

HUNTINGTON IN DARKNESS

West Virginia City Is Facing Famine of Food and Water.

Huntington, W. Va., March 31.—This city was in total darkness last night, facing both a food and water famine and 15,000 of the 40,000 inhabitants are homeless. Twelve persons are reported missing and the property damage, according to close estimates, will amount to nearly \$1,000,000.

The river reached a stage of 66.2 feet, the highest in the history of Huntington, and now is stationary.

The entire business section is inundated, water being up to the second floor in some buildings.

Governor H. D. Hatfield arrived here on a special train from Charleston, bringing supplies, motor boats and skiffs. The boats now are being taken through the different sections of the city to rescue hundreds who are marooned. The local military company has taken charge of the rescue work.

The electric light plant has been forced to shut down and the gas supply was cut off to prevent fires.

Although supplies have reached here from Charleston, the city is in great need of food and water.

While no reports had been received here from Point Pleasant, W. Va.; Catlettsburg, Ky., and Ironton, O., it is believed conditions similar to those here prevail in those cities.

DIRE PESTILENCE FEARED IN INDIANA

State Summons Medical Forces Against Disease.

Indianapolis, March 31.—Central Indiana is summoning its medical forces to fight disease which is following in the wake of the flood which swept that section last week. Sanitary experts expect hundreds of cases of typhoid, diphtheria, pneumonia and measles to develop. Scores of persons of all walks of life have been huddled for days in small halls and buildings. They have been forced to live like sheep and a pestilence is feared.

Thousands of persons will continue to be homeless until their residences have been cleaned of the filth left by the receding waters and fumigated. A majority of these refugees have no clothing except what they wore when the flood descended.

The cities along the Ohio river are preparing for the worst food of their existence. Already thousands of persons have been driven from the bottom lands and the property damage runs in the millions.

The water still is rising and the crest of the flood is three days away. Railroad communication with these cities has been cut off from the north. Lawrenceburg, where the levee broke, is under seven feet of water. Water covers the first floors of the high school and court house, where 400 persons are marooned.

There are 2,800 homeless at Logansport, and the military medical corps say that the danger of a pestilence is greater than at any other point in the state.

Of the forty-two persons reported missing, twenty-one have been reported safe.

In response to an appeal from Mayor McDowell of Vincennes, Governor Ralston ordered 200 tents and supplies sent to that city.

MANY DRIVEN FROM HOMES

Ohio River Continues Rising and Lives Are Endangered.

Cincinnati, March 31.—With nearly 15,000 persons in the towns on the Kentucky side of the Ohio river driven from their homes by the rising yellow tide sweeping down the Ohio valley and with more than 2,500 homes altogether or partly submerged, the flood situation in this vicinity is assuming graver proportions hourly. Here the water front buildings are all partially under water and much damage has been done.

An increase in the river stage here will mean the isolation of the city from the Kentucky side and the stoppage of train service in this direction. So far only one life has been lost as a direct result of the high water here. Miss Anna Smith, the first victim drowned, lost her life in an attempt to reach Newport in a skiff that capsized in midstream.

START WORK OF REBUILDING

Warmer Weather Helps Destitute, but Is Dangerous to Health.

Dayton, O., March 31.—The work of rehabilitation began here as the work of rescue approached its end. The all important weather showed improvement as viewed by refugees as it was warmer and pleasant to frost and water chilled bones, but the sanitary experts accepted the rise in temperature with mixed feelings, for the cold had retarded the decomposition of animal matter and refuse.

R. H. Grant, in charge of the relief supplies committee, issued an appeal to all cities in the country, asking that as much bottle water be shipped to Dayton as possible. It is especially desired that this water be pure, as it is practically impossible to boil the water for drinking purposes.

Bernhardt and Drew Play for Benefit.

Denver, March 31.—A flood sufferers' benefit performance given by the theatrical companies playing here, with Sarah Bernhardt and John Drew as the leading attractions, added \$5,000 to Colorado's contribution to the Ohio and Indiana relief funds.

ILLINOIS MAY BE NEXT TO SUFFER

Governor Receives Messages From Cairo Levees in Danger.

