

The Welcome Visitor.

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another."

VOL. IV.

MT. VERNON, OHIO, DECEMBER 21, 1899.

NO. 4.

The Welcome Visitor

ISSUED SEMI-MONTHLY BY
THE OHIO S. D. A. CONFERENCE,
MT. VERNON, OHIO.
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PEACE.

The peace of God shall be with you,
To keep both your heart and your mind.
And, tho' it passeth our knowledge,
What a comfort it is to find

That our hearts need no more be
troubled;

We need never be afraid,
We have only to rest in Jesus,
When all at his feet is laid.

When the work for the day is over,
How comforting it is to know;
That the work was done for Jesus,
'Tis this peace that tells us so.

Then in the twilight shadows,
Be still, and know 'tis He
Who whispers to you so softly,
"Ye have done it unto me."

NEVA M. MARTIN,
Williamsport, Pa.

OFFERINGS.

Calls are coming from almost every mission station in the broad harvest-field, for more laborers and means. And at this time do we not need especially to seek the Lord for His blessing and favor that our hearts may be more susceptible to the needs of others, and that we may esteem it a grand privilege of rendering unto the Lord His own in tithes and offerings?

Have you read Elder Irwin's article in the Review of Dec. 12? If you have, read it again and let us carry out in our lives the valuable instruction given; especially, "That Jesus be made the recipient of our gifts and offerings."

Those in Foreign lands are

dependent upon our Annual, First-day and Sabbath-school offerings for their support. The time appointed for the annual offerings is near. Shall we not give liberally for the forwarding of the Master's work? May the spirit of self-sacrifice continue throughout the coming year. A supply of First-day-offering envelopes are kept in the office and orders can be filled at any time.

Send all offerings to E. A. Merriam, Mt. Vernon, O.

CLARA V. RADABAUGH.

NOTICE.

Report blanks for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1899, have been sent to all the Sabbath-School secretaries. If any have failed to receive them, let me know at once that there may be no delay in the returning of your report.

Also if there are family schools that have not reported in the past let us hear from you for we are exceedingly anxious to hear from such.

C. V. R.

ELGIN DISTRICT MEETING.

An enjoyable and very successful District Meeting, presided over by Elder E. J. Van Horn, was held at Elgin, O., beginning Wednesday, Nov. 29, and closing Sunday, Dec. 3. From the beginning it was marked by the deep movings of the Spirit of God, and an earnest desire on the part of all to draw nearer to the Lord. About seventy-five were present, representing seven churches. The topics considered were principally the distribution of literature; value of prayer; value of song service; Sabbath School; health work; Berean Library and Reading Circle; Christian Volunteers, and home

and foreign missionary work. \$575 was subscribed in aid of the Volunteer work, and a liberal Sabbath School donation given to foreign missions.

The preaching was practical and spiritual, and the Spirit of God carried conviction to hearts, bringing in a spirit of consecration, liberality and of work, and nearly all volunteered to labor personally in the vineyard, and to support the cause in the field with their means. A large number pledged themselves to support the work in any city or cities in the District where it may be opened, and several of the young people volunteered to labor as canvassers or colporters if work was begun. Some pledged themselves to assist financially, who have never before been willing to aid in mission work. Two young girls, sisters, gave themselves to the Lord for the first time, and desired baptism, but arrangements could not be made.

Altogether the meeting was a success spiritually and financially, and many said it was the best District meeting they ever attended. The members of the Elgin church labored faithfully to make all pleasant for their guests, and the visiting brethren, before leaving, expressed their appreciation of the liberal and hospitable manner in which they had been treated.

W. S. CHAPMAN.

NOTICE.

If any isolated Sabbath-keeper has failed to receive a copy of the "Week of Prayer" readings, write to the Tract Society, Mt. Vernon, O., Box 174, and a copy will be sent you. Do not neglect to send, for no one can afford to miss the valuable articles which it contains.

SABBATH SCHOOL SECRETARIES.

