R. A. Liddell

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NOVEMBER 1943

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR
CHRIST'S CROWN AND COVENANT

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AMONG THE CHURCHES

TRUST IN GOD

A HISTORICAL SKETCH

Published Monthly By
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THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN ADVOCATE

"Stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

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VOL. LXXVII NOVEMBER No. 11

THANKSGIVING

This is Thanksgiving month, and there are many things to be thankful for. Thanks to God for His providential care, in giving us all needed material and spiritual blessings. Ingratitude seems to be one of our besetting sins. An acknowledgment of God's mercies claims our first attention. While we may not have received during the past year, all we wanted, yet, we have an abundance of the necessities of life, and there is no good reason to complain. Much might be written in an attempt to enumerate these blessings, but a few words from the heart are sufficient.

There are some things, however, that are so often forgotten, that come within the range of our everyday dealings with our fellow beings, that should be remembered. The work we do is often difficult, even beyond our endurance, if it was not for the timely help we get from our friends. These things too often are loverlooked.

In publishing our church magazine, help, timely help, is an essential to success. It is with gratitude that we notice the assistance that some of our readers have given during these trying years. We can not mention the names of them all, but it is only fair to mention the names of our missionaries, Miss Martha Ramsay, Miss Susan J. Cunningham; our correspon-

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Send subscriptions and address all matters of a business character to Publisher.

Send all matters intended for publication to the Editor.

Miss Ramsey deserves every possible commendation for her faithfulness to this needy field. October 3 was Rally Day in the Sunday School, and 82 were present. Pastoral calls have been made on all members of the church, and their attendance urged at all meetings. A fourth year student at the Los Angeles Bible Institute has been secured to preach when the new work is opened.

The mid-week prayer and study meetings on Thursday afternoon are being continued, and the results are satisfying. On the same afternoon at a later hour a Youth Meeting is conducted by Miss Ramsey. In an effort to reach the unchurched, the neighborhood is being recanvassed.

Faithfully yours,
THAYER A. WESTLAKE.

Is your Subscription to the Advocate, due?
A prompt renewal will be appreciated.

HOUSTON, KENTUCKY

Anath Home, Houston, Ky.

October 4, 1943.

Dear Friends:

As we look at these brightly colored hills, we recall the words of Rev. Ike Gabbard as he conducted a funeral service out in the open. He said: "It looks as though God had emptied His paint pots all over the hills." The earth, too, declares the glory of God. The earth is full of His riches. In the midst of a world of strife and wickedness, we still can rejoice for "the Lord reigneth," and He still loves and cares for His children. His promises still hold. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." There are periods of depression, yes. But when we read the letters of some of our boys and girls, and when we visit in the homes of faithful ones whom we claim as OURS, we can, like Paul, thank God and take courage. One young man who visited us recently, in his prayer, thanked God for what this mission had meant to so many. Another young man, now in the Navy, visited us this summer. When asked if he were a Christian he said: "Yes, I have been ever since I was here." Some of our girls away from home have written us of the comfort they get from God's promises and the help they receive from prayer.

The attendance at Sabbath School has decreased since the memorial meetings (at the graveyards, outdoors) have been in progress, but they are about over. Yesterday after Sabbath School we attended a nearby meeting. One of the preachers was a former pupil of ours, and at one time was an inmate of the penitentiary. He is now respected as a good business man an exemplary Christian. He witnessed to Christ's power to save.

Our school goes on about as usual. Our teachers, Miss Foster and Miss Rosalie Baker, are doing good work. Miss Baker got all her grade work in our school and is a fine Christian young woman. Some of these children are such an encouragement and some——we have tried so hard to help.

There are nineteen in Anath Home family now. The number varies. Two stopped to go to high school; three got home-

sick and went home, etc. One or both parents of ten of these children are away at work. Three of these are 6, 7 and 8 years old. About half of the children are orphans.

Miss Adams is a busy teacher. She conducts three Sabbath Schools—Houston, Four Mile and Terry Fork. She has five Bible classes besides—our school, the free school, Sebastian's Branch, Cow Creek and Terry Fork. Hope she doesn't give out. Ribbon, our faithful old horse, doesn't give the service she did. What shall we do? Mrs. Laura Turner is a busy matron, but all are good to help.

Our prayer meetings still meet Wednesday evenings in the homes.

We enjoyed a visit from Henly McIntosh three weeks ago. His health is a little improved.

