

# THE MICHIGAN Outlook

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*"The entrance of Thy word giveth light."*

AUGUST 1910.

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OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

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# THE MICHIGAN OUTLOOK.

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# THE MICHIGAN OUTLOOK.

VOL. I. COLDWATER, MICH., AUGUST, 1910. NO. 10

## THE MICHIGAN OUTLOOK.

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## *Editorial.*

Special attention is called to what is said in this issue about the Conference and campmeeting at Hastings, Michigan, August 9 to 21. This ought to be the most largely attended, the most spiritual and helpful of all the meetings we have held on these grounds. Why? Because we are a needy people. As a Conference we need the equipment derived only from the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We all know the advantage of assembling in one place and unitedly waiting before God. These are days when men's souls are tried and many are apostatizing from the

truth and denying the Lord that bought them. Those who believe the Word of God and have experienced saving grace and cleansing power ought to double their diligence and make an extra effort to attend this meeting. Bring your neighbors and persuade as many unsaved to accompany you to the grounds as possible. Let unceasing prayer be offered to the end that many may be saved.

What we need most is not numbers, nor material increase, but true spiritual life. This cannot be assumed, but is only possessed through our consecration to God and the filling of His Holy Spirit. Shall we seek and find this?

See 1 Cor. 1-26. "Behold your calling, brethren, that not many wise after the flesh, etc." Shall we then, place undue confidence in, and place in unbecoming prominence the fact of scholarship? Is the essential thing the intellectual conception or the spiritual power? Be not deceived.

It may be our training has resulted in an undue confidence in something beside Christ. The church, our brethren, the doctrines and principles we hold and teach, or our personal sensations in our Christian experience. Such results have been witnessed.

Now let us return to the true path—the way made plain in the Holy Scriptures. Christ, our sole and only refuge. Our peace, our joy comes alone through faith in Him. If we are in Him we are saved and safe, no matter what may transpire. Reader, here is our rest.

“They shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.” “No man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.” John 10-28,29. So says the precious word of Christ to His followers. What assurance! With what confidence may we move forward through whatever comes in this life! “In the world,” says Jesus, “Ye shall have trouble, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” He did this on our behalf. He knew we could not, so He went through for us. He became our forerunner, and ran a race for us which we could not. We can follow at a broken, halting, faltering pace, but while we have faith in Him, we may expect victory through Him. “Let not your heart be troubled,” says He to us. He knew there would be that which would trouble our hearts, if we were not thus admonished. He knew men and devils would attempt to pluck us out of His hand; but, he said: “no man is able,” and again he said: “The gates of hell shall not prevail.” We may be more positive as to our salvation than we have been. Christ assures us again, “Be not afraid, only believe.” How sure is God’s word! Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him for righteousness. Rom. 4-3.

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering.” Heb. 10-23. It is faith that pleases God. Heb. 11-6. It is

faith Christ will look for when He comes again. Luke 18-8. It is faith that saves us. Rom. 5-1 and Eph. 2-8. If we believe in Christ as our personal Redeemer, Saviour and Lord, we may be assured of our present safety and eternal salvation. Are we thus assured or is there doubt and fear and uneasiness and worry and depression of spirit and melancholy and despair? Oh, believer in Christ, look up and rejoice! Thine is a glorious prospect. “All are yours, and ye are Christ’s, and Christ is God’s.” So everything is certain to faith. God could not have made things more sure. It is not of us, nor in us, but in Christ for us. Do we believe with a living faith? In these times of discouragement through earthly circumstances we need to announce our certainty and assurance. We are not positive enough. God wants us to be sure, and thus to feel at peace with Him. “Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith.” If you are in the faith, you are safe. “Ye are all the children of God, by faith in Christ Jesus.” Gal. 3-26.

By an oversight the name of Mrs. G. M. Bradish, author of “Grace and Truth” and “Chapter Studies in Hebrews,” in the July number, was omitted.

Wherever his lot is cast, the Spirit-filled pastor will conscientiously and gratefully make the most and the best of his people. He will never set himself above them in any spirit of vanity, playing the worldly gentleman that he may throw their manners into humiliating contrast.

“If the Bible is wrong in history, what guarantee is there that it is right in morals?”



## Miscellany.

### CHAPTER STUDIES IN HEBREWS.

#### III.

MRS. G. M. BRADISH.

