

# HOME AND FOREIGN JOURNAL.

VOLUME IV.

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PUBLISHED BY THE BOARDS OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

## BOARD OF DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

MARION, ALABAMA, MARCH, 1855.

### Our Agents.

Rev. Wm. B. Johnson, D. D., South Carolina.  
Rev. Wm. P. Hill, Northern Georgia, and parts of South Carolina.  
Rev. E. Kingsford, D. D., Virginia, Maryland and District of Columbia.  
Rev. Jesse A. Collins, Alabama.  
Rev. Thomas B. Lockhart, Mississippi and part of Louisiana.  
Rev. J. O. Scriven, Southern Georgia.  
Rev. Thomas F. Lockett, Missouri.  
Rev. Jonathan Davis, North Carolina.

### Agents Wanted.

One for Kentucky, one for Tennessee, one for Texas, one for Florida, one for Louisiana, and one for Arkansas: yes, and one for California. Who will volunteer for service?

### "First Sabbath School in Virginia."

The article under this head, in the domestic department of the Journal for November, has obtained a local habitation and a home in the columns of several popular periodicals. Thus it has unexpectedly been introduced to a more general and possibly dignified acquaintanceship. Now to this mark of favor by our brethren of the press we can have no objection; and yet we question if it would have been the least violation of editorial courtesy or Christian magnanimity to have given, in every instance, the proper credit. One paper, "out West," puts it through the press without any credit; another, "down South," ascribes its paternity to the "American Baptist Memorial." Now we don't ask our brethren to borrow our "thunder," it is scarcely worth the time and trouble it takes to make the transfer, but if they do, mark it, gentlemen, we inform them, once for all, that our stock in trade is too meagre to afford it at so cheap a rate. Whether the "Memorial" is in the same category we have no means of knowing, as it does not come to the mission room. Wish it were sent here, *gratis*, of course.

### Our Stations in St. Louis, Mo.

These two churches, from various causes, have had to contend against difficulties from the day of their constitution up to the present time. But their prospects are brightening, and their success is no longer a problem. The Third church, by the energy of Rev. J. Teasdale, and the liberality of benevolent friends, has procured a lot on Clark avenue, and erected thereon a neat and convenient house of worship. It must soon become self-sustaining. The Zion church in North St. Louis, under the efficient pastorate of Rev. E. J. Owen, has recently added to her number thirty by baptism, so that her perpetuity is also placed beyond the reach of doubt. What a blessing to the city of St. Louis must these churches become! We refer our readers to their reports under the missionary head for particulars.

### How to Save us Trouble.

If missionaries would be careful to place such remarks accompanying their reports as will do for publication, on one side of a sheet of paper, so that it could be torn off and sent to the printer without rewriting, much aid might thus be given to the Secretary. Why not oblige him, when it may be done at so little cost?

### Bibles.

The Alabama Bible Society has appropriated \$200 to the Southern Bible Board at Nashville, for the use of the missionaries of the Domestic Board. The best way to get what Bibles may be wanted, will be for the missionary needing them to buy them at places most convenient to him, and give order on the Corresponding Secretary of the Domestic Board for the amount of cost, who will arrange with the Secretary of the

Bible Board. It is understood that missionaries are expected to sell as many as they can, and report the proceeds of sales, but give where persons are not able to purchase.

### Baptisms.

The reports of our missionaries, as far as heard from for the quarter ending December 31st, show over 296 baptisms.

### Reports.

The missionaries will please send in their reports for the quarter, to end on the last day of the ensuing March, about two weeks before the end of the quarter, as the annual report is to be made up in April. They can count in the unexpired time according to what they think their labors would be.

### New York Chronicle.

Dr. Judd has dissolved his connection with this paper. Of course, many regret that he has done so. He was one among the ablest editors in America, and a friend to the Bible Union, whom every one knew where to find. Church and Bachus are now the editors of the enlarged Chronicle, men of ability, and we hope, sound revisionists.

