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Evangelical

The Earth Shall Be Full of the Knowledge of the Lord, as the Waters Cover the Sea. — Isa. XI, 9.

Some trust in Chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord — our God. — Psa. 20, 7.

Visitor.

GRANTHAM, PA.

JANUARY 13, 1913.
The family, or home, is the nursery of the church, or family of God on earth. He ordained it in Eden, as He did the Sabbath, and has preserved these institutions through all the wreckage consequent upon the fall of man, notwithstanding the continued efforts of Satan and wicked men to corrupt and destroy them.

The Christian family is a church of God in the home. The father is the minister of God to his household, an exemplifier and teacher of the Word of God. His government and discipline are to be based on God's commandments; his first care and duty, if he would have God's blessing, is, like Abraham, to order his children and household not only for present good, but "after him." (Gen. 18: 6). In this, as in every other duty, the mother is his helpmeet.

No after teaching or training in the best schools can take the place in importance of the early God-ordained means of laying the foundation of a godly character in Bible principles and practical life. The neglect of this is largely the cause of the godlessness of children of Christian parents. Temporal necessities and secular education are allowed the first attention and care, and little or no time is given to the children in their impressible years to spiritual instruction and Bible knowledge. Family prayer, if any, is apt to be a hurried service, as "work crowds." With so little importance attached to such a sacred service, is it any wonder that irreverence and dislike to such services are manifested in the children? What enjoyable and profitable occasions family worship may be made—a safeguard against temptation—where God is held in honor and His kingdom and righteousness first sought. (Matt. 6: 33).

O the Heaven-sent privileges the parents are letting go by for mere earthly interests! O the sorrow they are sowing for themselves and their children by their neglect!

(Contented on page 11)
THE NEW YEAR IS HERE.

Last night (we are writing this Jan. 1, 1913) at 12 o'clock we were made aware by a din of noises, bells, steam whistles, guns, exploding fire-crackers, and human voices, that the new year was now here. The general feeling is that the coming in of the year is quite auspicious as to the temporal and financial conditions of the country, and as a rule people are optimistic as regards the future.

But many remark as to how quickly the year has passed away and we are reminded of the hymn which says:

Swift the moments fly away,
First the hour, then the day;
Next the week, the month, the year,
Steal away and disappear.

Time is ever on the wing,
While I speak, or thing, or sing!
Whether night, or whether day,
Time is rolling fast away!

Think my soul! awake and see
What will soon become of thee!
Whither tending, canst thou tell—
Up to heaven or down to hell.

The last verse is a prayer and is no doubt appropriate for us all as we go on in life's journey and our remaining days grow less:

Jesus, I would humbly pray,
Guide and keep me in the way;
Every gift and grace bestow;
Wean my heart from things below.

We remember that Jesus said on one occasion “One thing is needful”, and said of one that she had chosen the good part which should not be taken from her. Have we made the same wise choice? And are we steadfastly going forward in the right path and being fruitful in every good work? The young ruler who answered Jesus as regards the commandments, “All these have I kept from my youth,” was conscious that there
was yet a great lack in that he inquired 
“What lack I yet.” He lacked Christ, 
that alone good part which, if a person 
has, is all. In this connection there is 
such a beautiful and striking hymn which 
we sometimes sang, entitled, “Christ 
for me”

Whom have I, Lord, in heav’n but Thee? 
None but Thee! None but Thee! 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
He hath for me the wine press trod, 
He hath redeemed me “by His blood,” 
And reconciled my soul to God, 
Christ for me! Christ for me!

I envy not the rich their joys, 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
I covet not earth’s glittering toys, 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
Earth can no lasting bliss bestow, 
“Fading” is stamped on all below, 
Mine is a joy no end can know, 
Christ for me! Christ for me!

Tho’ with the poor be cast my lot, 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
“He knoweth best”—I murmur not! 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
Tho’ “vine and Fig-tree” blight’ assails, 
The “Labor of the Olive fail;” 
And death o’er flocks and herds prevail, 
Christ for me! Christ for me!

Tho’ I am now on hostile ground, 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
And sin beset me all around, 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
Let earth her fiercest battles wage, 
And foes against my soul engage, 
Strong in His strength I scorn their rage, 
Christ for me! Christ for me!

And when my life draws to its close, 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
Safe in His arms I shall repose, 
Christ for me! Christ for me! 
When sharpest pains my frame pervade, 
And all the powers of nature fade, 
Still will I sing thro’ death’s cold shade, 
Christ for me! Christ for me!

If then Christ is our choice, having 
Him, that one thing needful is ours, for 
in Him are supplied “All things” that 
pertain to life and godliness” as Peter 
writes. It is He that “hath for me the 
winepress trod;” it is He that “hath re­ 
deemed me by His blood;” and that “hath 
reconciled my soul to God.” It is in Him 
there are “hid all the treasures of wis-

Now what will we do? Will we 
press forward. Paul writes to the Phil­ 
lippians, “This one thing I do, forget­ 
ting….reaching forth….I press to­ 
ward the mark for the prize.” Here is 
an example for us. Have we become 
weary and discouraged? He would say 
to every one of us, “Lift up the hands 
that hang down; strengthen the feeble 
knees, hold aloft again the banner of 
hope, march forward and onward, the 
prize shall be yours. Our Savior went 
through and gained the victory. The 
apostles were kept in Him for Jesus 
could say, “Those whom Thou hast 
given unto me I have kept, and none of 
them is lost save the son of perdition, 
that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.” 
So are we “kept by the power of God un­ 
to salvation, ready to be revealed in the 
last times.”

“Looking unto Jesus.” Let this be 
our motto for this year. Let us have 
Him enthroned in our hearts so that He 
may be our Life, live in us, and we will 
find Him a Helper in the time of need. 
Possibly He will come before the year 
has run its course. If so all those who 
are “in Him” shall meet Him in the 
air,—“will be like Him for we shall see 
Him as He is.”

“Oh joy! oh delight! should we go 
without dying, 
No sickness, no sadness, no dread and 
no crying, 
Caught up thro’ the clouds with our Lord 
into glory, 
When Jesus receives ‘His own’.”

The Evangelical of this city, the or­ 
gan of the United Evangelical church, 
edited by Bishop H. B. Hartzler, has 
recently come to hand greatly improved, 
It has been changed somewhat in size of 
page and giving it 32 pages instead of 
16. Its appearance is much improved
and we wish for it an enlarged usefulness. The Gospel Banner organ of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ church also comes to us much improved in appearance and arrangement. Rev. Huffman of Dayton, Ohio, who was recently appointed editor,entered upon his duties with the first of the year. The paper is published at Cleveland, O., by the Union Gospel Publishing, Co. We trust the paper man continue successful and prove a blessing to many.

Our aged sister, Agnes Lesh, Hanover, Pa., renewing her subscription, writes that she has reason to be thankful to God for sparing her life so that she could enter into the New Year. She is isolated and hardly is visited at all by any of the brethren, but she is encouraged to live nearer to the Lord. She does not get to church services of any kind often at all. On Jan. 5, she attended Bible class in the Methodist church when there were 30 old people present. She says it was good to be there. She desires to be remembered in prayer by the brethren and sisters.

MINISTER CHOSEN.

On Jan. 5, the Bucks and Montgomery dist., made choice of a minister, and by it, Bro. H. B. Stout who held the office of deacon, was so chosen. May the brother be fully equipped with the Holy Spirit to fill the important office acceptably as also successfully.

CORRECTION.

Two mistakes need to be corrected in the Fire Aid Treasurer’s report in last issue, page 16: The second item reading $135.00 should have read $1350.00. The name given H. O. Zook should read A. O. Zook. We make apology for these mistakes.

THE BIBLE CONFERENCE.

While we are preparing this issue of the Visitor the Bible Conference is in progress at Grantham. Visitors are present from widely separated districts of the Brotherhood. Some of them were present at the opening: among them Eld. C. O. Musser, Abilene, Kan., Bish. J. R. Zook, Des Moines, Ia., Bish. Charles Baker, Betteau, Ont., Bish. Peter Steckley and wife, Gormley, Ont., D. W. Heise Gormley, Ont., Eld. T. S. Doner, Buffalo, N. Y., Bro. and Sr. Shellhaas, Mansfield, Ohio, Eld. H. J. Frey, missionary on furlough from Africa. The attendance from the Pennsylvania dist., promised to be quite large as the number of daily arrivals was increasing from day to day. No doubt there will be more to say about it in our next issue.

In order to satisfy the Postal Authorities at Washington when applying for Second class mailing privileges for the Visitor from Grantham we had to drop out our Harrisburg address altogether from the standing notices. We are living at our Harrisburg address, 1216 Walnut St., and have no change under contemplation at present.

We are under necessity of giving a special note of warning to all whose subscriptions are overdue three months or more. If not renewed before going to press for next issue we will have to drop all such names. We are sure many mean to renew. PLEASE DO IT NOW.

The special meetings at Fairland M. H. to which reference was made in former notes, came to a close on Sunday evening, Dec. 28, when an interested attentive congregation was present. Eld. Engle did good work preaching the word with plainness and marked intelligence.
on themes of great moment. It is confidently hoped that much of the seed thus sown will yet, in God's own time, bear fruit unto everlasting life in those who heard him.

A SPECIAL WORD TO ALL CORRESPONDENTS.

We would like if everybody would read this notice. It seems that our former notices as to our present location have been overlooked by a good many and they seem to conclude that as the paper is now printed and mailed from Grantham, Pa., that that must now be the editor's address. But this is not so. Our home is yet at 1216 Walnut St., Harrisburg, Pa., and letters will reach us sooner to be sent here direct than if they are sent via Grantham. And further it adds to the confusion when our postal orders are made payable at Grantham. On account of queer (so it seems to us) rulings of the postal authorities we had to drop out the standing notice as to our address being Harrisburg.

Bro. J. H. Myers and Sr. Myers accomplished their trip to Texas safely and he writes under date of Dec. 22, quoting from Psalm 137: "By the rivers of Babylon there we sat down, yea, we wept when we remembered Zion", and from Isa. 40:31: "They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint." They left Harrisburg, Pa., on Dec. 2, 1912, going via St. Louis, Mo., and Houston, Texas, reaching Victoria, Texas, at 10 p.m. Dec. 5. Bro. T. A. Long came on Saturday morning to convey them and their belongings to their home at Salem arriving there safely but weary and tired. Sr. Myers made the trip out on Friday with the mail carrier and got very cold. On Sunday they attended meeting at the new meeting house. The preaching service followed the Sunday school. They find the place rather attractive, and the congregations encouraging. There has been much of cloudy weather and considerable of rain since they are there again, but the weather is warm so that it was comfortable to sit in the room with out any fire. They had their garden plot plowed, and Bro. Peter Fike very kindly brought 125 cabbage plants and planted them. This was brotherly love indeed. There is seemingly a bit of loneliness felt by them when they think how far away they are and Bro. Myers thinks of Israel in Babylon. The few members there are happy in the Lord. Crops were poor there owing to the lack of moisture. They feel that the change from Pennsylvania, with its many provisions for religious privileges, to Texas, where they are isolated, and have no team to get around, is very great and gives them a feeling of loneliness, having been so accustomed to travel much in visiting so largely among the Brotherhood.

On Jan. 17, occurs Bro. Myers' 70th. birthday, and he should be remembered by many. He is reminded of the hymn, "A few more years shall roll,
A few more seasons come,
And we shall be with them that rest,
Asleep within the tomb."

But he looks for Jesus to come again in the near future, and thus finds encouragement day by day. They send love to all. Address them at,

Salem, Texas.

If our faith stop in Christ's life, and do not fasten upon His blood, it will not be a justifying faith. His miracles which prepared the world for His doctrines; His holiness, which fitted Himself for His sufferings, had been insufficient for us without the cross.—Stephen Charnock. 1684.
CONTRIBUTIONS.

TWENTY ONE REASONS.

