

The West Michigan Herald.

"Watchman, What of the Night."

VOL. II.

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No. 19

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD.
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Evangelical.

In Life.

If life, not death,

Hearts need fond words to help them on their way;

Need tender thoughts and gentle sympathy
Caresses, pleasant looks, to cheer each passing day.

Then hoard them not until they useless be;

In life, nor death,

Speak kindly. Living hearts need sympathy.
—Anon.

A Decided Message.

AND A PRACTICAL WAY TO GIVE IT.

In all ages of the world God has moved upon His servants to give a definite, decided message, a message that was due at that particular time, and that was intended to save all who would receive it. Thus Noah not only presented the general plan of salvation from sin, but a definite, decided message of a coming flood and of the means provided for being saved from it. No room for a misunderstanding concerning this definite message, for before their eyes was a ship being built to sail upon the flood that the message told them was coming. It was something they could see, and see it again and again. So,

too, when the Lord would deliver His people out of Egypt, and fulfill to them the promises made to their fathers, it was not enough to preach to them the gospel in a general way; but definitely and decidedly was it told them that they were to leave Egypt and go to the land of Canaan, and before their eyes was the cloud by day and a fire by night leading the way. No room for a misunderstanding here as to God's message.

The same may be said of the messages of all the prophets, whether Isaiah's warning of the prevailing iniquity, or Jeremiah's message of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, or Daniel's visions of the conflicts of the future, or John's startling message that the "Kingdom of heaven is at hand." In the work of all of the messengers there is a definite message and they gave it in the plainest and most decided manner possible.

Now we find ourselves living in a time when the last conflict with the enemy is in progress, when the image of the beast is being formed, when the judgment of all is impending, and when Christ is soon to be revealed in the clouds of heaven; therefore the time is here that a message concerning these things should be given, and it should be given in the plainest and most definite way possible. No room should be left for a misunderstanding. When Job was given a view of this time he offered to God the following earnest prayer—"Oh that my words were not written! Oh that they were printed in a book! That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock forever! For I know my Redeemer liveth, and at the latter day he shall stand upon the earth." Job had such a vivid view of this

glorious truth for this time that he wanted it "printed in a book," why did he want them printed in a book? Evidently that those words might be read by the world, that they might know for a certainty this truth and understand the message due at this time.

In no plainer way can we give this message. No message that God ever sent to this world was of more importance than that which is designed to save people from the seven last plagues, to stand in the judgment and to meet the Lord in peace, so none should be given in a plainer and more forcible manner. Job's prayer that these truths be printed in books and scattered broadcast will be answered. This is the time we should be praying the same prayer that Job prayed, and laboring to answer our prayers by placing these books in the homes of the people. This is the message now due, and a plain definite way to give it.

J. B. BLOSSER.

Affliction That Pays.

A psalmist once said, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes." He might not have sought the ways of God had he not found his own ways hedged about him. His experience was that of a great number of men who discovered riches in affliction which were otherwise not to be found. The depth of human love and sympathy would never be known if it were not for affliction. Through sorrow there has often poured a wealth of love and affection, marvelous in its sweetness and power. It was not until he was afflicted that the psalmist saw the glory of the holy law. It is in affliction also that the glory of human love shines out, richer by far because it is charged with the holy love of God. Yes, it is a dear price to pay, but in the after-glow we shall be able to say that it was worth paying.

Educational.

The Fourteenth Day of May. Sabbath.

As announced some time ago, Sabbath, the fourteenth day of May, has been set apart by the conference committee for a special day in connection with the work of the young people of the conference, and for a special offering in which the older people are expected to have a part, wherein it is hoped to start the Department of Education out on an absolutely self-supporting basis.

It looked reasonable to the committee that as the children and youth had helped as far as they were able in proportion to their income in the general donations of the church, that it would be right for the fathers and mothers to help in the gathering of this fund which is to be used entirely for the work of the young people.

Let elders and all church and Sabbath school workers try to make this day an especially interesting one for the children and youth. Let every person who reads this notice take a personal responsibility to see that the day is a pleasant one for all, and that the offering is not overlooked. Let the church treasurer receive the amounts contributed and forward the same the following week to the Conference Treasurer at Otsego, thus encouraging those who have the young people's work at heart.

Next Year's School.

Now is the time for the churches to be planning for the church school next year, and to engage the teachers for the next term. Make your plans early and there will be less likelihood of any disappointment in the future. I would like to hear at this time from all the different churches in the conference where you would like to have a church school next year, and hope that parents and patrons will feel free to write, even if they do not have any official position on the board.

If you have a preference as to

teacher be free to say so, and tell as near as maybe how many months school you expect to have, and the grade of pupils that will be in attendance.

I am sorry that I have been unable to visit all the schools in the conference, but I have had some good reports from the teachers, and have visited nearly half of the schools. In order to do the best work the Superintendent should be in each school in the conference at least once each term and stay for some time in each place, but this has been impossible for either of these who have been in this work during the past year. I sincerely hope none will long delay responding to this call.

J. GRANT LAMSON,
Superintendent.

Cedar Lake Academy Notes.

