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ception, the church throughout the eplistles is represented as the body, of which Christ is the

g of the Lord, how dare men, instructed by this
exceptionless usage, misread God's word? The
departing believer hastes to be absent from the

coming of our Lord. To these we turn with un-
 doubting confidence.

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"And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."—Matt. xvi. 18.

DEARBRO. GRAVES:— Bro. Prior, in his "Ninth article, and in his criticism of Bro. Murphy's article on the church says, "the first church at Jerusalem to which Christ referred in Matt. xvi. 18, "on this rock will I build my church," etc., was Christ's organized kingdom in its inchoate state." Has Christ now a visible, organized or established kingdom on earth? Does not the parable of the talents teach that he has gone to receive his kingdom and that he will come again to fully establish it, and personally reign over it? Does not the expression, "to receive a kingdom," include the preparation of his messianic kingdom here below by the sending of the Holy Spirit and his work in and by his churches? May not the churches as well as individuals be considered his servants to whom he has committed his goods, with the command to occupy? Can a kingdom have officers or transact business until it is organized or established? Can it be considered a visible organization? If not the ordinance cannot belong to the kingdom as some content, or be administered by the kingdom, all the churches collectively, but belong to his servants, the local churches, and can only be administered by them as separate bodies, for it was to them our Savior committed the ordinance, and the command rests upon each church to occupy till he comes to fully establish and reign over his kingdom. Then will the churches consist into one visible kingdom, and enjoy all the privileges of that kingdom

O. N.

An illustration. Let the churches be to the kingdom what the counties are to the State, or what the States are to the United States. A State is not the United States, but it is of it, a part of it, with in it, an organized part of the union. This State sustains the same relation to the union that every other State does, and has all of the rights within her own borders that every other State has. Taken separately each one is a State, taken as a class they constitute the union. So the churches of Christ. Considered separately they are each one a church, taken as a class they comprise the

seems to have gone to bed, and sleepeth until now; and Bro. I, went into a peroxem, and said some thage for which he is doubt grieved,—some things that will come him of his own accord, and shall be some things almost beyond the boundary of a mistake, for which I freely forgivo him, because his nerves were ex-
cited when he saw his dream of happiness and greatness
in the wayward man, and gave Paul look upon him with that same eye
Athens, and uttering this rabuke, "The Lord knoweth the reasonings of the wise (as their own conceit), that they are vain," (I Cor. i. 19.) The cup of blessing
Christ? The bread which we break communion of the blood of
Christ? The body [the church at Corinth] of Christ?

The foregoing is no imaginary picture, but one to the life, for when I ask him for one single passage in the New Testament which would support his position, he is unable to do so. He says we are not bound to affirm and prove anything; just as all intercommunion and you are bound to prove it unscriptural, and we have nothing to do but to answer your argument. Well, if you prove it scriptural, then I shall be bound, and yet when I am asked for a single line in God's word that teaches or authorizes his pretense of intercommunion, like the Pope, he jumps into his logical ditch, having no other recourse. When I say that the Bible is silent on the subject of intercommunion, he has been driven from every other place, courtesy, *quod hoc*, universal church, and clear out of the scriptures, and now I will drive him out of his logic and have him at my feet.

But to show how generous he is, and what a mighty man of valor he is, he says he will do what he is not obliged to do, he will give me some incontrovertible proofs that intercom-

The Methodist preacher became excited in joining the Baptists at this point, and said he would preach on the subject of his Bible and pasted a picture in it, representing Jesus in the river Jordan. And John said he would preach on the subject of his head from a pithor, and holding it, he could baptize a people, he said. "We are very fond of calling for a 'thin everything, and when we baptize the head of the subject, they demand 'Lord!' for it, and we have quite a little we have in Scripture for our parallelism thus forever, for here is in the Bible, pointing, so plain that even now let them say, 'No, for here is our for our mode of baptism.'" And the preacher, has become nervous and has often call for Bible authority for his mode at the time: "Bro, Job, a doctrine of the non-intercommunion they affirm intercommunion, and give it and the same Methodist with demonstration, he holds up before us the intercommunion, and tries to make

[illegible][illegible]

trial, and tried her in
dignity that she did
not know what she
was doing, and she
was tried, and she
was found guilty, and
which she was not
unauthorized by any
without corresponding
as an absurdity, for
will Mrs. H. tell us what
a member owes and
due? As the church at
and she owes and dis-
there, it is beyond the
the most basic topic, the
the best way to say
which he is not mem-
or there is to assert a
body. The church is
transition to extend to
own rights and privi-
members, because
of protecting her own
of which she can do, if

THE VISIBLE BODY OF CHRIST.

NOT ONE AND THE SAME WITH HIS MYSTICAL BODY.
BY WILLIAM NORTON, ENGLAND.

DR. J. D. MURPHY, in his article in *The Tennessee Baptist* of March the sixth, is quite correct when he says that Robert Hall of Bristol, England, built his mixed-communion theory on the broad principle that all sincere Christians are part of the true church of Christ on earth. Mr. Hall contended that the mystical body of Christ is identical with his visible body. He said that the word church had two senses in Scripture; that in one sense it means "one assembly;" that in the other sense it denotes "the whole number of the faithful scattered throughout the world." But he said that "these two significations differ from each other only as a part differs from a whole." (*Terms*, pp. 116-117.)

The falsity of this second sense is seen at once by going to the word *ekklesia*, its only true meaning, that of assembly, or congregation; for sincere professors of Christianity scattered throughout the world never did all assemble together, and never can. Whatever defect there was in Mr. Kinghorn's treatment of this gross misrepresentation Dr. Murphy is not correct in saying that "to this hour Mr. Hall's argument has never been directly and thoroughly met."

A few extracts from a pamphlet published in 1866 in reply to publications by D. W. Angus, the president of Regent's Park College, will show that this misuse of the words "the body of Christ" has been correctly treated.

Mr. Hall referred more especially to the following passages as those in which "the whole number of believers diffused over the face of the earth is identified in Scripture with the [mystical] body of Christ": "And he is the head of the body, the church." (Col. i. 18.) "I fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church." (Col. i. 24.) It is evident that "the church" is here used as we use the words the horse, the cow, to denote the kind of animal, not an assembly of all animals of that kind. "The church" denotes the class of which every individual church is a specimen.

That mind must be totally blinded by fanatical zeal which can imagine that when Paul called individual assemblies then existing the body of Christ he referred to a different body, the mystical body of Christ, consisting of all the elect, and that if all sincere professors of Christianity throughout the world could meet, and did meet, at any one time, so as to form a church, that is, one assembly, that body would be as large as and identical with a body composed of all the elect.

Dr. Angus has adopted the theory of Robert Hall. The person who replied to him in 1866 made the following remarks on what Dr. Angus had said (I have made only extracts, taking them here and there, for the sake of brevity; but they will give some idea of the manner in which the subject was treated):—

"Nothing is an *ekklesia* which is not an assembly, and no persons form part of an assembly who are never bodily present in it. A general assembly of all the disciples of Christ living upon earth at one time has never taken place, nor is it a possibility. You say *ekklesia* is used 'in two senses only. It stands first for the whole body of believers. To be in that church, the mystical body of Christ, is to be a new creature.' 'The word, in its second sense, is used for any part of this whole.' 'The first is the church: the last is a church.'"

"Your view of the church involves both absurdity and impossibility. Absurdity because it is absurd to suppose that the sacred writers spoke of some assembly as being accustomed to meet which in fact never met; and impossibility because such an assembly could not possibly be held in the present state of things. There will take place in the future, when Christ shall come, 'the general meeting [*panegyris*]' and the assembly [*ekklesia*] of the firstborn, whose names have been registered in heaven.' You speak of 'the whole host of God's elect' as if persons could be present in it now.

