

WESTERN RECORDER

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1898. STATE MINISTERS MEETING.

The Ministers' Meeting met to business, Tuesday, June 19th. Bro. R. E. Kirby was elected moderator, but resigned, and Rev. W. B. Arvin was chosen, and Rev. J. G. Bow was made clerk. Rev. R. E. Kirby read an extract of Acts 17. The subject was the restoration of all things. He held that the divine government will be restored to God the Father in the consummation of all things after the final judgment, when the Son will restore the reign of government to the original executive officer.

The subject of church work was discussed by Prof. J. W. Rust, Dr. George F. Bagby spoke on the pastor's duty in the Sunday school. The subject was further discussed by Bro. R. E. Kirby, Woodward, Saunders, W. L. Ramsey, T. W. Beagle, A. C. Carpenter, J. W. Rust, J. H. Spencer, J. B. Fullilove, P. H. Lockert, R. M. Dudley and Wm. B. Stone.

At night Rev. Green Clay Smith preached the sermon for criticism from Matt. 23:5. "And many women were there beholding him afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, numbering unto him."

Wednesday morning the Committee on Themes for the next meeting reported through Rev. E. N. Dicken, chairman, as follows: 1. To preach the sermon for criticism. 2. Responsibility of Pastor and Members in Receiving Candidates for Baptism. 3. E. Tiller. 4. In Sinful Perfection Attainable in this Life. 5. A. French. 6. Causes of Heresies. 7. R. H. B. 8. The Effective Elements of Style in the Sermon. 9. R. M. Dudley. 10. Gen. Smith's sermon was criticized by E. N. Dicken, Robert E. Kirby, J. A. Kirtley, J. H. Spencer, J. B. Fullilove, S. J. Terry, J. S. Adams, J. H. Fullilove, S. A. Chambers, J. B. Lockert, Prof. J. W. Rust, Geo. Hunt, S. F. Thompson and J. Dallas Simmons. Gen. Smith closing the session.

Dr. Felix offered a motion to discuss the sermon for criticism. Dr. Carpenter moved to amend by confining the criticism to the doctrine of the sermons. Pending the discussion the meeting adjourned.

Dr. Dudley favored continuing the sermon for criticism, arguing that the criticism be not captious, but wholesome. Dr. Coleman thought the sermon should be criticized as well as the essays. He acknowledged great obligation to his critics. Gen. Smith said there would be no question of opposing the doctrine, and to continue criticism to the end would be impracticable.

Rev. B. F. Hungerford thought there should be a limited number and taste should not be criticized. Dr. Eaton thought there should be great freedom allowed in manner and delivery. Grammars and dictionaries were not an unneeded good.

Dr. Rust thought the doctrine of sermons should be subjected to criticism. The subject was laid on the table. The Committee on Ordinaries presented its report which spoke feelingly and enthusiastically of the services of Rev. C. Taylor, Russellville; V. E. Kirtley, Markytown; R. E. Alexander, Owen county; Benj. Higdon, Harlan county; Dr. Samuel Baker, Russellville; D. Trammell, Tule, Ohio county; Younger Whitcomb, Owen county; John R. James, Turle; J. D. Craig, Mulesburg county; J. S. Davis, Brownsville; James C. Denton, Clinton county; W. W. Frezer, Tompkinsville; J. H. Steamer, Whitesburg; J. B. Greer, J. B. Barlowville, Wm. Whoolery, Rudyville. Our ministry lost heavily by death last year.

On motion of Bro. Green Clay Smith, Dr. Wm. Stewart, Whitesburg, was requested to prepare a paper on "The New Liberal Theology," to be read at the meeting next year. Friday morning was perhaps the most interesting session of all. Dr. W. W. Gardner, as the oldest minister present, told of his conversion and call to the ministry. He professed faith on the 20th of November, 1837, and in October, 1838, he was baptized. His father was an old Baptist deacon, and Dr. G. was not allowed to go to Sunday school, lest it should "warp" his mind. His mother was a member in spirit and she feared to take him into the Bible class. He prayed deeply. Impressed them. When converted the speaker was reading medicine with a very wicked doctor in Alleensville. There was no revival, but he read the Bible secretly. He knew one Baptist, not very pious or benevolent, and yet this man ventured to apply to learn how a sinner was to be saved. This church-member declined to talk of salvation, but insisted on talking about His Day. The speaker decided this church-member was not a Christian. His wife, however, heard of it and came to the young man and told him of the way of salvation. He believed in a Christian. He was a very ignorant man, but he got hold of the doctrine of justification by faith. He felt that his destination would be just. He trusted Christ and did not have ecstatic joys. He found a new location and reasonable terms. He was not in this way converted, and no

PROF. O. P. SHIELDS.

