

# The West Michigan Herald.

"Watchman, What of the Night."

VOL. III.

OTSEGO, MICHIGAN, OCTOBER 25, 1905.

No. 41

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.

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#### Fourth Annual Session of the West Michigan Conference.

The fourth annual session of the West Michigan Conference is to be held in the Adventist church at Otsego, Michigan, January 18-21, 1906. This comes by unanimous vote of the church and the conference committee. Later announcements as to arrangements will be given in the "Herald."

A. G. HAUGHEY.

#### Missionary.

##### Healing of the Soul.

Many of those who came to Christ for help had brought disease upon themselves; yet He did not refuse to heal them. And when virtue from Him entered into these souls, they were convicted of sin, and many were healed of their spiritual disease as well as of their physical maladies.

Among these was the paralytic at Capernaum. Like the leper, this paralytic had lost all hope of recovery. His disease was the result of a sinful life, and his sufferings

were embittered by remorse. In vain he had appealed to the Pharisees and doctors for relief; they pronounced him incurable, they denounced him as a sinner, and declared that he would die under the wrath of God.

The palsied man had sunk into despair. Then he heard of the works of Jesus. Others, as sinful and helpless as he, had been healed, and he was encouraged to believe that he too might be cured if he could be carried to the Saviour. But hope fell as he remembered the cause of his malady, yet he could not cast away the possibility of healing.

His great desire was relief from the burden of sin. He longed to see Jesus, and receive the assurance of forgiveness and peace with heaven. Then he would be content to live or to die, according to God's will.

There was no time to lose; already his wasted flesh bore signs of death. He besought his friends to carry him on his bed to Jesus, and this they gladly undertook to do. But so dense was the crowd that had assembled in and about the house where the Saviour was, that it was impossible for the sick man and his friends to reach Him, or even to come within hearing of His voice. Jesus was teaching in the home of Peter. According to their custom, His disciples sat close about Him, and "there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, who were come out of every village of Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem." Many of these had come as spies, seeking an accusation against Jesus. Beyond these thronged the promiscuous multitude, the eager, the reverent, the curious, and the unbelieving. Different nationalities, and all grades of society were represented. "And

the power of the Lord was present to heal." The Spirit of life brooded over the assembly, but Pharisees and doctors did not discern His presence. They felt no sense of need, and the healing was not for them. "He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away."

Again and again the bearers of the paralytic tried to push their way through the crowd, but in vain. The sick man looked about him in unutterable anguish. How could he relinquish hope, when the longed-for help was so near? At his suggestion his friends bore him to the top of the house, and breaking up the roof, let him down at the feet of Jesus.

The discourse was interrupted. The Saviour looked upon the mournful countenance, and saw the pleading eyes fixed upon Him. Well He knew the longing of that burdened soul. It was Christ who had brought conviction to his conscience when he was yet at home. When he repented of his sins, and believed in the power of Jesus to make him whole, the mercy of the Saviour had blessed his heart. Jesus had watched the first glimmer of faith grow into a conviction that He was the sinner's only helper, and had seen it grow stronger with every effort to come into His presence. It was Christ who had drawn the sufferer to Himself. Now, in words that fell like music on the listener's ear, the Saviour said, "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee."

The burden of guilt rolls from the sick man's soul. He can not doubt. Christ's words reveal His power to read the heart. Who can deny His power to forgive sins? Hope takes the place of despair, and joy of oppressive gloom. The man's physical pain is gone, and

his whole being is transformed. Making no further request, he lay in peaceful silence, too happy for words.

Many were watching with breathless interest every movement in this strange transaction. Many felt that Christ's words were an invitation to them. Were they not soul-sick because of sin? Were they not anxious to be freed from this burden?

But the Pharisees, fearful of losing their influence with the multitude, said in their hearts, "He blasphemeth, who can forgive sins but One, even God?"

Fixing His glance upon them, beneath which they cowered, and drew back, Jesus said, "Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? for whether is it easier to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins." He said, turning to the paralytic, "Arise, take up thy bed, and go into thine house."