### Words in Season.

My son, heed the counsel of an anxious father, who desireth thy health, prosperity, happiness, and ultimate salvation.

Never be out of business: it tends to rowdyism, and wasteth thy substance.

Hast thou ought to do, do it at once; life is too short for procrastination.

Do not seek for office, if thou must beg or electioneer for it; this would degrade thy nature.

Use not champagne as a beverage; it might cause real pain.

Avoid snuff-dippers, if thou wouldst have a neat, fair-complexioned, and an amiable wife.

Begin and end every day of thy life with prayer, if thou wouldst have a quiet conscience, a happy life, and a peaceful death.

My daughter, listen to the words of thy loving father.

Do not associate with young men whose morals are suspicious: they are unworthy of thee.

Do not wed any who gamble and tarry at the wine; tears, sobs, and in the end a broken heart and an early grave would be sure to follow.

Dance not, and especially not if thou art a member of the church; it cutteth piety from the heart to the heels, and Christ would not love thee.

Use not vain, silly talk in company to attract attention: good and wise people would shun thee.

Be dignified, amiable, kind, devotional and benevolent; the poor would love, and Christ save thee.

### Minutes of Associations.

We thankfully acknowledge the reception of the minutes of "The North Western Virginia," "The Judson," "The Broad Run," and "The Union," Associations, bodies that are beginning to do a good work in Western Virginia. We recognise in the proceedings many familiar names. In these several gatherings of the Baptist brotherhood, reports were made and resolutions passed, in favor of foreign missions, Bible distribution, religious periodicals, Sunday schools and home missions "within our own bounds," that is, among the hills of Western Virginia, but not a sigh was breathed nor a syllable pronounced, in behalf of Domestic Missions, that is to say, the missionary operations of the Southern Baptist Convention. Brethren, if you don't do better the next year, we shall drop in upon you some of these times, to "stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance," we shall.—We do not expect much money from you, but you might give us a word of cheer, you might.

BAPTIST CONVENTION OF SOUTHERN MISSOURI.—This body has recently been

organized in the south eastern counties of Missouri, for the purpose of "promoting domestic and foreign missions; the circulation of the bible and other religious books; Sabbath schools and ministerial education." Among its resolutions we find the following: "Resolved, That we desire the General Association of this State and the Southern Home Mission Board to regard us as fraternal co-workers, that we will pray for their usefulness, and request them to afford us all possible aid, both in laborers and funds."—The Domestic Mission Board accepts the above arrangement. The Lord bless and prosper this new enterprise!

MOUNT VERNON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—We have received the minutes of the above and other associations, recently assembled in the State of Arkansas. The associations in this young but important State, have fallen on the right plan to promote efficiently domestic missions, namely: Resolved, That this association become auxiliary to the Domestic Missionary Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, located at Marion, Alabama.

Here is no ambiguity or doubt as to which or what Board is meant. Sands, of the Religious Herald, "presumes from circumstances beyond their control, the Southern Home Mission Society, has not been able, beyond a very limited extent, to supply the destitution in the States of Arkansas, Louisiana and Florida." We are happy to inform him, that the Board have at present seven missionaries in Arkansas, two in Louisiana, and three in Florida. It would appoint two or three more for Louisiana, if the men could be obtained. True, pecuniary means are limited, but it would appoint nevertheless.

LOUISIANA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The minutes of the above association have reached us from the office of L. A. Duncan & Co., New Orleans. Next to Ellyson's of Richmond, no office that we wot of, can do a better and a neater job. Among the proceedings is a resolution asking aid, to supply the destitution within the limits of the association, from the Southern Domestic Mission Board. The aid will probably be granted when the man can be found.

WHITE RIVER ARKANSAS BAPTIST CONVENTION.—The minutes of this young but efficient body came to hand just as we were making up copy for the Journal. Glancing hastily over them, we found interesting reports from our Bros. Bootright and Kenard, missionaries of the Southern Board, in conjunction with the above named Convention.

