

October 23, 1875.

and orthodox to think—"only this and nothing more." They have not a single idea of their own, and for want of this interest in novelty their conversation flags or turns to some inferior topic. How different, if, while some told of Abraham, others could tell of Pharaoh, Moses, and David, and some of Jonah, Herod and Paul, so that all the *seminars* could have the pleasure of advantage of at least partial reviews of their lessons, thus fixing them in the memory by this stirring up of the recollections of each other in attractive and profitable conversation. How much more likely, too, is such an exercise to strike out reminiscences of original thought! But this variety cannot be attained by the Uniform Printed Lesson.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE GREAT
Centennial Historical Series.

HOW THE CHAMPIONS OF SOUL LIBERTY HAVE SUFFERED AT THE HANDS OF THE REFORMED CHURCHES.

BY JOHN TOSELL, JR.

No. 4.

Whoever has read the works of the great Calvinists will, above all, who ever has studied their history, most know, that in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the duty of persecuting their opponents was as hotly among them, as it did among any of the Catholics, even in the worst days of the papal dominion.—*Bach's Hist. Ch. in Eng.*

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER II.—Persecution in Geneva—Church and State in Geneva.—The iron sway of Calvin and the Consistory—The Reformer assumes to control and regulate the social life of the Genevans—The horrible tortures preceding the execution of Jacobus Gruel—Calvin's complicity in the death of Servetus

CHAPTER II.—PERSECUTION IN GENEVA.

NOTHING is more uncandid or unjust than to attribute to a man everything that we may think is logically deducible from his avowed principles, yet this, I think, is very clearly the course adopted by some of those Genevan divines that hold controversies with Servetus; especially does this appear to have been the case with Farel. But as the question which I am investigating is, whether the condemnation of Servetus partook, in any degree, of the character of persecution, and how far Calvin and the Genevan church were implicated in, or responsible for it, it is not at all necessary, in any case, that I should vindicate the soundness of the theology of Servetus. It would, in no degree, extenuate the guilt of those that procured his death even if it could be shown that he was an archheretic after the type of Simon Magus himself. To attempt to exercise jurisdiction over men's consciences and faith is impiously to intrude into a domain where God alone is the judge and arbiter. No impiety can be greater than this. This is a usurpation of which Satan and Antichrist only are capable. Well might Grotius affirm, in view of the death of Servetus and Calvin's agency in it, that "the spirit of Antichrist was as active on the shores of Lake Leman as on the banks of the Tiber." But Luther was as much a persecutor as Calvin, and the spirit of persecution was as rife in Germany, as in Geneva. Indeed, all the Protestant churches persecuted as ruthlessly as the Papists themselves. "The Anabaptists," says the biographer of Calvin, "were the only people at this period who desisted to the magistrate the right of using the sword against heretics." One of these was bold enough to address the Swiss communities in favor of Servetus and in condemnation of their "bloody tenet," and their murderous practices. Hear him: "It is an irreducible blindness that the servants of Christ, who are sent to give life to the dead through the knowledge of the truth, should condemn the erring to death, and through temporal death expose their souls to eternal ruin." The right to perpetuate a heretic belongs to him alone who gave life and suffered death for our redemption. Were it lawful to put heretics to death there would be a general slaughter, for all religious parties regard their opponents as guilty of heresy. If the good and pious Servetus be a heretic he ought to be admonished in a friendly manner and then banished the State. The Lord himself will slay all false teachers with the breath of his mouth, and not with the sword. The tares must be left to grow up with the wheat, and await the judgment which will take place at the end of the world." So wrote David George, "who," Henry says,

"seems to have regarded Servetus as a heathen because of his views on baptism." This same George came to his end in peace, but his bones were afterward disinterred and buried at peace by the adherents of the same church that procured the condemnation and death of Servetus. The accusations against Joseph H. Burroughs done the proceeding, which was bold, forcible and effective. In the number he had I baptized a household, a Methodist one at that, and no baby either. God hath greatly blessed To him be glory, honor and dominion evermore.

A. J. KIRKLAND, PASTOR.

Brighton, Tenn., Sept. 10, 1875.

DEAR BRO. GRAVES.—Rev. Thom. H. Jenkins assisted by Rev. J. A. Wynne, of this city, has just closed a glorious revival of religion at Republic Grove church six miles northeast of here, which lasted sixteen days and nights, with the following results. Thirty one professes; thirty four admitted five from Methodists; two from Campbellites; brethren greatly rejoiced and encouraged. To God be all the praise.

F. M. BOWMAN.

Murfreesboro, Tenn., Sept. 16, 1875.

FOR CHRIST.

JESUS, I thought I loved thee,
I remember well
That day when thou didst hold
My trembling fingers in thy pierced hands,
And take me for thine own.
And I did love thee;
This poor heart beat true:
It was no fancied echo to the voice
Which spoke these mine,
That answered "I am thine."
But O, my Master! how I blush to tell,
Thy faithless servant loved thy gifts too well
I looked on all things beautiful and rare;
Looked on earth's flowers,
And thought them very fair,
I left me from the rude and vulgar throng,
And hoped it was thy will
That I might turn away from common men,
Yet love thee still:

I dwelt among the pleasant sounds of life;
I did not like the turmoil and strife
To come too near.

But thou wast in the thickest battle-field,
And thou didst call thy servant to thy side.

But I was too far off,
And so I did not hear.

My Lord, I will come nearer. I will take thy seat
Close to thy feet;

I will come down where the gray shadows lie.
And there I'll listen—listen every day

To hear thy voice.

It may be I must take a lower place.
But let me have the shining of thy face

It may be I must seek a humbler home:

Let it be where thou wilt often come,

And for the needy ones who claim

An interest in thy name:

And I will stand, and watch, and wait to greet
The first faint echoes of thy coming feet.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

PRO. GRAVES.—The Central Association of Mississippi met on Saturday before the second Sabbath in October, but on account of the political excitement, consequent upon the movement of our State colored militia, the Association adjourned to meet with the Clinton church, at Clinton, Madison county, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in November next.

S. J. THORPE, Clerk.

WEST TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION.

This body will meet with the church in Humboldt, Tenn., Friday, the 12th November, 1875. Elder G. A. Lofton to preach the annual sermon; Eld. S. Lardrum, alternate. J. R. GRAVES, Pres.

Jos. H. BORROW, Secy.

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE.

THE Ministers' Institute of the West Tennessee Baptist Convention will hold its annual session in connection with the meeting of the Convention at Humboldt, in November next. The committees have arranged a programme in reference to our centennial work. We earnestly request the brethren, whom we take the liberty of announcing without a conference with them, to make due preparation and meet the duties assigned them.

First Lecture, Thursday night, 11th November.

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Sabbath.—The progress of Baptist principles during the last hundred years. Mat. Hillman, D. D.

Second Lecture, Friday night. Subject—The importance of the Centennial work undertaken by the Baptists of Tennessee. T. G. Jones, D. D.

Third Lecture, Saturday afternoon 3 o'clock. Subject—The struggles and sufferings of Baptists for religious freedom. G. W. Griffin, D. D.

Fourth Lecture, Saturday night. Subject—The relations of the Southwestern Baptist University, to the future of the Baptists and people of Tennessee and the Southwest. C. R. Hendrickson, D. D.

J. R. GRAYSON,
Committee, S. LANDRUM,
MAT. HILLMAN

PROSPECT OF THE SOCIETY.

WE think there is a bright future before the Society. We are getting letters from all parts of the country, containing promises to pay notes due. We have much reason to hope that a large per cent. of the notes will be paid this fall and winter. So the business department is in a safe condition. We are putting agents into all the States. They are first-class men. They are doing regular mission work, at the expense of the business department of the Society.

We hope in this way to put fifty men into the field, at no distant day. Our hearts and hopes are fixed on a mighty work.