You speak of it as constituted of those only who have already become new creatures, to the exclusion of all those of the elect who are at present dead in sin, not yet called, nor even born.

"First. Your statement that the assembly of God at present consists of 'the whole host of God's elect, whether dead or living, or I must add, not yet born, is a contradiction and impossibility. Secondly. You maintain that 'to be in the church is to be a new creature;' that this inward change has the surprising power of making a person, though far from any assembly when it occurs, bodily present in it, when he is bodily absent from it. What two statements could be more absurd, contradictory and impossible than those, that a spiritual change can of itself create bodily presence at a distance, and that a person is bodily present when he is bodily absent? Thirdly. When did this 'entire body of believers of all ages and places' last meet? where? what business was done? Elijah ridiculed those who made Baal God. What other treatment does such a notion as this deserve? Fourthly. If the church consists of 'the whole host of God's elect [now] living,' you must endeavor to get a sight of the book of God's decrees, and then assemble all the elect who at present are blasphemers, drunkards, thieves, murderers, or at least far from God. But even then you will not be able to say of that assembly that 'to be in it is to be a new creature.' Fifthly. By saying that the church is the entire body of believers of all ages you seem to me to utter another absurdity; for the church did not exist in former ages. Sixthly. You say that the church, 'the whole host of God's elect,' whether dead or living, is subject to 'growth and progress and occasionally to decay;' but the number of the elect cannot change. Seventhly. You seem to have three distinct opinions of the origin of the church, each of which destroys the other two. 1. You say it includes 'all the saints of all dispensations.' Therefore it must have had its origin at least as early as the time of Abel. 2. You say 'it began, so far as her earthly manifestation is concerned, at pentecost. And 3. You say 'when our Lord first formed the church he took twelve men,' referring, I presume, to the appointment of the twelve apostles. If any one of these be correct the other two are incorrect. But is any one of them correct? If the saints who lived before Christ were all in the church, then the devout Jews and Gentiles who lived in the time of Christ were as really in the church before they heard of Christ, and before they had been immersed in his name, as they were afterwards. But not even the devout were added to the church till they trusted in Christ, and were immersed in his name. The church of Christ was founded by John the Baptist. It is exceedingly strange that you who maintain that the Christian church 'includes all the saints of all dispensations' should deny that John's disciples were in it at all. Eighthly. If 'to be in the church is to be a new creature,' then no one but God has anything whatever to do with the act of adding persons to that church, and there is no such thing as the separation of any one from it. No man, nor set of men, can admit any one into it, for only God can make any one a new creature; nor put any one out of it, for you imply that those cannot perish who are part of it.

"In your second sense an *ekklesia* is 'any part of that whole,' which is denoted by its full sense. An assembly that never assembles is nothing. But nothing has no parts; and it is absurd to say that an assembly of Christ can be fitly defined by saying that it is any part of nothing. You admit that in visible churches there may be many who will finally perish. It is impossible therefore for visible churches to be neither more nor less than parts of a body which you say has no members who will finally perish."

The above extracts show that the writer denied that any societies are true churches of Christ but those which are composed of persons who have trusted in Christ, and been immersed in his name, and that he regarded these as constituting that visible body of Christ to which reference is made

in such passages as these: "He is the head of the body, the church." (Col. i. 18.) "Ye are the body of Christ." (1 Cor. xii. 27.) "For the edifying of the body of Christ." (Eph. iv. 12.)

A TEXAS LETTER.

We wish our friends, and through them the public to be acquainted with the facts communicated by Eld. Carswell of Ilco, Texas, in his letter below. The notorious Jacob Ditzler is now traveling over the West, having pretty thoroughly disgusted the East, where he is best known, delivering his lectures against Baptists where he is allowed. It is by no means everywhere his own brethren want to hear him, and to their credit be it spoken. In these harangues he never fails to devote sometime in denouncing the published Carrollton Debate as a forgery in part, at least, as a cover of his overwhelming defeat, and surrender of infant baptism. Here is Bro. Carswell's letter. We have sent him twenty circulars containing the testimonies of the presiding moderator, and of others who heard the debates, naming Mr. Ditzler to the center as a base coin.

PRO. GRAVES:—Please send me a copy of your expose of Jacob Ditzler's false assertions. He has been here for several days, charging you with dishonesty and falsity and forgery with reference to the debate.

The Methodists allowed me to speak in their house, and vindicate you and our common cause. This I did in a forty minutes speech, bringing out all the facts I had been able to get upon the outside, and then turned to the internal evidences contained in the Debate.

He said your first speech was one hour long, being thirteen pages in the published book, he could not have read it in one hour. I turned and showed the congregation that his next speech was eighteen pages long, and then how could he have read that much in one hour. He tried to dodge that by saying that he could read thirty pages in an hour. He then called attention to your seventeenth speech on "Modes," and said how could Eld. Graves read twenty-seven and a half pages in a half hour. I replied by asking him, how could he read thirty-four pages in half an hour? Said he could read faster than Bro. Graves. He said that Bro. Graves had a sore throat, and asked him not to debate the covenants any longer, which he agreed to, and that he did not surrender the covenants at all. I told the people, I guessed a sore throat could be used on the covenants as well as on all that other matter which comes after page 692 of the Debate. He contradicted himself so many times that the people seem already convinced of his wicked designs, but I want to clinch the nail by reading your pointed expose.

I sent him fifteen or sixteen questions to answer last night, which he declined, except the first four, and then he skipped over to the fourteenth. I will write them down just in the order they were sent to him.

1. Please explain clearly to the people Carson's view of *bapto* and *baptizo*? 2. How could Moses Stuart say that all the lexicons give *immerse* as the meaning of *baptizo*? 3. What does Philip Schaff say about the meaning of *baptizo*? 4. Why does Dean Stanley say that immersion was the universal practice for the first thirteen hundred years after Christ? 5. Why does he say that immersion is the meaning of the word *baptizo*? 6. Why does he say that it was changed, and that sprinkling and pouring was substituted for it? 7. Why does Dr. George Campbell, Doddridge and McKnight translate the word *baptizo* immersion in their translation of the New Testament? 8. Why does Dr. Wall say that the general and ordinary way was to baptize by immersion, and that it is so plain by an infinite number of passages, that one can but pity the weak endeavors of such Pedobaptists as would maintain the negative of it? 9. Why does John Wesley in his note on Rom. vi. 4, say, "alluding to the ancient mode of baptism by immersion?" 10. If you make it impossible for the Jews to be immersed when passing through the Red sea, how will you make it appear that they were sprinkled or poured upon? 11. If those three thousand on the day of pentecost were restored to the church from which you say they were

excluded, then why baptize them again, if you say they were baptized in infancy? 12. Why did John the Baptist baptize over again so many thousand who were baptized in infancy, according to your church theory? 13. Do Methodists baptize over again those making a public profession of religion in riper years who have been sprinkled in infancy? 14. Why does the Greek church still immerse? 15. Why has no one ever been dissatisfied with immersion, but hundreds with sprinkling and pouring? 16. Why did the Assembly of Presbyterian divines vote twenty-four for immersion and twenty-five for pouring? 17. Why do your people immerse, if you say that Baptists got immersion from Baptist translation?

Eld. Ditzler pretended to answer the first four, and the fourteenth, and said that he did not have time to answer the rest, as it would interfere with the subject already announced to be discussed.

As to his answer to the fourth question, he said that Dean Stanley was a fine scholar, but had never given any study to the meaning of *baptizo*.

He said that Dr. Wall favored immersion because he wanted to get the Baptists to compromise with him, and accept infant baptism.

