

FREE SEVENTH-DAY AD-VENTISTS' WORK IN CUBA

The rise and progress of Seventh-day Adventists' Free work in Cuba is frothed with many very interesting experiences which to relate time and space will not now permit. However, through it all God has brought us on our way; and looking back upon the varied experiences (some of them with features very discouraging) through which we have passed, and the success which has attended our work in spite of it all, it surely tends to deep-



C. A. Edwards, Pres. Cuban Assembly Free S. D. A.

en our confidence in the leadership of "Christ our Mighty Captain."

Heavenly intelligences bore record that the 29th of May to the 7th of June found us in Conference reviewing the work of the past two years of this organization in Cuba, and laying plans for more aggressive work in the Island.

It was certainly ten days of hard work. The executive committee at times at their work until 2 o'clock in the morning. This work was organized by Elder J. W. Manns in April, 1923, with a small constituency of twenty members, with one ordained minister and three licentiates. It has since grown to nearly one hundred members with two ordained ministers and six licentiates. Our work in this field during those days was carried forward without one cent appropriated from the treasury of the General Assembly and the Conference found us free of debt and money in our treasury to still carry forward our work.

The tenth morning of our Conference found us at the waterside with a large crowd gathered to witness twelve souls buried with our Lord in baptism and added to the church with many more waiting in different parts of the Island for this ordinance. These are the activities of the Sons of Ham in the Island of Cuba.

"Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, Who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be His glorious name forever. And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and amen."

C. A. EDWARDS,

Banes, Oriente, Cuba.

It affords me great pleasure to report a Missionary meeting long to be remembered by those who were present. This meeting was held at the Free S. D. A. Church, Coco Grove, Panama, on Tuesday night, June 2, 1925.

The meeting was called to order by the leader, Brother D. A. Dunn, at 7:30 p. m. The opening song was found on page 547, Christ in Song. Theme, "The call for Reapers." Prayer was offered by Sister A. Hamilton. The Scripture Lesson was Zech. 3:7-10, commented on by the leader. This was followed by the singing of song number 558, Christ in Song, Theme, "Life Time Is Working Time." After this a very appropriate reading was rendered from Christ's Object Lessons." by Sister Blake, subject, "If you are engaged in this work, you have companions unseen by mortal eyes." Sister Lindsay also read a piece entitled "The Fellowship of Jesus." Brother Lindsay, who is very much experienced in the work, gave an address, taking for his subject, "What it is to keep such a Friend as Jesus." His talk was very forcible and much appreciated by all present.

We then listened to two more readings, after which the Missionary meeting came to a close.

A Testimony meeting followed in which all members of the church took a part by telling of ther blessed hope in the soon appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Many copies of The Banner were distributed.

The meeting was closed by singing of Song 789, Christ in Song, and prayer by Sister Lindsay.

We hope that the continuance of these meetings may be the means of saving many souls in the Kingdom of God, along with those who are engaged in this great work.

D. A. DUNN.

Jesus had eaten nothing since the evening of the passover supper, and having passed through the ordeal of Gethsemane agony, the betrayal, the trial, personal abuse, he was physically unable to bear the cross very far on the way to Calvary. No priest could bear it for Hm for fear of being defiled. No one in the mob would do it. So they seized upon a stranger, Simon, and forced him to the task—blessed task it afterward proved to be, as Simon became a follower of Up to this time, "his Jesus. sons were believers in the Saviour, but he himself was not a disciple." "Desire of Ages," pp. 741, 742.

"Many are still tested as was Abraham. They do not hear the voice of God speaking directly from the heavens, but He calls them by the teachings of His word and the events of His providence. They may be required to abandon a career that promises wealth and honor, to leave congenial and profitable associations, and separate from kindred, to enter upon what appears to be only a path of self-denial, hardship and sacrifice. He calls them away from human influences and aid and leads them to feel the need of His help, and to depend upon Him and Him alone, that He may reveal Himself to them."

"Man's goings are of the Lord; how can a man then understand his own way."



Delegates and Members of the Moron Church Attending the Second Session of The Cuban Assembly of Free Seventh-day Adventists, May 29th to June 8th, 1925, Moron, Camaguey, Cuba.

