

The  
*Reformed Presbyterian*  
**ADVOCATE**

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**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. LII.

NO. 1.

## INDIA NOTES.

Mrs. Waide, writing to a Cedarville friend, states the following:

"First, about our house. Almost all bungalows in India are only one story in height, tho the height varies from twelve to eighteen or twenty feet. The reason for the height is the extreme heat, which continues for about six or seven months of the year. The houses usually have six large rooms, and by this I mean anywhere from 14 to 18 feet square. Connected with each of four of these rooms is a dressing room and a bathroom. All six of the big rooms have outside doors, and the windows are almost to the ceiling. In the dressing rooms are regular large windows, and the ceilings of the dressing rooms are usually three or four feet lower than the ceilings of the large rooms.

We have a nice large property here, and a fine garden—both flowers, fruit and vegetables. The church is with-

in a stone's throw of the house. Sometimes people at home have the idea that missionaries live in absolutely the most discomfort possible; but this is not usually so, for we believe that comfort, not extravagance, is the wise thing. We have a good tennis court which we use a great deal, for we must exercise in order to keep ourselves in good health. So much of our work is done at the desk or sitting that one must needs look after the body as well as his work or after a time the work suffers.

We had hoped to start off on our itinerating today, but I have had a couple of days in bed with fever, so we could not get ready. We will start off Monday. We travel in an ox-cart, which is not an automobile by any means, but it gets us where we start to go, after a reasonable length of time. We live in tents, and I have to take stores of all sorts enough to last us for from six weeks to two months. When we leave here Monday, I probably will not get back to the house

until December 22. Mr. Waide may get in once or twice during that time. After getting our tents pitched and ourselves settled, we start out at our work of visiting the villages. We go into a village and hunt up the low caste people's quarters. Each caste has a separate section of the village—the sweepers and leather workers, the farmers or land owners, etc. The sweepers and leather workers are the two lowest castes, and almost all our work is among them, tho we often go among others when especially invited to do so. We cannot possibly reach all, and the movement toward Christianity among the low caste has been very strong. The custom in India is that men shall not stand in the congregation of the women; so Mr. Waide and the Indian workers take the men off to one place, and I with the Bible women gather the women. It would be a great dishonor to seat me upon a low bed, so usually the highest one about the place is brot for me to sit on and swing my feet from, for I am but little over five feet in height, and unless I insist upon a low bed being brot, I am in misery most of the time that I sit there. We usually sing a hymn or psalm for the women, and then explain it to them, bringing in the message of salvation. We can keep the women only about fifteen or twenty minutes at the most at one time, and can hardly get to each village more than once during the camping season."

## CURRENT SECULAR EVENTS.

Congress met in regular session Dec. 3 and proceeded vigorously to business. The President's message called for a declaration of war on Austria, which was soon complied with. The reports of the various cabinet officers attracted more than usual attention particularly that of the secretary of the treasury, who calls for appropriations for the next fiscal year of over 13 billion dollars, mostly for war purposes. The appropriations for the current fiscal year for war purposes, made by congress last summer, were over 19 billion dollars. The initial equipment of the soldiers explains the difference in the figures.

Congress is not satisfied with the speed that has been made with the various departments and sub-departments directly connected with the conduct of the war against Germany, and eight investigating committees will sit during the holiday recess, searching out the reasons and exposing the defects if any. In former wars, our investigations have usually come too late to do any good. If there is anything wrong now, it is wise to find it out in the beginning.

Secretary of War Baker assumes responsibility for any delay in his department, and explains the delay in furnishing guns by his desire to get the very best make of gun, but some editors have been unkind enough to suggest that a secretary of war of two years' standing should have fig-

ared that question out long ago.

The shipping board, which was to have had several million tons of shipping on the ways by next spring, in order to overcome the submarine menace, appears to have made very little progress. Just a few days ago it was reorganized for the third time. This board will also be subject of investigation by a congressional committee.

