

The Sabbath Recorder.

Published weekly, except on Sabbath days, by the Board of Christian Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, No. 117 North Second Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Subscription price, \$1.00 per annum in advance. Single copies, 10 cents.

Advertisements, 10 cents per line per week. For rates and terms, apply to the publishers.

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the great plan of man's redemption. It is reasonable to suppose that, in those days when the Jews shall have returned to Palestine, some representatives will go forth from Mount Zion with the law, and with the word of the Lord from Jerusalem, in order to instruct, still more thoroughly, the nations in the word of the Lord. This is the Lord's Messiah. "For the law shall go forth from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Micah 4: 2. In that day will their company and influence be most highly prized. "Thus saith the Lord of hosts; in those days shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you; for we have heard that God is with you." Zeck. 8: 23. The Lord has that day in his own time. E. H. M.

STABILITY OF CHARACTER. Stability is essential to the Christian character. Without it, one is fatally weak. Instability is a common trait of human character. It is the same in every age and nation. All men, however, are not alike unstable. There is more or less of weakness in the make-up of every person, but it does not develop itself in the same direction in each. It is the wisdom and duty of every one to carefully study himself and discover his weak as well as his strong points, and by every means in his power to strengthen them. Not to do this is a grave mistake. To a certain extent, it is in our own hands, and to this degree we are responsible for what we are. Our ability to work changes in our character is very great, and we can have no nobler calling, when we work in the right direction.

One should find himself fitful, making resolutions and breaking them, going forward and then backward, he should know he is in danger of breaking down, making his life a failure. In the pledges of such a one, however solemnly given, we can not trust. At the time he may mean their fulfillment, but failure is as probable, and perhaps more so.

What revelations of instability of character does the history of Israel make. At the very outset, how marked is this. They were going forward and then turning backward. But the Jews were in no otherwise peculiar in this, than that others upon them cast its rays upon those of others. Had the light that shone upon them cast its rays upon those of others, these would have been as unstable as they. Alas for poor human nature!

But even under the gospel, with all its increased light and spiritual power, what instability! Men make the most solemn professions, and give pledges of fealty to God and to duty, and yet how readily do they break them. When making these promises and giving these pledges, they act from a sense of duty, and doubtless mean to do as they say, but they too imperfectly know themselves, and too little understand the nature of the work they have undertaken.

But, thank God, this picture has a bright side. It is not all dark. On every page of history may be found the record of brave and faithful ones, who have kept their pledges, having "fought the good fight," and "kept the faith." These are like the never-fading springs of water, the same in flood tide and in drought. Like others, they feel the pressure of temptation, but trust in God and go forward. Of how much value are such men to society. They give courage, strength and steadiness in the day of trial. They bear burdens which others fail. They can be counted on when numbering your host. In the time of excitement they are earnest, but have the mastery over themselves. When others run, they are deliberate. If storms of adversity come, they breast them. They are like anchors to the ship, saving society from being wrecked in the storm.

Reader, have you this stability of character? Are you a Christian, and can you be trusted? Are you a stable member of the church? How many are there whose names are recorded on the rolls of membership who, like Ephraim, are as "unstable as water"? Let it be the study and labor of all to secure stability of character.

MIRACULOUS POWERS. The Scriptures teach us that God chose Abraham and his seed through whom to reveal his will to mankind. Read Gen. 12: 1-3, 15; Deut. 4: 7, 8; 2 Sam. 7: 23, 24; Psa. 147: 19, and many other passages.

There is no statement in the Bible to show that God has ever chosen the Gentiles through whom to communicate supernaturally with men; or to add anything by way of revealed authority to what is contained in the Bible.

No Gentile ever wrote any portion of the Scriptures. The writers of them were all Jews. To the Hebrews were committed the Oracles of God, which fact is said to be the advantage which that people have over the Gentiles. The Hebrews were made the mouth-pieces, the scribes and the custodians of all that God has chosen to reveal supernaturally to mankind. Rom. 3: 2.

may not be the same we agree, but who can not see that such unwieldy assertions are food for the enemies of religion? For the sake of the honor of God, the religion of the Bible, we intensely desire a cessation of these unreasonable, and therefore damaging, declamations.