As to the fourteenth question, he said that the vote of "the Presbyterian divines was as to whether immersion shall be one of the modes, and not with a view of doing away with sprinkling and pouring: So the other questions remain unanswered.

M. L. CARSWELL.

Ilco, Hamilton county, Texas, March 16, 1886.

FROM LEBANON, TEXAS.

DEAR BRO. GRAVES:—I received *THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST*, and am well pleased with it. I love its tone. It sounds like a rich harp-string, whose owner delights to use the clearest tones last. I feel satisfied that though you are afflicted bodily, you are stronger spiritually. I delight most in such defenses of the truth as are richly seasoned with Christian love. I love a presentation of the gospel that has the balm and sinew of wisdom clothed with the harmlessness of the dove.

Your expositions of the parables cannot fail to interest and please every Bible student. I am often asked about your health, and about *THE BAPTIST*. Be assured that many good people in Texas are praying for the restoration of your health.

I am in full sympathy with the plan to double a subscription list of *THE BAPTIST*, and I do not look upon it as being specially a tribute. I know that the paper eminently deserves the widest circulation on its actual merits. All who read the paper at present cannot fail to observe the matured Christian manner in all the subjects treated.

May you live long to bless your friends with your wholesome counsel that have ripened under the sunshine and shade of many years of application, care and toil, is the humble prayer of your brother in Christ,
J. B. COLE.
April 1, 1886.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

THE GOSSIP have had a great deal to say about the President's rumored marriage in June, and many people believe it will take place. The alleged bride, who is said to be selecting her trousseau beyond the seas, is discussed from every standpoint, and there is great demand for her photographs. Mr. Cleveland neither affirms nor denies but simply smiles when twitted by his friends on this subject. Should he marry, he will be the second President to become a groom during his term of office, ex-President Tyler being his only precedent.

While the President is accused, and may in truth, be dreaming about "soft, sweet love," Congress is discussing such proxy questions as Inter-State Commerce, the fisheries, secret or no secret sessions, and the House Strike Committee begins to-morrow the examination of Messrs. Gould and Powerly, whom Congress has subpoenaed.

It is thought by some of the wisest men of both parties in Congress that the new tariff bill is

doomed to defeat, but that bills involving expenditures of money, such as Educational bill, the Eads Ship Railway bill, the Canal bill, and all sorts of Pension and Extension bills will have a chance of passing. It is thought that these schemes will help one another in this way, when they come to a vote: "If you will vote for my bill, I will vote for yours."

The Forty-Ninth Congress will be famous for its generosity to would-be pensioners, whether or not it commends itself to the tax-payer for economy in the expenditure of public money. The House has passed the Mexican veterans pension bill, the yearly expense of which is estimated to be over \$4,000,000. The bill to increase widows' pensions to twelve dollars a month has become a law, and the pensions of helpless pensioners is to be increased. The Invalid Pension Committee favors taking off the limitation of arrears which promises an enormous increase of expenditures, and the same committee proposes to pension soldiers who were prisoners of war thirty days, instead of sixty, the term first agreed upon. Then one bill asks that the wives and children of soldiers who were in the Union army and were taken prisoners by the Indians, shall be pensioned. The survivors and relics of all the Indian wars ask for pensions, a certain Congressman asks pensions for all soldiers and sailors who have attained 62 years, and deafness is to be compensated for by a higher pension. That is not near all the pension schemes, but lack of space forbids me to enumerate.
Washington, April 19, 1886.

PATIENT WITH THE LIVING.

Sweet friend, when thou and I are gone
Beyond earth's weary labor,
When small shall be our need of grace
From comrade or from neighbor,
Passed all the strife, the toll, the care,
And done with all the sighing,
What tender truth shall we have gained
Alas by simply dying!

Then lips too chary of their praise
Will tell our merits over,
And eyes too swift our faults to see
Shall no defect discover.
Then hands that would not lift a stone,
Where stones were thick to cumber
Our steep-hill path, will scatter flowers
Above our pillow'd slumber.

Sweet friend, perchance both thou and I,
Ere love is past forgiving,
Should take the earnest lesson home,—
Be patient with the living.
To-day's repressed rebuke may save
Our blinding tears to-morrow,
Then patience e'en when keenest edge
May whet a nameless sorrow.

'Tis easy to be gentle when
Death's silence shames our clamor,
And easy to discern the best
Through memory's mystic glamor,
But wise it were for thee and me,
Ere love is past forgiving,
To take the tender lesson home,—
Be patient with the living.

OBITUARIES.

Obituaries which do not occupy more space than seven lines will receive free insertion. For each word over the number allowed a charge of two cents each will be made. Those taking more than the specified space will have to be accompanied by the money in order to receive prompt attention.

Died, at the residence of her husband, four miles west of Bolivar, on the second day of April, 1886, from heart disease, Mrs. Sarah H. Walton, wife of Robert H. Walton, in the seventy-third year of her age. She was the daughter of Maj. William and Mrs. Lucy Ramsey, and was born in East Tennessee, February the first, 1814. She was twice married: first in 1838, to Philip Kearney, by whom she had four children, only one of them now living. Again in 1842 she married Robert H. Walton, by whom she had three children, two of whom survive her. In 1849 she gave her heart to God, and joined the Baptist church in this place [Bolivar]; and from that time (thirty-seven years ago) to the day of her death she lived and walked worthy of the profession she made, and, by all

who knew her, was acknowledged to be very exemplary in walk and conversation, impressing them that she was a pure, sincere, true and holy Christian. Her influence in all the varied departments of life was good.—*Exchange*.

We remember baptizing Mrs. Walton during the long meeting we held in Bolivar in 1849, in which she, with sixty or seventy others, made a bright profession of conversion. We took her and Miss Fannie Joyner down into the water together, and two more beautiful baptisms we never witnessed. When we raised their heads out of the water their faces shone like the faces of angels; and they rejoiced in the fulness of the manifestation of love of Jesus.

IN MEMORY OF J. T. FORTSON.

James T. Fortson was born in Elbert county, Ga., March the ninth, 1818, moved to Claiborne parish, La., in 1851, where he lived until the fourth of March, 1886, when his career upon earth ended, and he was called to that undiscovered land.

J. T. Fortson was married, at the early age of nineteen, to Martha A. Almont, who lived with him for more than a quarter of a century, after whose death he was married to Georgia E. Seals, his surviving wife. He was a member of the Missionary Baptist church for forty-five years; and during the greater part of this time he served the church in the capacity of deacon.

There was no living man who believed more strongly in the doctrines taught by the Baptist church than Deacon Fortson. He had been a subscriber to and close reader of *THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST* almost from its first publication. The writer renewed his subscription for him a few days before his death, at which time he told him that he was a lifetime subscriber to *THE BAPTIST*.

But now this good man of Israel has fallen, he has fought the Christian warfare as a brave and gallant soldier, and has now gone on to the spirit world to receive that pension and bounty which awaits him who has fought the good fight.

He died in the spring time, when all nature was beginning to clothe herself in new garments, and on the Sabbath day. Oh what a fitting and beautiful time to depart from this perishing world to take up an abiding place in the eternal city! He only lacked two years of completing his three score and ten, a long life of toilsome service, spent in the cause of the Master. It may be well now for him to rest from his labors.

This good man will be missed sadly in the church at Antioch, of which he was a member. He will be missed in the community where he lived and died. Above all he will be missed by his large family of children and his lone wife, who awaits to join him at the Master's call. But as the church militant loses one member the church triumphant gains another, and so all is well.

Let the Christian fortitude with which this man of God bore his earthly afflictions teach us the virtues and beauties of the Christian religion, and let his death teach us that the good as well as bad must also die.