There are so many departments of activity in this war that it is impossible for the average citizen to find time to read enough in order to keep posted on what is going on in each department. The food control department is a study in itself. Chairman Hoover has done good work, and no doubt prices would have been much higher but for the interference of himself and his subordinates. Two years ago the price of wheat was up because of competitive bidding by the agents of the several allied governments in New York. This was stopt by the appointment of one agent for all the allies. The price of wheat was set by an international committee, and since then the wheat supply has been well distributed. But there is still trouble about sugar, altho there is an international committee for that too. Congress is investigating this matter too.

Of great domestic significance was the passage thru congress last month *C darville Advocate Gal 4. . . 12-22.* of a resolution, submitting to the states an amendment to the National Constitution providing for national

prohibition of the liquor traffic. A time limit of seven years is set within which three-fourths of the states may ratify it, and it will become effective one year after ratification.

The Italian invasion of Austria was brot to a halt this fall by the Germans and Austrians, who deprived the Italians of all their conquests and forced them back upon their own territory. Much undeserved criticism was showered upon the Italians, for they were simply smothered by the immense hosts thrown against them. They have since rallied, and with the aid of French and English armies and guns from the western front may be expected to hold their own this winter. By next spring they will be strongly enough supported to avert disaster.

The new Russian government has past out of the hands of Kerenski and his followers, the Moderate Social Democrats, into the hands of the Radical Social Democrats, led by Lenin and Trotsky. These men, backed by the prevailing desire of the Russian population for peace, and by a belief in the peace desires of the German Socialists, are negotiating a peace with Germany, which if carried thru will free millions of German soldiers for service on the western front. This will make the task of the English, French and Americans much harder. While the outlook is bad, we must not despair of Russia. She is simply passing thru the series of inevitable stages that all nations in a revolution must pass thru before

they settle down; and men who have been on the ground tell us that the Bolsheviki, as the new ruling faction is called, had plausible reasons for the domestic policy that they are pursuing. As to their foreign policy, they are foolish, for Germany is simply playing on their ignorance. Sooner or later the Russian people will find out that they are duped, and then the Bolsheviki will have to resume the war with Germany, or make way for a new government that will do so.

The most spectacular event during the past month was the capture of Jerusalem by the British army from Egypt on Dec. 11. Thus after 1200 years of occupation by the Mohammedans, except for brief intervals during the Crusades, the Holy City again passes under a Christian flag.

The Canadian elections have entrenched the Conservatives in power, and thus endorsed the conscription policy. Thus another nail is pounded into the coffin of the idea that the British colonies were simply waiting for a time when the mother country would be in difficulties, in order to break loose and declare their independence.

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## CHURCH NEWS.

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### DARLINGTON, PA.

CREIGHTON—John M. Creighton died on Sabbath morning, May 6, 1917, in South Beaver Township, Beaver Co. Pa. Mr. Creighton was a godly man,

and always exerted an influence for good in the community where he lived for many years. He was a ruling elder in the Darlington congregation. The duties of that honorable office in the house of God he performed with special acceptance and care.

Mr. Creighton was possessed of noble traits of Christian character. He was always thoughtful for the interests of others. He took much pleasure in promoting the welfare of the members of his congregation. He was always cheerful and pleasant at home in the congregation, and in the social circle. He was a lover of peace, hospitality and good works. It was a great pleasure to him and his family to have the young people hold their socials at his beautiful and happy home. Mrs. Creighton was also interested in all that tended to promote the welfare of the young people; and also their children.

Mr. Creighton was a man of wisdom and prudence, and was ever faithful as a ruling elder. He had much pleasure in attending the meetings of our church courts. Many of the ministers of General Synod will remember him and his Christian fidelity when attending the meetings of said court.

He was always a lover of all that tended to promote the peace and welfare of the church and the community. He lived the life of the righteous and therefore died the death of the righteous; and now has received from his precious Savior the high commendation, "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy

of thy Lord."

