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The  
*Reformed Presbyterian*  
**ADVOCATE**

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of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church

**A Monthly Magazine for Christ's Crown and Covenant**

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# The Reformed Presbyterian ADVOCATE

Stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

VOL. LI.

NO. 11.

## INDIA LETTER.

Rurki, Aug. 10. 1917.

My Dear Friends:

In Mrs. Waide's letter last month, Summer School work was related to she mentioned the fact that all our the Evangelistic Campaign, and concerning that campaign we wish to write a few words.

A few years ago a pamphlet written by a Christian in Southern India found its way into the hands of a pastor of a church in Korea. The vein of that pursued thruout the pamphlet was that we who are Christians are not doing all that we can to bring other folks to Jesus. It was a common thot. All of us have heard it many times, and acknowledge the truth of it, often without care. No dout this Korean pastor had heard the remark before, but this time the arrow struck its mark. The pastor meditated and prayed. He called his elders, and they prayed. He called

his congregation, and they prayed. Then they all began to work, and thus was launcht the great Korean revival of 1907. China, beholding the marvelous work done in Korea, decided that experiencing a revival was better than hearing of one, and thus came the China revival. Then a three-year campaign was planned for the Christian church in South India, with wonderful results. Now a campaign is going on, in which most, if not all, of the Presbyterian churches are taking part.

We are not able to do much in the hot and rainy season, that is, from April to September. The winter months afford us our great opportunity, and we are making our plans for a special campaign. If possible, we will carry on a campaign here in Rurki itself, and then one in the vil-lages. We will at least have one in the vil-lages.

There are three main purposes in the campaign: first, to deepen the spiritual life of the church; secondly,

to have every Christian become a worker; and thirdly, to bring non-Christians to Jesus. Our workers have been instructed to keep the Evangelistic Campaign before the Christians in their villages continually. The endeavor will be to obtain a promise from every Christian in the villages to take a part in the campaign. Leaders will be appointed in each village where there are Christians. These leaders will be gathered together as frequently as possible, and will be taught to lead a small prayer meeting in their village. Where they cannot read stories, they will be taught them from the Bible, with the view that they shall use these stories at the prayer meetings. Their work will be to create an interest among the Christians in the village in which they live, and to keep those fires burning.

According to the abilities of each volunteer, they will be divided into parties; those that can tell the Gospel story, into one party; those that can sing, into another; etc. As far as possible, every volunteer will be enlisted for personal work. One or two weeks or more of special effort will be made in the villages. This work must be done thoroly; and as we can reach only a few villages in that time, these villages will have to be selected; and in doing this, we ask your prayers that we may select the villages where the way has been prepared by the Holy Spirit. We will probably call in all our workers; and,

making one large party, will wage the special campaign.

In this work we will make special use of our magic lantern and the colored slides of the life of Christ. In connection with this campaign which is being carried on thruout the whole of India, a magic lantern slide bureau has been formed. Any mission having slides is askt to grant them for use by other missionaries at such times when they themselves cannot use them. Then anyone wishing to use the slides for a certain period makes his application, and the only charge is the expense incurred in sending and returning the slides. We have offered the use of our slides until November 1, and we have made application for one month in the winter season, for the use of a set of slides which are in the possession of another missionary. The slides portray the story of Pilgrim's Progress, and the characters are drest in Indian stvle. This request has been granted, and we will have the use of the slides thru the month of December; and we can obtain them for a longer period, if in the meantime no one else makes application.

The time for the special campaign will be the end of February or the beginning of March. Please pray for us.

Yours in His service,  
WILLIAM WAIDE.