Then he who had been borne on the litter to Jesus arose to his feet with the elasticity and strength of youth. And immediately he "took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion."

It required nothing less than creative power to restore health to that decaying body. The same voice that spoke life to man created from the dust of the earth, had spoken life to the dying paralytic. And the same power that gave life to the body, had renewed the heart. He who at creation "spake, and it was," who "commanded, and it stood fast," had spoken life to the soul dead in trespasses and sins. The healing of the body was evidence of the power that had renewed the heart. Christ bade the paralytic arise and walk, "that ye may know." He said, "that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins."

The paralytic found in Christ healing for both the soul and the body. He needed health of soul before he could appreciate health of body. Before the physical malady could be healed, Christ must bring relief to the mind and cleanse the soul from sin. This lesson should not be overlooked. There are to-day thousands suffering from physical disease, who, like the paralytic, are longing for the message, "Thy sins are forgiven." The burden of sin, with its unrest and unsatisfied desires, is the foundation of their maladies. They can find no relief until they come to the Healer of the soul. The peace which He alone can impart, would restore vigor to the mind, and health to the body.

The effect produced upon the people by the healing of the paralytic was as if heaven had opened, and revealed the glories of the better world. As the man who had been cured passed through the throng, blessing God at every step, and bearing his burden as if it were a feather's weight, the people fell back to give him room, and with awestricken faces gazed upon him, whispering softly among themselves, "We have seen strange things to-day."

In the home of the paralytic there was great rejoicing when he returned to his family, carrying with ease the couch upon which he had been slowly borne from their presence but a short time before. They gathered around with tears of joy, hardly daring to believe their eyes. He stood before them in the full vigor of manhood. Those arms that they had seen lifeless were quick to obey his will. The flesh that had been shrunken and leaden-hued was now fresh and ruddy. He walked with a firm, free step. Joy and hope were written in every lineament of his countenance; and an expression of purity and peace had taken the place of the marks of sin and suffering. Glad thanksgiving went up from that home, and God was glorified through His

Son, who had restored hope to the hopeless, and strength to the stricken one. This man and his family were ready to lay down their lives for Jesus. No doubt dimmed their faith, no unbelief marred their fealty to Him who had brought light into their darkened home.—Ministry of Healing.

#### Plans for Selling the Ministry of Healing.

At the last session of the General Conference a Relief Bureau was organized, the object being to promote the sale of such books as "Christ's Object Lessons," "Story of Joseph," and "Ministry of Healing." "Ministry of Healing" is to be handled through the regular channels for the handling of publications, the publishing houses to be the custodian of the fund. The General Conference bears the initial expenses, the expense of illustrating, type-setting, plate-making, and translating into foreign languages. All the conferences and sanitariums are uniting in the training of workers to go forth and teach the principles set forth in the book, and encouraging our people to engage in its circulation. A small portion of the earnings of this Bureau will go to the General Conference; the rest will go to the different institutions to which the various books have been dedicated.

As the West Michigan Conference is operating a sanitarium in Grand Rapids, the income from the sale of "Ministry of Healing" will be used in building up the medical work in that city. We trust that all our brethren throughout the territory will take a hand in the sale of this most precious book.

Copies of this book can be had at the West Michigan Tract Society office at the price of \$1.50, or \$1.65 postpaid.

#### Remember The Special Numbers of Our Foreign Papers.

The International Publishing Association at College View, Nebraska, will concentrate their

whole effort on one number of the German, Danish-Norwegian, and Swedish papers instead of four numbers, for the missionary campaign this fall. They are planning to get them out about the time of the second number of the series of the "Signs of the Times." The foreign papers will have a choice collection of articles from our best writers on the Second Coming of Christ, Saints' Inheritance, Last Message, State of the Dead, The Sabbath, Sunday Laws, Characteristics of the Last Church, etc. These special numbers will be finely illustrated, containing twenty-four pages and cover, which will make them valuable papers for circulation and good sellers. All of our readers should order a supply of these papers for their friends and neighbors who read either of these languages. Price five cents each; ten or more, three cents each. Order of your Tract Society, or of the Publishers.

