



Rev. R. W. Chesnut

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 CHRIST'S CROWN AND COVENANT

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VOL. LXII.

NOVEMBER

NO. 12.

OUR MISSION BOARDS NEED IMMEDIATE HELP

Are you a pastor? Bring this important matter to the attention of your people.

Are you an Elder? Co-operate with your Session and congregation in raising the largest contribution in the history of your congregation for missions.

Are you a member of the Church? Give to the limit of your ability.

Special Collections from Congregations, Sabbath Schools, Christian Endeavor Societies and Missionary Societies, as well as personal donations are asked for.

Contributions to the Foreign Mission Board should be sent to Mr. D. M. Reid, Sparta, Ill.

Contributions to the Home Mission Board should be sent to Mr. W. J. Imbrie, New Galilee, Pa.

R. W. CHESNUT, Cor. Sec'y. F. M. B.

ATTENTION SUBSCRIBER!

RENEWAL BLANKS are being inclosed this month to those subscribers whose dues are now payable. You can't do without the Advocate, so send your \$1. at once and let us credit you with one year.

There is space on the Renewal Blank to write the name of a friend who would be interested in taking the Advocate. You will do us a favor as well as your friend by writing their name and address in this space. Each one will receive a sample copy of the Advocate. Better every month.

A TRIP TO THE WEST

On October 2, we started on a trip to the West. After spending part of two days about twenty miles south of Chicago we started to Iowa, arriving in Morning Sun, on the evening of October 5. This was not far from where we spent our childhood days. The community here and for some miles to the Southeast is largely settled with Presbyterians, United Presbyterians and Reformed Presbyterians, (Synod.). Fifty-nine years ago, our family had moved to Clay County, Kansas, and although the old home had been paid a short visit in the years 1889 and 1894, I had not been in the Sharon Church since about 1868. Only a few of those who were young people then are now living. Most of them have passed away, but their children remain to carry on the work of the Church. Many familiar names are still found there and their hospitality is most cordial. Indeed we could have stayed much longer if time had permitted. Among those that we might mention was Mr. Neil Kilpatrick, wife and daughter who did their part well in taking us over many miles to see the old home, where nearly sixty years have made such changes that everything that we could remember had been literally removed. New houses had taken the place of the old, even the old "Oaken Bucket", that used to hang in the well had been removed and a pump had taken its place.

Many memories of childhood were quickly recalled, but what of the old house, the barn, the orchard, the old rail fence, the large oak trees, and last of all, Father and Mother and four brothers; all gone and then the thought that three score years and ten had passed away. We once more left behind the old home spot, made sacred by the memories of childhood. Going

back again we came to the site of old Kossuth, where once were some stores, three churches, a mill, a blacksmith shop, an academy and a fine spring of water. All was gone but the academy building and the spring, and instead of these old landmarks, one mile to the west there has arisen the beautiful town of Mediapolis, with all the necessary modern improvements, where we were royally entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Martin before departing for Kansas.

After taking tea with the family of Rev. D. B. Martin the pastor of Sharon, we were entertained at the home of Robert Allen and on our arrival at the church we met a fine country congregation, and enjoyed the morning services with them.

So far as the farms were noticed, there was a great improvement over the conditions of former years. Better roads, houses, barns, cattle, hogs and crops. There certainly was a wonderful crop of corn. By proper drainage and cultivation these farms are yielding better than they did sixty years ago. Push, energy and economy has made the people and country what it is today.

Going on from here by way of Burlington and Fort Madison, we reached Lawrence, Kansas Tuesday morning and paid a visit to the Kansas State University where we attended college from 1880-1885.

Lawrence is a beautiful city situated on the South side of the Kansas River, and some 40 miles west of Kansas City. The early settlers were from New England and founded a community that was solid anti-slavery. In 1863 Quantrel's Band of outlaws entered the city early in the morning and after killing more than a hundred men, set the houses on fire. John Brown of Harper's Ferry fame had formerly built a rude fort on Mt. Oread southwest of the city and after the close of the war a college was founded in 1865 which afterwards became the Kansas State University. In 1880 there was but one building with about a dozen teachers and six hundred students. At present there are no less than a dozen very large buildings and 4800 students in all departments. The new stadium cost \$1,000,000. The Haskell Institute or Government Indian school is located about a mile south of the city. At the University there are many Indians and Negroes. The university is co-educational and all races and nationalities are eligible.

Kansas is the cradle spot for prohibition in all parts west of Maine. Here in Kansas we found the same energy and push that is characteristic of the West.

In the evening of October 11 we took the train for Clay Cen-

ter where we were met by Mr. J. W. Chestnut, who took us to his beautiful home in the north of the city.

Clay Center is located on the north side of the Republican River and not far from the geographical center of the United States. It is the County Seat and has wide streets paved with concrete. There are several magnificent school buildings, large mills and elevators. A beautiful court house, good stores hotels and churches and modern city improvements.

The place known as Republican City is where our church is located. Here 60 years ago there was the beginning of a town, but it never grew to be of much size. It was located in the center of the county and three miles from the present city of Clay Center. At one time there were two general merchandise stores, a drug store, schoolhouse, blacksmith shop, and small hotel. Here the church was built about 1872. This building still stands and Rev. L. A. Benson, D. D., is pastor. It is the oldest church building in Clay County. At the present time the church and two farm houses are all that remains of the old town that at one time bid fair to become, at least some hoped it might become, the county seat.

Although the writer has only visited here at long intervals, since 1885. We speak of the place as home. In 1870 religious services were held largely in private homes. Sometimes in good weather we had services under a tree. Early in the winter of 1870 Rev. J. S. Scott preached for us a few times and later located with us and was pastor of the Republican City congregation until about 1889.

The Synod branch of the R.P. Church was also represented and the first ministers of the Synod who preached for us was Rev. T. C. Sproul, then a licentiate. This was in 1870. The next one to come was Rev. Mathew Wilkins.

The people of the two Synods soon began preparations for the organization of a congregation. The General Synod effected an organization in February 1871, and the Synod did the same shortly afterwards. The organizations known as Republican City and Hebron respectively are still in a thriving condition, and truly the moral and religious conditions in this part of the county are a living witness to the good work that has been done by those worthy pioneers and their successors. Rev. Benson has now been here for nearly 24 years and is recognized as a leader among the moral and religious forces of the county. Surely no man in our ministerial staff is so well fitted to fill this particular place, and his services here richly deserve this compliment in the Advocate. To the writer, he is, as Timothy was

to Paul a son in the bonds of Christian fellowship and the gospel ministry. These words of appreciation are the result of an acquaintance of more than 41 years through which we have watched his progress through all the hardships in early life, and continual progress in usefulness and influence in General Synod. Real worth should be recognized.

Everything in the West has undergone a great change in recent years. Better houses, better farms, and better farming seems to be the order in the country, and the towns and cities have grown larger and more beautiful. In Clay Center the streets are wide and paved with concrete, and the houses modern in style and equipment. The school houses are larger and up to the demands of our times. The roads are being improved to accommodate the increase in traffic; but the most notable change seems to be in the growth of trees. ?