OUR SAFEGUARD

F. D. Nichol.

The devil is working with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in a last great effort to blind the whole world with his "Isms" subtle delusions. of every nature and form are abroad in the land. These counterfeit religious movements, we clearly see, are not without results. They are rapidly gathering into their ranks, not the illiterate, but the educated men and women of our land. About us every day we see souls being lulled to sleep by the belief in a second probation, in a postmillenial coming of Christ, and in a heaven which any one may obtain, no matter how evil his life. And it is true, though sad, that even from our own church have members been taken to swell these ranks. However, all this is scarcely more than we should expect after noting the utterances of the prophets concerning the

almost overmastering delusions which are to characterize the last days.

But the end is not yet. These mighty deceptive movements are to become still more delusive. Great signs and wonders, even to the calling down of fire from heaven, are soon to be seen. And as a climax we are to see Satan himself transformed into an angel of light here upon our earth, posing as Christ, and with an external appearance in keeping with the assumption. Then, if it were possible, the very elect would be deceived. The master mind of man's adversary will succeed in producing deceptions so convincing to men that they will actually be led to believe a lie.

Can you think of anything more sweet to the worn pilgrim of the Lord, long buffeted by the enemy, than to have his sins once and for all blotted out of the Book of Remembrance?

THE SUCCESS FAMILY

The mother of success is— Ambition.

The oldest son is—Common Sense.

Some of the other boys are— Perseverance, Honesty, Thoroughness, Foresight, Enthusiasm, Co-operation.

The oldest daughter is— Character.

Some of the sisters are-Cheerfulness, Loyalty, Courtesy, Care, Economy, Sincerity.

The baby is—Opportunity.

Get acquainted with the "old man" and you will be able to get along pretty will with the rest of the family.

"To every one who offers hmiself for service, withholding nothing, is given the power to achieve measureless results."

"It is an honor for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling."

ТНЕ BANNER

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THE RISE AND PROGRESS **OF FREE SEVENTH-DAY** ADVENTISTS IN CUBA

West Indies is the name of the group of islands southeast of the United States. Nearly all the islands are in torrid Summer is the rainy zone. season.

The largest of these islands is Cuba. It is the youngest republic in all America.

Cuba is long and narrow. It is shaped like an alligator, with the head to the east. This island has mountains along its southeast coast. There are also high hills in many parts of the island, but there are also large fertile plains.

Cuba is in the torrid zone. It has hot weather most of the year, but it has a few cool months. The island has plenty of rainfall. Most of it falls in the hottest months.

Cuba produces more sugar cane than any other country.

There are wide fields of sugar cane and there are great Many meadows. trees and plants yield sweet fruits, such as oranges, cocoanuts, bananas and pineapples.

Most of the people of Cuba are white, but there are also many Negroes. The Cubans have good schools in every town of the island.

Havana is the capital and largest city. It is also the chief port. The city is noted for its tobacco and cigars. It is also a great sugar market.

Cuba has a population of

more than 2,898,905. Almost the whole population smoke, chew tobacco and drink coffee.

Cuba was once entirely Catholic, state-compelled Catholic-Since the establishment ism. of the republic, Protestant missions have found a people for the most part averse to "religion," because the name religion is to them synonymous with Catholicism, superstition, big-They are predisotry, error. posed now to agnosticism, atheism, and spiritualism, but the fear of the Catholic hereafter still exerts its terrible influence over them.

During the early part of 1922 Bro. E. A. White, of Moron, Cuba, wrote the President of the General Assembly of Free Seventh-day Adventists, inviting him to that city, declaring that a company of Seventh-day Adventists of which he formed a part, had severed its connection with that denomination, and that the company desired to unite with the denomination of Free Seventh-day Adventists.

The reasons given by this company for severing its connection with the original body of Seventh-day Adventists, are the same reasons given for the existence of the denomination of Free Seventh-day Adventists; which reasons are given in the little tract: "Why Free Seventh-day Adventists," pages 11-13.