The work of the S. S. secretary has been a difficult problem with most of us for a long time. What need is there of the work? How make it of real value to the school? The only way we can look upon the matter is from God's stand point. He keeps records, [Mal. 3-16,] and the angels who minister before Him [Dan. 7-10] are His faithful secretaries. Are their reports interesting and important? Faithfully they record every item, some of commendation, some of reproof; with joy the former, with exceeding sorrow the latter. But especially is every encouraging word put upon the books of God. Dear secretary, cannot you pattern after things in heaven; and with your pen bathed in love, and your heart warm and tender with the Spirit, make the secretaries report a most interesting feature of the Sabbath School? A. C.

TESTIMONIES OF THE SPIRIT FOR VOLUNTEERS.

"Grave responsibilities rest upon the youth. God expects much from the young men who live in this generation of increased light and knowledge."

"O, that every one of our youth would realize the evil of foolish conversation, and correct the habit of speaking idle words!"

"O, that all our youth would form characters after the divine similitude! O, that Christ may be in you a well of water springing up into everlasting life. Begin at once the work of soul purification."

"Put from you all nonsense, and refrain from trifling words. Every word you speak is as a seed that will germinate and produce either good or bad fruit, according to its character."

"No youth can withstand the temptations of Satan if the truth, with its purifying, uplifting power, is not abiding in the heart. Truth has a correcting influence upon the life."

"Will the youth turn their faces

heavenward? Will they open the chambers of the mind to the Sun of Righteousness? Will they throw open the door of the heart, and welcome Jesus in?"

TO VOLUNTEERS.

It has been with great pleasure that we have seen the degree of willingness thus far manifested in the financial support of the "Volunteer" work. As a result of this we hope soon to be able to purchase the much needed typewriter of which we have been talking and writing.

However, there is still need of more funds, both for the machine and other supplies which will facilitate the work and make it possible for much more to be accomplished; and all who want to own a little share in this good work may still send in as the Lord may incline their hearts.

It would be a great satisfaction to the secretary to hear from each "volunteer" as to their work, etc. Address and send all donations to the secretary and treasurer, Janet Haskell, Geneva, O. A. C.

THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES.

This was the subject of the discourses given by Eld. Haskell at the recent District meeting. The first lesson was given Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. The speaker took for his text the words of Peter, "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind" illustrating, from his remarks the value of the Bible, as a dictionary. Excellent instruction was given on how to study the Bible, by simply taking words and ascertaining their meaning from their use by the various writers of the Scriptures.

In another lesson it was shown that no word of God is unnecessary, for all His words are tried, [Psa. 18:30, margin,] they are pure, and refined seven times, [Psa. 12:6]. Every word is important, and the whole plan of salvation is

in every verse of the Bible, whether we are able to see it or not. We are told that in days of "old they read in the book of the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading," [Neh. 8:8]. It is through faith we understand [Heb. 11:3]; but if we think we know, then we do not know [1 Cor. 8:2]; yet God has said we *do* know, for "hereby *know* we." [John 4:6]. It is God who gives the knowledge, and if we take what He says that is His knowledge. We must first be in a condition where we do not know anything, but if we believe, we shall understand the reading. [1 Tim. 2:7].

God gives us His spirit that we may understand the truths contained in His word, by comparing spiritual things with spiritual [1 Cor. 2:12-15]. God's thoughts are so much higher than ours. [Isa. 55:8-9], that unless we have the mind of God, we cannot understand His word. First of all believe everything He says, for we want our reason to know that God has told the truth. It is true because He has said it.

Every thought of God expressed is the seed of God, and if taken and lived out in our lives it will develop the character of God, [verses 10:11].

Isa. 55:12-13. From these words was developed the thought that we should associate the gospel of Christ with nature, teaching the children the gospel from the flowers, the stones, the hills, and every object in nature, as the whole plan of salvation is taught there, whether we see it or not; but our work should be to become so acquainted with the Author of nature that we can see Him in every green leaf and fragrant flower.

From a careful study of the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy, it is found that early writings is a synopsis of all that has been written since. And the order in which the subjects are arranged, is the order in which they will come.

Reference was made to the chap-

ter on "Sealing" which says "when our High Priest has finished His work in the sanctuary, He will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and then the seven last plagues will be poured out." From this it is clearly shown that probation closes *before* the seven last plagues are poured out instead of after as has been thought by some. But we see distinctly the importance of being so thoroughly familiar with the Bible that anything contrary to, or in harmony with it, may be recognized immediately.