The Great Salvation—Heb. 2:3 includes—

1. Being one with Christ, 2:11.
2. Deliverance from the power of the enemy and fear of death, 2:15.
3. Faithful watching over of High Priest, 3:6.
4. Entering into His Rest, 4:10.
5. Eternal Salvation, 5:9.
6. Progression while anchored, 6:18.
7. Unceasing intercession, 7:25.
8. Benefits of New Covenant, 8:6.
9. Eternal redemption, 9:12.
- Appearing in the presence of God for us, 9:24.
10. Sanctification, 10:10.
11. The gift of faith worked out in other lives.
12. Chastening which bears fruit, 12:14.
13. Contentment, because of victory.

### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EVANGELIZING THE WORLD AND CONVERTING IT?

M. J. BADDER.

To evangelize is bringing good news. To preach or teach the Gospel. To tell the good tidings of Salvation from sin, through the atoning blood of Christ.

To convert is to change to another form or state. To turn from sin and the love of sin to the love of God. We have the authority of God's word and are convinced from the wonderful progress being made along evangelistic and missionary lines that the world will eventually become evangelized.

On the other hand, have we Scrip-

tural warrant, or may we hope from our knowledge of the past or by observation of present existing moral or spiritual conditions that the world of mankind will be converted in the present age? We answer no.

The purpose of God in the plan of redemption was to save the "whosoever will." From the beginning the Lord was mindful of and visited in mercy a race ruined by the fall. Holy men went forth to warn the wicked and preach deliverance from the bondage of sin. Noah preached righteousness one hundred and twenty years, yet the world of humanity, save eight souls, went down in the flood. Abraham pleaded with God in behalf of the cities of the plain, but they repented not and the doomed cities went down under judgment fire. The prophets faithfully proclaimed the good news of the coming Messiah, but few believed the report. Instead of the world being converted, the prophets, many of them, were killed, and from Malachi to John the Baptist, the voice of a prophet was not heard in the land.

Finally God sent His beloved Son into the world, "He came unto His own and His own received Him not." A few believed on Him, but the mob cried crucify Him. He was nailed to the cross. He died of a broken heart and was buried. He arose from the grave, and after forty days He ascended to the Father, but the world was not converted.

Just before leaving this world He commissioned His followers to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. No promise was made them that the world would be converted but all the world must receive the message, and after having received their pentecostal equipment they went forth and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the Word with signs following.

What then will be the state of the

religious world when Jesus returns to earth? He declared as it was in the days of Noah so would it be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man. Paul, in writing to Timothy, states concerning the last days: "Some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils." He speaks of perilous times in the last days, "For men shall be lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God. Having a form of Godliness but denying the power thereof, for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth and shall be turned unto fables." And in 2d Thess., 2d chapter, Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God showing himself that he is God.

Therefore we conclude that when Christ returns to earth He will not find the world converted to Him. However it is the mission of the church to carry the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth, as ambassadors, to beseech men in Christ's stead to become reconciled to God. For it hath pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. It is the mission of the Holy Spirit to convince of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. It is His office work to convert, to change and cleanse the soul of everyone who will accept of the remedy for sin, the atoning blood of Christ. Millions have been saved and are in glory. Millions more are on the way. The preaching of the gospel is not a failure, and when He comes again to earth the devil will be bound a thousand years and cast into the bottomless pit. He can no more

deceive the nations till the thousand years are fulfilled.

Are you watching for the coming of the glad millennial day,  
When our blessed Lord will come and catch His waiting bride away?  
Oh my heart is filled with rapture as I labor, watch and pray,  
For our Lord is coming back to earth again.

### OLD WORLD TOPSY-TURVY AND TIMES OUT OF JOINT, SAYS PRESBYTERIAN MODERATOR.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May 20.—"I cannot be a pessimist while 'God is in His heaven,' but I declare to you that discredit the muck rakers and the mock reformers as we will, 'The times are out of joint,'" said Retiring Moderator James M. Barkey of Detroit in his sermon before the 22d general assembly of the Presbyterian church.

"If virtues are virile, evils are gigantic. Twin sins that threaten the very existence of this Christian nation are the vulgar race for gain and the rotting sin of social vices.

"The former of these evils, the inordinate love of money, is the parental and passionate root of sins that have vitiated the whole world. It has given us the grafter in office and 'the white slave dealer' in society, those twin vampires of civilization. It has corrupted the functions of government and choked the channels of justice.

"Sunday baseball, Sunday excursions, Sunday newspapers, Sunday saloons, Sunday theatres and the like are its creatures. Not one of them is prompted by motives of benevolence. Not one of them leaves the world better, but worse. It is this money lust that promotes the prize ring with its survival of savagery that once butchered gladiators 'to make a Roman holiday.'