CHAS. W. SEALS.

Homor, La., April 13, 1886.

We urgently request the friends of this paper, when responding on the Carrin proposition, that they will indicate that fact, that I may turn their letters over to Bro. Graves, as he will have charge of that list. This will apply to the many who have heretofore responded, as Bro. G. desires the name of every one who has sent one or more names on the Carrin motion. "Deaths speak louder than words," and Bro. G. desires the names of the many friends who have and are responding so handsomely to the celebration of the fortieth birthday of this paper. Remember one new name entitles you to be enrolled on the list, and will be as highly appreciated, where you can do no better, as though you sent ten when you could have sent twenty.

J. S. K.

There is power in patience; it saves us from despair when victory is postponed; it makes it impossible for disappointment to crush us. Petulance is a quality of the weak. Patience enables us to endure and persevere, and endurance and perseverance lead to triumph.

The Tennessee Baptist.

It is the most efficient Accomplish of Error.

Always read the eleventh page.

T. J. Beddick, formerly of Maury City, Tenn., will find it to his interest to send his present address to this office. J. S. MAHAFFY.

The Baptist Beacon of Oregon has taken the name of the North Pacific Baptist, and comes to us full of sunlight. We wish it the success it deserves.

The expenses of our boys at Jackson for March and April have exceeded the receipts \$50, and from last September \$118.81. Will you not, dear sister or brother who are reading this, send us a little help, if only \$1.00 or 50 cents or 25 cents, and so lighten our burden? It is getting heavy.

Our Introduction to the Expositions of the four Eschatological Parables is reprinted this week because of the misplacement of paragraphs last week, which confounded the sense of a portion of it. In connection with the Introduction we urge our readers to study carefully the articles on the first page.

Bro. Harral's Reply is very long, but will richly repay perusal. We commend it most especially to the attention of Breth. Ray and Womack, who have forgotten what is becoming in one Christian editor toward another, or they would not have used the language they have with respect to us in discussing the communion question.

In compliance with the request of several we will, in our next issue or the one following, give our reasons for rejecting the Jewish seventh-day Sabbath and observing our present first day of the week as the Edenic Sabbath which the Lord made and appointed to be observed by the entire race of Adam. We want every Baptist minister to see these reasons.

We learn that Eld. D. H. Burt of Arcadia, La., by the advice of his physicians, will spend some months this spring and summer in the mountains of Southwestern and Middle Texas; and we most cordially commend him to the confidence and love of the brotherhood. We have known to love him for over twenty years as a most laborious and useful minister, sound in the faith, and in all respects responsible.

Without a material improvement in our physical condition (inflammatory rheumatism in the paralyzed limb and foot, which now confines us to our chair and bed) we cannot go to the Convention. We are now effectually chained to our chair, but, thank God, no culture of remorse feeds on our vitals. The God whom we have endeavored to faithfully serve the past forty years is with us to comfort and support; and he gives us sweet peace with him through our Lord Jesus Christ. What a pleasant thought that by our pen we can still do something, if only to support those noble young ministers at the University! We are in debt \$118.81.

Will all read Bro. Prior's important corrections, which he makes as follows: "In my last review, in the quotation from Dr. Curtis' book, page 303, the word 'only' is omitted in the sentence, 'It [the supper] is not committed to their [the visible churches] care.' It should read, 'Is not only committed,' etc. In the same connection I make him deny that visiting brethren partake of the supper as members for the time being of local churches. I ought to have quoted him as denying that they celebrate membership in the church universal either visible or invisible. The *lupus pennis* will be seen by supplying the prepositional phrase 'of the church universal either visible or invisible' after the words 'as members for the time being.' The first was perhaps a typographical error. The other mistake was doubtless mine. I thank you and the compositor for your general faithfulness with my manuscript."

We send out a few hundred extra copies, and some of these to ministers who are subscribers.

WHAT WE WISH—

By sending you an extra copy of this paper is—
1. We wish you to read Bro. Harral's reply to the editor of the *Reflector*, as the *Reflector* or Bro. R. declines to publish Bro. Harral's reply, or to even consider its publication until after its appearance in this paper.

moral right to be heard in his own defense.

2. To call your attention to the series now passing and to appear in the columns of this paper this year,—Dr. Murphy's "My church," to be followed by an original and valuable one, viz., Christian Baptism.

(1) What it does for us.

(2) What it does for Christ.

3. Dr. Frost's masterly series on Annihilationism as the Penalty for Sin, and the modern doctrine of Conditional Immortality. This is a new and specious phase of infidelity which we, as ministers, will be compelled to meet successfully or see it prevail over the land. Dr. Frost's series alone, or Dr. Murphy's, will be worth to every minister many times the price of this paper one year.

4. We wish you to see the Biblical interpretations (we think) of the four Eschatological Parables, the Introduction to which you will see in the issue we send you.

5. We wish you to see the announcement of Dr. Jarrell's new work on Campbellism, and for you to secure a copy of it, or an agency to canvass your church or Association for its sale.

6. We want you to see the proposed celebration of the fortieth birth-year of THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST, the paper your fathers originated, and which has unwaveringly maintained Baptist principles in their integrity for now forty years against the assaults of their enemies within and without. It is proposed, on this its fortieth birth-year, that each one of its present subscribers, and each friend also, contribute one, if no more, now subscriber, at \$1.50, as a small material token of friendship and encouragement to its old editor before he is called down from his post. Will you not contribute so light a token?

When you have read will you not lend this paper to a brother who does not take it?

We send a copy of this issue to all those ministers in Tennessee whose names are not on our list, that they may see Bro. Harral's reply to Bro. Robertson's broadside delivered against him in a late number of the *Reflector*. Bro. Harral appealed to Bro. Robertson for space to reply, and was denied this simple act of justice. His next appeal is to us; and we surrender a large portion of our space to him this week, and trust every one will give Bro. Harral's reply an unprejudiced reading. Should a brother minister who is a subscriber receive an extra copy will he oblige us by handing it to some one not a regular reader? In no other way can Bro. Harral reach a large number of those in Tennessee who read the *Reflector*. Bro. Harral has long invited, and now invites, Bro. Robertson to engage in a full and fair discussion of the Scriptural limitations of the Lord's supper in the *Reflector*, and we obligate ourselves to transfer it to the columns of this paper, but Bro. Robertson has not sufficient confidence in his positions to accept. He cannot say it is an unimportant or unpractical subject, for it is as important and practical as the great commission itself, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." This violent assault of a brother and his positions, and refusing him a defense, and declining a fair and Christian-like discussion of the question involved, cannot be approved by Baptists generally as just, the right thing for a Baptist to do.

Among the leading and most reliable jewelry establishments of this city we note that of D. W. Hughes. He keeps a full and select stock of jewelry and watches, clocks, spectacles, silverware, etc. All goods and work guaranteed. Our readers within the radius of the Memphis trade need feel no hesitancy in dealing with Mr. Hughes, or in entrusting work to him for execution. If you cannot visit him send your orders to him with the assurance that he will satisfy you.

EXPOSITION OF THE PARABLES AND PROPHECIES OF CHRIST.

By the Editor.

NO. XXVI.

Introductory to the Eschatological Parables.

I. The Ten Virgins.

II. The 8 Talents.

III. The 10 Pounds.

IV. The Evil Head-servant.

V. The Judgment of the Nations (a prophecy),

Matt. xxv.

THESE will complete the Expositions of the Parables and Prophecies of Christ with which I have occupied the attention of the readers of this paper the past six months. I call them Eschatological because they find their interpretations in events connected with the last times of this Dispensation and the Second Coming of Christ, which grand event will prepare the way for and introduce the Millennium. These parables can be readily understood only by those who hold Scriptural views of Eschatology, or "the doctrine of the Last Things."