On the day of the funeral a large number of relatives and friends and neighbors assembled at his beautiful home to show their respect for him and to extend their sincere sympathies to the bereaved family. The funeral services were conducted by his pastor, assisted by Rev. Houston of the U. P. Church and Rev. Wick of the M. E. Church. In due order the funeral procession conveyed his remains to the Seceder graveyard, near Darlington, Pa., where they were placed by affectionate friends beside his dear children, three of whom had preceded him to the heavenly home in glory.

We commend the widow, son, and his wife and their son, and all the other relatives and friends to the covenant and gracious care of their Divine Savior, who has said, "Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; and let thy widows trust in me." He has also said, "I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." John 14: 16-18.

McGEEHON—Mr. James McGeehon, of Darlington Township, Beaver Co., Pa., died Aug. 10, 1917. Mr. McGeehon was a worthy citizen of said Township for many years. There he and his affectionate wife raised their

esteemed family on the old homestead of her grandfather, Mr. McClurg.

Mr. McGeehon was long a faithful member of the R. P. "White" Church, and some years ago was chosen Ruling Elder, as an evidence of the high esteem in which he was held in the congregation. He was well qualified to perform the important duties of that office. He was humble, faithful, kind, and cheerful, and always guarded the peace and welfare of the congregation. He was careful of the interests and honor of his fellowmembers in the Session. He was faithful in attending the meetings of Presbytery and General Synod when appointed thereto; and was always present at the meetings of Session, from the time that he was chosen to that office, with only one exception, until he finished his work for Christ and the Church on earth.

He was a good man, a faithful husband, an affectionate father, and a true friend. In all that pertained to the moral and spiritual welfare of the whole community he was constantly interested. His season of service on earth has closed, and from the happy home and the church of our Savior he has gone home to heaven to wear the victor's crown in glory. He fought the good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith. "The memory of the just is blest, and the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

In his removal from us, we bow to the Divine Will, and say: "Even so,

*(Continued of page 7.)*

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F. A. JURKAT, LL. D., Editor and Publisher.

Rev. W. R. McCHESNEY, Ph. D., D. D., Associate Editor.

Any subscriber who fails to receive his paper by the tenth of the month will please notify the publisher and another copy will be forwarded immediately.

VOL. LII. JANUARY, 1918 NO. 1.

## EDITORIAL.

The Allies are reported to have 25,000,000 men on the battlefield, while the United States have barely 2 million and a half under arms. Two years ago, before the United States was in the war, it was occasionally stated here that the United States was furnishing most of the munitions of war for the Allies, that we were indirectly committing murder by so doing, and that if we should stop exporting those articles the war would have to stop perforce. Now, eight months after our declaration of war, when we are just getting our

men equipt, and when Secretary Baker announces that he has ordered gas helmets from England, we would like to ask those quondam critics if they knew what they were talking about.

And occasionally we meet a man who argues against preparedness. If the present crisis teaches anything, it teaches that Roosevelt was right and his critics were wrong in 1914. Then they stated that preparedness would get us into war. Probably they thought that the converse was also true, that unpreparedness would keep us out of the war. If we are wise, we will have universal military training after this war is over.

Last fall Ohio was plastered with posters stating that Uncle Sam refused to endorse war-time prohibition. We wonder what the wets will say about the action of Congress in submitting the national amendment.

## FRIENDS OF C. C. AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS

Since our last report Cedarville College has received \$5 from Mrs. Elizabeth Galbreath and \$5 from another friend, both of Cedarville.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Mrs. Carrie Harbison, Cedarville, O.; R. J. Hemphill, Marissa, Ill.; Rev. Alex. Savage, New Galilee, Pa.; W. G. Savage, Philadelphia; Boyd Garvin, Fred Caughey, Harry Elder, Darlington, Pa.