Our tenant, Ike Gabbard, is a good helper. All our coal is in. The hay is fine and corn good. He says it is the best corn he ever raised.

Court meets in Jackson tomorrow—and Miss Foster will go to lay claim for some sheep which were killed by dogs.

We are anxiously looking forward to Rev. Stewart's visit.

Some have asked what we need. We need a little money for books and papers for Miss Adams' use. Christmas is approaching and some will be remembering us. Most of our pupils are boys.

We have word that the cells for our Delco plant have been shipped, also that some canned fruit is on the way. The roofs of some of the Mission buildings need paint.

Your prayers help, so don't forget us.

Yours in service,

SUSAN J. CUNNINGHAM.

ON THE WAY TO INDIA

Further Excerpts from letters of Drs. John C. and Elizabeth S Taylor enroute to India, 1943

Buenos Aires, July 31st. When we came here we wondered what we would do for a whole month. But time passed very quickly, for many people have been so nice to us. The people here are so glad we came this way; they say no one ever paid

any attention to them down here; it is off the beaten track, so they were left alone, and now to have so many missionaries come through is a treat to them; they are eager to hear about the mission work in different countries, and certainly are treating us royally.

Aug. 2. Yesterday afternoon the Union Theological Seminary was dedicated—Disciples, Methodist, and Waldensian—a very beautiful building, and a very big crowd attended. Dr. Stockwell, Meth., is the principal, and Mr. Montgomery, Disciples, is vice principal.

Aug. 13th, 11 A. M. Here we are on the boat ready to sail for S. Africa after a 6 weeks' wait in B. A. Friends are taking this ashore to mail.

OUR TRIP

On Sept. 27th Rev. R. W. Chesnut accompanied by his wife, started on his tour preaching to the various congregations connected with our Synod.

We landed at Beaver, Pa., Sept. 28th, and was met by Rev. Williams pastor of the Fairview congregation, and then conducted to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Rowan, and their mother Mrs. Florence Watterson, who entertained us during our stay there.

A whole week was spent conducting special meetings, and visiting old acquaintance, also enjoying the surrounding scenery which was quite hilly, reminding us of the mountains of Kentucky.

From there we went to Darlington, Pa., continuing the special meetings at Rev. Ward's Church. We were entertained by the Pastor and his wife, remaining there ten days, having the pleasure again of meeting old acquaintances and spending one day at the Nagel estate. Mrs. Nagel we all know is our very able assistant editor of the "Advocate".

Darlington is noted for its large Polo Field, and we had the privilege of attending one of its weekly performances. The field was brilliantly lighted, so that the mass of people assembled could see the ball rolling. It was all very exciting to those seeing it for the first time.

On Thursday afternoon we again started for Pittsburgh, for another season of special meetings. We were met at the terminal by Mr. Samuel Gregg and conducted to his home to be entertained during our stay in the city.

We left the fine Indian Summer behind us, and now for the first time in weeks it began to rain, which was badly needed generally.

On Friday, Mrs. Bessie Wilson, widow of the late Rev. Wilson, gave a dinner party for her friends, Mr. and Mrs. Gregg and Rev. and Mrs R. W. Chesnut, at the Joyce & McClement's dining hall, Penn Ave., and on Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Gregg also gave a dinner for their friends at their home 150 Hochburg Road, Wilkinsburgh.

The meetings at the First Church were fairly well attended, but weather of course hindering many who otherwise would have come, but on Sabbath morning the weather was delightful, and the people were rejoicing to be able to hear the Gospel message preached to them again.

After the evening service we were ready to start for home after partaking of a light lunch with our friends the Gregg's.

We were Thankful for God's guidance all the way.

Mrs. Anna Chesnut.

In Memorian

On August 23, 1943 the R. P. Church of Darlington, Pa., lost one of its devoted and honored members in the death of Miss Linnie Long. She was always a faithful member and even while living in another community, maintained her connection with the church of her youth. She was a member of the Women's Missionary Society and kept in touch with the Organization. She was well known all over the State for her W. C. T. U. work and extended every effort to further the great cause.

We regret her passing but know that our loss is her gain. Her name stands for faithfulness in the Service of the Master. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Maude M. Watterson
Anna A. Sawyer

In Memory of Mrs. Mary McChesney Harrison

The Women's Missionary Society of the Darlington R. P. Church wishes to pay tribute to the memory of its last charter

member—Mrs. Harrison, who was called Home October 4, 1943, at the advanced age of 97.

