

COUNTRY EDITOR'S TRIP TO PANAMA

Special Representative of the
Meyersdale Republican Tells
of His Voyage, Which The
Spirit's Readers Will Find
Very Interesting.

Notes from the Log of a Landlubber
Who Goes Down to Sea in a Ship
and Records His Impressions of
the Strange Lands and People
Seen and Met

SECOND LETTER

The landsman enroute to Panama finds so many new and interesting things that it seems to make little difference whether Panama is reached today, tomorrow or next week. In fact the touch of the tropics pervades even the first islands in the West Indies and the everlasting present seems sufficient. The first islands sighted after leaving New York were the Bahama group which said group is the possession of the British Government. The first really sizable island is the island of San Salvador, generally conceded to be the first land discovered by Columbus. This island boasts a lighthouse and a few inhabitants. It is a low lying island some 24 miles long with a lake in the interior. At the north are several small islets, of coral formation sticking up from the sea, glistening in the sunshine like icebergs. San Salvador like most of the islands in this group is surrounded by dangerous reefs and like most of the islands had its wrecked boat on its front steps. Wherever we sighted a lighthouse we also sighted a wreck. The deep water passage among these islands is necessarily narrow and in time many boats have come to grief. On Crooked Island reefs was a large steamer going to pieces and off the point of Cuba within a few cable lengths of the light house was another. On San Salvador reefs was pinioned a large sailing vessel.

A Hunters' Paradise.

The Bahama Islands are sparsely settled, mostly by negroes. They raise enough for a living which as living goes is not much. The islands abound in wild horses, cattle and hogs. Along the shores one can find flamingoes, egret heron and various other wild fowl. It ought to be a hunter's paradise as the natives are too poor to own firearms. If a wild horse is captured one must pay the British crown one pound and as much more to get it tamed, and then the problem of getting it out of the country is a matter of some concern. The best way would be to smuggle it in as I understand these so called horses are about the size of a Shetland pony. The egret heron is profitable shooting providing one is successful in smuggling the egret into the United States, although it is a serious matter if caught.

As a hunters' paradise there is but one drawback. The country is in many places entirely without water. The natives catch rain water for domestic use, but out in the interior this would be rather dangerous for it might not rain. Surrounding these islands and inside the protecting reefs is the most beautiful submarine scenery in the world. So clear and transparent is the water that one may look down on the bottom of the ocean and watch the fish play at a depth of twenty feet. Beautiful sea foliage grows in natural gardens and along the coral paths vari-colored water creatures wend their way unscared by the presence of men, for man is a negligible quantity in these latitudes.

As we sailed through the channels of the Bahama group we sighted many ships, the first seen since leaving port. The wide track of the ocean here narrows to a few miles and naturally brings all the sea craft within sight of each other.

Capt. Kidd's Treasure Island.

Fortune Island is the first stop which is for the purpose of taking on deck hands for the balance of the trip. These lean, lank, Fortune Island darkies are said to be better workers than can be found around the ports of Jamaica and Colon and so they are booked for the balance of the cruise and dropped on the return trip. For this they receive the magnificent sum of fifty cents a day, half in real cash and half in store credit. Fortune Island is ruled by one white man, the only white person on the island. He has his own sloop and occasionally visits the neighboring ports where he regales himself in splendor at the best hotels in the country. He is married, and while there may be no shadows over his domestic bliss, there is nevertheless several shades over the queen of Fortune Island for she evidently derives her title from a famous hand in whist known as a Spade Royal.

Fortune Island is known to romance as the hiding place of Captain Kidd's fortune but if it is really true he was some good at burying treasure for it remains hidden to this day.

Clearing Fortune Island with our black pirates on board we steam away for the Windward pass and Cuba, passing another light house on Anagua Island with the customary

wreck in her front teeth, and twelve hours later we sight Cuba.

Pearl of the Antilles.

To the traveler who has read much and seen nothing of this Pearl of the Antilles the first sight of Cuba is disappointing. One may look in vain for the tropical verdure, the Royal palms and gorgeous beauty associated with this imagined isle. What one really sees is a ragged, mountainous coast, denuded of verdure, and apparently unwatered and uninhabited. For a hundred miles we skirted this coast and with but one exception we failed to find a human habitation although twenty pairs of glasses searched among the recesses and along the coast line. The mountain ranges as we neared Santiago reached higher and higher until in places the clouds hung about the higher peaks, but always towards us they presented the same seamy, ragged, and age-marked exterior. In places the iron ore showed in broken crevices and land slides, red and rusty, like the sides of an old wreck. English Cheer Ours Flag.

It was outside Guantanamo Harbor on the southern coast of Cuba that we saw the first American flag. It was a supply ship returning from the fleet of battleships which we later saw hidden away behind the headlands, some twelve or fifteen in number. I will mention here that though I traveled some four thousand miles, and saw shipping from every land I never saw the American flag again except in a moving picture show in Jamaica. Permit me to digress. This said picture show, remember was in Kingston, on British soil. This particular film was one common to us at home. A patriotic western play where the Indians capture the beautiful maid with the blonde wig and which winds up with a thrilling capture and red river of red man's blood, while the hero stands in the exact center of the film and unfurls the American flag. I was interested to note that the sight of the American flag in this land of England's rule excited exactly the same kind of applause that it would here at home, and applause that would have made George Cohen proud of himself and the flag he made theatrically famous.

Guantanamo Harbor.

Guantanamo harbor is the present naval base for the Panama canal and as we passed, five miles at sea we could see the fighting tops of over a dozen leviathans lurking behind the entrance, waiting, waiting, with the wireless tower frowning down on their turrets and Mexico only a few hours away.

Guantanamo harbor has 25 square miles of sea room and is used by the United States as a coaling station and naval base. Leaving Guantanamo we steamed on towards Santiago, passing more mountains, steep and emaciated, suggesting some weary old hack horse with protruding ribs and razor back. About sundown we were off Santiago with its frowning Morro castle. As we leaned over the rail and surveyed this lonely coast someone remarked that this was a long way to come to start a presidential boom. And another remarked that we must not overlook the congressional career and the senatorial aspirations of the effervescent Hobson.

As we neared the harbor entrance and passed under the frowning Morro castle, now dismantled, but looking dangerous even in its decay not one of us paid mental tribute to the daring of that young man who went in under a hell fire which poured down and sunk the Merrimac. As to the question of good judgment and expediency, that is another story, but there is no question of courage. As we passed Morro the Cuban army came out and lazily watched us go by. We counted carefully and all agreed upon the count. The army mustered four able-bodied men not one of them under five feet in their eight stockings, providing they had stockings.

Morro Castle.

Morro castle was the most romantic and picturesque relic which fell under my observation. Commanding the entrance to the inner harbor, a narrow tortuous channel, and sweeping the outer harbor, it looked menacing indeed. Crowning the top of rock with turret and battlement, built in medieval style, old Morro was both picturesque and formidable. On the lower levels battlements and towers of solid masonry with their sentry boxes at each angle, the turrets overhead and the very business-like embrasures where once brass cannon bade the pirates of the Spanish Main to "keep off the grass," all were there like some dream of the past, or a leaf of romance taken from the Waverley novels. Nor were the embrasures all from within. Here and there a great gaping hole was torn in the solid walls, while some of the sentry boxes were completely shot away; a grim token of the prowess of American shells which the Cuban government has taken no pains to repair.

Under the great rock on which Morro castle is reared is a subterranean chamber open only on the ocean side large enough to admit a row boat. The story is told that some Americans ventured beneath and lost their lives in the conflicting currents which race through these winding and mysterious corridors.

If castles could talk the story of old Morro would be one worth while. Stories of Spanish rule and misrule, piracy, rapine and revolution. A story always of blood, as the tides of conquest swept back and forth over the old world and the ebb tide swept

STORY OF THE BIBLE IN MOVING PICTURES

Pastor Russell's Drama Opens
In Empire City of South.

PASTOR HIMSELF PRESENT.

Touching Film of Abraham's Sacrifice
Furnished Text For Famous New
Yorker's Discourse—Hearts Swelled
and Eyes Moistened Under the Mes-
sage From the Book—What Has
Been Regarded as a Cruel Fanaticism
Shown to Be a Divinely Beautiful
Lesson on Things to Come.



PASTOR RUSSELL

eyes became moist as the instructive message was delivered.

What has been regarded by many as a cruel fanaticism was pointed out by the famous New Yorker as divinely arranged and as teaching a most beautiful and significant lesson respecting the sacrifice of the anti-typical Isaac—namely, Christ and "the Church," which is His Body.

Pastor Russell's text was, "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's Seed and heirs according to the Promise" (Galatians 3:29).

The Pastor began by demonstrating from Scripture that God calls our present condition a cursed one, that mankind are under the curse of death, and that the only way by which the world can come under God's blessing is by the bringing in of a new condition. And so when God said to Abraham, "In thy Seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed," He meant that this Seed would roll away the curse of death and roll in the blessing of life in the full sense upon humanity.

Then the Pastor pointed out that the Logos left the Heavenly courts and became a human being—taking a lower nature than He had before—and was born of the stock of Abraham, in order to become the promised Seed which was to roll away the curse of death. He next showed why Jesus, according to the flesh, could not be Messiah, the promised Seed. Even in His perfection the Man Jesus could have done nothing more for the world than to guide many into happier conditions. He could not have been the great Deliverer who was to bless all the families of earth—the dead as well as the living.

How Jesus Became the Messiah.

The Pastor explained how Jesus became the Messiah when He was baptized of John at Jordan. He showed that the water baptism was only the symbol of the real baptism which took place there; and to support his claim he quoted the prophetic statement respecting Jesus, "Lo, I come to do Thy will, O My God"—everything written in the Book. (Hebrews 10:5-9.) This statement means that our Lord, by becoming our Sacrifice, fulfilled the types and shadows of the Law Covenant—various things that were not commandments at all, but that were foreshadowed by the Jewish sacrifices.

For instance, the type showed that before there could be an atonement for sin, the bullock of the sin-offering must first be offered. Our Lord came to be the antitypical Sin-offering, to present His perfect human nature—all that He had to give Himself in God's service as a sacrifice. The speaker threw a new light on the Apostle's somewhat ambiguous statement, "He took away the first, that He may establish the second," declaring that the correct thought is, He removes the type, that He may establish the anti-type. Our Lord came to set aside the type. This He did when He presented Himself a living Sacrifice at Jordan to do unreservedly the Father's will. This meant, primarily, our Lord's death, for mankind were under the death sentence pronounced upon their Father, Adam. Therefore, it was necessary that their Redeemer should taste death wherever it was to satisfy the claims of Justice on Adam's behalf and ask for the release of Adam and his race.

Next the Pastor explained that when our Lord cried on the cross, "It is finished," He merely meant that His own personal work of the sacrifice of Himself was ended. Then came His resurrection and His manifestation to His disciples, that they might know that He had risen from the dead. He appeared and showed Himself under different conditions to prove two things: (1) That He was no longer dead; (2) That He was changed from what He had been before. The speaker dwelt at length upon our Lord's several manifestations after His resurrection. He pointed out that during the forty days before our Lord's ascension He showed Himself only a few minutes at a time, or perhaps an hour in all, and He appeared and disappeared in a way that no one but a spirit being could do. As St. Peter declared, "He was put to

the shores of a new continent where no law obtained other than the point of the sword. With the tropic sun pouring down on the ruins tipping each battle-scarred rampart in beaten gold, with the blue waters of the Caribbean lapping gently at her base, we slipped gently past this silent sentinel of a past age and we felt like saluting, out of respect to the men who first laid those stones; for with all their faults, all their cruelty, and all their wanton, wasteful barbarity, they

death in flesh, but quickened in spirit"—made alive a spirit being.

Why Jesus Ascended on High.

Our Lord's ascension, the Pastor affirmed, was another step in the Divine Plan for the salvation of the world. It was necessary, as St. Paul declared, that Jesus should appear in the presence of God and make presentation of His blood, the merit of His sacrifice, the value of His sacrificial death, that the Church might be justified through His merit, and that the Father might give the Church the benefit of the cleansing which our Lord had accomplished for that class. Many have not noticed that the Scriptures limit our Lord's work during the Gospel Age to the Church class which is being selected, or elected, from amongst mankind. By faith this class are reconciled to God through the blood of Christ. These have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous, and may draw near to God with good courage, having their hearts sprinkled from any consciousness of evil.

The Pastor then showed that after Jesus had ascended on High He was the Spiritual Seed of Abraham, who is to bless all the families of the earth. Primarily, He became the Seed of Abraham at Jordan, when He received the anointing and to a certain extent began the work of blessing. But when He had risen from the dead and had ascended to the Father He was the Perfected One, the complete Seed, so far as He Himself was concerned.

The speaker went on to demonstrate from Scripture, however, that from the beginning God had purposed, not only that Jesus should be the great Savior and Blessor of the world, but that He should have a company of associates, who are to be sharers with Him in the great work of human uplift. These are the Gospel Church, and are to be given glory, honor and immortality in the First Resurrection. Thus they also will become members of Abraham's Spiritual Seed and share with Christ in His Millennial Kingdom. The speaker repeatedly quoted from Galatians 3, which he claimed makes the matter very clear.

The Development of the Church.

Primarily, the Seed of Abraham, as God meant it, was the Spiritual Seed—Christ and the Church on the Divine plane. But there is another Seed of Abraham, according to the flesh—the Jews. These also will have a part in the work of blessing. This fact, the Pastor declared, is set forth in Genesis 22:16-18, where God told Abraham that his seed would be as the stars of heaven and as the sand of the seashore.

The Pastor then explained how some from both Jews and Gentiles have constituted this Spiritual Seed of Abraham. He showed that Jesus, the perfect Man, gave Himself a Sacrifice, laying down His earthly rights; and that God begot Him to a higher nature. Being perfect, He needed no one to make good for Him. But with the Church it is different. Every member must come to Him as the Sin-offering, the One who would cover their blemishes and imperfections, and represent them as their Advocate. The early Church were in the main of Jewish origin. These had found that they could not get everlasting life by keeping the Law. Therefore, as St. Paul declared, they must become dead to it and accept Christ as their Sin-offering, and consecrate themselves, that through His merit they might become members of the Anointed.

The Gentiles never were under the Law Covenant, and therefore they came into Christ merely by the surrender of earthly things—presenting themselves living sacrifices, as did the Jews. In return for this complete consecration, those who thus present themselves by faith—whether Jew or Gentile—are begotten of the Holy Spirit to heavenly hopes, aims and ambitions. Those who continue faithful to their covenant of sacrifice until death will receive a place in that Body of Christ, which is the Church in glory. They develop the spirit of loyalty and obedience—loyalty to God, to righteousness and the brethren, and obedience to God and the Golden Rule. Of this Christ company Jesus was the Head, the Apostles were the first members of the Body, and the faithful in Christ Jesus throughout the Gospel Age are members in particular.

•The Natural Seed of Abraham.

The Pastor next discussed the descendants of Abraham through Isaac—the Jews. Briefly reviewing the history of that remarkable people, the speaker showed how God had blessed them in the past. Their trying experiences in Egypt, their journey through the wilderness en route to Canaan, and the signs and wonders which accompanied them, taught the people valuable lessons and strengthened their faith. For centuries they dwelt in the Promised Land under God's special care, sometimes chastised and sometimes blessed. But they never got the blessing sought under the terms of the Law Covenant—everlasting life. Their experiences, he pointed out, helped to develop in Israel a special class possessing the faith of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the Prophets, and others not so prominent.

As yet, the speaker claimed, this class have received nothing but God's promise that they shall have "a better resurrection." This they will get, he asserted, after the entire Church of Christ shall have been completed, for God has ordained that in all things Christ shall have the pre-eminence. After the Spiritual Seed of Abraham shall have been glorified, then something will begin to be done for the natural seed.

The Pastor then showed that this class of Ancient Worthies will have much advantage over the rest of the world. The Bible teaches that they will come up to human perfection in

nevertheless were white men and some sort of Christians and their coming paved the way for a new world, a new ambition and ultimately a new people.

LOU D. MacWETHY.

"Lord, Are There Few That Be Saved?"

Every thinking person will be interested in hearing this question answered next Sunday, 7:30 p. m., at the Frostburg Opera House. Come and bring your friends.—Adv.

the resurrection, instead of coming up imperfect human beings, like the remainder of mankind. This constitutes their "better resurrection." The rest of the world will require centuries in which to attain human perfection.

This Ancient Worthies class, the speaker stated, will be associated with the coming Kingdom of God, as our Lord declared, saying, "Ye shall see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the Prophets in the Kingdom of God." (Luke 13:28.) Jesus will be on the Throne and the Church will be with Him; but they will be invisible to men. The world will see these Ancient Worthies, who will be perfect men—grand examples of the image of God in the flesh. They will constitute the earthly phase of the Kingdom, in that they will represent the invisible Heavenly Kingdom.

How the Blessing Will Come.

The Pastor then gave an outline of arrangements in the Kingdom of Messiah. The Spiritual Seed of Abraham will be in the glory of the Kingdom—spirit beings, invisible to men. The natural seed of Abraham will be "Princes in all the earth," as Psalm 45 sets forth. When the Kingdom is set up, God's blessings will first go to all "Israelites indeed." The first representatives will be the Ancient Worthies, with whom the speaker thinks all the promised earthly blessings will rest as representatives of Messiah on earth. Only by coming into relationship with this company will any get the full blessing of the Millennial Kingdom.

The Pastor illustrated in the case of the United States. There are certain privileges and blessings to be secured by getting citizenship here; and as a result people flock here from everywhere and become citizens, in order that they may enjoy these blessings and privileges. This, he declared, is exactly the picture given in the Scriptures. In the future all the world will press for citizenship in the nation of Israel. The terms of citizenship there will be full surrender—abandonment of sin, consecration to God, faith and trust in Him, and loyalty and obedience to the great Messianic Kingdom.

The Pastor thinks that the Jews will be the first people to come into the Kingdom, for the reason that the offer to mankind will be more in line with what that people have been expecting for many centuries. The Promise was made to their ancestor Abraham about four thousand years ago that in his Seed all the families of the earth should be blessed. The Jew still has it in mind, the Pastor believes, that somehow Messiah and His Kingdom are coming, and that the blessing of Abraham is yet to come.

The Jew does not know what to make of all that has been going on for the past eighteen hundred years, the speaker declared. He has been greatly puzzled to know why Lazarus should have been taken into Abraham's bosom as Abraham's child, and why he himself should seemingly be rejected, outcast and in trouble; but soon his eyes will be opened. At the proper moment God will pour upon Israel the spirit of prayer and supplication, and they shall look upon Him whom they pierced, as the Prophet Zechariah foretold. (Zechariah 12:10.) Then they will begin to see something of God's great mystery that it was necessary that mankind be redeemed before they could be restored. They will begin to get the key to the Divine Plan, which rests upon the Cross of Christ.

The next class to come into line with the Kingdom, the Pastor thinks, will be a class of Christian people that have been considerably misled and confused. As soon as these begin to get their eyes open a little, they will perceive that others have understood the Scriptures better than they have, and then they will begin to study. The Bible intimates that this will be their course—that the foolish virgins will get the oil and will finally come into harmony with God. Gradually the Message will spread until all nations will realize that the Kingdom of God has been established, and that by becoming Israelites they will get the blessings. To support this somewhat remarkable statement, the Pastor quoted several prophecies, among which was Zechariah 14:16-21.

The speaker believes that by the end of the Millennial Age all evil-doers will have been destroyed and all the remainder of mankind will have become Abraham's seed—a great number, which no man can estimate. Then will come a trial to determine who are loyal at heart. Having demonstrated that they could be loyal during the favorable conditions of Christ's Messianic Kingdom, when every wrong deed was punished and every good deed blessed, mankind will then be tried to see whether they will do right when left to themselves and the Kingdom withdrawn. Satan will be loosed for a little while. Then there will be opportunity for sin to prevail. The race of Adam, then perfect human beings, will be tested in order to determine whether they really love God and whether they are loyal to the principles of righteousness. Those who are found to be disloyal to truth and righteousness and God will be destroyed from amongst the people.—Acts 3:23; 2 Peter 2:12.

In concluding his discourse, the Pastor declared that as the test at the end of the Millennial Age will be loyalty, even so this is the test upon Christian people today. The Lord desires not those who merely fear to do wrong, but those who love to do right and hate to do wrong. He claimed that there is only a little more time in which Christians will have the opportunity to develop character and to stand the test. All of those found worthy to walk with our Lord will be accepted as worthy of the best beyond the veil, and the door to the High Calling will be shut. Then will come the great tribulation mentioned in Revelation 7, out of which will gradually come the Great Company—all overcomers, indeed, but not "more than conquerors."

"Lord, Are There Few That Be Saved?"

Hear Pastor Woodworth, of New York, give the Scriptural answer to this important question, next Sunday, 7:30 p. m., at the Frostburg Opera House. All are invited. Seats free. No collection.—Adv.

Seats Free, No Collection.

You cannot afford to miss the lecture, next Sunday, 7:30 p. m., at the Frostburg Opera House, on the interesting subject: "Lord, are there few that be saved?"—Adv.

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