

SOUTH WESTERN BAPTIST.

S. HENDERSON, EDITOR.]

Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, Judge ye.

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The S. W. Baptist.
TUSKEGEE, ALA.
Thursday, May 12, 1864.

Rags! Rags!!

We will pay the highest market price for rags at this office. It is now our only chance to get paper. Will our patrons and friends who desire the continuance of our paper, save their rags, and send them in at their earliest convenience?

Notice the Red (X) Mark.

Those whose terms of subscription are about to expire, will find on the margin of the paper a red cross mark. We adopt this plan to save the expense of writing and forwarding accounts. We will give some two or three weeks notice in this way, so that subscriptions can be renewed. Look out for the Red Cross Mark.

Editorial Correspondence.

DALTON, May 2, 1864.

Religious interest in the Army—Baptismal scenes—Spirit of the army—Letter from the President's Private Secretary.

On last Tuesday, I arrived here, and took up quarters with Gen'l Lowery, a mile and a half from Dalton. I was somewhat prepared, from what brethren had told me, to witness a wonderful display of the work of the Spirit among the soldiers; but I must say in all truth, "the half had not been told." Indeed, it comes not in the power of human language to describe what is transpiring in every Brigade. I have visited since my arrival. Hundreds, I may say thousands, come forward for prayer every night at all the preaching places. A fair proportion of these profess conversion—some at the anxious seat, others in groves whither they retire to pour out their souls before God. On Wednesday evening at 2 o'clock, an immense concourse, say two thousand, assembled at the water's side to witness the baptism of 33 converts. These candidates were baptized by Dr. Teasdale, Gen'l Lowery, and bro. Robert. I had the pleasure of preaching to this immense throng of bronzed and stalwart men, and never did I address a more serious, orderly and respectful audience.

This great work seems to be more general in Lowery's Brigade than any I have yet visited. It is doubtless known to the reader that Gen'l Lowery is a Baptist minister; and it is only justice to say that great as is the confidence of his Brigade in him as an able, gallant, and courageous leader, their confidence is not less in his character as a pure, upright, and devoted Christian. Within the last eight days, he has baptized some 37 of his men on a profession of their faith in Christ.

On last Thursday night, I visited and preached to Gen'l Tucker's Brigade, Hindman's Division, in company with Dr. Teasdale. At the close of the sermon, some eighty or a hundred persons came forward for prayer, and ere the services closed eight or ten of these were rejoicing in hope. The entire congregation, composed alike of officers and men, manifested the deepest interest to the cause. Brigadier General Tucker is a worthy and consistent member of the M. E. Church, and takes a deep interest in the work progressing in his command. Numbers of them have already attached themselves to various churches.

The next day (Friday) I visited Gen'l Pickett's Brigade, and shared the hospitality of my old friend Col. Shelley, of the 30th Ala. This is perhaps the largest Brigade in the Army of Tennessee. On last Tuesday morning, they were ordered to the front, some four and a half miles north of Dalton, where, owing to the unevenness of the ground on which they are encamped, two preaching places have been prepared for the Brigade. I preached at one of these to three Regiments. The revival spirit is just developing itself in this command. About 30 came forward for prayer. I met many old friends in this Brigade, with whom I spent several pleasant hours.

Saturday evening, in company with Gen'l Lowery, I visited Gen'l Granberry's Brigade of Texas, to whom Gen'l L. preached an able and effective sermon. Nearly one hundred trembling penitents came forward to the altar of prayer—five of whom professed to have found peace in believing before the services closed. Never were my sympathies so deeply awakened, as when I stood among these noble men, hundreds of miles from home, periling their lives for the common cause, and asking that most momentous of all questions, "Men and brethren what shall we do?"

The rain on Sabbath morning threatened for a while to interrupt the morning service; but about 9 o'clock the clouds broke away, and at the usual preaching hour, a large assemblage were at the stand of Lowery's Brigade, to whom I tried to preach "all the words of this life." At the conclusion of the service, twenty came forward and were received as candidates for baptism. At 3 o'clock an appointment was made at the water to baptize the candidates who had been received for the last few days from six Brigades. It is estimated that not less than

five thousand persons were present from as many as seven Brigades. Dr. Teasdale preached to this vast congregation of interested hearers on the general judgment. At the close of the service, bro. T. baptized 22, Gen'l Lowery baptized 22, bro. McQuirk 9, bro. Moore 8, and bro. Nall 3,—making in all 64. Including the Sunday previous, there have been baptized at this place over one hundred. Several Methodist ministers were present, and administered the holy rite, according to apostolic usage, to nineteen candidates. Thus there were baptized at this time and place eighty three persons.—How many have been baptized to-day in other portions of the army, I have not learned.