She had been a member of our church her entire life. Mrs. Harrison was the last member of our church who was present at the ordination of Dr. Alexander Savage as pastor in 1877, which was 66 years ago.

When our Missionary Society was organized in the White Church 48 years ago Mrs. Harrison was present at the first meeting.

At the age of 23 Mrs. Harrison and her father were driving home in a buggy from attending White Church services, when they were struck by a train at Hays Crossing which killed the horse, her father, and amputated one of her limbs.

Although without a family to care for her in her affliction she was blessed with many good neighbors (many of whom have passed on now) who daily remembered her with visits, and personal favors. Her chief interests were her church, her friends and her beloved nephew—Dr. Wilbur McChesney of Cedarville, Ohio, of whom she was so proud. We commend the neighbors and the nephew for their interest and care of Mrs. Harrison.

When old age came to her and she was no longer physically able to attend services in the Lord's house, she did not forget her church, but to the very last, remembered it financially and with her interest in its spiritual advancement.

May we who have our youth with its opportunity for accomplishing so much good, strive to do more for the Kingdom where so many of our members have found rest and peace when their work here was complete.

Lois E. Duncan
Mollie Schmolly

Mrs. Jessie Gilkeson

Once again the Angel of Death came to our Church and removed from us a splendid friend—Mrs. Jessie Gilkeson, who was called home Nov. 4, 1943. She had been ill only a month. For a number of years she had made her home with Mr. Harry Willits and our sympathy goes out to him in his great loss. Due to the absence of Rev. Ward, who was not at home, Rev. Willis, a neighboring minister, conducted the funeral services from the home Nov. 6. "Blessed are they that do His commandments,

that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14.

* * * *

Oct. 8, 1943 the Darlington Congregation elected Mr. Norbert Schmolly and Mr. Lawrence Hanby as elders to fill the vacancies caused by the deaths of Mr. Samuel A. Duncan and Mr. William J. Imbrie.

We had a very happy Communion Season in October. There were five infant baptisms and one new member. Dr. R. W. Chesnut assisted the pastor at the services, and brought inspirational messages.

The Pastor and his family are spending the month of November at the home of his parents in Arkansas.

Lois E. Duncan

TRUST IN GOD

By Ruth V. L. Horner

Pick up your little Bible
Take it where 'ere you trod;
When weary sit by the roadside
And read the word of God

Sing praises to the Lord
When by the road you kneel
He is the great almighty
He will help and he will heal

Look to him when you are troubled
Look up in his heaven so bright
Stop and think, dear reader—
Trust In God, and do the right.

Mid-Atlantic, Aug. 20th. We keep wondering what news you have of Margie, whether she spent her 25th birthday in Landour, her birthplace. Well, we finally got on our way after a stay of a day less than 6 weeks in B. A. We had a grand time there as the Christian people were so wonderful to us all, but you can imagine how we felt the urge to be on our way. So a week ago today (Friday, 13th) at noon, we set sail.

It was marvelous how many people came down to see us off; to think that in just a month we had made such a great number of acquaintances. It was a cold, rainy day, and yet, they came to bid us farewell. Mr. Irle of the Meth. mission in Santiago, was at the boat in Valparaiso to bid us welcome to S. America, and it so happened that some work brought him to B. A. at the time we sailed; there he was waving his big, white handkerchief as we sailed away from S. A.

On the River Plata, which has a very wide delta, there was a strong wind, so, even in the river it began to be quite rough. We did not reach the ocean until the middle of the night, but by evening, while still in the river, some became seasick. This is a small boat, never made for crossing the ocean, heretofore used only as a coastal steamer between B. A. and Patagonia; her tonnage is only 4500, so you can imagine. But this is the only way we could get back to our fields of service. There are 31 missionaries aboard. The second day, Saturday, everybody was feeling bad; some were down altogether, some not so bad. We both felt queer and ate hardly anything that day, but neither one of us really got seasick. That was the worst day. Since then the boat has pitched and tossed a great deal, but somehow we manage to keep on our feet. We shall all be glad to get to Capetown and get off this little tub. But it really makes us rejoice to know we have come about half way across already. We hope we will not have to wait too long in S. A. How glad we will be to finally see Bombay.

Aug. 29th. Nearing Africa this morning. Last evening there was a beautiful rainbow and sunset, and this morning the sunrise over Tableland Peak was gorgeous, and a bit later over the sea another rainbow. We leave our African missionaries here. Three of them made an attempt to get here on Zamzam; how glad they are to be getting into this port at last.

