

## VIEWS FROM THE WATCH TOWER

CORROBORATIVE EVIDENCE THAT MESSIAH'S KINGDOM IS AT HAND

### "TIMES OF THE GENTILES" HAVE ENDED

The Watch Tower, from time to time, has set forth the proof that the "Times of the Gentiles" have ended; that the monarchs of earth have had their day, and that Messiah's kingdom is at hand! We submit herewith some corroborative proof.

From a legal viewpoint, the period of the Gentile dominion ended with October, 1914. Speaking in plain phrase, the world there came to an end! True to the words of the great Master, "The nations were angry, and thy wrath is come!" (Revelation 11:18) At the very end of the Gentile times the nations became angry and began to war with each other, and the great storm of destruction has increased in its fury even beyond the imaginations of men. The loss of human life and earthly treasure has staggered the world. The war still spreads, and without doubt will involve all the nations to a greater or less extent.

Looking down to this very day, the Prophet of the Lord said, "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever." (Daniel 2:44) Gradually, but surely, the present kingdoms of earth are being broken into pieces. Each day some explosion further weakens the walls of the present order of things, and soon the entire structure will fall with a great crash; and upon the ruins thereof will be erected the kingdom of righteousness, under the supervision of the great Messiah, and this kingdom will stand forever.

### REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA

The Russian monarchy has fallen, no doubt never to rise again! With startling and dramatic rapidity the change came—almost in one day. However, we do not understand that the revolution in Russia is a fulfilment of the prophetic statement made by our Lord concerning the great revolution that is to follow the world war; but it shows the tendency of the people, and their determination no longer to be dominated by autocrats, aristocrats or tyrants. When the rulers discover that they are losing their power, there will in all probability be an effort made to bring about peace, and there will probably be some make-shift proposition brought forward and adopted. But when all shall say, "Peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them, and they shall not escape."—1 Thessalonians 5:3.

Even the worldly-wise see that this must be the inevitable result. An editorial writer in one of the leading New York dailies says:

"The revolutions are not going to be confined to Russia. Hollweg sees and says that there is a new freedom coming for Germany as well as for Russia.

"France has long had her freedom, but will undoubtedly progress further in the direction of Socialism.

"The revolution in England will be as complete as elsewhere, but probably not spectacular or violent. The English people accomplish their revolutions, as they do everything else they undertake, in a stolid, undemonstrative way, but they accomplish them just the same.

"If Russia was an autocracy, England was an aristocracy. Everything in England has been for the benefit of the ruling or aristocratic classes. These aristocratic classes had a trust—a control in politics, in land-ownership, in tax-exemption, in social recognition, in all kinds of benefits and privileges.

"The mass of the people were reduced to the point of penury, and were leaving the British Isles in droves in order to find elsewhere the opportunity which they could not secure at home.

"This Aristocratic Trust operated according to the accepted methods of the trust and absorbed into the trust any man who showed exceptional ability or accumulated formidable wealth, ennobling him, making him a knight or a baron, and so aligning him and his influence and power with the aristocracy, instead of with the people, from whom he came and with whom he should have naturally been in sympathy.

"Thus the Aristocratic Trust perpetuated its privileges and fortified its position. It rode the masses almost as cruelly as did the French aristocrats in the years that preceded the French Revolution.

"No doubt that situation will be destroyed, and probably has been destroyed. The people of England will never be content to go back to the conditions that prevailed before the war.

"How much further the revolution will go is a question. If the war continues long enough, and the people of the various countries become sufficiently resentful at their rulers, we will have revolutions of riot and revolutions of repudiation—revolutions which will set up new governments and refuse to be bound by the obligations which the old governments incurred.

"There ought to be a revolution in Germany as well as in Russia and in England, and there probably will be."

### REASONS FOR GENERAL REVOLUTION

The time will come, and that ere long, when the peoples of the warring nations will awaken to the fearful condition brought upon them by the war. Soon they must realize that the able-bodied, wealth-producing men have been either killed or else rendered practically useless by the long and dreadful conflict; and the cost of living has greatly increased and is likely to go still higher; that their opportunities for earning money have greatly decreased; and that added to this will be the great burden of taxation created by the war. Revolution, repudiation and destruction are certain to follow.

### TOO LARGE FOR HUMAN MIND TO GRASP

The *Chicago American* recently published, editorially, the following figures concerning the debt now upon the nations of Europe as a result of the war; viz:—

"The total debt of the war in Europe is now one hundred twenty thousand million dollars (\$120,000,000,000). This means that in the years to come, barring revolution and repudiation of debts, the people of Europe already harassed, half starved, killed and wounded in millions, must carry on their backs an appalling debt of \$120,000,000,000.

"The interest on this amount, at only 5%—and most of it was borrowed at a higher rate—amounts to six thousand millions of dollars every year.

"The people of the warring nations must pay this six thousand millions every year—six times the total national debt of the United States at present; and after they have paid the six thousand millions of dollars a year in interest, they will still owe the one hundred and twenty thousand millions."

These figures represent a condition too enormous for the human mind to fully grasp. But by way of aiding the mind in this respect, we call attention to the fact that—according to the best information obtainable—twenty thousand million persons have lived on the earth during the six thousand years from Adam's day until now; thus a war debt of \$120,000,000,000 is equivalent to \$6 per head for every man, woman and child that has ever lived. It is hardly necessary to suggest that revolution and repudiation of this great debt will naturally follow.

### WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE?—KINGS OR CLERGY?

The common people have not of their own choice made this enormous debt. It was not the common people who sought the war. Of the millions that have died upon the battle-fields, and the millions of widows and orphans that have wept at home, not one of them has had a voice in determining whether or not the people should go to war. The kings and rulers have prepared for war, and have sent their subjects forth to war without even asking their consent. The kings from time immemorial have claimed to rule by divine right, and that therefore whatever action they would take, whether for war or for peace, would be right. It has long been a part of the unwritten laws of these nations that "The king can do no wrong."

But back of the kings there is another class of men who are even more responsible, and therefore more reprehensible: namely, the clergy class! For more than fifteen centuries these, as the spiritual advisers of the kings of Europe, have told them that they—the kings—rule by divine right. These clergy have supported their kings and rulers without regard to whether they were right or wrong. The clergy have shielded themselves behind their pious garbs and encouraged, advised and abetted the kings in their unrighteous and murderous work. The day of retribution is at hand, and God's wrath will fall upon both kings and clergy.

### THE KINGS VERSUS THE PEOPLE

Charles Edward Russell, a writer of national fame, through the public press, recently said:

"The kings of the earth conspire to keep monarchy still throned. The people of the earth arise and kick all these devices into forgotten fragments.

"One of the most colossal of these astute plottings

went to pieces when the Russian people got tired of the fantastic yoke of the king business and cast the thing far from them.

