



ZION WINNING IN MANSFIELD.

Elders and Deacons Enter the City Again and Again and Succeed in Holding Meetings. Lawlessness of Mob and Officials Arouses Indignation.

Mansfield, Ohio.

Rev. Cyrus B. Fockler, Elder-in-Charge.

ANOTHER week of faithful, fearless, persistent effort has brought Zion nearer to final victory in Mansfield, Ohio. Chagrined and desperate, denounced and ridiculed by fair-minded people throughout the country, the Mansfield official mob is growing reckless and ugly, but in spite of it all Zion is winning.

Taking up the narrative where it was closed in our last week's issue, we find Deacon Homer Kessler in the Richland County jail, the prisoner of judge R. M. Campbell on a writ of *habeas corpus*, with Evangelist Loblaw, Elder Williams and Deacon Lee coming into the city at least once each day.

On Friday, October 19th, the hearing on the *habeas corpus* proceedings came up before Judge Campbell. Using his discretionary powers, this Judge continued the case until Tuesday, October 23d, remanding Deacon Kessler to the County jail, with jail privileges.

Writing concerning his experiences in Mansfield on Monday, October 15th, and the succeeding day, Deacon A. F. Lee, says:

CRESTLINE, OHIO, October 16, 1900.

DEAR OVERSEER PIPER:—You may be a little interested to know some of the facts connected with my deportation last evening.

It was somewhere between three and four o'clock when I called at the home of Mrs. Bauer, 194 East Third Street.

I found her confined to her bed by illness, with her open Bible in hand. She and her sister, who was also present, expressed themselves as glad to see me when I made myself known.

I proceeded to read her some encouraging passages of

Scripture, but had not gone far when an officer was ushered in by the mother, who, I am told, owns the house and lives with them, but is bitterly opposed to Zion.

The officer laid hold of me in no gentle manner and ordered me to go with him. As I saw that Mrs. Bauer was being much excited, I proceeded to go.

Mrs. Bauer and her sister then pleaded that I pray with them before going, which I asked the officer permission to do.

I was refused, and pulled out of the house.

The officer kept his grip upon me and pulled me all the way to the jail as if I had been a criminal.

On reaching the jail he hunted up the Sheriff and left me in his charge, although I was given to understand that I was the city's, and not the county's, prisoner.

I then telephoned Attorney Douglass, telling him what had happened so that my associates might be informed without making their presence at the Brunswick known.

The Mayor and his attorney came, and in the presence of the Sheriff, several police officers and a reporter for the *News*, I was asked a few questions as to when and how I came and what my plans were, etc.; also where I had been stopping, to all of which I used discretion in answering.

It was settled that I was to be deported on the Pennsylvania and Fort Wayne 7:50 train to Crestline.

After supper the Mayor called on me, and I had the great joy of delivering Zion's wonderful Message to him and a very talkative police officer.

God gave me unusual liberty of speech and quickness of thought, so that I could not but mark the fulfilment of our Lord's promise that when we are brought before magistrates, the Holy Spirit should tell us what to say.

In fact, that has been the joy that has been my strength on so many occasions during three days of terrific nervous strain. God has helped me to preach the Gospel to so many individuals in such power that in many instances not only have the mouths of our enemies been closed, but they have acknowledged they were in the wrong.

I was taken to the depot in a carriage, in company of the Mayor and the Sheriff, who, the Mayor insisted, must go; also two police officers.

Crowds lined the streets and sharp outlook was kept by my escort all the way.

When we reached the depot, there was a large and noisy crowd waiting for us; also several more police.

I was driven as close to the entrance as possible, taken from the carriage surrounded by police and hustled into the depot to wait for the train, which was a few minutes late.

The Mayor bought and handed me a ticket and in company with Mike Weil—who wore a large Bryan badge—led the police escort which put me on the train.

The last named party had the audacity to come on the train, grasp my hand and address me as "old friend" and introduce himself as the "protector" of Elders Basinger and

Moot.

As I shook his hand I said, "I hope you have repented of your treatment of them," upon which he pretended to be astounded, and then grew sarcastic and insulting in the extreme, and warned me that if I came back I was liable to get my head smashed. In this, one of the police joined him.

In fact, several of these officers have been very insulting to us. One who escorted me to the train yesterday said we called ourselves Christians, but we were worse than the lowest saloon bums.

I was only in Mansfield about one and one-half hours today, Tuesday, October 16th, and was on my way to Mrs. Brent's when I was captured and rushed by several officers down an alley to the Baltimore and Ohio train and sent to Shelby junction, where I took a Big Four train to Crestline.

We are all rejoicing that we have been counted worthy to endure such hardships for Him who resisted unto blood, and that we may in some measure enter into fellowship with those who have suffered similar hardships for His sake.

May God bless you and all Zion everywhere.

Yours in Christ,

A. F. LEE.

On Thursday, October 18th, Deacon Lee went into Mansfield by team and met with the usual lawless treatment. He says in a telegram:

CRESTLINE, OHIO, October 18, 1900.

W. H. PIPER.

Reached destination by team five-fifteen this morning. Driven from Calver's by threatening mob. Reentered town. Made several calls unmolested. Learned as was taking train of Kessler's imprisonment.

A. F. LEE.

That same night, one of the most wicked and disgraceful acts of the entire terrible list of Mansfield's official crimes was enacted.

It reads more like an excerpt from a history of the early centuries in Rome, or an account of outrages in China, than a description of action under the very eyes of the police in a nation which boasts that it is the most enlightened of all the ages.

The crime has set public indignation to boiling again, but the ebullition seems to take the form of harmless resolutions with left-handed slaps at the innocent victims of the mobs.

Forming under the Very eyes of the police officers, hence with their full permission and consent, two bands of ruffians went out late at night, aroused peaceful, law-abiding citizens and members of the Christian Catholic Church from their beds and demanded admission to their homes in order that they might search them for "Dowie Elders."

It would seem that official cowardice and intolerance could get but little lower.

And yet Governor Nash, cowed by Masonic threats, snivels out the wretched excuse that "the Dowieites are seeking for cheap notoriety."

How would "His Excellency" like to pay the

price? Concerning these housebreaking mobs Overseer Piper received the following telegram:

MANSFIELD, OHIO, October 19, 1900.

WILLIAM HAMNER PIPER.

Two turbulent official mobs patrolled streets last night. Searched half dozen houses for Elders.

Found none.

One of the members of the Church also wrote the following letter concerning that and other experiences:

MANSFIELD, OHIO, October 19, 1900.

CYRUS B. FOCKLER.

Dear Brother in Christ:—The mob is getting quite lively again.

Deacon Kessler arrived at the home of a member Wednesday morning before daylight.

He stayed until 4 o'clock in the afternoon; then he went up town. We heard he was stoned and used quite roughly.

We had a meeting at Sister—'s yesterday.

There were about a dozen of us.

Evangelist Loblaw was there.

It was good to hear a sermon once again.

Last night the mobs were out in full force.

At half-past 10 we were called out of bed.

The mob wanted to search the house for Zion Elders.

We let four of them go through. Just in one hour we were called out again by another mob and two of them went through the house. They said they had been to several other members' houses. I asked them where the police were.

They said they had served a writ on them so they could not do anything.

Your Sister in Christ,

This craven-hearted excuse of the mob and of the police, that the writ of *habeas corpus* had tied the officials' hands, so that they could not protect Zion people or prevent lawlessness, is a lie as diabolical as the hearts from whence it came.

The writ of *habeas corpus*, in one case only, prevented the officials from deporting a Zion officer, which they never had any legal right to do.

Their duty is to arrest lawbreakers and bring them to punishment and to protect the innocent, law-abiding Christian ministers, and they have never done their duty in this matter.

Every one of them is guilty of malfeasance in office, aiding and abetting a mob, illegal arrest and abduction.

Concerning their actions, the Mansfield *Shield*, a Democratic newspaper, publishes the following communication.

It should be remembered that the Mansfield city administration is Republican:

A GOOD REPUBLICAN WOULD LIKE TO KNOW
WHO IS INCONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF

THIS CITY.

To THE EDITOR:—I am a Republican, but I would like to know who is in control of the government of the City of Mansfield. Is it Mayor Brown and his police, or is it a mob of lawbreakers, who go forth at night and enter people's houses?

It is just about time something should be done in our town to protect the taxpayers in their rights.

Last night a mob formed in the park, under the very eyes of the police, and started out to "hunt Dowie Elders," as they called it; they went to the homes of six or eight of the good people of this city, and demanded entrance, and when refused, they tried to break in, or burn the house.

The writer saw the people forming on the street, and saw some of the police standing around. It occurs to me that under the proclamation of his honor it would have been the duty of the police to break up these crowds, but they did not do it; on the other hand, they said they would not interfere with any action the mob would take. Now this is a nice state of affairs. What do we good people pay our taxes for? Are we to be disgraced by the action of a few public officials, who are playing for the votes of a few people rather than to follow their sworn duty and protect the rights of the citizens who want to uphold the law? Shame on any official who closes his eyes and refuses to follow the law he has sworn to support.

Mayor Brown can offer no excuse for allowing such actions to continue; he cannot say his police force is not strong enough, for he has the right to swear in extra officers, and if he cannot get them, he should call on the militia; but when he refuses to do this, he countenances mob law.

Whether or not these Dowie Elders be right or wrong in their religious belief, they have the rights of American citizens, and so long as they have not violated any law, they should be permitted to walk our streets as free citizens.

Is our city going to be menaced every night by a hungry mob? Are our citizens going to be aroused from their beds at any hour and allow a few people to go through their houses?

Let his honor, who is the conservator of the peace, answer these questions.

To good, law-abiding citizens these scenes are disgraceful, and we wait to see if the present administration is going to foster and encourage mob law, or be the preservers of law and order

GOOD ORDER

Writing from the Richland County Jail, Deacon Kessler says regarding this matter:

Attorney Douglass was threatened by the mob last night. They were scouring the city, looking for "Elders."

The stoning of the Deputy Sheriffs and myself seems to have awakened the people, somewhat, to a realization of their danger. The mob last night also stirred up public sentiment.

I should not be surprised if the mob should finally hang itself, according to the old saying with reference to the Devil hanging himself if given enough rope.

The Ministers' Resolutions have only just been given to the public, "having been withheld until another outbreak should occur."

The Wednesday night occurrence seems to have been sufficient to bring the wonderful pronouncement to the light.

The resolutions to which Deacon Kessler refers are like all the utterances of the Mansfield ministers since the trouble began, merely high-sounding but

inefficient words, used as a convenient vehicle for wicked lies about Zion. If these brave "resolvers" really deplore mob violence and lawlessness, as they say they do, let them show it by doing something to put an end to it.

The following are the resolutions as published in the Mansfield *Shield*:

RESOLUTIONS OF MINISTERS—MANSFIELD
CLERGYMEN CONDEMN LAWLESSNESS.

The Ministerial Association of this city has come to the front with resolutions regarding the Dowie outbreaks which were given out for publication this morning. It was decided at a meeting of the Association held a short time ago to keep the resolutions which were passed at that time quiet until another outbreak, when they would be given out. An outbreak occurred Wednesday evening and the resolutions were given this morning for publication as follows:

"WHEREAS, An impression has gone abroad that the clergymen of Mansfield are tacitly in sympathy with the uprising of the people and its treatment of the Dowie Elders, and

"WHEREAS, This impression does not reflect the real sentiment of the ministry of our city and may tend to encourage lawlessness and the uprising of the people; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That, while we deplore and condemn the abusive and slanderous utterances of Elder Fockler and Dowie in his issue of the LEAVES OF HEALING of July 28th, as well as the senseless and persistently defiant acts that have provoked the uprising of the people, we nevertheless declare the right of every person to conduct religious services without molestation, and that we protest against the interference with the liberty and property of any and all persons who may come to our city and who may be engaged in business not incompatible with sound morals; and further, that we emphatically condemn the spirit of lawlessness which prompts such interference. Signed:

"PASTOR ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH.

"PASTOR PARK AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.

"SECRETARY OF Y. M. C. A.

"CHAPLAIN OHIO STATE REFORMATORY AND PRESIDENT OF MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION.

"PASTOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

"RECTOR OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

"PASTOR ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SECRETARY OF MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION.

"PASTOR OF FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.

"PASTOR FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH.

"PASTOR OF MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

"PASTOR OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

"PASTOR OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH."

It may be stated that W. S. Capellar, editor of the Mansfield *News*, made the statement that the Mansfield pastors were tacitly in sympathy with the mob in his notorious interview in the Columbus (Ohio) *State Journal*.

On Friday, October 19, 1900, Evangelist Loblaw sent the following telegram to Overseer Piper, reporting his work up to that time:

LEAVES OF HEALING.

MANSFIELD, OHIO, October 19, 1900.

REV. W. HAMNER PIPER,

Chicago, Illinois.

Have seen most of members.
Had meeting outskirts undisturbed.
Wire instructions to Douglass.
Love to all.

MARK H. LOBLAW.

The following letter from Evangelist Loblaw, written on Friday, October 19th, contains some interesting information:

MANSFIELD, OHIO, October 19, 1900.

DEAR OVERSEER PIPER:—I have visited over one-half of members and held several small meetings.

We had meeting yesterday afternoon at Mrs. —'s. We were undisturbed, although two policemen drove past the house and then turned around and drove back to town.

I have not been arrested yet, although I have boldly walked the streets and made my calls.

We cannot stop any more at the Brunswick. It is a trap for us. I was there three days undiscovered.

The mob came out to —'s Wednesday night for me, but I was not there.

I went out on Tuesday upon the square, but I was left unmolested. The other men have been again and again arrested and sent out. I know now where most of the people live.

They know I am around, but the authorities cannot locate me. I find many fine people here of Zion.

I am in the fight to stay and win.

God sustains me.

Let us keep at it.

I want to win.