The spring term of the Cedar Lake Academy began April 5, and is progressing nicely. Although the attendance is not as large as it was during the winter, when the boys and girls are more easily spared from work at home, it is encouraging.

Classes are held in the forenoon from 7:30 to 11:30, and the remainder of the day is devoted to the industrial work on the farm. Classes are conducted in reading, writing, spelling, grammar, arithmetic, United States history, general history, bookkeeping, stenography, physiology, and Bible.

It is a busy time now on the farm. There is plowing to be done, stones to be picked up, stumps to be pulled, and crops to be put in. A new strawberry bed is being set out this week, which when completed will make an acre that the school has in strawberries. The girls are assisting in setting out the plants. 325 peach trees, 1100 raspberries, 100 grape vines, 18 current bushes, and 12 cherry trees have just arrived from the nursery, and will be set out at once.

All seem to enjoy the warm

weather, and the out-door work is entered into heartily. Away from the noise and bustle of the city, surrounded by the works of God, and the sweet, pure air of the country, surely this is the Lord's plan for the education of our youth.

Friday evening, April 29, Miss Bessie DeGraw of Berren Springs arrived in time to take part in the student's prayer meeting. She remained until Monday night, and spoke to the students several times. Her talk on Sabbath to the church on the principles of Christian education was timely and practical. This visit was much appreciated by all.

Miss Pearl Skirvin, teacher of music at the Academy, spent Sabbath and Sunday with her parents at Battle Creek.

One of the students, Rex Davidson, had the misfortune to sprain his ankle, and is therefore using crutches.

Miss Nellie Nelson, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Pearce, of Bay City, returned to Cedar Lake Tuesday evening.

The Academy is very much in need of something that will do for mop cloths, ironing sheets, and bandages for bruises or cuts. If some of the friends could send us a barrel, it would be much appreciated.

MRS. S. M. BUTLER.

Grand Rapids Young People's Society.

Last September the Young People of the Grand Rapids S. D. A. church organized a society and adopted the plan recommended by the Young People's Department of the General Conference. We hold our meetings each Sabbath afternoon. The attendance has been good, even during the severest part of the winter we have not had less than twenty-five present at any time. Twenty-four have signed the membership cards,—of these two have moved away. The regular attendance ranges from thirty to forty-five each Sabbath.

We have followed the course of study as outlined in the Instructor having studied well the Great Controversy up to the twenty-third chapter. Our young people have done nobly in preparing the different subjects, and marked results of improvement may be seen in those who have been active along this line. It has been a source of pleasure to see how earnestly the children of the church school have taken part on the days devoted to the study of the field.

A collection to be used for missionary purposes is taken up the first Sabbath in each month, this day being the one usually devoted to the Field Study. Some work has been done in visiting the sick, and during the flower season several bouquets were carried to the sick in the hospitals. Life Boats and other papers were left with those who cared to receive them. Our religious papers are utilized by either giving them away or mailing them to any who may become interested.

The scripture drill conducted at the beginning of each meeting is interesting as well as helpful to all. By this means nearly all present take an active part in each meeting. We cannot overestimate the importance of storing our minds with the word of God.

PATIENCE S. BOURDEAU, Pres.

T. CAROLYN LEMONS,

Sec'y. and Treas.

Obituary.

Shaw—Died in Howard City, Michigan, April 19, 1904, of pneumonia F. B. Shaw, aged sixty-nine years. Brother Shaw accepted the truths of the Third Angel's Message about fifteen years ago, and not only has he endeavored to live out the same, but has been an earnest advocate of the Truth. Of him it can be said, He sleeps in Jesus. Words of consolation were spoken by the writer from Isa. 57:1-2. Rev. 14:13.

L. A. KELLOGG.

Financial.

Annual Offerings.	
Allegan	\$ 54 44
Allendale	11 96
Berrien Springs	77 75
Burlington	17 00
Benton Harbor	2 00
Byron Center	4 00
Blendon	22 08
Belding	60 50
Bushnell	48 40
Cedar Lake	36 69
Carson City	22 75
Clifford Lake	10 05
Charlotte	16 06
Carlton Center	15 29
Denver	8 05
Dimondale	91 65
Decatur	5 40
Douglas	14 75
Eaton Rapids	2 75
Edmore	5 36
Fremont	14 60
Grand Ledge	6 10
Greenville	14 79
Glenwood	13 00
Grand Rapids	60 50
Grandville	17 00
Gowan	2 25
Hastings	11 50
Horr	1 00
Holland S. S.	4 50
Hesperia	2 50
Howard City	5 20
Homer	7 35
Individuals	28 10
Kalamazoo	32 61
Kellogg S. S.	3 75
Kent City	3 00
Lake Odessa	9 00
Lowell	21 30
Lake View	16 45
Maple Grove	4 30
Mecosta	25 50
Monterey	48 95
Otsego	46 22
Orange	18 00
Palo	4 50
Paw Paw	19 36
Quincy	54 80
Rothbury	9 35
Sand Lake	1 80
Trufant	22 36
Vermontville	5 20
Waverly	18 00
Wright	196 30

\$1377 47

Tithe Report For April.