In April, 1923, the writer answered the Macedonian call of these brethren, which finally resulted in the organization of the first church of Free Seventh-day Adventists at Moron. The organization of the Cuban mission of Free Seventh-day Adventists was also organized with less than thirty members. There was one ordained minister and one ministerial licentiate and three missionary licentiates.

During the past two years there has been a gain of about 70 members. There has also been a gain in tithe and offerings.

At the last session of the Cuban Assembly convened at Moron May 29 to June 8 reports, showed that we now have five churches and companies, two ordained ministers, six missionary licentiates and a

church membership of about one hundred.

At the close of the last session, twelve candidates were baptized. There are still others awaiting baptism. A large crowd gathered on the banks to witness the scene.

Plans were laid for special evangelistic efforts during the coming year. We have every reason to be thankful to our Heavenly Father for His goodness to the children of men. May His name have the honor. praise and glory.

J. W. MANNS.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO YOU

- There's a sweet old story translated for man,
 - But writ in the long, long ago,-
- The gospel according to Mark, Luke, and John,-
 - Of Christ and His mission below.
- Men read and admire the gospel of Christ,
 - With its love so unfailing and true;
- But what do they say, and
 - what do they think, Of the gospel "according to you"?
- 'Tis a wonderful story, that gospel of love.
- As it shines in the Christ-life divine;
- And, oh, that its truth might be told again
 - In the story of your life and mine!
- Unselfishness mirrors in every scene; *
- Love blossoms on every sod; And back from its vision the
 - heart comes to tell The wonderful goodness of God.
- You are writing each day a let
 - ter to men: Take care that the writing is true.
- 'Tis the only gospel that some men will read-
 - That gospel according to you.

-Author Unknown.

"There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the Lord."

MINUTES

Of the Second Annual Session

The Cuban Assembly Conference Session convened Friday evening, May 29th to June 8th, 1925.

According to announcement, the first meeting of the Cuban Assembly convened in the hall used for religious service by the Moron Church of Free S. D. A., Calle Marina 83, Moron, Cuba, Friday evening, May 29th, at 7:45 p. m.

The meeting opened with a song and prayer service. It being Sabbath evening, nothing of a business nature was considered. Most of the delegates from various parts of the island were present. Prayer was offered by Bro. J. H. Buckland.

Elder C. A. Edwards, chairman of the Conference, addressed the audience with words of greeting. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to God for the blessings which have attended the work of Free S. D. A. during the past two years. He spoke of the increasing membership since the conference was organized two years ago. He said, this Assembly was organized in April, 1923, with less than thirty members. Today we have nearly one hundred Free Seventh-day Adventists in Cuba.

Among Cuba's population of more than 2,898,905, we have five churches and companies of Free Seventh-day Adventists. You can see our work has hardly commenced. We trust that this gathering will be a stimulant to all of our members; and when this Conference shall have closed each of us may return home with a double determination to see more accomplished during the ensuing year. After singing No. 227, Christ in Song, the chairman introduced Evangelist J. W. Manns, President of The General Assembly of Free Seventh-day Adventists, who after giving a brief sketch of the progress of the work in both the United States and foreign fields, preached a strong sermon on the "Church, Its Organization, Order and Discipline," using the following texts: 1 Cor. 12:1-11, 15-29, 14th chapter, verse 40; Ex. 18:7-21. He showed very clearly that God's plan of organ-



Reading from the left: Elder J. H. Buckland, Elder J. W. Manns and Elder C. A. Edwards.

ization is a perfect one. Our hearts were made glad as we listened to the words of God from the lips of His servant.

After the sermon, the following program was announced:

Early morning prayer service, 5:30.

Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.

Conference, 9:30 a.m.

Dinner, 1:30 p. m.

Conference and Round-table Talk, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Preaching, 7:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned with the benediction by Elder Manns.

C. A. EDWARDS, Chairman. W. T. DALY, Secretary.

W. I. DILLI, Sceletary.

MINUTES

Of The Second Meeting

May 30th, 1925. The second meeting of the second annual session was opened at 5:30 Sabbath morning, Elder J. W. Manns presiding. Hymn No. 282, Christ in Song, was sung, and prayer was offered by Bro. C. J. Ellis of Florida, Cuba.

This early morning service should be a time of seeking the Lord for special blessings during this Conference, the chairman said.

