

The Sabbath Recorder.

PUBLISHED BY GEORGE R. UTTER. "THE SEVENTH DAY IS THE SABBATH OF THE LORD THY GOD." TERMS—\$2.50 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE. VOLUME XXIV.—NO. 43. WESTERLY, R. I., FIFTH DAY, OCTOBER 22, 1868. WHOLE NO. 1244.

The Sabbath Recorder.

On a many green, south-western slope of a hill,
On the verdant banks of a murmuring stream,
When the apple tree blooms full in showers,
And the dew-drops glisten on the grass,
A peaceful, lovely old home, where the heart
Could find rest,
Faded by life's heavy burdens
Oppressed.

There the house-mother span with her daughter,
And the father toiling at home or away,
At night, at night, he would sit with a book,
And read to her the words of the Lord,
How the Sabbath was to be kept,
How the Sabbath was to be kept,
How the Sabbath was to be kept,
How the Sabbath was to be kept.

THE SABBATH TRACT SOCIETY.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The following is the resolution which was passed by the Lost Creek Church, March 13th, 1868:

"Whereas, the labors of the Lecturing Agent of the American Baptist Tract Society, A. H. Lewis, are thus far highly appreciated by us; therefore—

Resolved, That we return thanks to Almighty God, and to the Society among us, and that we will try, so far as God may give, the ability, to contribute to the aid of the Society, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by our clerk to said Society."

The following is Eld. Lewis' report for the quarter ending June 30th:

"The opening of the quarter found me just returned from West Virginia, as shown in my last report. The month of April was consumed in looking after the printing of new editions of tracts, (the depository was empty,) writing for the press, distributing tracts through the mail, &c. On the last of April, I removed my family to Alfred Center, which place I decided upon as my future headquarters. Most of the information from members of the Board indicated that the previous general instructions, to visit the 2d Brookfield and Berlin (N. Y.) churches, were varied, and I was left to conduct a field of operations until the session of the Eastern Association. Under the advice of Eld. N. V. Hull, I at once decided to visit the scattered brethren in Erie and Niagara counties, N. Y. Going first to Alden, Erie Co., where there are twelve of our Sabbath-keepers, the remainder of the Sabbath, I preached to them on Sabbath, the 16th, and by request, in the Baptist Church on the 17th. The use of the church for a Sabbath School was granted, although there were a number of pressing calls from other places, and therefore instructed the Agent to visit that field as soon as practicable after the first of July.

"Agreeable to your request, I herewith send you a report of my labors for the last two months.

In answer to an urgent call from the brethren at Lost Creek, West Virginia, as instructed by the Board, I left home on the 9th of July, and arrived at Lost Creek on the 10th. The interest on the question of the Sabbath had increased and widened itself, and my former visit to the Sabbath Reformers on the evening of the 13th and 19th. The attendance was good, and the attention earnest. Tracts were eagerly taken. I have since learned that the interest continued to increase, and have been repeatedly urged to return, and continue my labors in that place, and thus far prevented by a press of other calls.

Going from Alden to Clarence, via Buffalo, I spent a day in the latter place, visiting three or four Sabbath-keepers who reside there. I made an effort to procure a place in which to lecture, but failed. H. F. Burdick, who resides there, is very instrumental in awakening a unusual interest among the clergymen of Buffalo, through means of a "Minister's Meeting," of which he is a member. A supply of tracts for the clergymen and others, to be distributed by Bro. Burdick, as opportunity may offer.

On the 21st, went to Clarence, and learning that Rapids, (the seat of the Pentecost Church,) eight miles beyond, had been designated as a place to lecture, I proceeded to that place, and on Sabbath, the 23d, preached, morning and evening, to a good congregation, made up of Sabbath-keepers and others. On the 24th, returned to Clarence, and preached to some at 4 P. M., and lectured in the evening at the Pentecost Church at Rapids on the 25th. I lectured in the evening, and again on the evening of the 26th. The attendance was good, and the interest, as at other points, of that earnest type which causes the heart to beat with joy, and the soul to be filled with the love of God. There are at Clarence but few Sabbath-keepers; where once but a strong church. At Rapids, there are about five, and more than could attend. There has been no regular Sabbath services at either of these points visited, since the close of the labors of Eld. A. A. Lewis on that field in 1862. The field needs a constant, earnest presence, such as one, who might do much to build up the cause of truth at this point. Many of the people are firm in their Sabbath-keeping principles, and would contribute liberally to the support of the cause.

