the never-to-be-omitted hope for the future's bettering; a quiet little talk of counsel for the perplexed or tried or troubled ones—these are the things which count after all.

Let them be spoken in the home of child or teacher, or on the street, even in the pause of waiting for a car—oh! the world is full of golden chances. Do we look for them and find them? But wherever or however the chance comes, we must know the child—his life and thoughts, his hopes and fears—he must know us, and we must be worthy. If one of the links be broken, the chain is broken too; and the opportunities we seek and need will not appear to us. Let us forge them with prayer, and then go hopefully forth to our beautiful work.

There are two little words in our language which I always admired—"try" and "trust." Until you try you know not what you can or can not effect; and if you make your trials in the exercise of trust in God, mountains of imaginary difficulties will vanish as you approach them, and facilities which you never anticipated will be afforded.—JOHN WILLIAMS.

John Wesley's Health Hints.

Use that kind and measure of food which experience shows to be most conducive to health and strength. Abstain from all mixed or highly seasoned food. Eat as sparingly as you can, consistent with ease and strength.

Water is the most wholesome of all drinks. It quickens the appetite and strengthens the digestion.

Use as much exercise daily in the open air as you can without weariness. Go to bed early and rise betimes.

Above all, add that old unfashionable medicine, prayer; and have faith in God.

Coffee and tea are extremely harmful to persons.

The flesh-brush is a most useful exercise, especially to strengthen any part that is weak.

The cold bath is a great advantage to health. It prevents an abundance of diseases; it promotes perspiration, improves the circulation of the blood, and prevents danger of catching cold. Catching cold is one great source of disease. Whenever there appears the least sign of this, let it be removed by gentle sweats.

The love of God is the sovereign remedy of all miseries. It effectually prevents all the bodily disorders and passions by keeping the passions themselves in due bounds, and by the unspeakable joy and perfect calm serenity and tranquility which it gives the mind, it becomes the most powerful of all means of health and long life.

If the church is to rescue the world, it must give the gospel trumpet another and a different tone. It must teach physical righteousness, as well as moral rectitude. It must teach a gospel of diet, of bath, of exercise, of cleanliness, of domestic sanitation, etc.

Divine forbearance and protecting care are ever in exercise to preserve souls from destruction.

News From the Field.

Orangeville.

There are many in this enlightened land of the free who have not yet heard of the love of a Saviour who died on Calvary's tree. These are not all to be found in the crowded city, but near to Nature's heart are many who must yet hear of a risen Saviour. Some have already entered this field of pioneer work, and we feel that others will also be willing to make the sacrifice for Christ's sake. About one year ago Brother J. A. Starr and wife, Dr. Lillis-Wood Starr, with their little family moved from Battle Creek to Orangeville, Michigan, where they have labored as self-supporting missionaries. From a recent communication from them we take the liberty of quoting the following, which is only one of many similar experiences, believing all will be interested in the work which is being carried on at this place.

"Our family consisting of Theodore Johnson, sisters Etta and Martha Cornish, my wife, two children and myself, are all missionaries and the Lord is sustaining us. All winter we have been interested in a man and his wife and two children (twins a boy and girl) eight years old this month. The boy is, and always has been, helpless and has to be lifted about. The people have had two deaths in their family in less than one year and much sickness. We have taken the helpless child to our home frequently for periods of a few days to weeks, and in many other ways have shared their burdens with them.

Recently the old home property was divided up among the heirs, and this family find themselves set out of a very large dwelling house to begin life on 80 acres of stony land and to live in a log cabin which no man has dwelt in for many years. The wife was then called to go near Otsego to care for her father during his last illness.

The neighbors took the little girl and we took the boy. Taking advantage of the woman's absence one morning we drove to the log cabin, and cleaned, white-washed and papered, also put down one carpet. The experiences we are having are briefly recorded in Isaiah 54th and 58th chapters. Songs of praise went up from the cabin as we worked and scripture quotations covering living experiences were recited. "And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations."

The crippled boy has come to love our hours of worship and the Sabbath for he does not hear the voice of prayer at home. Last week the mother returned from burying her father, and as she was much worn from her long vigil, we put her to bed on rest cure for a few days. We placed the helpless child on the bed by his mother, and he asked her, Mamma, you will keep the Sabbath, will you not? Again and again did the child press the same question until the mother said,—“Why, yes Clare, I think I will.”

We are giving our lives to the people here and supporting ourselves by honest toil. No charges have yet been made for medical service. Much of our work of every kind has been bestowed upon those who could not pay. The mother above referred to has frequently told us that she does not know what they would have done this winter except for our help and sympathy. We have given them scripture and comfort. The Lord has afforded us many opportunities in this field to “magnify the law and make it honourable.” In various ways we are getting close to souls and expect to win some. Souls are the hire we crave, and this craving helps us endure many things that would otherwise be hardships.

Etta and Martha recently organized a Sunday School at Hogster.

I have been down two Sundays and hope to interest some of the men about the saw mill in the study of the word.