Allegan	\$ 16 00
Allendale	19 50
Ainger	25 75
Agnew	24 35
Battle Creek	501 11
Belding	11 45
Bedford	83 39
Blendon	60 00
Bushnell	54 97
Burlington	13 00
Byron Center	10 65
Cedar Lake	27 54
Clifford Lake	32 85
Carson City	62
Carlton Center	32 80
Charlotte	75 14
Ceresco	14 55
Decatur	19 00
Dimondale	24 12
Denver	5 90
Eaton Rapids	5 11
Edmore	54 47
Emerald	65
Frost	28 00
Gowen	27 06
Grandville	10 62
Glennwood	16 87
Grand Ledge	31 33
Greenville	165 05
Homer	12 50
Hastings	41 14
Individuals	51 28
Kinderhook	37 18
Kent City	21 83
Kalamazoo	58 70
Lowell	49 43
Lakeview	21 75
Lyons	21 75
Medical Dep't.	3 50
Monterey	36 20
Mecosta	17 50
Mendon	29 51
Maple Grove	70 65
Otsego	127 51
Orange	41 49
Pottersville	7 00
Paw Paw	69 65
Quincy	158 30
Sand Lake	74 45
Shelby	58 95
Trufant	98 31
Vermontville	17 10
West Leroy	64 15
Wright	47 45
Waverly	34 39

2603 92

News and Notes.

We are sorry to omit many items of special interest this week for lack of space.

Elder Luther Warren is spending a few days in Battle Creek in the interests of the work started there early in the year. Sabbath afternoon he addressed a large company of young people at the Tabernacle.

The majority of the Sabbath-schools have returned their quarterly report blanks very promptly. If you have not yet reported, kindly let us hear from you at once that there may be no delay in reporting from this office.

Remember the fourteenth day of May which is to be set apart for a special collection throughout all the churches for the payment of the expenses in establishing the Educational Department of the Conference.

Last Sabbath the churches of Allegan, South Monterey, Otsego and Kalamazoo enjoyed a general meeting at the last named place. Elders A. G. Haughey, G. C. Tenney and M. B. Miller were present. All enjoyed a profitable day and were much encouraged by the words spoken.

The Superintendent of Education wishes to receive the name and address of every person who may be interested in church school work. If any of your friends are now engaged in public school work, they should study the methods and plans adopted by schools which are governed by the principles of Christian education. Send all names to Prof. J. Grant Lamson, Battle Creek, Mich.

At the meeting of the West Michigan Conference January 8-13, the friends and delegates present esteemed it a privilege to express

their sympathy for Sister J. H. Watson in her deep sorrow and bereavement by sending her \$50.00. From a recent communication we learn the draft was received with grateful thanks. In this far away land Sister Watson's faith, hope and courage are anchored in the Lord and the promises of heaven have sustained her in this hour of trial. Let us remember our workers abroad at the Throne of Grace that heaven's choicest blessings attend their efforts and self-sacrifice.

From a recent communication we learn that the accommodations at Berrien Springs are somewhat limited for the large number who anticipate attending the Lake Union Conference. Undoubtedly a large number of people can find room over night in the homes and hotels of the village, but practically all the accommodations at the school are already taken. All who have not yet arranged with Prof. Magan for entertainment should not fail to correspond with him at once. As previously announced it will be necessary to be supplied with bedding, etc. For further particulars address Prof. P. T. Magan, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Brother J. W. Hofstra reports an excellent interest at Holton. On April 1st he first visited this place, since which time the work has continued to grow and prosper. From a recent communication we take the liberty of quoting as follows:

"Sunday evening, April 3, about thirty attended our first service. At that time it was decided to hold two meetings each week. That evening several gave us their address, being desirous of a personal visit from us. At present there are several families who expect our weekly visits. With several we are holding Bible readings in which much interest is manifest. Our work is now hindered somewhat as about a week ago it be-

came definitely known that small-pox had broken out in this township. For sometime it will be necessary to discontinue our public meetings. There are many features of the work here which give us hope and courage to continue when opportunity shall present itself."

As previously announced just prior to the time of the missionary campaign last fall a number of "Christ's Object Lessons," were sent to each church in the Conference where the complete quota had not been sold. It was not known just how many had already disposed of their quota of books, but as students were being sent to many of the churches to engage in the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons," it was for the purpose of having the books at hand for their immediate use, that these books were sent out to a large number of churches, expecting the books left on hand would be carried to the next place and finally disposed of.

There now remains a number of these books in the hands of several parties which have not been sold, and it is desired that we ascertain where these books may be located. Will all who have any such books in their possession kindly write to the West Michigan Tract Society, stating the number of books on hand, and whether or not the complete quota have been sold, for your church. Please state the number of books also which have not been paid for.

Kindly let us hear from you at once with reference to this matter. Address West Michigan Tract Society, Otsego, Mich.

Report of Canvassing Work to April 30th.

Great Controversy	Hrs.	Ord.	Value
Ordis Dow	75	9	25.50
Daniel and Revelation			
C. F. Glascock	59	5	12.75
Helps.			
Chas. Faber	107	82	59.25
Totals	241	96	\$97.50

M. N. CAMPBELL,

Field Secretary.