"Ever since that day in July, 1789, when the Bastille fell in Paris, there has been a royal trade union to keep the kings on their jobs.

"Whatever their countries might be forced to do, or seem to do, after that, all the kings of Europe have been bound together by a secret alliance and the ritual of their trade union.

"One way to promote trade interests and keep the jobs was to link up the various thrones by carefully made marriages.

"Hence the German rulers, having an over-supply of princelings on hand, started in early upon a deliberate, fixed policy to Germanize Europe.

"After a century of that policy the result is seen in the fact that every king of Europe is either a German or has much German blood in his veins.

"Wherever an heir to a throne has been sighted as approaching the marriageable age a German has been picked out for a consort.

"To mention only a few of the achievements, the king of England is a German. For generations German has been the household language of the British royal family. Queen Victoria spoke English with a marked German accent; German was her native tongue. Even Edward VII. was not perfectly at home in the language of the country he ruled.

"Three members of the British royal family are now bearing arms against Great Britain, because they are German princes as well as British, and their German allegiance naturally seems first to them.

"The queen of Belgium is a German. The queen of Holland is of German descent and is married to a German.

"The poor little man just taken by the scruff and lifted from the throne of Russia is seven-eighths German. His empress, who had to be hidden from the indignant Russian populace, was one of the vast army of German princesses that have been distributed about Europe.

"The king of Italy is largely German. The king of Spain is also one of the Hapsburgs.

"The queen of Greece is the Kaiser's sister. It was the German Queen of Greece that ruined that country in the interest of Germany.

"She kept Greece from observing its treaty with Serbia; kept it from its obvious policy, which was to join the allies; and finally drove its king to plunge it into its present state of pitiable wreckage.

"It was the German empress of Russia that led and inspired the pro-German party there through the most astounding drama of intrigue, treachery and betrayals that was ever known among men.

"All the time that the government of Russia was pledging faith to the allies and the soldiers of Russia were ostensibly fighting on that side, the real and unseen power behind all this was working for Germany.

"It was the pro-German party that armed the Russian troops with sticks and crowbars for guns, provided their cannon with ammunition that fitted German artillery, but not their own, sent them to destruction or defeat, surrendered them by the thousands, and soaked the soil of Poland with their blood, needlessly sacrificed.

"The extent of this colossal treason staggers the imagination and makes all the fiction in the world look tame. It has greatly prolonged the war, cost hundreds of thousands of lives, wasted millions of treasure and laid upon the patient people a burden under which they will stagger for generations.

"All for the sake of the Hohenzollerns and the supremacy of the kings.

"Russia has awakened from its monarchical trance. A democracy at last, she has now taken her true place with the other democracies, fighting the mad dog of monarchism, now in its lair.

"They sang 'The Marseillaise' in the streets of Petrograd, and at the news all democrats around the world sang with them.

"They had reason to sing. These democrats have left Germany and Austria the only autocrats in Europe. They have made the issue of this war so clear that no longer can either a liar or a coward side-step it.

"It is to be democracy against autocracy, or the people against the thrones.

"The last great struggle, clean-cut, sure, unmistakable—the world for the kings or the world for its people."

#### BLIND TO MASTER'S PRINCIPLES

The clergy have a great opportunity at this time (were they awake to their privileges) of comforting the people and telling them what this trouble means, and of admonishing them, in the language of the Lord, to "seek meekness, seek righteousness!" They have a great opportunity to point the people to Messiah's kingdom and to teach the principles of love which he taught. But alas, they are unfaithful to the high office which they occupy!

We quote below the words of some of these to show that while they claim to be followers of the Prince of Peace, and pose before the people as the teachers of the message of the Lord Jesus, their words show that they are blinded to the great principles for which he stood.

The Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, Pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, in an address before the Union Branch of the Y. M. C. A. in the Bronx, N. Y. City, on March 25, according to the public press, said:

"I am willing to forgive the Germans for their atrocities just as soon as they are all shot. If you would give me happiness, just give me the sight of the Kaiser, Von Hindenberg and Von Tirpitz hanging by a rope. If we forgive Germany after the war, I shall think the whole universe has gone wrong."

The Rev. Dr. Frederick W. Adams, speaking at the 23d Street Branch of the Y. M. C. A., N. Y. City, said:

"If we enter the war we will be fighting for the ideals of the Declaration of Independence. It is the Christian duty of America to declare war upon Germany."

#### RULERS THREATENED BY SOCIALISTS

The Socialist-democratic party of Russia, in its official organ, *The Pravda*, published on March 25th a resolution by its Central Committee, inciting the soldiers to leave the trenches and go over to the enemy. This, they assert, will immediately evoke a fraternal response on the part of the Germans, and the war among the nations will promptly collapse, enabling the army and the people to devote themselves to the overthrow of the ruling classes.

#### FAMINES AND PESTILENCES TO FOLLOW

When our Lord Jesus was asked by his disciples what would be the proof of the end of the age, and the setting up of his kingdom, among other things he said: "Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines and pestilences and earthquakes in divers places." We see now a partial fulfillment of this prophetic statement, in that practically all the nations of earth are engaged in deadly conflict. The available food supply is everywhere decreasing and the cost of living increasing, so much so that today there are thousands of persons suffering from hunger, even in America. For a number of years Germany had been able to produce about 35 bushels of wheat per acre. After the war began she was unable to bring fertilizers from South America, with the result that in the first year of the war the land produced less than 25 bushels per acre, and in the second year, the average production was only about 14 bushels per acre.

In 1915 Canada produced 270 million bushels of wheat, whereas in 1916 only 155 million bushels were produced. Food supplies along all other lines, such as potatoes, onions, and other necessities are likewise much less than they were a few years ago.

#### HOW TO KEEP DOWN HIGH COST OF LIVING

This suggests that everywhere the people will be forced to practise economy. The day of luxury has passed, so far as the present order of things is concerned. Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, the well-known food expert, for many years in the employ of the U. S. Government, says:

"Whether we remain at peace or adventure on war, the Government should take over our food supplies.

"Every family in the country must be able to buy staple foods at fixed prices.

"Already one-tenth of the people of the United States are starving. Such starvation is largely due to stupidity.

"Even today one dollar spent on Indian corn will keep a working man well nourished for one month. Five dollars will supply four weeks' satisfying food for an average family.

"Plain living? Of course! But you may take it from me, the war has killed luxury for this generation.

"Humanity is entering upon such a period of enforced economy as the world has never seen. Europe feels this today. We may realize it tomorrow.

#### THE BALANCED BATION

"When one dollar can purchase only 50 cents worth of food the man who earns and the woman who spends

must learn what foods furnish most nourishment before they buy.