THE EASTERN ASSOCIATION. The Eastern Seventh-day Baptist Association met for its forty-fourth Annual Session with the Church at Rockville, R. L. Fifth-day, June 3d, 1880, at 10 A. M.

The Association was called to order by Arthur E. Main, Moderator. After a praise service, the Moderator presented a programme of exercises for the session, which was adopted, as seen in the following minutes:

After devotional exercises, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Benjamin F. Rogers, from Luke 5: 5, "Nevertheless, I will let down the net." Theme—Obedience to the will of God.

The following Committees were appointed by the Moderator: On Nominations—Nathan H. Langworthy, Geo. H. Harris, Lawrence Harris, Geo. W. Burdick, J. M. Todd, J. C. Maxwell, Gilbert N. Saunders. On Minutes—E. H. M. On the State of Religion—Geo. Tomlinson, Geo. Tyler Collins, Gardner B. Taylor.

On motion, the appointment of a delegate to Sister Associations, in place of D. H. Davis, who is now in China, was referred to the Committee on Nominations.

Words of welcome were spoken by James R. Irish, pastor of the Rockville Church, and remarks regarding the death of Daniel M. Crandall, one of the prominent members of his Church, who died last night, also of sickness of other members of the family.

Horace Stillman, delegate to the Central, Western, and North-Western Associations, reported the following, which was adopted, and part referring to expenses, was referred to the Committee on Finance.

After singing, "Come thou Fount of every blessing," the congregation were led in prayer by Henry Clarke. Letters were then read from the following Churches: New Market, Berlin, First Hopkinton, Marlboro, Waterford, Rockville, First Westerville, Plainfield, New York, Greenwald, Second Westerville, Woodville, Second Hopkinton.

After singing, "Are your windows open toward Jerusalem?" communications from corresponding bodies were called for, and responded to by Preston F. Randolph, delegate from the South Eastern Association; J. M. Todd from the Central, A. H. Lewis from the Western, and Geo. W. Burdick from the North-Western Associations, each of whom presented the communication from their respective bodies, and appropriate remarks, and on motion were welcomed to seat in this body, and invited to participate in our deliberations.

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This was followed by a general discussion of the subject by S. S. Griswold, I. D. Titworth, Ethan Lanphar, A. D. Sherman, Harris Lanphar, A. H. Lewis, and Preston F. Randolph.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Association adjourned after benediction by Geo. W. Burdick, delegate from the North-Western Association.

THE ASSOCIATION. The news that comes to us from the South Eastern and Eastern Associations is inspiring. Their spirit was excellent and their general proceedings beautiful. The resolutions passed were well conceived, and brought before the people questions of a practical and salutary character.

Our advanced step in our missionary work is evidently taking well with our people, and we trust that this right arm of our power will be greatly strengthened. We trust the Board, having this service in its hands, will be encouraged by the hearty responses of the people to work in the most efficient manner.

Let the revived Christianism be supplied with everything needed to make it efficient. Let those who have gone to preach the "unsearchable riches of Christ" among the heathen, feel that the hearts of their brethren at home are with them. And we greatly desire the blessing of the Lord on our home work.

The feeble chronicles need encouragement, and unoccupied fields need to be possessed. "There's plenty to do." The season for our tent work has come, and we are looking for an active campaign, and though the "laborers are few," we are not without hope that a rich harvest will be gathered.

UNUSUAL.—During the time we have edited the Recorder, we have only occasionally introduced political matters into its columns, but desire now to express our pleasure at the nomination of Hon. James A. Garfield for the office of President. We are interested in this action on account of our belief in his general fitness for the office, but especially in this: he is, we trust, a Christian

and a gentleman. We are unfeignedly grateful for the Presidency of the present occupant of the White House, and should be glad to have him followed by one of like character.

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WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

propagation of the Christian religion than he did. From the time of his conversion to Christianity...

The settlement which animates the Democratic heart of the District of Columbia is in favor of nominating Seymour at the Cincinnati Convention.

