

THE JAMAICA RECORD.

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Better Days Coming.

About thirteen years have passed away since the Advent Message came to Jamaica. They have been years of toil and trust, of interesting incident and testing experiences. We received no welcome from any religious society that had preceded us to these shores, nor has a single sign of cordiality been shown to us by any denomination since. But coldness and unfriendliness has characterised the conduct of those who should have said, God bless you, we welcome you and bid you God speed. We have been misunderstood, misrepresented, maligned, insulted, unfairly opposed and cruelly persecuted. Our meetings have been disturbed and broken up, our buildings burned and torn down, prowling mobs have hooted and hurled stones, striking down some, cutting great gashes in others. One tender young girl, just from college, having sacrificed home, friends and native land to come to Jamaica as a worker for Christ, was struck in the face with the fist of a great brutal religious zealot. Many who believed our teaching and started to keep the commandments of God, have been cruelly beaten, some driven from home. But no word of complaint has been uttered by our people, they have silently and without a murmur borne all opposition and many indignities, keeping steadily to our purpose. Our ministers have penetrated into every part of the Island, walking weary miles in sun and storm, pushing heavily loaded bicycles over mountain and vale, wading and off

times swimming swollen streams, they have pressed on with the message and God has crowned their labours with glorious success. The storm that swept over their heads for over a dozen years has spent its force, the loud thunder peals of threat and anathema have rolled by—only their low mutterings can be heard in the distance now, there is a rift in the clouds, the sunlight is streaming through brightly, the tempest is past and we are entering a season of happy calm. Many who were once our bitterest enemies are now our warmest friends, those who once persistently opposed now consistently support. The work has grown immensely and is now increasing more rapidly than ever before. Fifty-four churches dot our island, day schools are starting and succeeding well without any government aid, the great Training School with its broad acres and unsurpassed advantages looms up grandly in our midst. And now last but not least the West India Health Food Company, Limited, comes upon the scene of action and starts with a capital of one thousand pounds and offers employment to a large number of our brethren and sisters of all ages and classes. Friends are springing up on every side, eyes are opening, conditions have changed: "Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken, nor thy land be termed Desolate, but thou shalt be called the holy people of the Lord, a city not forsaken."—Isa. 62: 4, 12. Stand firm brethren with songs of joy and gladness, we are on the winning side.

Truth versus Error.

We are living in an age of agitation, a time when truth and error are engaged in final combat, and men's souls are being tested and their characters formed for eternity. Side by side oft times stand the advocates of truth and falsehood, light and darkness, each zealously striving to win men to their way, each displaying fact, ability and qualities that command public notice.

Is it possible for us to discern between truth and false teaching, between right and wrong? What is truth? Let God's word answer. "Jesus is the truth" John 14 : 6. "God's word is truth" John 17 : 17. The ten commandments are truth.—Ps. 119 : 151.

Thus anything that is in harmony with Christ, with the Bible and with the Ten Commandments is truth, but anything that contradicts either one of these three is error.

Many persons are of opinion that anything that is taught by recognised religious leaders is truth, but the inspired teacher says, "To the law and to the testimony if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.—Isa. 8 : 20.

That the promulgation of a doctrine meets with public approval is not necessarily evidence of its reliability and correctness, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but they will turn away from the truth and be turned into fables."—2 Tim. 4 : 3, 4.

Truth will bear inspection and investigation and the closer you examine it the clearer it becomes, while error and tradition shrink from close scrutiny, knowing that their falseness and corruptness will be exposed when compared with the infallible word of God. Said Christ, "In vain do ye

worship me teaching for doctrines the traditions of men."—Matt. 15 : 9.

"God is a Spirit and they that worship him must worship him in Spirit and truth."—John 4 : 24.

Let us worship him the way and the day that Jesus says, and the way and the day that the Bible says, and the way and the day that the commandment says, and we will worship him in truth. For Jesus, the word and the commandments are truth.