The announcement in last week's Recorder of the election of Prof. O. P. Shields to the Professorship of Latin and Greek in Bethel College gives occasion for a word or two of personal comment. Prof. Shields has long and favorably known as an instructor of youth, a graduate (A. M.) of Yale, he has been remarkably successful in his college, having taught, as President of College Home College in Louisiana, and hundreds of the students of the adjoining counties. He has been offered, I understand, a professorship in Vanderbilt University and the presidency of more than one Methodist college, which speaks well for his standing among the brethren of that denomination. For nearly a few years ago he was a Methodist, but, under pressure of long-standing convictions, he united with the Baptists, and was shortly afterwards ordained to the gospel ministry. Besides his regular preaching, his reputation among those who know him best is that of a thorough scholar, a patient, painstaking and conscientious teacher and a humble, earnest Christian. Most of his life has been spent in the school room, and while it may be true that he has his reputation yet to make among the Baptists of Western Kentucky, it is confidently believed by the trustees, and this belief is heartily shared by many of the students of the college who have made his acquaintance, that the right man has been chosen for this difficult and responsible position.

Yours truly, W. S. REYNOLDS.

A GOOD MEETING.

I have recently been engaged in a meeting with Bro. S. H. Burgess, at Butler, Ky. During the ten days that I was in the meeting, there were four or five additional churches, and I am sure that there have been twelve or more additional ones. I am not yet informed whether the meeting has closed or not, but the Lord has clearly and graciously blessed his cause there. The church having received twenty-six additions. For nearly a week Bro. Williamson sang his sweet songs for us, and added greatly to the interest in the meeting.

The committee to hold, by way of a lesson on District Missions, that the church at Butler was organized about five years ago as a mission station of our Union Association. The Lord has steadily and signally blessed this work, and the membership numbers are up to fifty, and he is "zealous of good works," according to their ability.

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FROM HUMBOLDT, TENN.

Bro. Wm. Rust has just closed a series of meetings of three weeks with his church in Humboldt. The meetings were largely attended, not only by the people of Humboldt, but the entire surrounding country. The meeting here was a great success. Forty-two persons were added, thirty-one additions to the church. Eighteen were baptized on the third Monday in this month, and several others have since been approved for the baptism. The family seat was strengthened by additions to its membership of some of the best people of Humboldt. There were five heads of families restored; one entire household went into the water together.

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The labor of Brethren Penn and Hoe with our church and the community will never be forgotten, and sincerity with which we regard the good that has been done. May the Lord abundantly bless them in their noble efforts to build up the cause of our blessed Redeemer. They are now conducting a meeting with the Dysart church, and will be Rev. S. K. Tigert in the beloved pastor. We humbly trust the Lord will give them success.

Wm. Rust, at the bottom of the Sunday traffic, no matter in what it consists, we shall find that it is based upon a false statement. It is the duty of every man to obey God. - N. O. Africa.

FROM CUBA.

The Bishop of Havana has left no stone unturned to break up the Baptist ministry. He tried to prevent the leaving of Cuba to establish it, but this he failed.

He sent an emissary to try to buy him, offering him \$20,000 for the continent. He would himself leave Cuba, but our minister refused to allow the fellow to do so, and grandly said: "You have not enough money in Cuba, or in Rome, to buy me."

The Bishop then made an appeal to the Cuban General, and a case in the courts, but he was defeated in both, for our abrewed missionary had taken the highest legal advice, and had guarded every point. That resort was to the Cuban General, from the pulpit of the Cathedral, and the Bishop's appeal, etc. Next followed the issuing of the law, and by degrees of the frantic appeal to his flock, which appeared in the report of the Home Board to the Southern Baptist Convention, published in the Recorder.

Discuss this document in the Havana papers while he is in Richmond at the Convention, and at once wrote to the Bishop his thanks for giving him his work so far as an advertisement, and proposed on his return to Havana to discuss these questions with him. The anti-laws and threats of the Bishop are powerless as his other efforts, and he has not more to do in Cuba. May he see one hundred men at night who tore up the road leading to the Baptist cemetery so that it could not be used. This will of course be remedied, and the Bishop will be the laughing stock of all American citizens, and of Spanish law as well. Meanwhile Dix has been answering the circulars of the Bishop with results that are best told in two letters which have just been received from him.

Under date of June 14th he writes: Bro. W. Rust: I have received your kind letter of May 25th, and am glad that you are with us. I am sure you will find our work here very interesting. I have a number of papers and tracts for you, and will send them to you by the next mail. I am sure you will find them very interesting. I have a number of papers and tracts for you, and will send them to you by the next mail. I am sure you will find them very interesting.

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FROM FLORIDA.

The Baptist cause in Florida is steadily gaining ground. Our State Board, sending their missionaries to many distant places in the State, and the people are responding to the calls of the gospel and the deserts are blooming as the rose. Our greatest need perhaps is more money to build church houses. A. B. Coward, our State Board, is soliciting help. - S. Augustine, and Fernando, and a good many of our churches are responding.

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A Wife's Opportunity.

This is the heading of a large three-column advertisement on the third page of this issue of the Western Recorder. Those who read it will, no doubt, be greatly interested. We have much cause to be grateful to our Heavenly Father for the outpourings of his Holy Spirit. Within a little more than twelve months the church has grown from a membership of thirty to eighty. During this time we have held two series of revival meetings, being aided each time by Rev. J. C. Porter of Lake View. Bro. Porter is an earnest, able, consecrated evangelist, and the Lord is greatly blessing his labors wherever he goes.

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FOR RICKETS, MALARIA, AND WASTING DISORDERS OF CHILDREN.

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