"Corn bread, corn mush, any one of a hundred corn meal dishes with a baked potato and an apple supply a perfectly balanced diet.

"For children milk is also necessary—one pint of milk per child per day.

#### HEALTH FOR FOUR CENTS

"I will guarantee to keep any child in perfect health, growth and enjoyment on a daily ration of one-half pound corn meal and one pint of milk a day—cost four cents.

"That plan steals the threat from food wars or railway strikes, and puts the quietus on the question of the high cost of living.

#### HUNGRY CAN'T WORK

"A hungry child cannot be good; neither can it work or study properly.

"My household of four makes four dinners from a five-pound roast, changing to a chicken on Sunday. The rest of our diet is fruit, potatoes and cereals. We work hard and are never ill.

"My farmer, who earns one-twentieth of my wages, spends not less than five times as much per person on food for his household.

#### PREJUDICE A FACTOR

"My corn meal mush costs six cents a pound; his breakfast cereal sells for 25c a pound.

"I offered to supply his corn and wheat free.

"'No thank you,' said he, 'my wife wouldn't stand for it. If we ate as you do, all the neighbors would make remarks.'

"There lies the chief reason for the high cost of living—prejudice and fashion."

#### A WORD TO THE WISE

In view of the present conditions, we suggest to the friends of the truth that it would be well to begin the practise of economy along the lines suggested by the above food expert, and to lay in a supply of plain foods, such as corn meal.

The facts coming from every source present a very dark picture, if you view it only from the standpoint of the world; but when we take the Lord's standpoint, it rejoices our hearts, because we see that the present unrighteous institutions of the earth are going down in the worst time of trouble the world has ever known, and that this marks the hour of deliverance for the last members of the body of Christ and the early establishment of Messiah's kingdom, which will bring peace and comfort, happiness and plenty, health and joy to every one who loves righteousness and will do righteously.

#### MESSIAH'S KINGDOM IS HERE

Let us, therefore, who are "children of the day," while we yet have opportunity, tell the people the glad tidings of the blessings which are so near at hand! This is the time for God's people to declare the day of his vengeance; that is to say, to point out to the world that this great trouble upon mankind is God's vengeance upon the selfish and wicked institutions, and that the fall of "Babylon" and all systems of unrighteousness, which soon must take place, will make way for the deliverance of the people from the thralldom in which they have been held for centuries. This is the time above all times for Christian people to comfort those who mourn and who desire to be taught the meaning of present events.

We urge the dear brethren everywhere, therefore, to be zealous and active in the promulgation of the glad tidings of great joy. "Then look up and lift up your heads, for your deliverance draweth nigh!"

## JESUS ANOINTED AT BETHANY

[This article, excepting the first paragraph, was a reprint of that entitled "A Bottle of Spikenard, Very Costly," published in issue of April 1, 1899. The first paragraph was a reprint from article entitled "Perfume Very Precious," published in issue of April 1, 1905. Please see the articles named.]

## SOMETIME, SOMEWHERE, EACH FINDS GETHSEMANE

"In golden youth, when seems the earth  
A summer land of songs and mirth,  
And not a shadow lurks in sight,  
We do not know it, but there lies,  
Somewhere, veiled under evening skies,  
A Garden all must sometime see,  
Gethsemane, Gethsemane!  
Somewhere his own Gethsemane!

"With joyous steps we go our ways,  
Love lends a halo to the days,  
Light sorrows sail like clouds afar,  
We laugh and say, 'How strong we are!'  
We hurry on, and hurrying go  
Close to the border land of woe,  
That waits for you and waits for me;  
Gethsemane, Gethsemane!  
Forever waits Gethsemane!

"Down shadowy lanes, across strange streams,  
Bridged over by our broken dreams,  
Behind the misty cape of years,  
Close to the great salt-font of tears,  
The Garden lies; strive as you may,  
You cannot miss it in your way.  
All paths that have been or shall be  
Pass somewhere through Gethsemane.

"All those who journey, soon or late,  
Must pass within the Garden's gate,  
Must kneel alone in darkness there  
And battle with some fierce despair.  
God pity those who cannot say,  
'Not mine, but thine,' who only pray,  
'Let this cup pass!' and cannot see  
The purpose in Gethsemane.  
Gethsemane, Gethsemane!  
God help us through Gethsemane!"

## JESUS WELCOMED AS KING

[This article was a reprint of that entitled "Hosanna in the Highest," published in issue of March 15, 1905, which please see.]

## JESUS THE SERVANT OF ALL

[This article, with the exception of the paragraphs printed below, was a reprint from article entitled "I Have Given You An Example," published in issue of April 1, 1899, which please see.]

The scene of today's lesson was the "Upper Room," and the occasion the anniversary celebration of the Jewish Passover supper, on the beginning of the 14th day of Nisan—which day ended at 6 P. M. on Friday. The preparations had been completed during the day for observance of the type, instituted the night before Israel's departure from Egypt; and as the Master sat down with the twelve to eat the supper, he spake, saying, "I have greatly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."—Luke 22:15.

The Passover lamb typified "the Lamb of God," our Lord Jesus, and the eating of it pointed to the fact that the fol-

lowers of our Lord throughout the Gospel age would feed in their hearts upon the Lamb of God, thus by faith appropriating to themselves the blessings secured to them through his death; "For even Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast."

But inasmuch as Jesus was the antitypical Lamb, it was appropriate that the type should after this cease to be observed. Hence it was that Jesus, following this last typical supper, established the Memorial supper of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine, which symbolized his broken body and shed blood.

**LACK OF HUMILITY CAUSED LOSS OF GREAT BLESSING**

The apostles, doubtless still filled with enthusiasm from the remarkable events of the week, were at a loss to understand the sadness of our Lord. Had they not witnessed the feast in the home of Lazarus, Martha and Mary, and the breaking of the alabaster box of costly ointment upon our Lord? Had they not witnessed his triumphal entry into Jerusalem amid the plaudits of the people, who exclaimed, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest"? They had heard the Pharisees ask Jesus to put a stop to the demonstration, and the Master's reply that if the people should hold their peace the very stones would cry out. (Luke 19:40) To fulfil the prophecy (Zechariah 9:9) there must be a shout, and there was a great shout.

Moreover, had not the whole city been in commotion? And had they not accompanied the Master into the Temple and witnessed his driving of the money-changers therefrom? And when the Pharisees, Sadducees and others tried to confuse Jesus, they had observed how wisely he had turned all their arguments upon themselves, so that they dared not ask him any more questions, fearing lest their position would appear all the more untenable.