### The Canvasser.

In summer's heat and, winter's snow,  
From place to place one sees him go;  
A mighty message fills his breast,  
His eyes are fixed on Heaven's rest.  
To many a home so sad and drear,  
He brings the message of good cheer.

From house to house and town to town  
He shouts the glorious harvest home:  
And, with the Truth on printed page,  
He makes the dragon foam and rage.  
The flame of love it fills his heart—  
What matters it if demons start?

For men and women sunk in sin  
Have learned the Truth of God from him  
Let evil men and demons shriek—  
He now is strong who once was weak.  
And when the rocks and mountains cleave  
He with the rest will bring his sheaves.

And when the work on earth is done,  
The King of kings will call him home;  
And to the angels 'twill be told,  
"You may give to him a crown of gold,"  
And with a harp of many strings  
He cries aloud and sweetly sings.  
Within the realms of the blest,  
The canvasser shall find sweet rest.

MOSES WHITMARSH,

### True Greatness.

Jesus said, "He that would be chiefest among you, let him be ser-

vant of all." So in history, sacred or profane, we find that service is the necessary greatness. It is also the measure of happiness. We are happy, not in proportion as people do something for us, but in proportion as we do something for others. Look back over your lives. What days are brightest? The days remembered because of what others have done for you? No! The days that are brightest, and they will grow brighter with the years, are the days which are glorified by some generous contribution to the welfare of the world.

If we were happy in proportion as people did something for us, our happiness would be in the keeping of others, but if our happiness depends upon what we do for others, it is in our own keeping, and it is our own fault if we are not happy.

We love people in proportion as we serve them. "Where your treasurers lie there will your heart lie also." If you bestow your time, your interest, or your goods upon one, your affections will follow the gift. The more you do for him the more you love him. If you want to love all the world, try to do something for all the world. Why is it that there is nothing on earth like a mother's love? It is because there is no service under heaven like that which the mother renders to her child.

—Selected.

### From the Field.

KALAMAZOO.

In harmony with the vote of the conference committee, the writer took the oversight of the work in this city some weeks ago. There is probably no more important missionary field in our conference than the rapidly growing city of Kalamazoo. Last year over eight hundred buildings were erected, and more than a thousand more were built this year, and every house is spoken for, sometimes weeks before completion. This large influx of new residents pro-

vides a fruitful field for missionary endeavor. At the present time we are holding cottage meetings in different parts of the city, and at two points a real interest is already awakened which we feel very hopeful will result in some embracing the truth. The church here is taking hold of the missionary campaign with commendable zeal, and we trust the Lord of the harvest will bless the efforts put forth with an abundant yield of precious souls.

M. N. CAMPBELL.

STURGIS.

On Sabbath, Oct. 14, the writer organized a church of fourteen members in the tent near Sturgis. For a number of years there have been some scattered Sabbath-keepers in and about Sturgis. Last spring Elder W. C. Hebner and Brother James Irving pitched their tent in the country some three or four miles from the city, and worked until the time of the camp-meeting. They returned after the camp-meeting and the Lord has so blessed their labors that some influential farmers' hearts have been touched and the little company of faithful believers were banded together in church relationship at the above stated time. They have rented the G. A. R. hall and purpose to hold a series of meetings in the city. The writer was well pleased with the interest manifested on the part of the people of the city and vicinity.

A. G. HAUGHEY.

### News and Notes.

Elder M. S. Burnham has returned to Otsego.

The editor spent last Sabbath with the church at Shelby.

The last meeting in the tent near Sturgis was held the evening of the 15th.

The address of Brother M. N. Campbell is 801 Clarence St., Kalamazoo, Mich.

