

SOUTH WESTERN BAPTIST.

S. HENDERSON, EDITOR.]

Whether it be light 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, June 16, 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.

Christianity as an Element of Strength.

More politicians and military leaders, in estimating the resources of a nation, seldom give any prominence to the Christian element in the population of nations. Numerical strength and natural resources embrace the sum and substance of their census. So many men, with such and such equipments, are expected to achieve a given result in a given time. That any power shall ever confront them beyond what appears on the battle field, seems never to enter their heads. If disaster occurs, "overwhelming numbers" accounts for it, and the Jackson General in command is laid aside as incompetent for the position. Such has been the history of the campaigns of our enemies, ever since this war opened. (Let us beware of spitting upon the same rock!) That they are warring against providence, is a proposition which their fanaticism will not allow them to admit. And yet to any unprejudiced mind acquainted with the facts, nothing can be plainer. The operations of our army in Virginia, the last month as an illustration. Beginning with the battle of the Wilderness on the 5th of May and closing with the terrible repulse of the enemy near Mechanicsville on the 3d of June, General Lee's army has killed, wounded and captured well nigh the full equivalent of its own numerical strength, and yet it is as strong today as when the campaign opened. The loss of the enemy is supposed to not fall short of seventy thousand in less than a month. A correspondent who witnessed the last great battle on the 3d declares that no man could have stood upon that gorey field, and witnessed the result without ascribing it, in adoring wonder, to a Divine agency. The relative losses in that battle were as ten to one.

Now, the Christian can have no difficulty in accounting for these striking results. He goes back to the winter quarters of these Christian warriors, and mingling in their religious services, he reads the secret of their success in their hymns, and prayers, and sanctuary devotions. Like Moses of old, they brought the Lord, "if thy presence go not up with us, then carry us not up thither." The wonderful displays of divine grace vouchsafed to that army, in the conversion of more than five thousand within less than a year preceding the opening of the present campaign, as well as in the establishment and comfort of Christian, has been more to us in substantial results than the reinforcements the country could otherwise furnish. One of our Chaplains in a recent letter published, mentioned an incident, which, taken as an illustration of the general state of religion in the army, prepared us for the wonderful results which have already been achieved. The evening before the army left its winter quarters, and entered upon the present campaign, Dr. Feter preached to one of the Brigades, known, we believe, as the "Alabama Brigade," and at the close of the service, desiring to know the relative proportion of believers in it, asked those who were professors of religion to rise to their feet, when about two thirds of the Brigade promptly rose up. "Blessed be God," said the venerable minister, "this is an army of Christians!" In view of such facts as these, is it presumptuous for us to say, "The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge." Will the Lord abandon an army, with such a proportion of his jewels to the marvellous fury of enemies? Believe it who may, we cannot.

Nor less gloriously has the work of the Lord been displayed in the Army of Tennessee. Converts in that army within the last few months are numbered by thousands. Our expectations, based upon these facts, are no less sanguine in regard to final results in the campaign in Northern Georgia, than in that of Virginia. As we have heretofore intimated, all that Christianity and patriotism combined can do to make an army invincible, has been done for both of these armies. It is said that a mail was recently captured by the Federals, containing a large number of letters from the Tennessee troops to their friends at home, and that the Yankees expressed great astonishment

at the hopeful and cheerful spirit pervading every letter, based upon the great revival of religion in progress in the army. This, as was to have been expected, excited blasphemous sneers from these blood thirsty puritans. Nevertheless, they will yet find when they meet our army of Christian warriors, what the wicked prophet found when he looked upon the goodly tents of Israel of old, that "the shout of a King is in their camps." They will encounter a more deadly artillery in that struggle than is worked by Southern battalions. He whom our dear soldiers serve, and whose they are, will make bare his arm in their defence in a manner that will strike terror into the ranks of men actuated by the lowest passions that ever disgraced an ignoble soul—rapine, plunder and murder.

And then, what an accession of strength to our churches at home will these armies bring after the war! What a harvest of earnest and devoted ministers will be reaped from these men of prayer, and faith, and heroic courage! God is preparing the country for peace, by preparing those who are to control its destinies for their solemn responsibilities. To his name be all the praise!

The ladies of our town have organized a Relief Committee by which four of their number visit Camp Watts daily, with such refreshments as are suitable for our sick and wounded soldiers. A concert came off at the Chapel of the Baptist College on last Friday night, at which some three or four hundred dollars was realized for the benefit of the hospital. All honor to our noble women.

Acknowledgements.