O, if things could remain quiet in front for a little while, what a harvest of souls might be gathered in! But "the Lord reigns!" One thing is certain—let the shock come when it may, this army is prepared for it. I have not met a man, officer or private, since I have been here, who entertains a single doubt as to the result. Gen'l Johnston has the unlimited confidence of all. The troops are healthy, buoyant and confident; unless the enemy comes in much larger numbers and a higher courage than have yet marked his advances, his defeat is inevitable. Heavy and rapid cannonading in front early this morning near Tunnel Hill, indicated that the day of conflict was at hand. The conflict may be delayed for a few days, but it seems inevitable soon. May God favor the right!

The following letter from the private Secretary of the President of the Confederate States, in answer to a memorial addressed to him by a committee of the "Chaplains' Association" to the army of Tennessee will explain itself, and be read with interest. It is just such a letter as the Chief Magistrate of a Christian people ought to have written:

[COPY] CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, RICHMOND, VA., April 19, 1864.

Rev. Chas. H. Olin, Rev. J. B. Chapman and Rev. H. M. Mowbray, Committee.

DALTON, GA.: Gentlemen,—The President has received your letter of March 9, and directs me to express to you his deep sense of the importance of regular and earnest religious instruction and consolation to our brave soldiers. He does not presume to doubt the necessity of Chaplains in full number, and knows of no bar to the promotion of such from the ranks. On the other hand, he considers the spirit which prompts ministers to volunteer as privates in the ranks and serve their country in so glorious and trying a position as, an earnest of their fitness for the duties of chaplain, where knowledge of the wants, as well as zeal for the good of the soldier is required. The presence of a large number of these devoted men in the ranks of the army has contributed greatly to elevate and purify the religious tone and sentiment of our gallant soldiers, and while it may not be possible to provide for all of these as chaplains, thus rendering necessary a discrimination as to their claims, no intention exists to preclude them from receiving the sanction and countenance of law, in their honorable efforts, by promotion.

Thanking you for your kind wishes and prayers in his behalf, the President requests me to convey to you the assurances of his esteem, and of his appreciation of the great work in which you are engaged. I am, gentlemen, Very respectfully, your obt. servt.,

WM. PIERCE JOHNSON, Col. and A. D. C.

If the conflict occurs this week, I shall remain until it is over, to render such assistance to our wounded as I can. I must not forget to mention that I met the Hon. J. L. M. Curry here, filling efficiently a position of importance to the country and the army. He has made several addresses to the Christian Association in different Brigades with most happy results. He wields a fine moral and religious influence over a large portion of the army.

S. H.

War News.

An official dispatch from Gen. Lee to the Secretary of War states that the enemy crossed the Rapidan on the 5th inst. at Eley's and Germans fords, when a general engagement ensued. The result was the capture of many prisoners and four pieces of Artillery. Our loss was heavy in officers and men. Among the killed on our side was Gen. J. M. Jones; and Brig. Gen. Stafford was supposed to be mortally wounded.

Gen. Lee's Second dispatch says that the enemy renewed the fight early next morning. The enemy were repulsed with heavy loss, leaving their dead and wounded on the field. Among their killed was Gen'l Wadsworth. Our killed is not large, but we suffered heavily in wounded. Gen. Jenkins was killed; Gens. Longstreet and Pickett were severely wounded, Longstreet and Jenkins were shot through mistake by Mahone's Brigade. Battle's Brigade suffered severely. It is hoped Gen. Stafford will recover. Gens. Kirby Smith, Price, and Dick Taylor, are achieving great victories over the Yankees in the West.

From present indications a battle is imminent before Dalton.

For the South Western Baptist.
Orphan Asylum.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., April 30, 1864.

DEAR BRO. HENDERSON: I send you the enclosed correspondence for publication. It cannot fail to awaken attention to an enlarged view of the subject to which it refers. Mr. Sutherland, the liberal donor, is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is influenced alone by the merits of the cause. He feels that we owe a debt of gratitude to those who have

fallen in defense of our country, which cannot be met at a less expense than the support and education of their children; and that we owe this much at least to those who now stand between us and danger, the guarantee that their children shall be provided for in the event they too fall in this dreadful conflict. We have many—very many, who are vastly more wealthy than Mr. Sutherland, who will, I trust, imitate his noble example by forwarding to the Board, or some one of its officers a sum bearing reasonable proportion to their ability and the importance of the enterprise.

Yours truly,
R. HOLMAN, Genl. Supt.

Correspondence.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., April 27th 1864.
Gov. THOS. H. WATTS:
President Orphan Asylum for the State of Alabama.

