

The South African MISSIONARY

“Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”

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“A Good Report Maketh the Bones Fat.”

Proverbs 15:30.

THE principle of reporting is heaven-born. From the marvellous developments of God's work, and the stirring experiences of His people, the Lord has for thousands of years kept His people supplied with such reports as are found in the Bible and in history, “that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”

For the hopeless sinner, struggling with the prestige of an unclean heart, despondent of deliverance, He sends the report of the six days' transformation which, in response to His word, flooded the firmament with light and wrapped the chaotic waste in its mantle of Eden beauty. Was it not this report that broke in on David's remorse, and inspired the prayer, “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me?” The imprisoned Jeremiah, in the bitterness of his sorrow took refuge in that same report, and cried out in his distress, “Ah Lord God! Thou hast made the heaven and the earth by Thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for Thee.” These are but two simple illustrations of the inspiration of hope which God's reports have breathed into the souls of men, found in the sacred Word,—a book that is a compilation of reports which God has given for the guidance and joy of His people.

Christ also reports His work; not merely to us, but to His Father, and to the universe. In John 17:4-8, His prayer contained the following:—“I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do. . . . I have mani-

festated Thy name unto the men which Thou gavest Me. . . . I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me.” Indeed, the faithfulness with which our Lord discharged this duty of reporting was wondrously magnified in His dying moments, and in His resurrection. Hanging between heaven and earth, the death throes upon him, the mocking crowds hurling their wicked incentives at Him, bleeding at His head, His hands, His feet, and writhing 'neath the weight of this world's sin, our Redeemer knew the intense longing of the angelic host for the end of His agony. Then too, there were burning hearts, broken and sad, and longing for His deliverance to hasten. Scripture after scripture had been fulfilled, shame after shame had been heaped upon Him by the infuriated mob,—and Christ could have yielded up His life at any time, “For,” said He, “I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again, but one more scripture must be fulfilled before He could present a complete report. It was, “In My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink.” That this might be done, He cried, “I thirst,” and in response they gave Him vinegar on sponge and hyssop, and then with a loud voice that was heard in heaven and earth He reported “It is finished.”

We pass the dark days of the tomb, and hail the bright morning that saw our Lord risen, and victorious. The tomb vacated so early was now the scene of anxious inquiry. Some who loved Jesus were early at the sepulchre, and mourning because He was not there. But He was there. His familiar voice calls, “Mary!” “Raboni,” comes quickly from her tremulous lips, and the woman

bows reverently, to embrace her risen Lord. But, no! *His report was not yet in.* “I am not yet ascended to My Father.” Much as He longed to calm the troubled soul of that disappointed, heart-broken woman, He must first ascend to head-quarters, and report His triumph in heaven. This record is sublimely simple, yet significant surely to the one who scorns to report his work, or is the least neglectful of this duty. Well might the Lord ask, “Who hath believed our report?”

Passing over many years of history, we stand with John on the isle of Patmos viewing the scenes of the end of time. Probation has closed. We watch the workings of God's unmingled wrath, the noisome and grievous sore, the putrid waters, the burning atmosphere, the awful darkness and the nations blaspheming and gathering their forces to the blood-stained fields of Armageddon. Suddenly an awful silence ensues. Clouds gather blackness deeper and more deadly than human eye has ever seen. All eyes look up, and every ear is strained to hear,—the seventh angel has emptied his vial, and like mighty peals of thunder, God's voice again reports to the universe,—“It is done!” Rev. 16:17.

A thousand years now roll away. From the millennial void has come forth a new creation. Illumined with the light of the Eternal, reflected from the radiant city whose builder is God, we see the earth blossoming like the rose, everything echoing the praises of God. The glorified saints now inherit the land of everlasting rest,—salvation's plan completed! Then, once more the voice of God is heard reporting, “It is done!”

The inhabitants of other worlds being

loyal to the principles of heaven, report their work and experiences. Job's first chapter tells of their coming before the Lord for that purpose. Satan found in this plan an opportunity to falsely accuse both God and Job. But this was not the kind of report the children of God should give. The charge having been made, however, it must be given time for test, and for investigation (like all other false charges) by the unfallen beings before whom it was made. They watch with keen desire the unfolding of God's love; and Isaiah records their report, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts." John says they rest not day and night, reporting the justice and love of God. Isa. 6 : 1-4; Rev. 16 : 5, 7; 4 : 8. Reporting certainly seems no burden to these exalted beings.

The prophet Ezekiel saw a vision of heavenly things which belong to our time. The angel with the writer's inkhorn at his side was commissioned to set a mark—the King's seal—upon His righteous people. Six other angels were to follow and slay those upon whom the mark was not found; and when the work is done we read, "And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, It is done as Thou hast commanded me." Is it not clear that the principle of reporting is heaven-born? If we would be in harmony with heaven, shall we not faithfully and promptly discharge this duty?