We must not entertain the idea that the Third Angel's message has no power of conversion; for all the truths of the gospel and the whole plan of salvation are in the three-fold message. "Such subjects as the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to explain the past Advent movement and show what our present position is, establish the faith of the doubting and give certainty to the glorious future. These, I have frequently seen, were the principal subjects on which the messengers should dwell." E. W. p. 534

Reference was also made to page 119, Spiritual Gifts, and the statement made that every truth in the gospel centers in the law and in the sanctuary.

Rev. 4:6-7. The four beasts were shown to represent four different phrases of Christ's life. The lion, the kingly side as given by Matt. 1:1; the calf, a servant, Mark 1:1-2; the face of a man, humanity, Luke 1:1-2; and the flying eagle, divinity, John 1:1. These were individuals who had been redeemed by the blood of Christ; for when Christ ascended on high he led a "multitude of captives" Eph. 4:8 [margin] which were from all nations which had lived on the earth from the time of Adam.

Rev. 8:3-5. The angel spoken of is Christ who offers the prayers of His people with incense which represents His righteousness.

Christ hears and answers prayer now for He has said "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands." But there comes a time in the experience of this people, when whose prayers for friends and loved ones, which have apparently been unanswered, but were laid upon the golden altar are taken up by Christ and presented to the Father with the prayers of "all saints." He pleads His blood in their behalf and the Father accepts them, and the work is cut short in righteousness.

THE DEATH PENALTY FOR SABBATH (SUNDAY) DESECRATION.

"We sometimes think the Pilgrim Fathers too severe in their legislation against immorality. There was a law in the colonial statutes of New England that for a flagrant violation of the Sabbath the offender should be hung. We may say this was wrong, but let me ask, were they nearer or further from the moral law as interpreted by the Mosaic legislation than we are? Under the Mosaic law, a man guilty of idolatry and Sabbath breaking was to be executed; *and I apprehend that we ought to return to that order of things today, and execute the penalty for the violation of moral law.* A man who openly and violently blasphemes the name of God *has forfeited his right to live under the God whose law he has broken.*"

Thus spoke the Rev. J. N. Foster, of Boston, Mass., at the recent session of the National Reform Convention, held in New York City, and his utterance was received without a word or sign of dissent, and the conclusion of his address was followed by a burst of applause.

Brethren and sisters, do we not need to stir ourselves? Is not the need of consecrated work along Sentinel lines imperative? Legislatures, national and state, will soon be all in session, and delegations of zealous, but misguided, men are impatiently waiting to press upon our lawmakers the need

of legislation to compel men in matters pertaining only to the individual and his God. Will you not, dear reader, see to it that telling work be done for the Sentinel in your community? Weigh the above statements in the light of prophecy; read the whole proceedings as recorded in Dec. 14 issue of the Sentinel, and may the Lord place upon you a burden for this branch of the work that will tell to the glory of God and the salvation of men.

Yours faithfully,

AMERICAN SENTINEL.

P. S.— Can you not use 15 or 25 copies of the above issue? Send in at once. Price, one cent per copy, a less number, at two cents per copy.

FROM THE STATE AGENT.

Dear Canvassers:— I desire very much to impress upon your minds the importance of putting in full time. I so often receive reports of only two or three days for the week, and sometimes only four or five hours a day. You know we could not work for a business firm in that way, and do you not think that the Lord's work is of more importance than any other, and that we should work just as faithfully for Him as for ourselves or others? I am sure you will say, yes. So now, dear canvassers, let us each begin the new year with strong desires to be faithful in our work for the Lord. I am glad to be able to report that this branch of the work has made a good growth, and I think all of the canvassers are of good courage and hope, trusting in the Lord for strength. But now as the year 1899 is about to close, shall we not begin the year *full* of hope and courage, and put forth greater effort to do better work for the Master? May you all prove faithful and when our work is ended, may you be among the number that will look up and say, "Lo, this is our God, we have waited for Him and He will save us." I pray that you may never become discouraged in this noble work. Wishing you all a prosperous New Year, I am,

Your brother in the work,

R. I. FRANCIS.

PERSONALS.

Remember the week of prayer December 23-30.

A church was organized at Killbuck, O., Sunday, Dec. 17.