"But bad as is the inordinate passion for wealth and its attendant evils,

it is white and wholesome as compared to that second category of sins, at which I hinted a moment ago. This is that social sin that runs so often in the wake of wealth and luxurious living.

"Ravages of tuberculosis and typhoid fever are as mere side issues to these terrific sicknesses that are the result of this shameful and secret sin. And these physical sicknesses in their turn are but superficial as compared to the sin itself, which eats out the very soul.

"I name only these two great categories of sin. They are by no means all. But as we see their terrific hideousness, is it not enough to convince us that the want of this wicked world yawns with an unmeasured depth. Yes, look at it as you will, this old world is turned topsy turvy, and I do declare it my solemn conviction that, for its unrighting, there is nothing this old sinning, sorrowing, suffering world more needs than a witnessing church."

It is refreshing to see some others waking up beside ourselves; and we are none too much awake! One of the most alarming features of the day is the absence of alarm or concern in the churches. And the Presbyterians, too! Let us rejoice in this good omen. One of the most difficult problems we know of is to reconcile post-millennial theory with present day conditions. These futile attempts, with their lamentable failures, are in evidence everywhere, and in no place more than in the puzzled brain and depressed spirit of the preacher of the theory, that the world and the church are both growing better, while he stands by and witnesses the daily, almost hourly spiritual decline in his own church, and the increasing speed of the money mad, pleasure loving, self serving swirl of the world in its downward progress toward inevitable perdition, and its outward progress farther and further from virtue and holiness and

from God and heaven. What a blessing it is to the rest that some are awake! The final conclusions of this brother are misleading. God has "a witnessing church" and always has had. What this "old sinning, sorrowing, suffering world needs" is the Christ himself to return again, and assume his rightful authority, and this is going to take place sooner than some people think, and perhaps not as soon as some other people think, but come it will, with awful grandeur and power, and the signs are multiplying which indicate its nearness.

H. A. DAY.

### INTERROGATORIES.

(a) Is the church identical with Israel? Are their relations to God the same? Are the promises given to Israel applicable to it?

(b) If the church has not taken the place of Israel in this age how can it appropriate the promises and covenant made with Israel?

(c) Christ came preaching the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14-15:) Is "the Kingdom of God" a mere figure of speech, or is it a designation of great reality? Is it the most proper and literal designation of what Jesus brought to men?

(d) Jesus from the beginning of His ministry attached disciples to Himself: Were these simply pupils of a great Rabbi, or were they chosen as members of the Kingdom of God which He proclaimed?

(e) From out a larger number of disciples He chose the twelve: Is the position and relation of the twelve different from that of His other followers?

(f) Is it the rule of the Kingdom that men are made participants of the Kingdom by being brought into that state of spiritual poverty such as is described in the beatitudes?

(g) Does the idea of the Kingdom of God, in the Epistles, occupy such a

commanding position as in the teaching of the Lord Himself?

(h) What is the difference between the Kingdom and the Church?

(i) Will the Kingdom be established through the Church?

(j) Had Israel accepted Christ as their Messiah would the Church, of Gentile blood, have been established?

(k) Is the Kingdom of God larger than what is included in all the visible church organizations?

(l) What did Paul mean when he said that there was entrusted to him the "Gospel of the uncircumcision, even as with Peter the Gospel of the circumcision (Gal. 2:7)?"

(m) What is the distinction between the Gospel to the Jew and the Gentile?

(n) Can the Church as a spiritual body be included within the bounds of visible organization?

(o) Is the principal office of the church organizations to help the spiritual minded keep step with God?

(p) What is "spiritual wickedness in high places?"

(q) Is it the mission of the Church to refine iniquity? —I. P.

We solicit answers to the above questions.—(Editor.)

### THE BIBLE BARRED OUT.

It is unfortunate that the Supreme Court of Illinois felt compelled by the principles of religious liberty to bar the Bible out of the public schools of the state. We say unfortunate for the double reason that the action against the Bible was begun by Catholic citizens, and that the revelations of bribery and unblushing wickedness in the State make all that the Bible says against sin a prime necessity at the present time. Catholic leaders condemn the public schools as "Godless." Shutting the Bible out of them only makes them more Godless. Therefore it is unfortunate that the court could not have saved these Catholic citizens from their own folly, or at least from such conclusive evidence of hypocrisy

in charging that schools are "Godless." And every citizen must feel that unless the public schools produce better civic conditions than now shame the state, their cost to the public cannot be justified on the ground that they are necessary to good citizenship. Bribery, graft and political wickedness running riot do not prove such a necessity.