(Continued from page 5)

Father, for so it seemed good in Thy sight." During his affliction, he was sustained by the precious promises of God's Holy Word, and by the influences of spiritual grace. His hope and confidence were in his Savior continually. His work among us has been completed, and now he has entered the land of perpetual health, where there shall be no more sickness, sorrow, or death.

On the day of the funeral a large number of relatives, friends and neighbors assembled to extend sympathy to the members of the family, and do him honor in his death. The funeral services were conducted by the pastor, assisted by the Rev. McCune of the U. P. Church. Burial was in the White Church graveyard, beside his esteemed daughter Mary.

We commend the widow, daughter, son and wife, and all the relatives to the gracious care of Him who has a father's pity and a mother's comfort; who is able to heal the sorrowing heart, bestow the needed grace, and give the Divine companionship in consanguinity; for He hath said, "Lo, I am with you always." "A father to the fatherless, and a judge to the widow, is God in His holy habitation."

#### CEDARVILLE, OHIO.

The quarantine interrupted the regular services on Nov. 25 and Dec. 2, and the big snow kept the church closed on Dec. 9, but on Dec. 16 serv-

ices were resumed with Rev. Prof. Sloan occupying the pulpit. We expect services to be held regularly hereafter.

Dr. Chesnut's condition is somewhat more unfavorable at this writing, as he has had to take to his bed again.

Aviator Paul H. Creswell has been heard from in Italy, and he is longing desperately for mail, both first and second class.

**BRATTON**—Mrs. Margaret Louisa Bratton daughter of Rev. Gavin and Mrs. Rosanna McMillan, was born near Morning Sun, Ohio, January 11, 1832, and departed this life in her home, Cedarville, Ohio, Friday morning, Dec. 7, 1917, at 4:30 o'clock, aged 85 years, 10 months, and 27 days. Mrs. Bratton was the fifth of thirteen children, all of whom have entered their eternal rest except one sister, Miss Tirzah McMillan, of Cedarville, Ohio, who lived with Mrs. Bratton since their mother's death, and who deeply feels the sundering of the long cherished ties. Miss McMillan is the only one left of her generation of a large connection of the McMillan families.

Mrs. Bratton was a cousin of the late Whitelaw Reid, ambassador to England at the time of his death. Mrs. Bratton's father, Rev. Gavin McMillan, was for forty years pastor of the R. P. Congregation at Morning Sun, Ohio, and was widely known and beloved. He was a faithful pastor, and a godly and devoted father, and trained his children in the fear of God and in the faith of the church. Mrs. Brat-

ton was baptized by Rev. David Steele Sr., an uncle of the late Dr. David Steele of the R. P. Church, and she early made profession of her faith in Christ, uniting with her father's congregation at Morning Sun, and afterwards transferring her membership to the Cedarville R. P. Church, of which she was a devoted member at her death.

Mrs. Bratton was a genuine Christian. She knew what she believed, and she adhered to her faith in Christ with unswerving loyalty. She was faithful in all her obligations to the church, was liberal in her support of it, and a cheerful giver to all its schemes.

Never very rugged physically, nevertheless when her health permitted, and often to the overtaking of her health, she attended the public ordinances of religion. She was a lover of God's Word, and had much of it hidden in her heart. The evening before she past away, she quoted with strong voice and with manifest deep assurance the 121st Psalm, and expressed her love for the psalms. She was an affectionate and wise mother. Her home was well ordered and a Bethel in which God delighted and was made the chief guest.

The affection between her and her children was well known, and was one of the many attractions of this home; for one felt that it was good to be in an atmosphere where such sincere love prevailed.

Mrs. Bratton was a good neighbor

and a true friend. She was always deeply interested in the welfare of others, and contributed to their comfort. Her life was a quiet gentle one, with a hidden power that won and kept the confidence of all who knew her. A kind neighbor, a faithful friend, an affectionate mother, and a true Christian—all this is true of her. We miss in our community, in our family circles, in her home, and in our church. The fragrance of her life and love will stay thru the years to bless and comfort us.