All orthodox Christian writers from the first century down have held and taught, and all living orthodox writers do now hold and teach, there is to be a Second Coming of Christ; but they are divided upon the manner and the time of it.

1. Whether it will be a bodily and visible or a spiritual coming; and—

2. Whether it will be pre or post millennial; i. e., whether it will take place before or subsequent to the conversion of the whole world, or the millennium ages.

Those holding the former view are known and called Pre-millennialists, those holding the latter, Post-millennialists, or Spiritualists.

But the above four parables unquestionably proceed upon the admitted fact that the Coming of Christ will be a visible and instantaneous event; "for," said Christ, "as the lightning cometh out of the east and shineth unto the west, so the parousia [presence] of the Son of Man will be," which means the bodily coming of Christ.

All the above parables expressly teach that his Coming will be sudden and at any moment, the day and the hour being unrevealed. As suddenly and unexpectedly as came the flood upon the world Christ taught his Coming will be:—

But as the days of Noe were so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came and took them all away, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field: the one shall be taken and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill: the one may be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the Goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."—Matt. xxv. 37-44.

This teaching is emphatically opposed to the idea that the gradual conversion of the world is the Coming of Christ, and the entire conversion of the world is his Parousia, his Presence, and the millennium. Has Christ been coming since John preached his first sermon?

The emphatic lesson of each of the above four parables also is that only those servants will receive the chief honors and highest rewards who are ready, watchful and in earnest, prayerful expectancy of it; otherwise they will be left to live on and suffer the terrible ills and tribulations that await all who remain on the earth until the close of this Dispensation, while the ready, faithful and watchful servants will be taken away from the evils to come,—"caught up," without seeing death to meet the coming Lord in the air:—

"Then we that are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."—1 Thess. iv. 17.

These four parables, as well as this last prophecy of Christ, proceed upon the assumed fact that the

Second Coming of Christ will take place before the conversion of the world or the millennium.

The reader must see that it is not until after his Coming that he judges and utterly destroys these wicked nations from the face of the earth, and by reference Rev. xix. 19-20 it will be seen that it is after his Coming that he crushes the antichristian confederates and wicked potentates of earth, and casts the Beast and False Prophet, who inspire and direct their rebellious assaults, into the lake of fire. It is then, and not till then, by his righteous judgments, he rides the earth of the wicked, as the chaff is separated and driven away from the wheat by the wind of the summer threshing floor:—

"Whose fan is in his hand; and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

If the world will be converted to Christ before the "end of the world" (of this age) not only the above four but several of the principal parables, as those of the Tares and of the Drag-net, will be made worse than meaningless,—be made to flatly contradict the Scriptures that have an admitted reference to the state of the world at his Coming.

Notice it was not until after the Bridegroom had returned that the foolish virgins became aware of their unpreparedness to meet him. It was not until before him his enemies, and destroyed them. It was until the harvest, the very end of the Dispensation, that the tares grew rankly among the wheat, and not until then were they gathered and burned not converted. It was not until the same time that the drag-net was hauled to the shore, and the bad fishes separated from the good.

To teach that the world will be converted before Christ's Coming is to teach that the chaff and the tares are not to be burned, but will be converted into wheat, and that the bad fishes in the net will not be thrown away, but converted into good ones.

These parables and the whole eschatological teachings of our Sacred Scriptures can be interpreted consistently with themselves only upon the admitted fact that Christ's Coming is to be personal and visible, and before the conversion of the world and the millennium age.

Another fact must be admitted if we would understand these parables that remain to be considered; viz., that the Second Coming of Christ will be in two stages, and that there will be a short period or rest between them.

He will come into the air, unseen by mortal eye, to gather unto himself from the earth all his faithful and true witnesses, his ready and watchful servants, his "choice ones," his "overcomers" (see Rev. iii. 4, 5), to be his Bride, preparatory to the marriage and her enthronement with him, to reign with him over the nations.

Only those eminent saints who are ready and watching to receive him will constitute his Bride, and will be the Lamb's Wife.

The second stage, or the concluding act of his Coming, will be when he appears in his own glory, and the glory of his holy angels with 10,000 of his saints, (see Jude) with the "called ones," the "chosen ones," and the "faithful ones," (see Rev. xix. 14,) to take vengeance on his enemies and put his people in full possession of the redeemed earth, who, as his wife, will share with him the joint regency of it, when his enemies will have been cut off out of it. (Ps. xxxvii.) If the world will be converted before Christ comes where will he find enemies to take vengeance upon?

Will the reader stop long enough to read Revelation chapters seventeen and nineteen, and decide if the world is to be converted before the coming of Christ?

TRIBULATIONS.

There are special periods of "tribulations," and "perilous times," recognized in the Sacred Scriptures, which must transpire before the Second Coming of Christ and the close of this Dispensation, and which the Coming of Christ will conclude.

The whole period of Satan's dominancy on this earth, from the day the curse was pronounced in Eden for man's sin, until Satan is bound and cast

into the abyss, and the tares, the wicked, and all anti-christian organizations and powers are crushed and removed from the earth, to afflict and persecute the children of God no more, is to all true and faithful Christians one long period of tribulation:—

"These things I have spoken unto you, that ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."—John xvi. 33.

"Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter the kingdom of God."—Acts xiv. 22.

"Ye and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."—2 Tim. iii. 12.

How very few professed Christians are faithful enough, are sufficiently separated from the world, as to suffer persecution! How few ministers can brook the least persecution for the truth's sake! Will such ever enter the kingdom or wear a crown?

To no faithful Christian is there a surcease of afflictions and persecutions from the enemies of Christ until his Second Coming to rid the earth of his enemies. So there cannot be a millennium, a thousand years of peace, rest and glory, before he comes.

The first of these especially Troublesome Times is, in the Old Testament, denominated the—
TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE.

This period commenced with the conquest and subjugation of the Jewish nation by the Romans, and will continue with more or less intensity until the commencement of the second.

Jeremiah foretold this period in these words:—
"Alas! for that day is great so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble."

Daniel thus:—
"And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there ever was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."—Dan. xii. 1.

Christ predicts it in these words, which seem to include the whole time from the destruction of Jerusalem until the return of Christ to destroy his enemies, and to redeem Israel out of all his trouble:—
"For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should be no flesh saved, but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."—Matt. xxiv. 21, 22.

When Christ wept for the last time over Jerusalem he pronounced the bitter and long continued doom and desolation of that city and nation:—
"Your house is left unto you desolate, and ye shall see my face no more until the day ye shall say, Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord."

That is to deliver them, for after his coming all Israel, the ten lost tribes, will be gathered back out of all nations, and placed in their own land, never to be plucked up.

Bear it in mind these three tribulation periods continue with increasing intensity until the very hour of his appearing; for it will be immediately after and concluding the time of Israel's trouble that Christ comes:—
"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet; and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."—Matt. xxiv. 29-31.

The angels told the disciples, on the Mount of Olives, the manner of his Coming:—
"Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."—Acts i. 11.

Christ ascended from the Mount of Olives bodily, visibly and on the clouds of heaven; and

in like manner, and not spiritually and invisibly, will he descend again.

From these passages we see his Coming, in its last act, will be a bodily and visible Coming.

But there is also a Tribulation Period which is for the Gentiles and for all those Christians who are not ready, faithful and watchful; and therefore not accounted worthy to be taken away with the "choice and faithful ones," who will constitute the Bride, but are left to experience the terrible trials and afflictions of this period. This is called—
"THE GREAT TRIBULATION,"

and is included in the Time of Jacob's Trouble, and ends with it.