## From Our Missionaries.

### ALABAMA.

Rev. Calvin Crews, missionary of the Board at Old Town, has recently been permitted to baptize twelve converts, and to organize two interesting Sabbath schools. Concerning these he writes:

"The Sabbath schools which I have established are in a prosperous condition. One of them particularly affords me much satisfaction. After much difficulty it was organized, and still there are many obstacles to be overcome, among which may be mentioned the want of competent teachers, and the prejudice which is always excited against great moral reforms. The school, however, is now established on a firm basis. Both teachers and pupils take the liveliest interest in its affairs. Ten of the pupils, and two of the teachers have lately been converted. I do not think that I ever saw a stronger desire exhibited by any people for religious instruction, than is manifested within the bounds of this school and neighborhood at the present time."

Rev. William Whaley, of Blountsville, reports three baptisms during the quarter, the fruit of a protracted meeting.

Rev. J. Reeve, missionary to the blacks in the Bethel Association, reports two baptisms.

Rev. E. G. Baptist leaves Demopolis, and that place is not now occupied as a mission station.

Rev. J. S. Ford, missionary half his time to the colored people in Cahaba Association, has met many hindrances during the last quarter.

Rev. W. C. Mynett, in Cherokee county, retires from his field. He baptized two during the last quarter.

Rev. J. F. Hooten, of Tallassee, informs the Board:—"The people here are willing to receive my labors under any amount of disadvantage."

### ARKANSAS.

Bro. Yeazy, of Dardenele, laments over the great destitution within the limits of his field of labor. He has received by letter four, and baptized three. A house of worship has been commenced, the greater portion of the cost of which devolves on our brother. He petitions the Board to aid him, but the Board if they had the means, have no constitutional authority to comply with his request.

Rev. Reuben Jones, of Helena, sends "no tidings of ingatherings." Still he has not been without indications of the Divine favor in other respects. The congregation has kept up, and the Sabbath school has increased in size and efficiency. Two valuable sisters have recently been called to "come up higher," and are greatly missed below.

Rev. Mordecai Halliburton has baptized eleven, on the field of his labors, during last quarter.

Rev. Geo. W. Kennard writes: "I have baptized more or less, every meeting, for the last several months."

Rev. James M. Cox, of Monroe county, states: "The prospect religiously is tolerably flattering."

### MISSISSIPPI.

Rev. Wm. Mathews, owing to duties due to his family, is obliged to leave his field. He says it is in contemplation to build a Baptist house of worship at Jacinto, and at Concord a house will also be erected. Mount Pisgah church, he thinks, "has as many jewels as any he ever saw," they contribute liberally for missionary objects, but have no house of worship. Bethel church has lost several of its best members, and the Pleasant Grove church are a "working people."

The Baptist church at Vicksburg have at length obtained a pastor, it is said, of ability and promise, and we hope that city will again be blessed with a pure gospel.

Bro. William Phillips states that the churches, many of them, on his field, are without pastors, and dependent on the missionaries for a supply.

### NEW ORLEANS.

The labors of Bro. Duncan seem to be blessed. He was to baptize again in a few days, and in addition to former reports sends the following:

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 8, 1855.

REV. J. WALKER,

Dear Brother:—I gave you quite a full report of matters in general in a letter dated Dec. 11, '54. I now send you one of your reports with the blanks filled. The report is for the month of December. I would here present, in addition, the statistics of the Coliseum church:

Organized July 9th, '54, with 9 members.	
Of these there were males,	5
" " " females,	4
Received since, by letter, from	
1st church,	11
Received since, by letter, from	
Galveston church,	1
Received, other Baptists, by	
voucher, (two from Wales,) 5	"
Received by baptism,	1
Received to be baptized Jan.	
11th, Two Pedobaptists,	
one convert.)	3
Total,	30

### WASHINGTON CITY.

Rev. T. C. Teakle, pastor of the new church on 13th street, has had, and we presume, is still having a precious work of grace in his congregation. He writes:

I have baptized thirty-seven joyful converts into the fellowship of the church of my charge; received by letter four; and admitted on profession seven who had been previously immersed; total increase during the quarter forty-four. Besides my labors at home, I made an excursion into North Carolina for some three weeks.—The result of these labors was, that forty professed conversion, and twenty baptized while I was present in the meetings. Amongst those added to our church

at home during this quarter are three government officials, five Sabbath school scholars, and two teachers; and of the whole number added eighteen are males. We hope to finish our house of worship next summer.