If ever a time in our lives that we as colored brethren needed special help, it is this morning, and during this entire Conference session. We have gathered here to lay plans for the furtherance of the work of the Lord in which we are engaged. So let us seek Him whole-heartedly in this season of prayer.

Special instructions were given from Phil. 2:1-18, after which many of the believers took part in the prayer service lead by Elder C. A. Edwards. The meeting was closed. Dismissed by Bro. E. A. White.

MINUTES

Of the Third Meeting of the Second Annual Session

This meeting was opened Sabbath morning, May 30th, at 9:30 o'clock with Bro. A. S. Moufries, Supt. of the Sabbath School, presiding. This doubtless was the largest Sabbath School that was ever assembled in Moron. Many strangers were present and all seem to have enjoyed the blessings gained through the study of the Sabbath School lesson.

The Sabbath School closed at 10:50 a.m.

W. T. DALY, Secretary.

MINUTES

Of the Fourth Meeting of the Second Annual Session

At 11:00 o'clock Sabbath morning, June 30th, Elders C. A. Edwards and J. W. Manns, with Bro. C. J. Ellis, occupied the pulpit. Hymn No. 464 was sung from Christ in Song. Prayer was offered by Bro. C. J. Ellis.

A most interesting and spiritfilled sermon was preached by Elder Manns. His subject was Church Officers and Their Duties. Text: Titus 1:1-11, Elder Manns made very plain the duties of the local elders and deacons of the church as well as those of other church officers. He showed the relation that should exist between these officers and the ordained ministers of the gospel. All were much benefited and had a clear knowledge of the responsibilities resting upon church officers.

This meeting closed with prayer by Elder Edwards.

MINUTES

Sabbath afternoon, May 30th, at 4:30, the meeting was called to order by Elder J. W. Manns, acting chairman. This meeting was of the nature of a roundtable talk. Hymn No. 705 was sung and prayer was offered by Elder C. A. Edwards, after which Elder Manns stated that all who had questions upon which they desired special help, might be asked now. In future meetings, he said, members and friends are requested to write their questions and place them in the question box prepared for the purpose.

Many questions were asked with reference to the duties of local church officers; to which Elder Manns gave satisfactory answers.

This meeting was closed with a vesper service, after which the doxology was sung and Bro. Buckland dismissed with prayer.

MINUTES

Of the Sixth Meeting of the Second Annual Session

The early morning prayer service was opened by Elder Manns at 5:30. Hymn No. 581 was sung; after which the congregation bowed and Bro. A. S. Monfries lead in a season of prayer.

We were all urged by the chairman of the meeting to put away all differences that we all may receive the blessings which God has prepared for us in this Conference. He said, brethren, at times there arise troubles in the church, the cause of which, we cannot always locate; but with the Psalmist, let us pray God to "set a watch to my lips that I might not sin against Thee."

The spirit of the Lord came very near and each one was edified.

The meeting was closed with the song: "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow."

Dismissed by Elder Manns.

MINUTES

Of the Seventh Meeting of the Second Annual Session

The first business meeting of the session was called to order Sunday morning, May 31st, at 9:30 o'clock. Elder C. A. Edwards was chairman. Hymn No. 278, Christ in Song, was sung. Prayer was offered by Elder J. W. Manns. He made a very earnest petition to our Heavenly Father, asking His blessings upon all the delegates attending this meeting, after which the delegates of various churches and companies were seated, including those of the Moron Church.

Bro. A. S. Monfries and Sister Florence M. Drummond Edwards were elected and added to the list of delegates. Sister Ellen Grant was also seated as a delegate.

The chairman then declared the meeting opened and ready for any business that might properly come before it.

First the standing committee for the Conference session was appointed by the chairman as follows:

Committee on Constitution and By-Laws: E. A. White, Chas. J. Ellis, J. H. Buckland, J. N. Senior and Elder J. W. Manns.

Committee on Plans and Resolutions: C. A. Edwards, J. H. Buckland, J. N. Senior, Chas. J. Ellis and J. W. Manns.

Committee on Licenses and Credentials: The Cuban Assembly Executive Committee.