REPORT OF WORK FOR  
INDIA MISSION FOR  
THE YEAR 1916-1917

In April and May I was busy with correspondence, mainly in connection with the memorial to the Government of India, invoking its aid that we might be allowed to return to Patiala; and during part of this time we were engaged in preparation for teaching at the Summer School. In June our Mission united with the New Zealand Presbyterian Mission and several stations of the Presbyterian Mission is holding a Summer School at Saharanpur. Our workers were considerably benefited by the work done at the school, and by the pervading spirit there. I taught two classes on the "Office and Work of Christ as Redeemer;" and one class on "Modern Religious Movements in India." All the work done in the school was related to the Evangelization of India. The wives and children of the workers came to the school also. The women were in a class by themselves, and the children were taught to sing and to drill. There were classes for men in Sabbath School work, Exposition of the Acts of the Apostles and the first thirteen chapters of Joshua, besides other classes.

Special devotional exercises were held for several days at the beginning of the school and at the end. Our workers were greatly pleased with this opportunity and all the arrangements that were made for their com-

fort, and this summer school will henceforth be an annual occurrence.

In July and August our time was taken up with language study and correspondence, and also thruout September when we were in the hills. Feeling that there was no possibility of our being allowed to return to Patiala, we made an agreement with the Methodist Mission by which they very kindly gave us a portion of the Rurki District. For three months of the winter season, we were engaged in work connected with the transfer of the Methodist work to our Mission, and with the removal of our workers from Patiala, and the settling of the whole Mission at Rurki and in the district. For the other three months of the winter season, we were privileged to work in the district, going from village to village; preaching the Gospel in as many as four different places in one day.

Before my marriage in February, I was able to visit fifty-three villages. Later on, with Mrs. Waide, I visited fifty-four villages. The addition of Mrs. Waide to your force of missionaries on the field has increased the efficiency of the evangelistic work considerably. Heretofore we have been hindered in our work among the men because of the inefficient work that was being done among the women.

The following is the list of our workers and the villages where they are stationed:

At Jawalapur, 13½ miles northeast of Rurki, we have our one or-

dained minister stationed, Rev. Edwin Fiske. He entered mission service at the time that I came to India, and his disposition is such and he is so earnest in his work, that I have always had him in camp with me, regarding him as a sort of companion. He has followed my example by taking unto himself a wife on the 28th of February. As it has increased my efficiency, so it will increase his efficiency considerably.

At Shahpur, eight miles south of Jawalapur, and fifteen miles east of Rurki, we have a worker named Mool Chand.

At Hardwar, three miles northeast of Jawalapur, we have James McKnight.

At Bhagwanpur, six and a half miles northwest of Rurki, we have Itr Singh.

At Srichandi, nine miles northwest of Rurki, and southwest from Bhagwanpur, we have Prem Dass.

At Imli Khera, three and a half miles direct north of Rurki, we have Darshan Dass.

At Fatehpur, fourteen miles northwest of Rurki, on the road running northeast from Saharanpur, we have F. S. Paul.

We request that the church pray daily for each one of these men, that they may grow in grace, have a larger vision of their possibilities, and that they may be used by the Holy Spirit for bringing many men, women, and districts to Jesus Christ.

A number of Bibles, New Testaments, portions of the Bible, and

tracts have been sold during the year. We hope to make a much better report next year, as so much of our time this winter has been taken up with settling at Rurki, and endeavoring to get everything in working order.

Dr. Taylor has given 1737 treatments during the year. This includes quite a number which have been actually been treated either by Mrs. Taylor or Mr. Varman, our compounder and munshi. Quite a number of urinal analyses and hypodermic inoculations have been made. Also teeth have been extracted, boils lanced, etc., and other minor surgical operations have been handled, as well as a few obstetrical cases. The fees were, in all except one case, given without being asked for, and were from missionaries for services in the last mentioned class of cases. On account of the disappointment regarding the lady doctor, and because the one attendant, on account of caste, could do no more than wash bottles, sweep floors, heat water, etc., Mrs. Taylor had to do all the dispensary work alone. Mr. Varman has been of great help, owing to the fact that he always prepared the stock solutions, which were then taken to the dispensary by Mrs. Taylor. During the three months in which the dispensary has been running, Mrs. Taylor has treated 1082 cases. Besides this, she has helped with the book of the mission, and has had the burden of her household duties, together with the cares of two fast growing boys.

