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"A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel."

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MRS. T. C. ROUNDS, EDITOR.

ON THE THRESHOLD.

BY JULIA H. JOHNSTON.

We stand upon the threshold
Of this new, unknown year.
The door which no man opens,
Lets in the dawn-light clear.
The Infinite, Eternal,
Has set the door ajar,
And, standing at the portal,
We hear the tones from far.
The voice of by-gone day-times,
The unreturning Past,
Grows clearer as we listen,
From out the shadow vast.
There comes the sound of singing,
The notes of joy and praise;
There comes the breath of sighing
O'er lost and wasted days.

But feet that pass the threshold
May never more return.
Through doors that no man shutteth,
The beckoning signals burn.
The Hand that wheels the planets
Has brought us to this place,
And, standing on the threshold,
We seek His promised grace.
What wistful faces greet us,
What pleading tones, and low.
We journey forth to meet them —
We can not choose but go.

Among them all, as thronging,
They greet us, face to face,
We meet the gaze appealing,
Of Israel's scattered Race,
Ah, "this year also," Master,
Shall we be sent in quest
Of these, thine earthly kindred,
So far from home and rest?
Then help us, on the threshold
Of this, thine open door,
To see thy Form, and follow
Where thou dost go before.

Peoria, Illinois.

PROPHECY FULFILLING.

BY THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING STAR.

It would almost seem as if the prophets of old had in their minds especially the days in which we live. Events come upon us with such strange and startling rapidity, that everybody wonders what tomorrow's record may be. It is as if each new day speaks out to that just departing, news of stranger and stronger import; but strange and startling as the new reports are, they are all confirmatory of God's Word, and teach true knowledge to the exercised heart.

Yesterday told out the overflow of the old effete condition of things in Turkey, and the inflow of a young spirit of which great and better things are expected. Today tells us that as part of its programme, Young Turkey has resolved to establish the Jew in Palestine. In these circumstances it is not improbable that the Sultan, or a Sultan, in the very near future, shall, with the consent of the powers, grant a concession to the Zionists, under which the Holy Land shall become the property of the Jewish people. It would follow, of course, that the Jews should, in order thus to hold the land, be recognized as a nation.

W. A. J. F. M. B. 2

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that finally through them He might preach the Gospel to the world.

Before the afternoon session the Annual Business Meeting was held, when the various reports were presented, and officers were elected for the coming year.

The Trustees elected were the same as last year with the exception of Mr. Peter Sinclair and Rev. E. E. Gruenstein, who were added to the Board. To our deep regret the Rev. Dr. Breen tendered his resignation on account of removing from the city. The Rev. Wm. Stuart, of Chicago, was elected to fill his unexpired term of office, and Mr. Simon Dekker was elected chairman of the Executive Committee.

Following this the audience were favored with a solo, "The Shepherd of Israel," by Miss M. Helgeson, which was ably rendered and much appreciated by all who heard it.

The afternoon session was opened by Rev. W. T. McArthur, who later gave way to Professor Scott, who introduced the Field Secretary, Rev. Louis Meyer, who spoke on "The Jewish Immigrant." Mr. Meyer was followed by the Rev. Dr. Patterson, the subject of whose discourse was "Christ's relation to Israel." The meeting was closed after a short testimony meeting during which many converted Jews gave testimony to the saving power of Christ.

The evening service, which was largely evangelistic in character, was presided over by the Rev. Dr. A. C. Dixon, who conducted the praise service until the arrival of Prof. Delamater, who had charge of the musical arrangements of evening. In introducing the Rev. Louis Meyer, Dr. Dixon gave some of his own experiences in Jewish work, and finally called upon Bro. Meyer to answer the question,

"How shall we reach the Jew?" Bro. Meyer handled the subject in his usual masterly manner, emphasizing the fact that if we are to reach the Jew, we must go among them as men, giving them the word of God, believing that God can and will convert a Jew. After the address the meeting was thrown open for testimony, and a number of Jewish brethren and sisters gave testimony to the fact that they had accepted the Lord Jesus Christ, not only as the Messiah, but as a living Saviour. From the tenor of the testimonies it was made manifest that in practically every case it was the Word of God, directed by the Spirit, which had been the ultimate means of their conversion.