That this privilege was extended to earth as well as heaven is shown in two events. The first was when Jesus sent His seventy disciples on their first evangelical mission. In response to His instructions, they returned to report their experiences to Him. Luke 10 : 17-24. The text affirms that good results are obtained from good reports. The Lord, knowing how His remnant people would need the inspiration and encouragement of such reports in their zeal for the finishing of His work, especially emphasised this principle as a duty of the remnant people.

Illustrating our work by the parable of the great supper (Luke 14 : 16-24) Christ tells how His servant was sent to gather in the guests at supper time, but as the guests made excuses, "That ser-

vant came and showed his lord these things." That was bringing his report, was it not? The Lord then sent the servant again, bidding him go into the streets and lanes of the cities and secure guests. Then again the servant returned and reported, "Lord, it is done as Thou hast commanded, and yet there is room." And this is an illustration of the work assigned us at the close of earth's history. Did Christ mean what He said when He told how His people would report the progress of their work?

In view of these truths, is not reporting a vital privilege, esteemed so by all that are great and glorious in the vast universe? and if so, is it not reasonable to expect from our leading men that they report to the body of God's church the progress of His work? And again, is not this in itself a call to every worker, to every church member, to promptly send in their reports when they are due to the proper officials, that they may in turn fulfil their God-given duty and report what great things the Lord hath done?

HERBERT J. EDMED.

Words of Courage from Elder J. N. Loughborough.

In response to a request from the friends in Africa, I give a brief schedule of my travels and labours since leaving that field.

The sail to England was a very pleasant one, having a calm sea most of the way. With a few hours' stop at Tenneriffe, and a short stop at Las Palmas, where they loaded on a vast amount of bananas, and took their necessary coal, we made the voyage in the allotted time, arriving at Southampton at 9 A.M., August 11th. Before night I was in the Caterham Sanitarium, which was to be my home while in London or vicinity. On the evening of the 12th I spoke in the gymnasium to the patients and helpers, and again on Sabbath the 14th.

On August 15th I left London for the Switzerland Conference and Camp-meeting, arriving there at 10 A.M., the 16th. I gave a discourse in the large tent at 2 : 30. I remained at this meeting until the 21st, when I went to the

Gland Sanitarium. The evening of the 22nd I spoke to the patients and helpers. The next day I went five hundred miles to Vergeze, Southern France, fifteen miles from the Mediterranean. Was there in the Union Conference until the 29th. I spoke through both French and Spanish interpreters six times. I left that place on the morning of the 29th for Caterham, England, arriving there on the evening of the 30th, having made a round trip of 2,000 miles between the dates of August 11-30.

On September 1st I went to Watford and spoke in their hall in the evening. On the 2nd I continued my journey of four hundred miles to Glasgow, Scotland, and spoke in the Scotch Conference meetings of five days, eight times, and attended seven other meetings. On the night of the 6th I returned to Caterham. The 9th I went thirty miles to Harlesden, a suburb of London, and was at the South England Conference for six days. Here I attended sixteen meetings, spoke in six of them. The 15th I went twenty miles to another suburb of London, and spoke in the evening.

On the 16th I went one hundred and eighty-five miles to Manchester to attend a conference meeting. Was there six days, attended seventeen meetings, and spoke in six of them. Then went to Port Wales, one hundred and eighty-one miles. Was there five days attending the Welsh Conference. Attended sixteen meetings, and spoke in seven of them. The next day I went one hundred and thirty-four miles to Southampton, and in the evening spoke for two hours and a quarter, on the "Rise of the Second Advent Movement." The next evening spoke one hour and a quarter on Spiritual gifts. The 31st I returned eighty-four miles to Caterham, speaking that evening and the next on the same topics as at Southampton.

October 2nd, I went by train two hundred and sixty-three miles to Holyhead, and took the steamer "Arabic," of the White Star Line, for America. For five days of the trip we had strong head winds and a rough sea. Many were sick, but as usual, "no false motion of my stomach." On the morning of October 11th, at 9 A.M. we landed

in New York in good health. At 6 P.M. of the same day I was in the sanitarium at Washington, D. C., speaking to the church and the students of the Missionary Seminary. I tarried here nine days. October 21st and 22nd I travelled four hundred and seventy-four miles to Rochester, New York, where I spoke three times. On the 25th I went by rail four hundred and sixty-five miles to South Lancaster, Mass. Was there and at the Melrose Sanitarium seven days. Spoke thirteen times, one of these talks being at the Christian Jewish Home, at Concord, Mass.