In a few days, we shall have ready for sale the first volume of a valuable commentary on the New Testament, by N. M. Williams, D. D. It has the endorsement of the best scholars in the country. It is a Baptist work. Price \$1.50. Send in orders. We will get out the second volume some time early next year. The Christian's Daily Treasury, an old and valuable work, reprinted, will be ready in about two weeks. Price \$1.50. Still other works will be announced in a month or so. We are now going to push forward the work. Only buy our books, and the Society will soon be largely prosperous.

And our brethren can help us very much. Talk about the Society. Represent it in the Associations. Tell the people where to send for Baptist books.

We must be permitted to rejoice over one thing. Hostility to the Society has entirely disappeared in many of the States; and it is gradually disappearing from the more distant fields we desire to occupy. The conservative policy of the present management has met the approval of nearly all our brethren in the South. Our business is, therefore, spreading out over a vast field. We have lately filled orders from California and Canada. And we are printing the minutes of Associations in distant States.

Thus our prospect is growing brighter every day. The Lord will raise up men, we are sure, who will give us a house, and who will supply the benevolent department with money to scatter our books to the extremities of this continent. With the Lord's blessings, and the help of the brethren, our Society will be a greater success than even its most sanguine friends ever hoped. Don't forget. Pay your notes.

W. D. MATFIELD.

BIG BEAR CREEK ASSOCIATION.

THIS body will hold a Sunday school convention with the church at Pleasant Site, Ala., beginning Friday before 5th Lord's day in January, 1876. The little town is eighteen miles across the country, southeast from Cherokee. Transportation will be furnished for all who come by railroad, by applying a few days before to R. WALLACE, Officer.

Cherokee, Ala.

H. F. BUCKNER, Cor. Secy.

Remarks—We can most heartily commend this Board to the liberality of our brethren, and advise that all contribute directly to this Board. It argues impotency for a mission like this to be in need of direction from a foreign Board less competent than itself to judge for its wants. Help it does need and should have, but episcopal control, never. Let us all help Bro. Buckner. We forward our \$1.00, and hope to give this much monthly or quarterly while there is a poor Indian to preach to.—ED. BAP.

A. J. F.

CHARLES WARREN died at the residence of his son, W. H. Watson, near Bartlett, Shelby county, Tenn., July 25, 1876. He was born in North Carolina December 18, 1819. November, 1819, he was married to Miss Maria Allen, professed religion in 1820, and joined the Baptist church. He was very soon retained a deacon, which office he filled with great

CENTENNIAL REPORT.

THE Board of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary proposes to use the centennial movement to advance and complete the endowment of that institution. It is believed that the Baptists of the South will join in one united effort for this purpose.

It will be remembered that the proposed removal

to Louisville, Ky., was conditioned upon the raising of \$300,000 in Kentucky. With the aid of the Centennial movement in that State, this will have been secured by the 1st of May, 1876. It remains then for the other Southern States to do all the purposes which have been expressed, that \$200,000 in addition shall be raised outside of Kentucky. There should be neither difficulty nor delay in doing this. The \$200,000 can be raised at once if one united and general effort be made. The Centennial movement furnishes the opportunity of doing so. While the various Colleges in the different States are securing larger contributions as well as that from the dollar roll, it is proposed to try to secure the Seminary endowment entirely upon the latter plan. It is preferred, unless absolutely necessary, not to ask for large contributions. The Seminary has ever sought the sympathy and support of the mass of the Baptist membership. An endowment based upon a universal contribution of small sums would in itself be more valuable than one doubtless as large given by one or a dozen persons, or by a small portion of our membership.

It is important that the contribution be secured immediately. The Seminary ought to be in Louisville by the 1st of September, 1876. But according to the terms upon which the regular endowment are based, it cannot be located there until the whole amount of \$500,000 has been secured. In its present location, and with only its present means, it is not doing one-tenth the work for the denomination which is believed possible. That it has been already successful and useful beyond the hopes of its friends only shows that they are not too sanguine in their expectations of its greater usefulness.

That there may be no interference by the Seminary Centennial with the dollar roll work of the college, it has been thought best to prepare for it a separate form of certificate from any elsewhere used. The peculiarity which has been adopted is that an engraved portrait of each of the six professors, Boyce, Broadus, Matlby, Tay, Whitfield, and Williams, who have up to this time taught its classes, has been printed upon each certificate. These have been prepared by one of the best artists in America. Each contributor of a dollar will receive one of these certificates, worth in itself the amount of his contribution.

Furthermore, it will be our pleasure to contract with the National Council for a Baptist Mission school among the Creeks, as well as in every laudable way to secure the means necessary for such school. All our collections and disbursements will be promptly reported to our Association and to the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and whenever a contribution, either in money or goods is forwarded to us, a receipt for the same will be at once forwarded to the contributor, and quarterly publications of the same will be made in the State paper or papers from which the contributions come. Money, clothes, agricultural implements, and all things useful for a family, or necessary for a manual labor school are respectfully solicited. Our Board of Managers mean business and work. We propose to get all the voluntary missionary work done and reported to us that is possible. To send a native missionary to the wild tribes on the Western plains as soon as his salary can be secured. We will never go in debt a single dollar.

Bring this matter at once before each church and Sunday school. These certificates are issued in volumes of twenty-five, of fifty, of one hundred, of two hundred and fifty, of five hundred, and of one thousand certificates.

Each church and Sunday school should have its own roll book, so that all of these connected with it may be enrolled together. That book which is retained in the book when the certificate is cut out is to be preserved as a part of the roll of all those aiding in this work. It is important, therefore, that the church order a book of such size as will probably contain the number of certificates which will be taken.

The object is to secure one dollar from every member of the church, from every member of the congregation, and from every child in every such family.

It will be well that each church appoints a committee of three to five persons to canvass for this work, to the chairman of which the book of certificates can be sent. These are furnished gratuitously, postage paid, by the trustees of the Seminary.

Full explanations for the collectors will be forwarded with each book of certificates.

Any desired information will be given by the treasurer.

Let the application be made soon, stating the number of certificates which will probably be needed. Don't forget that each child in the Sunday school, as well as each member of the church, should have one of these certificates. The Seminary is asking only for a limited amount. Only one tenth as many certificates will be issued as there are persons under Baptist influence in the Southern States.

For books of certificates or further information about this work, address JAMES P. BUCKNER, 17 West Broadway, Louisville, Ky.

The wicked are overthrown, and are not; but the house of the righteous shall stand.

EDITORIAL HIGHLIGHTS.

CONTRIBUTION—The excellent sermon on communion published two issues ago, was preached by Rev. J. P. Kincaid before his brother, A. J. Kincaid's, church at Brighton. "Honor to whom honor is due."

ED. ANN'S ANTHONY, of Cache Point, Va., writes in a business letter some facts of his work, etc. "To day is my eighty-sixth birth'day; and the forty-fifth year of my ministry. I hope my labor has not been in vain in the Lord. I have baptised, I suppose, about two thousand persons, and preached about three thousand funeral sermons besides my labors spent with four churches, and I have visited in marriage eight hundred and eighty-five couples, and through the goodness and mercy of God I am still able to travel and preach to three congregations monthly."

DELEGATES.—Look over the names on page 420 of this paper, and see if you are there, and have it taken out by paying up or correcting the error in the book-keeper, if there is any. We wish to close up our books never to open them again against a brother, and we shall permit these names to stand until corrections or payment are made. If we had the money due us on these credited once, we should not be compelled to cry weekly for help, but could pay off all our indebtedness and have plenty of water under our keel. This is the time we need and must have every dollar justly due us.

WE ARE MOVING.

THE paragraph below, from the *Baptist Union*, New York, thus clearly states the position of landmarks, whom he calls "logical close-communionists," and the division that is going forward in the North:

"To justify close communion and be consistent they feel obliged to take the position that there are no Christian churches, no Christian ministers, no Christian ordinances, except in the regular close communion Baptist sect. Hence, logical close-communionists are refusing to admit other ministers to their pulpits, or in any way to recognize them as Christian ministers; declining all intercourse with other churches that implies that they are Christian churches; refusing to recognize the validity of baptisms by any ministers not in their regular fold, though the candidate be a believer and the act immersion; insisting upon re-baptizing the immersed who offer to join their churches, and reordaining all ministers who unite with them. Thus, we are moving; one party towards liberty, and the other toward landmarkism."