On October 16, Rev. Benson took us to Manhattan, Kansas to visit the State Agriculture College. It was almost 48 years since we entered there as a student and there as elsewhere many old landmarks were either gone or so changed that even the lay of the land seemed strange. What was then a prairie covered with grass is now a part of this beautiful little city of wide paved streets, fine houses and parks almost hidden among a forest of ornamental and shade trees. The round trip that day covered a distance of some 90 miles. In pioneer days it required from three to four days to make the same trip by wagon.

On October 17 there was a family reunion held at the home of a niece Mrs. W. R. Stevenson. Of the original family of ten children all are gone but two brothers and two sisters: William Chesnut, Robert W. Chesnut, Mrs. Margaret Black and Mrs. Barbara Jane Crooks of California. This was our first meeting together in over 50 years. The cousins, nephews and nieces were too numerous to mention.

On Thursday evening preparatory services for communion at our church Rev. L. A. Benson, Pastor, began and there were good audiences Friday and Saturday and Sabbath. This was an occasion long to be remembered, as it was the fifty-first anniversary of our uniting with this congregation, October 1877. There are only a few who were members then who are members now. During our two weeks stay in Clay Center, we preached several times to appreciative audiences. In all my ministry I have not seen anywhere so many stalwart young men and women in one congregation. Altogether there were 38 Chesnuts at church on Sabbath, all descendants of Adam and Eve. During the two weeks in Clay County, there were no idle hours. Every body did their best to entertain and help to enjoy the visit. The

only regrets are that the time was limited and many offers of hospitality could not be accepted.

The return trip began at noon, Tuesday October 23, by way of Southern Ill. We landed at Marissa Wednesday afternoon and made some calls on old friends, and visited in Sparta Thursday afternoon. Our time being limited, a visit to Coulterville had to be omitted, as it was necessary to start to Pittsburgh, Pa. early Friday morning where we arrived Saturday. We were entertained at the home of Rev. Albert E. Gregg, pastor of our Pittsburgh congregation.

The Sabbath morning hour for services was taken up by addresses in the interests of our Foreign Mission.

After an address by the corresponding secretary of the Board, Mr. Maurice R. Anderson, of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary gave an address. He was born in India, his father being a Missionary there for many years. Mr. Anderson has decided to go out as a missionary to India under direction of our Board as soon as he has completed his course in the Seminary next Spring. This will relieve Dr. Taylor of many of his burdens and furnish us with a person to superintend the work when Dr. Taylor comes home on furlough. This meeting was arranged by Rev. Gregg the pastor and helped to complete our arrangements with Mr. Anderson, to go to India. After three years of disappointment we are glad to announce to the church at large that we have found one to go out for us.

Monday night we started home by way of Niagara Falls, having spent one of the busiest months in life's journey.

"All is well that ends well"

R. W. C.

LETTER FROM KENTUCKY

Houston, Ky., Nov. 10, 1928

Dear Friends:

When I first took up my work early this morning it looked as though the day would be dreary all the way through. It was very cloudy and drizzling to rain. We are so apt to have a dull disposition on such a day. Just about nine o'clock the sun came out, and everything seemed changed. The trees and all looked different. I think there's nothing more beautiful than the many Kentucky trees that cover our mountains with their red and yellow leaves in the fall and their green ones in the early spring. This scene reminded me of how at times when life looks dull and dreary, that after all, if we take it as it is and make the best of it trusting that God will make all things

well in the end. We will find that his promises are true and sure. He can take our lives just as he did this dreary day and make them beautiful and pleasant to look upon.

Our school building has been leaking in several places, and when we were trying to stop the leaks we discovered that it was irreparable and must have a new roof right away. We were very much puzzled as what to do. We wondered where we would get the money for the roofing and to hire the work done. We were very happy when we found that the men in the community were willing to come in and do the work without any pay. We ordered first class galvanized roofing, because we know it wouldn't pay to do otherwise. The other roofing has only been on seven years, and it hasn't proven satisfactory at all. The bill for the roofing to cover both the school house and the kitchen I think will be about \$140. We are hoping that the money will come to us to pay the bill by the time it is due which will be in thirty days. The men that so willingly devoted their time to the work of putting the roofing on were: Henly McIntosh, Kelly McIntosh, Green Deaton, Henry Chanlier, Fillmore Stamper, Joel Sebastio, Elliot Turner R. H. Baker Henry Turner, Bradly Turner and Squire Turner. Before the day was over the men realized that it would take almost another day, and on their own accord they decided to come back the next day and finish the work. The ones that came back the second day were: Kelly McIntosh, Hennly McIntosh, Green Deaton, Henry Chanlier, Bradly Turner, R. H. Baker and Elliot Turner.

The Turkey Creek farmers rallied to the support of the community fair and flocked in great numbers to the fair which was held October 26th. Over 30 farmers and their wives, besides the school children, visited the fair that day. One hundred and sixty three exhibits were shown by the community folks.

The entries were: livestock, poultry, canning, textiles, foods, field crops, vegetables, fruits and school work. Best of all was the spirit of cooperation which the people showed in making the event a success.

We feel that it will be a good example for other communities. We feel what Turkey Creek has done, other communities can do. Such events are needed in every community in our country, and more especially where the community is somewhat isolated.

Our County Agent was well pleased with the work and thought it was a wise thing to do. He donated a part of the prize money.

We were astonished when we realized how near Christmas was here. We are hoping that the gifts will come early this year so as to avoid such a rush.

Since our last writing we have received a part scholarship of \$60 through Mr. Frank Tippin, from Bethel Congregation Richmond, Kansas.

We have some other gifts that need to be mentioned that were given by our own community. Enough oak strips to put all of the seats on in the Assembly and Primary rooms by Mr. Henry Turner. The children certainly do enjoy it. It's amazing to think how one small gift can make many happy. I mentioned the work of the roofing which was given by a number of men.

May God make us all happy in our work, we need your many prayers:

Mary E. Turner

DARLINGTON, PENNA.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the R. P. Church, held its 33rd annual meeting at the home of **Mrs. R. W. Watterson** on Thursday Nov. 1, 1928.

It was the desire of the Society that this meeting be a real "Home Coming" and invitations were extended to all former members of the society, all the ladies of the congregation, and their friends to come and join with the members in making this an enjoyable event.

That many of the invitations were accepted was evident as **64 persons were present.**

One of the features of the day in which all were interested and participated in with pleasure was the chicken dinner which included all the trimmings and accompaniments besides other good things "too numerous to mention."

At 2:00 P. M. the meeting was called to order by the president who conducted the exercises. Ps. 66: 1—5 was sung, after which Rev. J. R. Wylie, D. D, of College Hill led in prayer.

The subject selected was. Words—A Power for Good or Evil.

The Scripture lesson found in Matt. 12: 22—37 was read responsively.

A paper on the subject (published elsewhere in the Advocate by request) was read by the leader.

The poem—"Today"—an appropriate literary gem was read by Mrs. Florence Jenkins.

Ps. 119: 11—16 was sung.

Satisfactory reports were made by the Sec. Mrs. Kerr and by Mrs. Watterson, treas.s of the Society. Twelve meetings were held during the past year with an average attendance of fifteen members and four visitors and an average contribution of almost thirty one dollars. The annual offering was liberal.

The leader at each meeting during the year put forth earnest endeavor to make the topic chosen both interesting and instructive, and Scripture references were carefully selected: those on the literary program were likewise thoughtful.