The plain fact of the matter is that education which does not get down into the moral nature is a failure in the production of good citizenship. Mrs. Young, superintendent of the Chicago public schools, is quoted as saying: "I believe that moral training and the teaching of the fundamental principles of truth, honesty, right living in private and civic life, and common humanity have an important place in the public schools." But how is she going to teach these things? "Fundamental principles" go to the bottom of human nature, and all history proves that there is no getting on rock bottom in morals without striking into the spiritual attributes of man. Aristotle and Plato would have said and did say as much as Mrs. Young says, and yet the utter failure of Greek and Roman moral systems is well known. To exclude all that the Christian religion furnishes us from the public schools is practically to put them on the old pagan basis. It matters not that this is done in the name of liberty and under the necessity of free institutions, it is a no less serious handicap to the efficiency of public education as a means of producing good citizenship. We are not saying that the Supreme Court should have decided otherwise, because this is a country of helpless majorities and of cranky and sacred minorities; but we are saying that a system of education which is compelled to consider the few more than the many and prejudices more than positive principles must necessarily fail to reach the high point of usefulness.



In his address at Harvard, Mr. Roosevelt said that he had found in the Old World mingled hope and fear regarding our country, hope that it would right human wrongs and give the common man a refuge, but along with this hope grave apprehension that we were falling short, that we were not reaching our ideals. But who does not know that the Bible is back of the loftiest ideals ever contemplated by the human mind? To set these ideals before the sixteen millions of pupils gathered in our public schools would have more effect than all the glittering generalities and platitudes about truth and honesty and right living.

We repeat, therefore, that it is unfortunate that a high tribunal should shut out this highest source of moral inspiration and uplift just at a time when the friends of humanity at home and abroad are specially feeling the great need of it. One cannot help feeling that liberty ought not to throw restrictions around everything but freedom to go to the devil.—The Advance.

### JESUS WALKING ON THE SEA.

Matt. 14:22-36.

The typology of this incident is full of meaning and has such comforting truths for the Christian. The sea in the imagery of Scripture means the nations, the mere unorganized mass of humanity. In the midst of this, battling with the boisterous elements arising from it, are the disciples, believers. They are in the boat, which as the ark of old, kept its inmates from being engulfed. They were there in the darkness, alone, in obedience to their Master's orders, while He was engaged in prayer. Is not our Saviour, now, at the right hand of the Father for us? When His work as intercessor (Heb. 7:25, Rom. 8:34, etc.) is ended, He will come in that significant fourth watch of the night, walking on the sea, to rescue His own. As the winds

and waves die down, calmed by His presence, He brings us into the desired haven. May we not be affrighted, but watching and longing say "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

MRS. G. M. BRADISH.

### A BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM.

In the mountains of Tyrol it is the custom of the women and children to come out when it is the close of day and sing. Their husbands, fathers and brothers answer them from the hills on their way homeward. On the shores of the Adriatic such a custom prevails. There, the wives of the fishermen come down about sunset and sing a melody. After singing the first stanza they listen awhile for an answering melody from off the water and continue to sing and listen until the well known voices come, borne on the waters, telling that the loved one is almost home. How sweet to the weary fisherman, as the shadows gather around him, must be the songs of the loved ones at home that sing to cheer him, and how they must strengthen and tighten the links that bind together these dwellers by the sea. How wondrously beautiful to the weary pilgrim as the shadows gather, must be the songs of the angelic choir. And then when the soul begins to feel its way through the valley of the shadow of death how sweet to hear the voices of the loved ones in the beautiful home beyond, singing a welcome home.

E. F. McCARTY.

"A cautious old woman when asked what she thought of one of her neighbors, replied: 'Why, I don't like to say anything about my neighbors; but as to Mr. Jones, sometimes I think, and then again I don't know; but after all, I rather guess he'll turn out a good deal such a sort of a man as I take him to be.'"

## Missions.

Our Commission: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Motto for the month's meditation: "My nearest neighbor is my neediest neighbor."

### CHRIST WANTS THE BEST.

Christ wants the best. He in the far-off ages

Once claimed the firstling of the flock, the finest of the wheat,  
And still He asks His own in gentlest pleading,

To lay their highest hopes and brightest talents at His feet,  
He'll not forget the feeblest service, humblest love

He only asks that of our store we give to Him

The best we have.