EDWARD A. ALBERGA.

From A Correspondent.

The following correspondence was received last month from the Secretary of the "General Conference Publishing Department" who requests that a place be given it in the RECORD, after the manuscript for that month's issue was sent to the Press.

A REPORT OF THE PUBLISHERS' CONVENTION.

Our Publishers' Convention is in the past, reports of which have doubtless already been read in the Review. The meeting was a success in every particular, far beyond our highest hopes and expectations.

This meeting should mark an era in the history of our publishing work. For the first time in its history, the members of the General Conference Committee, presidents of the State Conference, members of the Publishing Department, General and Field Missionary Agents and Tract Society Secretaries united for a full week in giving their attention almost exclusively to the Publishing and Tract Society interest.

The discussions were enthusiastic beyond description. Perfect unity prevailed in every meeting. This convention has given abundant evidence of the fact that our leading workers

throughout the world are ready to present a solid front to the enemy and unite in building up the work of this great evangelizing agency.

The chief object of this note is to tell you that we are publishing a very complete report of these meetings. The discussions will be reported very completely, as they used to be in the General Conference Bulletin. The name of each speaker, and the substance of what he said will be given, together with the names of those in attendance, the subjects considered, and the recommendations passed.

Through the generosity of the General Conference, this report containing about two hundred and fifty pages will be furnished to all our people for ten cents. This nominal cost will cover only a part of the cost of printing. The report will be ready Nov. 1, '06. Please place your order with our Publishing Houses, any of their Branches, or with your State Tract Society.

This bulletin should be one of the greatest facilities for interesting our people everywhere in this publishing work, and we trust the Conference Officials will all unite in giving this notice wide publicity, so that our people may secure this report.

We trust that the sound of this convention will ring around the world, and be the means in God's hands, and under the influence of his Spirit of arousing the people to a sense of the opportunities of this important time. Better days are before us. Doors are opening in every land. Let us enter every open door and take possession in the name of the Lord.

Your brother in the service,

E. R. PALMER,
Secretary,
General Conference Pub. Dept.

BLUEFIELDS.

The Lord is blessing his people in this portion of his vineyard. The work is onward. Four honest souls have recently united themselves with our company here. The membership of our Sabbath School is now 21—the highest number attained since its organization. Many more are interested and enquiring about Truth. I am seeking out such and holding bible readings with them.

We are also busily engaged in getting out lumber for our church building, as we are determined to have its frame up before the year comes to the close. Pray for us brethren that the Truth may triumph gloriously here.

FRED. VAZ.

Field Work.

GRAND CAYMAN.

GEORGE TOWN—Satan knows fully well that his time is short therefore he is working now with great wrath against the remnant people of God. Rev. 12: 12, 17.

Our brother who has recently taken his stand at East End for the commandments of God found a letter in his premises threatening him that if he will not give up the Sabbath, his house will surely be burnt down by certain members of the community. Finding that that was useless they placed another one on his premises promising to give him £10 if he will recant. In his last letter to me he said "Last Sabbath my antagonists, went in and destroyed my cane piece. It seems as if they intend to use violence on me now, but the more storm the stronger my cable seems to hold." The patient spirit that he exercised shows his strong hold on the arm of God.

The brethren are busy in getting out materials for their Church-building. May some good brethren show

their appreciation in sending some means to the help of the East-End company.

F. HALL.

Field Notes.

Brother Norman Johnson arrived in Kingston on the 20th inst.

A big Educational rally was given by the Kingston Day School on Tuesday night, 20th inst.

The Kingston Sabbath School has grown to such proportions that the entire church-building, including the day school room, vestry and committee rooms are occupied by classes on Sabbaths.

Elder J. B. Beckner is visiting the churches in the central and western part of the island. After the election of district superintendents at last conference he has been spared the rigours and exposures of long bicycle trips, but since Elders Fletcher and Jones left he has had to take to his wheel again.