The Nominating Committee reported the re-election of all the officers, and an unanimous vote of thanks was given them for faithful performance of duty.

Several officers and members from neighboring Societies were present and spoke words of appreciation and encouragement.

Remarks by Dr. Wylie were timely and helpful.

Dr. Savage was present and delighted the audience by demonstrating that he was able to stand straight, had not lost his sense of humor, and could draw a round of applause. A vote of thanks was given the hostess for her generous hospitality.

The meeting was closed by singing Ps. 71: 14—17 and by prayer by Dr. Savage.

Sincerely yours,

EVA D. NAGEL.

WORDS—A POWER FOR GOOD OR EVIL

By Eva D. Nagel
Read Matt. 12: 22—37

The power of speech is the great outstanding feature that distinguishes man from the lower animals.

Most of us began to pronounce words, farther back than we can remember. We began the use of words by imitation and by repetition, and later learned to use them to express our thoughts and to procure the things we desired. The ability to use words having been ours, we might say from infancy, it is not surprising that the right or the wrong use of them fails, as it often does, to impress us as being of very great importance.

That our words are important, we cannot doubt when we consider the great truth expressed by Jesus when he was on earth. He said: "By thy words thou shalt be justified and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

It is an undisputed fact that all through our existence, we,

by our words are either justified or condemned by the living God and by our fellowmen.

That words have great power for evil or for good may be noted by recalling a well known event. The two words of the Jewish mob—"Crucify Him"—had power to put an innocent man to death, while the two words of the Saviour—"Forgive them"—had power to save from death.

The beauty of words is to be considered.

Thoughts are the offspring or children of the mind, and words are the clothes in which they are dressed. Then it is of utmost importance that suitable raiment be prepared, and that these thoughts be properly clothed before they are sent out into the world. The "naked truth" is never pleasing, and when this expression is used, it carries with it the idea of a self imposed task of telling something in a most disagreeable way.

We should take a proper pride in our speech as it is a part of ourself. It represents what we believe — what we are. People of culture are sometimes attracted by a handsome face, and acquaintance is desired, but if the words that are spoken by the owner of the face do not correspond in beauty of expression, how great is the disappointment! As the home is represented and judged by the appearance of the children, so the quality of the mind is expressed by the words that go out from it.

We need to practice the Golden Rule in what we say about people, as well as in what we say to them. Courtesy to those present is good manners: courtesy to those absent is a real test of character.

There is an old story about a satyr (a mythological deity) who on his way home through the forest, found a man who had lost his way. As this was the first man he had ever seen, he scarcely knew what to make of him. As the man had neither hoofs nor horns, neither fangs nor claws, he looked harmless enough, and the satyr taking pity on the tired, hungry, bedraggled creature, led the man into his hut. The man sat before the fire, drying his clothes and blowing on his benumbed fingers. After a time the satyr set before him a bowl of broth. Finding it too hot for comfort, the man began blowing it with his breath. The satyr was quite curious and asked why he blew on his broth. "To cool it" was the reply. "Then why did you blow on your fingers?" "To warm them." This was too much for the satyr. He drove the man forth in to the storm saying: "Begone! my hut shall not shelter a creature that can blow both hot and cold from the same mouth. There is no telling what damage he may do me and my hut."

We may read into this story the lesson that the mouth that alternates good constructive words, and negative destructive ones is the very source of many of our ills, if not most of them. It is true that the thinking that lies back of the speaking is the real source of trouble, but it is also true that we learn the use of objectionable words long before we learn conscious control of our thinking. Therefore, wrong habits of speech that we have unknowingly acquired through our environment, must be consciously abolished by watchfulness, and good habits must be formed in their places.

The words of the parents are repeated by the children. It may be words of prayer or words of profanity. We notice the same perfect expressions or the same gross mistakes.

The college graduate, in unguarded moments, lapses into the home vernacular, so strong is the force of habit and the influence of early environment. One correctly gives the impression of early environment. One who habitually expresses himself incorrectly gives the impression of a faulty education; and in the case of teachers, their example is not worthy of imitation, and quite often leads to severe criticism.

We are learning new things each day. It is generally conceded that harsh words of censure at meal time, take away the appetite and hinder digestion. We learn that constructive words that imply strength, courage, faith, love, praise, good will, joy and success promote health and prosperity and must be consciously brought into vocal expression to offset the tendency established in earlier years to use the less desirable words — the destructive words of complaint, faultfinding, envy and hate.

The durability or perpetuity of our words should influence their right use. In this day of the radio, it is more apparent. It has been said that the spoken word continues on and on until it encircles the globe and returns to the speaker. We know that words have been spoken, and long years after they were forgotten by the speaker they were recalled by the hearer, repeated and started again on their course. Words sometimes remain for years in the subconscious mind until something occurs to call them forth.

Speech is most precious.

Its value was recognized by Jesus; as it is recorded that by a miracle, he made the dumb to speak.

The loss of the voice is a great misfortune as only those who have experienced it can fully realize. The ability to talk, being the gift of God to His children, who were made in His

image, undoubtedly our words should have careful, prayerful thought and be so framed that our relationship to our Father may be recognized.

Our words should be appropriate. An ambassador, representing a nation, and preparing to meet a great or renowned person, clothes himself in his best garments in order to be received with favor; so we as ambassadors of Christ owe it to ourselves and to Him to make an effort to clothe our thoughts in appropriate language so that we may make a favorable impression upon others, and be worthy representatives of Him who is our Saviour and King.

Prayer of the Psalmist was: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord my strength and my Redeemer".

That our words may be acceptable to God they must accord with what He requires of us.

It was said of Jesus that they marveled at the gracious words that proceeded out of His mouth. It was also said of His followers that by their conversation it was evident they had been with Jesus.

Words of prayer, words of praise, words of Thanksgiving, words of love and trust are acceptable to God. Paul wrote to the Philippians: Let your conversation be as becometh the gospel of Christ. The Gospel of Christ teaches (Matt. 22:37) that "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy mind — and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." The Law of Love implies obedience to God, and kindness and justice to men.

We have not fulfilled the law until we have put forth our best efforts to obey His commands concerning His kingdom, which necessitates the carrying of the Gospel to all the nations of the earth and to the wanderer in our home land as well.

Our own words are important as we have endeavored to make clear, but God's Word will endure forever.

For our words to be acceptable in God's sight, they must meet His approval at all times. Prov. 15:3 reads — "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

We may resolve that we will speak only good words, but it is impossible to accomplish this in our own strength, but Paul said: "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me". Philip (4:13). The Psalmist said: The Lord will give His people strength and with peace bless them all. (P.29:11.)

REPUBLICAN CITY

The W.M.S. of the Republican City church met at the home of Dr. and Mrs. L. A. Benson Aug. 1st.

Officers were elected for the coming year. Mrs. A. A. Shaw who was to have led the meeting was unable to be present and had requested Dr. Benson to review the minutes of General Synod, as published by the Reformed Pres. Advocate. We had a very instructive lesson and all felt we knew more about the work our churches are doing.