Mrs. Bratton was united in marriage to Mr. Robert Bratton, of near Xenia, Ohio, Oct. 10, 1860. After marriage, they made their home in College Springs, Iowa. Her husband departed this life Dec. 1, 1865.

When Mrs. Bratton realized a few weeks ago that she could not get well, she desired to depart and be with Christ, and she expressed the hope that her Savior might come for her on Dec. 1, the anniversary of her husband's death. The few short years of love that they enjoyed together were never forgotten, but the memory of them grew fonder and sweeter until it merged into the unending and unalloyed reunion in Heaven on Friday morning.

Mrs. Bratton removed from College Springs to Cedarville in 1869. The charge of her young children rested upon her, and with rare energy and wisdom she cared for them and gave them a good home and training. God blest her life with

four children: one son, James, who was called to his reward in young manhood; and three daughters, Mrs. Benton Barber, of Cedarville, Miss Mary Bratton, of Chicago, and Miss Jennie Bratton, who lived with her mother. From childhood till her marriage Mrs. Ethel Fields Creswell found in Mrs. Bratton a mother, and in her daughters sisters; and their home was a home to her; and she proved herself a daughter and sister in the home. These together with the sister of Mrs. Bratton previously mentioned, and Mr. James C. Bratton, of Xenia, the only one left in his family, and the three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, remain to mourn Mrs. Bratton's departure.

We commend them to her God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the peace that passeth all understanding, and the comfort that sustains in life's deepest sorrow.

### OUR COLLEGE.

Just two matters for us in this item:

I. The congregations are doing splendidly in their annual contributions to meet the current expenses. If the congregations that are yet to send in their offerings do as well as those that have already contributed, we shall end the year free of debt. Practically all so far have sent in larger contributions than they did last year. They realize the needs of Ce-

darville College in these times, and they love their college and believe in its work; so do we believe and know that all our congregations are deeply attached to our college.

II. It is not too soon to start this. 1919 marks the 25th anniversary of the opening of Cedarville College. Let us pray, work and give together to increase the Endowment by June 1919 by \$25,000. That will be only \$1000 a year for each year of the existence of Cedarville College. What do you say? Will you help? Well, that is the goal for 1919—\$25,000 more to the Endowment of Cedarville College.

Sincerely yours,  
W. R. McCHESNEY.

### NOTES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS.

Prof. W. R. McChesney, D. D.

#### LESSON FOR JANUARY 13, 1918.

Jesus Begins His Work. Mark 1:12-13.

Golden Text—"Repent ye and believe in the Gospel." Mark 1:15.

Psalms—23, 67, 72, 110.

Introduction—The works of Jesus Christ alone prove Him to be the Son of God. As His popularity grew, the demands upon His time and services increased until He called helpers.

I. The test of Christ. vs. 12, 13. Driven by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted among wild beasts, while He endured the pangs and torments of hunger, Jesus found

His human strength fortified by the power of the Holy Spirit, and by a practical knowledge of God's Word sufficient to resist and overcome the three supreme assaults of Satan; and God rewarded His faithfulness by a ministration of angels. Yet Satan left Jesus only for a season. Obey God's will, rely on His Spirit, know and use His truth, and you will defeat the Devil in every onset and receive God's benediction.

II. The Preaching of Christ. Vs. 14, 15. After John had been shut off from heralding Christ, the latter withdrew into Galilee. Opposition cannot stop God's work. When John falls, Christ takes up the work with increased zeal. His theme is that of John—The Kingdom of God; and He, the King, is the preacher. Admission into the Kingdom, repentance from sin, faith in Christ, and obedience to the will of God.

III. The First Disciples. Vs. 16-20. Andrew, Simon, James, and John—busy, rugged men. They knew men and their trials. They followed promptly and willingly. They had received a direct clear call right out of the midst of work. They gave up much. They took up infinitely more. They were human and faulty. They grew Godlike with the years, and proved faithful unto death. They gave themselves wholly to Christ.

works of Him that sent me, while it is day." John 9:4.