After the offering on behalf of the Mission was taken up, the meetings was closed with prayer by Dr. Dixon.

THE WORK OF OUR FIELD SECRETARY, REV. LOUIS MEYER, IN THE YEAR 1908.

The third year of my activity as traveling lecturer on the Jews and the proclamation of the Gospel to them has quickly passed. It has been a year full of labors and full of blessings.

That it has been a year full of labors, the very number of lectures and addresses delivered by me within its three hundred and sixty-six days will prove, for I was permitted to address Christian audiences on my special subject in its many different phases five hundred and fourteen times. The sphere of my activity during 1908 extended from Maine in the East to Iowa in the West and from the northern part of Wisconsin to Tennessee in the South. Within seventeen states of our wide country I enjoyed the privilege of

addressing congregations of many denominations on the necessity of preaching the Gospel to our Jewish neighbors. The Theological Seminaries at Chicago (Congregational and McCormick), at Plymouth, Wis. (German Reformed), at Dubuque, Iowa (German Presbyterian), at Richmond, Va. (Presbyterian), at Louisville, Ky. (Baptist and Presbyterian), and at Allegheny, Pa. (United Presbyterian), offered precious opportunities to reach the future ministers. The Bible Training School in Fort Wayne, Ind., the Missionary Institute at Nyack, N. Y., the Bible Teachers' Training School in New York, and the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago used me to deliver courses of lectures on the Jew and his evangelization to their crowds of students, who will become religious workers in many lands. Of the great Bible Conferences, Winona, Northfield, Montrose, Grove City, Old Orchard, and Nyack, invited me to address the large audiences which gather at these places year after year. It was the third time that I spoke at Winona, the second time at Northfield, Old Orchard, and Nyack. While all these Conferences offered exceptional opportunities, for which I am very thankful to the Lord and to their great leaders, Winona's head, Dr. J. W. Chapman, assigned me the second Lord's Day of the Conference and thus gave me one of the greatest opportunities I ever enjoyed. The Particular Synod of Chicago, Dutch Reformed Church, the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church, and the Synod of Virginia of the Southern Presbyterian Church, were addressed by me, while I had to decline the invitations of several Presbyteries, Synods, and Associations, because I had other engagements. In sev-

eral cities I was especially invited to speak on the Jewish problem to the ministerial associations and unions.

These numerous meetings naturally involved much use of railroads. I was obliged to travel many thousand of miles, sometimes reaching my destination just in time to get ready for the meeting. They also involved some strenuous work, and on many a Lord's Day of the year 1908 I spoke five times, while I gave three addresses on week days quite frequently where opportunities to gather the audiences offered themselves. Thus I can well say that the past year has been one of abundant labors.

But it has been one of wonderful blessing also. In my many travels I have met with no accident and with no delay which made the reaching of my destination in time for the appointed meeting impossible. My health in general has been better than in past years and the Lord has enabled me to stand the strain of planning and speaking and writing and traveling exceedingly well. He has given me the calm trust in Him which alone has made me able to suffer the continuous absence from my wife and three children, who have suffered more than usual from sickness during the year. He has supplied all my temporal needs. Having raised up the consecrated Christian friends who cheerfully provide my full salary so that I am no financial burden to the Chicago Hebrew Mission, He has provided also the means necessary for travel and entertainment. Though I do not make the payment of my traveling expenses and entertainment a condition of my acceptance of proffered invitations, but rather trust in God and do not

mention money, the year has closed without the Chicago Hebrew Mission being obliged to furnish any funds whatever for my traveling expenses. Thus the Lord has supplied all my needs.

Wondrously has the Lord blessed me in my addresses. Appreciative audiences have greeted me everywhere, and the Spirit's blessed influence has carried the messages into the hearts of my hearers, if I can believe the innumerable oral and written assurances to that effect which I have received. In several towns and cities work among the Jewish inhabitants has been started by congregations and pastors, while in one city an Interdenominational Mission has been founded, as people tell me, in response to my appeals which the Lord blessed. Wherever I have spoken, I have been invited to come again, and even now, in the first days of the year 1909, I have been forced to make already appointments for the summer months.