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!

"**L**EAVE all our preachers circulate our books," said the wise and far-seeing Wesley. "We well know that religion could not live long or spread widely among intelligent people unless Christians "increased in knowledge." And this is even more to day the law of progress. Religious literature, and plenty of it, must be scattered among the people. If they will not call for it it must be sent among them. Our people must read or die spiritually. The Bible should be first and most frequently consulted, and next, the best works of the spiritual writers." So says the Philadelphia *Christian Standard* and *Home Journal*, and we heartily endorse it.

THE PAPACY.

ONCE give Catholics the ascendancy in this government and religious freedom is at an end. Let those who doubt read the following utterances from high papal authority and be convinced:

"Heresy and infidelity have not, and never had, and never can have any right, being, as they undeniably are, contrary to the law of God!"—*Brown's Quarterly*, January, 1852.

"Protestantism of every form has not, and never can have any right where Catholicity is triumphant: and, therefore, we lose the breath we expend in declaiming against bigotry and intolerance, and in favor of religious liberty, or the right of any man to be of any religion as best pleases him."—*Catholic Review*, Jan., 1858.

"Religious liberty is merely endured until the opposite can be carried into exemption without peril to the Catholic world."—*Bishop O'Ferrall of Pittsburgh*.

"If the Catholic or even gallic, which they surely will, in immense numerical majority, religious freedom in this country will be at an end."—*Archbishop of St. Louis*.

"Heresy and unbelief are crimes: and in Christian countries, as in Italy and Spain, for instance, where the Catholic religion is the essential law of the land, they are punished as other crimes."—*Archbishop Keneddy*.

"The Catholic church numbers one-tenth of ten Americans."

"and if its membership shall increase for the next thirty years it will have for the thirty years past, in 1900 there will have a majority, and be bound to take this country and keep it!"—*Father Hecker's Lecture in New York*.

The Catholics went into the election in Bavaria, with an effort to control the legislation of the country, which they have hitherto been in the habit of doing. But it appears that the *Ultramontane* party, which constitutes a tremendous force, before which the strongholds of Satan would fall as David fell before the ark. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished. But to bring it about "our preachers must circulate our books." There is no agency so economical and effective as this. It has been tried and proved by the Methodists. Their great Book Concerns in New York, Cincinnati and Nashville are the splendid monuments of ministerial labor in book circulation. Why should not Baptist preachers build similar monuments in Memphis and Philadelphia? We doubt not that Bro. Mayfield can heartily adopt the language of Wesley: "Let all our preachers circulate our books."

SECOND CHURCH, CHATTANOOGA.

THIS church is enjoying a remarkable degree of prosperity under the labors of Dr. Brecker. During his short pastorate of nine months, the membership has increased from fifteen to seventy-three, after deducting all losses by dismissals and other causes. Of this number, forty six have been baptised. A good house of worship has been erected, in which regular services are maintained twice each Sabbath. They have a flourishing Sunday-school of seventy five scholars, and keep up a weekly prayer meeting, and a monthly concert of prayer for missions. The members are all trained to work. A minister who attended one of the meetings during the recent revival, says: "I never saw the like. The members move like well-trained soldiers at the suggestion of their pastor, to whom they are perfectly devoted. There is not a drone in the hive."

And all this has been accomplished while Brother Brecker, who is an M. D. as well as a D. D., has been making his support by the practice of medicine. It is a matter of profound regret that such a man should be forced into secular business. The condition of the church is such that they cannot pay him anything until they have completed their house of worship. Meantime, we regret to learn that Dr. Brecker's financial matters are, in consequence of heavy losses, in a somewhat perilous state. It would be a sad loss to the cause at Chattanooga if he should be compelled to abandon the position.

We wish to make this suggestion: Four hundred dollars will put this very important interest out of jeopardy. Let each church in Middle and West Tennessee send a donation for this purpose, little or much, until the sum needed is made up. Acknowledgments will be made in this paper, and the money applied strictly to the liquidation of the claim on the building. When this is done, the church will be able to take care of their self-sacrificing pastor. Let it be done at once.

S. BOYKIN, editor, Macon, Ga.

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KIND WORDS.

THIS late Southern Baptist Convention, at Charles Town, recommended the continuance of *Kind Words*, as at present published and edited, without pecuniary risk to the Convention, and it adopted the following resolution:

"4. Your committee believe that our Sunday-school paper, *Kind Words*, deserves and should receive the united support of every Southern Baptist, to whom it is hereby recommended."

With the greatest confidence and hope I now ask all the Baptist churches and Sunday-schools in the South to give a liberal patronage to the paper, and especially to the weekly issue. *Kind Words* is emphatically a Baptist Sunday school paper, containing carefully prepared lessons on the excellent series of international uniform lessons, on the gospel by John, now generally adopted all over the world. The main object of the paper is the salvation of souls; and it teaches our denominational principles and practices, and encourages missions in the strongest manner. All Baptist preachers, pastors, superintendents, and teachers are urged to help me extend the circulation of *Kind Words*, and to introduce it into all our Sunday-schools and families.

I earnestly solicit a grand, universal and continued effort on the part of all, to increase the subscription list of *Kind Words*, and will cheerfully send specimen copies to all applying for them with a view of subscribing or obtaining subscribers. Please, brethren, everywhere, let me appeal be in vain.

S. BOYKIN, editor, Macon, Ga.

A SMILE OR TWO.

Little Girl.—"Mamima, I don't think the people who make dolls are very pious people." Mamima—"Why not, my child?" Little Girl.—"Because you can never make them kneel. I always have to lay my doll down on her stomach to say her prayers."

A Southern gentleman in a Washington hotel told the negro servant in attendance that he might retire. "Scuse me, sah," explained Sambo, "but I'm responsible for dis spoons."

Uncle James walking with his little niece, aged four, points to the moon, on whose disc the dark spots show quite plainly, and says, "There is a man in the moon burning brash." The infantile recluse puts up her little nose and sniffs, saying, "Yes, I smell the 'moke."

A woman returning from church recently declared that "when she saw the shawls on those Smiths, and then thought of the things her own poor girls had to wear, if it wasn't for the consolation of religion, she did not know what she should do."

In the streets of Leicester one day Dean Swift was accosted by a drunken weaver, who, staggering against him, said: "I have been spinning it out." "Yes," said the Dean, "and now you are reeling it in."

"Religious liberty is merely endured until the opposite can be carried into exemption without peril to the Catholic world."—*Bishop O'Ferrall of Pittsburgh*.

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The Catholics went into the election in Bavaria, with an effort to control the legislation of the country, which they have hitherto been in the habit of doing. Two millions of Baptists thoroughly informed on all questions of the age, and fully imbued with Christian truth, and all energized by the spirit of God, would constitute a tremendous force, before which the strongholds of Satan would fall as David fell before the ark. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

A subscriber in Mississippi.—The church has the right to decline to license whom she pleases. Our churches doubtless license very many more than they ought, and ordain very many more than the Lord calls. She errs on the unsafe side. We do not believe that the Lord ever called any one to preach his gospel that his church refuses to license or ordain, though two or three churches refused to ordain our only brother. The Lord evidently called him to teach and as his churches decided, and so time and his own experience has justified the decision.

OUR PRAYER-MEETING.

DEAR Prayer-Meeting opens on each Sunday afternoon, at three o'clock, and it is proposed that every Christian who reads this will consecrate that hour to prayer for the subjects presented in these columns.—Ed. Bar-

"There is a scene where spirits blend,
Where friend holds worship with friend;
Two quavered far, by faith we meet
Around one common mercy-seat."

A distressed sister presents her husband's case to the prayer meeting. He honestly doubts the authenticity of the Bible, and the Spiritists are operating upon him, she fears, but too successfully. She asks the prayers of the hundreds who address the throne for themselves and the special objects presented each Sabbath afternoon. Let us all pray for that skeptical husband. Nothing but the Spirit of God can reach his case, and one ray of that light, that is the brightness of the sun, will do the work.

