

The West Michigan Herald.

"Watchman, What of the Night."

VOL. II.

OTSEGO, MICHIGAN, JULY 20, 1904.

No. 28

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD.
Issued every Wednesday by the West Michigan S. D. A. Conference, Otsego, Michigan.

Rate: 25 Cts. per year (50 numbers) in advance.

Entered Sept. 23, 1903, at Otsego, Mich., as second class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1878.

A Condition.

How solemn is the thought that the way in which we labor in this world, and in which we improve the moments at our disposal, will determine our lot in the eternal world! It does not suffice to say that we are satisfied if only we can have a place in heaven, however small it may be. God demands the best efforts of which we are capable. Each one must put all his energies into his service. "Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Furthermore the desire to gain heaven should not be the only motive of our actions. That which led to the condemnation of the man who received the one talent, was his selfishness. He would not make efforts to do good to others. Like all selfish people, he was blind to his own interests and brought loss to himself. He comprehended not that in laboring for another, it turned for good to himself. He could not look forward to the end of his labors, when his Lord would come.

We ought to learn a lesson from his selfishness, as well as from the faithfulness of the other servants. We should labor disinterestedly and with love for God and for our fellow-men. If we have the love of God in our hearts, we shall have a great desire to see our fellow-men saved, and our labors will tend in that direction without slackening our efforts. Our duty here below is to work constantly. At the end of our labors, the reward will be

given, not as pay for our services, but as a gift in which we shall be prepared to rejoice.

—Selected.

Family Worship.

The family is the germ of the life of the nation and the church, because both are made up of families. The prevailing condition of the families of a country indicate the position of that country in the scale of civilization and social progress. The component parts make up the whole. If the families of a nation are distinguished for intelligence, industry and virtue, that nation is in the van of progress. The family home is the most potent training-school for the arena of active life. There an influence is exerted that stamps itself upon the character and habits. The habits, principles, and spirit of the parents commonly re-appear in the life of the children. If it is a matter of importance that the home be a place where knowledge, industry and affection nestle, much more is it important that religious principle, integrity, and piety should be real and moulding forces there. But piety cannot flourish without a recognition of God, and communion with Him who is the author and source of all good.

A prayerless home in which there is no family recognition of the claims of God to reverence, worship, and loving obedience, is poor soil in which to raise plants of righteousness for the garden of the Lord. On the other hand, there are peculiar beauty and appropriateness in the members of a family who are bound together by mutual love and common interests, cares and hopes, bowing together at the throne of grace, to present their common thanks, confessions and petitions to the great Father, in

whom they live and move and have their being. Many nominally Christian families have no family worship. In the evening there are no united thanks for the mercies of the closing day. In the morning there are no petitions for help and protection in the duties and temptations of the day. In such cases the parents practically deny that there is a great and holy being whom they should acknowledge in all their ways. The children are likely to think that the faith of their parents is nominal and unreal.

It should not be forgotten that the influence of family worship upon the minds of children largely depends upon the spirit and manner of conducting it. Long, formal prayers beget prejudice and aversion, instead of awakening religious interest. Family prayers should be simple and pointed, fervent and brief. Every Christian household should have its family altar, on which the fires of devotion should burn continually. If there are any of our readers whom God has placed at the head of a family, who neglect this duty, we would say, do not do so any longer. Gather your little ones together in prayer, and let your acts show them that you believe that every good and perfect gift cometh down from the Father of lights.—Sel.

Only A Piece Of Paper.

The following illustration of what may be accomplished by good literature is recounted by an exchange:—

"I was asked to go to a public house in Nottingham to see the landlord's wife, who was dying. I found her rejoicing in Christ as her Saviour. I asked her how she found the Lord. 'Reading that,'

she replied, handing me a torn piece of paper.

"I looked at it, and found that it was a piece of an American newspaper, containing an extract from one of Spurgeon's sermons, which extract had been the means of her conversion.

"Where did you find this newspaper?" I asked. "She answered: 'It was wrapped around a parcel sent to me from Australia.'