ILLINOIS WIRES FOR TENTS.

Communication Is Cut Off and Executive Thinks Flood Has Broken Levee—Shawneetown in Distress, Seventh Regiment on Way.

Investigations tended to confirm the estimates of deaths in the floods that swept over a score of cities in Ohio and Indiana last week at between 500 and 600.

The latest estimates show the following deaths:

Ohio	
Dayton	150
Coshocton	5
Hamilton	91
Middletown	9
Columbus	64
Valley Jet	6
Zanesville	10
Harrison	12
Delaware	14
Cleaves	2
Chillicothe	15
Van Wert	3
Miamisburg	15
Venice	3
Piqua	12
Mansfield	1
Tiffin	15
Globe Center	1
Mount Vernon	10
Wooster	3
Fremont	14
Londonville	1
Franklin	4
New Beth'lem	2
Troy	9
Ohio total	341

Indiana	
Peru	20
Fort Wayne	6
Brookville	15
Perre Haute	4
Washington	4
Indianapolis	4
Frankfort	2
Lafayette	1
Logansport	1
Newcastle	1
Rushville	1
Shellburn	1
Indiana total	60
Grand total	531

As the flooded rivers recede the death list gradually grows, bodies being picked out of the debris and found in the lowlands. Ultra conservative estimates place the number of dead in Ohio at not more than 500.

Springfield, Ill., March 31.—Illinois threatens to become the center of flood distress. Startling messages were received by Governor Dunne and Adjutant General Dickson, indicating that Shawneetown and Cairo are in imminent danger of being inundated. Other towns are in distress.

The governor received a message from Cairo that the water was within one foot of the top of the levee which protects the city and that the river was still rising.

Bernard Lamb of Junction, Gallatin county, has wired for 100 tents for refugees. E. C. Fletcher of Mounds has wired for fifty tents for homeless people there.

Governor Dunne received word that telephonic communication with Cairo had been cut off. The governor fears that the breaking of communication means the levee has collapsed.

The governor personally is directing the mobilization of troops and the rushing of supplies.

In talking over the telephone with Governor Dunne Mayor Parsons of Cairo stated that despite flood warnings, advising residents to move to higher ground, the number of those who have taken this advice has been offset several times over by thousands of refugees from all along the river, who have been rushing into Cairo.

Adjutant General Dickson and Colonel S. E. Tripp left today for Cairo to take charge of the troops there. In a message received it was stated that conditions at Shawneetown are alarming and that a break in the levee is feared at any time.

Many of the residents have moved to the hills back of the town, but a break in the levee would cause a large loss of life and property.

Ten thousand army rations were sent to Cairo by express.

No Suffering Exists.

Washington, March 31.—"All places affected by the flood in such a way as to need help are receiving it and it is not believed that suffering exists anywhere now from want of food or shelter," was the report to Adjutant General Andrews from Major General Wood, chief of staff, who, with Secretary of War Garrison, is directing relief operations in the flooded district. He added, while loss of life has been very heavy, it was far smaller than first reports indicated.

"Do not send any more government supplies," said the report, "unless the department's representatives on the ground request them. Any supplies available should be held for possible needs farther down the river. Major Normoyle has received the great bulk of the supplies sent to Columbus and is busily engaged in shipping them out to points where required."

Columbus Cleaning Up.

Columbus, O., March 31.—Reconstruction of the west side of Columbus, where the flood of last Tuesday wrought the heaviest damage, was begun in earnest today by the undaunted citizens of that district. Twelve additional bodies were recovered from the debris, but many of them have been identified as persons previously reported dead, so that the Columbus death list still remains sixty-four. Many are reported missing, but the list is gradually growing smaller. Fifty-nine bodies had been recovered Working day and night laborers have succeeded in patching up the big break in the levee, which caused the disaster on the west side.

HARD SLEDDING FOR BILL

Insurance Code Measure Likely to Have Rough Path.

Lincoln, March 31.—The bill revising the insurance code as prepared by a commission paid to rearrange the Nebraska laws is liable to have hard sledding in the house. It has passed the senate.