A newspaper no benifit, may be a hindrance to a growth in Grace.

By God's help I will give three reasons for each day of the week why a newspaper is not needed, (I being a retired farmer).

Monday.
1. Because I can do very well without a Monday newspaper.
2. Because I know the above to be true having tried it for years. It may be a hindrance to the addition which Peter speaks about.
3. Because that which it takes to get a Monday paper could be spent for better purposes in many ways. "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which satisfieth not" (Isa. 55:2).

Tuesday.
4. Because it is likely to cover up, or spread over much better reading matter than that of its own pages and apt to come in hand first when reading matter is wanted.
5. Because a Tuesday newspaper brings no food for the soul as a general thing (sermons excepted).
6. Because by reading much of the contents of a Tuesday newspaper the soul is made lean, therefore a hindrance to growth in grace.

Brother if you are a business man and have use for a daily newspaper, will let you have one. "Be not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord" (Rom. 12:11), but read the part needed for their business only. The base and foot ball games, the automobile and motorcycle races, the air ship and baloon ascensions etc., etc., will not make us fervent in spirit serving the Lord. No, let that kind for the world to read.

Wednesday.
7. A Wednesday newspaper is not desired being more of a hindrance than a benefit to the inner man.
8. A Wednesday paper is not wanted because of being mixed with the world too much on this line and perhaps be sitting on the porch, or under a shade tree, in the Summer reading the paper as is a very common thing by the world. Where then is our peculiarity? "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness unto his marvellous light" (I. Peter 2:9). This is one of the many ways in which we can be peculiar.
9. A Wednesday newspaper may be the cause of spending much valuable time which ought to be devoted to better purposes, and get better acquainted with the Bible instead of the paper, thus the paper is a hindrance.

Thursday.
10. A Thursday newspaper is no benefit because by looking over its pages will get our eyes on this and that and the other things and fill our mind with things that may be even a hindrance to our growth in grace.
11. A Thursday paper may be worse than useless to one who is nearing his 72nd. mile stone and ought to make the very best possible use of the short time yet allotted. Another reason, The poet may well say, "O time, how few thy value weigh, etc."
12. Do not take a Thursday paper because there is no desire here to know what is going on over the world from day to day (as time is too precious to spend on these vain things), and thus get acquainted with us taking us by the arm.

"Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should
be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.” (1. Jno. 3: 1).

Friday.

13. Another reason a Friday paper is a good thing for the world to get acquainted with us to have our name on the newspaper list thus moving along with the current. Where is the separation line?

“Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you” (II. Cor. 6: 17).

14. Another reason why a Friday paper may be a hindrance; as time is used in paper reading of course other reading is more or less neglected; therefore precious time lost. The mill will never grind with the water that is past.

15. Do not take a Friday paper because often while reading the same felt somehow out of place, and so being no benefit but rather a hindrance to a growth in grace.

Saturday.

16. A Saturday paper may be a double hindrance; Why? Because using up precious time in its reading and as next day is Sunday the paper may not have been perused yet for want of time, or some other cause, but it is here and fresh and must be read to see what happened over the world through the week and thus polluting the Sabbath day.

17. A Saturday newspaper may be a temptation to keep one away from church on Sunday, and thus becoming a weight or a hindrance to a growth in grace. Reason ought to cut it out. “Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.” (Heb. 12: 1, last part).

18. Do not take a Saturday newspaper because of fearing after all too much time would be spent in reading of its nonsense and thus becoming lukewarm or being a hindrance to a growth in grace.

Sunday.

19. Now Sunday is here, and am sorry to say, a paper for the day. Reason would be afraid of a Sunday newspaper. “Let us therefore fear lest a promise being left us of entering into his rest any of you should seem to come short of it” (Heb. 4: 1).

20. The desire for a Sunday newspaper is as far from the Christian as the East is from the West, therefore need none.

21. Do not want a Sunday newspaper because I have one namely the Bible which has the best news printed on paper that ever any type was used for with its many invitations and blessed promises. “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst Come, and whosoever will let him take of the water of life freely” (Rev. 22: 17).

We were often made to feel sad when we saw a man or boy pass our door on a Sunday morning in our little village with a bundle of Sunday newspapers, in a wonderful hurry as if it was something very good or important (and no doubt it was to the receivers). Yes, it is indeed wonderful that people in our enlightened land are in such darkness that they must have a Sunday paper. Well may the poet write,

“If you cannot cross the Ocean
And the heathen lands explore;
You can find the heathen nearer,
You can find them at your door.”

How true. We are sorry to know that people right around us are passing away their precious time, their golden moments, in this way, when they could hear the glad tidings proclaimed with a five minutes walk. But these things do exist. Now, no
doubt, these are a non-church going class, and if so that they do not go to hear the word preached it must be taken to them. Who will go? who will say, Send me, send me? The word says, “Go” (Matt. 10:6,7).

The poet sings:

“Soon will the time of rescue be o'er,
Soon will they drift to eternity's shore;
Haste then, my brother, no time for delay,
Throw out the life line and save them today.”

“Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city and bring hither, the poor, and maimed; the halt and the blind. Go out into the high ways and hedges and compel them to come in that my house may be filled.” (Matt. 14:23).

Who will now take up the cross? The Savior says, “Whosoever doth not bear his cross and come after me can not be my disciple.” (Luke 14:27). So their blood will not be required at our hands.

Florin, Pa.
Jacob Zercher.

MY ANGEL MOTHER.

By W. R. Smith.

At an early, shadowy hour a few mornings ago, the angel of death entered our humble home and carried away the spirit from my angel mother. Silently the visit was made, and with unseen hands the holy temple of the soul was entered and the gem of life was taken, in which it had dwelt for more than four score years. Swiftly they took their mystic flight from the scenes of earth, and left us mourning their departure. Oh how lonely the now broken home, as I look around and view the many things that remind me of the well beloved absent one. Mother had come a long way in the great eventful journey of life, since the golden gate of childhood had forever closed its portals behind her.

Many changes have been made, and a far from the home of her youth, on the wide prairies of the West, where she had lived for over half a century, she grew weary of the way and lay down to sleep in Jesus.

All along the past years her companions of other days have fallen by the wayside, and their hands like my sainted mother’s are now folded over hearts of clay.

For over sixty years mother was a believer in Christ as her personal Savior, and the “Wondrous Cross on which the Prince of Glory died,” was ever a beacon light to guide her weak and weary footsteps home to our Father’s house of many mansions, that she so often delighted to talk about. Over all her earth life God’s banner of love ever waved its crimson folds, and in the darkest night of gloom, she always saw the light beyond the range of mortal vision. The far away land of the blessed was a living reality to her, for by faith she beheld its waving fruits, and crystal streams, the golden streets, and its glorified inhabitants.

More than one half of her life was passed in much pain and suffering of body, yet she endured with great patience and Christian resignation, that God ever doeth all things well, and however dark the clouds their edges were gilded with the light of heaven. For nearly two score years she traveled life’s hard rough pathway alone, living with her children, after her husband went home to the better land, faithful to the sacred vows she made in early life.

Great was her loving devotion to her family and others in good deeds and cheering hopeful words to help others bear their burdens that they might have a brighter tomorrow. She believed in a whole Bible, from the first verse of Genesis to the last word of Revelations, and no modern winds of doctrine ever
caused her faith to waver a single instant. As one of the old land-marks, she stood for the "old time religion," and that "Simply to Thy Cross I cling," was creed enough to save the whole world, if it would only accept and believe its precious truth.

Of course she was a woman of prayer, for who ever knew of a mother in Israel that did not pray.

The most sacred memories of my early childhood days are associated with my mother, as I knelt at her knee in the twilight hour, and she taught me to say "Our Father in Heaven." They are the bright green spots on life's early pathway that shine forth with unfading beauty and splendor.

In the later months of her life being able to attend divine worship very little, as the holy Sabbath evening came on, she would take the song books and sing in a low sweet quavering voice some of the dear old songs of Zion. And as I listened to the blessed words of comfort, hope and faith, as the melody came from her lips, often with tears in my eyes, I was lifted up in my aspirations and desires for the better land, as by some unseen hand.

These blessed vespers hours were sacred seasons to me. When the world and all its cares were beaten back, and the glorious home of light beyond seemed very near.

Mother was a singing pilgrim all along her life journey, and even when entering the dark shadows of the valley, she sang scarcely above a whisper these lines:

"Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high."

Her last testimony was that the future was all bright and that the Savior was coming to take her home to the many mansions in glory.

For years mother lived very near the sunset portal of life, only waiting till the shadows had grown a little longer in the valley, when the angels would open wide the pearly gates for her entrance. And now mother is gone, and numbered with those who are at rest in Jesus. The great warfare of life is over. The pain and suffering all past.

The tears are all wiped away. Another bright jewel has been gathered for the Savior's crown, that will shine on with undimmed luster through the endless cycles of eternity. Some glad morn just beyond this dim twilight shore of time in God's own Summerland of eternal joy and glory, I shall meet my angel mother again. No more partings, for no farewell tears are ever shed in heaven, but one long blissful day of joy and pleasure among the bowers and by the streams of heaven's delightful clime.

How sweet it will be to meet the loved and gone and to know that we shall part no more forever, that through all the endless ages we shall rest together in the home of God. Roll on, O time, thy rapid flight of years and haste the glad happy day when I shall clasp my angel mother's hand again on the evergreen shore.

All hail the glorious time, when the redeemed of every age and nation shall be safely gathered home to our Father's house of many mansions.

Fredonia, Kans. R. R. No. 2.

A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION.

BY A. Z. MYERS.

"Old Christmas came with ancient fame,
And all were joyful then;
But must we hope and wait in hope,
Till Christmas comes again."

"They who bring their hearts to sing;
Keep Christmas all the year."

It is rather interesting to note what creatures of passion we are; how we swing from one extreme to the other.
The Christmas celebration is past. We are safe in saying that there was much in it that must have grieved the Lord, much that was simply commercialism, worldliness and that dishonored rather than honored Him whose birthday it celebrated.

Puritanism swung to the opposite extreme and would have none of it. In staid old Massachusetts a law was passed that went so far as to declare that any recognition of it, no matter how trivial, should be treated as an offense against morals, religion and the State. Later this law was repealed as a concession of doubtful propriety.

My own memory and the memory of some at least of the readers of the VISITOR tells something of this restraint and questionings.

Indeed it is not so long since, when the day was not a day of pleasure to me. I really dreaded the Christmas sermon. Fully convinced of the much that was in connection with the day that dishonored the Lord, knowing how unwilling the people are to receive the whole truth and nothing but the truth, how at this time of all times they are selfishly pleasure mad my heart was heavy and I found no way out.

But I have found a way out, hence these notes. I have learned to see the good and think less of the evil. It is not wrong that we should think at some time of the year much of the wonderful event that ushered into this world the Son of God, that meant so much in God’s plan of redeeming this poor prodigal world. It is not wrong that we should be very glad at this time, and that we should at this time of all times try to make others glad.

There is a true Christmas spirit. Let us help it on, and may it be so imbue our hearts and minds that we shall have Christmas not only one week, or one day but all the year long.

Let me ask you to look up and thoughtfully read these three scriptures: Luke 2: 10-14; John 5: 30 and Rom. 8:9. In the first we have the Father expressing His love toward the race; in the second the unity of the Son and the Father and in the third, the unity of the believer and the Son, and so this Christmas spirit is the Christ spirit and must be our spirit all the while—all the year if we belong to Him.

Now, then, what in brief is that spirit? Luke 2: 14: The angel’s song emphasizes three things that stand out pre-eminently as the Christ spirit as manifested in His life and ministry. Note then as follows: stated not in the order of the angel’s song, but rather in the order in which they grip our own consciousness.

1. Holiness. “On earth peace”. Peace on earth means simply that each one will keep the whole of the moral law—mark you the whole of it, and you will be helped in your study of this if with the ten commandments you will study Jesus’ interpretation of this law in the Sermon on the Mount, and the whole is simplified in His summary which we commonly call the Golden Rule.