Dr. U. R. Jones, Surgeon U. S. A., at Camp Watts, has addressed us a communication acknowledging the receipt of various articles from the ladies of Tuskegee and Loachapoka for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers under his charge. We are sorry that our limited space will not allow us to publish it. The contributions are liberal and timely. The ladies of Nottulsa have taken charge of 108 sick and wounded, whom they are supplying with all needful comforts.

Random Quotations of Scripture.

We have been amused lately in reading some of our secular exchanges, at some of the wildest quotations of scripture we remember to have seen. For instance, a very intelligent correspondent of one of our most extensively circulated dailies, quotes a long chapter from the book of Daniel, which he alleges is now meeting its fulfillment, and that according to his interpretation of that prophecy, this war will end in September next! The prophecy he quotes was fulfilled over two thousand years ago! Another secular paper, printed in one of our principle cities, in urging the people to cease from pride and vanity, alleges that the Israelites in the pride of their hearts, built the Tower of Babel, on account of which God confounded their speech. The Tower of Babel was built nearly three hundred years before Abraham was born, according to received chronology, and six or seven hundred years before the Israelites entered the land of Canaan! We admire the religious tone of most of our political newspapers; but it might be well for their editors and correspondents to look with a little more care into the sacred volume before they venture to quote it in proof of special theories.

Summary of War News.

Fuller accounts from the battle on the 3d inst. in the vicinity of Richmond, indicate that it was a much more serious affair than at first supposed. The loss of the enemy is put down at 60,000 to 10,000—some suppose it to be 15,000. Our own loss was less than a thousand. On last Friday, the enemy again moved upon Petersburg, but were repulsed with loss, and pursued several miles. Particulars have not yet been received. The position of the main armies remains "substantially unchanged" in Virginia. The enemy is again moving down the valley of Shenandoah, with a prospect of an early battle.

General Forrest encountered a column of the enemy in North Mississippi, capturing over 200 wagons filled with valuable stores, a number of prisoners, and drove them back with loss.

In North Georgia, at last accounts, Sherman was making some demonstration upon our right, so to gain Decatur some five or six miles from Atlanta. Our forces were properly disposed to meet him.

For the South Western Baptist.

SELMA, ALA., June 4, 1864.

DEAR BRO. HENDERSON: For months the Spirit of God has been moving the hearts of our Sabbath school children. In February, one of our boys, about 16 years of age, put on Christ by baptism. In April, three other boys, from 14 to 17 years of age, were also added to us.

During the latter part of May, a general spirit of revival swept over the heart of the school again, and spread into the congregation. Sixteen have already come forward for baptism on Sabbath night, of whom ten are from the Sabbath school. Three are boys, one is a young girl, another a young lady, three are young men, and others in married life. From the school and congregation, a deep seriousness has gone out among the soldiers in the city. Bro. G. W. Rogers preaches to these latter daily, and aids me in the services at our

church. Under the auspices of our Domestic Mission Board, Bro. Rogers is laboring most faithfully in our city for the salvation of souls. He conducts two services daily, each morning, in two encampments and has already been abundantly blessed in his labors. If the Spirit of God be not withdrawn from us, we anticipate great things from the hand of our God.

MORE ABOUT THE REVIVAL IN SELMA.

This good work still continues. Several others are rejoicing in the Lord Jesus, and many are inquiring the way to eternal life.

Affectionately,

A. T. SPALDING.

For the South Western Baptist.

A Sabbath in Selma!

DEAR BAPTIST: By one of the accidents, so common now to travelers, I was detained in this thriving and enterprising city on yesterday (the 5th) and found what I deplored as a sad misfortune, to turn out for good. Having heard much of the Sunday school of the Bap. church, I went at an early hour to satisfy myself. It deserves all the commendation it has received. It is a model. The superintendent, bro. Thompson, has a heart and hand for the work. Yesterday was the anniversary of his connexion with the school, and under his zealous and skillful management, it has grown to be the largest in the city. The organization seems to be perfect. The officers and teachers are the right persons in the right places. The appliances and arrangements for securing prompt attention are happily adapted to that end. The singing surpasses that of any school I ever attended. Some of the little ones sang most charmingly. The best thing about the school remains to be told. No one is allowed to forget that it is a Sabbath School, that the children are sinners, have deathless souls, and must be converted or be lost. No device is permitted which shuts out a sense of the presence of a holy and merciful God. In the church, a most glorious revival is progressing and it commenced in the school at 11 o'clock. Bro. Rogers of Missouri, a chaplain in the army, preached to a large audience in the church-house and in the afternoon, he preached to the soldiers encamped here, with great earnestness and success, he has been assisting bro. Spaulding in a meeting which has been in progress for some time, and still continues most encouragingly.