Aug. 30th. Leave Capetown at noon today for Durban.

(The Foreign Missions Conference of New York City had a cable from the party with whom John and Betty are traveling, indicating that they had obtained passage from S. A. for India. The cable reached N. Y. Sept. 13th).

Off Port Elizabeth, Sept. 1st. On our way to Durban. We left Capetown two days ago. The weather was not too bad until late that night. Yesterday coming around the Cape it was quite rough, although not as bad as we expected, for every-

one said, "Wait till you go round the Cape!" None of the 15 missionaries left of our party really got seasick. One Jewish man was so sick he really thought he was going to die—today he is up and says Dr. Taylor was "the Apostle of the Lord" to him. Today is beautiful—sunny and a smooth sea—it is beginning to get warm and soon, I believe, we will have to pack our woolens and get out our summer clothing. We passed a Dutch ship today. All the way across the Atlantic we never saw a ship.

Durban, Sept. 5th. We docked here noon day before yesterday but officers were so busy they could not finish with our papers, etc., so we had to stay on board Friday night. Yesterday we came ashore about 2:30, cleared customs and went to see Thomas Cook Co. and they directed us to hotels. We had wired them from Capetown as we heard this place is very crowded. We two are at one hotel; the men of the party at another, and the women at two other hotels. We left Cincinnati June 2nd—more than three months on the way.

Sept. 8th. We have been going to Cook's each morning, but nothing definite as yet. However, they said today, "Come tomorrow 9 A. M.," so we think there is something doing for us soon. I'll drop this letter in the mail the last minute.

Sept. 10th. Sent cable to Foreign Missions Conference today—hope they let you know. Think we leave tomorrow.

Sept. 13th. Monday, A. M. On our way.

A HISTORIC SKETCH

In this chapter we will notice some facts regarding the importance of training the children and youth of the church and community for Christian service, the importance of Home Mission work, and our hopes for success. In all ages this has been an important work, and was formerly given special attention in every Christian home. So much so, that in many places the church, as an organization, was largely relieved of this work. For some reason that we can scarcely understand, parental instruction has been largely abandoned, and the church itself was slow to realize it. Formerly, when the instruction of the children was given in Christian homes, the children in non-Chris-

tian homes were largely neglected, and this led many to favor, and finally establish, the Sabbath school for their benefit. These schools that were organized among the churches were no doubt beneficial; but too many began to turn over the training of their children entirely to the Sabbath school. Instead of using the school as a help to them, in many cases they depended upon it entirely to do the work, and thought it sufficient. Had the work of the school been entirely conducted by competent teachers, the change would not have been so bad; but, in many cases the teachers were unfit for their work, and the scholars suffered in consequence. The Sabbath school like other schools can only fulfill its mission when it has the hearty co-operation and help of home instruction and discipline.

The Sabbath school was not intended to take the place of home training, but to aid it, and then gather in from the world those who were growing up in ignorance of morals, spiritual life, their sinfulness by nature, their need of salvation, and the way to obtain it through Jesus Christ, the Saviour. The schools and their helpfulness, through the years, have grown and become fully established in most of the evangelical churches, and today, they are the source of a large per cent of the additions to its membership.

In more recent years the benefits of the instruction given are being extended to adults. However, a comparatively few are improving their opportunities. Indeed, it is a common thing for many children to drop out when they reach the 'teen age, just when they need such teaching and when they are most able to receive benefit from it, because of adult indifference.

The church has not really been alive to its own interests in this matter; but some efforts have been at times put forth, to hold their attention.

As the work of training the young is not only carried on in the Sabbath schools, but in the Christian Endeavor societies and other similar auxiliaries for church work, some attention has been given to such organizations, but has not been carried on as it should. Back about 1890, young people's work began to be more fully recognized, and in 1896 a Synodic C. E. convention was held during the meetings of Synod. Much enthusiasm was manifest and young men and women all through the church were aroused, and there was revival in work all over our church. For several years, programs were prepared, del-

egates appointed, an evening set aside for their meetings, and from 1896 to 1904 the whole church was full of enthusiasm. Missionary offerings were doubled and in some cases quadrupled. The Advocate gave a banner to the society doing the most work, and all departments of our church were revived.

The unfortunate things that took place from 1904-05 so interfered with these conventions that they were abandoned for the time, and they were never resumed. The individual societies continued, however, and they have been one of our best supports; but we have missed their presence and help in stirring up enthusiasm that was very much needed.