Psalms—91, 103, 130, 147.

Introduction—Jesus lost no time. He worked night and day. His work was to win and save men, and to fit them for service here and glory hereafter.

I. Working as a Teacher. Vs. 21-22. Jesus taught in the church. His students were church people. He made the Word of God His Text, and He taught with interest, adding the authority of His Divine personality to all that He said. The effect of His teaching was astounding. The secret of successful Bible teaching is to know the Bible and to possess the Holy Spirit.

II. Working as a Healer. Vs. 23-24. First He drove the diseases out of the community. When Christ is fully received and allowed to do His will in a congregation, the unclean are driven out or healed. Christ in the home imparts His love and blessing. Christ in the community makes it a safe and desirable place in which to live. Allow Christ to do His will in the average congregation, and there will be as great astonishment as men experienced back in this synagog. Where others fail to remove evils, Christianity applied to modern times is cleansing and making healthy and happy, society in all its phases.

#### LESSONS FOR JANUARY 20, 1918.

Jesus at Work. Mark 1:12-34.

Golden Text—"We must work the

#### LESSON FOR JANUARY 27, 1918.

Jesus Forgiving Sin. Mark 2:1-12.

Golden Text—"The Son of Man hath

power to forgive sins." Mark 2:10.

Psalms—51, 105, 107, 125.

**Introduction**—We have seen in former lessons how Jesus could heal all manner of diseases. This lesson teaches that He can forgive sins. It also shows that the faith of workers on behalf of others is rewarded by Christ.

I. The Faith of the Four. Vs. 1-7. The people of Capernaum were glad to hear that Jesus has returned. Soon after he entered the city they gathered around Him in numerous crowds. He took advantage of the opportunity to preach to them. Four men had a friend a poor paralytic there; and no sooner do they learn of the Great Healer's presence in the city than they take their friend to where Jesus is; and when they cannot get thru the dense crowd, they climb the outside stairway of the building in which Jesus is preaching, tear up the roof, and lower their helpless friend at Jesus' feet. Their faith is rewarded at once by Jesus' forgiving the sins of the paralytic and thus removing the cause of his disease. The eternal critics of Christ, the scribes and church formalists, begin to criticise. They had a rational and not a heart religion, and so they concluded Jesus guilty of blasphemy. They said that none but God could forgive sins. That is true, but they failed to see that Jesus was and is God.

II. The Four Rewarded. Vs. 8-12. Jesus can read the thots of men, and

so He knew what the scribes thot. To prove His authority to forgive sins, He healed the paralysis of the poor man, and gave him power to walk and carry his bed; and even those very scribes were compelled to join others in amazement and glorifying God, and to admit that they had never seen such things before.

#### LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 3, 1918.

Jesus Lord of the Sabbath. Mark 2:23-3:5.

Golden Text—"The Son of Man is Lord also of the Sabbath." Mark 2:28.

Psalms—12, 26, 47, 118.

**Introduction**—In the beginning of the world, the Sabbath was set apart as a memorial of the finisht work of creation and a day of worship, and it was observed by the antediluvians and patriarchs. At the giving of the law, Sabbath observance was emphasized, and the day became a token of the covenant between Jehovah and Israel. At the resurrection of Christ, the day was changed to the first day of the week as a memorial of the finisht work of spiritual re-creation as well as of the resurrection of Christ. It is also a prototype of the Sabbath which awaits the people of God in the future world.

I. Works of Necessity on the Sabbath. Vs. 23-28.

23. While Jesus avoided the appearance of evil, He permitted His disciples to satisfy their natural ap-

petites.