We learn that Brother H. C. Pitton expects to begin a series of meetings at Delta.

The church schools at Bauer and Paw Paw have opened with Miss Janet Campbell and Miss Grace Davis respectively as teachers.

Elder A. G. Haughey spent Sabbath at Otsego and spoke in the church upon the subject of "The Angels,—who they are and their work."

A supply of the "Teachers' Manual for the Home and School" as prepared by the Pacific Press is in the Otsego office and can be had for 50¢ and postage.

Eleven persons were baptized at Benton Harbor as a result of the faithful labors of the brethren who have worked at that place. The tent meetings closed Sunday evening, the 15th.

If there are any young people's societies who have not reported for the quarter ending September 30, we trust they will do so soon, as we desire to hear from every society in the conference.

We are thankful that so many of our Sabbath-school secretaries have been so prompt this quarter and sent in their reports early. There are a few who have not reported as yet, but we hope they will do so at once.

A recent communication from Brother J. W. Hofstra states that they have established a Sabbath-school of twenty regular members at Olive Center. This is a Holland Sabbath-school, but two of the classes are conducted in the English language.

We understand that another one of our laborers has entered the state of matrimony. Brother James Irving, and Mrs. Ella Carr were married Wednesday, October 11,

by Elder W. C. Hebner. They are located at Sturgis, Mich. The "Herald" extends congratulations.

Do not forget the Missionary and Sabbath-school Convention that is to be held at Allegan November 4 and 5 in connection with the quarterly meeting. We hope there will be a good representation from the Otsego, Kalamazoo, and South Monterey churches. We want to see all the young people from these churches at this meeting.

Doctor Bourdeau-Sisco left Grand Rapids this morning for Washington, D. C., to connect with the Washington Branch Sanitarium as a physician. She leaves with the best of recommendations from the medical fraternity of the city of Grand Rapids. Dr. Sisco has been very successful in her work as a physician under the employ of the West Michigan Conference.

#### Battle Creek.

Miss Fern West, who has been on the sick list during the past week, is again at her post of duty.

Elder C. McReynolds spent Sabbath with us in Battle Creek, and spoke to the brethren in the afternoon. It did us good to hear his voice again.

We are putting forth our best efforts to carry out the plans of the missionary campaign committee, and are having many features of encouragement.

A large shipment of fruit has been made recently from the Battle Creek Tract Society to points in the South,—Madison and Huntsville,—also to the work at Hinsdale, Ill.

Robert Walker and family left on Thursday last for California, where they expect to make their home in the future. Brother Walker was one of the Sanitarium's most able workers, and he will be missed greatly. However, he

thought it right to move out of Battle Creek, and we can only wish them all prosperity in their new location.

Mrs. Wm. McReynolds, who has been sick for some months past, died in this city on Thursday last of that dread disease consumption. She leaves her young husband and one baby boy to mourn their loss. The funeral services were conducted by Elder A. T. Jones, and the time was a most touching and tender one. How glad we are to think that Jesus is soon coming!

Elder Heckman delivered the sermon on Sabbath morning in the Tabernacle, on the text "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." Romans 14:7. He spoke of the influence which each man has whether he will or no, and the great responsibility which we all must bear before God in making our influence such a one as shall count for the salvation of souls in the soon-coming kingdom of heaven.

#### The Special Signs.

A series of four special numbers of the "Signs of the Times," each one being a link in a definite line of truth, are now being published. They are, therefore, to be ordered and read as a series. The titles will be:

No. 1. "Prophecy, and Christ's Coming."

No. 2. "The Sanctuary,—The Gospel in Type and Antitype."

No. 3. "The Law, the Gospel, and the Sabbath."

No. 4. "The Church Triumphant."

Prices are as follows:

1 to 4 sets to one or more addresses	\$0.20
5 or more sets to single addresses	.15
25 to 500 sets to one address	.10
500 and upward	.09

Address West Michigan Conference, Otsego, or "Signs of the Times," Mountain View, Cal.