Christ gives the best. He takes the hearts we offer

And fills them with His glorious beauty, joy and peace.  
And in His service as we're growing stronger

The calls to grand achievements still increase.

The richest gifts for us on earth, or in heaven above

Are hid in Christ. In Jesus we receive  
The best we have.

And is our best too much? Our loving service

For His sake? O, friend, let us remember

How once our Lord poured out his soul for us,

And in the prime of His mysterious manhood

Gave up His precious life upon the cross!

The Lord of lords, by whom the world was made,

Through bitter grief and tears, gave us  
The best He had.

—Selected.

## SEED-THOUGHTS.

From the National Congress of Missions, Chicago, May 3-6. Reported by John Timothy Stone in *Missionary Review of the World*.

"Obliterate Christianity from the world and there is no archangel eloquent enough to depict the catastrophe which might ensue."

"The responsibility of America to the world will not be met by the reproduction of our social modes in the East. It is not our responsibility to raise new moral standards for the East; they need more than a knowledge of right and wrong; they need the energizing power of a new dynamo. What is it? The gospel of God's infinite love, the message of Christ's eternal salvation, the glad tidings of man's redemption from sin, the glorious hope of life immortal. To America has been given this message of divine love, and it is America's world responsibility to send it forth. If any nation would be great among the nations of the world, let that nation serve."

"Indifference is the great sin of today: men do not love Him; they do not hate Him."

"The five points of an ideal missionary church — prayer, study, method, giving, serving."

"Tonight one-half the world is without Christ. It is not by chance that that half is poor and sick. We are sending one missionary to them to six hundred ninety-nine we keep at home."

"In the Far-East the situation is a crisis and an opportunity. The old Poly-demonism and Confucianism are breaking down. What will take their place? We must create ideas of sin, God and salvation through Christ. If the Church of Christ were willing to pour forth its life of men and

unusually perplexing. Were it not that revelation has, with steady purpose, revealed beforehand these conditions and pointed with unerring certainty to these events, we should have failed in utter despair. The voice of Jesus, echoing through nearly twenty centuries, bids us look up and lift up our heads for our redemption draweth nigh, Luke 21-28. This is very unnatural, as we are humanly inclined to depression when earthly and human conditions are forbidding. On nearly every charge in the Conference are found an unusual array of perplexing and embarrassing matters, some of which might have been avoided by a more careful and prayerful course, both by pastors and people. Under these circumstances one of the most human and natural things to do is to find fault with some one else. At this point it will be well to heed James, 5-9, revised text: "Murmur not, brethren, one against another, that ye be not judged: behold the judge standeth before the doors." We are all weak and liable to err and it were better for all if we remembered this. No human standard of perfection will suffice. Christ is our righteousness, Jer. 23-6. He only is God's righteous one. See Isa. 53-11, and Rom. 5-18, revised text. The successful pastor will not be he that criticises and condemns, but he that encourages faith and inspires hope in the believer.

One prevalent circumstance has brought inspiration to my heart on nearly every charge I have visited, viz: The presence of the Holy Spirit in the place of meeting. In one or two instances there has been a lack of this, but for the most part the Divine response has been given to our efforts, and oftentimes in a very marked degree. Generally the

numbers are few, but the felt presence of God in His earthly sanctuary has more than compensated for the absence of the people. Another inspiration comes from the fact of how well our people love the pure word of God. They take it as hungry children take wholesome food. It is a fearful mistake to say that God's word separates His people from one another. Nay, verily.

The Word and Spirit of God cooperate in edifying and unifying believers. Manipulators of the Word, by the way they handle it, may confuse and divide the people, but the Word itself is designed to build up not to destroy.

Another source of encouragement lies in the fact of our valuable church property, kept in such good repair by the care of the preachers and the devoted efforts of the people. We have commodious churches and parsonages, unincumbered by debt, of which we need not be ashamed. For this let us be thankful, but remember that God is pleased with His people when their whole trust and confidence is placed in His Son. This will please Him more than thousands of gold and silver or outward furnishings. He delivered Him for our loving confidence. Shall we disappoint God in these last days? Let us be like the Thessalonians, of whom Paul writes: "Your faith groweth exceedingly and the love of each one of you all toward one another aboundeth." 2 Thess. 1-3, and in 1 Thess. 1-8. "In every place your faith to Godward is gone forth." (Revised text.)