Returning home, I preached to the students of Alfred University, on the 31st, and the morning after, in accordance with your instructions, left home to attend the sessions of the Eastern Association, at Plainfield, N. J. It may be sufficient to say, that I attended the sessions of the Eastern Association, and Western Association, during the successive weeks, during the month of August, and a spirit of earnestness, and a willingness to receive, and to be present, was given; and for the promotion of the claims of the Society, and the cause of the Sabbath, was the result. The members of the Sabbath-keepers on the part of the Sabbath-keepers, were earnestly discussed, and I am glad to believe, and to hope, that the Western Association, held on the 31st of August, and the Eastern Association, held on the 31st of August, were the most successful in the history of the Society.

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Sabbath-breaking. On the evening of the 28th, by request, I preached the Annual Sermon before the Young People's Christian Union of Alfred University. The closing days of the month were spent in attending the commencement exercises of the University. The 31st and 1st of September last week were devoted to the preparation of an article for the *Recorder*. Last Sabbath I preached to the 2d Alfred Church on Sabbath-breaking, by these factories and other-wise. Yesterday, through the kindness of Eld. Hull, I was permitted to speak to a first-day committee about seven miles west of this place, in review of Rev. Mr. Armstrong, who spoke to the same audience one week before. Eld. Hull has spoken twice on the Sabbath to the same people, within a few weeks, and the communication is thought to have been of our people reside there, and hope for good to the cause of truth.

There are now on hand direct calls from Lost Creek, Western Virginia, and from Berlin, West Virginia, and from Cussewago, in Pennsylvania, for immediate labor at these points; also, indirect calls from Dundaff and Smithport, Pa., and from other points. The work develops with rapidity, and the people show real interest to hear and know, and to receive the truth. We need more prayer, more consecration. The harvest is ripe, and we are not ready.

I beg leave to urge upon the attention of the Board, the necessity of taking measures to insure, either through the Annual Report or otherwise, a thorough consultation, at the coming Anniversary, concerning our denominational work, and the best means of carrying on a summary of my labors about the following results:

Preached and lectured	28 times
Traveled about	1,700 miles
Distributed about	25,000 pp. tracts.

All of which is respectfully and prayerfully submitted."

In the latter part of May, a petition was received, bearing date Lost Creek, West Virginia, May 10th, 1868, signed by twenty-eight of the brethren there, asking that the Lecturing Agent be sent again upon that field. It represented that there was pressing need of more labor in that section, that the prospect for good results was never brighter, that two persons had embraced the Sabbath since the Agent left, and many others were halting between two opinions, and that the subject was being agitated outside our own people, and that this had been brought about by the labors of Eld. Lewis when there. The Board were of the opinion that this petition should be granted, although there were a number of pressing calls from other places, and therefore instructed the Agent to visit that field as soon as practicable after the first of July.

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case helped the cause of truth. For instance, Eld. Garrett, an elderly man, and the acknowledged champion of the Baptist denomination in that part of West Virginia, said, in his own church, at Broad Run, that he found no authority for the change of the Sabbath in the New Testament, and that he accepted it on the example of the observance of a seventh part of time meets the demands of the Sabbath law. He also advised the people to listen and read, and accept the truth, as they found being thus thoroughly aroused, and to think and investigate. Our own people are awake, and impressed with the importance of the work, and cannot fail to defend the cause as an association may demand.

The second visit was made by the brethren on the field, under the conviction that the more they saw of the cause, the more they would be able to defend. After laboring as above reported, I am fully satisfied that God has led in the matter, and that the great visit has been blessed of him, and that he will look after the results. The presence of delegates from the West Virginia churches, and their counsels, will doubtless serve to bring other points more fully before the Society at its coming session, and I trust that the earnest desire which our brethren in West Virginia feel for a complete and harmonious union and concert of action with the body of the Seventh-day Baptist denomination, has been much increased, through the blessing of God, upon the labors of your Agent; which thing alone was payment enough for all that has been done.