Mrs. J. B. Clymer and sister, Miss Giddings, are enjoying a visit with their brother, Mr. E. Giddings, of Florida.

The Atlantic - Chesapeake News says that Elder C. H. Keslake was elected secretary of that conference at its recent session.

Sister Kennedy was able to return to her home last week. We hope her health will still be precious in the sight of the Lord and that she will soon be well again.

We see from the Wisconsin Reporter that the Woodland Academy at Arpin, opened about two weeks ago, with fifty or more in attendance.

Prof. Loughhead and wife spent last week at Battle Creek, Mich., returning on Monday. All were glad to see Professor in his accustomed place in chapel.

Quite a number of the students will enjoy the holidays at their homes. About fifteen or more left this week, but will return in a few days to resume their work at the Academy.

We have not space for all that might be given from Elder Haskell's talks. We have given these few seed thoughts, with the hope that they might be helpful to others as they have been to us.

Elder W. H. Saxby has been called to Battle Creek, to assist in pastoral work in that church. His address is 33 Graves avenue. He writes, "We are now nicely settled in our new home and are pleased with the same. I shall never forget my good visit at the campmeeting last August."

blessing of the Lord in his work.

With the November issue of the missionary paper, The Helping Hand, of Cleveland, Brother W. S. Chapman withdrew from the management, not being able longer to give the paper proper attention, and the December number comes to us with Dr. A. W. Herr as editor, and Elder J. W. Collie associate editor.

Elder S. G. Haughey reports that the work is prospering in the Emerald Isle. He conducted quarterly meeting services at Belfast, at which time he baptized six persons, three young ladies and three young men. He and Elder Hutchinson but recently closed a two-months' effort at Newtownards, where three decided to keep the Sabbath. Many others are deeply convicted, and it is thought that some of these will yet obey. At present they are conducting a

The VISITOR wishes him the

series of meetings at Keady. His address for a month or more will be Prospect Terrace, Keady, County Armaugh, Ireland.

Certainly no one can afford to miss the week of prayer readings. If you have not received a copy of them, read the notice concerning them in another column. In view of the times in which we live, should we not heed every ray of light that is sent us from the throne of God? Let the words of the prophet Joel be carried out at this time. "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children." Let this be a time of true heart-searching and consecration of all we have and are to the Lord; then He can trust us with His Spirit and thus each one will be a power for good in His hands.

CANVASSER'S REPORT

FOR WEEK ENDING DEC. 9, 1899.

	No. Days	No. Hrs	Orders	Value
Mr. F. H. Henderson	5	24	11	\$ 39 50
Mr. F. M. Fairchild				27 50
Mrs. Hamer	0	0	39	11 00
Mr. L. H. Holobaugh	1	5	5	3 75
Mrs. E. A. Berry	4	18	5	5 75
Mr. John Frost	0	0	16	13 25
Miss Cora Cuddaback	2	5½	4	5 25
Mrs. C. L. Painter	5		21	10 50
Mrs. Catharine Baughman			49	17 25
Mr. H. C. Oberholtzer	1		3	6 00
Mr. L. A. Holobaugh	2	8	8	5 75
Mr. J. Raymond	5	37½	19	33 75
Mr. W. E. Bidwell			17	11 25
Mrs. A. E. Berry	4	8	5	5 75
Mrs. Julia A. Tracy		10		4 35
Total				\$200 60

FOR WEEK ENDING DEC. 16, 1899.

	No. Days	No. Hrs.	Orders	Value
Mrs. M. C. Baughman	2		14	\$ 11 00
Mr. C. L. Willson	4	16	18	14 00
Mrs. Carrie English	4	19½	35	14 29
Mrs. L. R. Campbell	3	13	13	7 00
Mr. James K. White	4½	24½	4	11 50
Mr. John Sprinkle			4	3 75
Mr. W. E. Bidwell			32	24 50
Total				\$ 86 24

DELIVERIES:

Mr. James E. Shultz	\$ 5 00
Mrs. Hamer	11 00
Mr. W. E. Bidwell	19 51
Mr. F. M. Fairchild	11 00
Mr. Jay Raymond	86 00
Mr. W. E. Bidwell	12 65

Total \$155 16