Members of fraternal insurance companies have the idea that if this bill becomes a law it will wipe out of existence every fraternal insurance company in the state. Senator Cordeal, who sponsored the bill in the upper house, insists that it in no way affects fraternal insurance companies and insists that the fear being thrown into the fraternalists is being done at the instance of old line companies that are trying to kill the bill.

SIGHTSEERS LOOK OVER OMAHA RUINS

Plan to Vote \$1,000,000 Bonds for Restoration.

Omaha, March 31.—Thousands of sightseers took advantage of excursion rates given by railroads entering Omaha to view the six miles of ruins caused by the tornado Easter Sunday. They came from all parts of the country and brought hundreds of cameras with them. Many of the visitors took advantage of the opportunity to make contributions to the relief fund.

Reports from the various hospitals indicated that most of the tornado injured still confined to them were doing nicely. Many have been discharged since the day after the catastrophe and within another week the number will be reduced considerably. After then only those with major hurts will be obliged to remain. In comparison with the large number of wounded that were originally taken to the different institutions surprisingly few were fatally injured.

With the general relief fund for the tornado sufferers amounting to \$150,000 in round numbers, the general relief committee set to work systematically to inquire further for relief money from some of the business firms of the city.

A committee went to Lincoln this morning to present the needs of Omaha before the state legislature. They will ask for the enactment of laws permitting Douglas county to vote \$1,000,000 in bonds to be used for the rebuilding of the destroyed homes.

ROBBER KILLED IN FLIGHT

Slew Cashier of Bank and Was Shot Down by Pursuers.

Barnes, Kan., March 31.—Robert I. Brown, cashier of the Barnes State bank, was shot and killed by a man who had robbed the institution. Later a posse of citizens shot the robber to death as he was trying to escape from town with a bag of loot. Brown met death when, instead of obeying the order to throw up his hands, he grabbed a revolver and fired at the robber.

The robber could not be identified. He apparently is thirty-five years old and is believed to be a member of the Wymore gang of bank robbers that has robbed a number of banks along the Nebraska-Kansas line within the last few years.

Hansen Sued for Arrest of Thorpe.

Lincoln, March 31.—John F. Thorpe of Cuming county has sued Nels P. Hansen, ex-pure food commissioner of the state, for \$50,000 damages for false arrest in connection with an over-reading of a cream test. W. C. Andrews, the deputy inspector who made the test, is made a party to the suit, as is also the Fairmont Creamery company and John K. Thorpe was agent for the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery company of Wisner.

East Central Teachers Pick Officers.

Fremont, Neb., March 31.—The eighth annual session of the Eastern Central Nebraska Teachers' association closed. South Omaha was an aspirant for the next meeting, but lost to Fremont. The following officers elected: President, T. J. Gogletance of Schuyler; vice president, Mrs. C. B. Williams of Saunders county; secretary, Miss Elizabeth Schaffer of David City; treasurer, C. N. Walton of Wahoo.

Board Has Money on Hand.

Lincoln, March 31.—Secretary Mellor of the stallion registration board has on hand a considerable sum of money belonging to the board. The decision of the supreme court declaring the law unconstitutional places him in a position where he does not know what to do with it. He has written Governor Morehead about the matter and between them they will probably devise a way to dispose of it.

Ice in Missouri at Pierre Runs Out.

Pierre, S. D., March 31.—The ice which has been holding the Missouri for about thirty miles in a big gorge above the city broke loose and is running out rapidly, with quite a rise in the stream. There has been some apprehension as to results, especially at Fort Pierre, but the rise is not sufficient to disturb that place.

Stratton Escapes From Prison.

Leavenworth, Kan., March 31.—Clyde Stratton, serving a five-year sentence in the federal prison at Fort Leavenworth for the robbery of the McCool (Ind.) postoffice, escaped by crawling a mile through the prison sewer. Two other prisoners who made the attempt with Stratton were captured.

PERILS AMONGST FALSE BRETHREN

St. Paul's Experiences Duplicate the Master's.