## OUR COLLEGE.

The work of the semester is almost half over. The new professors have become acquainted. They are doing splendid work. The students show a fine spirit and are diligent in their work.

The Citizens' Lecture Course affords five fine numbers thruout the year. The Faculty and students patronize it, and find it both interesting and helpful. It has about 500 patrons. Some of the best talent in our country is presented in this course.

The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. annual social to the new students was held at the hospitable home of Rev. H. C. Foster in Clifton and a pleasant evening was spent by the students and faculty.

We are fortunate in having close by such speakers as Newell Dwight Hillis, Theodore Roosevelt, and William Jennings Bryan. Quite a number availed themselves of the opportunity to hear them.

The College will greatly appreciate the receipt of congregational and personal contributions at once, so far as it is possible for you to send them. The treasury runs low and the expenses are high in these war times. We are trying to be economical, and we appeal to you to come to our help.

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, we wish for all of you a good day, and rejoice that together we have an opportunity thus to express our gratitude to God in a special

manner for His beneficent providences and tender mercies:

Sincerely yours,  
W. R. McCHESNEY.

## FRIENDS OF CEDARVILLE COLLEGE AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Last month the College Treasury received \$5 from the Sparta Mission Eand, and \$62.40 from the Cedarville Sabbath School. A member of the Cedarville congregation is also paying for a Scholarship.

## MID-WEEK PRAYER MEETING TOPICS

November 7—The "Except" of Regeneration. John 3:3,5.

November 14—The "Except" of Repentance. Luke 13:3-5.

November 21—The "Except" of Conversion. Matt. 18:3.

November 28—A Fundamental Reason for Thanksgiving. Rev. 11:17.

December 5—The Honor of the Father's House. John 2:13-22.

December 12—Christ's Humiliation and Exaltation. Phil. 2:1-10.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Rev. Samuel Dempster, Toronto, Canada; A. J. Henry, Clay Center, Kansas; Mrs. Samuel White, Coulterville, Illinois; Joseph G. McAmblay, James McClure, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

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VOL. LI. NOVEMBER, 1917 NO. 11.

### EDITORIAL.

#### CHANGING MINDS.

It is both amusing and instructive  
to read over the editorials of two and  
three years ago, or to think of what  
your friend said two or three years  
ago, in regard to the war and sub-  
jects connected therewith. For in-  
stance:

To have a man come up and try to  
convince you of the righteousness of  
this war, when you already held those  
opinions long before war was de-  
clared, and he was abusing you for  
holding them.

Or to speculate on the present op-  
inions of the man who said two years  
ago that he knew that the Germans  
were brutal but he wanted to see  
them win because he never did like  
the British.

While the woman who used to say  
that all war was wrong is now knit-  
ting things for the soldiers with great  
enthusiasm.

What has become of the woman  
who sang, "I did not raise my boy to  
be a soldier"?

And who said that a million men  
would rush to arms at the first call  
for volunteers?

Probably you can all think of a  
dozen or more similar statements, all  
now known to be silly.

But if you would confront the aver-  
age citizen with his opinion of two  
years ago, he would deny that he ever  
uttered such a thing.

The fact remains that we were des-  
tined to enter this war from the very  
beginning, and there were at least  
two men in this country who knew it  
from the beginning, and were not  
afraid to say so.

### CHURCH NEWS

#### CEDARVILLE, OHIO.

The condition of Dr. Chesnut has  
so much improved that he is able oc-  
casionaly to meet visitors at the door.  
He is feeling better and looking bet-  
ter, and hopes soon to be out again.

During the past month the pulpit



has been supplied as follows:

September 30—Mr. R. S. Elder, of the Seminary.

October 7 and 14—Rev. Prof. A. S. Sloan, of the College.

October 21—Mr. D. L. Doherty, of the Seminary.

125 delegates registered at the annual convention of the Greene county C. E. Society, held in the R. P. church at Cedarville, October 20. In addition 75 young folks were at the junior convention held in the college chapel in the afternoon.