The pastor and members of the session held a meeting at the Manse the 8th of Aug. to consider the work for the next year. The collection was lifted the following Sabbath and amounted to \$68. All the members of the session were present at this meeting except Mr. Wm. Chestnut. Mrs. Benson served a delicious lunch consisting of straw-berry ice cream and cake. It was decided to hold these meetings every three months.

We hold our prayer meetings every two weeks. The 23rd of August the meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Henry. Mr. Henry led the meeting. The 5th of September the meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Chesnut and next Thursday evening will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nevin Chesnut. the topic being 2 Tim. 2 Chap. 4-8

An ice cream social was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Borland. A neat sum was realized from the sale of ice cream and cake.

I suppose a large number of the readers will know that Miss Gladys Benson left the 16th of July for Houston, Ky. to teach in the R. P. Mission. She is very much pleased with her work there. Gladys is a splendid girl and we know she will make good. She graduated from the Clay Co. High School and has attended college for two years so is competent for the work and we all feel she will do lots of good.

Rev. Robert Waldo Chesnut, many years ago, officiated in the baptism of Mr. Joseph Waldo Chestnut (not a relative, but a member of the Republican City Church.) On October 20th he officiated in the baptism of Herbert Leroy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Waldo Chestnut.

The Republican City people gathered at the Manse on November 20th, bringing well filled baskets and many generous donations. On behalf of the W. M. S. Mrs. Mima Chestnut presented the Pastor and his wife with a substantial check. There was a very fine dinner, then music and games occupied the afternoon. In the evening another crowd of the Republican

City people gathered and a very fine social occasion was enjoyed.

On Friday evening, Nov. 23rd, the annual program and supper given by the W. M. S. occurred. The program was a decided success and a goodly sum was taken in for mission work.

There was a long severe drouth through August, September but copious gentle rains, followed by mild weather in November and most of October; the outlook for wheat was very poor,

Visiting

Mrs. J. Z. Sterrett is visiting a son, Dr. Sterrett, of Yakima, Wash.

AN INTERESTING AND PROFITABLE COMMUNION OCCASION

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed in the Republican City Church on Sabbath, October 21st. The last Sabbath of October has usually been devoted to this precious service, but as Rev. R. W. Chesnut Ph. D., and his wife, of Duaneburg, N. Y., were visiting here, the date was changed so that it would be convenient for them to be with us on that occasion. It was the joy of friendly fellowship, intensified by spiritual unity, and was a blessed occasion.

Rev. R. W. Chesnut brought us such faithful, helpful sermons at the three preparatory exercises, and on Sabbath morning, too; his own heart was warm; it was the church of his boyhood. Just fifty one years ago he had made a profession of his faith in Christ in this same place. The Session of that day has joined the church on high.

The relatives, friends and strangers all agree that this brother has the "gift of preaching". He does not pose or try to be attractive, but he is so clear and plain, so apt in illustration, but best of all, so sound in the Word. It was a pleasure to friends and acquaintances to welcome back one of this community's own sons who has been so useful in the church. It was a delight to meet his good wife, who made her first visit to this state and won the affections of Mr. Chesnut's "home-folks".

Republican City may be "small among the thousands of Judah", but she has given to the Kingdom three ministers: Rev. Will Scott of Wakeeney, Kan. son of the pioneer missionary who built up this congregation; Rev. A. B. Henry, for many years the able pastor of the East Girard Presbyterian Church Philadelphia, Pa., and Rev. R. W. Chesnut, pastor of the Duan-

esburg R. P. church, Editor and Publisher of the Advocate, and Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board.

Mrs. Margaret Black, Mr. William Chesnut, elder in this congregation and Mrs. Barbara Crooks of California, with Rev. R. W. Chesnut, constitute the four remaining members of a large and worthy family. They were all together here, and a re-union was held at the home of Rev. Chesnut's niece, Mrs. W. R. Stevenson, in Clay Center, and the relatives were present in goodly numbers. Surely this is an event worthy of notice — one to be treasured in memory.

WOMAN'S PRESBYTERIAL MEETING

The Forty-first Annual meeting of the Woman's Presbyterial Missionary Society of the Western Presbytery was held August 31, 1928 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dickey.

The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Walter Ervin. In the absence of the Secretary, Mrs. D. C. Fullerton was elected Secretary Pro Tem. Minutes of previous meeting were read, and approved. The Program was opened with devotional exercises conducted by Mrs. Rev. Duncan, subject—"Faith" based on 1st John 5-4. Interesting reports of societies Cutler, Sparta, Los Angeles, Coulterville, Republican City, Sparta Mission Band were accepted as read.

The Woman's Presbyterial Missionary Society reported for the year beginning August 26, 1927 and ending August 31, 1928.

Balance in Treasury	\$13.70
Received by collection August 26	8.34
Thank offering from:—	
Sparta	\$40.00
Cutler	\$13.00
Coulterville	18.50
Los Angeles	\$5.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$76.50
Received for Miss Ramsey during the year 1927—1928	
From Coulterville	\$35.00
From Sparta	\$20.00
From Republican City	\$7.50

From Cutler	\$7.50
From Mrs. Wm. Brown	\$10.00
From Cutler	\$10.00
Total	\$90.00
DISBURSEMENTS	
To Miss Martha Ramsey	\$90.00
To Treasurer of Home Missions	\$38.25
To Treasurer Foreign Missions	\$38.25
To C. A. Jackson, for 1927 programs	\$2.50
To C. A. Jackson for 1928 programs	\$2.50
Total disbursements	\$171.50
Total Receipts	\$188.54
Total Disbursements	\$171.50

Balance \$17.04

Mrs. Paul Duncan, Treasurer

"First Impressions of Kentucky Mission," by Miss Gladys Benson and read by Mrs. Margaret Smiley giving interesting experiences on arriving there, and how she had grown to love the people and her work.

Announcement of Committees

Ajourned for the Noon Hour

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30— Devotional Mrs. Alice Mc Intyre, Subject, "Christian Boldness." Heb. 4-16. Roll call responded to by verses of Scriptural Promises".

Offering of \$7.35 was received.

An impressive Memorial service was conducted by Mrs. Sydney Munford of Coulterville, in memory of Mrs. James Mc Clure of the Mound Mission Society, Miss Lucetta Hughes and Mrs. Anthony Carr of Sparta, Mrs. Dave Curry and Mr. Samuel James of the Coulterville congregation (the latter being an honorary member) who since our last meeting have past to their reward, we miss them sadly but we feel that our loss is their gain.

A letter written by Miss Calla Turner was read by Mrs. Rev. Stewart. A reading by Mrs. Duncan entitled "Is it Nothing to You." Miss Ramsey's report of her work in Los Angeles was full and interesting. (we hope to have it published in our church

paper, so that all may share in the joy of knowing that souls are being saved.)

Thank offering service was conducted by Mrs. S.H. Wasson
Received from Sparta, \$26.80. Concord \$16.80. Coulterville
\$28.00. Los Angeles \$5.00. Total T. Offering \$76.60.

A paper by Mrs. Benson of Republican City, Subject—"Our Mission Work" was good and certainly showed a spirit for the work. Rev. Paul Duncan gave a short talk giving a few pointers on the candidates for President. Rev. R. Stewart spoke of the present day evils, which was timely and to the point.

Nominating committee reported for President, Mrs. Robt. Copeland, Coulterville.