There will be multitudes of Christians which no man can number, of all nations, who will be "left" to pass through a part or the whole of this "great tribulation period," and, while they never attain to the honor of being the Bride, or a part of the Bride, of Christ, never obtain "crowns" and "thrones," will nevertheless be blessed in being either the companions and followers and attendants of the Bride or the invited guests to the Marriage Supper, and even in being servants of the King, to wait and serve him in his temple:—
"And he saith unto me write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb."—Rev. xix. 9.

The Time and Length of this the Great Tribulation.

It commences with the first stage of Christ's Coming, and after all the eminent and choice Christians have been "taken," "caught up" to meet the Lord in the air, and will continue until Christ appears with his Bride.

Commentators are not agreed as to the length of this period. Some think it is indicated by the time that elapsed between the translation of Enoch and the flood (seven hundred and eighty-one years) which swept the wicked from the earth. Others, that the number of days (taken for years) that intervened between the time Noah entered the ark and the opening of the windows of heaven and breaking up of the fountains of the great deep, which was seven days = seven years.

But we have no satisfying data by which to determine the exact length of this period; and we need not to know how long it will continue:—
"And he saith unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons which the Father hath put in his own power."—Acts i. 6.

WHO WILL HELP THREE YOUNG MINISTERS THROUGH THIS SESSION?

If we can only be instrumental this year in raising the means to support three young ministers at Jackson and Carson we shall feel that we are not living in vain; and the brother or sister who gives ten or five or one dollar will not live wholly in vain. Help us a little.

J. R. GRAYES.
E. B. Fuller of Mississippi proposes to be one of ten to give \$13.50, the expense of the board and washing of one young minister for one month.

Paid, Pleasant Hill church, DeSoto county, \$13.50
Miss. Paid, 13.50
W. L. Trice, Hopkville, Ky. Paid, 13.50
Mrs. Lizzie Chaney, Texas. " 13.50

Will you not give the board and washing of a young minister just one month? Six more on Bro. Fuller's list are wanted this month.

The whole amount needed to support the three young ministers we have undertaken to support this session of ten months is \$375.00

Amount received to date, including weekly report below, \$250.19

WEEKLY REPORT.

Kansas.—J. H. Miller 1.00; J. J. Bradley 1.70. Tennessee.—Mrs. Belle Sasser 1.00; Jno. W. Warren 1.00. Wm. Haynes, Miss., 1.00; J. H. Slade, La., 2.00; Jno. P. Farrar, Ark., 1.00. Total, \$9.70.

Why not send us a copy of Dr. Adkins' tract, Bro. Lagher? We doubtless can help you sell a few hundred of them.

(In not fail to turn to page fifteen.)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

QUESTION 440. There are two questions that have for some time agitated the churches around here, on both of which I wish your opinion. I will state the circumstances. 1. There is a Primitive Baptist minister, an expelled member of Cedar-pond church. After being expelled he joined the Primitives, and was ordained. He then boasted that the baptism of the Primitives was the only baptism in the world that was received by all denominations. I contend that the Missionary Baptists cannot consistently receive the baptism of the Primitives, because nearly all of their preachers are expelled members from our churches; and most of the members of those churches are expelled members from ours: so to receive their baptism would be a reflection on the churches which had expelled them. Am I right or not? 2. Can we consistently receive the baptism of the Freewill, or Arminian, Baptists?

J. T. ALLEN.

ANSWER 440. The immersions administered by Antimissionary Baptists are irregular, and therefore nuscriptural and void. The Antimissionaries are not regarded as regular Baptists. Baptist statutes do not class them with Baptists. If they are sound in the faith and order of the gospel we evidently are not. They went out from us because they were not of us. If their baptisms are valid ours are not. The claims of Antimissionaries are egregiously false. We are a living witness to the fact, for we were baptized into a Baptist church years before there was a body calling itself an Antimissionary church in America or the world. We have, from that day, belonged to several Baptist churches in Vermont, Kentucky and Tennessee, but never to one that ever, directly or indirectly, had any connection with an Antimissionary body. We refer our querist to a little book called the Trilemma, in which he will find the documentary and demonstrative proof, and that from Antimissionary histories and minutes of their own Associations, that they separated from the Missionaries, and that all their baptisms and ordinances came directly from Missionary Baptists, and that all their first ministers were originally Missionary Baptists; and all of their most prominent ones, the very organizers of their societies, had been missionaries, and received salaries from our Boards.

The Freewill Baptists are radically, and fundamentally unsound in doctrine, being gross Arminians in their faith; and they are disorderly in practice, being open-communionists. You cannot make a Scriptural church out of such material; and we (all Baptists) know that no organization but a Scriptural church can administer baptism, ordination or the Lord's supper.

The immersions of Antimissionary and Freewill Baptists are manifestly null and void.

CALL THINGS BY THEIR RIGHT NAMES.

WE HAVE been long and sorely abused for calling the followers and disciples of Mr. A. Campbell Campbellites, because it is their right and only truly distinctive name. The following from the Boston Watchman is truly manly and refreshing, and we commend it to our velvet-tongued brethren who are willing to deny the Christian character of their own churches to win a smile from the Campbellites. The Religious Herald says of the Watchman's remarks: "The editor of the Watchman of Boston, Mass., is one of the most courteous and pleasant of brethren; and he never forgets that he is a Christian gentleman in his efforts to enlighten his brethren of different faiths from his own. See how gently he replies to the Atlantic Missionary, the Disciples' paper published in the village of Cuckoo, in Louisa county, Va.: 'The Atlantic Missionary, a representative of the denomination known as the Disciples, or Christians, feels a little aggrieved because we have spoken of so-called Christians, or Disciples. We are sorry, but there is a necessity for the use of such language. With every wish to spare the feelings of brethren there are some things we cannot truthfully do. When anybody attempts to use a common noun as a proper name a regard to the laws of language demands that the name be in some way qualified. The name Christian is the general designation of all who profess to be disciples of Christ. Certain Christians, believing that all other Christians have more or less departed

from original and essential Christianity, organize themselves, and adopt the general designation Christians as their distinctive appellation; but we cannot use the term in that sense without indicating that it is taken in that sense. That distinctive sense must be somehow expressed. There are different ways of doing it. Some say self-styled Christians; but that involves an offensive implication. So-called implies nothing really offensive; but if it jars on their feelings, though it is no more than the simple expression of the fact, we will endeavor to substitute some other phrase. We apprehend however that our friends of that denomination will find some objection to every nomenclature that does not designate them by the general, unqualified, unlimited, undelimited name Christians, a course which would lead to endless ambiguities."

A RICH TREAT FOR OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

WE HAVE engaged our stated contributor, A. J. Frost, D.D., of Sacramento, Cal., to review thoroughly the prevailing theory of Conditional Immortality; or,—

Annihilationism.

This is the modern phase of old Universalism and Restorationism, which is extensively prevailing in many parts of the North and West, and is destined, at an early day, to be the most popular delusion of this age.

He has furnished us with a synopsis of his treatment of the subject.

1. Reasons for the present examination of Annihilationism.
2. Annihilationism a system of Rationalism.
3. Annihilationism a system of Materialism.
4. Annihilationism a system of Brutism.
5. Annihilationism a feature of Atheism.
6. Concessions of Annihilationists.
7. False assumptions of Annihilationists.
8. Conditional Immortality.
9. Annihilation without suffering not the penalty of sin.
10. Suffering and annihilation not the penalty of sin.
11. Suffering without annihilation the penalty of sin. The argument from reason.
12. Suffering without annihilation the penalty of sin. The arguments from revelation.
13. The philosophy of penalty.
14. Examination of Pettigill.