24. The Pharisees by their spying were guilty of malice, a heinous sin.

25, 26. None except Moses held a higher place than David in the hearts of the Jews; and yet these censorious Pharisees had forgotten that even David and His company not only polluted the house of God, but violated the law of God by eating the bread which was to be given only to the priests; and if they did it on the Sabbath, it was apparently so much the worse. But it was perfectly excusable, for they were hungry.

27. The Sabbath was made for man to recuperate his physical nature, cultivate his mental faculties, improve his social tendencies, and lift his whole soul Godward by meditation and worship; and withal to perform all works of necessity which cannot be done on other days.

28. The Divine seal of the Lord bath. Vs. 1-5. The healing of the Jesus Christ is placed on the Sabbath and its use.

II. Works of Mercy on the Sabbath with the withered hand by our Lord gives us unqualified authority to do all acts of mercy within our power and sphere on the Sabbath. It is not only a day of worship, but a day of ministering to the welfare of all around us. Again, the Pharisees sin by showing their malice in watching to accuse; by stubbornly holding their silence when courteously appealed to; and by violating the Sabbath law and the sixth commandment

both in taking counsel with the Herodians and in harboring the plot and plan of murder.

#### NOTES ON THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS.

##### TOPIC FOR JANUARY 6, 1918.

Christian Duty and Privilege. I. Becoming a Christian. Acts 26:13-15.

This topic, "Christian Duty and Privilege," will be discussed for six months on the first Sabbath of each month. A different phase of the subject will be taken up at each time. This time it is, "Becoming a Christian." On February 3 it will be "Winning Others to Christ." On March 3 it will be "Prayer." On April 7 it will be Bible-Reading." On May 5 it will be "Conduct in the Home and School." On June 2 it will be "Service in Church and Community."

The present topic, "Becoming a Christian," is both a duty and a privilege. One of the hardest things to convince some people of, is that they ought to become Christians. They have a hundred different pretexts and subterfuges, not the least of which is that if they treat their fellowmen fairly and live honestly, they will come out all right. Cite them to the Bible verses which state that the only way of salvation is belief in the Lord Jesus Christ, and they will crawl out some way, without meeting the issue squarely.

We should become Christians because God commands it. Ours is not to reason why. We are not all-wise. God is.

Maybe we think that we can be just as good Christians without joining the visible church. Maybe we can. But the effect on weaker brethren is not the same. A part of our Christian duty is to set an example to our fellowmen. What is the visible church for, if it is not to be a working tool for the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ on earth? And Christ Himself set us the example by belonging to it.

#### TOPIC FOR JANUARY 13, 1918.

##### Young Christians Reaching Upward. Psalms 63:1-8.

Since the earliest times righteousness and wickedness have been distinguished from each other as light and darkness. Even so we say that everything which tends to righteousness is a move upwards, and everything that tends toward wickedness is a move downwards. A Christian never reaches downward except for the purpose of pulling somebody up out of the depths. We live on higher levels, and it is right that we should do so. We climb a mountain to get away from the fogs and miasma of the valley, and in order to have a clearer outlook upon life.

Even mean people do not feel mean when they are on a mountain top. There is something in the location which conduces to sublimity of

thought and action. How much more should the Christian think noble thoughts when he is so much nearer to his Creator because he is so much farther from all that conduces to baseness.

The time to grow is when we are young. When we are old and stiff we cannot change our moral natures any more than we can change the shape of our bones. The young sapling, slim and tall, is the emblem of the young Christian doing his duty in Christian growth.

Every ambitious man keeps on aspiring, even after he has stopt growing. We should reach upward as long as life lasts. We should build more stately mansions for our souls. At last we shall reach the infinite heights. But even in heaven we shall pass on from glory to glory.

#### TOPIC FOR JANUARY 20, 1918.

##### Young Christians Reaching Outward. Gal. 6:1-10.

The theme is unselfishness. A selfish Christian is an anomaly. A Christian is one who is like Christ. Even Christ pleased not Himself. He came into the world to save others, and by so doing He confirmed His own title to a mansion in heaven. He came to serve. He was not satisfied to see Himself comfortable when others were uncomfortable.