One of the greatest blessings, however, which I have received during the year, has been the appreciation shown by my Jewish brethren. The Hebrew Christians of our great country, most of whom I have known for years by correspondence, have cheered me mightily by their sympathetic presence at my meetings and their offers of aid in arranging for others. During my course of lectures in New York, under the auspices of The Bible Teachers' Training School, so many of the New York Hebrew Christian workers were in attendance, that a number of Gentile Christians spoke to me about the encouragement for Jewish work thus given.

In the smaller towns, especially in the South, I have met many children and grandchildren of

Hebrew Christians, who, while they were conscious of their Jewish origin, had never thought of the fact that they had special obligations to the unconverted Jews, and in a few rare cases were trying to hide their racial descent. It has been most gratifying to me to have these descendants of Hebrew Christians rally around me, invite me to their homes, and eagerly inquire after those things concerning which they had been utterly ignorant. In several cases the pastors of these people have learned for the first time that they have descendants of believing Jews in their congregations, and pastors and people have become deeply interested. To myself these experiences have been most helpful, and they have revealed to me to a certain extent why, years ago when I was a pastor in Minnesota and in Iowa, the Lord led me to spend so much time and money in investigating the lives and stories of American Hebrew Christians, for often I am able to tell the grandchildren the story of the conversion of their Jewish grandfather which they have never heard. But while my Hebrew Christian brethren thus cheered me in my labors, still greater encouragement was given me by the reception I had from many of my unconverted brethren. True, many of them, when invited by Christian friends to come and hear my lectures, plainly showed their antipathy and bitter feeling, but many came and heard me. In the smaller cities I have had Jews in my audiences always, and in some places considerable numbers of Jewish men and women came to hear me. They were good listeners and often assured me afterward of the appreciation of my efforts. In one of the towns of West Virginia, where quite a colony of Jews is

settled, some Jewish business men attended my lectures. One day I was standing before the show-window of one of the Jewish stores, when the owner called me in. He wanted to tell me that he had been in the audience the evening before and had received a new idea of Christianity and of the reasons why Christians desire to preach Christ to the Jews. To show his appreciation, he wanted to give me some cigars. But when I assured him that I use no tobacco since I found Christ, he forced some pretty postal cards for my children upon me. Such appreciation from men who are taught to despise all Hebrew Christians as frauds and traitors, surely is the work of the Lord.

To Him be glory and praise for the abundance of labors and of blessings which the year 1908 brought unto me. To Him I look for 1909.

LOUIS MEYER.

402 Carmalt St., Mt. Auburn,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE YEAR 1908.

From the dawning day of the closing year till its last day was a thing of the past an invisible hand of love has been leading, guiding, strengthening and upholding us. Not always has the way been one smooth path, not always by still waters, but by the help of the "Holy One of Israel" I believe, notwithstanding this, like David of old, we have kept on "going and growing," conscious that the very trials have been blessings in disguise. So though oftentimes weary in the work, we are not wearied of it. A steady plod, plod, plod, has characterized the work in all its departments. Our faith is and has been

resting on the faithful word of a faithful God and the future is as bright as His promises. So we call it a year of great blessing and encouragement.

The opposition to the work on the northwest side has been fierce, but we believe it to be an evidence of the power of the Holy Spirit working in answer to prayer. This opposition began by the attendance upon our open-air and inside meetings of some prominent rabbis and Jewish teachers. They were very annoying with their interruptions. It would seem that they might have taken warning from what befell one of the rabbis. He had attended both the outside meeting as well as the inside and had caused considerable trouble. He left the Mission, went around the corner to his home, sat on the doorstep and in a few minutes died.

Some days after this an immense mob gathered around the Mission about the time the children were gathering into the Industrial School and raged around the building for three hours, smashing some windows and a screen door, much to the terror of the four or five teachers and a few scholars who had already entered the building, but whom the Lord most wonderfully kept and sustained. But prayer was answered and we were delivered from "the unreasonable and wicked men."

A day or two after this a flaming circular in Yiddish and English was issued, signed by the rabbis and officers of the synagogue and teachers in the Talmud Torah school quite near, condemning us and warning the people, closing with these words: "Up then and to thy tents O Israel! Take care of thy children, thy sons and thy daughters, that they fall not a prey in the snare of the missionary. We have