Vice-President Miss Margaret Smiley, Sparta, Recording Secretary, Mrs. D. M. Reid, Sparta, Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. P. W. Duncan, Coulterville, Treasurer Mrs. Charles Hood, Sparta.

Credentials reported from Sparta 17. Cutler 8. Coulterville 9. Auditing reported, books examined and found correct.

Resolution Committee reported:—

RESOLUTIONS

Whereas, through the kind providence of our dear Heavenly Father, we have been permitted to assemble for the forty-first annual meeting of the Woman's Presbyterial Missionary Society of the Western Presbytery, be it resolved:—

1. That we are indeed grateful and do render due thanks to God Almighty for his unending goodness and care over us since we last met in a similar capacity.

2. That since this is a critical year politically each woman feel her necessity and obligation to vote for and support only those candidates who are absolutely loyal to our laws and the enforcement of them as well as for a Protestant executive in the White House.

3. That since it has seemed good to our divine Leader to remove from our Presbyterial ranks some of our faithful workers, we so order our lives that when the call comes we, too, may be ready realizing that in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

4. That we wish to express to the members of the Concord Missionary society our appreciation of their splendid loyalty in continuing as an organization until the meeting of this Pres-

byterial, even though their congregation had previously disbanded, and, we also, commend them for their perseverance with hope that we may still have the privilege of working with them in the low their example and press forward although, perhaps in the mission cause. Due to their zeal be it resolved that we too face of difficulties, with renewed courage.

Furthermore that we extend a hearty vote of thanks to the Concord society and to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dickey for their kind hospitality on this occasion

Respectfully submitted
Resolutions committee

Mrs. Paul Duncan
Miss Nettie Mc William
Mrs. Joseph Gilmore
Miss Margaret Smiley

A motion made and unanimously carried that the members of our Presbyterial Society continue Miss Ramsey as a Mission worker in Los Angeles, and that we increase her salary to \$200.00 per year. Adjourned by singing Ps. 72-17 to close and Benediction by Rev. Duncan.

Mrs. Walter Ervin, President
Mrs. D. C. Fullerton, Secretary

TO THE W. P. M. S. OF THE WESTERN PRESBYTERY

Dear Sisters:—

A letter from Mrs. R. W. Stewart, of Sparta, informs me the Presbyterial is to meet August 31st., and asking for another letter from me giving a report of my work during the past year.

Well, Los Angeles congregation and Sabbath School are still on the map.

As you know, the Home Mission Board and Synod decided at their meeting last May to discontinue the work here and made no appropriation for this year; but we have not yet received closing orders from our Heavenly Father, the work is his, we are awaiting His orders; and are continuing the work, giving to it all the time and energy we can; and trusting Him, to whom all the gold and silver belongs, to provide for us financially. He has done so in such wonderful ways many times during the years we have been in the field, that we know we can still trust Him to care for us.

As long as He is giving us as many souls as He is to work for, it does not seem as though His time has come to abandon the work.

We are not in the with a desire to make money, and never have been. That is the least of our thots. All we ask is a comfortable living. Our great desire is to work for our Saviour, who has done so much for us, and to bring honor and glory to His name by helping to advance His Kingdom here on earth.

We feel thankful every day that He is allowing us to work for Him, even in a small way. Many times have we thanked Him for this field of labor, and for our little church in Los Angeles.

We are sorry results have not been greater, but we have tried to do our best with the limitations we have had.

I feel sure the true results of your work, and of ours here, will not be known until we reach the Heavenly Home.

We still have the church property, which belongs to the Los Angeles Congregation, with the exception of a mortgage for \$2300. which the Board of Church Extension holds; and also a note for a small amount held by one of the members, which we had to borrow last year to help meet our heavy street assessment.

We would be glad to pay off the mortgage to the Board of Church Extension at once, if we were able; but unless the Lord provides for this in some unexpected way, we do not see how we can until the property is sold. We have a very valuable property, which we think in a few years will bring a good sum; but if sold now, would have to be sold at a sacrifice.

As long as we have the property and the Lord is sending us children and people to work for, it seems as tho it is His plan that we should continue the work; and if it is, we know He will provide for us.

The church has been open every Sabbath during the past year, and Sabbath School held regularly, Most of the Sabbaths father has preached, riding a distance of eighteen miles to do so.

His health was much better last winter than the winter before, for which we were very thankful. That also gave me more time to devote to the work.

He seems to want to continue preaching as long as he has strength to do so. I am thankful he still has this little church in which he can work for the Master, to whom he dedicated his life many years ago, and where he can still proclaim the glad message of salvation.

If he is spared till next April, he will have rounded out sixty

years in the ministry; which surely, is no mean record of faithful service.

At present there are 57 enrolled in the regular school, 7 babies in the Cradle Roll Dept. and 20 in the Home Dept. making 84 in all departments of the school.

Quite a few new scholars have come in this summer; some only stayed a few weeks and then moved on to another locality; while others we hope will be with us longer.

This of course is one of the discouragements in the work. I work hard and find new scholars, and many of them are with us only a few weeks or months; but we have the promise that God's Word shall not return to Him void; so I feel if we faithfully and prayerfully teach His Word every Sabbath, even those, who are only with us a short time, will receive a blessing.

On the other hand, we have a number, who have been with us for years, some are just growing up in the school. These are the ones who really appreciate the school, and what is being done for them; and from their parents I often receive hearty thanks for what the school is doing for their children.

Our attendance this year has been rather higher than for one or two years past, and is keeping up unusually well during the summer, which I hope means we will have an increased attendance during the fall and winter months.

The work in some ways, is really harder than when we came to Los Angeles over 28 years ago.

Then there were many more children available for our school; but the neighborhood has changed quite a little, more Catholics have moved in, and business is gradually creeping in also; but still there is need for some one to look after the children who are in the neighborhood. I find other churches are having the same experience.

We have six classes in the school at present. Beginners, Primary, Juniors, Boy's Intermediate, Girl's Intermediate and Senior. I am still superintendent of the school, and teacher of the Boy's Intermediate class. Two of our girls raised in the school, are teaching the Beginners and Primary classes. During the summer we have had to combine the Junior and Girl's Intermediate classes. Miss Caskey our faithful teacher from our Covenanter brethren is teaching both of them. And Mr. Crockett from the same church is teaching the Senior. I don't

know how we would get along without the help of these faithful teachers. Our Primary class is the largest just now. There were fifteen in it last Sabbath. The first of October I expect to rearrange the classes, and a number of the Primaries will be advanced to the Junior Department.

For the past few months I have been spending a half hour or more, just before Sabbath School opens, Sabbath morning, calling for children, and bringing them to the church in my auto. There are a number of little ones, whose parents do not like to trust them to come alone. These I call for regularly; then I often call for new ones the first Sabbath. Last Sabbath I called for ten. My auto is also quite a help in making calls, as I can make so many more, in a short time, than I could when I had to walk everyplace. Last spring the teachers decided to try having a decision day in the school this fall, when an opportunity will be given the scholars to decide for Christ. We are working up to it in our opening and closing exercises each Sabbath, and also in our classes. We are praying that the Holy Spirit will lead many of them to choose Christ as their Master and Saviour.

