

C. A. Streeter of Centreville (to labor in the Eastern States Mission) May 6th, have been released. Many changes during the winter have been made in the location of the brethren, but the names and addresses of the laborers in the West Virginian Conference at present are:

W. E. Rydall and Elias S. Woodruff, traveling continually in the conference but letters sent to Patrick, Kanawha Co West Virginia will reach them.

W. H. Hindley and L. C. Olsen; Louisa Lawrence Co., Kentucky.

George T. Taylor and E. M. Mansfield; Greenup, Greenup Co., Kentucky.

W. H. Burrows and W. H. Morrell; Vanceburg, Lewis Co., Kentucky.

H. W. Beers and H. L. Baker; Salyersville, Magoffin Co., Kentucky.

C. B. Smith and T. H. Blackburn Jr.; Flemingsburg, Fleming Co., Kentucky.

W. J. Glade, and F. G. Warmick, Prestonsburg, Floyd Co., Kentucky.

H. H. Cluff and J. H. Langston, Catlettsburg, Boyd Co., Kentucky.

Joseph S. Campbell and T. R. Reeve; Ezel, Morgan Co., Kentucky.

Judson I. Tolman and M. Spiers; Sandy Hook, Elliott Co., Kentucky.

H. Bartholomew and T. E. Spackman; Milton, Cabell Co., West Virginia.

C. A. Higginson and W. D. Elder; Music Carter Co., Kentucky.

Bion D. Wilcox and O. Hyde; Whitesburg, Letcher Co., Kentucky.

W. N. Casper and M. Y. Cannon; Hindman, Knott Co., Kentucky.

J. G. Peart and J. W. Hanson; Bath Co., Kentucky.

Thanking you for your most valuable paper, which comes regularly to us all, and is doing much towards spreading the "glad tidings of great joy," we are Your Brethren in the truth,

W. E. RYDALCH, President.

ELIAS S. WOODRUFF, Clerk.

Vanceburg, Kentucky, June 10, 1896.

BIBLICAL TREASURES IN ABYSSINIA.

King Menelik of Abyssinia, has, says Science Bristle, promised that as soon as peace is restored within his dominions he will permit a commission of European scientists to make an exhaustive examination of the vaults of the cathedral church at Axum, where the monarchs of Ethiopia have been crowned from time immemorial. A widespread tradition of the Moslem world asserts that it is within the ancient vaults of this structure that the Ark of the Covenant is preserved, along with the tables of stone containing the Ten Commandments, and which Moses brought down from Mount Sinai. The seven-branched candelstick of gold, which figured in the Holy of Holies of the Temple of Solomon at Jerusalem, is said to be immured in these vaults, which are also known to contain a mass of ancient papyri and other manuscripts that are in an excellent state of preservation, but have never been translated or annotated. It is no mere vague tradition handed down from father to son which has transmitted to generations of Abyssinians the story of how these priceless treasures came to repose in the Cathedral of Axum. The story of their procurement by the rulers of the country and of their being deposited within these sacred vaults is specific, particular and detailed. It is told how they were