This is a desolate field and there are many needy souls, and more opportunities for service than we can possibly fill. Sometimes we wish for more than twenty-four hours in a day as so much work invites our attention. The limitations of our powers as measured against the demands of the field drive us to God for wisdom that each moment may count and no energy be lost.”

Grand Rapids.

From a recent communication from Sister Jennie DeYoung of Grand Rapids, we note with interest the progress of the Bible work and quote as follows:—

“At present there are eight families with whom I am holding Bible readings. Several others who are not in health expect my regular visits for a short talk each week. Six of the families mentioned are Hollanders. Once a week I meet a company of young ladies for a study. Four of my readers have already decided to observe the Sabbath.

Not long ago I met a lady who told me that the Lord had shown her that infant baptism was not taught in the word of God. She also said if the Lord made it plain to her that the Sabbath was binding, that with His help she would keep it. The Spirit of the Lord witnessed to the written word and she became fully persuaded that she should observe the Sabbath and is very happy in the new light found.”

God has promised that His word shall not return unto Him void. Let us be faithful in scattering the precious seeds of truth, which when watered with the dews of His grace will yield a rich harvest.

Present opportunities, if rightly used are as great as the world need ask.—ANNA ROBERTSON BROWNING.

News and Notes.

Elder D. T. Bourdeau recently visited Sand Lake and held quarterly meeting with that church. He reports a most excellent time.

Brother M. N. Campbell, West Michigan canvassing agent, spent last week at Berrien Springs, conducting a canvassing class with the special students.

Sabbath, May 14, Elder R. A. Underwood occupied the pulpit at the Tabernacle and gave a very practical sermon on the privileges and high calling of the Christian life.

Elder W. C. Hebner recently organized a church at Rothbury of nineteen members, which is fully officered. J. L. Butzer was appointed to the office of elder and Aaron Baker as deacon.

Many of the delegates to the Lake Union Conference reached Berrien Springs Monday afternoon, while the larger part of the delegation was expected to arrive Tuesday. The meeting of the Review & Herald Publishing Association was called for Tuesday, May 17, 10 o'clock a. m.

From a recent communication from W. C. White we learn that the work at Washington is progressing. Some of the building will soon be in the process of construction. Brother Baird who has been connected with the work at Berrien Springs has been invited to superintend the work of student labor at Washington.

Have you thought of what you might do if you were to adopt a systematic use of the Family Bible Teacher? By the use of this little messenger you can place practically the entire truth, in a clear concise

manner, in the hands of your friends and neighbors at the same cost of about seven cents for each family. The Family Bible Teacher was formerly published at Cincinnati, O., but has recently been sold to the Southern Publishing Association. Order of West Michigan Tract Society, Otsego, Mich.

Recently a company of twelve from Emmanuel Missionary College went to Niles to again visit the homes. Besides the opportunities for Christian work and prayer, they were instrumental in placing 125 copies of the April Advocate, and selling a number of smaller books like, Paradise Home, Best Stories, etc. All seem to have gained an experience which will be very helpful to them in their preparation for future work.

Elder W. D. Parkhurst writing from Grand Rapids under recent date says:

"We closed our meetings at the hall on 5th Avenue a few days ago without any visible results, except, that one lady seemed to be interested in hearing the truth, and Miss McHugh is now giving her readings. I am now doing some personal work in which the Lord is blessing. Last month I baptized three precious ones, and there are several more among those for whom I am laboring who are desiring baptism. The work is progressing in Grand Rapids, and the outlook is encouraging. My own courage is good. I praise God for every victory as an evidence that God still gives repentance to sinners, and that the "door of mercy is still open."

Elder A. F. Ballenger, who labored so faithfully for some years in the United States, and especially in old Michigan, is at present established in the work at Newport,

Wales, where we have followed him with prayers for the success of his effort in a new field. From a recent communication we quote the following:

"The Lord has greatly blessed in the work here. At the beginning He manifested His great power in the healing of a young woman who was almost dead with cancer. Of all the miracles which I have seen in connection with my ministry, this is the most wonderful as far as appearances go. It created a great stir, and although nearly a year has passed since it occurred, it is still exerting a powerful influence on our work. We have the largest church as a result of the work here, that I have ever seen in any effort with which I have been connected. The new Sabbath keepers number between thirty and forty. The Lord has greatly blessed in the study of the word and I am learning wonderful truths out of His word."

Missionary Report for Quarter Ending March, 31, 1904.

Number of reports returned, 70.
 Number of letters written, 121.
 Number of letters received, 65.
 Number of Bible readings held 107.
 Number of subscriptions for periodicals, 219.
 Number of periodicals distributed, 14072.
 Number of pages of books, tracts, etc. distributed, 62,409.
 Missionary visits, 412.

Report of Canvassing Work to April 30th.

Great Controversy	Hrs.	Ord.	Value
Ordis Dow	75	9	25.50
Daniel and Revelation			
C. F. Glascock	50	5	12.75
Helps.			
Chas. Faber	107	82	59.25
Totals	241	96	\$97.50

M. N. CAMPBELL.

Field Secretary.