"Talk about the hidden life of a good seed! Think of that! A sermon preached in London, conveyed to America, then to Australia, part of it torn off for the parcel dispatched to England, and after all its wanderings, giving the message of salvation to that woman's soul! God's word shall not return unto Him void."

Organization Of Church Schools.

NUMBER II.

THE TREASURER.

I speak of the Treasurer first because it is in his hands that the "sinews of war" are placed for the carrying on of the school. I do not know that I shall be voicing the sentiments of any of the rest of the committee in some of the statements that I am about to make, for I have not talked with them about it. The reader will therefore weigh what I say as an individual.

I have found in several instances that those who are chosen to handle the funds of the church or church school are extremely sensitive. Any inquiry as to the condition of the account, the amount of money on hand, what it has been paid out for, etc. is viewed with suspicion. In very few of our churches is any one regularly appointed to audit the books of the Treasurer and report to the church that the books have been correctly kept. Some treasurers have made the statement that if the church cannot trust them to keep the money, they can get someone else to keep it. This is undoubtedly true, but the treasurer is so apt to take it as an imputation against his honesty if the

church desires that someone audit the books of the treasurer to see if they are correct. Laying down a general principle, I would say that the individual who objects to having his books as treasurer audited, is the very individual that ought to have the books audited, and that regularly. Another principle that I would state is that any member of the church who objects to having his books audited regularly is not the proper person for the treasurer of the church school. There is more occasion for criticism, more opportunity for suspicion when the treasurer endeavors to cover up and keep from the church his books than there can be when the books are regularly inspected by others. I have in mind a church in which the church school treasurer is conceded by every member of the church to be a thoroughly honest man. At one of the church school meetings a committee of two were appointed to go through his books and report to the church. This committee was welcomed to inspect the books and was given every assistance possible by the treasurer, and the committee found that in the addition a mistake of one dollar was made, so that the treasurer had apparently lost a dollar to the school. Being fearful that he had lost the dollar, he took a dollar out of his own pocket and placed in the school funds so as to make it equal to the balance called for by the books. This to himself was an evidence of the Treasurer's honesty, but did that church come honestly by the dollar? It certainly did not, for it had received that dollar without giving any return whatever therefore. It was worth the dollar to that treasurer to have the books audited. It was worth more than a dollar to have the committee come back to the church and say, The books are correct. I would not undertake the treasurership or the handling of money of any other person, firm, or aggregation of individuals without my books were audited regular-

ly. So I would advise every church school treasurer and every church treasurer as well to insist that his books be audited at least once each year. It is not sufficient that the treasurer reads a report of all that he has received and all that he has paid out and tells how much he has left. Mistakes in the book-keeping occur behind such a statement as that. Let the treasurer make such a statement and let it be O. K'ed. by at least two competent persons who have gone through the books, added the columns, checked over the totals, and then there is little likelihood of mistakes. Says one, "Does this refer also to the tithe?" Perhaps that is a little out of the way of this article, but I would say most assuredly. Some people are extremely sensitive about letting anyone else look at a book in which the payment of tithes is recorded. Some even refuse to send in the names of those of the church who pay tithes and how much to the conference treasurer. There is always the opportunity to question as to whether these who are so sensitive have really paid an honest tithe or not. The only reason why I would object to anyone's seeing how much tithe I had paid would be that I had not paid all that was due the Lord and I did not wish anyone to know it.

A church school treasurer should give a receipt for every dollar he receives. The stubs should be faithfully made out and numbered the same as the receipts. In a little book kept for that purpose, the date of payment, name of payer, number of the receipt given for the money, and amount should be faithfully placed. Every dollar that is paid out should have therefor a voucher which should be numbered in the order in which it is received and carefully filed away in an envelope or other receptacle so that those who audit the books can check over and see the money has been expended according to the voucher.

In some of our church schools it is very inconvenient for patrons of the school to hand money to the treasurer. It is more convenient to hand the tuition money or donation directly to the teacher. The teacher should faithfully hand this money, as far as possible in the original package or parcel in which it is handed to the teacher, over to the church treasurer. If the money is not placed in an envelope but is handed openly to the teacher, the teacher should take a receipt from the treasurer in the following form: "Received of John Jones, per Miss Mary Smith" so many dollars. This receipt the teacher should hand to the child who brought the money. It is not a good way to make the teacher the treasurer of the school funds.