HOUSEHOLD BAPTISMS.

Will ministers who have baptised households report to us. We have use for the facts in the forthcoming debate.

BRO. GRAVES.—During my brief pastorate in Chattanooga, Tenn., it was my pleasure to baptise two entire households. Unlike the households the apprentices baptised, these contained Methodists and Presbyterians, but like the households mentioned as baptised in the New Testament, these contained no infants.

T. T. EATON, Petersburg, Va., Sept. 17, 1875.

ELD. J. R. GRAVES.—You have asked for all households baptised. My Associational year will end with the meeting of the Texarkana Association, Friday before the first Sabbath in October next. During the year I have baptised eighty persons at Chioot, three-fourths of them have been Methodists. Two households had baptism.

J. M. HAST, Eidorado, Ark., October 6th, 1875.

DR. J. R. GRAVES.—While conducting a revival meeting at Pleasant Hill Church, in this county, during the month of August, 1874, I baptised Simnel Davis, his wife and their three daughters, they being the entire household. They are all of them yet in good standing, and full fellowship with the church at that place.

H. C. HAMPTON, W. C. HAMPTON, Texarkana, Ark., Sept. 20th, 1875.

I notice in *The Baptist*, that you desire to be informed of all household baptisms. I will give you one now, and think I will be able to give another soon. On Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in August last, I baptised a gray headed father, wife and three children. Another household of five, three of whom have been baptised, the other two stand announced for baptism.

R. A. SMITH, Cherokee, Ala., Sept. 20th, 1875.

BRO. GRAVES.—In your debate you may have use for the fact that, on the 20th of November, 1874, Rev. W. W. Bays, M. E. Church South, and Rev. J. W. Bookman, M. E. Church South, immerses George Westmoreland, who was that day hanged in the jail at Chattanooga, Tenn. A large bathing tub was used. You prove it was not impossible that Paul and Silas impeded the jailor in the jail at Philippi, though of course we are not driven to say it took place in the jail at all.

T. T. EATON, Petersburg, Va., Sept. 17, 1875.

DEAR BRO. GRAVES.—Among twenty-eight persons baptised in September, 1874, I baptised an entire household, one of seven, father, mother, three sons, and a daughter, and a niece. The three, father, mother and son, yet they all remain, having Christ formed in them the hope of glory, and none seemed happier than the youngest.

I ought to be remembered that the baptism of entire households at one time, is fortunately comparatively rare, owing to the fact that in gospel lands so many are to the Lord as soon as they come to years, the parents before marriage or soon after, and the children one or two at a time, as they grow up. Often it has been my privilege to baptise the last one in a household.

W. A. GARNER, Columbia, S. C., Oct. 4th, 1875.

DEAR BRO. GRAVES.—During the year 1874 I baptised two whole households. Into the Walnut Plain church, Prairie City, I baptised a brother Boyd and wife and I think a brother Strickland and wife. All of the above names were household baptisms and performed publicly during the year 1866 and 1869. I am confident that other households baptised during the same period.

R. A. LEE, Lonoke, Ark., Sept. 29th, 1875.

I have looked over my records, and find that we have, during my ministry, baptised over forty households.

V. H. BROWN, Danville, Tenn., Sept. 29th, 1875.

BRO. GRAVES.—I notice a request from you in *The Baptist*, asking all ministers who have baptised households, to report the same to you. I have, during this year, baptised two entire households, and not an in-

up your reports brethren and let me know the result of these gainers.

A. M. RUSSELL.

Forrest City, Ark., Aug. 25th, 1875.

EDD. GRAVES.—I see an article in the last number of *The Baptist*, requesting those who have baptised households recently, to report. On the 2d of last January I baptised three entire households into the fellowship of the First Baptist Church as Utica, Mo. Not one infant among them.

W. T. JAMESON.

Dear Bro.: In 1872 I baptised an entire household, but no babies.

Tracy J. HYMAN.

Columbus, Ill.

BRO. GRAVES.—I baptised Rev. John Oakley, his wife, his daughter and his grand daughter, being all of his house. A new Mr. W. T. Anderson baptised Bro. John Northcutt, his wife and his son, being all of his house; all in one neighborhood and for one church. This took place in late October.

G. A. EASTON.

KIDNEY, Marion Co., S. C., August 17, 1875.

KLD. L. R. BARNARD, of Baldwin, Miss., informs us that he has baptised two households this present year—1875—and one was quite like the Jailer's, except the light.

R. W. MARSHALL.

BRO. GRAVES: I notice an article in a recent number of *The Baptist* asking that ministers who have baptised households, would report the same to you, as they are needed in your approaching debate. In 1871 I baptised three households. One was a widow lady and seven children. Another was a Presbyterian family consisting of husband and wife and five children. I don't think you can find a minister who has been pastor twenty years, who has not performed more household baptisms than are reported in the New Testament.

W. G. INMAN.

Nashville, Tenn., August 31, 1875.

In 1874 I baptised an entire household, among them none that were not able to profess themselves believers.

R. R. WHITE.

Friar's Point, Miss.

I have had the pleasure, in my life, to baptise several thousand, among that number thirteen households.

S. G. JACKINS.

Oxford, Alabama.

Mississippi Department.

ELDER M. F. LOWREY, Editor.

*All contributions directed to this Department I would be addressed to the Editor at Bigley, Miss., 1875.**NOTICE.—All money or subscriptions should be sent to Bro. Graves, at Memphis. I cannot be responsible for money for the paper until it comes into my hands, but will be responsible for all that I receive.*

M. F. Lowrey.

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPHS.

SCHOOLS AT BLUE MOUNTAIN.—Cap. T. B. Winston is doing well with the Blue Mountain Male Academy. Although the school is not large, he is maintaining his enviable reputation for scholarship, and for proficiency in teaching. We are patronizing the school, and could not be better pleased. Our own school, Blue Mountain Female Institute, is doing well. About thirty boarders are in attendance now, with a prospect of considerable increase soon. We have students from Central Mississippi, Memphis, and other portions of Tennessee, as well as from four different counties in North Mississippi. These two schools are within one mile of each other, in a community not surpassed for good water and healthfulness, in any portion of the South. See advertisement.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.—We are pained to learn that this body, which met at Ogden Church, Yasso county, adjourned without finishing its business, to meet at Clinton on Saturday before the fourth Lord's day in November. Bro. M. E. Abbey writes us as follows:

'About ten o'clock, Sunday, it was announced that our alien Governor had equipped more negro militia, and sent them in the direction of Clinton, with ordnance stores. Being in violation of his positive promise repeatedly made, all supposed that it meant mischief, and the delegates began to turn their eyes towards their wives and children. At one o'clock the delegates were called together, and on consultation, adjourned.' It is generally believed that Gov. Ames is determined to inaugurate a war of races, as he thinks that is the only hope of his party. Poor negroes! they can be led into almost anything by such a man. O, that they know their own interest, and would heed the voice of their true friends. We pity them, and tremble for their fate, if they will be led by men who care for nothing but office and money. O, that the good Lord would interpose, and give peace and prosperity once more to our long suffering people.

ELD. A. J. SEAL. well known in our State as a faithful worker, is a member of the Centennial committee in Aberdeen Association. In a private letter, he writes as follows: "My health has been so very poor all this year, that I have not had the energy to lead in anything, much less in a matter of so great importance as our centennial. My heart is in the work, and all that I can do shall be done." Bro. Seal writes like a true Christian and a true Baptist. O, for thousands of such men.

DA McILROY. has accepted the office of Corresponding Secretary of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. M. is well known in the South—was many years pastor of the church in Marion, Ala., and President of the Board. A more suitable man for the position could not have been found in the whole South. If any man can lift the Board from its present embarrassments, he is the man, and we hope he will. May God bless his efforts. The Board earnestly desires to pay all its debts, and pursue its onward course of usefulness. We hope the Baptists of the whole South will rally under the earnest efforts of this good man.