[The Board are gratified at the success of this enterprise, and we hope it may find many fast friends in and around the metropolis of this great nation.—Ed.]

Rev. Gustavus Brown, of the 2nd colored church, writes:

"Since I wrote last a slight change has taken place. We have six to baptize on the 24th inst., and have concluded to hold prayer meetings at the residences of the members during the balance of the year. Rev. Dr. Kingsford visited us last week, and preached a very interesting sermon. The Spirit appears to follow the close of our meetings, as is still visible both in the church and congregation.

[Glad that our brother is encouraged.—Ed.]

### SOUTH CAROLINA.

Rev. T. J. Earle continues his labors at Pendleton. Recently he has baptized two, and the ladies' sewing society, have given \$10 to domestic missions. They have our thanks.

The Board have now a missionary at Granitesville, but it is not yet time to receive a report from there.

### GEORGIA.

At Thomasville, Bro. D. G. Daniel is employed as missionary of the Board. His first report shows a very good beginning, presenting an aggregate of some 20 baptisms, with many interesting facts, which for want of room, must be omitted here. We hope the Lord will continue to prosper his work.

From Darien we have the following from Bro. Morrall:

"I have nothing of special interest to communicate this quarter. Our community, as you have already learned by my last report, has been sadly afflicted by the yellow fever. I, together with my people, have been spared to see the close of another year, though many in my congregation have been taken away by the scourge. Our affliction is now over. God grant that it may never be forgotten by this people. I have been absent from my charge, this quarter, four weeks, but am now at my post, feeling a renewed determination to forget the things which are behind, and to reach forth to those things which are before, and to know nothing among the people of my charge but Christ Jesus and him crucified, that I may win souls for Christ. It is a pleasant, delightful work to win souls. We have received some 15 or 20 for baptism this quarter, whom we will bury with Christ at our next meeting. I have collected this quarter \$15 00 for domestic missions."

### MISSOURI.

We have spoken elsewhere of the churches in St. Louis, and shall here give extracts from the reports of our missionaries: Rev. J. Teasdale of the 3d Church writes:

"I have been aiming to say on the day of our dedication, the house (the meeting house they are building) is pail for, and that we have reliable subscriptions to pay the balance due on the lot. Lot, present building and fixtures, will cost a trifle over \$10,000; to meet which, I have subscriptions of about \$9,500. I think I shall get the whole amount. We have put in a baptistry. We had to bring our gas from 14th street, which, including fixtures and chandelier, will not cost less than from \$150 to \$175. Furniture, carpets, &c., \$150 more. To meet this, I set the ladies at work, and they have already collected \$200. (Just as we would have expected from such ladies, Ed.) and yet will collect more. (certainly, Ed.) I have set the young men at work to raise the money for baptistry and water, (They will do it. Ed.) so you see we are pulling at every cord."

The only way to succeed. If any of the cords stretch or break, fling them away, that they may be replaced by better ones. Much more is said of the size and convenience of the house, which, for want of space, we are obliged to omit.

Rev. E. J. Owen, of the Zion church, has also cheering news for the Board. He reports:

"We have just closed a series of interesting meetings, which were continued about four weeks. Bro. Morgan Edwards was with us, and the Spirit of God gave power

Even more, some of them listen with that diligence that wakens an interest within us in their individual cases. But yet we have much to overcome in the long established habits and prejudices of the people. Remove these, or give them freedom of conscience, and we need not fear as to the results. Prayer, all-prevailing prayer is what we much need. Upon my short acquaintance and little experience I have no opinion to express as to this portion of Africa and the people; but I may say that, with the exception of its not being a wilderness, my highest expectations thus far have been realized. My health thus far, with the exception of a few days slight fever, has been quite good; and I have yet to see a cause, satisfactory to my own mind, why Yoruba should be unhealthy. My own health, with a little exception, has been better here than for years past in America. I shall not boast, but for this goodness the Lord be praised, and grant it may be continued.