Dear Sir—The first mention of the organization of an Orphan Asylum for the State of Alabama, especially for the children of our deceased soldiers, filled me with sincere delight. No modern enterprise has been undertaken for the elevation and improvement of society, which so cordially meets my approbation, and so deeply impresses me with the weight of its importance; and there is none which presents such strong claims for a generous support.

Though physically unable to share the toil, exposure and peril of the tented field, I readily acknowledge the claim of those patriotic men, who have left home, wife children, all for country and liberty, to a large share of my property, which has been preserved to me at the expense of their lives, for the support and education of their children, thus reduced to orphanage. In the absence of such means of support, culture and government, a majority of these children will become vagabonds in society, a dangerous element in the government, a reproach to their noble sires, and a curse to posterity. In view of these and other considerations, I do most freely and cheerfully subscribe the sum of fifteen thousand dollars for the establishment of such a noble, philanthropic and christian institution, which, under judicious management, and the Divine favor, will dispense unmeasured blessings to mankind.—May God speed you in your noble work.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servt.,
J. M. SUTHERLIN.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ALABAMA, Montgomery, April 27, 1864.
Mr. J. M. SUTHERLIN,
Montgomery, Ala.

Dear Sir—I have your letter of this date, proposing to subscribe fifteen thousand dollars to the Orphan Asylum for the State of Alabama. In behalf of the children of our soldiers, who have devoted their life-blood to the cause of Freedom and independence, I thank you for this generous donation. In my opinion, no object more worthy of universal consideration, can enlist the sympathies and support of the Statesman, the philanthropist and the christian. An institution which educates the minds and hearts of orphans who, by the glorious death of their fathers in defense of liberty, have become the children of the State, deserves the approbation of all good men, and will receive the favor of Heaven. In building such an institution, the people of Alabama, not only erect a noble monument to the memory of departed heroes, but they build for themselves a temple to perpetuate their own deeds for the admiration of posterity. It will do equal honor to the living and the dead.

With the highest respect,
I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
T. H. WATTS.

For the South Western Baptist.

At a meeting of the members of Co. "K," 12th Ala. Regt., Sergt. J. R. Oneal, being called to the chair, Sergt. G. W. McKinnon appointed secretary, a committee consisting of Lieut. E. H. Rowell, Lieut. B. F. Oneal and D. S. Patterson, having been previously appointed to draft resolutions tendering thanks to Capt. Price for shoes received by the com-

pany, reported the following which were read and upon motion unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Our first and highly respected, Capt. W. H. C. Price, of Auburn, Ala., has, at his own expense, magnanimously contributed to us, the surviving members of Co. "K," 12th Ala. Regt., 41 pairs of shoes, thus equipping each member for the arduous campaign of the spring and summer.

Be it therefore resolved, 1st, That we, the recipients of so bountiful a donation, tender Capt. Price our sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude for this fresh manifestation of sympathy in our behalf.

2nd, That our appreciation of the same is enhanced by the fact that it comes from one with whom we were in the beginning of our military life intimately associated, and who, for nine long months, amid the scorching heat of summer and the piercing blasts of winter—while disease thinned our ranks and death bereaved our hearts, honored us with his wise counsel and paternal care.

3d, That we, considering this a fresh token of unabated zeal in the cause for which we are now contending, do hereby pledge ourselves to renewed exertions, and earnestly hope that it may never be the painful lot of our old comrades to hear that the "Tom Watts Rebels" were the first to run from the field of strife or quail before the Yankee host.

4th, Also, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Capt. Price and the Editor of the Montgomery Advertiser and South Western Baptist for publication.

For the South Western Baptist.

DALTON, GEO., April 14th, 1864.

MESSENGERS EDITORS: In my last communication I attempted to suggest how congress could restore public confidence and control the future issue of currency. I now propose a plan whereby we can, to a great extent control the prices of manufactures and traders, and as previously indicated, I propose to do this by taxation. It is true that on these classes or their productions and profits a heavy tax is now laid by the existing laws, but so laid as to come out of the pocket of the unfortunate consumer; in fact it adds to the profit of the seller and enables him to do a larger business on a small capital. To illustrate:—"A" is a merchant, and has \$1000 invested in goods, which in the absence of a tax he would be content to sell at 100 per cent profit, his receipts would thus be \$2000.

But he is taxed, say fifty per. cent on his capital, or the (the same thing) 25 per. cent on his sales, to pay which will require \$500. To meet this tax he estimates his goods as costing \$1500, and on that sum calculates his per. cent, and realizes \$3000 from the sale of his \$1000 worth of goods.—Twenty five per. cent on his sales now amounts to \$750, leaving him \$1250 neat profit on his first investment.—In this case he has made the consumer pay all the tax, and \$250 neat profit, by calculating as cost an item of expense that he had paid, and does not pay until he gets the consumer's money to pay with. Such taxation as this will never reduce prices, on the contrary it will continue to enhance them. Now for the remedy!