Committee on Nomination of Officers: A. E. Monfries, U. Williams, Miss Ida M. Crossley, Miss Florence M. Drummond and J. W. Manns.

There being no further business, the chairman said: Since we have about 45 minutes more, we will ask Elder J. W. Manns, President of the General Assembly, to occupy the time.

Elder Manns: Mr. Chairman, brethren and sisters, I can see from the beams of light on your faces that you are catching the vision; such as which we have gathered here for. We will study a few Scriptures together regarding tale-bearers and tattlers.

InEzke. 22:9 we find in the church that there are men who carry tales and shed blood. According to 2 Chro. 25:19, It will be better if some of these disgruntled church members to remain at home.

Again let us turn to Lev. 19:16, 17. Here we read: "Thou shalt not go up and down as a tale-bearer among thy people. Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart. Thou shalt not in auywise rebuke thy neighbor and not suffer sin upon him."

Return again to 2 Thes. 3: 11-15. In these Scriptures we learn that some in the church were walking disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Note: The apostle heard

6

this, he did not see this in this particular church, but he heard it; evidently, some one told him of these busy-bodies; and since the news was brought to him, he was moved by inspiration to give both reproofs and exhortations. He said: Now them that are such we command and exort by our Lord Jesus Christ. that with quietness they work and eat their own bread. And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man and have no company with him.

The apostle Paul said of such: "Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith. And with all they learned to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also busybodies, speaking things which they ought not," 1 Tim. 5:12, 13. Do you have some of this clsas in the Moron Church? or in the Cuban Assembly? I can tell you we have a few in the United States. (From the audience: Many in Cuba, too!)

Take the admonition found in 1 Pet. 4:15: "But let none of you suffer as a murderer or as a thief, or as an evil-doer or as a busy-body in other men's matters." Brethren, do you think I have heard something? Yes, I have; many things have been written to me, and with the Apostle Paul, I must say, I partly believe them.

Let us all seek God for a deeper experience and a fuller knowledge of His love towards us. Let each one put away the evil of his doings. May this Conference session prove a blessing to each of us. In Prov. 20:3, we read: "It is an honor for a man to cease from strife, but every FOOL will be meddling." Note: Whenever you see a man meddling into the affairs of another, that man is a fool. I admonish you: Follow the apostle's instructions: Study to be quiet and do your own business. (From the audience: Amen!)

We learn from Prov. 18:5-9, "It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment. A fool's lips enter into contention and his mouth calleth for strokes. The words of a talebearer are as wounds."

In Prov. 26:12-28: "Where no word is there the fire goeth out; so where there is no tale-

Reading from the left front row: U. Williams, J. N. Senior, Mrs. F. M. Drum-mond Edwards, and E. A. White. Back row: Elder J. W. Manns, Elder J. H. Buckland, Bro. W. T. Daly and Elder C. A. Edwards.

bearer the strife ceaseth. Who so diggeth a pit shall fall therein; and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him. A lying tongue hateth those who are afflicted by it.'

Brethren, may the Lord bless us and keep us. May we all realize the solemnity of the times in which we are living, is my prayer. For Christ's sake Amen.

Almost with his dving breath Jesus prayed for His enemies, and that prayer embraced the "It took in every sinworld. ner that had lived or should live, from the beginning of the world to the end of time. Upon all rests the guilt of crucifying the Son of God. To all forgiveness is freely offered. 'Whoso ever will' may have peace with God and inherit eternal life."

BLOOD AND WATER

"When the soldier pierced the side of Jesus as He hung upon the cross there came out two distinct streams one of blood the other of water. The blood was to wash away the sins of those who should believe in His name and the water was to represent that living water which is obtained from Jesus to give life to the believer."

Can you think of anything more sad than for a person to have his name once written in the Book of Life, and then, because of some unforgiven sin, have it blotted out in the judgment?

"Judgments are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools."



CONDITIONS UPON WHICH THE SPIRIT IS RECEIVED

"The representative of Christ will not sit on the throne with an idol. Here is where many fail, and the longing cry for Spirit filling goes unanswered. Among the things that hinder the infilling of the Spirit may be mentioned:

Regarding iniquity in the heart.