These thoughts, added to the one that the kingdom was approaching and that places would be apportioned, were uppermost in their minds and were no doubt partly responsible for the rivalry which sprang up among them, as a result of which, when they came to the upper room, they had not the humility of mind to take thought of serving either the Master or one another. It was the custom of the well-to-do Jews to have a servant to minister to the comfort of the guests; but there was no servant present on this occasion, and none of the apostles had the humility of mind to offer to be the servant. How great a blessing was thus missed by these disciples! And what a remarkable opportunity was thus afforded the Master to teach a lesson in humility!

**"HAVING LOVED HIS OWN, HE LOVED THEM UNTO THE END"**

Apparently our Lord let the situation progress to the full. He waited until supper was being served (not ended, as in our Common Version); then, arising from the table, he laid aside his mantle and secured a basin and a towel. Girding up his garments so as not to interfere with his movements, he began to wash their feet.

We can well imagine the surprise of the apostles as they watched the procedure, noting the Master go from the feet of one to the feet of another, as they extended from the couches upon which the apostles reclined.

The account of today's Study opens up by declaring, "Having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end." Truly, as Jesus himself said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"! Again, he said, "I am the Good Shepherd; the Good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." The tender care he had for his sheep, and the untiring zeal which he manifested in their preparation for future service, was fast consuming his vitality. On the cross the pouring out of his life was fully completed. "He poured out his soul unto death"!

**THE CHRISTIAN'S DUTY IN TIME OF WAR**

Factories and business houses throughout the United States are circulating amongst their employees a petition, usually in the following form:

"As an American, faithful to American ideals of justice, liberty and humanity, and confident that the Government has exerted its most earnest efforts to keep us at peace with the world, I hereby declare my absolute and unconditional loyalty to the Government of the United States and pledge my support to it in protecting American rights against unlawful violence upon land and sea, in guarding the Nation against hostile attacks, and in upholding international rights."

Numerous WATCH TOWER readers are asking advice as to the signing of this paper. Our answer is that every resident of America should be faithful to the ideals of justice, liberty and humanity, and should exert his most earnest efforts to keep the peace; and as between the United States and any other government on earth, his loyalty should be to the United States Government; but when it comes to a Christian pledging his unconditional support to the protection of American rights on land and sea, that would mean pledging himself to take up arms and actively engage in war. The question then arises, What is one's duty under such circumstances?

We answer, There is a difference between the duty that de-

The washing of the disciples' feet by our Lord was a sharp reproof for their neglect to wash his feet and the feet of one another. Doubtless they were very silent for a time while the service proceeded. The lesson was having the designed effect; but the Lord's words to Peter, "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter," clearly show that the depth of the lesson could not be fully appreciated at that time.

Nevertheless Peter protested, saying, "Thou shalt never wash my feet!" The noble Peter had too much reverence to wish the Lord to be his servant. But when Jesus said, "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me," this thorough-going, whole-hearted disciple urged, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!" But the Master explained that "He who hath been bathed hath no need except to wash his feet."—V. 10. Diaglott.

The intimation was that as St. Peter had bathed, which was in accordance with the Jewish requirement of the putting away of all filth at the beginning of the Passover season, he now merely needed the rinsing of his feet, the cleansing of the members that came into close contact with the dusty highways of that time.

**THE HEINOUS SIN OF JUDAS**

The last six words of Verse 10, "Ye are clean, but not all," referring to the foul conspirator Judas, clearly show that our Lord also had in mind another cleansing, a much higher one, of which this washing of their feet and their previous bath were but the figures—"the washing of water by the Word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing."—Ephesians 5:26, 27.

Although our Lord Jesus "knew who should betray him" (V. 11), and that Judas had already bargained with the chief priests, and was merely waiting for the opportune moment to carry out his malevolent design, yet Jesus did not pass him by, but washed his feet with the others.

None but Judas understood the reference to himself, or the subsequent words recorded in Verses 18, 26-28—these, however, not being a part of today's Study. Although our Lord went so far as to quote the very prophecy which marked Judas and his disloyalty—"He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me" (Psalm 41:9)—none of these things moved the arch-betrayer, none appealed to him in such a manner as to change his wicked course.

Thus Jesus explained that it would be one of his own chosen twelve who would betray him—one of those who would later dip with him in the dish, partaking of the same supper, the same bread, the same roasted lamb. All this signified a very heinous breach of friendship. It was most sad to contemplate that the traitor should be one who had been a bosom friend and disciple.

"Unto the end!" Thine own?

O dear and blessed Master! Can it be

That, nevermore alone,

Our weary hearts may dwell in peace with thee,

Knowing that to the end

Thou wilt be with us, walking by our side,

Our Guardian, Guide and Friend,

Until in heaven we shall with thee abide!"

volves upon one who is not a Christian and one who is a Christian. In both Catholic and Protestant churches are found some Christians. But the mere fact that one belongs to some church denomination is not evidence that he is a Christian. Many nations claim to be Christian, but there is no Christian nation on earth, for the reason that there is no nation in which every person claims to follow Christ. Many of those who claim to be Christians disregard the teachings of Christ. This applies equally to the clergy and laymen. The clergymen throughout the country are urging their parishioners to join the army, many of them saying, "It is the Christian duty of America to declare war upon Germany."

A true Christian is one who believes that Jesus Christ is the great Redeemer of mankind, and who then makes a full consecration to do God's will; who is accepted by the Lord and begotten of the holy Spirit, and thereby becomes a follower of Christ Jesus. All such are ambassadors of Messiah, the King of Glory (2 Cor. 5:20), to whom the Lord has delivered his message of reconciliation for the world. The Lord has commissioned, or authorized, all such in the following words: "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the glad tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are

bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn." (Isa. 61:1-3) This applies to every true follower of Jesus who faithfully walks in his footsteps.—1 Peter 2:21.

No Christian could engage in war and remain a Christian; for the reason that Jesus did not engage in war. Jesus declared that he came not to destroy man's lives, but to save them.

If men of the world desire to engage in war, that is a question for them to determine. The Christian well knows that God has permitted this great war to come upon the nations to develop amongst them conditions that will lead to revolution and anarchy, and that every nation that engages in this war will ultimately be involved in the greater trouble. The only advice that we have to give those who are not Christians is that given by the Lord through his prophet saying, "Before the day of the Lord's anger come upon you, seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth; seek righteousness, seek meekness; it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger."—Zeph. 2:2, 3.

Whatever question there might be about the duty of a man of the world who does not claim to be a Christian, there is no middle ground for the Christian. He can be true to the Lord and faithful to his consecration vow only by taking one course, viz., a refusal to engage in war. As reasons therefore he should, in kindness and in the spirit of love, yet with boldness, tell those who will hear the meaning of the great trouble now upon the earth, and point out to them the nearness of Messiah's kingdom and the blessings that will follow its establishment. Since he is the ambassador of the heavenly kingdom he should see to it that his time and strength and energy are devoted to peaceful pursuits, and to the declaring of the message of the kingdom of Christ. All this is his vocation.