HIS FAITHFULNESS TO CHRIST

Jesus' Footstep Followers Wounded in the House of Their Friends—The Philosophy of the Matter—How to Receive Such Experiences—Why They Are Permitted—The Results They Serve—Special Perils Today.



PASTOR RUSSELL

Ottawa, Ont., March 30.—Pastor Russell, who since his last visit has many friends here, arrived again this morning. As usual, the largest auditorium was engaged for him. He spoke twice today. We report one of his addresses, from St. Paul's words:

"Perils amongst false brethren." (2 Corinthians 11:26.) He said:

St. Paul was remarkable in many respects, but chiefly for his loving devotion to the Master and His Cause. His faithfulness brought also many trying experiences. In our context he enumerated some of these. He served the Cause of Christ to such an extent that many thought him unwise, and counted him a fool. This service brought him stripes, whippings, as a disturber of the peace—not that he did disturb the peace, but that those who opposed his teachings raised a tumult and blamed him for it, in order to bring him into disrepute, hinder his service and forward their own interests. This at times brought him to prison, too, and even close to death's door.

Nevertheless, he rejoiced in all such privileges. He declared that five times he received whippings, stripes; once he was stoned, and three times he was shipwrecked. But none of these things moved him from faithfulness to his Master, whose servants he had persecuted before his eyes were opened.

Then he recounts various perils experienced from waters, from robbers, from the Jews, from the heathen—in the city, in the wilderness, on the sea. He winds up the list of perils in the words of the text, "Perils amongst false brethren."

One question which will arise in many minds is, "Were these sufferings—stripes, perils, etc.—deserved?" If asked, the answer would surely be that they were not deserved. For St. Paul was a noble character and bore the Message of God's grace in Christ—"good tidings of great joy which shall be unto all people." The next question with some would be, "If his sufferings were not punishments, what were they?"

We reply that they were the same as were the Master's—evidences of his loyalty to God and of the darkness of the world, which led them to oppose him. The declaration, "Whoever will live godly will suffer persecution," was fully exemplified in his own experiences and in the Master's. The amount of suffering as a reward for well-doing marked the measure of loyalty and zeal, and the measure of hatred and malice aroused by the Adversary. The answer to the question as to why Jesus suffered is the answer to all such questions in respect to St. Paul and all other footstep followers.

Darkness Hates the Light.

The Master declared that He stood for the principles of light, righteousness, truth; while Satan stands for the reverse—darkness, superstition, blindness. And so it is with the followers of Jesus. They must all be children of the light, must walk in the light, must be uncompromising in their attitude toward sin and all that is wrong. Therefore the world will hate them and say all manner of evil against them falsely. Yes, men will feel that they do God service when they slay the righteous, whether literally, as in Jesus' case and St. Paul's, or by "shooting out arrows, even bitter words," as is the more popular method of the present time.

But some one will say, "Ah, times have changed! Today our bishops and popes and preachers are all revered. No one thinks of persecuting them. Rather, all men speak well of them. Any one not spoken well of today must be in some way unworthy." How strange that we should forget, and argue along these lines! Were there not Doctors of Divinity in Jesus' day? Were there not priests and chief priests and Levites then? And were there not Pharisees who made long prayers in the Temple? And were they not highly spoken of and revered? Did they not make broad their phylacteries? Did any one think of traducing them? No!

But the Master was there, and His disciples; and they were not of the popular clergy. By their own record they were styled "the fifth and offspring of the earth"; and, as the Master said, whoever persecuted them thought that they did God service. How apt we all are to think of our own day as being different from other periods! So it was in Jesus' day. As He told some of them, "Ye garnish the sepulchres of those whom your fathers slew, yet ye do their works." So

today many extol the Lord and the Apostles, and denounce their persecutors, while they stillarily persecute.

The climax of St. Paul's perils, the severest of them all, was from false brethren. How strange that seems! One would think that however much the heathen or the Jews might have persecuted him, at least all professed followers of Jesus would have thanked God for his example and ministry, and have esteemed him. But this was not so; and as we look back to the Master before him, we see the same to be true. As He declared, "A man's foes shall be they of his own household."