When the time comes for the teacher to receive her wages, let her go the treasurer for it, receive the pay, and give a receipt for the amount, stating for what month it is the salary or portion of the salary, as the case may be.

In our church schools ordinarily I would not counsel the necessity of the chairman of the board drawing an order on the treasurer for the money and then asking the teacher to go to the treasurer with this order and draw the money. There is no objection to this plan and it might be the best plan where the officers of the school live near the teacher, but if the treasurer keeps a voucher from the teacher and can show a voucher for every cent he expends in behalf of the school, an order from the chairman of the board would seem to be unnecessary. So too it would seem in our smaller schools to be unnecessary for the secretary to receive the money, keep books to show who had paid and who had not and then turn the money over to the treasurer and ask him also to keep books relative to the money. It will be just as well for the treasurer to receive the money and to disburse it. The secretary will have sufficient to do to keep the minutes of the meetings of the school board and to look after other matters that

may be referred to him. In all these things, "Let all things be done decently and in order."

J. G. LAMSON.

Medical.

Earache.

Inflammation of the ear is a frequent trouble during infancy and early childhood, attacks usually occurring in the cold weather.

CAUSE.

As a rule inflammation of the ear follows other diseases; most frequently it is preceded by some infectious condition of the nose and throat. The usual avenue of infection is through the eustachian tube. The trouble often originates during measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, mumps, simple catarrh and dentition. The severest forms of ear trouble usually follow scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria, pneumonia or epidemic influenza. The germs which are involved in the production of the trouble vary with the condition of which it is a complication.

COURSE OF THE DISEASE.

First there is usually swelling of the mucous membrane of the nose and pharynx, this extends into the eustachian tube, causing more or less complete obstruction. This inflammatory process may extend to the lining mucous membrane of the middle ear. The catarrhal form which usually complicates measles, involves simply the mucous membrane, and is not usually followed by great pain, but the form which follows scarlet fever, diphtheria or influenza, is a much more serious inflammation, involving not only the mucous membrane, but also the deeper tissues.

The catarrhal form often subsides in a few days with proper treatment, the only result being a slight temporary deafness. The severer form causes stoppage of the eustachian tubes, rupture of the tympanic membrane or drum, and discharge of pus, the products of the inflammation. Sometimes the process may extend to the bones

causing decay and serious complications.

SYMPTOMS.

These are few and quite variable. The two most constant symptoms are pain and fever. Generally there is some discharge from the nose, slight congestion of the tonsils and a temperature of 100 to 102 degrees. The child continues to be restless, worries much of the time, nurses poorly, sometimes there may be marked tenderness about the ear, the child refuses to lie on the affected side, shows signs of pain when the ear is touched. After a week or ten days a discharge is found in the auditory canal, after which the symptoms rapidly subside. Sometimes the first symptom that can be noticed will be the discharge from the ear. In other cases there is marked dullness, nausea and vomiting with little or no signs of pain, and it is this which so often adds to great obscurity of the symptoms.

In older children the symptoms are more characteristic. The pain is usually sharp and severe and is present early in the attack. The temperature is usually elevated two or three degrees, accompanied with severe headache, extreme restlessness, sometimes even delirium or convulsions may be present. The inflammation does not always go on to suppuration and rupture, even though the pain has been quite severe. The drum membrane in older children is more firm, does not yield so readily and therefore takes more time before rupture occurs. Often noises in the ear are complained of; a feeling of discomfort resembling that which is felt when the ears are stopped.

The local appearance of the drum is intense redness and congestion; later there is bulging of the membrane. Perforation may be assumed if bubbles of air are seen deep in the canal or if mucous or pus is present. A discharge is not present until perforation has taken place.

PATIENCE S. BOURDEAU, M. D.

News and Notes.