There is wonderful need today for holding up before men and women this moral standard. It is appalling the number of people who claim to belong to Christ to whom the moral law is a dead letter, who violate it with impunity: and we each need to have a care to our own life. We need to teach these ten commandments to our children and to ourselves as we have not taught them.

This wonderful regard to the rightness of things is the first thing that impresses me as I study and know the Christ. Not even His enemies could point out a single instance of missing the mark, of crookedness, of any fault
other than ignoring their traditions.

2. Sacrificial self giving. "Good will toward men." Christ's good will to men meant sacrificial self giving. Self giving—yes, giving and giving sacrificially and giving for the good of men.

You find this in His ministry, in His miracles, in His teaching and it reaches the climax on Calvary when He gave Himself in such a way as to procure an atonement—a satisfaction for our sins—and not for ours only, but there is potential virtue enough in that sacrifice to atone for the sins of the whole world if only they would believe and receive.

We give gifts at Christmas time—some are wise and helpful—many would better not be given, and we ought to learn to be wise here. (Jas 1:5 would help). The true spirit of Christmas would be imbued with the Christ spirit in its sacrificial self giving and will direct us and impel us all the days.

3. And over all this write, "For the glory of the Father." "Glory to God in the highest" was the song of the angels. And they sang that first for it is first. It was first in the life of Jesus. But, alas, it is so often not first in our consciousness and only as we follow the steps I have indicated herein will we learn to "do all for the glory of God."

As you study the life of Jesus you are impressed, specially as you study the fourth Gospel, but in all the life that this one thing was His passion, His purpose, His life and as we become more Christ-centered instead of self-centered in our service we too like Him, live for the glory of God. Self is sunk out of sight. Our feelings are not hurt. We are never slighted. We become sacrificial self givers. The Holy Spirit can work through us. Christ's joy is our joy, but it is all for the glory of the Father. Sin grieves us because it dishonors God. We give ourselves and our money to the church and to missions and for evangelization because men and women in sin dishonor God. Their salvation would bring glory to His name.

Such, beloved, is the true Christmas spirit. The special Christmas season ought to help us realize it. Communion with Him in prayer and the word and obedient discipleship will help us realize it all the days.

Wellsboro, Pa.

INSPIRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD.

BY IRA J. ZERCHER.

May the gentle kindness of God keep our hearts and minds stayed on Him, while we undertake to elucidate some of the reasons why we think, believe, and know the word of God to be inspired.

Confuscius, Mohammed. Buddah and others have endeavored in vain to give us inspired writings. The works of Confuscius point to the past as the golden age; Mohammed gives us no remedy for sin. His conception of heaven is even degrading. The Koran loses its value when translated into any other than its original language. Buddah gives us a religion without a God. The Nirvana state can only be reached by doing and by not doing. This is the Buddhist's final goal. Only three or four have reached it. What a gloomy future these books set before their followers in contrast to what is recorded in our Bible.

Compare these with its marvellous and complete plan of redemption, its real and living God, its unfailing and glorious future hope. This Book of books has been translated into almost every language; it has undergone the most harsh and most severe criticisms. All this, and still it maintains its identity. It is the Bread of life, it is the Balm which heals the wounded heart, it is that which gives comfort to the soul in distress. In spite of every attempt to crush and destroy it, it has survived in its original lustre and brings joy, peace, and comfort to millions.*

Inspiration is not revelation. God communicated Divine knowledge to Abra-
ham; but Moses was endued to record it for our learning. Moses received both revelation and inspiration.

Inspiration is not human genius. Human genius is a natural qualification. The ungodly may have it. Inspiration is supernatural.

Inspiration is not illumination. Every Christian is illuminated, supplied with light, but not every Christian is inspired. For "INSPIRATION IS NOTHING LESS THAN THE IN-BREATHING OF GOD'S SPIRIT, EXPRESSING ITSELF THROUGH HUMAN PERSONALITY."

It would be absurd to admit that those who wrote were always inspired; else we would have to admit that Moses was inspired when he slew the Egyptian; the great sin of David would have been an inspired act; the persecuting of the Christians by St. Paul would have been right. Truly the characteristics of these writers of Moses, the poetical smoothness of David, the argumentativeness of St. Paul are very distinctly seen. The sternness of these writers is clearly discernible.

How they became inspired we cannot tell. This is one of God's own secrets. The Word says, "Holy men of old spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." The Lord touched the mouth of Jeremiah and had to tell him that His word was in his mouth. Daniel says, "I heard but understood not." Notwithstanding all this the prophesies of Daniel and Jeremiah are being fulfilled. David and Isaiah's prophesies about Christ, three hundred and thirty three in all, have been fulfilled to the letter.

Christ says, "Search the Scriptures." This gives us license to investigate whether or not they are inspired. Do you believe the Word to be inspired in thought only, or do you believe it to be inspired in the very thought and letter? This question you may answer for yourself. But I am not permitted to disbelieve that every letter is inspired. Not as the translation appears now, but as the original records appeared. Nature is our best example. The finest needle that any human ingenuity can make, looks like a rusty crowbar under a strong microscope. But the saw like teeth on the stinger of a wasp cannot be seen under the same instrument. God would not be so particular about the creating of the stinger of a wasp and permit an unguided curve or an extra dot to be added to His Inspired Word. Show me a book which has gone through the hands of so many copyists, translators, and printers and yet maintained its identity. There is none. Bring me a book which has caused kings and servants, rich and poor, learned and illiterate to fall down on their knees and cry, "God be merciful to me a sinner." The beggar upon the street and the king upon his throne, the learned European and the uncivilized savage, the profound thinker and the serf in the field, all these it brings upon one common level by conversion.

Many will contend that the Bible is man-made. This is positively an absurdity since the Bible as no other sacred book condemns man and all his works. Not once does it praise him for his wisdom, his discoveries, his reasonings, his arts or progress in any way.

It pictures man as undone; as a sinner in the sight of God; as one whose natural inclinations are away from God. An argument of this kind is as ridiculous as was the one to which Christ answered, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

The critic claims there are contradictions in the Word. These appear only to those who do not have the spiritual insight thereof. The flower has not yet opened to him. The flower is beautiful, fragrant, and contains honey; but unless the heart is renewed it cannot see the beauty, it cannot smell the fragrance, it cannot taste the honey. It is only for those who believe. Whatever has seemed to be contradictory, has been proven to be truth by Science and the spade.

Within the last fifty years the spade has proven by bringing to light many valuable records, the authenticity of Biblical history. Eminent scientists are agreeing more and more that the order of creation as recorded in the Bible is the only possible order. Volumes have been written to prove the falsity of the Word's Inspiration, which the spade has proved true by unearthing a record.

We cannot understand all that is in the Bible. Should that make it any the less inspired? This very thing should cause us to believe in its inspiration.
Many are the statements in the Psalms hard to understand. Let us search for the truth; if we fail to find a satisfactory solution to our inquiry, let us quiet our doubts which may arise by thinking that, "He was a prophet." David himself said, "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me and his word was in my tongue."

Strange, indeed, that you should wonder why there are some very noticeable differences in the records of the Evangelists. Was it human weakness or was it planned so by God? Taking the four Gospels it is sometimes difficult to harmonize similar events and accounts. This is not strange for each writer had a different purpose in view. Matthew sets Jesus Christ forth as Israel’s King, Mark as the Servant of Jehovah, Luke as the True Man, and John as God. Can we not conceive the Divine plan underlying all this? Luke received his information by reports, but the rest must have heard Him speak the same words; yet when recording a sermon, a miracle, a conversation with the Pharisees, each wrote it in accordance with his purpose, "As high as the heavens are above the earth, so are God’s ways above our ways, so are His thoughts above our thoughts." Why then should we disbelieve when it is beyond our capability to understand? With almost the same astonishment with which Moses beheld the burning bush which was not consumed, we marvel at the great mercy of God toward those who disbelieve and deny the WORD’S INSPIRATION.

You are satisfied that the Word of God is inspired, but, if you are still in doubt or unsettled study the "Jew". The Jew as a nation is fulfilling divine prophecy at this very moment. The Bible my friends, as we have it now, in its various translations, when freed from all errors and mistakes of copyists, translators, and printers, is nothing less than the very word of God and is no less perfect.

Grantham, Pa.

The foregoing article was prepared by the author in connection with the regular work at the Messiah Bible School.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus."

THE HOME BIBLE SCHOOL.

(Continued from page 1.)

The lessening of a child’s faith in God is a fearful sin against it, which may mean the eternal loss of its soul, as faith once lost is hard to regain. On the other hand, what estimate can be put upon the privilege of helping the child’s faith to grasp its heritage in Christ as it learns how Jesus blest little children and said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God." (Luke 18:16). They can learn that they are children of God till they knowingly sin, and that they can have the evil nature destroyed in their hearts so they have no tendency to sin.

Sanctified Childhood is God’s ideal for Christian households. Though the child may go astray, yet that early instruction and Bible discipline and prayers they can never get away from. They are the hand of help which the Spirit uses to bring them back to God. O Christian parents, be wise in the things of God. Children are a heritage from the Lord; not for pets to be spoiled, but to be cherished and trained for His service on earth, and to share in His eternal glory. Intellectual culture, though of great importance, can never take the place of the spiritual.—Anna Abrams in The Vanguard. Sel. by Addie Cassel.

No one who is seriously seeking Christ in His house is seriously disturbed by seeming slights from men.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The letters that are sent to us via Grantham, Pa., reach us but have to be re-mailed at that office, but it is unhandy for us to get the postal orders cashed there as we go there only once every two weeks. MARK ALL POSTAL ORDERS PAYABLE AT HARRISBURG, PA., please.
News of Church Activity
IN THE
HOME AND FOREIGN FIELDS

Addresses of Missionaries.

Africa.

H. P. Steigerwald, Grace Steigerwald, Mary Heisey, Matopo Mission, Bulawayo, South Africa.

Myron and Ada Taylor, H. Frances Davidson, Choma, N. W. Rhodesia, South Africa.


Isaac O. and A. Alice Lehman, box 5263, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Jesse R. and Malinda Eyster, box 10, Boksburg, Transvaal, South Africa.

India.

The following are not under the F.M.B.: D. W. and Mrs. D. W. Zook, Adra, B. N. R., India.

Elmina Hoffman, Kedgaon, Poona Dist., Ramabai Home, India.

Mrs. Fannie Fuller, Gowalia, Tank Road, Bombay, India.

Central America.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Cassel, San Marcos, Guatemala, C. A.

Missionaries on Furlough.

H. J. and Emma Frey, Abilene, Kansas.

Sallie K. Doner, Campbellstown, Pa.

OUR CITY MISSIONS.

Philadelphia Mission, 3423 North Second
In charge of Eld. T. S. Doner and wife.

Buffalo, N. Y., Mission, 25 Hawley street.

Chicago Mission, 6039 Halstead street.
In charge of Sister Sarah Bert, Brother B. L. Brubaker and Sister Nancy Shirk.

Des Moines, Iowa, Mission, 1226 W. 11th street.
In charge of Eld. J. R. and Sister Anna Zook.

Jabbeok Orphanage, Thomas, Okla., in charge of E. N. and Adella Engle, R. R. No. 3, Box 1.

San Francisco Mission, 52 Cumberland street.
In charge of Sister Lizzie Winger and workers.


DES MOINES MISSION.

Our downtown mission has been signally blest right from the first service when two souls came forward and received the blessing of a pure heart.

Almost every night some one receives help on some line. There is a beautiful co-operation among the Christian people interested. The Spirit of the Lord predominates.

On our last Sunday night three came to the altar and received definite help, testifying to saving grace. A number stood for prayer, On New Years eve a young married woman was saved. She had heard of our mission but did not know exactly where it was located, but in her quest she found it. She said that she had been under conviction for two or more weeks, so she could scarcely sleep.