The convention opened in the forenoon with a Quiet Hour Service, conducted by Miss Alberta Creswell, County President. The address of welcome was delivered by James L. Chesnut, Jr., and Miss Bernice Funderburg of Yellow Springs responded for the visiting delegates.

Miss Harpster, State Superintendent of the Missionary Department, and Mr. Vandersall, general secretary of the state, were the chief speakers during the three sessions. In the morning Miss Harpster conducted a conference and Secretary Vandersall spoke on the theme, "Making the Sabbath School Worth While." A business session followed, and at noon the delegates enjoyed their basket luncheon.

Secretary Vandersall's subject in the afternoon was "Forward Steps." Rev. Jerome Shulz of Fairfield appeared on the program for an address in place of Rev. Beck, of Xenia, who was unable to be present. The recognition service for the soldier boys,

which had been set for the afternoon, was held in the evening insted. This was very impressive. Dr. W. R. McClesney, who had charge, read the Honor Roll, containing the names of about 20 youths in the service of their country, who are members of the society.

In the evening a play, "Sarola," was presented by the Clifton Endeavorers; and an address was given by Miss Harpster. The convention closed with a decision service conducted by Secretary Vandersall.

A very interesting program was given at the Junior convention. Miss Tschantz of Wooster, Junior Superintendent, was present, and had charge of the object lesson. The closing consecration service was conducted by Rev. MacLennan of Yellow Springs. Special music thruout the day, in charge of Prof. George Siegler added greatly to the program.

The following officers were elected: President, Miss Alberta Creswell, Cedarville; secretary and treasurer, Miss Ethel Edwards, Clifton; assistant secretary-treasurer, Miss Eula Creswell, Cedarville; Quiet Hour Superintendent, Rev. Beck, Xenia; Citizen and Temperance Superintendent, Rev. Biddlecum, Xenia; Junior Department Superintendent, Miss Ellen Estle, Clifton; Intermediate Department Superintendent, Miss Harriet Keiter. Rev. H. C. Foster, D. D., of Clifton, was made pastoral adviser.

The entertaining society served supper to the delegates in the church dining room.

### OUR SEMINARY.

The constantly improving condition of the health of the Dean brings joy to the hearts of his colleagues and to the students. We hope that he will soon be able to take his place with us again.

Messrs. R. S. Elder, R. L. Hutchinson and D. L. Doherty have been taking their turns supplying our Cedarville pulpit, and occasionally also preaching in other pulpits in this and surrounding towns.

### NOTES ON THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS.

#### TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER 11, 1917.

**Seeking Worth-While Things.**

(Prov. 8:10-21. Matt. 6:33.)

We would not like to admit that the things that we are doing are not worth while. Sometimes we play, but we play with a purpose. When we work, we certainly have a purpose. We want results. If we see that we are not going to get results, we drop that work or that method and try something else.

As in material things, so in spiritual things. We do not want to arrive at the end of our lives knowing that we have failed to accomplish something worth while. We would not have it said at our funerals that we had past thru life merely having a good time. A year or two ago there died in Cincinnati a man who

earned a column obituary in the newspapers for having been a bon-vivant, a good-liver. What a record to leave behind! Nothing was said about him except that he had spent fifty or sixty years hunting good things to eat, and then eating them. What kind of a star will he have in his crown.

We have been told that there is more pleasure in pursuit than in possession. This refers to temporal things. We know by experience that the proverb is true. Sometimes we even find it out before we have attained to the object. We know that when we get it we shall not be satisfied.

Therefore the only things worth striving for are the spiritual promises of God. He is eternal, and his promises are endowed with the attribute of furnishing eternal satisfaction.

#### TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER 18, 1917.

**Our Denominational Foreign Mission Boards: Their History and Achievements.**

(Isaiah 55.)

The chapter reference will not give you much information concerning the history and achievements of the Foreign Mission Board of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America. The achievements of late years can be found recorded in the India Letters from our missionaries as they have appeared from time to time in The Advocate. The report of our Mission for the year just past has just reacht

America, and appears in this number of *The Advocate*.