In the first place to put a complete stop to speculation on a petty scale, and to the practice of hoarding for higher prices, let us pass a law against "regarding," or buying to sell again in the same market or town.

Secondly repeal all the existing laws taxing manufactures and the sale of merchandise and in lieu thereof, pass a law requiring all manufacturers or makers of cotton goods, woolen, yarns, leather, shoes, harness, &c., to pay in as tax to the government, all over and above a certain per. cent they may realize on the sale or transfer of any article. Let the per. cent allowed free of taxation be liberal enough to encourage the owner, but at the same time bring the article in reach of the consumer. For instance say it requires \$2½ to make a five pound bunch of thread. If the manufacturer will sell at \$5.00 he pays no tax, but if he charges \$20.00 let him pay his \$15.00 tax. So of merchandise of all kinds let the per. cent be reasonable, say fifty or 75 per. cent, and

thus high free of taxation, but take all over and above that per. cent.

Adopt this law and prices will soon fall; assessments and collections under it should be made quarterly for each article acting on the other will continue to reduce the prices so that no full rate can be adopted. A boot-maker may now owing to the prices of leather, not be able to make a boot for less than \$50. But in the next month when the tanner has been forced to put down the price of leather he can furnish a similar boot for \$25 00. These men will not quit their trades and go at farming; the restriction and impressments suggested in a former article will make them prefer their own trades. The only difficulty would be in arriving at the cost of production. In every district three fair men can be found who, with the oath of the tax payer, and the suggestions of experienced men retired from trade, can approximate it near enough for all practical purposes.

W. S. M.

For the South Western Baptist.

CAMP, 5th ALA. REGT., NEAR ORANGE, C. H., VA., April 22nd, 1864.

DEAR BRO. HENDERSON: Feeling that a few items concerning what is now transpiring in our midst, would not fail to interest the good people at home, I hope you will publish the following:

Everything continues quiet along the lines. Grant with his hosts of miscreants are still reposing in the camps. Gen. Lee has an eye to business doubtless, and is posting his army in fighting trim with the greatest possible dispatch. It has been my privilege to belong to this army from the beginning of the war, and never yet have I seen this army more hopeful of success, and in better spirits than now. That spirit of despondency which prevailed so extensively last fall has given place to one of confidence and determination.—The time is thought not far distant when this army will again be thrown in fearful carnage. No fears are entertained as to the result. Soon the tocsin of war will again reverberate along the silvery banks of the Rapidan, and through the open forest, whose tiny buds are now bursting at the scent of the approaching perfume of spring. Then we will buckle on our armor and with our hearts fired with that patriotism which burns only in the bosom of freemen we will march on with steady step to the sunlight summit of glory and independence.

But perhaps it would be a source of greater pleasure to you, and the Christian public, to know something of the spiritual condition of the army. I am happy to state that there are some most gracious revivals progressing in some portions of this army.

In my own Regiment the religious influence is very great, and it seems to grow more and more intense every day. Bro. Rutledge, chaplain 3rd Ala. (a most loving and zealous Methodist minister) and I have been carrying on a series of meetings in our Regiments (both Regiments worshipping together) for sometime, and I am happy to be able to say, not without effect.

Several have been happily converted, and are now rejoicing in full hope of the glory which shall be revealed hereafter. Quite a number of God's wayward children have been brought back to the fold. O may the work of grace continue to prosper in our midst until every one of these dear men be happily converted unto God.

W. G. CURRY, Chap. 5th Ala., Regiment.

Divine Sympathy.

One of the most touching attributes of the Bible is its sympathy with human experience, in the effort to escape from sin to holiness. The struggles of the soul—its wanderings, shipwrecks and other disasters—are described with such minuteness of detail, and such intense commiseration, that the hapless voyager upon the ocean of time feels that a divine interest is felt in his varying fortunes, and a divine benevolence engaged for his ultimate success.

The earliest sparks of hope, which scintillated in the bosom of Aeneas, after the fall of Troy, were kindled

by the sight of the pictures, which adorned the temple of Juno, at Carthage. As he remained there, awaiting the arrival of Dido, he saw pictured upon the walls of the sacred fame, the chief calamities which had befallen his unhappy country. Troy's history was written upon its walls; and he very naturally concluded that she, who had evinced such interest in the melancholly details, would not refuse succor and help to a friendless wanderer, who had escaped the general ruin.