Last night—New Years night—a man and his wife came bowing at the altar in deep contrition, and finally rose with joy stamped on their countenances. Their children were saved on the previous Sunday night. So the work goes on to the praise of God.

People who are sick are also calling for prayer, that the Lord may heal them.

Father Regats was very feeble and is patiently waiting to cross over to be with Jesus our Lord.

We hope to have the mission property finally settled in the near future.

Remember us and the work in your prayers.

Love to all,

FINANCIAL.

Receipts.

S. S. Stevensville, Ont, $14.65.

Expenditures.

For gas, $4.25; fuel, $14.50; groceries and other eatables, $25.25; incidentals, $8.00; Total, $52.00

Balance due mission Jan. 1, 1913, $37.35.

J. R. and Anna Zook.

BUFFALO MISSION.

To all the dear readers of the Visitor, We greet you with Psa. 91: 1, 2. We find it is blessed indeed to trust in God for all. His promises are very precious to us these days, and the sentiment of our hearts is voiced in the song: “Not for ease or worldly pleasure. Nor for fame my prayer shall be; gladly will I toil, and suffer, only let me walk with Thee.” We wish to thank all the dear saints who have so nobly stood by the work during
the past month. It has been a source of encouragement to have had so many of our dear brethren and sisters from different parts call on us and lend a helping hand.

Nov. 31, to Dec. 31, 1912.

FINANCIAL.

Balance on hand, $73.98.

Receipts.

Bro. Carlyon, $2.00; Bro. S. R. Smith, $1.00; Bro. Dick, $1.00; Bro. Ehlers, $5.00; Sr. helt, $1.00; Sr. Cober, $1.00; Sr. Pringle, $3.00; Sr. Herr, $1.00; Sr. Rhodes, $2.00; A Sr. Clarence Centre, $2.00; Bro. Reighard, $.50; Clarence Centre Union S. S., $5.00; Bro. Orla Heise, $1.00; John Sider, $1.00; Jesse Sider, $1.00; Tená Sider, $1.00; Bro. Frank Harvey, $1.50; Bro. D. Climenhaga, (for wall paper), $1.00; Total $107.98.

Expenditures.

Linoloum and wall paper, $15.76; coal oil, $.60; coal, $3.70; light, $2.52; wood, $2.50; benevolent, $1.00; groceries, car fare and sundries, $22.39; Total, $88.47.

Provisions were received from the following: Bro. W. Max, Sr. Mater, Sr. Morisse, Sr. Petke, Bro. W. V. Heise, Sr. Sider, Sr. Blake and Bro. Melvin Sider. May God bless you all, T. S. and Cora Doner.

DAYTON MISSION.

The time has come again to greet you as our loving Visitor family, in the dear name of Jesus, our conqueror in this dark world of sin, praise His holy name forever.

As this will be our last monthly report for the past year, it tells us that one more year has gone into eternity with all of its realities, our words and actions, there to await our coming, and account there to give. We can call to mind the experiences of the year just past, but how little we know what shall be our lot, or experiences in this year now begun. But I am so glad we can commit it all into the care of Jesus, and have sweet rest in Him. For He will bring all things to pass according to His will if we trust and obey Him. Above all let us give God the first place in our lives for His service, in gathering in precious souls during this year if we will be permitted to live, for there is much work to be done in the great vine-yard of the Lord.

You remember we wrote of a woman a few months ago, who was severely afflicted with cancer, who had called for prayer for her healing. But the Lord withheld the healing for some reason, but gave her a witness of her salvation. She had been a church member but never had an evidence of her sins forgiven, but that afternoon as she prayed so earnestly the Lord came into her soul and she rejoiced with uplifted hands, praising the dear Lord for all He had done for her. As we continued to visit her in her affliction she would request us to sing, and pray with her. But a week ago last Friday morning wife and I called for the last time. As we entered the kitchen we were informed of her fast sinking away, and could go in softly and speak but a few words. Our anxiety was to hold before her that Jesus would help her to the end. She then requested prayer, which we had, in the adjoining room. We were just about to leave, but felt led to sing her favorite hymn, "The City that's Soon Coming Down" in the kitchen to which they consented. While singing the first verse, she called her husband, and asked us to come in and sing in her room. This was a most beautiful scene as she joined us in singing part of the song, and with up-lifted hand, and a peaceful smile she praised God saying she would soon be in that city. We then gave her good bye with the hope of meeting again on the other shore. Last Sunday morning at two o'clock her spirit took its flight to be with Jesus.

The dear Lord keeps our hearts encouraged in Him, as we see the Holy Spirit still operating upon precious hearts. The Sunday school is of good interest and the number still increasing. We see the need of more room, and are trusting the Lord will provide.

We are being invited into homes of the unsaved to hold cottage prayer meetings. We again wish to be thankful, and manifest our appreciation of all the help and kindness bestowed upon us. May the dear Lord graciously keep and bless you all is our prayer.

FINANCIAL.


Balance on hand, $12.53.

Receipts.

A brother, $5.00; Lizzie Moist, West Milton, O., $1.00; Ashby Pendleton, Urbana, O., $1.00; W. J. Myers, Massillon, O., $3.00; Elizabeth Hodge, Vandergrift, Pa., $1.00 Anna Hoke, Clayton, O., $2.00; Mission Offering, $8.19; Total, $33.72.
Expenditures.
Rent, $18.00; gas and stove rent, $3.02; 12 chairs, $7.75; incidentals, $1.83; table account $2.53; Total, $33.13.
Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1913, $0.59.
Provisions of various kinds, consisting of cornmeal, butter, eggs, popcorn, milk, peanuts, walnuts, lard, meat, chicken, potatoes, 3 comforters, clothing for the poor, apple butter, were donated by Bert Dohner, Iva Herr, Orville Herr, Jesse Wenger, Annie Hoke, Isaac Engle, Fairview Sewing Circle, Moses Dohner, Lizzie Moist, S. B. and E. S. Longenecker, Edward Engle.

Yours until Jesus comes,
W. H. and Susie Boyer.

601 Taylor St.

SAN FRANCISCO MISSION.

Dear readers of the Visitor: Greeting in the name of Jesus. We come again with our report. The last month has been one of trials and hard labor, but thanks be to God it has not been in vain.

We all know there is a sowing time and also a reaping time so we need to stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.

One soul that we had been praying for, for at least five months, did at last yield his heart to the Lord, one night in his home, and came back to give God the glory.

We are glad to say there are still others that sought the Lord and found Him to the peace and pardoning of their soul.

An aged man after coming to the mission several nights under deep conviction, gave his heart to the Lord the last night just before leaving the city. We have since received a letter from him that is encouraging which we will give:

Dear people, I don't know the name of any of you, but I do thank you from the bottom of my heart. You helped me to see the blessed Lord last Friday evening. God has put a wonderful peace in my soul.

Dear brothers and sisters, pray for me so I will get more faith in God. I am done with this sinful world. I spent the last money for the devil. I have been a slave all my life. I feel tempted sometimes, but when I look up to the dear Lord it is all gone. I am not so happy as I could be, but I feel the blessed Spirit in me. I am so sorry I can't come in to the meetings. I am too far off. After while I will find some work close to, but the dear blessed Lord is with me just the same. There is no church around here or meetings, so I feel kind of lonesome. This place is not as I expected it to be. They are very nice people, but there is a saloon connected with the hotel here, so I don't like it very much.

I will try and do the best I can for a while. If you dear people should happen to have some Christian papers, I would be very glad to get one. Respect.

On Thanksgiving we had special services in the afternoon, enjoyed by all, each one thanking God for special blessings and salvation.

We thank the Lord for hearing and answering prayer, knowing “That he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them” (Heb. 7:25).

FINANCIAL.

Report from Nov. 24, to Dec. 24, 1912.

Receipts.

From various sources, $971; D. T. Gish, Buffalo, N. Y., $1.00; Valley Chapel, O., S. S. $7.40; D. S. Engle, Abilene, Kans., $5.00; A. brother, $1.00; Hamlin, S. S. Kan., $11.65; Zion S. S. Abilene, Kan., $25.00; Free will offerings at hall, $20.15; Upland, Cal., $28.80; Total $109.71.

Expenditures.

Street car fares, $10.05; table supplies, $18.75; home incidentals, $9.75; hall rent, $5.00; house rent, $8.00; poor, $.80; lights, oil, paint and torch for the street, $11.61; Total, $109.96.

Balance on hand, Nov. 24, 1912, $3.22.

Balance on hand, Dec. 24, 1912, $2.97.

We thank the Lord for supplying the needs both temporally and spiritually.

The Workers.

59 Cumberland St.

PHILADELPHIA MISSION.

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

We have abundant reasons to praise God. How He has touched the hearts of the dear saints and has supplied our needs another month, praise the Lord. Surely God's mercy endureth for ever. Psalm 119: 64: "The earth is filled with thy mercy; and Isa. 40: 17: "All nations before him are as nothing. Verse 22: "It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers;" and yet Jesus says we shall be like him.

I praise the Lord for answering prayer. What a privilege we have of carrying everything to the Lord in prayer. And how will we ever praise Him sufficiently for His kind protection? And how gently He does lead. He encourages our hearts to go on. When we have so many discouraging things around us.
we can realize the everlasting arms underneath us to bear us up (Deut. 33: 27). The word of God is so dear to me and how God does reveal Himself to us through the word. Jesus says in Matthew, "Ye do err not knowing the Scripture." When we have the home comforts let us remember our brother and sister in distress. Some one came to the Mission and said they covered with a cotton blanket and spread. I thank God that we could supply them with a cover to make them comfortable. O the good we all may do while the days are going by. Bless the Lord, Amen.

FINANCIAL.
Balance on hand, $22.03.

Receipts.
A sister, Manor district, Pa., $5.00; Elizabethtown, Pa., $1.00; Grantham, Pa., $1.00; Palmyra, Pa., $4.00; Perry Station, Ont., $10.10; Rheems, Pa., $1.00; Offerings, $6.24; Cash, $11.00; Total, $61.37.

Expenditures.
Provisions, $29.35; gas, $2.75; other expenses, $3.19; Mission work, $5.48; Total, $40.77.
Balance on hand, $20.60.

Your Sister, for the lost of earth,
Mary K. Stover.

3423 N. 2nd. St.

CHAMBERSBURG MISSION.

We want to thank all the dear ones who have helped to bear the expenses of this place during the last two months. We are sure the Lord will bless their benevolence. He notices the least we do for Him and will reward us in His time. I surely praise God for the blessings we enjoyed in these last two months, and I know if we "trust and obey" He will never leave nor forsake His children and if we keep humble.

Brother Wenger is still helpless but don't suffer as much pain as in former days. So we praise God for that. It is wonderful how the Lord can help us in all things if we keep looking to Him.

FINANCIAL.
From Oct. 26, to Dec. 28, 1912.

Receipts.
A brother, Mt. Rock, $1.00; Sr. Emma Sollenberger, Greenvillage, $1.00; Bro. S. S. Burkholder, Chambersburg, Pa., $5.00; Sr. McNeal, Greencastle, $1.00; Bro. J. C. Rotz, Chambersburg, $2.50; Sr. Zook, $ .57; Bro. M. H. Oberholser, $5.00; Bro. and Sr. A. O. Wenger, $8.00; Mission S. S., $7.66; Sr. Sollenberger, Chambersburg, $2.00; A sister, $ .50; A sister, $1.00; Bro. D. H. Wenger, Shippensburg, $1.00; Contribution Box, $ .05; Total, $38.08.

Expenditures.
Provisions, $16.40; light, $3.92; incidentals, $5.00; due Mission, last report, $60.82; Total $86.14.
Balance due Mission, $48.02.

Correction—In a former report H. O. Musser was given credit for $5.00. It should have read H. O. Wenger.