GARNER'S HOME.—Capt. W. H. Hardy, who was appointed receiver of the property of this institution, has sold the personal property for nearly two thousand dollars, and hopes to sell the real estate soon. The business is in good hands. Bro. Hardy is an able and faithful Attorney—one of the best lawyers in Meridian. All business entrusted to him receives prompt and faithful attention.

THE "SOUTHERN FARMER."—In our paper of 9th inst., we referred to Bro. S. C. Rogers as present editor of this valuable agricultural journal. We are reminded by a friend that Dr. M. W. Phillips, Oxford, Miss., is still the editor, and has been from the beginning. That is true, but S. C. Rogers is "managing editor." The paper is all right, and the editor, too. Take it and see.

We have received a notice of the marriage of a

special friend and acquaintance, but as there is no signature to the notice we cannot publish it. It may be a joke.

Our old requested and long promised "Abstinence" editorial appears this week. Dram-drinking Christians need not be afraid to read it.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE A CHRISTIAN DUTY.

THE substance of the following article was written by us when we were a regular contributor to the *Christian Leader* in July, 1866, and reproduced with some changes in *The Baptist* of March 2d, 1875. Its re-publication has been repeatedly called for, and we have repeatedly promised it. In accordance with those promises we present it now (with some slight alterations) asking the brethren who have so often called for it, to pardon the delay. We are satisfied that the bearing of it will deter some people from reading it. Unfortunately some who ought to read such an article, close their eyes to the facts and arguments it contains. Like other people, they do not desire either information or reflections that will cross their appetites or their habits. We are not an extremist in anything, and are dram-drinking Christians to read this. We take it that all Christians desire to do right; then, if total abstinence from intoxicating drinks as a beverage is a Christian duty, Christ has taught to accept it practice it:

"Here we propound a question to which we invite serious and earnest thought: Is total abstinence from intoxicating drinks as a beverage a Christian duty?"

1. WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THE USE OF ABSINTH SPIRITS AS A BEVERAGE IS A DEADLY HABIT.

Those who do not use it, enjoy as good health as those who do, and are as happy and as prosperous. They have never suffered for the want of it, and no amount of it could have made them wiser, better or happier. To say that heat, cold or rain makes it necessary, is to assume an absurdity in the face of reason, experience, observation, and the testimony of the best physicians. Those, then, who indulge in this habit, necessarily expose themselves to danger, and give their influence in favor of the greatest evil that besets our race, to say nothing of the useless expenditure of money.

2. THE USE OF ABSINTH SPIRITS AS A BEVERAGE IS A DANGEROUS HABIT.

Men do not become drunkards at once—it is a work of time—and moderate drinking is the road to drunkenness. No one intends to become a drunkard, and no moderate drinker could be made to believe that he would become one. Men should beware of too much self-confidence. David prayed, "Keep back thy servant also from presumption; let them not have dominion over men." Too neighbors who had been in the habit of sipping the intoxicating bowl together, made profession of Christianity and united with a church. Soon after, when about to leave a village together, one said to the other, "Let us go and take a drink." "No," said the other, "I shall not indulge that habit again." "Aye," said the first, "you are afraid." "Yes, I am," said the other. "Well I am not," said the first, and away he went to get his dram. The one who was not afraid was soon excluded from the church for drunkenness; but the one who was afraid, lived and died an exemplary member. The man who is now a confirmed drunkard, would doubtless, have been indignant at his best friend for faithfully pointing out to him his danger. He who drinks is in that road that has led thousands to ruin, and he may go there too. Men should take warning from the fact that every drunkard in the world was first a moderate drinker. There would be some excuse for one to expose himself to danger if there were a necessity for it, or anything to be gained by it; but in this case, there is neither necessity nor promise of reward.

3. THE USE OF ABSINTH SPIRITS AS A BEVERAGE IS A SINFUL HABIT.

"A pebble in the streamlet seems, Has turned the course of many a river; A dew-drop on the tender plant Has warped the giant oak forever."

The man who takes his dram as a beverage, may never become a drunkard; but it is a sin to encourage drunkenness. Christians are "the light of the world," and "the salt of the earth." As such, it is required of them to teach men by example, as well as by precept, that which is right, prudent and safe—that which will lead to virtue, honor, happiness and to heaven. They should avoid (as an example, if for no other reason), that which is imprudent, unsafe, dangerous, and no one can possibly be injured. On the other hand, by moderate drinking, we may go strayed ourselves, and if we do not, some, being led by our influence, may; and thus a dark wave may be set

they drink whiskey as a beverage? We are writing for Christians—not for drunkards; drunkards will not read this, but we hope that many Christians will, and probably some will who are not Christians. We have very little hope of reforming drunkards; very few of them have ever been reformed. When a man loses his honor, his self-respect, his moral courage, and his moral character, he may be restored to reason and virtue, but the chances are one in a thousand. But the drunkards of the present generation will soon pass away. Shall their places be filled? By whom? If every professor of Christianity would exert his whole influence against the sale and use of ardent spirits, the evil would be greatly checked, if not finally overcome. If all Christians would stand together on this subject, most of moral men would stand with them. Then the whole business of drunkard-making and drunkard-killing would be left in the hands of the rabble.

Taking this view of the subject, the moral and the religious people are chargeable to an alarming extent with the evils of intemperance. Those who claim to belong to the better class of society give their sanction and encouragement to this terrible evil. They elevate to respectability the business of robbing women and children, breaking innocent hearts, killing men, and sending souls to perdition. The vendor is encouraged by the custom and kind words of the church member. He feels that his occupation is endorsed, when those who profess to be the light of the world come up to his bar. Although the vendor himself may condemn the act, he will boast of his sainted customer and feel that his business has gained reputation. The Christian thus gives aid and comfort to this traffic, and in so doing lends a helping hand to the devil. He helps not only to make widows and orphans, but to rob them of their substance, and to bring them to want and wretchedness.

He helps to fill the air with the wail of innocent women and the cries of helpless infancy. He helps to make criminals for the court, convicts for the penitentiary and gallows, and victims for an awful hell. Christian reader, are you helping in this dreadful work? Where is your influence? But it is sometimes said, that in "good old times" good whiskey or brandy was kept in almost every family, and that the best of people—ladies, Christians, ministers and all, drank together, and that there was not as much drunkenness then as there is now. That may all be true; but that was the seed time—this is the harvest. It was the customs of those "good old times" that produced the drunkenness that now threatens to sap the very foundations of society. The evil is gaining ground in every generation, and where is the hope of the world if it continues; and who is to check the tide if Christians do not?

How often is the son made a drunkard by the example of the father, although the father may never become one himself. The father may walk upon the brink, and yet escape, for some men have that self-control that all men think they have. But the Bible says of strong drink, "at last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." Not at first, but "at last." Let that family beware that nestles this destroyer in their bosom. They may see no evil results for a time, but remember, it is the Word of God that says, "at last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." If a son should be ruined by strong drink or a lovely daughter should be brought to want and ruin, and become a slave to the inflated passions of a drunken husband, what father could not bear it better if he could feel that his own influence had had nothing to do with bringing on the great calamity.

As Christians, we owe good influences and good examples to others as well as to our own children. The influence of our example may be felt for weal or for woe by many in this generation, and by generations yet unborn.

"A pebble in the streamlet seems, Has turned the course of many a river; A dew-drop on the tender plant Has warped the giant oak forever."

The influence of every Christian is a wave upon the deep that will roll over the boundary of time, and on into boundless eternity.

By total abstinence from strong drink, we follow our example, may be led to virtue and usefulness and their example may lead many more, and theirs many, many more. By such a course many may be saved, and no one can possibly be injured. On the other hand, by moderate drinking, we may go strayed ourselves, and if we do not, some, being led by our influence, may; and thus a dark wave may be set

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in motion that will roll its immortal wrecks into the abyss of woe. It is evident that no good can come of such an example, and much evil may be the result.

Nothing can be lost by the prudent course of total abstinence, and nothing can be gained by even the occasional use of strong drink as a beverage.

We remain the following conclusion:

1. The use of ardent spirits as a beverage does no good, but tends to evil, and therefore no Christian should practice it. This moderate proposition no reasonable man can question.