No Christian should resist the Government with force of arms. If the laws of the land provide for exemption for those who cannot conscientiously engage in war, then the Christian should take advantage of that. If it should come to the question as to whether or not a Christian would shoot his fellowman or be shot, it would be better for him to choose the latter rather than the former. He has made a covenant with the Lord to be faithful unto death, and no one can take his life until God's due time, so long as he is faithful to the Lord. If it bring suffering upon him to take this stand, then he should remember that the Lord promised that His followers must expect to suffer, and that the reward of life everlasting on the divine plane is promised to those who suffer faithfully with Christ unto the end.—Romans 8:16, 17.

## PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE TRUTH INCREASING

That the public is anxious to listen to discourses pertinent to the strange times through which the world is now passing is evidenced by the increasing attendance at the public meetings reported by the pilgrim brethren in the field. And at our larger public gatherings there is also a noticeable awakening. Recently at Boston four thousand people tried to crowd into the leading theater to hear, "Why Do the Nations War?" and at a public meeting at the New York City Temple on the afternoon of Sunday, April 1, about fifteen hundred listened with intense interest to a discussion of the following topic: "Universal Peace—How Can it be Obtained?" It is reported that over eleven hundred were turned away.

We are now conducting a series of lectures in various cities throughout the country. These are opened by a largely advertised public meeting by our President, or some other brother especially suited to public discourse, and followed by other Pilgrim brethren of ability. The results have been very gratifying, and the urgent invitations for fresh series are coming in so rapidly as to necessitate the extending of Brother Rutherford's appointments several months in advance.

## A TIMELY WARNING

In a recent issue of THE WATCH TOWER we called attention to the danger that might result to the brethren by having the names of the Secretaries of the various ecclesias published. The following letter, which is a sample of many we are receiving, proves the wisdom of the warning:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 30.

"DEAR BROTHER RUTHERFORD:—Your recent warning in THE WATCH TOWER against the publication of the of Class Secretaries was well-timed and necessary. Some publication erroneously gave my name as such for the ecclesia here, and I have been kept busy of late with letters from unknown friends who desire me to serve them in various ways, but do not even enclose stamps for reply,

## IN RE MILITARY SERVICE

Numerous letters are coming to us, asking advice as to what should be done with reference to complying with the statutes of the various States which provide for the registration of male citizens from 16 to 45 years of age. The statutes that are being passed by the various States are similar in many respects, and yet it will be necessary for us to have a copy of each one of these military Acts in order to give specific advice. Where the Act provides that all persons are required to give this information, there would be no good reason for declining to give the same. Where the Act further provides that certain persons are exempt from military service, but must file their affidavit within a certain time and with certain officers in order to be entitled to exemption, we advise that the brethren take advantage of this exemption by preparing and filing the affidavit required by law. It is difficult for us here to give a form that will apply to all States, but if the Act is read carefully the form below can be used in most States, changing according to the terms of the law. We therefore suggest the following form:

State of \_\_\_\_\_

County of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (name of person claiming exemption) being duly sworn, on oath says that he is entitled to exemption from military service, for the reason that he is a duly ordained minister; that since the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ he has been fully consecrated to the Lord and His service; that he cannot conscientiously engage in war in any form, and claims his exemption for the reason stated in this affidavit.

Subscribed and sworn to before  
me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

All persons who are duly elected elders by a vote of the ecclesia have received a church ordination, and all persons who are fully consecrated to the Lord (Luke 9:23; Rom. 12:1) have received the divine ordination as a minister of the Gospel.—Isa. 61:1-3.

The duty of a Christian is clearly set forth in the Scriptures. There is no middle ground. For him to engage in war would be to disregard the commission the Lord has given him. To refuse military service would perhaps bring persecution; but to engage in military service would be a violation of his covenant with the Lord, and this being true, no one would desire to engage in war, and hence should decline to enlist in the service of the army.

We rejoice that the Lord's blessing is resting upon the proclamation of the truth, and to know that there are still many hungering and thirsting after righteousness. How glad we are to be ambassadors of the One who is able to supply that which satisfieth the hungry and thirsty!

More and more does the truthfulness of the prophetic utterances of the words of the Lord impress itself upon our hearts as we "behold a famine in the land—not a famine of bread nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord." (Amos. 8:11) No doubt many more hungry hearts will accept the blessed message of the kingdom as we advance closer to the time when "no man can work." In view of the perilous times before us and the wonderful opportunities brought about by the approach of the great cataclysm, it behooves all the ambassadors of Christ, the heralds of the fast approaching kingdom, to be zealous, to be fully awake and doing with their might what their hands find to do, before the night fully settles down, remembering that "he that reapeth, receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal."

or seem to appreciate the reliability of information or assistance furnished by me. I enclose herewith pernicious literature received from a pernicious person who must have obtained my address in the way mentioned.

"Your brother in Christ,

E. H. T."

The friends from numerous classes are sending us samples of literature which have come to them recently, some addressed, "Esteemed Friends," or, "Dear Friends," or "Dear Friend in Christ." This literature begins as though it were written by a Bible Student, and winds up by soliciting money and urging that contributions be sent to the person named on the literature.

Through the columns of THE WATCH TOWER warnings

have been frequently given against various frauds that have been attempted upon our readers, and we shall continue to give this warning. We suggest to the brethren that when they have any doubt about literature that is sent them, they write and send it to us. We will be glad to render any assistance we can. At the same time be assured, dear brethren, that any literature that solicits money, either directly or indirectly, is not sent by the SOCIETY, nor approved by the SOCIETY.

Truly the warning that Brother Russell gave in THE

TOWER of November 1st, 1916, under the caption, "THE HOUR OF TEMPTATION," was very timely.

As the following words of St. Paul applied to the church of Ephesus, so they apply with equal force to the church now: "After my departure shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock; also of your own selves shall men arise speaking perverse things to draw away followers after them." We suggest to the friends, therefore, that all literature coming to them which speaks unkindly of Brother Russell be consigned to the waste-basket.

## SOME LETTERS OF INTEREST

### PRAYERS AND COOPERATION TO EXTENT OF ABILITY

DEAR BROTHER RUTHERFORD:—

Permit me to express my love for and my confidence in you. I have a hearty sympathy and love for the harvest work, and you shall have my earnest prayer and co-operation to the best of my ability in finishing what dear Brother Russell prosecuted so faithfully for so many years.

There is a little matter I believe I should mention to you. I have in the past given away to a few of the friends, and in a few instances recommended, some books of Murray's and Fosdick's. As I see it now, I believe I did wrong in doing so. I have always acted on the Bible statement, "Despise not prophesyings; prove all things, hold fast that which is good." While this is still true, yet our Lord said that in the end of the age, he would make his wise and faithful servant steward over all his goods, to give his household meat in due season; and I believe if we give heed to the Bible itself, and to the helps God has provided through that servant, and depend upon God to use his holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, as he promised, we shall not want for spiritual instruction. We will not need anything else, for other teachings are always more or less mixed with error. In the future I will confine myself to the pure message, and recommend the same to others.