But you can find what they did in former years by reading their reports in the Minutes for 1916 and former years. The reports of the Saharanpur Presbytery are full and interesting, as are also the annual reports of the Foreign Mission Board, all of which appear every year in the Minutes of General Synod. These Minutes can be obtained, while they last, for the small sum of twenty-five cents.

Dr. Campbell's "History of Our Mission in Hindustan" is also very instructive and useful. There is a copy in the Seminary Library, and we doubt not that there are many scattered thruout the church.

The names of all the missionaries on the field at the present time may be found in the Church Directory in the back of the Minutes of General Synod.

The Report of the Treasurer of Foreign Missions, also to be found every year in the Minutes, tells how much was taken in and spent during the year, and also the size of the Endowment Fund, with the names of the contributors.

#### TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER 25, 1917.

##### For What Am I Grateful?

(Psalm 34.)

First. For Material Blessings. Not because they are most important, but because we want to work from the lower to the higher, and because they are most apparent to the naked eye.

When we read about so many millions who are suffering for lack of the barest necessities of life, when we have plenty and to spare, surely we should exclaim that the Lord hath not so dealt with any nation.

Secondly. For Intellectual Blessings. Did you ever stop to think how much worse off you would be if you should lose the use of your mind? If you have ever visited an insane asylum, you will realize what a blessing you enjoy.

Thirdly. Moral Blessings. Think of the advantage of living in a civilized community. We are so used to having the best of everything that we take it as a matter of course. If we had to live in a barbarous community, where property rights are not respected, and where our feelings would be constantly outraged by seeing the evil around us, we would be more grateful to God.

Fourthly. Spiritual Blessings. The Gift of God to man is the supreme reason for thanksgiving. What would all material blessings amount to, if we knew that at the end of it all was destruction and death? What pleasure would there be in having to think constantly of the fearful punishment that awaits us, without any chance of forgiveness or atonement?

For all these we should be grateful. For how many of them are we grateful?

#### TOPIC FOR DECEMBER 2, 1917.

Self-Control.  
(1 Cor. 9:24-27.)

The Greek word for self-control is often translated Temperance. We should be temperate in all things. To be temperate in something does not always mean to take a little of it. To be temperate, or self-controlled, in the presence of carbohic acid, is to leave it alone entirely.

Be temperate in the use of food and drink. The wild beast of the forest follows his instinct and does not eat until he is hungry. And not even right away then. He must first go and catch prey, which may take several hours.

The wild beast does not swallow everything that he sees just because God made it. God made alcohol, but he did not say for us to swallow it. We are not commanded to swallow everything that God made.

Self-Control is referred to temper more often than to anything else. The man who cannot control his temper is in an evil case. He is not pleasant to have around, and it is not Christians alone who are embarrassed by his presence.

Do not make the mistake of thinking that only evil tendencies are to be controlled. We must control our good impulses as well. Not that we are in danger of being too good. But the evil is to be shunned absolutely, while our good parts are to be controlled in the direction of the greatest service. Fire is a good servant but a bad master. If we are driving a horse in a good cause, it becomes an evil if we drive him too fast or let him get away

from us.

Such a loss of control in a good cause is called fanaticism. It is a wise man who can be enthusiastic in a good cause, and yet avoid the charge of being a fanatic.

#### NOTES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS.

(REV. W. R. McCHESNEY, D.D.)

#### LESSON FOR NOV. 11, 1917.

##### Nehemiah's Prayer.

(Nehemiah 1:1-11.)

Golden Text—I John 3:22.

Psalms—4, 5, 20, 32.

Introduction—Nehemiah was a man of God, devoted to his country and people, possessed of the spirit of prayer and an energetic personality, courageous in the right and honest in endeavor, pure in heart and of a single purpose.

I A Sad Report. Vs. 1-4. Nehemiah was in the summer palace at Shushan. He was cup-bearer to the King. On inquiry of his brethren from Judah, he learnt that the Jews back in the home-land were in affliction and reproach, and that Jerusalem and its walls were in a deplorable condition. His heart was touched at the news; and he gave himself to mourning, fasting, and prayer.

There is no place, not even a palace, exempt from sorrow; and no person, not even a dweller among kings, is free from evil. No condition is so apt to sadden the heart of the true

child of God as the deplorable state into which the church sometimes comes. Its apathy, indifference, worldliness, run-down condition, cause sorrow; and should lead to fasting and prayer.

II. The Prayer. Vs. 5-11. This prayer is noted for its earnest plea, its reverent address, its acknowledgment of divine mercies, its intercession, confession of sins, personal and national, its acknowledgment of responsibility, its trust in the word of God, its faith in God and His promises, and its pleas for mercy and pardon and salvation. All these things are brot out in the prayer; and yet it is brief, pointed and powerful. Nehemiah had often prayed, and knew both the spirit and terms in which to address God as occasion demanded. The prayer was both opportune and appropriate. Let us learn to be specific, scriptural, and sincere in prayer.

#### LESSON FOR NOV. 18, 1917.

#### Nehemiah's Prayer Answered. (Nehemiah 2:1-11.)

Golden Text—Matt. 7:7.

Psalms—5, 20, 67, 147.

Introduction—The church cannot over-estimate the value of its faithful men and women of prayer. Thru the ages they have kept in touch with the source of infinite power and wisdom; and, like Elijah and Nehemiah, have been the means of securing needed blessings at all times, and especially at critical periods in church history.

1. In the first month, according to the post-exilic calendar. Nehemiah was the king's cup-bearer. His heart was saddened by the deplorable conditions at Jerusalem. Nehemiah was faithful, and usually of a joyful spirit.

2. Artaxerxes was king. He quickly discerned Nehemiah's change of countenance, and readily divined the reason for it. Heart sickness is the worst kind of malady.

3. Nehemiah was a patriot of the most unselfish type. Tho he held a good and honorable position, that booted him nothing so long as Jerusalem remained in ruins.

4. Nehemiah's resort to God in the moment of his opportunity teaches us to begin all our work with prayer.

5. Nehemiah was self-sacrificing. He gave up a lucrative position to undertake a task of hardships without any promise of reward.

6. The king was deeply concerned in Nehemiah's personal welfare, and also loth to part with his services even for a short time. Make yourself valuable to others.

7. Nehemiah would do all that he could to make the way easy for his prayer to God to be answered.

8. He enlisted others in getting an answer to his prayer.

9. Nehemiah did not ask others to do something for him which he was not ready to back by his own efforts as well.

10. God-fearing praying workers will always have enemies. Satan and his emissaries resist them.

11. The prayer thus far was an-

swered. We learn that God hears and answers the prayers of those who are unselfish, self-sacrificing, and willing to work and enlist others in their work.

### LESSON FOR NOV. 25, 1917.

#### A Psalm of Thanksgiving.

(Psalm 103.)

Golden Text—Psalm 103:2.

Psalms—103, 104, 105, 107.

Introduction—The annual Thanksgiving, so long observed in America, is an opportunity for all to manifest to God in a special way their gratitude to Almighty God thru Jesus Christ, for blessings both material and spiritual, personal and national. Of all years, this year should lead us to confess individual and national sins, and acknowledge God's goodness, and implore the continuance of His beneficent guidance and mercies.

1. The Psalmist calls for complete consecration.

2. Praise God for everything useful and enjoyable.

3. Think of your forgiven sins, and of the times that God brot you from beds of sickness.

4. How often God has preserved your life from destruction seen and unseen, and has crowned your life with best graces of Heaven and the youthful energy and glow.

5. God satisfies every need. Living by His grace and counsel gives sweetest luxuries of earth.

6. God does nothing wrong. Even His judgments are fraught with good.

7. God reveals Himself to His people in a most intimate way.

8. God's mercy, grace, patience, and loving kindness are past all understanding.

9. Yet God will not keep forever reminding us of duty, nor must we expect that He will forever refrain from anger. His long-suffering is no ground for sinning against Him.