Our foreign papers, The Christlicher Husfrund, Evangelicts Sendebud, and Sions Vauktare, have been enlarged to sixteen pages each and the following uniform subscription price has been adopted for each paper: For one year, \$1.25; for six months, 65 cents; three months, 35 cents. Let all our people secure as many subscriptions as possible for these good papers.

"Life and Health" is the title of the new health journal published at Washington, D. C. It is a monthly journal filled with good things that make for health and happiness, and we are sure will be appreciated by all. The price is within reach of all, 50 cents per year. Address Review & Herald Publishing Co., 222 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

Canvassers are wanted for our subscription books in all parts of the West Michigan Conference, and will be pleased to correspond with all who have a desire to enter that branch of the work. There should be some one in every church who was devoting their whole time to this line of the work of God, and several in each church should devote a part of their time. All such should write us at once.

Sister White has recently visited the Huntsville, Ala., school. This institution has been raised up by the Lord to a great work for the colored people, and it is to be increased in its power of working many fold. God is setting his hand especially to helping the colored people at this time, and now is our opportunity to redeem our past unfaithfulness and neglect. This field will soon close, and what is done for these people must be done quickly.

It should be remembered by all our people that the German and Scandanavian Bible Schools at Union College are the only ones of the kind in the United States. A thorough course of instruction for

ministers and Bible workers is there provided for, and competent instructors have been arranged for for the coming year. All should do all they can to assist these schools. Call the attention of young men and women to them, and assist with your means those who need financial help.

We are glad to announce that Brother A. T. Jones will write a series of important articles for The Life Boat on the Present Truth. The first of these will appear in the August number, and will be devoted to the sanctuary question. Your unconverted friends and neighbors will read them, and thank you for putting the paper into their hands. And it may be the means of winning some of them to Christ. Single copies, two cents; thirty-five cents a year. Send orders to your Tract Society, or The Life Boat, Hinsdale, Ill.

"Our Little Folk's Bible Nature" is the title of a book just issued by the Review & Herald Publishing Co. The author is Mrs. Ella Sanders who wrote the "Easy Lessons For Children" in the "Best Stories." Mrs. Sanders is one of the most experienced primary church school teachers in the denomination, and having had extended observation and preparation in lesson writing for children, she is thoroughly competent to produce a primary book adapted to the needs of the children in the home and the school.

The plan of the book is simple graded lessons on Bible nature, taking up the subjects in the order of creation, beginning with light the first subject introduced in the Bible. The sentence method is introduced in the first lesson in script and print, and great care has been taken in the grading of the matter throughout the entire book, and each subject is thoroughly illustrated by new drawing made especially for the book, with thirteen colored plates. It is the same size, and contains the same number of

pages as "Our Paradise Home," Beautifully bound in board and cloth with an appropriately colored design cover. Retail prices 25 40 cents. 40% discount allowed to agents.

All orders should be sent to the State Tract Society, Otsego, Mich.

Elder W. C. Hebner and W. H. Heckman are located at Holton and under date of July 10 write as follows:

The first meeting after the Fourth was very lightly attended, but the attendance has gradually increased, till last night (Sabbath) the tent was nearly full, besides about twenty-five standing outside. One thing that greatly encourages us is the interest manifest by those who come. They pay strict attention and appear deeply interested. The people are very kind and show their appreciation of our meetings in a very substantial way by supplying us with many of the necessities of life. They are also beginning to invite us to their homes, and this paves the way for getting nearer to their hearts.

Last Friday evening we announced that we would have children's meeting the next Sunday at 3:00 p. m. To-day our hearts were greatly rejoiced to see thirty children, ranging from six to fourteen years of age, in our meeting. Considerable time was spent in teaching them new songs. One bright little girl, the daughter of the bartender at the Hotel here, sang a solo,—"Our God is a God of Love" having, during the week, come to the tent to practice. The children were divided into two classes, Mrs. Heckman taking the older ones, and Miss Mina Parkhurst the kindergarten children. Efficient help is being rendered by Miss Parkhurst, especially with music and work in behalf of the children. We feel our inability to carry forward this work successfully in our own strength, and earnestly plead for the prayers of all of God's people that it may culminate triumphantly, and a large church raised here as a result of our efforts.