But before we go any further, it may be proper to inquire how we know that such a person ever lived, when it is so long since the time of his existence?

The question has been settled by the passage of a bill which has for its principal feature the giving to each member of the tribe a patch of ground which he can call his own.

In response to a Senate resolution of March 8th, the Secretary of the Treasury furnished a statement showing the expenses of the Government...

It has finally been decided by Congress to adjourn upon the 16th of June, so that ere another week has passed, the deserted halls of the Capitol will present a mournful aspect.

Now it is well known that in every county of our country there is an office where a record is kept of all the conveyances of all the real estate that was ever made from one owner to another.

The death of Sister Julia M. Mason, one of the constituent members of the Seventh-day Baptist Church in this place, occurred on Sabbath morning, June 6th, at four o'clock.

Measles, followed by a cough and quick consumption, was the immediate cause of this death. Sister Mason's general health had been improving for some years.

Our first meeting of the present series was held on the evening after the 6th inst., and was well attended. For the last two evenings, president making has been the engaging event without; the attendance at the tent has been small, but the interest of the meetings unabated.

Among the names proposed for Member of Congress from this district, that of Hon. J. R. B. Bates, of Hornellsville, is brought forward by the Hornell Times as one worthy of all consideration.

Waterford, Conn. JUN 13th, 1880. To the Editor of the Sabbath Recorder.

I noticed some two or three weeks since a letter from Eld. C. M. Lewis, published in the Recorder, in which he says, in substance, "Will some brethren who have the heart furnish the means to procure for my use a horse and carriage to help on in my missionary work?"

It is a big sum of money that the young people of England give to missions. The total amount of contributions made by "juvenile associations," to the work of the Church Missionary Society, in the year 1878, was \$4,385, about \$25,000 to one society!

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Missionary Department.

Conducted by the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. A. E. Main, Ashaway, R. I., to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

A PAPER Read before the Eastern Association, by Mrs. MARY B. CLARKE, of Ashaway, R. I., and published by request.

Perhaps if we consider for a moment the significance of the term "missionary spirit," we may be the better able to judge what relation to the future of our denomination such spirit and its consequent works must bear.

A missionary spirit, then, becomes in one sense a test, if not of religious life, at least of its warmth and fervor.

Then scatter with unparaph hands True's blessed seed, God gives his labor, in all lands, and strength to the seed.

OUR CHILDREN AND FOREIGN MISSIONS. "Brethren, you ought to pray to God to call some of your sons and daughters to the work of foreign missions."

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missions and do a great deal for it. We hope you, also, who read this will have a greater desire to help on the same great work.

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S. S. Department.

Under the Direction of THE SABBATH-SCHOOL BOARD OF THE A. D. S. GENERAL CONFERENCE.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS, 1880.

SECOND QUARTER. April 1. The Power of Christ; or, An Omnipotent Savior. Mat. 11: 20-24.

LESSON XIII.—THE NEW MAN.

TRUTH HOLINESS.

For Sabbath Day, June 18.

PREPARERS: 4:30-5.

1. Let all bitterness and wrath, and all anger, and all clamor, and all wrangling, and all envy, and all strife, and all evil-speaking, be put away from you, with all malice.

QUESTIONS.

1. Righteousness, v. 24-25. 2. Brotherly love, v. 31-32.

INTRODUCTORY.

The express object of the Epistle to the Ephesians is to instruct men in what ought to be done, and to arouse them to earnestness in seeking after holiness and high Christian attainments.

THE NEW DRESS.

The new dress, the figure used in the twenty-fourth verse is a striking one.

THE NEW MAN.

The new man, the former sinful character, has been put off like a soiled garment.

THE NEW MAN.

The new man, new character, new life, is to be put on and worn continuously.

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Hints for the Blackboard.

Draw out from the class the distinctions between the "old man" and the "new man," putting them down in separate columns.

THE OLD MAN.

CONDEMNED. LYING. STRAHLING. DEAD WORKS. BITTERNESS. WRATH. ANGER.

THE NEW MAN.

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