This year we are using the National Line of Monthly Attendance cards. There are different cards for each month in the year; all Bible scenes with Bible verses. On the back of the card is a place for the names of the pupil, the School, the superintendent and the teacher, also the month and year. A seal is placed on the card for every Sabbath during the month that the pupil is present on time—when they are tardy, no seal is given for that day. If they are tardy every Sabbath during the month, no card is given for that month. If they bring their Bible every Sabbath during the month, a silver star is placed on the card, if they read their Bible every day during the month, a gold star is also given, and if their behavior is good, a red star is given. These cards are given out the first Sabbath of each month for the preceeding month. We are still using the Cross and Crown attendance pins. We think they help to keep the attendance more regular, as they cannot receive a pin with out coming regularly for thirteen Sabbaths unless they are sick, or away from

home and attend another Sabbath School. After they receive the gold pin, the gold wreath and bars are only given for a years perfect attendance. We have one young boy who is now working for his third bar, and one girl for her second bar. She went north last week with her parents on an auto trip. She said she would attend Sabbath School each of the three Sabbaths she was away, if she was any where near one. I suggested, if she was not, mother and she might have a little Sabbath School of their own, and study the lesson together. She is one of our most faithful girls, both in the school, and Mission Band. I can always depend on Dorothy being present, and doing well whatever is given her to do.

Thanksgiving the school sent food to two poor families, and to a children's Home in theneighborhood.
to a children's Home in the neighborhood.
gingerbread and apples, also papers and Thanksgiving cards on which the Mission Band children had written Bible verses.

We had our usual New Year exercises Thursday night before New Years. It was a rainy night, but we had a very good attendance for the night. The children gave two little missionary pageants, and an exercise on the books of the Bible, besides, a few single pieces and songs. Over a dozen books were given for attending forty Sabbaths, or over, during the year, and a box of candy to each child. The children brot their white gifts, which were given to a needy family in the neighborhood.

December is always a very busy month for me, as it takes a lot of thot and work to plan and carry out these exercises, and train the children. I have no one to take any of the responsibility or help me, excepting, what help the children can give.

The Mission Band meets every other Saturday. We have our devotional and missionary hour, and the rest of the time we spend making things for our box, which goes to India in October. I wish you could see some of the pretty scarfs some of the girls are knitting for this box this year.

One little girl nine years old is knitting one. They are also making scrap books, dolls, and books out of left over Sabbath

School papers, coloring posters, etc.

I entertained the Mission Band out here the first Saturday of August. They came on the nine o'clock car, and stayed till after five. We had our devotional hour, then worked on our missionary things till twelve; then father took them for a little walk, while I set the table out on the porch and finished getting lunch ready. We took a long walk thru the canyon during the afternoon. They seemed to thoroughly enjoy the day. Our Missionary society is still held the first Thursday of each month in connection with our weekly prayer meeting and Bible study class. These meetings have been attended rather better than usual, especially since the beginning of 1928. The lady I referred to in my last report, who has lived next door to the church for a number of years, and has a sick husband, attends whenever she can and seems to be an earnest seeker for the truth. We are all busy in our spare moments making things for our Missionary box. We have nearly two dozen little flannelett jackets made, and all who can knit are knitting scarfs. We are so happy that we can make these things for our sisters in India and their children, and thus bring cheer into their lives at the holiday season; and also help our dear Mrs. Taylor a little in her busy life.

One of our Home Department members has been sick and confined to her home over eighteen months now. She is the mother of four children, all of whom used to be in our Sabbath School, until they moved to another part of the city too far away to attend regularly. I found the family in the neighborhood of the church about twelve years ago; and have kept in touch with them ever since. For a few months the mother was so ill no one but the family was allowed to see her. For over a year now she has been able to see her friends, most of the time confined to bed. The last time I was over I found her walking around the house some.

Since she has been able to see people I have tried to visit her once a month, if possible. She lives eleven miles from our home out here. . . **I always read the Bible and pray with her.** I am glad to tell you this sickness has brot her to the Savior. She has had a great deal of trouble in her family life. For years she has been a firm believer in prayer; but she is trusting now as never before, and reading and studying her Bible daily; and it is becoming more precious to her all the time.

Several times, with tears running down her cheeks, she has said she could not tell me how she appreciated what I had done

for her and the last time she added you have been as a rod and staff to me all thru these twelve years, standing by me and leading me, until now I have found the true Rod and Staff" I only mention this, not because of anything I have done, but that you may share the joy it brought to my heart; for you have helped me to stand by her, and this is some of the fruit of our work together in Los Angeles, which the Heavenly Father is permitting us to see.

During July I enjoyed the special treat of attending the World's Sunday School Convention, as a delegate from our little school. The sessions I could not attend I tried to share my ticket with some of the others. It was quite an inspiration to see so many Christians gathered together from all over the world in the interest of religious education among our children, young people and adults, and to hear how the work is being carried on in other lands, as well as our own.

It seems to me the work here becomes more interesting every year; and I am happy that the Heavenly Father is pleased to use me even in a small way in His service.

I thank Him every week that I still have our little church to work in. I do not like to think of the day when its doors may be closed. I had hoped that I might be able to carry on the Sabbath school. I had hoped that I might be able to carry on the Sabbath school for Him in the church, which I love—the church of my father's—We are leaving it all in our Heavenly Father's Hands, asking Him to guide us, and show us just what His Will is.

My life is devoted to His service to be used wherever He sees best.

I thank you for your continued interest and prayers the past year, as well as during all the years we have labored in this field. You have done much to help and cheer us in the work, and you will share in the reward.

Since last September I have received \$80.00 from the Presbyterial, through your Treasurer, Mrs. Paul Duncan; also \$10.00 from Mrs. Brown of Culter. I thank you most sincerely for this support. I also received as a Thanksgiving gift \$19.00 from the Coulterville Society and willing workers Sunday School Class, and \$12.50 from the Sparta Society, and a shower of post cards and messages from both. I sent a personal letter of thanks to each of these societies; but I desire again, through this letter, to thank them for these kind gifts, and all the sweet

messages of love and cheer they sent me; all of which were deeply appreciated by both father and myself.

Different Sabbath School Classes, and C. E. societies have also sent gifts of money, during the past year, to be used in the work. All these have been very helpful and much appreciated. Wishing you great success in all your work for the Master, and a good meeting of the Presbyterial on the 31st.

I remain Your Sincere Friend

Martha J. Ramsey

August 22, 1928

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following have paid \$1. each for the Advocate unless otherwise indicated.

Miss Bessie Henry, Center, Kan. Miss Anna Pollock, Marissa, Ill. S. L. Robb, Coulterville, Ill. \$2. Lester B. McIntyre, Sparta, Ill. Dr. E. E. Paul, St. Louis, Mo. S. A. Duncan, New Galilee, Pa. R. A. Liddle, Moore Maconaghy, \$2. Duanesburgh, N. Y. Rev. Carl Voss, Delanson, N. Y. Henry Elliott, Phil. Pa

REPORT OF THE WESTERN PRESBYTERY

The following report is an interesting one as a matter of history

To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church the Western Presbytery would respectfully report:

That the Western Presbytery, since their last report to the Synod, have held two regular meetings of Presbytery, and one called meeting. At the called meeting on Jan. 30, 1857. Mr. Nelson K. Crow, having accepted calls from the Congregations of Unity and Hill Prairie, and being found qualified for the office was, by prayer and imposition of the hands of the Presbytery, set apart to the office of the Gospel Ministry, and installed as pastor over the congregations of Unity and Hill Prairie. In his fields of labor, since his settlements, the prospects of success have been quite encouraging.