Besides street preaching, we have regular services twice on Sabbath, and prayer-meeting on Wednesday night. Sister Bowen, I think, is doing a good work in teaching a number of scholars she has gathered around her. I brought with me a little boy-baptist, mentioned, I believe, in a previous letter, from Liberia, whom I am educating at my own expense, with the hope he will, in future, be serviceable to the mission. Such persons we shall need very much, when our schools commence operation. We have now one applicant for baptism, an aged woman that tells a good experience of grace. That we may have more such, my brother, pray for us that the good and glorious cause of our common Lord may be abundantly prospered in this dark land.

#### Letter from Rev. T. J. Bowen.

The hearts of all will be encouraged, to learn that the truth is making its way to the hearts of the people at Ijaye, as appears by the following letter written October 17, 1851. Bro. Bowen remarks:

As usual, I have nothing of special interest to communicate. We are still destitute of sugar and coffee, cowries, and other supplies except flour: but Bro. Kingston wrote me by last mail that everything may be expected this month. I like Mr. Symm, personally, yet I am glad, and thank God that we are likely to have a new agent. We trust hereafter to receive the Journal, minutes of the convention, letters, &c.

I have once or twice described the buildings already erected. They are designed for native assistants, if we ever get them. For the missionaries we desire to erect a better house, and we aim to begin so soon as we receive cowries. We think to have two rooms fourteen by sixteen feet, and one for a sitting room sixteen by twenty. At the end will be two convenient sized rooms, which would do very well for beds if we have several missionaries. The walls of our houses are of clay, without sticks, the roofs of grass, and the floors of dirt. But we have lately got two sawyers, and hope to have plank floors in the next house. We also have a carpenter and an apprentice to the trade. When our mission gets its growth we hope to have a turner, a cooper and a good blacksmith. Such men, I think, could earn their wages, and, I trust, they would be the means of improving the natives in civilization.

In due time I hope we shall have a good school. Ijaye is probably the best place for our head-quarters. We must have Yoruba books. Those now in use are confessedly very imperfect. If my health had not failed, I should probably have finished, by this time, a vocabulary nearly twice as large as Mr. Crowthers', and a grammar of the language. But I have lost several months, and cannot yet endure close application. To-day I entered O in the vocabulary, having, thus far, near 4,500 words.

In appearance, at least, the gospel is making its way in the minds of the people. Some are evidently no longer devotees of idolatry. But polygamy is a serious obstacle. I could fill several pages with interesting incidents, and conversations. Perhaps I ought to write more fully, but my health till very lately has been bad, and is not yet restored. Besides this, my time is precious, and I shrink from the task of writing. No doubt some of the other brethren will do better. I will perform my share of the labor, but they must be the reporters.

We are constantly told that Arel, the chief, is opposed to the gospel, and I fear it is only too true! A few days ago an interesting youth told us that he believed the gospel and would gladly lay aside his orisha badge, but if he did Arel would behead him. When, instinctively lowering his voice, he said that many others were precisely in his situation. I believe he told the truth, for he was almost in tears. Two or three of our hearers say that they no longer have orishas and charms, and I see that they do not wear them. One of Arel's sons, a youth 17 or 18, declares that he has laid aside his idols. He is learning to read, and I think he would be counted a smart boy in any country. Within three weeks I have twice had the satisfaction to meet with Mohammedans who appeared to see the superiority of Christianity. One was from Morrin, and he said to some of the natives, as they told me, that he wanted

me to come there and preach. Among the heathens opposition is less general and less violent than formerly. In spite of Arel, some express their opinions in favor of the gospel very boldly, even in the streets, when I preach. Bro. Clark is here, and in good health.