Thus it is with the Bible—the palace of the Great King. Its walls are hung with the picture of the sinner's ruin and wanderings and shipwrecks. It describes his spiritual condition; and thus encourages him to hope that, in the fulfillment of its blessed promises, he will find pardon, protection and peace. Poor wanderer from God, open the inspired volume.—Reciprocate its generous sympathy. Heed its counsels. Appropriate its promises, and anchor your tempest tossed soul in its haven of blissful calm and perpetual blessedness.—Confederate Baptist.

True Politeness.

Robert Hall once preached a sermon, the design of which was to show the propriety of a kind and courteous demeanor. The subject was selected from Gen. 22:7. He observed that Abraham's humility and condescension were very conspicuous: he yielded to Lot, when he might have commanded. Lot, on the contrary, was selfish. Abraham was a mighty prince: yet when he purchased the land for the children of Heth, (though he had learned from prophecy that they were to be excluded by God for their idolatry,) the Father of the faithful bowed himself down to the children of Heth, which was the strongest expression of humility and condescension. Christianity teaches that civility and decorum in the intercourse of life, of which mere worldly politeness is the shadow.—Study, my brethren, a lovely behaviour, and not only whatever is lovely but whatever gives dignity and grace to piety.

On another occasion, Mr. Hall said: "There is such a thing as being venerable and majestic, and yet being lovely. Even the reproofs of Jesus Christ to His enemies were without harshness, and His dignity without ostentation and pride. The loveliness of his demeanor threw over his character a heavenly ray of softness and beauty. Kind and courteous behaviour appeals to the heart of every one; and to attain it, let us set before ourselves a character that is universally beloved; and degenerate as times are, we shall not be without examples!"

OUR DEPARTURE FROM THE WORLD.

Our departure from this world, however active our lives or influential our positions, will not awaken much attention among the men we leave behind. "We perish forever without any regarding it." My proud friend, whatever thou mayest think about the wondrous esteem in which thou art held by thy compere; and of the importance of thy life to society, though thou art a merchant whose vast transactions influence the markets of the world, or a statesman whose speeches control the doings and destinies of cabinets, or what is greater still, a writer moving the minds of the millions, but few of the men that know thee will pause in their business to think of thy death, and fewer still will drop a tear on thy grave; The sorrow of those that love thee most will be but as a cloud upon the sky, however dark for the moment, soon dispersed. In a few short days after the earth has closed on thy remains, thy very children shall gambol on the hearth, with their little hearts as glad as ever; and the convivial laugh and jest of domestic joy will be heard as usual in thy dwelling. The world can do without thee, my friend; everything will progress as usual when thou art in thy grave. Thy death will be but a blade withered in the fields; the landscape can spare thee—a drop exhaled from the ocean; the mountain billows will not miss thee.

The South Western Baptist.

E. B. TRIGUE, Corresponding Editor.

Annaloges of the Resurrection.

The strata of the earth's crust are formed from the debris of older strata. More recent formations are built out of the ruins of those on which they rest. Animals perish to reappear in higher forms. "Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.—Thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created, and thou renewest the face of the earth." Ps. 104:31. The tomb of the caterpillar is the cradle of the locust. The vital principle of the perished plant survives in its offspring, developing constantly into higher forms of organization. Vegetation revives again on the return of spring. Dead, decayed, perished, often it is reproduced from the little seed. The seed perishes and yields up its life to animate the plant—lives again in its successor. "There is hope of a tree, if it be cut down that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof was old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground; yet through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant." "That which thou sowest is not quickened except it die, and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bear grain; it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain, but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed its own body." So is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. "Why should I be thought incredible with you that God should raise the dead?"

A question, rather curious than edifying perhaps, has been raised about the identity of our present bodies and those bodies that shall be given us in the resurrection. And sceptics have hung a cavil thereon. What the grain is to the future plant, such is the fleshy body to the spiritual. The teaching seems to be, that the seed, intelligent, immortal principle is the same; the identity of the corruptible and incorruptible habitation, is not asserted, but rather the contrary.

But higher forms of excellence and beauty are constantly succeeding their predecessors in nature. The old, decayed and unsightly gives place to the new, improving and beautiful.—The vigor and charm of youth replace the indolence of age. Things tend toward perfection and realize higher forms. The earth "deserted" by fire, may come forth from the ordeal to bloom in more than the freshness and beauty of Eden. Certainly, not analogies alone at positive declarations of scripture, assure us a refulgence of the human form and faculties only to be expressed by likeness to the Son of man. As the human form on earth is sometimes not only the fit habitation of heavenly talents and heavenly virtues, but the convenient medium through which they receive expressions—sparkle in the eye glow on the cheek, quiver on the lip—so the spiritual veil that invests the glorified body, that enshines the spirits of the just made perfect, "in forms of beauty unknown, may be the medium through which shall appear unspeakable beauty and goodness. Grand, glorious, gladness consummation!"

Prayer and Success.

It has been remarked that success, has several times followed days of fasting, humiliation and prayer, on the part of our people, since the war began. That there was any positive connection between these facts, no one can absolutely assert; yet as we must be strongly convinced that there was on these occasions some real prayer, indited by the Holy Spirit, who does not feel inclined to believe. So far, the successes since the last day set apart for these purposes are even more remarkable than in any former case. Let our hearts be encouraged to cry mightily unto God for greater deliverances, that He would come forth in the midst of the present gigantic preparations and glorify himself in bidding the heaving ocean be instantly still.

The triangle, formed by the projection of Troup county, Ga., across the Chattahoochee, is the garden spot of Troup, if not of Georgia. There are in this triangle three Baptist Churches, Wehakee, Antioch and Houston. The two former are strong; the latter has a good congregation. We have long thought, if Providence should present the way, these three churches and the surrounding population, would afford a fine field for the enterprise of some good man of God.—Wehakee enjoys at present a very small part, we believe, of the time of that intelligent and growing brother, Eliza Henderson, Antioch of the venerable James Rainwater, Houston of W. A. Callaway.

The population of this region is excellent, consisting of families in medium circumstances, attentive to education, and under good moral and religious influences. We have always enjoyed a visit to any of these people. Having just returned from Antioch, visited in the interest of S. Schools, we feel disposed to, devote a paragraph in expression of our pleasure. The spirit of assembling themselves together still abides with this people in these times of decline, and they manifested a full purpose to resume the S. School, fallen away in the excitement connected with the war. They have been great sufferers from the casualties of battle, having lost not less than six of their young brethren in the single battle of Chickasaw. They were rejoicing, on last Sabbath in the good news of the escape from serious casualties in the late fight at Plymouth, of the entire company (Ben. Hill Guards) to which their young men belong.

A Long, or Short Life.

After all, the mere period of our stay in this world, whether long or short, is not the great fact of our being. It is the world beyond that gives this mortal life all its support. Life is nothing more than an empty name, apart from immortality. But, with eternity in view, our allotted time of threescore years and ten, the

thousand years of the antediluvian patriarchs, and the brief span of childhood's hour, are alike objects of the most solemn and impressive grandeur. The sorrow-stricken patriarch of Uz, in view of the vanity of this life, and the glory of that which is to come, might well say, Who would live always?

There are advantages, doubtless, in a long life. What opportunities of usefulness, what seasons for improvement, what treasured stores of wisdom what conquests of heroic virtue would be opened to one, even in such a world as this, by the long life of a Methuselah! And yet how many sins, sorrows and corroding cares to counterbalance it all!

If at this distance, we were called upon to select a mortal career from the lives of all the people before the flood, can we say there would be more to win us in the weary pilgrimage of Lamech or Methuselah, than in the half-finished existence of a translated Enoch, or the early doom of a martyred Abel? Why, then, should we think of loss and failure in the departure of our youthful and gifted dead—the young man in his noontide strength, the maiden in her womanly glory, the infant in its budding sweetness?

"O, hadst thou still on earth remained, Visions of beauty, nigh as brief, Perhaps thy brightness had been stained, With lawless passions or with grief." Now, not a solitary breath can rise, To dim thy glory in the skies.

The True Life.

"All is shadowy," says one of the most evangelical and earnest preachers of the gospel in our day; "all is shadowy, except living, working and waiting for Christ." He did not utter this in the spirit of misanthropy or as one sick of the present world, or as one tired of the duties of the present life. He spoke as one who has had grace given him to discern what is shadow, and what is substance—as one who knew the solid satisfaction which is to be gained in one high pursuit, and the vexation of spirit which he reaps who "minds earthly things," and covets earthly rewards. There are thousands who know that he was right, because, either as servants of God, they have serene satisfaction in his service, or, as eager aspirants after this world's favor, they bitterly feel how deceitful this favor is.

Not so the better service of Jesus Christ. It gives pure, constant, and complete satisfaction. Nothing in the world can rob us of this satisfaction for it is not dependent upon any changes in our fellow men, or in our circumstance. It is solid happiness—it is pure happiness. It does not come with the noisy applause of the populace, or depart when that applause dies away. To live for Christ—to work for Christ—to wait for Christ—this is to live the highest and truest life, and to gain a corresponding satisfaction. Let the votaries of the world look for their rewards in the world, and let them sicken at heart with their repeated disappointments; but let the follower of Christ know that the best enjoyments, the secret of all permanent satisfaction, is to be found in the life on which he has entered.

MARTIN LUTHER'S CONTENTMENT.

In the last will and testament of this eminent reformer occurs the following remarkable passage: "Lord God, I thank thee that thou hast been pleased to make me a poor and indigent man on earth. I have neither house, nor land, nor money to leave behind me. Thou hast given me wife and children, whom I now restore to thee. Lord, nourish, teach, and preserve them as thou hast me."

Secular Intelligence.

From the Atlanta Confederacy.
Cavalry Fight at Ringgold Gap.
TENNESSEE, April 29, 2 o'clock, P. M.—The enemy, two thousand strong, infantry, cavalry and artillery, drove in our pickets on the Ringgold Road at daylight this morning. They were humbly repulsed by Col. Anderson's Fourth Tennessee Cavalry and the Ninth Battalion, under M. P. Aiken, who charged them gallantly, three times, driving them back to Ringgold Gap. Our loss was two killed and one wounded. The enemy's loss is forty killed and wounded. The enemy captured and killed private Jackson, of the Ninth Battalion, after carrying him over half a mile.

How the Yankees get Soldiers, and how they lose them.
HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, YORKTOWN, Va., April 15, 1864.

General—An extended spirit of desertion prevailing among the recruits recently received from the North in some of the regiments of my command, had led me to make some enquiries resulting in apparently well authenticated information, which I beg respectfully to communicate to you in this unofficial manner, deeming it required by humanity, no less than by our common desire to benefit the service. There seems to be little doubt that many, if not I think I am justified in saying, the most of these unfortunate men were either deceived, or kidnapped, or both in the most scandalous and infamous manner in New York City, where they were drugged and carried off to New Hampshire and Connecticut, in muffled and in uniformed b. for their consciousness was fully restored.

Even their bounty was obtained by parties who were instrumental in these nefarious transactions, and the poor wretches felt themselves on returning to their senses, mustered soldiers, without any pecuniary benefit. Nearly all of these foreigners, mostly sailors, both ignorant of and indifferent to the objects of the war in which they thus suddenly felt themselves involved. Two men were shot here this morning for desertion, and over thirty more are now awaiting trial or execution. These examples are essential, as we all understand; but it occurred to me, General, that you would pardon me for thus calling your attention to the greater crime committed in New York, of kidnapping these men into positions where to their ignorance, desertion must seem like a vindication of their own rights and liberty. Believe me to be General, with the highest esteem, your obedient servant.

J. J. WISTAR.

To Maj. General John A. Dix, New York City.
BLOWN UP.—Within the past few days a Yankee schooner on York river was blown up by a torpedo. An eye witness, who concealed himself when it appeared in sight, says the vessel was completely destroyed, and a number of men were thrown into the air. There were several others some distance off, which weighed anchor and hastened down the river as fast as their sails could carry them. They were fishing for oysters.—*Richmond Whig.*

BRISTOL BUTLER AND THE CLERGY.—We are grieved to learn, says the Richmond Examiner that the clergy of Norfolk and Portsmouth after former displays of fortitude have at last succumbed to Butler and taken the oath which he has prescribed. Rev. Mr. Armstrong, who was recently imprisoned at Hatteras, has been induced to take the oath. We also hear that Rev. Mr. Wingfield, whose ignominious sentence has been recorded in all the papers of the Confederate States has relaxed his fortitude, and taken the oath, with two exceptions and these are the Catholic pastors of the two cities. Rev. M. O'Keefe and Phineas. These have been arrested and allowed time to reflect.

Our latest advice from the front leave the Yankees close inside their fortifications at Decatur and the Confederate besieging forces closing up. All the families save two or three have been forced to leave Decatur by the enemy. Heavy artillery firing was heard in this place on Wednesday, supposed to be at Decatur, but gentlemen from the front report the firing to be in the direction of Athens. Two or three weeks will decide the fate of North Alabama.—*Monroe Democrat.*

RECRUITS FROM NEW ORLEANS.—The Wanderer, published at Covington, East Louisiana, says every day or two brings ten or fifteen recruits for our army from New Orleans. Some are deserters from the Federal army, while others are escaping from Louisiana prisons.

SENDING THE GARRISON TO THE FRONT.

NEW YORK, April 22.—It is not "contraband of war" to state that all of the troops in the United States service, garrisoning the fortifications of this harbor and vicinity, are under orders to proceed at once to another line of usefulness. A fine body of artillerymen, who have been stationed at Governor's Island and Fort Hamilton since February last took their departure to-day, and others will follow this evening, some by transports and some by rail. The soldiers, in their absence, will be garrisoned by the State militia who have received orders to that effect from Seymour, the Secretary of War approving.

CHEERHEADS.—THE NORTH WEST RIFE FOR A REVOLT.—The following dispatch from Washington is significant:

Information received here confirms suspicions of a wide spread conspiracy in the North-western States to inaugurate armed resistance to the Government. The object of this organization, of which we have frequently heard so much, is to accomplish Vallandigham's plan, and to force the country into compromise with the Southern rebellion. Crawford county, Ohio, the headquarters of a gang of butchers, has been placed under martial law, and other counties in that State will probably soon be put in the same position. Ohio, Southern Indiana, and Southern Illinois contain the principal portion of these incipient rebels, whose leaders only await a disaster to the National arms to give the signal of revolt.

MAON PRICES.—The Confederate of the 1st says.

"We are pleased to chronicle a rapid decline in the prices of provisions. Flour yesterday sold at \$75 a sack—a fall of \$50 a sack in less than a week. Hams of the first quality also sold yesterday for \$2.50 a pound and other articles of prime necessity have fallen in the same proportion. We are beginning to realize the fruits of the late Congress. The price of Virginia and Georgia, which may be readily expected, will cause such a tumbling in prices as will make the knees of speculators to tremble and the hearts of the people to rejoice. Confederate money is decidedly looking up."

THE SUDDEL MAXIMILIAN APPEAR.—It has already been stated in advices from Europe that Mr. Sidell asked an audience of the Archduke Maximilian, to which assent was given with the proviso that it meet the approval of the Emperor Napoleon. The London correspondent reports this story, and then adds the explanation given in Paris in justification of the Emperor's action.

In explanation of the course adopted by the Emperor Napoleon, his organs in the Court have reasoned with the Confederate partisans to the following effect: You have seen how France has been hampered for two or three years past by her commitments in Mexico.—It has occupied the resources of her army and navy and treasury. The consequence has been that she felt compelled to shape her course with regard to Poland, Italy and elsewhere so as not to add to existing difficulties. The prospect now exists of terminating this condition of affairs and she will not risk it by attempting any step that might plunge her into war with the United States.

If England had consented, or would now consent to her proposals for recognition, the case would be different, but as it is a policy of strict neutrality must be the one for France, and consequently for the new empire of Mexico. France has undertaken to support the Archduke on his throne, but it must be contingent on his not, at the outset, dragging her into new complications. If the United States would at once recognize the Emperor Napoleon would at once have recognized the Confederates. All danger of that sort having passed, all probability of recognition has passed, with it. It is further reported, in harmony with the foregoing, that Mr. Preston (formerly United States Minister at Madrid), now on his way to Mexico on a mission from the Confederate Government to General Alamo, will not be received by the Archduke Maximilian on his arrival to assume the throne.

FORREST AT FORT PILLLOW.—The horse upon which General Forrest rode in the attack upon Fort Pillow was killed through beneath him, with a cannonball, the missile of death grazing the leg of the General and blackening it, without seriously hurting him, and cutting in the top of his head which supported his foot. He had scarcely been mounted five minutes upon another horse before that also was killed under him. At another period of the fight a log which projected him from the hurricane of shells was struck by one, and a fragment of timber several feet in length, hurled against his breast, which momentarily deprived him of breath. No man in the war, we venture to assert, has encountered more desperate adventures or survived with more miraculous escapes.—*Atlanta Confederate.*

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

HQ QUARTERS-ENROLLING OFFICE, MACON, GA., MAY 5, 1864.
PARTIES who are citizens of Macon County, and who choose to make the Bond for exemption as farmers and agriculturists, are hereby notified that the County Enrolling Office, with the assistance of the adjutant general, will receive applications for such exemption on or before the 15th day of May next, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The fee for such exemption is \$1.00. The Bonds will therefore be filed at double the amount upon that assessment, that being the market value at this time. Bonds which have been filed up and returned to this office, therefore, upon any other basis, will not be accepted, and the parties must attend to them at once. And the bonds heretofore filed and filed in that respect, will be filed by the Enrolling Officer as above assessed, unless the obligors give notice immediately that they prefer not to make the Bond for exemption. The sureties rendered by the applicant for exemption or agricultural duties, must in all cases, justify their sufficiency under oath, before some Justice of the Peace, or Justice of the Court, according to Sec. 4 of paragraph 8, of Chapter No. 8, of Bureau of Conscription. Dated March 18, 1864. JAS. W. RICHMOND, Capt. and Encl. of the Enrolling Office, Macon Co., Ala. May 12, 1864. n44-1.

BOOKS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

THE S. S. Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, (Greenville, S. C.) publish the following books:
CHILD'S QUESTION BOOK ON THE FOUR GOSPELS, BY B. MANN, Jr. Part I, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. Part II, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. Part III, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. Part IV, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. Part V, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. Part VI, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. Part VII, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. Part VIII, 48 pp. being questions and answers on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Price 25 cts. 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