Love to you, Overseer, and Zion. MARK H. LOBLAW.

On Friday, October 19th, Elder Edward Williams, of Benton Harbor, Michigan, who had ridden into Mansfield on a bicycle on several occasions, made another trip and was successful in holding a meeting, but was afterward mobbed and stoned at a small town five miles from Mansfield. He wired Overseer Piper as follows:

CRESTLINE, OHIO, October 20, 1900.

REV. W. H. PIPER.

Had meeting at —'s yesterday.

Mobbed and stoned at Lucas.

Now at Crestline, going to Mansfield. E. WILLIAMS.

On Lord's Day, October 21, 1900, Deacon Lee went to Mansfield by team and Elder Williams again on his wheel.

How they fared is told by the following telegrams:

CRESTLINE, OHIO, October 21, 1900.

W. H. PIPER,

1201 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Back safe, after a day of fruitless effort. A. F. LEE.

CRESTLINE, OHIO, October 21, 1900.

REV. W. H. PIPER,

1201 Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

Started for Mansfield this A. M. on wheel.

Was intercepted.

Crowd in buggies came to meet me.

Lee went with livery.

E. WILLIAMS.

Considering the long, trying battle, which these brethren had so bravely fought, Overseer Piper sent him the following telegram:

CHICAGO, October 22, 1900.

REV. EDWARD WILLIAMS,

Continental Hotel, Crestline, Ohio.

Go home.

Let Lee and Loblaw come Chicago. WILLIAM HAMNER PIPER.

The following statement in a recent issue of the *Mansfield Shield* is significant:

It is suspected that the police do not get hold of more than half of the Dowie ministers who reach this city, and that services are being held regularly in secret after the manner of the early Christians in Rome.

This fight has now resolved itself into an almost open conflict between the organized force of the Devil in Secret Lodges and the organized force of God in the Christian Catholic Church in Zion.

Hence the fight is long and bitter, but God will win.

His people in Zion are loyal and determined and will fight to victory if it takes every cent of property and every life.

The following letters are samples of hundreds which are received at Headquarters:

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA, October 9, 1900.

REV. W. HAMNER PIPER,

201 Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

Dear Brother in Christ:—In the absence of the General Overseer, I address this to you and enclose express order for \$— to be applied to the defense and assistance of those brethren who are fighting the battle of the Lord in Mansfield (much more appropriately named Devilsfield).

They have my hearty cooperation and prayers.

I can see that the miserable action of all Zion's opponents, there as well as elsewhere, is going to tell in the end for truth and righteousness. Even the dead apostate churches can see that there must be something real in Zion when her friends can stand such treatment as they are getting.

It is because they (the apostates) have no backbone that they have not been treated in the same fashion.

"They that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" is being experienced, and is bound to tell for God in the end.

May Almighty God bless and increase your zeal more and more, and make you all realize that "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High, shall abide in the shadow of the Almighty."

Your Brother in Christ,

CHARLES LUNN.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA, October 8, 1900.

REV. W. H. PIPER,

Overseer at Large, Christian Catholic Church in Zion,
1201 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—Please to accept the enclosed on account of expenses in fighting the Devil and his army at Mansfield, Ohio.

We are watching proceedings, and although the enemy is more than usually strong and persistent in this case, he will have to give in.

The harder the fight, the greater the victory.

We pray daily that the good brethren will remain steadfast in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, when the result cannot be doubted. Faithfully yours and faith in God,

W. AND M. E. SMITH.

P. S.—Draw upon me for another \$—if necessary, in this cause.

W. S.

ROCK CREEK, OHIO, October 9, 1900.

REV. WILLIAM HAMNER PIPER, Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Brother:—For weeks I have noticed the shameful treatment heaped upon your Elders and Evangelists.

If I were a preacher in Mansfield, I would cry aloud against such lawlessness, if they took my scalp.

Hold on to Mansfield.

Send your preachers right on. Dowie and Zion will win.

May God give you the victory.

I am a wellwisher to your work in the Lord.

Fraternally,

R. M. MARSHALL.

The hand of Secretism in this matter is no idle fancy. Governor Nash, of Ohio, was rushed into the Masonic order very soon after this trouble began.

The *Christian Cynosure*, of Chicago, says:

In Mansfield, Ohio, ministers were stripped naked and painted blue by the mob, which had the tacit sanction of the Masonic Mayor and city officials. And the chief offense of these ministers, who were so shamefully abused, seems to have been their opposition to Mah-hah-bone, the Masonic diety of these city officers. A political society like the Masons, which pre-tends not to be political, is to be more dreaded and condemned by a free people than the “red shirts” that boast their object.

It is the old fight of God against Baal.

The final victory has always perched upon the glorious banners of the armies of the King of Heaven. This case will be no exception.

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