At 3 P. M. there was a Sunday school prayer meeting, literally. The scholars sang and prayed and worshipped. It was a delightful convocation. The young disciples are effectually teaching and preaching Christ. They pray for their companions, they visit them when sick, they are leading many to the Savior.

At 4 was an inquiry meeting for the anxious. At 5, a prayer-meeting for the country. At 6, the choir practised, and the music they made showed the result of their industry.

At 8, the house was jammed, seats, files, and galleries being crowded with interested spectators. Fourteen persons, having the answer of good consciences, were buried with Christ in baptism. A novel part of the ceremony was the filling up of the intervals between baptisms with singing by the Sunday school. This was appropriate, as many were scholars. After baptism, an invitation to mourners for prayer, and then followed the ordinance of the Lord's supper.

Truly, the brethren and sisters of Selma are redeeming time, because the days are evil and God is honoring those who honor Him.

KIFFIN.

For the South Western Baptist.

BRO. HENDERSON: Permit me to say to your readers that the Lord is doing a good work among the coloured people at Greensboro, Ala. For some time past, there has been a continual revival among them. We receive more or less nearly every meeting; most of whom relate very strong evidences of their acceptance with Christ. I had the pleasure of burying forty willing candidates with Christ in baptism on last Sabbath, and still there is more waiting an opportunity to step into the liquid

grave after the example of their Saviour.

Young converts now do praise the Lord, They sing his praise with one accord, While older Christians catch the flame, And sing the glory of His name.

I will also state for the satisfaction of your readers that I have been preaching to this coloured church over eighteen months and have not had the first church trial among them, where their is a membership of over six hundred members. May the Lord continue his good work among them, until they all find Him precious to their souls. Yours in Christ,

J. B. POOLE.

Missionary of the Board.

BRUSH CREEK, ALA., May 25, 1864.

Temptations.

Life puts our self-control to sterner proof, than that to which Pythagoras subjected those who came as candidates for admission into the number of his disciples. "He" (so the story runs,) "some times ordered a table richly covered with dainties to be spread before them, and when they were impatiently expecting to gratify their appetites, commanded the whole entertainment to be taken away, and dismissed them without any refreshment." It would have been a more searching test, if he had suffered the entertainment to remain where their senses were allured by it, where it lay within their reach, and had kept them back from it by the simple prohibition of his authority. And that is the form in which life tries us all. The means of unlawful gain or pleasure surrounded us on every side, and he who would altogether escape their presence "must needs go out of the world." Confronting them, crossing their path daily, plied by their incessant solicitations, we must refrain from them—must be deaf to the voice with which they would fain beguile us. The forbidden feast, is not taken away; but we must inure ourselves to inflexible abstinence, under the most pressing and potent enchantment of opportunity.

Sores guise that trial could assume! How hardly shall our weakness stand firm against it! Oh, to make us strong—and if we prove strong it is because we are made so—let us remember from whom the prohibition issues. The lips that speak it are the lips of Jesus—the same lips that spoke away our guilt, and ruin, and despair, when they said,—"The Son of Man is come to save that which was lost." Surely, even an absent Saviour should be more mighty with us than a present temptation. But the Saviour, if we truly love Him, is not absent. He dwells in us and walks in us. We do not need, then, that the feast should be taken away, the sense of Christ's presence with us, the joy of Christ's love towards us, convert what would be a doubtful struggle for self-denial, into a joyful testimony of gratitude, affection and fidelity to Him, who, not content with the title, "The Glory of God," chose for our sakes to wear the title, (dearer to us,) "The Light of the world," "the Hope of Israel."

PRIVATE PRAYER.—There is need of public prayer. We should meet with the great congregation, and offer our united request to God. There is need for social prayer. It is difficult to see how one who neglects the prayer meeting can make progress in religion. The prayer meeting enables one to carry the spirit of the Sabbath through the week.

Besides these, there is need of private prayer. There are confessions which may be made in public—there are confessions that must be whispered in the ear of God. No man who can stand up before his fellow man, and say in regard to the requisitions of the law of justice and honor, "All these have I kept," has confessions which can be made only when he has entered into his closet and shut the door. There are requests that can be made only at a private interview. Hence the necessity for private prayer.

Every Christian knows that he has avoided sin in proportion as he practised secret prayer. Every one knows that when he has neglected private prayer, his life has been a form. There

is no such thing as leading a Christian life, as walking with God, without regular habits of private prayer.

The Death of Christ.

"We want this sounded in the ears of every man, that Christ's death was the paying of a price—that Christ's death was the price of a ransom—that it was a price of propitiation—that it was a price of purchase—that it was a price of redemption. And when He had laid down his life upon the cross, we suppose there was meaning in what he said, when he uttered these words—"It is finished." I can not believe that he meant to say, I have spent my three and thirty years upon this earth, and now I am about to die. I believe that the saving of his Church—the great work for which he came—was a covenant work: and that when he said, "It is finished," He just meant what he said at another time—I have finished the work thou gavest me to do."