Yours, truly,  
T. J. BOWEN.

#### Letter from Mrs. Bowen

We extract the following from a letter written by Mrs. Bowen to her sister, and published in the Christian Index:

We are now receiving full compensation for all our troubles and trials, since we have been in this country. The light of the gospel seems to be breaking upon the darkened minds of these benighted people. They come of their own accord and ask to hear more about the Word of God, to which they will listen attentively, and will often exclaim, "May God help us to believe." Many of them have told us, that they have lost confidence in their orishas: have thrown away their idols, and do not work on the Sabbath as they once did.

Our school is encouraging. The children do not attend regularly as we would wish them, though their progress has been quite as rapid as could be expected. Some are prompted to come through curiosity, and when gratified go away; and others stay away through timidity. I was very much amused last Sunday at the zeal exhibited by a little girl in my class. She wanted some of her companions, who were standing in the door, to come in and learn: but they refused. She would say "Wix ille: ma byir" (Come in, don't fear!) and at last went out after them. She came back with a disappointed look, and sat down: but kept watching the door all the time and repeating the letters she had learned. Finally she saw one of them: she jumped up and ran out to bring her in, but failing in her persuasion, did not return any more.

Next Sunday, Mr. Bowen will administer baptism to one man who has for a long time professed faith in Christ, and has recently expressed an earnest desire to follow Him in whom he believes, by being baptized. This will be a novel sight to the sons and daughters of Africa, and may it result in good to many of their souls.

I wished you had proposed a few questions respecting what most interests you in this land: then I should know better how to please you in my description. This country is very different from what it has sometimes been represented to be. The scenery is nowhere uninteresting, and everything presents something pleasing to the eye. It is diversified by mountains, hills and vales—all embellished by mighty trees, or elegant shrubs, clad in thick and luxuriant foliage of perpetual green.

#### LIBERIAN MISSION—CAPE PALMAS.

##### Letter from Rev. B. J. Drayton.

Our readers will rejoice with us in the things which come to us from the Western coast of Africa.

Brother Drayton under date of September 29 thus writes:

This has been a month of much rejoicing among us here. After a protracted drought in our churches, the Lord was pleased to revive us, thus giving us the honor and delight of routing the enemy from his hold. The revival was general, and one of those we trust that comes down from heaven. Sinners were moved by the Spirit through preaching and earnest prayer, and many hopefully converted to God. There was never such a time more favorable to our cause than this. This appears to be the set time the Lord had ordained to raise up his drooping people, and to give himself a great name among his enemies. I feel that the Lord is preparing his church for great usefulness among the heathen in these parts. I long since have looked forward to this glorious result. The Lord has answered our prayers, and has suffered truth to prevail in spite of all opposition.

On September 24th, according to previous arrangement, the members of the church convened at the chapel to witness that impressive scene, the ordinance of baptism. The house was crowded to overflowing at the time appointed, by all ages and classes, and each one seemed sensible of the importance of the ordinance they had come to behold. The candidates were seated in the house before the congregation assembled. I attempted some remarks, which I believe from the tears I saw flow from the eyes of many, made an impression on many hearts, which I hope will result in great good.

At 11 o'clock we were comfortably congregated at the edge of the beautiful lake, which stands directly in the rear of my house. The quiet stream appeared more beautiful than ever. My heart was full to overflowing with the love of God. I found myself enacting the rolling tears from my cheeks; I was not the only one: in a word, the congregation was melted down. After I had gone through the usual preliminaries, we descended into the water of the quiet lake, having in company with us 23 candidates, 12 males, and 11 females, all in the bloom of youth, except one, who had suffered fifty years to pass over her before she acknowledged the Saviour.

## Original Communications.

For the Home and Foreign Journal.

### A Chinese Printing Press in Richmond.

I have often heard of the cheapness and abundance of books in China, and felt a good deal of curiosity to see the process of printing. I saw, the other day, a Chinese printing press in actual operation in Richmond, Virginia. Let me try to describe it for the readers of the Journal.

It was at the Richmond Female Institute. Dr. Ball, of Canton, who has been 16 years a missionary in China, was exhibiting his collection of Chinese curiosities to the young ladies of that institution. The spacious hall of the Institute had been arranged for the purpose, and the walls were hung all round with the frowning and grotesque pictures of China's idols, and the delineations of the punishments which they suppose to be inflicted on the wicked. Several score of little battered deities, of all sorts and sizes, in all imaginable postures, some standing on one leg, others supported by turtles and snakes, some riding on tigers, and one standing on his head with his heels in the air, were staring us in the face with great goggle eyes, until really one could almost fancy he was in a heathen land, where these things are thus paraded forth, not as objects of curiosity, but of worship, not as matters of sport, but of reverence and dread. Every one of the images before us had actually been adored. It was a sad-denying, sickening feeling that came over me as I passed from one to another of these hideous delineations, and remembered that to these things, and such as these, one-third of the human race bow, and render the homage due to God. It was almost as if I had walked with Ezekiel, in the vision, through the "chambers of imagery," and beheld "every form of creeping things and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel portrayed upon the wall round about." But I did not intend to speak of these things.

Among the articles on the table, which Dr. Ball exhibited and explained, there was a complete and veritable Chinese printing press, one of the kind actually in use all over China, and with which they print cheaper than the foreigners there can, with all the aid of their inventive genius and machinery.

The Chinese, as is well known, do not use moveable metallic type as we do, though of late some have been manufactured by the missionaries, but as yet they are unable to compete with the native printers for cheapness. Whatever they wish to print is first set upon wooden blocks. The wood of the pear tree is most used. The article which they wish printed having been copied fairly, is pasted with a thin paste made of rice water to the smooth face of the block. The paper is rubbed off, the black marks of the writing remain, and the workman proceeds to cut out all the places where no black appears. This is the type setting part of the process. Now for the printing.

The implements used consist of a saucer filled with ink, (which is a mixture of lamp black and rice water,) a large brush made out of the fibres of a peculiar kind of bark, and a board on which the ink is poured, and rubbed up with this brush. This constitutes the inking apparatus.

The press itself consists of a small bit of wood about as long as the page to be printed, and perhaps half an inch thick, and two inches wide. Some of the fibres of that same bark of which the brush is made are wrapped round it, so as to make it a little elastic, and tied at the top, so as to form a sort of handle. It can be held and used somewhat as a smoothing iron would be in ironing clothes.

The block having been prepared is placed firmly on a table. The operator, who in China always sits at his work, rubs his brush on the board on which the ink has been poured, and then passes it over the block so as to ink the characters. By his side lie a number of piles of paper, cut of suitable size. One of these is laid on the block, and pressed or ironed down equally with the bit of covered wood I have described. That is all.

The whole apparatus may cost about a dollar. It is portable, compact, and not liable to get out of order. A little practice enables one to print with tolerable perfectness. Several of the young ladies of the Institute printed a few sheets in order to see how it was done; probably the first Chinese printing that was ever done in Richmond.

There are three remarkable facts which I will notice in connection with this description:

1. The first is, that the people of China are emphatically a reading people. No nation that ranks among the uncivilized has so large a proportion of inhabitants who can read; and some that are civilized are not much in advance of them. And Christian books are read by them, are preserved and circulated from one to another, when placed in their hands.

2. The second is, that the printed language of China is the same all over the empire, notwithstanding the differences in their spoken language. A Canton man cannot understand a Shanghai man speaking to him. But anything printed or writ-

ten is equally intelligible to them both. This may be illustrated by the figures or "Arabic characters" which we use, and which mean the same to the English, French, German, Italian or Turk. The Chinese characters, (like the figures 1, 2, 3, &c.,) stand for words, not letters, and hence, though pronounced differently, are written the same, and understood alike by them all.