brought from Jerusalem to Abyssinia by the founder of the present reigning dynasty, the first of the emperors, Menelik, who was the son of King Solomon of Israel and of that biblical Queen of Sheba, who is on record as having carried on a very pronounced flirtation with the ruler of the Jews. This original Menelik is frequently referred to in the song of Solomon. Although, as authentic history eschews, born after the return of his mother to her own dominion, he was brought up at the court of his father, at Jerusalem. He remained there until the first destruction and sacking of Jerusalem, and the pillage of the Temple of Solomon by Shishak, King of Egypt. Immediately before the destruction of the Temple Menelik fled back to Abyssinia. He carried with him for safe-keeping the treasures of that structure, which were threatened with seizure and despoilment. It is positively asserted by Abyssinian tradition that he carried back with him the tables of stone, the Ark of the Covenant, and the seven-branched candelstick. These he deposited in the interior of the huge granite pile which constitutes the pedestal of the ancient Abyssinian temple of Axum, long antedating the Christian era and where the rulers of Ethiopia have been crowned from the earliest times. The present Cathedral of Axum is built on the summit of a "species of granite pyramid, the remnant of a heathen temple that formerly occupied this site. It is within the interior of this pyramid that the vaults are situated which King Menelik has now promised to throw open. The Cathedral of Axum is but one of the repositories of Biblical treasures which Menelik offers to open up to the modern scientific world for investigation. It is believed that he will open up for the first time the priceless treasures that have for thousands of years been jealously preserved on the Holy Island of Debra Sina, located near the center of the great inland sea or lake of Zuel, in the northern portion of the kingdom of Sheba. This island is reputed sacred not only among the Abyssinians themselves, but also throughout the Moslem world, and it is to this probably that must be attributed the fact that, notwithstanding the innumerable wars that have raged in Abyssinia for at least 1,800 years past, the sanctity of the island should never have been violated by either Christian or infidel. This island of Debra Sina, the Abyssinian rendering of Mount Sinai, is inhabited and guarded entirely by monks as ignorant and fanatic as are all the Abyssinian clergy, but who, when once they take up their residence on the island, are never permitted to leave it again. In fact, the soil of the island had never been trodden by the foot of any layman until two years ago, when Emperor Menelik himself, attended by a few of his principal ras or generals, and escorted by a strongly armed bodyguard, crossed the waters of the lake and landed on its shores. The bodyguard remaining in the boats ready for emergency. According to the dusky monarch's own account the vaults of the monastery, which is of enormous size and built upon rock, are filled with papyri and parchments and books of every description. The books are believed to have been

sent thither at the time of the Mohammedan invasion of Abyssinia, in the sixteenth century, but the parchments are declared to hail from the world-famed library of Alexandria, which was dispersed in the seventh century by the Mohammedan caliph, Omar. The papyri evidently date from a much earlier era, and probably relate to that period when the emperors of Ethiopia ruled not only over Abyssinia, but also over Egypt, the domination of the latter country being pictured by many a sculpture and painting on the pyramids and temples in the land of the Nile.

NEWS NOTES.

The Cowalla, Or., Times says the election to Congress of T. N. Torrey was due to the votes of 106 Siletz Indians.

Laramie, Wyoming, Boomerang, June 30: Ora Haley today unloaded twelve cars of cattle at Hutton station. He purchased them in Utah.

A thief has distinguished himself at Sacramento, Cal., by stealing a twenty-five foot canvas awning, poles and all, from the back part of a residence.

The other day the 10 months' old child of Hans Aarop, who lives in the northeastern portion of San Bernardino, Cal., fell into a tub of water and was drowned.

One of the novelties at Pomona's, Cal., celebration of the Fourth will be an open air ball to be held on the main street, a portion of which will be closed in for the occasion.

Charles Wyatt of Centralia, Wash., aged 16 years, while out hunting sighted down the barrel of a 22-caliber rifle. It went off, and the ball penetrated Wyatt's brain, killing him instantly.

A number of human skulls and bones were found in the trunk of a tree in Wyoming a few days ago. It was evident that three persons had perished, but when, and who they were, is a mystery.

Mrs. Susie Wallace, a Salvation Army lassie of Redlands, Cal., received word last Monday that she had fallen heir to \$50,000 through the death of her grandfather in Pennsylvania. She borrowed enough money to pay her fare and left at once.

The Seattle, Wash., Telegraph, the co-operative paper, which has been in existence but a short time, has suspended publication on account of the inability of the management to secure business. The paper was carried on by a number of local reporters and printers.

Belva Hogue was drowned in the Umatilla river, near Pendleton, Oregon, the other day. The child was playing with two companions near a footlog, where the current is swift. He went out on the footlog, and his companions saw him fall in. His body was not recovered.

John Lawson, a young man, aged about 25 years, who was engaged in clearing on Henry Ackerman's farm, about six miles west of Portland, Oregon, was accidentally killed the other day by a tree falling upon him. Lawson's skull was fractured and his arms were broken.