Provisions.
A number of baskets of provisions, bbls., of flour, chickens, butter, cornmeal, meat and soap, were sent in by brethren and friends of the Mission. Among the names were the following: Sr. Sol. D. Wingert, H. D. Wingert, H. N. Lehman, D. L. Zook, S. S. Burkholder, B. L. Musser, Sr. Diehl. Some names were withheld.

Poor Fund.
Balance forwarded from May 30, 1912, $36.73. Received, $10.98, Total $47.71.

Disbursements.
Provisions and clothing, $8.50.

Your brother and Sister,
A. O. and Elizabeth Wenger.

BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY.

On Dec. 24, 1912 a very pleasant and profitable day was spent at the home of Eld. Samuel Baker of Gormley, Ont., it being the 89th., anniversary of his birth. A number of friends and relatives had gathered from far and near. Some had come from Kindersly, Sask., some from Owen Sound, Ont., and others from near home. After partaking of the bounties provided, and before leaving the table, our aged Elder gave some fatherly admonitions and good advice to one and all. Then all gathered in the room when a portion of the 92nd, Psalm was read, followed by singing and prayer. After this our aged Elder made a few remarks, admonishing those present to live a life pleasing to God.

The company dispersed feeling they had spent a profitable time and wishing our aged father the blessing of God during his remaining days.

Peter Steckley.

Bethesada, Ont.,

"Come to Jesus."
A series of meetings continuing two weeks held at Crossroads church, were closed on Sunday evening, Dec. 22. The meetings were well attended and four souls made a start for the kingdom. Bro. Clayton Engle of Hummelstown, Pa., labored at this place. May the Lord bless the dear brother who so earnestly and faithfully broke unto us the bread of life. May the dear souls who have made a start for the kingdom continue faithful to the end, is our prayer

Correspondent.

A NEW YEAR LETTER.

Dear readers: May this coming New Year be more to all of us, and we more to the world, than any previous year, is my prayer. I am glad to say that we are still kept by the power of God, ready to be revealed at any time, thank the Lord. Many have been the changes in all our lives this past year, and many blessings have come to all of us, and, no doubt many heart-aches and disappointments, and many hard places to go through. But I know that all of us who have fully trusted our Captain as our Guide have always come out on victory side. Bless His name.

I think so many times if we would look at the many things we would have to be thankful for we would not see so many dark, hard places in life. You know the word says, “The joy of the Lord is our strength;” and if we have joy there is no defeat. So I often say to my own heart, I will keep the joy no matter how things go. O how grand it is that Jesus knows all of us by name and He deals with us as with His children and just as He sees best. And so to them all things work together for good. That is the promise to those who love the Lord. So we have nothing to feel discouraged about. And if we keep busy we will not have so much time to think, and give the devil time to talk to us.

O there is so much to do. I sometimes wish and say too if I were a dozen I could be busy all the time. There are so many poor and sick who need some one to help them; but I can’t do all I would like to with my home work. But I mean to do more this year than I did during the last, the Lord being my helper.

My health has been fine for which I praise the Lord. O when I see poor suffering humanity I say, what are we anyhow, that we should think ourselves to be something when we are nothing?

I am glad that Jesus can make something out of us if we will let Him: so I mean to say yes to the will of God in all things. I don’t know what that will mean to me, but I do know this, He will go before me so I can gladly follow, and trust Him every step of the way, for He has never failed me yet, and He has promised to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.

So this evening I not discouraged for I know the Lord is on our side. Whom need we fear? Jesus said, “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee;” and “lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world.” So I mean to trust Him for this coming year, if I shall be permitted to live. Will you?

We have had a lovely Winter here so far, for which I have been so thankful. It is so good for the many poor in our cities. There are many poor here, and what can we do for them? Some seem to have a struggle to keep alive during the Winter, so this Winter has been good for them. Dear ones pray that we may fill the place this year that God wants us to fill, and all to His glory.

Yours in Him,

Anna B. Eisenhower.

A PHILADELPHIA MISSION LETTER.

“The Lord will be the hope of His people” (Joel 3: 16).

I feel to write a few lines this evening in the name of my Lord. Truly He has been good to me: He is my hope: in Him I trust, for there is no other name given under heaven that will save us only Jesus Christ our Lord. Truly, no man can come to the Father only through Him, Bless His name forever. Jesus said, “Oh thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?” Why not exercise the little faith we have? Our doubts arise from our unbelief: even the great, inspired, apostle acknowledges himself to be weak. It is more than useless to complain, and reason with unbelief, for it matters not what we may be called to pass through nor have to contend with, the Lord will be the hope of His people.

Let us take courage, hope in the Lord, and He will keep us. While we look at the roughness of the sea, let us remember who is at the helm. We are homeward bound and will
soon be at shore. There is no situation in
which man can be placed in this life but he
will always find troubles peculiar to that sit­
uation but whoever considers the poor shall
be remembered by the Lord. If we do not
consider the poor we are not only unkind
to our fellow man but ungrateful to God.
Should we be so poor that we cannot give to
the poor we will be blessed if we do but con­
sider the poor. If we want to do mission work
for the Master we must go out in the highways
and byways and in the slums among the low
down and outcast and those that are in the
gutter and give them a helping hand: visit
the sick and lift up the fallen. Surely we must
be a living sacrifice, and this takes God-
called men and women.

Oh how careful we should be that we don't
hinder one another in gathering in the sheaves;
souls are dear, they have cost much. All our
preaching and praying and testifying and
jumping will be of no avail if we have
not the welfare of souls at heart. It is no
wonder Jesus says, “Lay not up your treas­
ures on earth, but lay them up in heaven
where moth and rust doth not corrupt and
where thieves do not break through and steal.”

Oh, you people that have lots of this world's
goods, don't forget the poor. The most im­
portant part of the gospel is left out, not
preached. The Apostle says also that we shall
labor with our hands that we may have some­
thing to give to those who are in need. That
will prove to the world we have love for our
fellow-man. We read in God's word, How
dwelleth the love of God in us if we shut up
our bowels to our fellow-man.

While I have been silent through the VISITOR
for so long, don’t think I was ilde. I was in
mission work all the time. When a man is
born of the Spirit and is called of God the
devil is not able to pluck him out of God's
hands. Praise His name. I hope and trust you
will remember us for we will make every
effort to build up His kingdom. The Phila­
delphia Mission is a plant which God planted,
and if we have to go through heavy storms,
Jesus said, Be not afraid, it is I. I will still
the storm.” I thank Him that He is my Re­

Sister, Peter Stover and Wife.

I thank Him that He is my Re­

The outward should represent what is with­
in; if we have the sign out and not the goods
within we are deceivers.

Christ delivered me and set me free, and
I believe the Holy Spirit gave me a form; and
by the help and grace of God I do not want
to depart from it. I love the meek and humble
way. I do praise God that He thought me
worthy to visit me with His convicting grace.
I also praise Him that I could become willing
to say yes to Him and to surrender myself
to Him. I want to follow Jesus all the way.
I ask all that read this to pray that I may
be kept true.

From one that loves the Brotherhood,
Levi Hershey.
PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

To Subscribers—1. Our terms are cash in advance.
2. When writing to have your address changed, be sure to give both old and new address.
3. The date on the printed label will show to subscribers when their subscription expires.
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2. Communications without the author's name will receive no recognition.
3. Communications for the Visitor should be sent to the Editor at least ten days before date of issue.

Grantham, Pa., January 13, 1913.

Tracts.

What We Believe and Why We Believe It, per hundred, 20c.
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Scripture Text Envelopes, per hundred, 20c.
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MARRIAGES.

SIMONS—ESHELMAN.—On Dec. 12, 1912, by the father of the bride, Eld. C. S. Eshelman of Mechanicsburg, P., and Elsie Eshelman of New Kingston, Pa., were united in marriage by the father of the bride. Eld. C. S. Eshelman.

GROVE—FRYMIRE.—On Dec. 19, 1912, at the home of Bro. and Sr. John Frymire, near Thomas, Okla., their daughter Sister Edith and Harvey B. son of Bro. and Sr., Daniel Grove of Caldwell, Okla., were united in holy wedlock, Elder Henry Landis officiating.


OBITUARIES.

FLECK.—Sr. Magdalene Fleck, widow of the late Bro. Jacob Fleck, died Oct. 20, 1912, aged 82 years, 2 months, and 9 days. Services were conducted by J. D. Wingert and Henry Brechbill, at the Mennonite M. H., at Mumels-town, Adams county, Pa. Interment in adjoining cemetery.

MOUNTZ.—Mary Ann Mountz was born Sept. 23, 1841, died at her home near Carlisle, Pa., Dec. 25, 1912, aged 71 years, 3 months, and 2 days. She was a member of the Brethren in Christ church for many years. She leaves to mourn her departure a husband, three daughters and two sons. Funeral service was conducted by Bishop Jonathan Wert. Text Psal. 37: 7: first clause.

GINDER.—Bro. Henry G. Ginder, was born Oct. 22, 1830, died in Manheim, Pa., Dec. 6, 1912, aged 82 years, 1 month, and 24 days. Deceased was a member of the Brethren in Christ church for many years, one to whom we looked up to as to a father, a pillar in the church. His death was due to a stroke of apoplexy which was very sudden. His wife preceded him to the spirit world three months before. He is survived by four sons, and six daughters, all living and all members of the same church, and forty one grand children living and passed to the beyond, also six great grand children. Funeral services were held at the Mastersonville church conducted by the home brethren. Text Phil. 1: 23. Interment in adjoining cemetery.

DETER.—Sr. Margret Deter of New Guilford district, died Dec. 18, 1912, aged 65 years,
11 months, and 9 days. After lingering for twelve weeks under great suffering, she passed over to the other side. Her heavenly home, as she expressed herself, just before her death, was bright and fair. She leaves to mourn her departure three brothers and four sisters, John Deter of Altonwald, Pa., Daniel and Michael of Illinois, Mrs. Maria Wingert, of Altonwald, Pa., Mrs. Manda Small, Chambersburg, Mrs. Susie Wingert, Chambersburg, Pa., and Lizzie at home. Services were conducted by Henry O. Wenger, assisted by J. D. Wingert. Interment in New Guilford cemetery.

PALMER.—Sr. Martha Palmer, widow of the late Geo. Palmer, died Nov. 20, 1912, at her home in Chambersburg, aged 68 years. She was a member of the Brethren in Christ for many years. She is survived by three children, Mrs. Elizabeth Barnhart, Stockland, Cal., Mrs. Edward Hess, Brown's Mill, J. E. Wingert, and Stein Palmer of Chambersburg, Step-children, Mrs. I. Cochran, Scotland, Grant G. Palmer, Chambersburg, and one sister, Mrs. Catherine Wingert, Ringgold, Md., one brother Samuel Wingert, Hope, Kans. Services, at the house, conducted by H. C. Shank and John D. Wingert. Interment in Chambersburg cemetery.

SHENK.—Sr. Susanna Shenk of Hummelstown, Pa., passed to her eternal reward on Monday Nov. 25, 1912, aged 81 years, 10 months and 24 days. She was a consistent member of the Brethren for many years, and was possessed with a pleasant and cheerful disposition. She had a home that was open for the evangelist, the missionary, the preacher and the needy. She was possessed with plenty of this world's goods and remembered the church when she disposed of them. Services were conducted in the Hummelstown M. H. by the home ministry, on Thanksgiving Day and interment was made in the adjoining cemetery. Text, Rev. 14: 13. Interment in adjoining cemetery.

FOX.—Maggie, daughter of Godfra and Alice Fox, died on Dec. 24, 1912, at their home near Stevensville, Ont., aged 17 years, 3 months and 23 days. She was taken ill on Sunday night and on Tuesday she was a corpse. She was a bright young lady and her untimely end is a shock to the community and a warning to be ready for the summons of death. She leaves to mourn, father and mother, three brothers and one sister with many relatives who are deeply stricken by her sudden death. Funeral from their home to the Brethrens' M. H. on Thursday where quite a large gathering assembled to view the last remains and to sympathise with the bereaved. Services improved in the church by A. Bears assisted by Girvin Bears. Subject, “Sunset at noon” from one clause in Jer. 15: 9: “Her sun is gone down while it was yet day.” Interment in adjoining cemetery.

SHEETS.—Sr. Anna Sheets, widow of the late Christian Sheets, died Dec. 5, 1912, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Samuel L. Hoffman, near Mt. Joy, Pa. Her age was 85 years, 9 months, and 20 days. Her husband died twenty-six years ago. Eleven children were born to them, six of whom survive: Mrs. Catie Nissley, of Carlisle, Pa., Rev. John M. Sheets, of Detroit, Kans., Christian and Rev. Amos M. Sheets of Rapho, Annie, wife of Samuel L. Hoffman of East Donegal, Pa., and Barbara, wife of Abram Brant of Detroit, Kans. She is also survived by thirty three (33) grand children, fifty great grand children and one great great grand child. She was a consistent member of the Brethren in Christ church for seventy years, and was loved by all who knew her. Funeral services which were largely attended were held at Crossroads church on Sunday Dec. 8, conducted by Bishop Aaron Martin and Bishop Henry Hoffer and the brethren. Daniel Wolgemuth and Levi O.
Musser Text, I. Peter 3: 12. Interment in adjoining cemetery.

ROGERS.—Art C. Rogers, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Rogers, died Dec. 28, 1912, of typhoid fever. He was born at Oskaloosa, Ia., Sept. 4, 1887, aged 25 years, 4 months, and 24 days. He leaves to mourn their loss his parents, five brothers and two sisters namely: William, Minnie, Albert, Vern, Birdie, Lincoln, and Merrill. Shortly before death, about ten days, he sought the Lord in the forgiveness of his sins and regeneration of his heart, and was most blessedly saved before he passed away to the better land. He was fully resigned to live or die and was in great ecstasy of joy on the last morning of his life when he bade his father, mother and others good bye. Mother and others of the family also turned unto the Lord that morning and are determined by the grace of God to meet their darling boy in glory. It was a beautiful sight which we who saw it will never forget. Blessed in the eyes of the Lord is the death of His saints. Funeral services were held in the home, 1214 - W. 13th St. Text, "At eventime there shall be light." J. R. Zook officiating.

STORM.—Sr. Ketureh Storm of the Black Creek, Ont, congregation died on Dec. 19, 1912, at her old home where she lived for a time with her nephew, Alfred Sider, near Sherkston, Ont., aged 80 years, 9 months, and 6 days. Sister Storm was married and was the last one of a family of three sisters and one brother, all members of our church and all lived to a ripe old age. The subject of our notice lived a consistent life according to the doctrines and customs of the church, and was one of the old landmarks which our fathers have set, and a member of our church over fifty years, being a friend to all and of a kind disposition, and by it she won the applause of many sympathizing friends. She was kindly looked after in her last and feeble days by those with whom she lived. Funeral service was held on Sabbath afternoon in the Brethren's M. H where many had gathered to pay the last tribute of respect to one who had worshiped with us all her life. Obsequies improved by A. Bearss, subject, "Asleep in Jesus" from I. Thess. 4: 14, assisted by Girvin Bearss. Interment in adjoining cemetery.

Fools make a mock of sin, will not believe it carries such a dagger in its sleeve.
How can it be, say they, that such a thing, so full of sweetness, c' er should wear a sting?
They know not that it is the very spell of sin, to make men laugh themselves to hell.

Look to thyself, then, deal with sin no more, lest He that saves, against thee shut the door. —John Bunyan, 1675.

THE VALUE OF DOING EVERY DUTY.

(Th e following essays were prepared and read at our Young Peoples' Meeting on the last Sunday evening of the old year by two of our sisters. The topic for the evening was, "What has this Year Meant unto Me?" The names are withheld by request of the writers. Editor)

"The whole duty of man is to fear God and to keep his commandments."

By keeping God's holy commandments is meant that we do all those things which He has made known to us to be His will. He has given His holy word to instruct, and teach us, as to what He requires of us; and whatever it may be, He expects us to do it faithfully.

There are three great branches of man's duty. These we find briefly stated in the words of the Apostle, Titus 2: 12: "That we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world." Here the word, soberly, means our duty toward ourselves: righteously, our duty toward ourselves; and godly, our duty toward God.

Our duty may have reference to something which is more than the act of the hour, as the reading of our Bible, praying, speaking to someone about his soul, giving money to feed the poor, or such like. When duty presents itself, we should not stop to inquire about our ability or worthiness to perform the task. All we need to inquire about it is, "Is it my duty?" God will fit and prepare us for all the duties of life.

In James 2: 10 we read, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." So we see that it is of great importance that we do our every duty.

If we do our every duty we will have the assurance of God's favour, which means the witness of the Holy Spirit in the soul,
not only to the fact of being a child of God, but that He is pleased in the way in which we are conducting ourselves in the affairs of our everyday life; and we will have the assurance of eternal life.

Keeping on doing our duty is the only way we can build up a strong character, be able to resist the devil, glory in the cross, live above the world, spend and be spent for the salvation of souls. We exert an influence either for good or evil.

If we do every duty that presents itself to us, we will be a proper example for those around us to imitate. We are watched continually, in our home, at our work, or wherever we may be. Someone is always judging whether we are what we profess to be or not; or, what is more important still, there are always those who are shaping their own doings and characters by ours. When we do our duties we will say by our actions to those around us, "Go and do likewise."

We should be obedient and do every duty even as Christ was obedient unto God.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A SUCCESSFUL PAST?

Someone has said, Yesterday is dead—forget it. Tomorrow does not exist—do not worry. Today is here—use it. But should we forget the yesterday? It is what we have learned yesterday that enables us to use today, "Today becomes vital when its spiritual significance is recognized. The Bible is insistent on the present tense when it speaks of our relation to God, and acceptance of salvation. Choice is always made today. It is today that we are called upon to hear and not harden the heart. Today spells opportunity for work, for happiness, for courage, for kindnesses, for right decisions." We shall never again tread today's path. But what we have been today, and what we are every day will at the end of the year make up our past, whether it is a success or a failure.

If each new tomorrow ought to find us farther than today, much more the yearly mile stones! What we consider a success in the past all depends on our viewpoint. The financier considers the past a success when his assets on his balance sheet show an increase over the assets of his former balance sheet, and his liabilities are on a gradual decrease. The business man feels that his year is a great triumph if he has made plenty of money. But if that man has devoted all of the beautiful days, weeks, and months, in his business without taking time to live a wholesome and useful life—he has not been a success.

It does not require any great, well known personage to lead a simple beautiful life. We may all live carefully and wisely making the most of every opportunity. Daily we have opportunities and duties. Every past life record that had Jesus in it is a success. If there was a delight in doing His will, if His will was in us, there could be no failure; there is no failure known to Him. In Him we are a success. The world may look at us as deficient, and to be a failure; we may look at ourselves in the same light, but if we have met God's approval what more is needed?

If we have utilized the means of grace offered us in the past year, and have been fruitful, we have been going on from glory to glory.

May we ask ourselves the questions:— Have we done any good in the past? Have we allowed God to lead us? Have we learned of Jesus? Have we been attentive to God's word, and hid it in our hearts? Have we served the cause of Christ? Have we grown in grace? Have we had tests, trials, and temptations and come out victorious? Have we kept our promises? Did we profit by our mistakes? Have we tried, for the Savior's sake, to win some one? Another year of mercy has been ours, but has it been laid at the Lord's feet?

There is nothing in our past to regret if we have lived affirmatively to the above questions and for Jesus' glory.

A TESTIMONY.

Dear readers of the Visitor.

Greetings in Jesus' precious name.

Having felt impressed to write a little for this paper (the Visitor) by God's aid I will try to do so. I am always so glad to receive it and enjoy to read the testimonies contained
therein, they seem encouraging to me, and I think it a very good plan by which we, as brethren and sisters, can learn how others are getting along spiritually.

Although I am but young in years and have been in the service of my Master but just a short time I have a strong determination to press forward and regret the time I did not spend in this way, for surely it is a blessed way, and I have found that it is the only way where real peace and joy can be experienced. If we are only willing at all times to be led by His Spirit we certainly will be kept on the path which leads to life eternal.

What if the trials and temptations are set before us, we know that they were set before our Leader too, and if we only look to Him in for He has promised never to leave nor for such seasons He will guide us safely over these God's help and grace, "I'm going through." sake us, and I feel to say with the poet that, by Pray for me. Sarah E. Neisley.

Your unworthy sister in Christ,
Cedar Springs, Pa.

THE TORCH.

Everybody in Canaan knew Miss Alma Baker. She had lived there all her life, as had her parents and grandparents before her. "Poor Miss Alma" people called her; and nobody guessed that for many years she had really been rich. It was when bankruptcy fell upon her hopes that "the Littlefield boy," to his own confusion, stumbled upon the secret of her life.

The Littlefield boy was fourteen at the time, and he was having to carry a quart of milk over to Miss Alma's every day. He did not particularly relish the duty, for there was nothing in the least interesting about Miss Alma to a boy; but, on the other hand, there were much more disagreeable things than a half-mile walk across lots on Summer evenings. So he usually went whistling, exchanged milk-cans and a brief good evening, and loitered back, still whistling.

But one evening, boy though he was, and therefore unobservant to things outside his own particular world, he could not help noticing that Miss Alma looked sick. Her face was pinched, her eyelids were red, and there was a quiver about her pale lips. The Littlefield boy was embarrassed. Finally he blurted it out:

“Ain’t you feeling well, Miss Alma?”

Miss Alma’s red-lidded eyes filled with tears. He was only a boy, and usually she was ill at ease with boys, but this time she forgot everything except her disaster.

“It’s—it’s some money I lost,” she explained. I had meant to leave it in my will for the heathen. I’d been saving up for thirty years, and I had 'most three hundred dollars. I prayed the Lord to let me send three hundred dollars, and I thought He was going to, and now it’s all gone—the lawyer says so.”

Miss Alma put a trembling hand over her lips and looked with dim eyes past the boy, down the long years, with their secret joy, which had come only to failure at last.

The boy’s face burned, and he wriggled from one foot to the other, suddenly possessed by a dumb rage at the fate that could cheat a poor old woman like that. He looked about in desperation.

“Say, Miss Alma,” he said, “don’t you want me to chop you some wood? I’d jest as lieves, honest.”

But Miss Alma shook her head. “I don’t need any wood,” she said.

The boy went home slowly, not whistling, and the next night bribed a younger brother to carry the milk. The third day he heard that Miss Alma was ill. A week later she died.

As the years passed the Littlefield boy went out into the world, and presently he began to make a name for himself. People said he would be a rich man one of these days. That was what the Littlefield boy was working for—he meant to be a power; he had no time for anything but work.

But one Sunday, overtaken by a sudden shower, he stepped into the nearest shelter, a little mission church. It was pitifully bare inside, but within five minutes he had forgotten the bareness, for he was listening to a man aflame with the passion for souls. Gradually as the speaker, worn, shabby, awkward, poured out his plea, an old memory stirred in the other man’s consciousness. For a few minutes he struggled with it, and then disentangled it—an old woman with quivering lips who had lost the dream of her life. Suddenly there came to him an eager thought—to send Miss Alma’s money for her. Tearing a leaf from a note book, he wrote a line upon it, asking the missionary to call at his office the next day.

That was the beginning, for that day John Littlefield set his feet in a path that was to end only with death. When that came, twenty
years later, it was estimated that he had given more than thirty thousand dollars to missions, and his private benefactions could not be guessed.

But nobody knew that the torch had been kindled years before by a poor old woman in a country village.—Youth's Companion.

HOW GOD ANSWERED A CHILD'S PRAYER.