The Master was a Jew. The Jews were His brethren according to the flesh; and it was they that hated Him without a cause—they that persecuted Him—they that said, "He hath a devil and is mad"—they that "took up stones to stone Him"—they that finally crucified Him. "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not," except a few saintly, elect ones.

St. Paul also had persecution from the Jews, who repeatedly sought his life. He lived after the establishment of the Church. He had also Christian brethren, begotten of the Holy Spirit and fellow-members of the Body of Christ. Jesus had none such. "Of the people there were none with Him."

The Holy Spirit was not given until Pentecost; hence Jesus could not receive Christian persecution. The nearest approximation was the case of Judas. But if St. Paul enjoyed the sweetness of Christian fellowship in his study, labors and toils, he also knew the bitterness of opposition and persecutions from false brethren—the climax of his perils. We may be sure that such experiences were more difficult for him to bear than any others, because they came closer home. They came from brethren of the closest imaginable relationship—fellow-members of the Body of Christ.

The Godly Suffer Persecution.

As we glance down through this Gospel Age, from St. Paul's day to the present, we find that all followers of Jesus have had experiences such as He foretold for them—persecutions. We find that these persecutions have come from every quarter, but none, apparently, more severe, more cruel, more perilous, than those which have come from Christian brethren. It is scarcely necessary for us to refer to history to demonstrate this fact. Disputes between Christians have been very bitter. Thousands have lost their lives at each other's hands. The word *heretic* became more obnoxious than any other term in the dictionary.

Neither Catholic nor Protestant can deny the terrible story of the pages of history. All true men are ashamed of the record. All are ready to say, "If we would not so have done." Monuments stand in various parts of the world, marking places where sectarian strife has manifested itself in atrocious, barbarous acts. Our Catholic friends blush at the story of the Huguenots. Our Church of England friends blush at the story of the Covenanters and other non-conformists. Our Presbyterian friends, in turn, blush for atrocious acts, injustice, etc., done in the name of Calvinism.

We might almost say that each denomination in its turn has been a subject of persecution from one and another. Baptists were publicly whipped—sometimes driven from their homes to exile. So were the Puritans, who afterwards became persecutors themselves. The Methodists also suffered from sectarian spite and jealousy, ignorance and superstition. Indeed, who will dispute that Christendom has good cause to be ashamed of her own record, no matter what her standpoint may be?

Thank God for the advancement made along the line of human sympathy! No longer can civilized people take pleasure in public executions, tortures, burning at the stake, as in former times. Whatever competition may remain between Christian brethren, the peril is not that of open persecution; for general sentiment has advanced beyond the point where physical torture could be tolerated.

We have come to the time when Calvinists erect a monument to Servetus, expressing dissent from their great leader's mistake in causing a Christian brother to be burned. We have come to the place where the "perils amongst false brethren" are of a different kind. Now whatever jealousies or rivalries there may be, either at home or in the mission fields, are recognized as improper and suppressed, so far as brethren connected with popular and influential bodies of Christians are concerned.

But is it not true today that the Truth is unpopular? Has this not always been the fact? Is it not true that in proportion as the denominations have become popular they have escaped persecution? But was he to those who, as were Jesus and the Apostles, are unpopular! If they indeed escape the cross, the guillotine, the rack and the fog, they are amenable to other means of torture. Something can be trumped up against their personality. Insinuations can be given by word and look, and shrug of shoulder. More damage can be accomplished in this way than in outward attack.

Evil-speaking, evil-surmising, slanders, ambiguous suggestions, etc.—all, as torture—can be applied to the followers of Jesus today. And all who today take such a course are sharers with the malefactors, even though they do not indulge in physical torture. Who can dispute that sometimes mental torture is equally severe? In our day there are other and more refined ways of persecuting, torturing, open to false brethren, than imprisonment or crucifixion or burning.

And what shall we say of the false brethren who do such things? And how shall we assure ourselves that we shall not be of them? Undoubtedly

the Master is still of the same mind as St. John expressed when he declared, "Whoever hateth his brother is a murderer, and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." (1 John 3:15.) Murderers may indeed receive severe stripes, and eventually learn better under Messiah's Kingdom; but no one of a murderous condition of heart, seeking to do evil to a brother, could possibly be of suitable character to be a joint-heir with his Master in the Kingdom.