The advocates of this popular delusion are bold and confident, and are vigorously pushing the issue upon public attention in every direction. Dr. Frost will furnish to every one the arguments to successfully meet them. Those who subscribe before the tenth of April will be sure to get every one of the fourteen chapters of this valuable Series, and will secure more numbers of the Series now passing through the paper. Don't fail to do it.

THE ORIGIN OF INFANT BAPTISM.

WE have for the last forty years asserted that the doctrine of baptismal regeneration that inheres in the creeds of all Catholic and Protestant organizations gave birth to, sustains and perpetuates the practice of infant baptism. The Rev. John Cunningham, D.D., a distinguished Presbyterian clergyman, recently delivered the Fourth Great Lecture at St. Andrew's church, Edinburgh, in which he thus frankly sustains our declaration:—"The belief that baptism was regeneration led to the other belief that none could be saved unless they were baptized. This led to infant baptism. For at least a hundred and fifty years infant baptism was unknown in the church, and even in the third and fourth centuries it was not common. But when it was preached that all who died unbaptized must perish everlastingly, mothers became clamorous that their infants should be baptized as soon as they were born. This originated baptism by laymen and even by women. It also led to baptism by sprinkling, for neither could a dying man be taken from his bed, nor a sickly child from its mother's lap, and plunged into cold water. The belief in regeneration, which has shaped the whole history of baptism, is still enshrined in the service books and creeds of most of the churches of Christendom."

Save and use this.

When a church reaches the conclusion that it cannot have a genuine revival under the regular pastorate, it is time for it to disband or to re-read the New Testament.—*Christian Advocate*. Most heartily do we agree with our Methodist brother. In these latter days many seem to imagine that no revival can be indignant, and that no great blessing can be looked for unless a professional "revivalist" is imported from abroad to do the work. We can scarcely conceive of a more mischievous heresy. There is doubtless a use for evangelists, but if they are to displace our pastors, or to make them appear as merely second rates, the sooner we get rid of the evangelists the better. The field is the world, and there is plenty of room for the evangelists without crowding our pastors aside to make a place for them.—*Index*.

In the second volume of his great history, covering the period from 100 to 311, Dr. Schaff, Presbyterian, says: "But baptism by mere aspersion or sprinkling was exceptional, and not applied only to infirm or sick persons, hence called clinical baptism. The validity of this baptism was even doubted by many in the third century." And Prof. Geo. P. Fisher, D.D., Congregationalist, in Beginnings of Christianity, says in reference to the principal rites of the early churches: "Baptism, it is now generally agreed among scholars, was commonly by immersion. Whether infants were baptized in the apostolic age, or exactly when the custom arose of administering this rite to them, is a controverted question, on which the New Testament writings furnish no direct information."

At the request of our many friends in Texas we have consented to review the series of articles that recently appeared in the Texas Baptist Herald from the pen of its editor, Dr. Link, in defense of intercommunion. It is agreed between us that the discussion shall appear in both papers. So soon as we have completed the Expositions of the Parables (4 more) this friendly discussion will commence, if life and strength are spared us. We cannot, in our weakness, do more than we are now doing, and should not do so much. We are additionally afflicted of late with a painful swelling of the left foot, which confines us to our room and chair.

A brother whose good opinion any editor might covet remarked, after reading Eld. D. B. Ray's comments on Bro. Garnett's article, showing his contradictions positions, "Well, that is a coarse and vulgar article. He charges Bro. Garnett with lying three or four times without pretending to show wherein he had lied, and without denying one of the contradictions charged, thus admitting the fact shown. His low abuse of the editor of THE BAPTIST is only contemptible. What he may hereafter say for or against church communion will be null. He has effectually and completely destroyed himself."

We notice in the Canada Presbyterian a statement that "a Baptist missionary in Japan has just lost his whole church-membership because they will not tolerate the practice of close communion." A thousand times better lose persons than principles.—*Index*. Granting the truth of the above we can say, had the true limitation of the supper been preached to those Japanese Baptists, i.e., that, like voting, the supper is confined to the orderly membership of each church, not a member would have been lost, not one.

The Reflector fires a broadside on church communion, and then retires from the field. We see more wisdom in his retiring than in his firing.—*Baptist Gleaser*. This broadside was fired at Bro. Harral and the author of Intercommunion we learn, for we have not read it. Bro. Harral is applied to Bro. R. for space in the Reflector to reply, but has been refused. He will reply through our columns soon. This is not magnanimous journalism certainly on the part of the Reflector.

The Congregationalists have well nigh given up infant baptism, says Dr. Quint, a prominent minister among them.

It's the duty of Baptist preachers to tell the people more about Baptists. Not only ought Baptist principles to be discussed, but the pulpit is the right place for the proper presentation of Baptist history.—*Central Baptist*. Right. And if they would get the people to read our Baptist papers, the people would know a vast deal more about Baptists and the preachers would have less trouble in explaining our peculiarities.

Use your gentlest voice at home. A kind word is a joy to the dear ones in the family realm. Train to sweet tones now, and it will keep in tone through life. Never threaten to whip, but whip when a child will not obey your gentle commands, and, after one or two trials, you will have no occasion to threaten.

The Church of England has three clergymen who are great-grandsons of Charles Wesley. They prefer to live in the church in which their great-grand-father lived and died.

EDIGHAMS.

Eld. J. C. Ward, Montague, Texas, sends his second vote, and intends to repeat until the polls close. Do so, Bro. W. God bless you.—J. W. Davis of Llano, Texas, casts his vote for the celebration.—"To Bro. Carrin's proposition I say, amen and amen; and here is a name for each amen," says A. F. Roan, Magazine, Ark. You may say amen as often as you please on the same terms, Bro. R.—Yes, Bro. Bennett, we do well remember those noble Baptists, the salt of Avoyelles parish, La., Broth. O'Quin, West, Ewelt, and Bro. Barbro of Point Coupee parish.—Bro. H. P. Morris doubles the list at Chicot, Texas. Let the good work go on all along the line. The list can be doubled by our friends if they will.—R. M. Long, Santa Anna, Cal.: We expect your article reached this office while we were in Texas last summer, and its length carried it into the wastebasket. The article just received, on giving, is afflicted with the same fatal disease the fault of a new beginner, as you say this is your second article. Our columns, as you see, are crowded, and with gems. Your article would take more than a page. If you will put all your ideas on one page of manuscript it will stand a chance to see the light. Write on only one side of your paper.—L. E. Stancill of Harrisonburg, Ark., votes three times for the fortieth birth-year celebration, and says a majority of his church is for church communion. He speaks highly of Eld. W. L. Hughes as an able preacher.—"I have read your paper for many years, and enroll as a life subscriber so long as it advocates the doctrines and principles now inscribed upon its banner. But when you die is it certain to be continued on its present course, with the same banner floating over it?" So writes A. J. Moore of Mississippi. If it is the will of God three of the ablest pens who are now aiding us will carry the grand Old Banner in the van of the Landmark Baptists, who are now being multiplied in every State and Territory in these United States. God never has been, and never will be, left without his witnesses. So fear not, Bro. Moore.—D. B. Ray of the Baptist Flag charges us with mistating the facts connected with and the acts of that council of which he was chief which recently acted upon the troubles connected with the Marionville church in Missouri. We had our information from an unimpeachable witness; and Bro. Ray will not publish his article. How is this, Bro. R?—This is next to the best, if not the best, we have seen connected with the celebration on foot. Bro. W. T. Flowers of Gordonville, Texas, sends us three dollars for two subscribers, the money for which he made by hauling their corn to market gratis, and declares he was glad of such an opportunity. He adds, in his letter, his hearty endorsement of Bro. Kincaid's article, that it is in order, and is expected of Eld. Ray, if a true man, to confess, and retire from the contest.—That was Bro. Owen's vote was it not, Bro. W. M. Raymond? He left it with you. Do you try to get one.—The list of six just ar-