The time has now come when for the good of all, young and old, it would be well, for the encouragement of all the activities of the church, if all our auxiliaries in the work of our congregations should once more be represented during our Synodic week. The several congregations should consider this matter, and once more through their Presbyteries bring the matter before our coming Synod.

Great changes have taken place among us for the better, and we are again on the upgrade road to better days. The ministerial roll has almost entirely changed in the last two decades; strong, energetic young men are now working together with ruling elders worthy of their calling; the missionary urge in the home field is strong and active, promising better things for the future.

As a denomination we have been much like others; barren, bearing little or no fruit for the Kingdom. It is high time for us to "lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes"—Isaiah 54: 2. But this cannot be done without a better balanced distribution of our missionary funds. The cost of Foreign Missions has been altogether out of proportion when we consider the economic relations existing between the cost of living and the importance of and the amount of missionary work done. As a result, the Home missionary has not been able to subsist upon the allowance allotted to him in a country where the conditions are as we have them in America, with its scale of wages and costs of living. The Foreign missionary receives about double the salary of the Home missionary and his cost of living is much less. If the Home missionary can not get an increase, there should be a reduction in the Foreign budget to put all on an equal footing.

This may seem a hardship, but it is a necessity, if we are to sustain and develop the church at home, which must be done if the Foreign Mission is to be sustained.

The importance of the Home missionary work does not seem to be appreciated, because it has been made a secondary matter of importance; whereas, its growth and strength is absolutely essential to the very life of all Foreign Mission activity. The historian can not overlook the defects in ecclesiastical economy more than those in political economy and be true to his duty.

However, there is a brighter side to the picture in later years. Fifty years ago, our membership was much larger, the contributions for missions were much lower per member than at present. During recent years, and especially since the Synod took over the Mission in Kentucky, the average contribution has increased, and a general individual interest is in evidence. New and better plans for work have been adopted and promise better results in the near future.

Our Mission in Kentucky is not only an evangelizing work but an educational one. It is now, after years of toil and patience of the part of the superintendent and helpers, not only a growing, but an established missionary enterprise, well organized and equipped for successful work. A good school building, a dormitory, manse and church edifice have been erected, and a farm purchased, where self-help is afforded Mission students who may be in need, as well as providing many necessary provisions for the Mission.

Such an enterprise was not even thought possible a few years ago. The usefulness of such an institution can best be determined by what it produces, and the influence it has upon the civic, moral and spiritual life of the community in which it is located.

The same may be said of our Mission in Los Angeles, Cal. here the work has been continued for a longer period, with varied success, being handicapped for years for want of an ordained minister to lead in the work. However, the Mission has been carried on by a most capable, consecrated lady, Miss Ramsey, until now we are able to place additional help in adjacent parts of the city, which gives promise of being more efficient in the future.

In addition to these things there is a better spirit of unity in thought and action among pastors and ruling elders, in all things pertaining to a higher spiritual life and activity, than there has been in the past. Disturbing elements in General Synod have disappeared, plans for aggression on all lines have been made, and a will to mature these plans is manifest.

Instead of the desire to meet in our annual Synodic meeting, rush the business through and get home in two or three days, we meet for conference, take time to do the work better, and remain over the Sabbath for divine service, and engage in the solemnities of the Lord's Supper.

The clouds of former dissensions, misunderstandings, lack of interest, and other delinquencies seem to be passing away, to be replaced by unity of action, determined will to press forward and succeed.

In our travels throughout the church we are impressed with the desire for better things in the near future, and it is the hope of all that our pastors will all remain at their posts of duty in these times of trial, while the world passes through this terrible period of purification. No doubt this great conflict will in the end open the doors of opportunity for the spread of the Gospel into all lands, as well as soften the heard hearts of the rulers of the nations, and prepare the way for the reign of Christ the King, and the subjection of nations to His beneficent rule, which will bring that peace on earth and good will among men, that is promised in God's Word.

CEDARVILLE COLLEGE

CEDARVILLE, OHIO

The First Semester of Cedarville College will register Students on Monday and Tuesday, September 20-21, 1943. Class work begins on Wednesday, September 22.

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Send contributions to the President, Ira D. Vayhinger.

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Operated at Cedarville, Ohio

The First Semester will open in Cedarville College Chapel, September 22, 1943. Students of all churches are welcome. Regular courses are offered. Send for information to the Dean W. R. McChesney.