The General Meeting recently held at Mentego Bay was the cause of greatly strengthening the company of believers at that place. The addition of several new names to their number is reported.

The church at Santa Cruz will have the pleasure of witnessing a special service sometime in the early part of January next. Teacher S. U. Powell of the Kingston day school and—? will figure conspicuously on the programme. The above information was furnished us by a certain minister who is also a Maariage Officer.

Preliminary work at Willowdene is progressing satisfactorily. The place already presents a pleasing appearance. The young people who are staying there have caught a good bit of the spirit of training school discipline and marked physical, men-

tal and spiritual advancement is reported.

A letter recently received from Elder Hubert Fletcher brings the news that he reached his destination safely without being even slightly seasick. He was agreeably surprised at the existing conditions on the Canal Zone, and is greatly encouraged at the future outlook.

The premises of the West India Health Food Company, Limited, near Up Park Camp, is being put in thorough readiness for the beginning of business. The President of the Company informs us that they will begin operations in December.

The acting Editor of the RECORD visited the place last Sunday and was politely shown over the property and through the buildings. We were most pleasantly surprised and are sincerely grateful to God for the plans and preparations we learned of and saw. Truly the enterprise is one for which our people should be heartily thankful. It will give employment to many of our people and be a standing aid to the cause we represent. We are informed that a few shares remain unsold, we would advise the brethren and sisters to purchase them immediately.

Brother Gray writes from Albion Mountain, St; Mary, that he is holding Bible Readings in this district as best he can, and that a family of about six with which he has been holding Bible Readings for a short time ago is still very much interested in the Truth while the interest of another family has been roused with which he is also doing studies.

The Young People's Society of the Spanish Town Church are arranging a special meeting for Sunday afternoon the 9th Dec. An interesting program is being prepared and a pleasant and profitable time promised to all who attend.

Words of courage frequently come to us from Hut Hill. The company there while not large numerically is strong in faith and good works. Their little church building is a picture of quietness, beauty and inspiration. Standing on a high point overlooking the beautiful Caribbean Sea, coolly shaded by tall mango trees, with many crotons and flowers, adding their varied tints to the beauty of the scene, it is a sentinel solemnly saying to all who pass that way, "Here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith in Jesus."

We have not yet received our quota of Christ's Object Lessons, but we are expecting them on the next steamer from England. Let every Seventh-day Adventist in Jamaica prepare to sell at least one copy. The entire proceeds go to the West Indian Training School at Bog Walk.

We were pleased to have as a visitor at our office one day this week, Sister Alice Wahrman of Troja. She is a picture of physical health, and her words and manner showed that her spiritual condition is also earnest and healthy.

Notices.

Sabbath Schools that did not receive their Quarterlies will please notify Mrs. J. B. Beckner, Willowdene, Bog Walk P.O.

Brethren and sisters who are preparing to attend the coming Conference, Jan. 11 to 27, will please notify the Secretary of the Jamaica

Conference, 32 Text Lane, Kingston. When writing please state if you have relations or friends in the city with whom you can stop.

In coming, come prepared to take care of yourselves as much as is possible. That is, take with you food-stuff or money to procure same, also such bedding as can be conveniently taken as the accommodation which our brethren here will be able to offer is mainly space. We are expecting an extraordinarily large attendance. It will be a time as we have never had before. The delegation will include some of our General Conference brethren, workers from all the Islands of the Caribbean sea and Central America, besides visiting brethren from all these places and our native brethren and friends. Let each one of us strive to make the Conference a success beyond the highest anticipation.

Our Annual Week of Prayer will soon be upon us. The date fixed for it is Dec. 15-22. This fixture will give the delegates and visitors from the various Churches, Companies and Conferences will be able to take part in it and be in time for the Conference session in January next.

All Conference workers—Leaders and Local Church Elders please remember always to send in reports to the Editor of the Record at the end of each month. The purpose of the Record is to report on the work throughout the Conference month by month, which cannot be met except the Editor receives report from the fields.