

Christianity in the simple, yet sublime, form in which God has given it to them! If we walk in the light as he is in the light we will shun every appearance of evil.

I am enjoying fine health. Boarding with Bro. Jesse H. Berry and his Christian family, and having access to his well-filled library. I am enjoying my work and pleased with the prospect before me.

Christian greeting to all the brethren.

Yours in Christ,
T. F. CAMPBELL.

Letter from Bro. J. W. Osborn.

SEATTLE, W. T.,
Jan. 1, 1884.

Dear Herald:

We have had several additions to the church since our last report, and our work now has fairly begun.

We have Bros. Holman and Wolverton with us. Bro. Wolverton preaches for us half the time and Bro. Holman the rest of the time. Bro. H. has been a great help to us, and we can safely recommend him wherever his lot may be cast. He purposes taking a trip through Oregon in view of preaching wherever he is needed, and we trust he will be kindly received, for he is indeed a worthy brother, and is capable of doing a good work in the Master's cause.

Our Sunday-school is now in a prosperous condition. We expect to accomplish more in this part of the work this year than we did last as our chances are better.

We had our regular Christmas tree on Christmas evening, and the house was crowded to its utmost capacity; there were many valuable presents; a part of a communion set was presented to the church by Bro. H. L. Denney. We were not forgotten, but received "Bible Scenes and Stories," a beautiful book.

Sunday night we gave our first concert, which proved to be a success, and all were well pleased, especially the children.

We have our regular prayer meetings every Thursday night. On last Thursday night we had the best one that it has been our privilege to attend. Our subject being "the Old and New."

Wishing you a happy new year I bid you good night.

J. W. OSBORN.

"Reflection is an angel which points out the errors of the past, and gives us courage to avoid them in the future."

Letter from Bro. Geo. Sharp.

WHATCOM, W. T.,
Dec. 21, 1883.

Dear Bro. Floyd:

Since my last communication our travels have been in a good land among many kind people, for which we have great reason to be thankful to God.

Montesano, about 12 miles from Gray's Harbor, situated on the Chehalis river, the county seat of

Chehalis county, is a growing city of importance with a good future. We have a small congregation of brethren at Montesano, and from Bro. Luark I learned that they expect to build a meeting house next spring, having already secured a lot. That is right, brethren, if we build houses for ourselves let us also build them to worship God. With a few such families as Eld. M. F. Luark, at Montesano, the cause of Christ will be permanently established.

At Elma our brethren have a church house, but are not keeping house for the Lord regularly. Called upon two of the Lord's veterans, living near Elma, Bros. Elmer Sherwood and W. W. Watson, found them strong in the faith and willing to communicate the good word of life to cheer the hearts of brethren, or cause sinners to flee from the wrath to come. Our good Bro. Millen is to preach for the congregation at Elma and a few other places near by the coming year.

Bidding the brethren good bye at Elma we next stopped at Olympia, where I spent a few hours very pleasantly in conversation with our faithful Bro. Ruddle; he is alone in Olympia so far as we know; but still he stands battling for the Lord.

GEO. SHARP.

Church News and Another Plea Against Divisions Among the People of God.

Bro. Floyd:

I am an old reader of the HERALD and a former subscriber to the Messenger. As I passed through Eastern Oregon, in the capacity of one of the Grand Lecturers of the Good Templars of Oregon, I have occasionally seen copies of your paper. And I feel constrained to write you a few lines. My home is in Lompoc Temperance Colony, Santa Barbara county, California. My first religious move in Australia, was from the Episcopal church ("the Church of England")

to the Baptists. Afterwards I became acquainted with the "Christians" or "Disciples of Christ," and united with them, in due time becoming a preacher there and continuing one in California. Some two or three years since, becoming discouraged at the distressingly small amount of work that church was accomplishing in the way of leading sinners to the Savior and of building up the saints in active, Christian life, my wife and I put our membership in a small Baptist church that seemed to have more life and a better prospect of doing some permanent work. At the same time I subscribed to no creed, made no promises, and still preached for and broke bread with the Christian brethren just as often as with the Baptists—indeed rather more often, and was consulted by and helped them as often as they desired.

Now, in Oregon, I am thrown quite frequently with the Christian church, worshiping with them and preaching for them; and I feel more at home, religiously, than I have done for a long time, for my conscientious expectations of increased usefulness among the Baptists were not realized and, moreover, when asked what I am religiously, I never have felt like putting the Savior's name in the background and the Baptists in the front. To be simply "a Christian" is good enough, honor enough and Scriptural enough for me, and I feel that, except for the formal reuniting with the Christian church, I am back again. And so much work is there to be done in this Eastern Oregon that I am almost sufficiently fired with the missionary spirit to move up and get to work. In Centerville I preached for Elder R. H. Moss, and had the pleasure of seeing him immerse a young married lady, wife of Bro. Stone of Milton. Bro. Moss is doing good work. At both places brethren were desirous of having protracted meetings held as they deemed the prospect good. Then at Summerville I met Elder Jones who is Evangelist for the two big counties of Union and Baker. I tried to reach Christian chapel at Sand Ridge, to preach for him or with him, on the Lord's day morning, but the brethren at the Cove, where he had just closed an interesting meeting, preferred that I should follow up his labors with a discourse there. Here, again, was urgent entreaty to hold a meeting

or to return for the purpose or take the field as co-adjutor of Bro. Jones, since so large a territory requires two evangelists, at least. But I am, for the present, in the employ of the Grand Lodge, I. O. G. T., and can only preach on Sundays. At Wingville, I found Bro. John Sturgill and wife, converts of Bro. Jones', about a year ago, in Indian valley. Bro. S. is closely studying the Scriptures, and is an earnest, conscientious and consistent brother. He has a good education, having been a teacher and, I verily think, ought to get to work preaching, since the harvest is so plenteous and the laborers are so few.

And that brings me to say what I mainly intended in penning these few lines. (The introduction was a matter of necessity and not of egotism, that my position and feelings might be understood). As I go through this part of Oregon, my ears are shocked and my heart grieved, and my prayers go up to God continually on account of the widespread intemperance, most cold-blooded profanity, lack of spirituality or the commonest regard for religion and the marked absence of, or lack of success in preaching and Sunday-school work, &c. I am most profoundly impressed that with so much gospel work to be done, with such appalling irreligion and all its evil consequences, God will never hold guiltless the many who love him, unless they do more than they are doing to help this comparatively new, rapidly developing and largely neglected section of country. And I am as profoundly convinced that the religious people of the State cannot do the work required for God's glory and the country's good unless they heal their divisions and do their evangelizing work on "business principles." How any lover of God and yearner after souls and the planting and building up of lively, permanent and evangelizing congregations and Sunday-schools can be content, in heart or conscience, to keep up or justify the divisions among professed Christians, I cannot see. If all sects and denominational differences were to cease to-morrow and all the money and preaching talent were husbanded and distributed with the best judgment and most conscientious regard for supplying every small place with religious services, there would not be a spare dollar nor a spare man. But with several only partly filled church buildings and