In the evening of November 1st, I took the train for Battle Creek, Mich. I spent five days here visiting relatives and friends, and preparing for my trip across the continent. In that time I spoke once to the church-school, and twice to good sized audiences in the tabernacle. November 8th I left Battle Creek for California. I arrived at the home of my daughter, which is now my home, the 12th, just as the sun was setting at the commencement of the Sabbath, having been away from my California home just sixteen months to a day. In that time I had travelled by sea thirty thousand miles; by rail seventeen thousand, or a total of forty-seven thousand five hundred miles. Had attended five hundred and eighty meetings, preaching at three hundred and fifty-eight of them. I came home in better health than when I left, and fourteen pounds heavier in weight. Some said to me "Your sea voyage has done you good!" I do not propose to allow of any such solution of the case. To God be all the glory. He heard the prayers of His people, and oft on the trip so sensibly have I felt the angelic presence, that it seemed as though, if there was a little more of this, I might see them. Others have said "Now I suppose you will take a good rest!" Let us see how the rest comes!

On my arrival at Lodi, I found a book institute in session. On the Sabbath I had the privilege of once more listening to Sister White. On the second day I took part with Elder and Sister Haskell in the institute, speaking once. Then from November 26th to December 7th, I was with Elder and

Sister Haskell taking part in an institute at Armona, California. There I attended twenty-eight meetings, and spoke in twelve of them. From the 11th to the 15th I was in five of the first meetings of the week of prayer at Lodi. Then until December 26th I was with Elder and Sister Haskell in a book institute in Healdsburg. During this time I attended twenty-eight meetings, and spoke in eleven of them. From the 28th to January 2nd, I attended the religious liberty meetings held by Brethren Cottrell, Healy, and Corliss, at Lodi. Attended sixteen of their talks, and now I am expecting to have the privilege of attending the Pacific Union Conference, and the California Conference from January 24th to February 6th. This is to be followed by two weeks' of my talks to the normal institute school at Lodi. I know of no better "rest" at this time than to labour on as the Lord gives strength, and rejoice with joy at the prosperity of the work.

Tent-Meetings.

ANOTHER busy week has passed. There have been many invitations for personal visits. The entire company have been kept at work so steadily that it has taxed their strength almost to its limit. The oppos. has sought to scatter darkness but ... has only had the effect to permit the people to contrast error with truth. It has established rather than disheartened those who are seeking for truth.

The last Sabbath meetings were well attended. There is a settling into the spirit of the message manifested on the part of these who have decided to live the truth. On Sunday night there was a large and appreciative audience present to hear the talk on the subject of the relation of the law and the gospel in the work of conversion. A number are under conviction who have to face the problem of losing their situation if they accept the truth. We believe that some of them will yet forsake all and follow

The Paper Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending Feb. 4, 1910.

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
Mission Company,	Johannesburg,	Signs,	174	4 7 0
		Watchman,	27	13 6
Totals,	1 Agent,		201	5 0 6

Cape Conference, for week ending Feb. 4, 1910.

J. Vermaak,	P. Elizabeth,	Signs,	0	3 0
		Subscriptions,	2	5 0
Totals,	1 Agent,		0	8 0

The Book Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending Feb. 2, 1910.

NAME	PLACE	BOOK	HRS	ORDS	VALUE	HELPS	TOTALS	DEL'D
Mission Company,	Jo'burg, S. D.	18	7	2 5 6			2 5 6	2 18 0
C. A. Dixie,	Jeppes town, D. R.	20	13	11 0 6			11 0 6	3 9 0
E. Howard,	Judith Paarl,							
	& Troyeville, D. R.	20	3	2 15 6			2 15 6	4 16 0
E. Enochson,	Rustenburg, D. R.	25	7	7 7 0			7 7 0	
E. van der Molen,	Charles-							
	town & Nigel, D. R.	32	7	6 12 0	1 1 0		7 13 6	36 1 0
Totals,	5 Agents,		115	37 £30 0 0	1 1 0		31 2 0	47 4 0

Cape Conference, for week ending Feb. 4, 1910.

J. le Riche,	Kroonstad, C. K. & Man	29	10	6 1 6				20 0 0
H. C. Olmstead,	P. E'beth, G. C.	60	53	35 9 6				11 4 6
Totals	2 Agents,		89	63 £41 10 6				31 4 6

South African Missionary

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Editor: - - - Mrs. R. C. PORTER.
Kenilworth, Cape.

Christ. We solicit the prayers of the brethren and sisters in behalf of the work here. Not only should all pray but all should be faithful in bringing in their tithes and offerings for the support of the work that its advance be not hindered on account of lack of means.

R. C. PORTER.

A Call to Work.

THERE are several hundred copies of *Life and Health*, our American magazine, now in the office at Cape Town. Who will help to scatter them among the people where they are so much needed?