I want to tell you a beautiful story which was told to me, a few years ago, by an eminent minister and temperance lecturer, who assured me that it was strictly true. As nearly as I can, I will give it to you in his own words. Said he:

"I was invited to a certain western town to deliver a series of prohibition lectures, and upon my arrival I was taken to the Methodist parsonage, which was to be my home during my stay. The minister's family consisted of himself, wife, and one child, a busy little maiden of four summers.

She was a merry, fun-loving child, as one could wish to see, but withal possessed of a piety and love for God, which was well worthy of emulation, and I learned many precious lessons from this little dear one, during the few days stay in her home. Her simplicity of faith was beautiful. She really believed that she had only to ask and receive, and would go to God with all her childish requests with the confidence and freedom with which she approached her mother.

One night, near the close of my stay with them, the fire bells rang out an alarm, and we sprang from our beds to find one whole end of the town in flames. A terrible wind was blowing, and the fire was rapidly traveling in the direction of the church and parsonage, which was to be my home during my stay. The minister's family consisted of himself, wife, and one child, a busy little maiden of four summers.

She was a merry, fun-loving child, as one could wish to see, but withal possessed of a piety and love for God, which was well worthy of emulation, and I learned many precious lessons from this little dear one, during the few days stay in her home. Her simplicity of faith was beautiful. She really believed that she had only to ask and receive, and would go to God with all her childish requests with the confidence and freedom with which she approached her mother.

One night, near the close of my stay with them, the fire bells rang out an alarm, and we sprang from our beds to find one whole end of the town in flames. A terrible wind was blowing, and the fire was rapidly traveling in the direction of the church and parsonage, devouring everything in its way as it came. The air was full of flying cinders, and new flames could be seen springing up in different places and in an incredibly short space of time, a large part of the town lay in ashes.

Across the street from the church property was a vacant block and we began to carry articles from the parsonage out to the center of it, hoping thus to save some of the household treasures. Thinking the little one would be safer there than elsewhere, I caught her up in one arm, and with the other laden with clothing, I hurried across the lot, and placed her upon the ground beside the pile of loose articles, telling her to remain there till her mother came to her.

Instantly she dropped upon her knees and clasped her hands, and with her sweet face upturned, and gleaming white in the flame's lurid glare, she cried out, in her broken baby way.

'Oh, Dod, save our house! Oh, Dod, save our house! Oh, Dod, save our house!'

Over and over she repeated the same words, and as she did so, something which some might deem strange, and almost past believing occurred. Quick as a flash the wind whipped round to a point of the compass just opposite to that from which it had been blowing, and increasing to a perfect gale, forced hungry flames before it over the burnt district, and not only our house was saved, but all the other end of the town, in answer to that effectual fervent prayer which 'availed much,' even though offered by a little child.

"Remarkable!" I almost fancy I can hear some one exclaim. Yes, it was remarkable, but only so, I verily believe, because God does not more often find that implicit faith, which gives Him the opportunity to display His power in behalf of His children. "He is just the same to-day as when, in the power of His Son, He stilled the Galilean tempest. "He holdeth the winds in His fist," and is as tenderly concerned as ever, even for the temporal well-being of His own.

Oh, that His children would really believe God, and take everything to Him in prayer! He that noteth the sparrow's fall, cannot fail to be interested in the smallest detail of that which concerns them. No matter what your trouble or want or sorrow, dear ones, take it all to Jesus in faith, and He will surely help and save.—The Way of Life.

KINDNESS WITHOUT COST.

"It is not strange perhaps, that we hesitate sometimes to do the kindnesses which mean sacrifice and effort, but it is mysterious that we so often make hard work of kindnesses which cost nothing. Smiles, words of appreciation, little courtesies which involve no inconvenience, are frequently ignored and neglected. A goodly proportion of the heartaches in the world could be cured, not merely if people were ready to sacrifice to that end, but if they were willing to do the kind things that cost no sacrifice."

"Seek ye the Lord."
DAILY HOME READINGS.

(Continued.)

These Home Readings are given in connection with the International Uniform Sunday School Lessons. We invite all to join in these Daily Readings, and unitedly pray the Lord to bless us.


Cain...a man from the Lord... The Lord had respect unto Abel... But unto Cain He had not respect... Cain was wroth... Where is Abel, thy brother... I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

Two types of men as they are in all ages are here shown. Abel a man of faith, Cain a man of self-will.—Torrey. Which do we (I) choose? Let us be like Abel, bring an acceptable offering. How awful to be a "fugitive and vagabond."


God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man... Man is tempted... of his own lust... lust... bringeth forth sin... sin bringeth forth death... Lay apart all filthiness... receive the implanted word... save your souls. If we endure God's testings there is the condition of blessedness, and a crown of life awaiting. Let us be doers and not hearers only.


If...sin wilfully... there remaineth no more sacrifice... Judgment and fiery indignation shall devour... A fearful thing to fall into the hand of the living God.

O Lord, help us to be afraid of incurring Thy wrath. Forbid that anyone of us should do despite "unto the Spirit of grace." Help that none of us "draw back unto perdition." Help us to "believe to the saving of the soul."


Put you in remembrance...that the Lord... saved the people... afterward destroyed them that believed not... angels... are reserved unto judgment... Sodom and Gomorrah... an example suffering the vengeance of eternal fire... Woe unto them!

Would we escape the fiery judgments of an angry God? We can if we are hidden away "in Christ," and walk softly before Him.

"Living for Jesus, O what peace, Rivers of pleasure never cease; Trials may come, yet I'll not fear, Living for Jesus, He is near."


Grieve not the Holy Spirit. Put away lying... speak truth... Stand in awe... sin not... steal no more... labor... No corrupt communication... but that which is good... kind... tended hearted... forgiving.

How we all, individually, need to recognize that as believers we are called with a holy calling and that we honestly endeavor to walk worthy of our high calling. May we look to Jesus for help.


Mortify... members... upon the earth. ...put off... anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication... lie not... Ye have put off the old man... deeds... have put on the new man... the image of him that created him... Christ is all, and in all.

"The born again man is a new creation. The tree has been made good so the husbandman will look for fruit that is good. If we have received Christ as our life He will work in us so that the good fruit will be in evidence."


I acknowledge my transgressions: my sin is ever before me... Thou desirkest truth in the inward parts... Purge me... wash me... whiter than snow... Cre-
ate a clean heart...renew a right spirit within me... Restore...joy...thy salvation.

If we confess our sins God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. David experienced it and could sing of the blessedness of that experience. I confessed... I acknowledged...Thou forgavest... Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance (Psa. 32).

God said... The end of all flesh has come...the earth is filled with violence... I will destroy... Make thee an ark... Thou shalt come into the ark.

Of Noah it is said that he found grace in the eyes of God, that he was a just man perfect in his generations, that he walked with God. “This shows us that a man can find grace with God and walk righteously before Him under the worst possible conditions and in the worst possible environment.” May it encourage us.

And they went in...as God had commanded him, and God shut him in... Every living substance was destroyed... Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him.

Noah and his family were perfectly safe in the ark because God “shut him in.” But the act of grace that shut Noah in, shut those who had doubted God’s Word out. All in the ark were safe; all out of the ark were lost. All who are “in Christ” are safe.

 Thus saith the Lord... I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years in the wilderness... I raised up your sons for prophets...your young men for Nazarites... But ye gave the Nazarites wine...and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophecy not.

O Lord, help us to be afraid of sin, to abstain from transgression. May we be warned by the examples given us in Thy Word.


Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end. Thou didst set them in slippery places; thou castest them down to destruction.

The Psalmist was troubled because of the prosperous condition of the wicked. He was tempted to think he had cleansed his heart in vain. But when he went into the sanctuary he got a vision of their end. Let us never be envious of the wicked. Their end is destruction.


Have I any pleasure...that the wicked should die?... I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God; wherefore turn...and live ye.

With God’s threatenings of judgment there is always mingled a note of mercy and grace. When Niniveth repented God was gracious and spared it. God is still waiting to be gracious. Pardon is waiting on penitence.


The righteous judgment of God... (does) recompence tribulation...taking vengeance on them that know not God, and obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O that we may not trifle with God and His Word! What an awful picture is an attitude towards God that He must carry out what He here threatens. God is a consuming fire.


God is Light...if we walk in the light...we have fellowship...and the blood of Jesus Christ...cleanseth us... If we confess...forgive...cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
O Lord, help us to understand Thy Word. Enlighten, Thou, our understanding. Make us truly children of the Light, and grant that we may “walk in the light” so that all of these blessings may be ours.

A PLAN OF BIBLE STUDY.

BY A. Z. MYERS.

I believe there are many people who would like to study the Bible but do not know how. Every Christian ought to do more than a little cursory reading of the Scriptures.

The principle Bible Study work of the churches and of the average Christian naturally centers around the Sunday or Bible School; therefore the best suggestion I can offer is to use the Sunday School lesson; the International lesson where this is used, and where some special or graded lesson is used, use that.

The lack in our Bible study is thoroughness. The following notes if followed will eliminate this weak place and bring results that our ordinary careless ways cannot.

After careful study and testing the methods suggested we want to offer in outline a method with twelve brief suggestions that we know are practical and will bring wonderful results in any life whether a teacher or not a teacher in the school if faithfully followed. We shall be glad to have any one write us more fully concerning this plan, your experience, difficulties or progress made. We shall be delighted to be of further help if possible.

Better cut these suggestion out and paste them in your Bible

1. Begin early in the week—Sunday or certainly not later than Monday.

2. Read the lesson over many times, certainly not less than once each day; note the context; read the daily home readings supplied in the lesson help.

3. Pray over the lesson, (Jas. 1: 5; Ps. 119: 18).

4. Ask yourself these three questions:
   a. What is the chief lesson that I should learn from this text? (Psa. 85: 8).
      There is no use studying God’s word if we are not ready to hear its messages to our heart and life.
   b. What is the chief lesson for my class?
   c. How am I to convey this lesson to my pupils?

(If you have no class think of about six people that you know are not in the Sunday School anywhere and let them be your imaginary class. It will help you. You can help them—may, win them to the school and to Christ. (See note eleven below.)

5. Make an outline of the lesson—make it yourself. Your first efforts may be crude and you may think you cannot, but do it, persevere and the value of this suggestion will be apparent.

6. Think about the lesson as you work. (Ps. 1: 1, 2). In fact by this time you cannot well help doing this.

7. NOW and NOT BEFORE read and study all the helps you can get or can get time to use.

8. Talk over the lesson with others. This will prove very helpful, much more interesting than the weather. It will help you and stimulate others.

9. Improve your outline as suggestions come to you.

10. Memorize your outline.

11. Pray over the lesson, and especially for your class by name. This will vitalize the whole wonderfully.

12. Preserve your outlines. Of course you will do this. And the value of the suggestion will become apparent as you go along.

Wellsboro, Pa.

“HANDSOME IS THAT HANDSOME DOES.”

Many a girl has sighed, perhaps some have even shed tears, because she was unfortunate enough to have homely features. Now, I do not know why the Lord made some pretty girls and some homely girls, but one thing I am sure of is that He did not consider mere beauty of face and features of special importance. Then why should we?

There is one kind of beauty that is denied to none. Without it the fairest face soon loses its attraction; with it the homliest face wins admiration. This beauty, which has its origin in the heart, shines forth in the looks and actions of the possessor, imparting a charm that no personal adornment nor mere prettiness can give.

It was the possession of this beauty that made Florence Nightingale such a blessing to the wounded, suffering soldiers of the Crimean War. This beauty made Queen Victoria the most loved and honored queen of the
world. One writer, in speaking of the queen's childhood says, "Her appearance was always airs, seldom made any reference to royalty in her conversation, and did not appear to think herself above ordinary children." This same writer adds, "And this charming adornment of female character grew with her growth and strengthened with her strength. The parade and splendor of queenhood never concealed the priceless virtue."