Censoriousness.

Self-dependence.

Gossiping, tale-bearing, backbiting.

Resisting the conviction of sin.

Dishonesty in dealings, driving sharp bargains, scheming.

Refusing to confess to those we have wronged.

Refusing to make restitution where we should.

Being prejudiced and uncandid.

A revengeful spirit; carrying some old grudge in the heart.

Worldly ambition.

Being resentful, envious, jealous.

Quenching the Spirit by wrong doing.

Grieving the Spirit by dissension.

Indulgence of bad temper.

Impatience and fretfulness.

Vain and trifling conversation.

Various forms of selfishness, covetousness, stinginess.

Unclean thoughts; impure imaginations.

Neglect of prayer. Neglect to study the Bible. Lack of consecration. Hatred in the heart.

"Every ray of light shed upon others will be reflected upon our own hearts. Every kind and sympathizing, word spoken to the sorrowful, every act to relieve the oppressed, and every gift to supply the necessities of our fellow beings, given or done with an eye to God's glory, will result in blessings to the giver. Those who are thus working are obeying a law of heaven, and will receive the approval of God."

"Dear heart, be swift in loving, Time speedeth on;

- And so thy chance of blessed service
 - Will soon be gone."

"YOU STAY"

"I remember," said an old minister, "a careless word spoken to me in my boyhood, which has influenced my character through life. Like most sickly, sensitive children, I was ready to give up hope before every trouble. An attack of illness, a long storm, a disagreeable servant or visitor in the family, plunged me in despair.

"'Fred,' said my uncle to me one day, 'the toothache, or the wet weather, or the boys who tease you, are bad things enough; but remember, they go, and you stay.' "It was new to me: these

"It was new to me: these great evils would pass by, and little, insignificant me—I stayed!

"It was a wholesome idea to put into a boy's mind.

"As I grew older, the chance words took a wider meaning to me. The temptation, however fierce, would pass if I stood firm; the grief, no matter how deep, would lighten; the agony of self-sacrifice would be gone some day, and I would remain to finish my work and answer my account.

"Life itself would at last vanish, as when the heavens and earth disappear, and yet my soul—this insignificant me —would stay, face to face with God."

What are these things that we think and talk of all day long? Our neighbor's dress, or house, or bank account, or our own cough, or china, or lucky speculation,—these are the things that go.

The kindliness in our hearts, the loving words we speak, the little gasp of a prayer in our soul, where only God sees, these are the things that stay and enter immortal records.

Which weigh the heavier with us?—Onward.

"It was envy that perpetrated that most atrocious crime ever planned in hell or executed on earth on which the sun refused to look and at which nature gave signs of abhorrence by the rending of rocks: I mean the crucifixion of Chrst; for the evangelist tells us that for envy the Jews delivered our Lord."

WHAT FOUR GREAT WRITERS SAY OF THE BIBLE

Its Wonderful Literary and Moral Value.

Macauley says: "If everything else in our language should perish, the Bible would alone suffice to show the whole extent of its beauty and power."

When Walter Scott lay dying, he said to his son-in-law: "Lockhart, read me something from the Book." Lockhart asked, "What book?" Scott replied: "Why do you ask? There is but one Book—the Bible!"

Coleridge says: "Intense study of the Bible will keep any writer from being vulgar in point of style."

John Richard Green says: "As a more literary monument the Bible remains the noblest language of the English tongue, nile its perpetual use made it from the instant of its appearance, the standard of our language."

"NOT AS THE WORLD GIVETH"

Roger Altman.

Permanent peace cannot be made by man. Peace is freedom from strife, and strife is inevitable while sin remains. The unholy impulses of men's hearts will be manifested as long as the adversary goes about to deceive the nations. His principles are opposed to peace. He has blinded men's eyes, so that they cannot find the path, and their gropings are vain.

When sin is ended, permanent peace will come. Then there will be no armies, for "he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder." "He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth" (Ps. 46:9), and peace will brood forever over the spires and domes of his capital.

Many a wasted life dates its ruin from a lost five minutes. "Two late" can be read between the lines on the tombstone of many a man who has failed.

"The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets."