

SENDING MACHINE NEEDLES... THE HISTORY OF CONFERENCE... FOR SALE AT HIS OFFICE...

THE SABBATH RECORDER... LESSON PAPERS... INTERNATIONAL LESSONS...

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS AND TRACTS... AMERICAN SABBATH TRACT SOCIETY...

NATHAN'S GOD AND HIS MEMORIAL... THE SABBATH AND THE SUNDAY... THE SABBATH AND THE SUNDAY...

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of their appreciation of his "earnest laborers among them." It was with reluctance that the Board concluded to dismiss, even temporarily, these agents...

When sorrow's clouds are heaving, The heart with anguish blending, All sighs and tears are blending...

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Thus we shall effectually aid them and illustrate the truth that punctation is the life of business, as it is also the life of Christian integrity.

The preparation of lessons for the year, was done in a faithful and excellent manner, by the Sabbath-school Board of the General Conference.

Present Contributions. Balance as reported in 1876. \$4,937.50

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MATTER AND SPIRIT. Is the spirit separated from the physical body in the event of what is called death? This is a topic often referred to in Scripture, and in a very clear manner. Most of our Christian readers who are familiar with the teachings of the Bible will scarcely admit that the above question could be entertained by any Bible student claiming for himself common sense and candor. But strange as it may seem, there are some who are very zealously endeavoring to teach that the spirit is inseparable from the physical body, even in the dissolution of the body after death. Indeed, they hold that the spirit being identical with the body, being the body itself, dies and is put into the grave, there to undergo decomposition and assimilation with the common elements of the earth. This view must be repugnant even to those who advocate it; hence they endeavor to gloss it over by the softer epithets "soul sleeping" and "semi-conscious state of the soul." But such terms are a mere subterfuge when used by those who can not recognize any essential distinction between spirit and matter, soul and body. If spirit is matter, it is matter, physical matter, and is subject to all the natural conditions of matter. It may be disorganized and decomposed as readily as any other matter, and annihilated, if matter can be.

THE WORK OF THE MISSIONARY BOARD.

There has not been a time, for many years, in the history of the operations of our general Missionary Society, when contributions to its funds have been so small as during the past year, and up to the present time; while the field for labor have never been more abundant or more promising than now. These two facts, taken together, will help some of our people to understand why it is that so many of the urgent calls which are made to the Board for missionary labor, have been permitted to go unanswered. A glance at the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board, and of a special meeting, held at a subsequent date, will satisfy the thoughtful reader that the Board is trying to meet faithfully the obligations imposed upon it.

MATTER AND SPIRIT. (continued) ... I would like to ask my readers to contrast these gross and utterly false conceptions with the divine views expressed by the writers of the Bible. Take these words, "Then shall the (earth) dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return to God; who gave it." Eccl. 12: 7. In this connection, the physical body had been traced through successive stages of decline. The eye had grown dim, the voice had failed, and at length the silver bow is loosed, and the golden bowl broken. Instead of saying "then the aged man dies," the fact is expressed by the language cited, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return to God; who gave it." Nothing could more plainly indicate a separation of body and spirit at death than such language as this.

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Major Barton passed to his spirit home March 10th, 1877, at Urbana, Ohio. The song will no doubt become very popular, as the melody is beautiful and the words are well adapted to it. Price 40 cts, mailed on receipt of price. Address all orders to F. W. Helmick, Music Publisher, 50 West Hudson Street, Cincinnati, O.

Normal Institutes held in Southern Wisconsin. Normal Institutes were held with the Sabbath-schools of Southern Wisconsin according to notice, excepting at Utica, Wis. Most of the teachers there were away attending school, or engaged in teaching, so it was thought best to hold an Institute there at some more favorable time. The series of Institutes commenced with the Milton school, from there to Milton Junction, Rock River, Albion, and closed at Walworth. The going was bad, the first and last day rainy, yet the attendance was good. The Institutes were held strictly on the Normal plan, somewhat after the Chautauqua system. There were three sessions at each Institute, all together too short time for the presentation of the lessons prepared, yet as much as could be afforded under the circumstances. The congregations were formed into a class; lessons were given in Bible introduction, Bible geography, history, chronology, the evidences of the divine origin of the Scriptures, and on the work of the Sabbath-school teacher. These lessons were reviewed and drilled in. Blackboard outlines, maps, charts, and concert recitations were employed. O. U. Whitford gave lessons on the books of the Bible, their classification, original language, authors, date and place of authorship, and the different names given to the Bible. This drill discovered the fact that but few Sabbath-school teachers and scholars, and even preachers of the Word, were able to give the books of the Bible in their order, much more their authors, date, and place of writing. May we not hope that the time is not far distant when Sabbath-school teachers can do this, and even give a comprehensive outline of the contents of each book. G. J. Crandall gave lessons on "Bible geography, history, and chronology. He divided the Bible lands into four divisions, gave the countries in each, the main bodies of water, chief historical events which occurred therein, pointed out the grade of the land, and the mountains and rivers. He gave a very interesting lesson on the descriptive and physical geography of Palestine, weaving in with it Bible history. He talked as though he had really been there. He showed that he had traversed and studied the Chautauqua Palestine plat to some purpose. These lessons impressed us with the thought and fact how much better we can understand the events and teachings of the Bible when we know the physical formation of Bible countries, the cities, products, habits, manners, customs, and condition of the people in Bible times. A fine Bible chronological and historical chart was sent to E. M. Dunn, one of the conductors, by G. H. Babcock, of Plainfield, N. J., tracing time and events down from creation to the close of the New Testament canon, from 4,004 B. C. to 101 A. D., which added very to the presentation of lessons in Bible history and chronology.

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