With continued prayer for your success in guiding the work of God, and for your own blessing, I am

Your fellow servant in Him,

DANIEL TOOLE.

*Our Reply*

DEAR BROTHER TOOLE:—

Your letter of the 22d is before us. We thank you very much for it. We rejoice with you that you now see that such distribution of the books mentioned by you could hardly be in harmony with the Lord's will as we understand it, and that you appreciate the fact that the Lord has made provision for the household of faith in giving "meat in due season" through his selected "wise and faithful servant." The basis for our faith in the glorious prize set before us is a knowledge of the Lord's Word, and a clear understanding and appreciation of the same and a reliance thereupon. We never understood the plan of God until he was pleased to give it to us through the interpretations of his servant—our dear Brother Russell. If we would maintain our faith and increase it, it would seem absolutely essential that we abide by the food the Lord has supplied, and we are certain that we can be a greater help to the dear brethren everywhere if we confine ourselves to the spiritual food provided of the Lord through this channel. To search for spiritual food elsewhere is equivalent to saying that the Lord did not provide that which is sufficient through his chosen servant, and upon careful consideration we know that none of the fully consecrated would want to say this.

We are glad to hear you say, "In the future I will confine myself to the pure message, and recommend the same to others." Abiding in the Lord, and his message abiding in us, we are sure we can be of greater help to his sheep as we strive to minister upon them as his willing bond-servants.

We are in a time of great peril, and we all do well to take heed to the warning our dear Pastor left us in his last message to the church. We may expect, as he stated there, that some will arise seeking to draw followers after them, and our duty to His people as representatives of the Lord and of the SOCIETY, is to encourage them as much as possible to stay close to the Lord's message. In ourselves we can do nothing, but we can do all things through Christ Jesus, who strengtheneth us. But to have his strength we must be in harmony with His way of doing things.

We appreciate your words of encouragement and your prayers, and assure you that you have ours. May the Lord continue to bless you and all of his dear people, and to give us all the needed strength in this hour, to hold fast that which we have gained. The blessings of the Lord be with you.

ANGELOPHONE BLESSINGS—"DEAD, YET SPEAKETH!"

DEAR FRIENDS:—

I wish to assure you of my continued loyalty to the Lord

and the Truth, and I shall endeavor to co-operate with the SOCIETY in every way possible in the further smiting of the waters of Jordan. My recent experiences since the death of our Pastor seem to have been very similar to those of the dear friends everywhere, as I note from THE WATCH TOWER.

I was shocked beyond measure at our Pastor's death. I went immediately to my room, and dropping upon my knees, told the Lord how sad and bewildered I felt, and that I could hardly understand why our Pastor should be taken so quickly and unexpectedly, but assuring the heavenly Father, however, that I was perfectly resigned to his will in the matter, knowing that he knew best. I told the Lord that I had no desire to turn away, but that I would endeavor to go forward resolutely and give greater diligence, if possible, to make my calling and election sure. I further thanked him for the many blessings that I had received through the instrumentality of this noble servant, and that while we shall see his face no more in the flesh, we still have the precious truths from his pen that we may continue to feast upon.

We read, "By the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better," and as we sorrow—"not as others," however—may we be drawn closer to the Lord.

I wish to relate, further, a recent experience that has been such a joy and blessing to us. About the time of our Pastor's death I ordered a cabinet style Angelophone and 50 hymn records and some of the song books.

These reached us in perfect condition only 3 or 4 days ago, and oh, what a feast we have already had! I just can't express the joy we have experienced in listening to hymns and the hymn-talks—especially the latter.

Why, dear friends, we, so to speak, have Pastor Russell now in our parlor. Any time we want to have a little sermon, we have only to go and put on a record and start the machine, and it is just like hearing him in an auditorium, only we can't behold his face. I just couldn't help but think of the Scripture, "He, being dead, yet speaketh." When we reflect that this was one of the last of our Pastor's labors, how glad and thankful we are that God has added this blessing also!

Please accept our heart-felt sympathy as we realize that those of the SOCIETY who were so closely associated with our dear Brother Russell will doubtless feel the parting more keenly than we who are more distant. Asking an interest in your prayers, and assuring you that we remember you at the Throne of Grace, I remain,

Yours in the Faith once delivered to the saints.

W. H. BURCH.—III.

### CLASS EXTENSION WORK ENCOURAGED

DEAR BRETHREN:—

Remarks in a recent number of THE WATCH TOWER concerning certain brethren OFFERING their services to other classes, upon payment of expenses by the classes served, has suggested that it might be well to get your opinion concerning a certain practise here.

For a number of years our class has been sending elders to nearby classes. This we are doing at the invitation of the classes referred to, so that it seems to me that the case here is different from the one mentioned in THE TOWER. However, we would like to get your opinion as to whether you think this a wise practise. Some of the places we serve every Sunday, others three times a month and others once a month.

Yours in Christ,

A. L. SEELEY.—III.

*Our Reply*

It is not the purpose of the article in THE WATCH TOWER to curtail in the slightest the opportunities of the brethren to serve other classes, when the classes invite the brethren to come. As we understand it, the brethren of your Ecclesia serve the nearby classes at the request of those classes.

There has for some time been a growing habit among certain brethren desiring to make a trip through the country to write the classes along the way advising them that they would serve on certain dates, provided the classes pay their expenses; in other words, this is a polite way of inviting the friends to defray the expenses of a trip, thus indirectly solicit-



ing money from the brethren. This is contrary to the policy of the SOCIETY, and the purpose of putting the notice in THE TOWER was to advise the friends that the SOCIETY does not encourage or approve such action.

The SOCIETY has always encouraged the Class Extension Work, and will continue to do so, and when a class in any community invites a brother to come and serve, it is entirely proper that the brother accept. The SOCIETY is pleased to see all the dear brethren actively engaged in the service.

#### PASSED V. D. M. QUESTIONS ON SECOND TRIAL

DEAR BRETHREN:—

I must write and tell you how my heart is rejoicing over the V. D. M. Questions. I have no words to express my appreciation that are strong enough to bring out the glory and beauty that the V. D. M. Questions have brought to my hungering soul. God's wonderful plan has never been so bright and sublime to me as it is now. I am so thankful to my heavenly Father that through the V. D. M. Examination Department, I failed no my first questions. Truly it was God's leading, to wake me up to learn a lesson not to deal with God's Holy Word in a haphazard way!

When the news came to me that I had failed, it grieved my heart sorely, in spite of the fact that I was saying all the while, "The Lord's will be done, not mine." Then I took the whole matter to the Lord in prayer. Truly I can say,

"All the way my Savior leads me,  
What have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt his tender mercy,  
Who through life has been my guide?"

And truly he did guide me. Then I prayed in earnest that I might be allowed another trial; for I felt in my heart it was necessary for me to answer those questions if I still stayed in the Pastoral Work. After praying and studying and comparing those questions, then I realized more than ever before the deep wisdom our dear Pastor had regarding God's holy plan, in preparing and sending out those questions for us. I surely have derived much benefit from them, and I want to thank the heavenly Father and the Committee for giving me another chance on the V. D. M. Questions! It certainly did cheer my heart; for now I feel worthy to go into the Pastoral Work.

My heart is filled with gratitude and praise and is overflowing with love for all of God's little ones, and especially those at the Bethel home.

Dear brethren, forgive me for intruding on your valuable and precious time, but my heart was so full of love for the whole world, and because of my passing the examination, that I had to write you.

If my testimony is worth using, use it in any way you see fit, and my name also. I am not ashamed of failing, for the Lord knew it all. May God's blessing rest upon each brother and sister wherever they may be, is my prayer.

'Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart; for thy loving kindness is before mine eyes. And I have walked in thy truth.'—Psalm 26:2, 3.

Your sister in His grace, MATTIE COOPER.—Tex.

#### WE THANK GOD FOR HIS MEMORY

DEAR BETHEL CO-LABORERS:—

We desire to take this opportunity of expressing to the dear ones of the Bethel family and Brooklyn Tabernacle our love and heart-felt sympathy in the loss of our dear Pastor from fellowship and from the field of service.

We realize that we have lost from our midst one whom we recognize as "that servant" (Matt. 24:45), a brother whose earnestness and faithfulness will ever be an incentive to us who are in the race for the prize of the high calling. In him we were given a most noble example of a Christian in this our day. By his life he attested a purity of character, ever standing firm for that which is right and just in God's sight. Daily did he manifest to us the spirit of unselfishness and self-sacrifice. His love and zeal, not only toward the brethren, but also toward the world, were exemplified in his untiring efforts in propounding the Scriptures in their simplicity and beauty.

But, brethren, we would not mourn, for "we sorrow not as do others who have no hope." We believe he has gone to his reward, there to be associated with our dear Redeemer, and in due time to share in the uplifting of the world of mankind to perfection and righteousness. Precious promises God hath given! 'If we suffer with him, we shall reign with him,' and if faithful, "we shall be like him, and see him as he is."

We rejoice with you and with our dear Pastor, knowing that he fought a good fight, and finished his course. We re-

joice that we have had the privilege of having such a living epistle—his labors have ceased, but his works remain with us. He has left with us a sweet memory! how this will stimulate our interest, enliven our hope, and enkindle our zeal to so run that we may obtain! We thank God for this memory, and for this hope.

May we each be so strengthened, ever keeping our feet upon the sure Rock, Christ Jesus, that we may eventually win the prize of the high calling, and hear the "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joys of thy Lord." SCHENECTADY ECCLÉSIA.—N. Y.

#### VOICE WAVES BACK IN TONES MORE MELODIOUS THAN EVER

DEAR BRETHREN:—

We were very thankful for the letter from you, our faithful co-workers, telling us that the work of the WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY would go on, for we had questioned, "What now will be done?" We praise the Lord for his continued mercies and for the abundant helpers and also for the dear pilgrim brethren; and while we bow submissively to whatever the Lord permits, we pray his rich blessings to rest upon every one of you and keep you strong in faith and as valiant soldiers as now.

Our dear "changed" Pastor still speaks, and that voice that delighted us so much all these years has reached the other shore, and its reverberations, as a holy echo, wave back to us, as it were, in tones more melodious than ever, with high and higher swelling notes—"I love to tell the story of Jesus and his love!" O dear brethren, may it be your theme, and our theme, in glory, to tell this old story of Jesus' love! We are assured that if we live devotedly, we shall die triumphantly.

We have so often wanted to tell you of the wonderful help the dear pilgrims give us every time they come. We had been thinking all along that we were fully awake, but when the last one came we found that we were not. You know how children try to do things when they are in a kind of somnambulistic condition. Well, we are exceedingly thankful that the dear Brother came and aroused us, and, as it were, opened the doors and windows of our humble hearts and let in so much more of the precious light and heavenly air than we were used to—all because of drowsiness. But when we got a good draught of this glory air and present light, we, of course, were more awake. And then how we partook of the grand, well-prepared food that he served to us! O we cannot tell you how it did help us, then and ever since!

So we are praising the Lord with renewed vigor, and never want to allow ourselves to do without God's pure air and light, now so radiant, even though it is "early in the Morning." It is the very hour in which our Master said he would "help her"—his church. And oh, so wonderful is the help! We are very grateful for all the good which the Lord sends us by any of you dear messengers. Praise his name!

We are eager to distribute any and all literature you may see proper to send to us for distribution. We note all the admonitions and warnings in THE TOWER, especially the one for Nov. 1, 1916. May the Lord guide and keep us all. With much appreciation, love and sympathy, we remain,

Yours to help all we can in this glorious cause of giving out the glad tidings of great joy to all people.

A WEE BAND AT MOUNTAIN GROVE.—Mo.

#### "THE EARTH TREMBLED—AND FELL" "LIGHTNING FLASHES FROM THE THRONE"

DEAR ONES OF BETHEL:—

On receiving my TOWER of November 15, how strange it looked, to see on the front cover—"Death of Charles T. Russell," and right under that line—"The Earth Trembled—and Fell"; and next, "Lightning Flashes from the Throne!" O how marvelously the prophecies are being fulfilled!

On hearing of our dearly beloved Pastor's death I was filled both with grief and joy; grief in the thought of what his sufferings must have been, and joy untold in the full realization that he had been ushered with exceeding joy into the presence of his glory and had seen his Master, for whom he had given his whole life, and had heard his sweet, "Well done!"

Oh, the wonderful spiritual illumination and light that have come down to me increasingly from the throne since our Pastor's translation is beyond words to express! I am ready to witness and do [although not fitted to instruct, along the lines of SCRIPTURE STUDIES] everywhere I have an opportunity about "that servant," who fed the household of faith "meat in due season" for 42 years—"The man clothed in linen, with the writer's ink horn by his side."

Oh, the bright shining, as from the East even unto the West, which fills my soul!

The glory and splendor revealed recalls to my mind the June 15th TOWER of 1915, in which was mentioned in an article on Solomon's Temple and the Antitype—that the dedication took place a month before it was completed. There was a suggestion that God's glory might be made manifest to the members of Christ's body—the spiritual temple—before it was quite completed.

I have been a constant reader and subscriber to the precious TOWER since October, 1893. I think you must have my name on Vow list, as I sent it to you twice. I could not well have kept alive my spiritual life without it, I believe. Enclosed find one dollar for 20 Memorial Towers of December 1.

May God continue to bless and direct you, and may he bless the memory of our dear Pastor Russell.

Yours in the Hope, awaiting the glorious kingdom,

FANNIE E. HAZLETT.—Pa.

#### "HOLDING THE HEAD"

DEAR BRETHREN:—

I am writing to you to say that I am dissatisfied with seeing so many beginning to compile Brother Russell's writings, making merchandise out of his work.

If this should go on, there is no knowing where it might end. I don't think that anybody should presume to compile Brother Russell's works but the WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY. They really belong to the Society. Brother Woodworth and Sister Seibert did some of this, but they turned it over to the Society and it received the benefit of it.

You will understand my view in the matter. I am in sympathy with Headquarters first, under the Lord; all other things come second.

Yours in Him,

JOSEPH CLARKSON.—Pa.

#### WORDS OF COMFORT FROM ONE OF THE BETHEL FAMILY DEAR BRETHREN:—

It seems not amiss that a member of Bethel Family should write a few words regarding the passing "within the veil" of our dearly beloved Brother Russell. We wish to mingle our voice with the abundant testimonials pouring in to us from all over the world, expressing the love, sympathy and loyalty of the dear saints of God.

Surely none realize more the worth of our beloved leader than do those of his own dear family! Surely none loved him more or feel more deeply his loss! To us the shock of his sudden departure was very keen and severe.

But I believe that I voice the sentiments of all the Bethel family, when I say that almost from the very first the unspeakable joy of realizing that our beloved one had entered into the very presence of our glorious King, and had gained his crown of glory, honor, immortality—that he was now forever beyond all power of his enemies to touch him or cause him further pain—almost made us forget our own deep loss.

Are we surprised that one so noble, so worthy, so utterly unselfish and devoted to God and his service, should have enemies? We might be, if our dear Master himself had not had enemies, and of the same class which has persecuted our own dear Pastor. It is sometimes said that a man is loved for

the enemies he has. And surely the wrath of our Pastor's enemies, and their venomous attacks upon him, which were so undeserved, only caused his friends who knew his worth to love him all the more. But we are sorry for those who now are unwittingly being used as instruments of the adversary to blind and bewilder honest souls who might see the truth were they not hindered by these "blind leaders of the blind."

We know that it will not be very long until all the blinded eyes will be opened and the deaf ears unstopped. Then how ashamed and humiliated these hinderers of the truth will be! We can afford to be very patient and pitiful and charitable during our brief waiting time. These leaders astray are storing up trouble and sorrow for themselves in the near future. But we are glad to hope that many at least of our dear Brother Russell's enemies will yet repent and turn fully to the Lord. But first their cherished schemes and institutions must fall, in the great world-wide cataclysm now so near. How helpful it might be to some of this class if they would only realize what is coming, and would stop and ask themselves the question expressed by the poet in his description of the mighty storm so near at hand:

"The time of trouble nears, it hasteth greatly—

E'en now its fierce winds stir the world-wide sea;

O when its waves shall swell to mountains stately,

Will its resistless billows sweep o'er me?"

There is a great comfort to the Lord's dear, tried and tempted ones in the prophetic words of inspiration given us by the Prophet of God: "Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified; but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed." (Isa. 66:5) Let us, then, be of good courage—our deliverance draweth nigh! The rebuke of his people God will soon take away from off all the earth. The Lord hath spoken it! Nevermore can the shafts of malice and envy touch our beloved, glorified Pastor and friend! Is this not cause for great rejoicing, even while we await our "change"?

He will never suffer any more, never again be weary—he was often so weary here, though never a complaint or murmur did he express. I love to think of the ineffable glory of his present wonderful life! I often wonder just what he is doing now, what are his thoughts, what marvelous new glories are constantly revealing themselves to him. How loving of our dear Lord to thus glorify him, to give him such a grand and sweet surprise, when he was expecting further laborious experiences here, still greater pain, weariness and suffering in that dear, tired body—with perhaps at the end a death of violence!

How we rejoice with him and for him, and how earnestly we pray for grace and wisdom from above, that we may walk faithfully in the Master's footsteps of suffering and self-sacrifice, until we, too, shall be called home to share with our beloved Pastor the glory of our blessed Lord and Head!

Your loving sister in Christ,

ALICE G. JAMES.

### PHOTO-DRAMA POSTCARDS—450,000

Brother Russell, shortly before his death, placed an order with a firm in France to supply us with 450,000 Postcards containing forty choice selections from the famous slides used in the PHOTO-DRAMA OF CREATION. The shipment was expected to arrive in Brooklyn before the holidays, but owing to the war conditions abroad, it was delayed and did not arrive until this week.

These choice selections of Postcards are put up in packs of 40 which will not be broken and are to be sold at 50c per pack, postpaid. On the address side of each of the postcards to the left, is an explanation of the picture in the words of Brother Russell. Each scene is in appropriate colors; there is nothing like them on the market.

### THE LORD'S VOLUNTEER ARMY

[First appearance of notice in this form.]

Many of the friends have written that they are desirous of doing more in the harvest work, and have asked if they may not look for further opportunities of service.

The output of the volunteer matter this year has been progressing very rapidly and satisfactorily. The friends have been zealous in the work, realizing that in all probability it will not be long before the night cometh in which no man can work. Others, unable to do much in the distribution of tracts, co-operated in other ways, and the Good Hopes have been coming in beyond our expectations. We are confident that the dear friends will be glad to have this information from Headquarters, and to learn, further, that in harmony with a resolution passed by the shareholders of the SOCIETY at the annual election of officers at Pittsburgh in January (which annual election has been held regularly for many years) the Office management at the Tabernacle has been placed upon the greatest efficiency basis possible and operated with less help, notwithstanding the fact that the volume of work done and the

general receipts have been larger during the present fiscal year than during the corresponding five months of last year. The Lord's blessing is still upon his people and upon his work, and everything therefore goes well at the Brooklyn Tabernacle and Bethel.

All this has opened the way for another issue of Volunteer matter for this year. We now have it under way, and feel sure that all will be pleased with it. It has to do in an important sense with present conditions, and is very timely. We are hoping it will contribute much toward an awakening to an appreciation of the beauties of the truth and of the long-promised kingdom of peace, which will be "the desire of all nations."

It is not our thought to interfere with the distribution of the last Volunteer literature—"THE WORLD ON FIRE"—but if those who have completed their labors will advise us how many copies of the new issue they can use, and if those who are still working on the former Volunteer matter will at once