rive from Bro. W. F. Easter, Plasco, Texas, doubles the list at his office. The good work is beginning to get under headway.—Bro. J. Craven of Independence, Oregon, sends eight new subscribers to aid in celebrating the fortieth birth-year of this paper, and four dollars for the Mexican mission conducted by Bro. Powell. We cannot help saying this is truly generous. It is so gratifying to us that the patrons of this paper and their children are doing so much for Mexico and for our young ministers at Jackson.—You are generous to a fault to make an equal divide, Bro. A. J. Kincaid.—We have dismissed to the waste-basket all the questions in hand from non-subscribers. It is a species of dead-beating not at all agreeable, if it is not rather unprincipled.—"Our State Baptist college is located at Arkadelphia. Bro. Box is making an excellent pastor, a fine preacher and faithful worker. Our congregations are building up." So says Bro. W. E. Atkinson of Hope, Ark.—Eld. S. T. Cobb, being sixty-nine years, can safely enlist as a life subscriber, and we, at sixty-six, are glad to receive him. You can ask the Lord to graciously lead them into the truth, but you cannot go counter to God's law.—R. Kendall, Mannington, West Va.: Jesus baptized by his disciples, as Solomon built the temple through Hiram of Tyre, as the church baptizes by the hands of her official servant.—A preacher writes us that he cannot do anything toward getting subscribers for this paper because "the members are generally poor, and are not a reading people. They do not know much about Baptist doctrine, and do not care to know. They remove in pulpit affiliation and feet washing and inter-communion; and your paper does not suit them."—O. P. Miles, Grand Lake: That's enough. Do your best.—Bro. B. M. Sifton of Orange, Cal., sends his renewal and first vote this day.—The question of Christ seems to imply that he will not find the faith he alluded to, Bro. Upton of Tennessee. See the Expositions of the Parables.—Yes, Bro. W. J. Upton, make the effort, with Eld. Malone's help, and see if you cannot double the number of subscribers in your church.—Who will represent the paper in the Maple-springs church? Will not our brother, Eld. McNeil?—No, Bro. E. W. Spring, you cannot go with the multitude to do wrong. By the silent power of your example you may, ere long, be the means of opening the eyes of all to see their error, which all Christians will do when they can be influenced to examine the subject without prejudice. The three Jews went into the furnace before they would so much as bend their heads toward the image.—Eld. W. H. German of Winnebago, Tex., says his daughter is anxious to second Bro. Carrin's motion to double the list of THE BAPTIST, and, having a poor chance to canvass for new subscribers, therefore she presents it for one year to a poor minister. This is indeed a good deed and a double help.—Who is the author of sin? asks Bro. Love of Mississippi. We answer, nobody.—Yes, Moses did marry an Egyptian princess, and she was not very white certainly, Jeff G. Zelger, South Carolina. We fully agree with you in the sentiments you express; and the prevailing looseness among Baptists in all the States is a matter to be mourned over. Is not this undoubtedly the Laodicean period of the churches? All we can do is to be faithful and overcome, and our reward is sure.—"Under the proposition to double your list this fortieth birth-year I send one new subscriber. You can't know how much you are loved by Landmark Baptists. You can't be circumscribed by State lines, or quarantined by State papers." So writes Bro. W. E. Atkinson of Prescott, Ark. God knows how grateful we are for such friends as Bro. A. This year will tell something of the real love of Landmark Baptists for their old editor and this paper. Purely dormant love is of little worth. Our acts are the exact measure of our love. Ideal love will at least try to do something to manifest itself.—Bro. A. J. Moore, Mississippi: We do not understand your question. Is it, why do we contribute for foreign and home missions through our church rather than to send it directly to the Convention Boards? Because she is the divinely ordained channel through which our funds should pass.

40th Birth-Year.

THE PROPOSED CELEBRATION OF THE 40TH BIRTH-YEAR OF THE BAPTIST.

IN view of the fact that this is the fortieth birth-year of THE BAPTIST, and completes the fortieth year of Bro. Graves' editorial labor upon it; and,

In consideration of his present great affliction, as a material tribute of our appreciation of his paper, and his long and valuable service, I propose, as one of its subscribers, that we all make an united effort, and

DOUBLE ITS PRESENT SUBSCRIPTION LIST, which can easily be done by each procuring one new annual subscriber. True, some few may fail to procure even one, but there are many others who can and will procure two, three and five, and these will make up for those who fail.

Come now, brethren, one and all, let us celebrate this fortieth birth year of the grand Old Banner with this substantial tribute. We have professed, and do profess, that we appreciate the paper and love its editor, now let us give this little proof that we do love him, for love, like faith, without works is dead, being alone! What a help and encouragement will this be to our old editor, and I believe it will be a sweet offering to our Lord and Savior.

I am so unfortunate as to be living where I cannot get a subscriber without paying for it myself, and as a proof of my sincerity and earnestness, I lead off by sending you the name of a poor widow to whom my wife and myself unite in presenting the paper for 1886. JOHN B. CARRIN. Stephenville, Fla.

THE MOTION RECONSIDERED.

The foregoing proposition of good Bro. Carrin does credit to his heart, and will doubtless meet with a hearty response from all the readers of THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST. Dr. Graves has been the editor of this paper forty years next October; and no one can deny that he has fought for truth with a vigor and ability unmatched by any man in this union. Although trembling under the weight of disease and years he is still at his post, and all agree that he is throwing such floods of light upon the gospel that it flashes forth with new splendor. Rubbish has accumulated upon the parables until, to the multitude, they were almost meaningless, but the testimony of the most eminent thinkers is that he is unfolding their real meaning in such a way as to show the beauty and symmetry of the gospel, and to make Christ dearer to every Christian heart. What other man of us would, in his situation, try to keep three young ministers at school to educate and fit them for preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ when no lays down his pen for the last time, and his eloquent tongue shall be still in death? The Baptists in this country owe more to him for their distinctiveness and their peculiarity as a gospel people, holding to "one Lord, one faith and one baptism" than to any other living man; and now, when his pilgrim steps are measuring down to western slopes of life to the great sea that has swallowed up all of Adam's race except two, shall we not cheer him in his passage to the grave with this tribute of affection and appreciation, by giving him at least one new subscriber for each old one, and thus assist him in his labors of love, and swell with gladness the heart that is soon so bare no more? When Bro. Graves dies eloquent words will be spoken to his memory and praise all over North America, but let us speak some of those kind words and do some those kind acts now, that he may enjoy them while living. A little effort on the part of his readers will easily meet Bro. Carrin's proposition, and double his subscribers, and cost no one anything but a few words, and Bro. Graves will appreciate it with an overflowing heart. Let it be done, brethren. Eudora, Miss.

JOSE HARRAL.

The proposition of Bro. Carrin of Florida, seconded by Bro. Harral, we submit to our brethren and friends, to do with as seems good to them. Our work for now forty years is before you, and you know what is in your hearts. This your acts will manifest. Should you see fit to carry this motion into successful execution it would be a tribute of confidence and affection that would gladden the remainder of life, sweeten the dying hour, and be treasured by a grateful family, as the most eloquent epitaph that could be expressed or fitting to be inscribed upon our marble.

The name of every worker shall be reported.

J. B. GRAVES.

sgo. All delegates and visitors from Tennessee should write immediately, enclosing stamp, to 4 W. Chambliss, Chattanooga, Tenn., for conference.