3. This printed language is the tongue of one-third part of the human race. Shall any exertions be deemed too great which may be needful in order to give them the word of God, so that they may read it in their own tongue wherein they were born?

B. M., Jr.

For the Home and Foreign Journal.

### What Shall be Done During the Year 1855?

Recurring seasons are not without the reflections of the wise; and as they meet us, ought to call forth desires and resolutions.

The past year has carried with it opportunities which will recur no more. Time has fled that cannot be retrieved. In view of these, we will be profited by stopping a moment to consider whether or not we have been faithful "stewards of the manifold mercies of God."

There are few, very few, who can say in all truth, that their talents have been faithfully employed. On the contrary, the most of us have been compelled by the demands of conscience to write in our diaries a sentence of self-condemnation. We have to regret our want of interest in the redemption of the millions that are perishing without Christ. Many broad acres may have been added to our farms, our servants have been increased, our houses enlarged and made comfortable. We may have increased in the appliances necessary to declare the gospel to the heathen, but have we not been too unconcerned for the precious souls of our dying fellow men. Has it been in our hearts to preach Jesus: have we given as we ought, for the support of those who are willing to do it? Can it be said, we have repeated in sincerity, the prayer "thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven." Shall, then, the recurrence of another year, not awaken us to consider our personal responsibilities? Will not each one, minister and layman, male and female, old and young, rich and poor, repeat the quotation at the head of this article?

What shall be done during the year 1855? In our reflection on this question, let us give it a direct bearing upon the subject of missions. What shall be done during the year now begun, to enlighten the world with the word of God? What shall be done, that more pious men may be induced to give themselves to Christ? What shall be done, that the churches may display a larger amount of Christian liberality, and contribute more freely to our mission boards?

In answering these questions, we refer to the means which have been employed heretofore to accomplish these ends. Books have been furnished and distributed, agents have been sent out, sermons, eloquent and moving, have been preached, periodicals, by thousands, have been scattered. Such are the means hitherto used: and the question now arises, shall these efforts be continued as usual, or shall not another position be taken, from whence we may add to the success of the former? We believe this should be done this year, earnestly and faithfully done, done in the fear of God, and with prayer to Him for a blessing upon our work.

This is the means alluded to; let it be preached in every sermon, declared in every address, taught in every place and paper, that the religion of Christ is now, what it was when Paul and Peter were in the work, that the spirit of Christ requires us to make the same self-denial, to show forth as much consecration, to give liberally and freely, as it required of all the early disciples.

Let this be everywhere proclaimed, and let it be impressed upon every one who comes into our churches, then the world soon will be blest with the knowledge of God, and all men worship him in spirit and truth.

Reader, do you feel that Christians in this day are required to be in heart, and practice in life, like those who first followed the Master? If this be true none can deny it, what will you do this year of 1855? Where will you go? What will you give? The Lord help.

J. H. W.

#### Book Notices.

*Discoveries in Chinese; or, the Symbolism of the Primitive Characters of the Chinese System of Writing, as a contribution to Philology and Ethnology, and a practical aid in the acquisition of the Chinese Language.* By Stephen Pearl Andrews. Published by Charles B. Norton, New York, 1851.

We have read this work with a degree of pleasure which we did not anticipate when we first opened its pages. The author has thrown a fascination around his subject not usually imparted to abstruse linguistic speculations. Unable, as of course we are, to pronounce regarding the truth of his theory, we yet confess that it bears the aspect of the reasonable and the true. We should think the book will prove of great value to foreigners in acquiring a knowledge of

Chinese. The work is well gotten up, and in this respect is creditable to the publisher. P.

*Parish and other Penicillings, by Kirvan. Harper & Brothers, New York.*

By the politeness of Mr. Randolph, one of our most enterprising booksellers, we have received a copy of this volume. Its author, who has rendered himself conspicuous as an able defender of Protestant Christianity, in opposition to the assumptions of the Papacy, has compiled a number of short articles published by himself at different periods of a long ministry, and in this neat work, presented them to the public. They will richly repay a perusal. T.

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