During the course of the last winter, a call was made from the Grand Cote congregation upon Mr. Matthew McBride, and forwarded to the Philadelphia Presbytery, under whose care he was, that action might be had upon it. We have notofficially

heard the result, but have understood privately that the call was not accepted. Grand Cote congregation must, therefore, for the present, remain without a pastor. We have also three other organized congregations without a settled minister over them, and who look to the Presbytery for the dispensation of ordinances amongst them. In the distribution of supplies we would respectfully ask from Synod our proportion of such aid as may be at the disposition of General Synod.

During the past year, the condition of Rev. H. A. McKelvey, who in our last report we stated had been laid aside from the work of the ministry, in consequence of a bronchial affection, has not much improved. He was not present at our recent meeting of Presbytery, but reported to us by letter. He was then on his way with his family to Minnesota, where, from the pure and bracing air of that northern territory, he will seek a connection with the Chicago Presbytery, and prove a useful laborer again in the ministry of the Gospel. In his letter, communicating with Presbytery, he stated that the heirs of his father, who deceased during the past year, had agreed to donate for the endowment of the Theological Seminary \$500.00, in their father's name, on the following conditions, as stated in an extract from his letter; "The amount of \$500.00, donated by the heirs of my father, one of whom is now deceased, will be given to the Theological Seminary available Jan. 1, 1860, on the following conditions, viz: That the Seminary of the Reformed Presbyterian Church be permanently endowed to the amount of \$20,000 at least: that the donors, or any of them surviving, on the behalf of Charles McKelvey, deceased (formerly of Sparta, Randolph Co, Illinois), have the power of withdrawing this amount (\$500), and giving another direction to it, should said Seminary of the Reformed Presbyterian Church cease to teach and adhere to all the doctrines and truths contained in the Confession of Faith. Catechisms, Larger and Shorter, and Reformation Principles Exhibited. We wish this bequest to be in the name of our venerable and departed father." By order of Presbytery, this matter is thus brought to the attention of Synod. -----

Mr. Charles McKelvey mentioned as the originator of the

Theological Endowment Fund has four Grand Children living in Sparta, Mr. Elmer McKelvey an elder in the U. P. Church, his sister Miss Lyde McKelvey, Mr. Charles McKelvey and Mrs. Mabel Clendenin.

Rev. Hugh A. McKelvey a son of Charles McKelvey was pastor at the Walnut Hills Reformed Presbyterian Church, now the Romine U. P. Church; there are four students from there in Cedarville College this year.

Rev. Charles McKelvey Ritchie, D. D. a grandson of the above Charles McKelvey has just recently been called to the Chair of Homiletics in the Cedarville Theological Seminary.

CEDARVILLE COLLEGE

The thirty-fifth year of Cedarville College began September 12. The opening exercises were held in the Chapel at 9:30 A. M. The devotions were led by President McChesney. The Rev. R. A. Jamieson read the Scriptures, and the Rev. C. M. Ritchie led in prayer. Mrs. Walter Corry, Assistant in the Department of Music, sang a solo. She was accompanied by Miss Berkley, the Director of the Department of Music. Miss Berkley also had charge of the devotional singing. The address of the day was given by the President of the College. The chapel was crowded with students and friends. One hundred and seventy-four students registered in all departments. Seven other students have come in since, making the total enrollment one hundred and eighty-one. The indication is that the attendance will reach more than two hundred through the year.

Miss Ruth L. Brown, A. B., A. M., a graduate of Oberlin College, succeeds Bertha Dolby. Miss Brown teaches English and Mathematics. Miss Lydia A. Berkley, B. M., M. M. succeeds John A. Talcott as Director of Music. Miss Berkley is a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory and of Hiram Conservatory. Mr. Otto W. Kuehrman, B. S. succeeds Martin L. Fraser in Science. Mr. Kuehrman is a graduate of Purdue University and Butler University. Miss Virginia Parry, A. B., A. M. succeeds Miss Abigail Bristow in the Department of Education.

Miss Parry is a graduate of Columbia University and of Ohio State University. Miss Bristow, A. B., A. M., succeeds Frieda Chapman as Director of Teacher Training. Mr. C. W. Steele, A. B., a graduate of Terra Haute State Normal College, succeeds Dorothy Julien in the Department of Sociology and Economics.

The Y. M. C. A. gave a reception to the lady students and members of the faculty on the opening day in Carnegie Library. The Y. M. C. A. gave a reception the following Tuesday in the gymnasium to the students and members of the faculty. The Presbyterian Church gave a reception to the students and faculty September 27. The Epworth League of the Methodist Church gave a reception October 23, to the faculty and students.

The football season opened September 29 with a game between Antioch College and Cedarville College on the Antioch field. On October 6 Rio Grande College played Cedarville College on the home field. On October 13 Cedarville College and Kentucky Wesleyan played on the latter's field. On October 20, Cedarville College and Wilmington College met each other on the Wilmington field. Cedarville College thus far has lost all games. Its team is made up practically of new men. They have the game to learn. All the teams against which they have gone have been heavier in weight.

The class work and decorum of the students are very commendable. Altogether, it is about the best in the history of the college.

Miss Harriet L. Ritchie, a life-long member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and who recently departed this life in New York City, left a bequest of several thousand dollars to Cedarville College. The college will get possession of this bequest in the near future. Thus this estimable lady perpetuates her service and memory in the Master's Cause.

At its recent meeting, Pittsburgh Presbytery passed a resolution of cordial greetings and best wishes to the faculty and students of Cedarville College with assurances of continued prayers and financial support. For a number of years this Presbytery has in this manner cheered the workers of Cedarville Col-

lege and we hold them in loving gratitude.

With best wishes for all the ministers and Congregations of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, I am,

Yours sincerely,
W. R. McChesney

OUR THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The one hundred and twentieth year of our theological seminary opened September 17 with seven students enrolled, namely: Howard Flatter, Bertran Fleming, Newton Mantle, Clair Mcneel, Myron McDonald, Ellis Rowsey, and Edward Wones. The professors are: W. R. McChesney, Dean, Systematic Theology, F. A. Jurkat, Secretary, Church History, and Biblical Literature, and Greek, Rev. C. M. Ritchie takes the place of Rev. S. M. Ingmire in teaching Homiletics. The attendance has been increased by four over that of last year and the interest in the work is marked.