If pastors gave more heed to securing strong faith in their people toward Christ instead of so much care for their behavior, the churches would be stronger and of better courage. Faith

first and always. Paul will tell us what to do afterward: "I desire that thou affirm confidently, to the end that they who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works." Titus 3-8, revised text. Read contexts also. When the earth is quaking, when men's hearts are terror stricken from the awful presence of an offended God because they have neglected salvation and rejected His Son, then in Him, by faith alone, will the believer find a sure and safe place of security and peace. Oh, the wonder of God's grace! Oh, the heights and depths of His love! Oh, the eternity of His mercy! How inconceivable, how unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! Oh, my soul! Be thou found in Him in the day that is so soon to dawn!

H. A. DAY.

As we were going to press a letter from Brother and Sister Ovenshire came, telling of the good work in far-away Africa. Among other interesting things they say: "We want to do our very best for our Lord and Master. Our hearts rejoice that we have the privilege of carrying His message to these people who need it so much. God has been dealing so precious with all the workers that with one voice we unite in praising Him. Don't forget to pray for the work and the workers."

HOUGHTON.—Though brief reference to the work of our School at Houghton was made in the July number of the OUTLOOK, we deem it a privilege to say farther that the Commencement exercises all through were of high grade. The students are not only taught to think, but to think along right lines. Many of our institutions of learning are turning out men and women

who make their mental training of paramount value. The mind and heart are turned away from the loftiest and purest ideals of life. A cultured intellect, with an indifferent heart to the claims of God upon the life and service, is almost sure to end in failure. The demands of the secular world are so seductive and her standards so low that the young man or woman without the support of a living, active faith in God is almost sure to be ensnared in evil. The School at Houghton holds and maintains the highest standards and ideals, intellectually and spiritually. The College preparatory class of ten members gave evidence of much natural ability and reflected credit upon their instructors. We have heard college classes who could do no better. The College class of two young men proved that success does not depend upon numbers. Besides the annual address, the exercises on Commencement day consisted of music and a stirring and able valedictory by Mr. Stanley Wright. President Luckey is at the head of a strong faculty who have the best interests of each student at heart. These teachers are men and women who fear God, and parents need not hesitate to put their young people under their care. S. A. M.

PITTSFORD.—As the Conference year draws to a close and we take a retrospective view of its experiences, we recall many occasions upon which the special blessing of our God has been given. While there have been no deluges of spiritual blessings poured out upon us, we have had frequent occasions to rejoice because of the copious showers of blessings which have strengthened our faith, revived our spirits, and brightened our hopes. The



spiritual conditions on the circuit are comparatively good. This manifests itself in good spiritual prayermeetings and classmeetings, a good Sunday school and a normal attendance upon the Sunday services. The congregation is purchasing a new modern lighting plant, which will be installed in a few days. This will add much to our comfort and convenience on occasions of worship. Our fourth quarterly meeting was held July 16 and 17, when our president, Brother H. A. Day, preached to us some very able sermons upon the "Second Coming." The truths uttered found a welcome among the truly spiritual members of the congregation. One was admitted into church membership, and there are good prospects of making a few more additions before the Conference year closes. We received almost a unanimous invitation from the congregation to continue our pastorate here for another year. We are urging our people to attend Campmeeting, with good results, for some are planning to go.

Mrs. C. S. Rennells, wife of the Secretary of our Conference, is at the home of her father and mother at Coldwater, helping to care for her mother who has been very sick.

Born to Rev. and Mrs. J. A. McPherson of Bird Lake, on July 17, an eight pound boy. Congratulations of the OUTLOOK.

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

"If the Bible is not a reliable guide in facts, how do we know that it is a trustworthy guide in doctrine?"

"Better small and shine, than great and cast a shadow."

Heaven is not possible save as people are in accord with the divine law and divine life.—*McLeod*.

"The conceptions of the Bible are as large as its subjects. It guesses nothing, postulates nothing, apologizes for nothing."

"He will never talk well and with real success to men for God, who has not learned well how to talk to God for men."

"Let never day or night unhallowed pass  
But still remember what the Lord hath done."

"Science is a first-rate piece of furniture for a man's upper chamber, if he has common sense on the ground-floor."

God never meant that man should scale the heavens by strides of human wisdom.

Happiness is bounded on the north by contentment of state, on the south by lowliness of mind, on the east by helpfulness of life, on the west by holiness of heart.—*McLeod*.

"Abiding in Christ, what does it not secure? Peace, perfect peace; rest, constant rest; answers to all our prayers; victory over all our foes; pure holy living; ever increasing fruitfulness. All, all of these, are the glad outcome of abiding in Christ."