We are to work out our own salvation. We are to bear our own burdens. We are also to bear one another's burdens. We are to seek the

salvation of others. We are to go to the ends of the earth if we can by any means save some.

We would seek to diversify our talents. Insisting on one thing all the time is liable to make us narrow-minded. By so doing we shall reach a larger audience. Altho Paul said, "This one thing I do," he also said, "I am all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

Nobody likes selfish people. Even worldly people recognize this. The successful boss politician knows that one indispensable prerequisite to his success is the showing of a generous spirit to his henchmen. He is a jolly good fellow. The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light.

Cedarville Adv. Gal 7 12-27-17

Lend a helping hand to the weak. Not because you expect to help from them at some future time, but because of conscience. When we are done with life's pilgrimage, people will not remember us for what we did for ourselves, but for what we did for others.

#### TOPIC FOR JANUARY 27, 1918.

**Christian Endeavor Goals, and How to Reach Them. Rom. 12:1-13.**

This is Christian Endeavor Day, and we should endeavor to find a plausible reason or excuse for our existence. The Society was founded with a purpose or end in view. Are we attaining to that Goal?

The Goal of the Christian worker

is the world for Christ. Whatever he can do to bring about that result, he should do. The parable of the Talents is in good place here. Different people have different talents, but in them all works the selfsame spirit. Look at the different departments in the army. And yet they all contribute to the lutimate end—Victory. We are told that men of all occupations can find use for their trades in the navy. Even the farmer, strange to say, is needed in the navy. But the object of all is the same.

One thing we should never lose sight of. That is personal work. Some people think that the saving of souls can be entrusted to committees, but that is a mistake. The Lord never saved anyone by a committee. Our goal as Christians has not been reacht until we have askt some one to come to Christ.

Do not imagine that you are doing personal work when you are distributing circulars. Any advertiser will tell you that a great part of such work is a dead loss. And even when a man gets a tract, you have no assurance that it will fit his case, or answer the questions that he wants answered.

#### TOPIC FOR FEBRUARY 3, 1918.

**Christian Duty and Privilege. II. Winning Others to Christ. John 1: 35-46.**

This is Christian Endeavor Decision Day, and we should try to get as many as possible to make a decision



for Christ. But in order to accomplish this we must do personal work, as was noted in the last topic. This is the essential part of winning others to Christ, which is the topic under consideration.

This is the second of the series of themes on the general topic of Christian Duty and Privilege, one of which will come on the first Sabbath of each month for six months.

How shall we win others to Christ? Did you ever ask anyone to take the Christian yoke? Then you know how hard it is to ask the first person; and if you have done so, then you know how easy it is to ask the second and the third. It is the first step that counts. Do not stand shivering on the bank, but plunge right in, and you will be surprised that you did not do so long before.

You must be filled with Christ's spirit yourself. He never seemed to have any trouble asking others to follow Him. If any man has the spirit of Christ, he is a new creature.

You must forget yourself, and lose self-consciousness. Do not be afraid of ridicule. All the great men of the past who now have monuments were ridiculed during a great part or all of their existence. The world owes a great deal to those who lose themselves into immortality.

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### MID-WEEK PRAYER MEETING TOPICS.

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Jan. 2—Christ Jesus, Son of God—True Deity of Savior. Matt. 3:17; 22:42.

Jan. 9—Shorter Catechism, 1-9 Creation, Gen. 1:1. John 1:1-3.

Jan. 16—Scripture Character—Moses, Servant of God. Josh. 1:1,2.

Jan. 23—Missionary Biography—William Carey.

Jan. 30—Christian Education Series—Sabbath Schools. II Tim. 1:5; 3:14,15.

Feb. 6—Jesus Christ, Son of Man—True Humanity of Our Lord. Gal. 4:4, 5.



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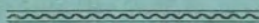
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