2. All the evils of drunkenness may be traced back to the moderate use of strong drinks as their beginning. This proposition none can question.

Then what excuse can a Christian have for indulging in or even favoring this great evil, that has brought deep trouble in a greater or less degree to almost every family?

A gifted young lady, whose heart had been crushed by this monstrous evil, concluded the reasons for her enthusiastic temperance views, by the following lines:

"Go hear, and see, and feel, and know,
All that my soul hath felt and known;
Then look upon the wine cup's glow—
See if its beauty can move—
See if its flavor you can try,
When all proclaims, 'tis drink and die."

ROLLS FROM OUR POSTAL-CARDS.

DEAR BRO. LOWREY.—On Sabbath last I preached on the west bank of the Tombigbee river. At the close I baptiz'd fifteen into the fellowship of Central Grove Church. Two of these had been Methodists for several years. Bro. Seale and Bro. W. P. Carter did faithful and efficient service during the latter part of the meeting. As a token of their appreciation, the young people of the neighborhood subscribed more than fifty dollars to help Bro. C. at Clinton the incoming year. I am at Centralia, east of the Tombigbee river, midway between Cotton Gin and Smithville.

Bro. F. Finney is with me, and preaching faithfully. Christian reader, are you helping in this dreadful work? Where is your influence? But it is sometimes said, that in "good old times" good whiskey or brandy was kept in almost every family, and that the best of people—ladies, Christians, ministers and all, drank together, and that there was not as much drunkenness then as there is now. That may all be true; but that was the seed time—this is the harvest.

It was the customs of those "good old times" that produced the drunkenness that now threatens to sap the very foundations of society. The evil is gaining ground in every generation, and where is the hope of the world if it continues; and who is to check the tide if Christians do not?

One good brother remarked that he felt just like he could go to work in a protracted meeting. The Seminary is doing well. To-day our missionary Society meets. We expect a good time. Shall let you hear from it.

Jno. H. Raora.
Greenville, Oct. 1st, 1875.

Seminary work. His churches are anxious for him to be their pastor next year. I hope he will not fail to our State. Mississippi boys here are all well.

Greenville, S. C., October. Jno. H.

Marian Board. I wish the brethren to send the same to Eld. M. P. Lowrey, Bigley, Miss., in post office orders or by express, and then very much obliged,

Mississippi Bottom, Oct. 7th, 1875. L. Ball.

SABBATH THOUGHTS.

BY OLIVE HAWTHORNE.

I hold with this eye, and hear with thine ears,

and set thine heart upon all that I shall show thee.

O UR God doth show us many things;

We look into sev'n hidden springs

And, with the eyes of knowledge, view

Creatious lovely, wondrous, new.

Let us observe with careful eyes

Each common thing that ne'er us lies,

For, doubtless, there may hidden be

Sons lesson for earthly.

The passing breeze, the cooling shower—

These have no meaning for the eye—

Who, heedless, sport their lives away;

But praise the Lord! some "babes" there be

Who, viewing these, God's hand can see,

The Master Limner hath arrayed

In richer robes, the worthless blade;

Than Solomon is all his pride;

Or, aught, of princely wealth, beside?

Oh! with these eyes, behold, what mean

And what, He shows thee, closely seen!

What beauty in the Book of Truth!

What fountains of perennial youth!

Burst forth upon the astonished eye!

O! scenes ofasted ecstasy!

The eyes of understanding, through

The "glass of faith," transported view,

No lonely hours our peace would mar,

If, ever, through these "gates size!"—

(Which, still half-open, as of old,

Our God doth keep, and say, "Behold!"—)

Wed look, with lamp of Faith and Prayer,

On precious jewels gleaming there.

"Hear with thine ears," those sounds of joy!

Let not discordant sin destroy.

These music tones of grand, wondrous,

"Day unto day," "night unto night!"

Are ever ut'ring, far and near,

If the dull ears or sense could hear.

Oh! loving Father, take away

These heavy clops of earthly clay,

That we may hear the voices, now,

And list'ning, reverently bow.

Before thee, knowing thou dost care,

Both rich and poor, both great and small.

And grant that we, our hearts may set

These things to know, while thou dost yet,

Unfold to view, with thine own hand,

October 23, 1875.

ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS.

Choctaw—Mount Zion Church, Summerville, Noxubee county, Saturday before the third Lord's day in October.

Cold Water—Hernando, Friday before the third Lord's day in October.

NOTE.—We will publish times and places of other Associational meetings, if broken, will immediately send minutes or post-cards to inform us.

CHURCH FESTIVALS.

ENTERTAINMENTS of various kinds, such as suppers, bazaars, fairs, diners, etc., gotten up for the purpose of raising money for religious objects have become so common in this age, that it seems to demand attention on the part of the religious press and pulpit. I confess to having serious doubts as to the propriety or advantages (pecuniary) of these entertainments; and am so "old fogey," in my notions, that I look upon them as positively injurious to the cause; and I propose briefly to notice the arguments in favor of these entertainments, and give my reasons for objecting to them.

It is claimed that many persons can be induced to contribute to the church in this way that can be reached in no other. This may be so; but it is merely an assumption, no one that I know of has even attempted to prove it by actual trial, but admits that it is true; this is not of itself sufficient to justify the use of such means; it refers to the expediency, but not to the propriety of the entertainments.

Churchman E., priding himself upon his apostolic succession, and saying that thereby he was superior to his colleagues, demanded that he officiate. That unless he did so, it would not be partaking of the very body and blood of the Savior.

Dr. P. objected to this, "because," said he, "should I do so, I would thereby, to that extent, acknowledge your apostolic succession to be correct; this I cannot admit. Besides, your formal religion teaches works instead of grace."

"I," said Rev. M., "cannot agree to his officiating because his religion has lost all its spirituality in forms and ceremonies, and his apostolic succession is all staff. No act of mine shall be construed as acknowledging this. The officiating lies between Dr. P. and myself. I say this because we are placed as rulers, so to speak, over our congregations, while you Eld. B. are simply looked upon as a servant of your church. Our positions must be recognized. Besides, if you officiate, you will not ask them to partake with you, while if either of us officiate, all of us can do so, though we may differ very materially in many points."

"Let me," says Eld. B., "ask whether or not it is not the sense of this meeting that baptism is a prerequisite to the coming to and the administration of this supper?"

All the arguments in favor of these entertainments refer entirely to their expediency. I have never heard any one claim that they were Scriptural, I propose now to give my especial objections to them:

1. They exert a demoralizing influence upon the church and upon the community; if one will associate with the Christians who are at work upon a church festival, that one will hear much discussed except questions relating to the entertainment; religion, vital piety, forgotten for the time, all is for pleasure and gain; and often very questionable means are resorted to, in order to procure a reception; things articles are sold at fabulous prices by smiling women ladies to the young men who are too gallant or silly to refuse to purchase; and when the purchaser hands over five or ten dollar bill to pay for the trifles, he is informed that "no change is given at this fair." I hope that such instances are rare, but I have known of them. In legal parlance, this would be styled obtaining money under false pretenses, and is a penitentiary offense.

I have also known the regular prayer-meeting dispensed with on account of a church supper.

Sometimes these entertainments are varied with a raffle or two, or a dance, and I was once cognizant of what I denominated a Baptist theater. A stage was erected, and several little plays were enacted by young (and some old) members for the benefit of the church.

Is it strange that the worldling loses respect for a religion whose professed votaries resort to such means as these to raise money? Would it not be strange if he did not? The God-fearing man of the world will argue, "If this is the religion of the world, what does it differ from the world?"

Such reasoning was authorized by the Bible: "He will not attempt to prove that we are greater propagators than if any one affirms the contrary, and esteems that proof."

In most instances the idea of having a festival, etc., is prompted by a desire to "raise money." Others think that if they had an opportunity to "raise money" in some way, their church would be more successful.

It is a wise saying that "the world is not always kind to us."

It would not be necessary for us to give as much as they would otherwise. I believe that if each one would give all he or she could to the cause of Christ, church festivals would be entirely useless.

In conclusion, such entertainments compete with some class of business, and to that extent injure the regular tradesman who pays taxes and is otherwise at a heavy expense to carrying on his business. If a supper, dinner or lunch is served it competes with the restaurants; if it is a fair, it comes in competition with men who deal in small wares, etc., and altogether, it is better for the church and the individual to give cheerfully to the cause, and let worldly means alone.

OUTLOOK FROM HEATHEN LANDS

No. 7.

DR. LOWERY.—In my last I gave you the finale of the church organization, and told you that Elder B. preached and announced that one week from that day the Lord's supper would be celebrated. In the meantime the missionaries held a consultation, as to who should officiate. This was the richest meeting they have ever held. I am sorry that I cannot give a correct report of all they said and did.

Churchman E., priding himself upon his apostolic succession, and saying that thereby he was superior to his colleagues, demanded that he officiate. That unless he did so, it would not be partaking of the very body and blood of the Savior.

Dr. P. objected to this, "because," said he, "should I do so, I would thereby, to that extent, acknowledge your apostolic succession to be correct; this I cannot admit. Besides, your formal religion teaches works instead of grace."

"I," said Rev. M., "cannot agree to his officiating because his religion has lost all its spirituality in forms and ceremonies, and his apostolic succession is all staff. No act of mine shall be construed as acknowledging this. The officiating lies between Dr. P. and myself. I say this because we are placed as rulers, so to speak, over our congregations, while you Eld. B. are simply looked upon as a servant of your church. Our positions must be recognized. Besides, if you officiate, you will not ask them to partake with you, while if either of us officiate, all of us can do so, though we may differ very materially in many points."

"Let me," says Eld. B., "ask whether or not it is not the sense of this meeting that baptism is a prerequisite to the coming to and the administration of this supper?"

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They all agree that it is, except Rev. M.; but he agrees that it is necessary prerequisite in the administrator, but not absolutely in the case of the participant.

"Tell me, then, have you been baptised?" Dr. P. "have you been baptised?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, how do you know?"

"I have ~~recently~~ told that I was baptised when an infant."

"But, my dear Sir, do you know, of your own knowledge, whether or not you have been baptised?"

"That is the best kind of testimony."

"Well, truly I do not know, of my own personal knowledge."

"Then it is quite doubtful, even in your own mind, whether or not you have been baptised."

"Well, then, with this doubt hanging over your qualification, from your own admissions, I cannot consent to your officiating, or coming if I officiate."

"Just as I thought of you bigoted Baptists."

"I cannot help that," said Eld. B. "I know that I have been baptised, and you admit my baptism. You three do not know whether or not you have been baptised, and yet because I act upon your own admission, and insist upon baptism, I am going to do it."

"I have your word?"

"Yes, if you cannot establish your rights to officiate, I cannot grant the right."

"In order to ascertain how many willing to give a few trial, let us submit this question—else—if he did not?"

"The God-fearing man of the world will argue,

"If this is the religion of the world, what does it differ from the world?"

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LETTER FROM JASPER J. GREEN.

M. P. LOWREY.—As so many are writing about revivals of religion in different localities, I thought it might be cheering to the lovers of Jesus, to bear what the Spirit of the Lord is doing for us in these ends of the earth. I have just closed a meeting of eight days with Beech Grove Church, Claiborne county, during which time the Lord poured out his spirit abundantly upon us. Twenty-three were added to the church. I baptised fourteen, and two are awaiting baptism. Some Presbyterians and some Methodists have joined the church, and I think others will soon. This church called me two years ago to preach to it. Its location is five miles west of Bradywine Springs, Claiborne county. At the time I called me they were living in an old dilapidated house, and her membership was only eighteen, almost gone out, and no Sunday school. Last year at a protracted meeting I held with this church, twenty-one united with us, this year twenty-three. We now number something over sixty members, and have built a new church house, and have two Sunday schools, for I went to lecturing them on that subject. There is a good prospect for a large church here. Dear brother, pray that the Lord may still continue his blessing.

LETTER FROM FRIAR'S POINT.

DR. LOWERY.—I have just closed a meeting with Dr. Lee at Shufordsville, and it was a precious feast, no mistake. The good Master gave the joys of salvation abundantly to his children, a real recall to activity among Christians. Sinners were brought to a godly sorrow for sin, which always leads to repentance never to be repented of. There were 15 additions to the church, 13 of them by baptism. Bro. Lee, of Bolivar county, was my ministering help, and he was a help in truth—I am greatly encouraged.

"I," said Rev. M., "cannot agree to his officiating because his religion has lost all its spirituality in forms and ceremonies, and his apostolic succession is all staff. No act of mine shall be construed as acknowledging this. The officiating lies between Dr. P. and myself. I say this because we are placed as rulers, so to speak, over our congregations, while you Eld. B. are simply looked upon as a servant of your church. Our positions must be recognised. Besides, if you officiate, you will not ask them to partake with you, while if either of us officiate, all of us can do so, though we may differ very materially in many points."

"Let me," says Eld. B., "ask whether or not it is not the sense of this meeting that baptism is a prerequisite to the coming to and the administration of this supper?"

All the arguments in favor of these entertainments refer entirely to their expediency. I have never heard any one claim that they were Scriptural, I propose now to give my especial objections to them:

1. They exert a demoralizing influence upon the church and upon the community; if one will associate with the Christians who are at work upon a church festival, that one will hear much discussed except questions relating to the entertainment; religion, vital piety, forgotten for the time, all is for pleasure and gain; and often very questionable means are resorted to, in order to procure a reception; things articles are sold at fabulous prices by smiling women ladies to the young men who are too gallant or silly to refuse to purchase; and when the purchaser hands over five or ten dollar bill to pay for the trifles, he is informed that "no change is given at this fair." I hope that such instances are rare, but I have known of them. In legal parlance, this would be styled obtaining money under false pretenses, and is a penitentiary offense.

They all agree that it is, except Rev. M.; but he agrees that it is necessary prerequisite in the administrator, but not absolutely in the case of the participant.

"Tell me, then, have you been baptised?" Dr. P. "have you been baptised?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, how do you know?"

"I have ~~recently~~ told that I was baptised when an infant."

"But, my dear Sir, do you know, of your own knowledge, whether or not you have been baptised?"

"That is the best kind of testimony."

"Well, truly I do not know, of my own personal knowledge."

"Then it is quite doubtful, even in your own mind, whether or not you have been baptised."

"Well, then, with this doubt hanging over your qualification, from your own admissions, I cannot consent to your officiating, or coming if I officiate."

"Just as I thought of you bigoted Baptists."

"I cannot help that," said Eld. B. "I know that I have been baptised, and you admit my baptism. You three do not know whether or not you have been baptised, and yet because I act upon your own admission, and insist upon baptism, I am going to do it."

"I have your word?"

"Yes, if you cannot establish your rights to officiate, I cannot grant the right."

"In order to ascertain how many willing to give a few trial, let us submit this question—else—if he did not?"

"The God-fearing man of the world will argue,

"If this is the religion of the world, what does it differ from the world?"

Such reasoning was authorized by the Bible: "He will not attempt to prove that we are greater propagators than if any one affirms the contrary, and esteems that proof."

In most instances the idea of having a festival, etc., is prompted by a desire to "raise money."

Others think that if they had an opportunity to "raise money" in some way, their church would be more successful.

It is a wise saying that "the world is not always kind to us."

It would not be necessary for us to give as much as they would otherwise. I believe that if each

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the Louisiana Department, and that we urge his appointment by the editor in chief.

G. W. HARTFIELD, Chm.

We gladly welcomed our Brethren G. W. Butler and R. E. Courtney as corresponding messengers from Mount Zion Association, Texas.

We had preaching during the session by Brethren W. W. Landrum, R. H. Scott, M. O. Stribling, G. W. Butler, and the writer.

Good feeling prevailed during the entire session. Bro. Tucker presided with his usual dignity, giving instruction to all. The hospitality of the people was all that could be asked, for which a rising vote of thanks was given. We gave the parting had affectionately. Bro. Landrum led in prayer, and the body adjourned at 3 o'clock, p.m., to meet with the church at Keachi, La., on Friday, before the first Sabbath in October, 1876.

G. W. HARTFIELD

REV. FARTWELL AT GREENVILLE—MISSIONARY ENQUIRY SOCIETY—FIRST MEETING OF THE SESSION.

IT is a custom of the professors and students of the Seminary here to spend the first day of each month, unless that is Sunday, in a meeting in behalf of missions. Professors and students are all members of the Society of Missionary Enquiry. These exercises are seasons of refreshing and benefit to all who love the cause of Christ, and to hear of the progress of that cause in the world. We have just had

A PRECIOUS MEETING.

BB IN EARNEST BOYS.

DO whatever you have to do,

With a true and earnest zeal;

Bend your sissons to the task,

"Put your shoulder to the wheel."

Though your duty may be hard,

Look set on it as an ill;

If it be an honest task,

Do it with an honest will.

At the anvil, on the farm,

Wheresoever you may b,

From your future efforts, boys,

Comes a nation's daunay.

Whatever you are doing,

In all little things,

Be both thoughtful and kind.

Arkansas Department.

The Christian should make everything hinge on his religion, and allow religion to bend to nothing.—J. L. JAMES.

"There is no middle ground between Catholicism and Protestantism. All the sects practicing sprinkling are branches or offshoots of the Catholic

October 23, 1875

THE VALUE OF
THE BODY AND LUNG BRACE.

To Baptist Ministers of the South:

I take this method of calling your attention to the celebrated Body and Lung Brace, the agency of which I have accepted that I may make it a benefit to my paper by making it a far greater benefit to you. I will briefly give you my reasons for commanding this invaluable article to you.

More than eighteen years ago I was thoroughly broken down in voice, from excessive preaching. I could speak but a little while without getting hoarse. My throat was generally sore and easily irritated, and its tone became hoarse and husky. Soon a hacking cough set in, and increased until at the close of a long meeting my voice failed entirely, under the effects of a chronic laryngitis, that soon superinduced bronchitis, which seriously threatened my life. I was now compelled to desist from preaching, and if possible overcome those difficulties and recover the lost treasures of the voice, that to a minister were so valuable then gold or jewels, or be silent forever. I appealed to the most eminent physicians, and was but little helped; save the extraction of an elongated uvula, they could do nothing but advise rest, and this I was compelled to take.

What caused and continued that constant irritation and hacking they could neither explain nor prevent. Providence threw the remedy in my way. My wife was suffering from pleurisy and the professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the Medical University of Nashville was her physician, and he prescribed for her this identical Brace, which speedily relieved her. She complained of dragging down, and no language could better express my distress, and especially after preaching. It occurred to me if it was good for one case of dragging down, why not for another. Without consulting any one I procured one large enough for myself and put it on, the first time doublets was ever worn by a man for such a reason, and the result was, the irritation of my throat soon quieted, and the hacking ere long ceased, and the voice commenced building up, until I could ordain, which I had not done for twelve months and very soon I commenced to preach again. That year I wore nearly ten years without communicating its wonderful advantages to any one because I thought I was using an article that was invented for the use of females. Privately to a few special friends who were suffering as I suffered, I explained the use of the Brace, and through them they examined it, and were relieved as I was. I much known the power of the Brace to restore strength and preserve the voice in public speakers, and he commenced offering it as a premium to ministers.

The cause of hoarseness, sore throat, laryngitis, and finally bronchitis in ministers, and all these symptoms of "dragging down,"—an exhaustion, after speaking, and weakness of the back and loins, and pain, is the natural resultation of the abdominal muscles, which allows the bones to get, known by marked hollows over the tips of the ribs.

TESTIMONIALS.

For the last two months I have suffered a great deal from a hoast, from preaching and a break. About the month of August my throat became so sore that I became unable to speak in anything serious. I put on the Lung and Throat Brace, and, strange to say, that was the last of my sore throat. It acted like a charm. And though I preached through the entire month, breathing freely, my throat did not trouble me in the least. In this connection, excuse me for saying a word to officials, etc., I believe the Brace would be of as much service to them in many cases, as it is to preachers. I know a minister who wears the Brace, but has not the time to attend all his household duties. A word to the wise is sufficient.

R. J. HEWLETT.
Oxford, Miss., 1875.

DEAR BRO. GRAVES: For the benefit of suffering females I desire to give you my experience in the use of the Banning Lung and Body Brace. I am a young man, and have been preaching and correcting preachers, &c., since I was a boy. The persons we find on sale generally are unskillful, and worthless, b. & I can assure all that this furnishes all the benefits that we can get from mechanical means. After much extensive practice in the dispository suspensor I can get you to have but to try them to be convinced: and with this we are able to get many invalid ladies out of bed and into their useful to their families.

J. R. SLATON, M.D.
Senatobia, Miss., April 27, 1876.

I have worn the Brace for thirty days, and I find it to do all it is recommended to do. And I advise all min. stars and saints to use it. I had been singing about four weeks when I received the brace, and it had become sore, and was broken down. I put on the brace and continued to sing for three weeks longer, and to my surprise, my breathing capacity increased and the soreness left my chest and lungs, and my voice became vigorous. I will say that I feel under no obligation to you for recommending it to my voice.

T. J. COOPER.
Morristown, East Tennessee.

Consumption cured, if physicians are true. In 1873 I bought a Brace for my wife, Jas. A. Fuller, who had been prostrated for six last years of consumption, by the very best physicians in the country, and from them, recommended him to get the Lung and Throat Brace. He wound up well. I bought it for him, and he is now a strong man, because I think it ought to be known, and those who are not familiar ought to know its advantages.

E. B. FULLER.
Nashville, Tenn.

I can preach day and night for two months with my Brace, and not be so fatigued as I would be upon two weeks without it. Every minister, strong or weak, should have one.

A. BOUTE.
Union Depot, East Tennessee.

Some time ago my order for a female relative, was received. The 7th August, Mr. —— instructed me to say that she is much pleased with the relief afforded by its use. To her testimony I add, that I have sold many braces from it, —— say how I could possibly compete with it. I would not take my price for it if I could not get another one.

B. V. SHIRLEY.
Fayetteville, Ala., June 17, 1876.

Read what Bro. Key says, and then turn to the last page of this paper and read:

I have worn the Brace you sent me about thirty days, and am prepared to say that it is all you others have claimed for it. I would not be without it for any consideration. It is the very thing that I need for me. I would recommend it to all.

W. C. LEAVESLEY.
Temple, Tex.

best to ease and efficiency. J. H. WILSON, Sr.
Lexington, Lee Co., Texas, 1874.

I can labor all the time and not feel worn down. It strengthens the back, supports the lungs, and strengthens the system throughout. I have thoroughly tested it.

J. H. GLAZNER.

For old persons, and for all with weak health, it is the very thing. A. L. MORAN.
Pal. Branch, Tennessee.

I have given the Brace a fair trial. I find it all that is claimed for it. I would say that for the right to use it, I hope that all my ministering brethren will procure it. J. A. REYNOLDS.
Fulton, Ga., 1874.

I can preach without getting the least tired. In my lungs or heart, I would not be without it for the finest hours in Union County. I can recommend the Brace to every minister and public speaker as the very thing he needs.

J. W. PALMER.

FEMALE TESTIFY.

Feeling very much from "dryness" and general debility—the result of protracted illness, I obtained and have been wearing a "Banning's Lung and Body Brace," and am satisfied there is no support equal to it. I feel confident others similarly affected would be greatly relieved by its use.

EUDORA COLE.
Yonkers, New York.

I can preach without getting the least tired. In my lungs or heart, I would not be without it for the finest hours in Union County. I can recommend the Brace to every minister and public speaker as the very thing he needs.

J. W. PALMER.

It is greatly benefited me in singing, in preaching, and riding horseback, especially preaching—relieving me of aches, that I usually suffered from, and that is common to public men after singing.

Evergreen, La.
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