"One of the Least of These."

In every time, and now, the spirit of persecution naturally would strike most prominently certain leading figures; nevertheless, even as Jesus' words implied, all lovers of righteousness are to have more or less share in such experiences of opposition. St. Paul mentions this, saying, "Ye endure a great fight of afflictions; partly, whilst ye were made a gazing stock * * * and partly whilst ye became companions of them that were so used." (Hebrews 10:32, 33.) Jesus gives us the same thought in His declaration that whoever shall offend one of the least of these, His disciples, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and he were drowned in the depths of the sea.—Matthew 18:6.

This, of course, is very highly figurative language, and yet it must have a special meaning. It must mean that the Lord has a special care over all of His consecrated saints; and that no matter how poor, how weak, how ignorant, they may be, the very least of His followers are supervised, and injury to the least is punishable. Of course, there would still be an awakening from the dead for the one who was drowned in the sea; and so these are possibilities of help and recovery for those who would stumble the Lord's "little ones." Nevertheless, the intimation is that of drastic punishment. This would not mean anything like we once supposed—eternal torment—but some just recompense of reward for every evil deed.

From this standpoint we may readily assume that considerable satisfaction of Justice is necessary; for surely a considerable number of the Lord's "little ones" have suffered persecution. And as we have seen, not all of this persecution lies at the door of the world. Much of it lies at the door of the professed Church of Christ—"false brethren."

Speaking of some such, Jesus once declared that they would have great disappointment when the time of rewards would come. He says, "Many shall say unto Me in that Day, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name, * * * and done many wonderful works? And I will declare, I do not recognize you." They will not be worthy of the Lord's recognition as amongst His Elect Church, His Bride class. We shall be glad if they will be found worthy of some blessing under His Kingdom. But there will be great disappointment to them. They missed the greater point of the Gospel—*Love*.

Love For the Brethren.

The Lord's will concerning all His followers is that they should love one another as He loved them. St. John expressed this sentiment, saying that as Jesus loved the Church and laid down His life for the Church, so also His followers should lay down their lives for the brethren. (1 John 3:16.) If this is the *love standard* that the Lord has set for His people, how sorely some will soon be disappointed in respect to His will if they have ignored this requirement. If, instead of loving the brethren and laying down their lives for them, they say all manner of evil against them, etc., what then? Then they are false brethren. Then they are the peril of the true brethren, as mentioned in our text.

Oh, how much the true followers of Jesus need to impress upon themselves this great lesson—that love does no ill to his neighbor, that love is sympathetic, suffereth long and is kind, vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, seeketh not merely its own interest and welfare, but seeketh the interest and welfare of others!

The supreme test of our loyalty to God is our love for Him. And this love is manifested by our desire to do those things acceptable to Him. There is little that we really can do for the Almighty. He is so great and we are so small! But if we have His spirit of Love, then we shall love all those who love Him. And our conduct toward them will demonstrate the real sentiment of our hearts. Thus seen, we are daily making our reward in the Lord's sight, daily showing Him to what degree we are worthy or unworthy of His great reward.

Those mentioned in our text as false brethren were perilous to the true brethren, but did not get into this position immediately. It was a growth, a development. The wrong spirit gradually supplanted the right. It is well that Christians note this insidious canker which gnaws at the root of brotherly love, tends to poison the spirit and to bring forth the evil fruitage mentioned. Apparently, in some cases, the spirit of pride, the spirit of sectarianism, the spirit of ambition, are the leading features of the wrong course, which, if permitted to go to the heart, will develop a bad fruitage, such as we are discussing. It will produce false brethren, persecuting brethren, blind to the real spirit of their Master, heady, high-minded.

Let us then, beloved, be more and more on guard against the encroachments of the Adversary upon us as New Creatures! Let us be more and more zealous for the Spirit of our Master and show forth the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light! In no way can we better show forth these praises than by exemplifying in our daily conduct the lessons we have learned of Him!