Yours sincerely,
W. R. McChesney

OBITUARY

Thomas M. Stewart, aged 84 years, of Little Beaver twp., former superintendent of schools of Lawrence county, and one of the foremost educators of his time in Western Pennsylvania, passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Loyal W. Gilkey, of North Beaver twp., Thursday afternoon, September 13, after a brief illness. Mr. Stewart's death was the result of a stroke which he suffered about a week ago. Previous to his sudden illness he had been in his usual health. On account of his advanced age very little hope was entertained for his recovery. He was born in Little Beaver township September 23, 1844, on the farm where he had lived all his life. He was the son of James and Martha Taylor Stewart, pioneers of that community. In 1896 he was selected superintendent of schools of Lawrence county, serving two terms, being re-elected in 1899. Previous to his becoming superintendent he had been a teacher in the public schools of the county for about 30 years. Mr. Stewart had always taken a deep interest in the educational wel-

fare of the schools of Lawrence county. His influence on the lives of the pupils with whom he came in contact made a lasting impression. For many years Mr. Stewart had been a faithful member of White Reformed Presbyterian church near New Galilee. Since his retirement as an educator, he has been engaged in farming. Surviving him are the following children: John Q. Stewart of Medford, Oregon; Mrs. Mary Shannon and Mrs. Grace Gilkey, of North Beaver twp., and Mrs. Martha Leslie, of Little Beaver twp. He also leaves eight grandchildren. His wife preceded him in death in August, 1927. Funeral services were conducted from the residence of L. W. Gilkey on Saturday, September 15, at 2 p.m., owing to the feeble health of the deceased's pastor, Rev. Alexander Savage. Rev. Robert Hamill, pastor of the Mt. Jackson United Presbyterian church, had charge of the services, assisted by Rev. Savage, Rev. Henderson and Rev. H. Davidson, pastor of the Enon Valley Presbyterian church. Beautiful floral pieces banked the casket showing high esteem and expressing sympathy. The pallbearers were the three sons-in-law, namely: James Shannon, Alex Leslie and Loyal Gilkey and three nephews, Charles, George and Roy Stewart. Interment was in the White church cemetery.

Mrs. Jane Mc Nutt was born in Springfield, Donegal, Ireland. She came to America, and was married to William Mc Nutt, on August 17th, 1887. She was raised in the Episcopal Church until the time of her marriage, at which time she joined the Fourth Reformed Presbyterian Church, her husband having already been a member of said Church. She continued a loyal and devoted member of that body until the disaffection of that congregation when she, with a respectable minority, formed the Seventh Reformed Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, being one of the Charter Members. She was faithful in her duties to the Church. After some months of suffering she passed away from the scenes of her suffering and trials on August 16th, 1928. The funeral took place from her family residence 2012 Titan Street, on August 20th, 1928. In the absence of the Pastor (Rev. R. Montgomery,) the services were conducted by Mr. James Renwick Jackson. Interment in Mt. Moriah Cemetery.

Without a doubt she loved her Church, and all its members. It grieved her very much that she was unable to attend all the services regularly on account of her sickness. Not only in life did she love the Church, but at her death remembered it in her will. She is survived by her step-son (Thomas H. Mc Nutt) who was very devoted to her, and by her sister and brother. To the family of our departed sister and fellow member we tender our united and individual sympathy in their bereavement.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS

December 9, 1928

Topic: "How Should a Christian's Christmas be Different?" Luke 2:15; 2 Cor. 2:15.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

If we hear the angel's message our Christmas will be different, sending us on a new mission (Luke 2:15).

New truths should always drive us to DO something. They change us. So does Christ when He comes to us (Luke 2:15).

Do we, like the shepherds, really want to see and understand the meaning of Christmas? It is an endless, glorious study (Luke 2:15).

The Christian has received for his Christmas present the richest gift on earth—Christ himself—and that transforms his life (2 Cor. 9: 15).

The World's Christmas is material, concerned with material things, the Christian's is spiritual, concerned with Christ and His service.

Our Christmas should be unselfish, so that we look not for presents but for opportunities to bring a ray of sunshine into darkened lives. It is for us to find how.

The Christian's Christmas is different in its motive. Its driving force is love to Christ. Its aim is to bring to others the Christ-spirit, and not merely material things.

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

1. How can we make every day different from the worldlings days?
2. What are some of the things that spoil Christmas?
3. Why does money count for little at Christmas?

December 16, 1928

Topic: "God's Christmas Gift to the World". Luke 2: 1-16.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

God's Gift came at the right time, when the Roman Empire had conquered the world, thus paving the way for the spread of the gospel (v. 1)

God's Gift has never been fully appreciated. There is still no room for Him in many hearts (v. 7)

Poor men first get the news of heaven's greatest Gift. It is the hungry that are fed, the needy that are willing to be helped (v. 8).

God's greatest Gift is a Man, Son of God in human form, sublime Personality. Compared with Manhood all material gifts fade away (v. 11).

When an artist's pupil was asked to try to paint a sunset, she replied, "I cannot paint glory." How can we ever paint Christ?

God's gift of His Son to the world had many purposes: to be a Saviour; to reveal God: to show us how to live; to conquer death and give hope of immortality.

God's Gift is personal—to us. It is a Gift, free, only to be accepted, not worked for. It is a gift of love divine that we make our own.

God's Gift is peculiar in that the more we share it the more we have of it. It grows by being given away. No one knows Christ who keeps Him to himself. Speak of Him and know Him better.

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

1. Why is Christ spoken of as a Gift?
2. How has Christ helped us to change our lives?
3. How does God offer His Son to us today?

December 23, 1928

Topic "Worshiping Christ in Story and Song". Luke 2: 1-16.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The lowly origin of Jesus, His birth in a stable, His cradle a manger, have been made the subject of many lessons (v. 7).

the story of Christmas was first told to poor men, sheperds, engaged in their work. God comes to those in the path of duty (v.8).

Christ was familiar with the supernatural. He talked with Moses and Elias. Angels ministered unto Him. He brings us into touch with heaven (v.10).

Christmas is the song, not of the warrior, the hero, but of the child; a song of kindness and love (v.13).

Christmas should sing in our hearts. If it does not, then other songs will not help us.

The Christmas story should be repeated in our own lives, Christ should be born in us, live in us, praise God in us, and serve through us.

One of the greatest Christmas poems is "A visit from St. Nicholas," by Clement C. Moore, beginnig " 'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house." Read and comment on it.

"The Christmas Carol," by Dickens, embodies in a beautiful and touching way the spirit of Christmas. Read parts of the story in the meeting.

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

1. What is your favorite Christmas Song?
2. How can we best honor Christ?
3. Why is Christmas a time of Song?

December 30, 1928

Topic: "Learning from Experience". Eccl. 1:16-18; Psa. 37:35

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Experience is valuable only as we think it over and draw lessons from it (v. 16).

We have opportunity enough these days to "know madness and folly." It is all around us ; and we see the bitter fruits of it (v. 17).

In wisdom is grief, it is true, for then we shall be able to see, without being able to prevent, the inevitable results of people's folly (v.18).

David's experience is general. This is the rule, but there are exceptions to it, as the book of Job teaches us. It is good to have a faith that remains strong even in poverty and pain (Ps. 37:25).

Life is God's school of experience. Some learn quickly, some slowly, some not at all, but continue to make the same mistakes again and again.

The proverbs teach us that it is well to learn from the experience of others. Why become a drunkard to find out the effect of alcohol on character? Others have tried.

A Spanish proverb says, "He drives nails with his head," meaning that a person is obstinate, will not learn from experience.

The Prodigal son learned something from his experience, but his experience has not kept others from trying the delights of the far country. That is because we are slow and stupid.

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

1. What has the Past Year Taught You?
2. What have you noticed from the experience of others?
3. What happy experience have you had during the Past Year?

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