I cannot close without expressing my conviction that God has signally blessed the work of the Society in the West Virginia field. I confidently expect increased returns in the conversion of others during the coming months, and I trust that the seed sown will bear a far fuller and richer harvest in years to come, and in eternity. Let praying brethren remember that God will be assured, brethren, that there are many there who daily remember the interests of the cause of 'Sabbath Reform' at the throne of grace.

By a reference to the accompanying statement of accounts, and to the report of the Treasurer, it will be seen that the West Virginia churches have cheerfully responded financially to the amount of \$387 13. All of which is respectfully and prayerfully submitted."

The following is Eld. Lewis' final report, dated Alfred Center, Sept. 4th, 1868:

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throughout the country. The Second Annual Report makes no mention of such labor, but that "Eld. Azor Estee had been employed as an Agent of the Society for a time, and had presented its interests so far as could be done compatible with the interest of another Society for which he was laboring." All the labor spoken of was the distribution and sale of \$95, worth of tracts. The same report says, "But little, compared with what the signs of the times seem to require, has been accomplished during the year."

The next year Samuel Davison, Alexander Campbell, and Varman Hull, were some time in the employment of the Society. The report says, "The two former have devoted their time and attention principally to the Missionary Association. The latter was employed on the 5th day of February last, and has continued his labors with but little interruption until the present time. The success of his efforts in spreading the truth in such parts as he has traveled, is very gratifying to the Board, and will be, as they doubt not, to every lover of the cause."

This question was still up in 1847, as the following extract shows: "The Board would also respectfully submit to the Society, as a question demanding consideration; the permanent employment of a suitable person as a General Agent, one who can devote his whole energies to the advancement of the objects contemplated in our organization. It is believed that in no other way can the Society have such service as its interests demand, while it will afford him, in the preparation of its issues, and in lecturing from place to place, introducing our publications to public notice, &c., most ample, and to the Society most profitable employment, and will soon and abundantly repay the denomination." Yet the amount expended in this direction that same year was only \$8, and the following year only \$9.90, the Board deciding to do nothing in the case.

In 1849, however, Wm. C. Kenyon's resolution prevailed, "that the interests of this Society require the employment of an Agent for the ensuing year to present its claims to the denomination and the public generally, and that the Board of Directors be instructed to employ a suitable person in that capacity as soon as practicable." In the same year the Board had seen the need of this kind of labor, and expended the sum of \$190 in colportage and agencies, principally in employing three students in college, viz: C. S. Titcomb, G. R. Scribner, and L. M. Cottrell, who spent vacation in the distribution of tracts, &c.

To carry out the resolution of Prof. Kenyon, Eld. Eli S. Bailey was employed by the Board, and his report shows an unusual interest in the Sabbath cause that year. He attended two conventions on the Sabbath question, one at Peterboro, and the other at Berlin, N. Y.

In 1851, "an effort was made by the Board to secure the services of a suitable person as General Agent of the Society, one who could devote his whole time to the preparation and distribution of tracts, and to lecturing upon the subject of the Sabbath. In this, however, they were unsuccessful," but L. M. Cottrell and C. A. Osgood were employed as colporteurs this and the years following.

In 1853, Hiram W. Babcock, L. M. Cottrell, Hiram F. Burdick, S. S. Griswold, and Varman Hull, spent much time in their respective fields of labor in circulating tracts, lecturing, &c. This same year Lucius Crandall spent about half of the time in traveling, lecturing, &c., for the Society. Much interest was manifested at this time, and for two or three previous years, in the cause of the Sabbath throughout the denomination. In 1854, much less was done, and in 1855 Lucius Crandall, in his report, said the following words: "It is no more reasonable to expect to advance the cause of the Sabbath by tracts, without the living preacher, than it is any other element or law of God's kingdom. While it is our duty to economize, and employ such means and agencies as will do the most execution at the least cost, I think it will be found indispensable to use the whole diversity and variety of talent in the Sabbath cause, which has been ordained for holding up the obdurate of God in the world. And yet, as there is next to nothing being contributed to carry on the work, one would be led to think the object had been forgotten."

And the Board closed their report, saying that the correctness of Eld. Crandall's expressions "can not be questioned," and "hoping that the Society, at its present meeting, may devise some means to give increased energy and efficiency to our efforts." For a few years after this, the Society did but little more than to maintain its existence. In the year 1858, but 91 cents was expended.

the true and only plan that will succeed, that they have labored for year to year for its consummation. Last year we were able to report one man who was willing to make this his life work. His labors thus far are before you.

Our history shows that without agencies very little is accomplished, comparatively, for the Sabbath cause. When the Society has done most of these means, there has been the greatest interest, and when this has been neglected, even the distribution of tracts has been small. More tracts have been distributed during the past two years, when the society was expending much in agencies, than in twice the same period without them. It is also believed that tracts are much more thoroughly read when distributed at lectures than in any other way. Therefore we adhere to the opinion, that the plan of combining the labors of the living teacher with the circulation of tracts, is the best plan that can be pursued.

CONCLUSION.

The foregoing facts are not recited to condemn former action, but to profit by it. We are all scholars indeed, if the experience of a quarter of a century shall not benefit us. We must remember, that the past is not like the present, as our denomination has greatly increased in resources. What was the standard of duty then, can be no guide now. For the past two years, the expenditures of the society have been nearly one third of the amount for the whole of the past two years. And now we are far behind our duty and privileges as a people. God is blessing us more abundantly than we had reason to hope, when we consider our own unfaithfulness to the Sabbath, and the little sacrifice we are making. Indeed, can we call it sacrifice? Who has given enough to feel it? We must do more, or die.

No part of the plan approved by the experience of so many years can be abandoned. Our march must be onward. In five years, instead of expending five hundred dollars annually, it should be as many thousands; and instead of only one man in this work, we should have ten. This is not said to please the fancy. We ought to do all this. Ours is a broad field. God bids us "go work." Let us not be like that son who said, "I go, sir," but went not. But let us, by our prayers, by our labors, and by our sacrifices, our "delight is in the law of the Lord, and that the law of His mouth is better unto us than thousands of gold and silver."

INA J. ORNDWAY, Cor. Sec. WEST EXEMPTION, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1868.

TALK OF THE LICHENS.

Far up the side of the mountain the naked rock shot up still higher. It seemed very high as you looked upward. The rock was even on its face, and was full perpendicular. Its surface were four kinds of lichens growing, and that of these least was very small, to the last, which was quite coarse and large. We sometimes see such lichens on an old fence, an old tree, or an old house. The face of the huge rock was almost covered with them. As I sat in the shadow of the mountain, waiting for my friends I gazed at the lichen, and began to wonder in my own mind what it was created for, and of what use it could be. I seemed to hear a small, crisp voice say, "Mother, how old am I?"

"Why, my child, you have just begun to live. You are only eighty years old yet."

"And how old are you?"

"I call myself young, for I am only five hundred and twenty years old."

I now listened with all my ears, for I knew the lichens were talking among themselves. I felt sure they would say more, and I took out my pencil to put down what they would say. Pretty soon I heard the same little voice say,

"Mother, I am discouraged!"

"Discouraged! at what, pray?"

"At your age! Five hundred and twenty years old, and how very small you are!"

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There is a certain myrtle tree, which grows upon the hills of the West Indies. It is called "Planchette." It is a small tree, and its leaves are very smooth and shining. It is a very beautiful tree, and its flowers are very fragrant. It is a very useful tree, and its wood is very hard and durable. It is a very common tree, and it is found in many places. It is a very interesting tree, and it is worth the notice of every traveler.

SUMMARY OF NEWS. The fruits of California are not only numerous in size, but what is only...

Mrs. Fry, of Winchester, Mass., who is now sixty years of age, started off on a journey early in the morning...

Antiquity of Brackets. The brackets of a room, or a sign of its antiquity, is a matter of some importance...

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WATERBURY'S VERMIFUGE. THE SAFEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE REMEDY FOR WORMS. PHILIP PHILLIPS' VERMIFUGE. THE SAFEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE REMEDY FOR WORMS.

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of golden butter and cans of cream from the Model Farm, saving money for the Queen.

English vs. American. Dr. Holland writes from London to the Springfield Republican about horses. He says: "In London there are three general classes of horses to be seen in the streets."

AGRICULTURAL NOTES FOR OCTOBER. In latitude south of New York, winter wheat may be put in, where the soil is in a fair state of fertility.

ODD AND ENDS. A London letter says: "Upon the lines from Manchester to Liverpool, Mr. Smith has established a railway theatre, and with a good result."

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