10. If God had dealt with us as we deserved, we should have perished without remedy.

11. God's grace is surpassing to all who are faithful to Him in Christ.

12. God's grace has no bounds in forgiveness thru Christ.

13. God has a father's heart and love.

14. God knows us thru and thru.

15. Man is frail; beautiful as a flower, but as ephemeral.

16. Man cannot withstand much. He shakes with the winds. He is gone in a moment and forever.

17. But God's grace never ends; and He deals righteously with all who keep covenant.

18. To receive God's favor we must know and observe our vows and His laws.

19. God is universal king, infinitely above all earthly rulers.

20, 21. The Heavenly Host, the earthly ministry, all creation are invoked to give glory to God; and in view of this the Psalmist ends as he began, "Bless Jehovah, O my soul."

**LESSON FOR DECEMBER 2, 1917.****Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall of Jerusalem.****(Nehemiah 4:6-18.)**

Golden Text—Heb. 13:16.

Psalms—35, 46, 48, 127.

Introduction—A man of prayer makes a man of action. Nehemiah prayed for Jerusalem, and then he went to work for Jerusalem. Perhaps if we should pray more for the church, we would work more for it.

I. Why the Wall Was Built. Vs. 6. There was united and determined action. Get all to work and in the spirit of work; and the Kingdom will grow apace.

II. Obstacles. Vs. 7, 8. It would not be natural for God's work to go on unmolested. Every church has its hinderers and obstacles. The enemies of the Kingdom hang together, and they are persistent fighters.

III. How To Meet Hinderers. Vs. 9-21. Prayer is one of our greatest means of defence and hope. Works go along with prayer. We need to watch. There must be eternal vigilance, for the enemy is ever alert. O Judah! It is hard enough to contend with the foes outside the church, but why do you try to discourage our souls by pessimism? Pessimistic church members are Satan's allies. Enemies are boastful and hopeful for the defeat of God's cause. If the Jews who brot ten discouraging messages to Nehemiah had spent the same time and energy in helping him, they might have been commended.

All the weak places were guarded. Every family was given its work, to strengthen the things that remain. Let every home be a Bethel. Leaders and people were encouraged. They had a noble cause to contend for. Strengthen the Lord's people with comforting messages. Let us not forget that in every moral conflict, our brethren, our sons and daughters, our wives, our children, and our homes are involved. The enemy cannot withstand the righteous. Peace will come thru faithfulness. Then all may pursue their particular work at pleasure. But let vigilance ever be the watchword.

**LESSON FOR DECEMBER 9, 1917.****Ezra and Nehemiah Teach the Law.****(Nehemiah 8:1-6, 8-12.)**

Golden Text—Psalm 119:105.

Psalms—1, 19, 119.

Introduction—The Bible has always held a high place in the church. It is the ground and pillar of truth. The mission of the church is to teach Christians to defend it in the church, and to maintain its proper place among our civil institutions.

1. People need to realize the value of God's Word, and to get a true desire to hear and practice it.

2. When ministers preach, they should be sure to present the Word of God, and to adapt it to all their hearers. The same is true of all its teachers.

3. The Word of God is practical and interesting; and when people are

seeking to know its truth, they do not keep looking at the clock as time passes. They do not grow weary. They only regret that they do not have enough time.

4. When you read God's Word publicly, take a position where you can be heard. It is no trifling thing even merely to read God's Word to others. All ministers of the Gospel should stand united on God's truth.

5. We should assume a reverent attitude when God speaks.

6. The reading of the Bible should be entered upon in a prayerful spirit by both readers and hearers.

7. As the Word is read, the true sense of it should be given in plain practical terms.

8. Read distinctly. Too many read the Bible in a sort of "holy whine," which is repulsive.

9. Draw comfort and consolation from God's Word for the broken-hearted and sorrowing. There is no other book so adapted to give heart ease.

10. Teach practical lessons that will send your hearers out on missions of help and mercy.

11. The effect of God's Word is to still the troubled soul and to assuage the bitterest grief.

12. When God's people understand and practice His Word, they will enjoy life, help others, and make this world an Eden of gladness.



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