O girls, will it pay us to spend time prinking and trying merely to make our outward person beautiful, to the neglect of this inner beauty? Neatness of dress and pleasing manners are desirable, but for decoration what can compare with that of a bright, intelligent, and amiable countenance?

There cannot be much depth to a friendship which is won only by an attractive outward appearance shall be enough to be attracted as much by a warm and friendly manner as by neatness of dress, and in the same manner the charm of personality will hold in all cases. The friendship of such boys is not worth having. The companion who will bring the most happiness into your life, who will be ready to help and comfort you through time's changing scenes, will come from that class of young men who believe that there is much truth in the old adage, "Handsome is that handsome does." Such young men know that the girl who respects and honors old age, who is considerate of her parents' feelings and wishes, who is even willing, if necessary, to sacrifice her own comfort for that of others, possesses a beauty which will remain long after youthful features have lost their charm.—F. Stanley Smith in Gospel Trumpet.

YOUNG MAN, ARISE!

Young man, arise! There is work for you to do—work that has long been neglected, and it must be done. If you have been idling away your time, sitting around home, engaged as it were, in child's play, rouse up! Awake to your responsibilities; awake to your possibilities; begin to consider what you are here for; think of your mission in life, and instead of waiting and halting undecidedly, stir up your young manhood and begin to take upon yourself the responsibilities of life. Be a man!

A few years ago, you looked at life only as a boy does, with more thought of its pleasures and luxuries than of its responsibilities and dangers; but now you are a young man; you have learned to consider matters seriously. In your own neighborhood you see wrongs to be righted; you see conditions that need to be reformed; you see religious professors living in hypocrisy; you know of many who have not yet learned of Christ as a true Savior. You see the need; now it is your duty to help right these conditions. There is lots for you to do. Don't shirk! Don't be intimidated! Be a man!

"But," you say, "I am too young. Older people will not listen to what I have to say. I do not have the experience and the life to back up my words." How good it is that you realize this lack. Many a young man has failed because he did not make allowance for his youth. Considering himself capable of giving advice, many a young man has pushed himself too far, and thereby has destroyed his influence. True, the Bible enjoins, "Let no man despise thy youth," but this does not license young men at once to push themselves into the ranks of men of experience. Since you understand this fact, you are already a fair distance on the road to success. But must you now sit down in grandpa's easy chair, fold your arms and sleep until that happy day when you shall be old enough to command respect as a middle-aged man? No, indeed! If you can not be an old man, or a middle-aged man, be a young man. Begin to develop your manly qualities by taking upon yourself responsibilities suitable to your strength. Do not count yourself out simply because you are young. I have noticed often that in meetings young people are inclined to remain in the back rows of seats and leave their parents to go ahead with the services. They feel somewhat out of place because they are young. They do not take an active part. Sometimes, sad to say, they feel as if they are not needed there. This, however, is not true. If you, young man, are needed in the home to make it complete, you are needed much more in the church. You do not hesitate in your father's house to sit down to the table and enjoy the meals. You feel that you have helped earn them, and therefore have a right to share the fruits of your labor. You feel at home, contented, satisfied. Why should you not feel the same way in the church? Can you not, with your parents, sit down around the spiritual table and feel that you have a right to an equal share
of the same meal? Why should you feel that this is your parents' meal and not yours? Sometimes the reason why young people lose interest in religious meetings—why they cannot enjoy a spiritual meal—is because they have not worked for it. And sometimes parents are to be blamed for this lack of spiritual appetite. They make their children work for their physical welfare, but they neglect their spiritual exercise. It is exercise that gives a child appetite. This is true spiritually as well as physically.

When there is so much work to be done, there is no reason why a Christian young man should have a lack of spiritual appetite. There is no need of his feeling that there is nothing he can do, and that he must wait a few years until he gets older. Industrious people—those who are looking for work—always find more than they can do. Likewise the Christian young man will find duties awaiting him at every turn. There are his influence them for the right. This task in itself will give him much to do. They may scoff and jeer, nevertheless, in their serious moments, they appreciate him. His employer needs the young man's Christian example and occasionally a word of exhortation given in the spirit of meekness. It will have its good effects. Daily he comes in contact with strangers with whom he has hundreds of opportunities of service; you will find them everywhere.—F. W. Heinly in Gospel Trumpet.

A LETTER FROM ROBERT E. LEE, TO HIS SON.

“You must study to be frank with the world. Frankness is the child of honesty and courage. Say just what you mean to do on all occasions and take it for granted that you mean to do the right. If a friend asks a favor you should grant it if it is reasonable; if not tell him plainly why you can not; you would wrong him and wrong yourself by equivocation of any kind. Never do a wrong thing to make a friend or keep one; the man who requires you to do so is dearly purchased at a sacrifice. Deal kindly but firmly with all your classmates; you will find it the policy which wears best. Above all, do not appear to others what you are not. If you have any fault to find with any one, tell him, not others of what you complain. There is no more dangerous experiment than that of undertaking to be one thing before a man's face and another behind his back. We should live, act, and say nothing to the injury of anyone. It is not only best as a matter of principle, but the path to peace and honor.

“In regard to duty, let me in the conclusion of this letter inform you that nearly one hundred years ago there was a remarkable gloom and darkness—still known as 'the dark day'—a day when the light of the sun was slowly extinguished as if by an eclipse. The legislature of Connecticut was in session, and as its members saw the unexpected and unaccountable darkness coming on, they shared in general awe and terror. It was supposed by many that the last day—the day of judgment—had come. Some one in the consternation of the hour, moved an adjournment. Then there arose an old Puritan legislator, Davenport, of Stamford, and said that if the last day had come, he desired to be found at
his place doing his duty, and therefore moved
that candles be brought in, so that the House
could proceed with its duty.

"There was quietness in that man's mind,
the quietness of heavenly wisdom and un-
flexible willingness to obey present duty. 'Du-
ty,' then, is the sublimest word in our
language. Do your duty in all things like
the old Puritan. You can do no more; you
should never wish to do less. Never let your
mother nor me wear one gray hair for any
lack of duty on your part."

TWO BRAVE BOYS.

Every boy who reads this paper has heard
the story of the sinking of the Republic and
of how the lad who was the operator of the
wireless telegraph stood at his post for hours
until he had brought help to passengers and
crew.

But there was a little sequel to the story
which they may not have heard.

A week after the disaster, the manager of
a vaudeville company offered this lad no less
than a thousand dollars a month if he would
appear on the stage.

"Me?" he said, bewildered. "A thousand
dollars? Why, I'm no actor! I'm only a tele-
graph operator."

This reminds me of a similar story which
also is true.

A few years ago there stood in Penn Square,
in Philadelphia, a high old building filled with
offices and in a ruinous condition. When a
neighboring house was taken down, its founda-
tions were weakened and its walls began to
tumble. Some of the occupants of the upper
stories escaped; then the stairways fell. But
the frame of the elevator remained standing
and the engine continued to work.

A great crowd assembled in the streets,
watching the lift as it jogged slowly up and
down, bringing a dozen men out of the jaws
of death. As it started up again the frame
of the elevator shook.

The police interfered. "Stop!" they shouted
to the boy whose hand was on the lever.

"But there are two women up there," he
said.

"The walls are going!" they cried. "Come
out!" dragging at him.

"There are women up there, and I'm the
elevator boy," he repeated doggedly.

He went to the top story, took on the wo-

FOREIGN MISSION FUNDS.

Reports for Nov. and Dec., 1912.

GENERAL FUND.

Receipts.

Pleasant Hill, Kan., S. S., $14.15; W. H.
Bohen, Kan., $10.00; Rosebank, Kan., $55.57;
Lydia Johnson, Ind., $10.00; Air Hill, Pa.,
S. S. (Special for Bro. Lehman), $21.50; Des
Moines, la., $6.25; Sand Beach, Pa., $5.00;
Louisa Gingrich, Pa., $2.00; Newbern, Kan.,
$84.78; Magdelena Hunsperger, Mich., $11.50;
Harisburg, Pa., $142.00; Catherine Nies,
Harisburg, Pa., special for Sr. Davidson and
Sr. Taylor, $4.00; Henry Winger and Verna
Sider, Ont., special for Walter O. Wingers,
$10.00;

Special offerings in answer to the appeal
for provision that the sick natives can be
better cared for:

In Jesus' name, Pa., $5.00; W. Burtch, Ont.,
$5.00; Magdalena Hunsperger, $1.00; B. J.
and Jesse Winger, Ont., $9.00; Wm. T. Heisey
Pa., $15.00.

Expenditures.

Isaac O. Lehman, $221.55, and $A.50 special;
Myron Taylor for home coming trip, $486.10;
Jesse Eyster work and debt on mission,
$243.33; Hervey J. Frey, travelling expenses,
$75.00; Amos L. Musser, storage rent in
India, $14.00; H. P. Steigerwald, $50.00 of
the special offerings as stated above. Walter
O. Winger, $10.00 special.

P. M. Climenhaga,
Treasurer.

Stevensville, Ont.

Lodgemen have always been embar-
rassed when asked why a man's wife or
daughter might not go to lodge with him.
The simple fact is that the ceremonies,
the customs and the conversation are
such as no worthy man would subject
his wife to.—Blanchard.
Dear readers of the Visitor:—

This afternoon I desire to again praise my dear Redeemer for His love and help to me. He is worthy to be praised and adored. What a refuge and shelter we can find in Him in every time of need.

We have not forgotten that to-day is Thanksgiving Day at home in America, and while we have not had special divine services, we have remembered the day with you.

We would also appreciate some of your bracing Autumn weather, as the weather with us at the present is and for some time past has been most trying.

The drouth still continues, and with the excessive heat of the sun it has been very hard on life of every sort. In some parts of the country famine is sore.

At present we are enjoying a visit from Bro. and Sister Jesse Wenger who expect to leave us for Macha Mission in the near future.

Sr. Wenger and the baby are getting along nicely. In fact they both have been quite normal despite the excessive heat, baby having been indispensed only one day. He sleeps almost continually.

We certainly feel grateful to God for so kindly helping our sister through this special time.

The mothers of the congregation came in on last Sunday to give their congratulations.

On last Friday we had the closing exercises of the school at this place. It was one week sooner than the usual time at the end of November. The girls were becoming quite anxious to get to their homes because the planting season is on, and since the natives have had rather a hard year we felt it only just to give them help in allowing them a longer vacation period.

Sr. Wenger had arranged an interesting program consisting of scriptural selections, hymns, temperance talks, and historical accounts of Bible characters.

However owing to her not being able to go down into school Sr. Sadie Book kindly looked after the arrangement for her.

Sr. Book came to us nearly two months ago, and expects to stay and help us in the work. We appreciate her help and company very much.

The school as well as the work in general has been encouraging during the last term and now that all the girls but five and two small children with eight boys are gone, it is very quiet about the place. But we need to venture only a short distance from home to see and hear heathenish customs, and practices.

Only a few day ago our brethren and sisters attended a native marriage festival where the young couple in question had been married by the magistrate a year or more, but the marriage feast and dancing which constitute the ceremony were only performed recently.

Their dancing at such times is most heathenish.

 Truly heathenism must be seen to be realized. Recently it was my privilege to spend a ten days, visit at Matopo Mission which privilege was enjoyed because of laying aside of care for a season. These little occasions are a help in taking off the edge of our monotonous lives.

Soliciting the prayers of God's people and desiring to be faithful in God's cause I remain,

Your Sister,

Elizabeth Engle.

Gwanda, Rhodesia, S. A.

Lean heavy on the arm of truth and you will be led safely through the darkness.

Some men make light of the cross, some ignore it, some bear it as a burden and some are crucified upon it. But it is one of the fixities in this world which men must meet.

Some men will not become Christians because they want to dictate the terms by which Christ may come into their hearts.

"The lodge movement is simply a heathen religion planted in a Christian country."

you will be led safely through the dark-

He who poses as a Christian and yet is living secretly sin shall have greater condemnation than those who are openly profligate and profane.