They are full of most valuable and interesting matter. They just came in and should be sold *at once*. Besides circulating the truth, one can earn good wages by selling them. They sell at six pence each. Correspond with Brother J. V. Willson, 56 Roeland Street, Cape Town, and do it *now*.

G. H. CLARK.

Sympathy Extended.

A MESSAGE from America last week brought the sad news to Elder F. B. Armitage, and Sister W. S. Hyatt, of the death of their aged father in January last. To Elder Armitage and Sister Hyatt we extend our deepest sympathy. To Sister Hyatt does the sorrow fall heaviest, as she was expecting in a few days to leave for America to visit her father. Only those who have passed over this road can know the heart sorrow at such a disappointment. The Christian's hope sustains and comforts our faithful Brother and Sister, for they can look forward just a little way in the future to a glad meeting where separation will never be known. Their dear father now claims one more blessing than those who live, for "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Book Sales.

WE are glad to report that during the month of January and thus far in February, the Natal-Transvaal Conference canvassers have delivered £347 2 2

worth of books. During the first two weeks of this month Brother Van der Molen placed £63 11 5 worth in the territory given him. This Brother has been putting in good faithful time and the Lord is blessing his work.

Since the first of last September £1211 18 5 worth of books have actually been delivered in the South African Union Conference, and nearly £200 worth of magazines and papers have been sold. If all had reported their full work, doubtless the figures would have been higher.

Brother Eric Howard, of Johannesburg, lately secured 30 orders for *Daniel and Revelation* in eight hours. Value £18 19 6.

Brother D. H. Groenewald, who has been in the Natal Conference, has decided to take up work in Bloemfontein, and will do some work in placing the printed page among the people.

Brother J. N. de Beer has also decided to re-enter the work in the O. R. C., and sell *Great Controversy*.

It certainly encourages our hearts to see these strong men enter the field to help finish the work. Let us all do our part in this glorious cause, which is so soon to triumph gloriously.

Brethren and Sisters, will you not earnestly pray for the canvassers who are in the midst of the conflict? They are at the forefront of the battle and need our prayers.

The writer is planning to give personal assistance to each canvasser in the field by way of a few days' canvassing with them. We hope in this way to become better acquainted and to mutually assist in pushing on this mighty agency for enlightening the world concerning the third angel's message.

G. H. CLARK.

Notes.

—WEEK of prayer, April 2-9.

—The Honour Roll will appear next week. Will your name appear on it? If not, why not?

—Irwin Williams entered the college for another school year this week. His delivery of books hindered his coming at the beginning of the term.

—The brethren and sisters from Rokeby Park and Maranatha are giving substantial help to the work in Grahamstown by their attendance at the Sabbath services, and supplying vegetables and fruit from their farms.

—Brother and Sister Gibson are enjoying their work at Somabula more and more as time passes. They are much pleased with their field. Sister Gibson is in better health than for three years past.

—We are now planning to revise the MISSIONARY list. If any addresses or names are wrong, now is the time to make it known. This list is revised about once a quarter. The Natal-Transvaal Conference are bringing their list up to date. This is appreciated.

—Elder E. R. Williams is at Claremont this week disposing of some of his household effects, and moving to Grahamstown. He occupied the hour at our Wednesday evening prayer meeting in giving quite a full report of the work at Grahamstown.

—Brother G. H. Clark is now out in the field with Brother Ashfeldt and Hugh Williams, helping them for a time in their canvassing work. When they are well started Brother Clark will visit other canvassers, thus giving all assistance and encouragement in their work.

—Many have watched with interest the canvassing reports as they have appeared from week to week, and their interest has led them to wonder if the same success was attending the deliveries. In the issue of the 14th over three hundred and thirty-one pounds were reported as delivered, and this week Brother Clark gives us the total deliveries for about five months as £1,211 18 5. Is not this a good percent? Could one ask for a better field for canvassing than Africa?

—A most excellent report reaches us from the Somabula Mission. Their school is rapidly filling up, new ones coming continually; more than they know what to do with. Ten have been baptised at the main station, with seven waiting for the rite at one of their out-schools. At this out-school there are nearly two hundred attending the Sabbath services. Crops are looking well. They are having rains almost every day now. Elder Walston says: "I can not tell you how pleased I am that the MISSIONARY comes weekly. It seems to bring us in touch with the work again."

—The article on "Reporting" from Elder Edmed is being published by request of the Grahamstown Camp-meeting delegation, at which place he gave a talk on the subject. It is a little lengthy for our small paper, but it was too good to divide. We are expecting results from this article by way of reports. Our church librarians will receive them; office secretaries, the missionary agent, and last but not least, the MISSIONARY will not be forgotten. In this way we will all keep in touch with each other, and so all have the same interest in giving this precious message to Africa's millions.

—An article on Sabbath-school and Young People's Work will soon appear.