"Away, then, with all those systems that would teach something so reasonable to men, that at last they would get rid of the cross of Christ altogether. We must be valiant for the truth that Christ stood in the place of his people; that He made a propitiation for them; that He brought them back. The apostle Paul says, in the third of Galatians, Christ had redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us. I do not know how much of signification there may be in that passage, in the fourth of Galatians, which, perhaps, we are apt to explain wrongly, that "When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law." I do not know how much of signification there may be in that passage, as to his having been made under the law of redemption—the law of the kinsman; for after the apostle had said that He was made under the law, he immediately adds—"To redeem them that are under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

The Charms of Life.

There are a thousand things in this world to afflict and sadden—but oh! how many that are beautiful and good. The world teems with beauty—with objects which gladden the eye and warm the heart. We might be happy if we would. There are ills that we cannot escape—the approach of disease and death; of misfortunes, the sundering of earthly ties, and the canker-worm of grief—but a vast majority of the evils that beset us might be avoided. The course of intemperance, interwoven as it is with all the ligaments of society, is one which never strikes but to destroy. There is not one bright page upon the record of its progress, nothing to shield it from the heartiest execration of the human race. It should not exist—it must not. Do away with all this—let war come to an end, and let friendship, charity, love, purity and kindness, mark the intercourse between man and man. We are too selfish, as if the world was made for us alone.

How much happier should we be were we to labor more earnestly to promote each other's good. God has blessed us with a home which is not dark. There is sunshine every where—in the sky, upon the earth—there would be in most hearts if we would look around us. The storms die away, and a bright sun shines out. Summer drops her tinted curtain upon the earth, which is very beautiful, when autumn breathes her changing breath upon it. God reigns in heaven. Mourn not at a being so good, and we can live happier than we do.

THE WORD "SELAH."—The thoughtful reader of the Psalms cannot have failed to ask himself what the word "Selah" means. It is a Hebrew word or sign, which the translators of the Bible have been forced to leave as they found it, from their ignorance or disagreement as to its correct signification. The Targum, and most of the Jewish commentators, give to the word the meaning eternally, forever. Rabbi Kimchi regards it as a sign to elevate the voice. The voice of the Septuagint translation appears to have regarded it as a musical or

rythmical note. Herter regarded it as indicating a change of tone; Matheson as a musical note, equivalent to the word repeat. According to Luther, and others, it is equivalent to the exclamation silence. Gesenius says Selah means "Let the instruments play and the singing stop." Woehler regards it as equivalent to *sursum corda!* (up, my soul!) Sommer, after examining all the seventy-four passages in which the word occurs, recognizes in every case "an actual appeal or summons to Jehovah; they are calls for aid, and prayers to be heard, expressed either with entire directness, or if not in the imperative, Hear Jehovah," and the like, still earnest addresses to God that He would "remember and hear," etc. The word itself he regards as indicating a blast of trumpets by the priests. Selah, itself, he thinks is an abridged expression used for Higgaon, indicating the sound of the stringed instruments, and Selah a vigorous blast of trumpets.

A Strange Prayer.

"Give me neither poverty." That will do. Most that do, and all that do not pray, will agree in their opposition to poverty. But the good man did not stop with the word poverty; he adds, "nor riches." Neither give me riches! Really this is strange. Wealth is the sun of the firmament with most men—the vital air, the all in all. Millions are struggling, pining, hoping, risking health, life, the soul's salvation even, for all the things that are desired are not comparable to them.

But here is a man praying against them! He would not like to be rich. He is so much in earnest that he prays about the matter. People would stare at the offering of such a prayer now a days. Was the man sane that offered it?

1. He gave a reason for his prayer. I suppose men do not reason much.—Hear the reason: "Lest I be full and deny Thee, and say, who is the Lord?" Hence he would not be rich. Now, if riches cause men to deny and disregard God—if they magnify temporal things so as to eclipse eternal—if they become a god in the place of the only living God, then there was a good reason for the strange prayer, and we think he must have been sane that could give so good a reason for his conduct.

2. If riches are often dangerous, then there is more proof that this praying man was not insane. Ahab wanted more riches, and his wicked wife helped him to imbue his hands in innocent blood to obtain them, and they both perished miserably. Judas wanted more money—betrayed Christ to get it, and it cost him his life.—Annius and Sapphira wanted wealth, and they lied to the Holy Ghost about a sum of money, and they both perished. This looks as if there was danger about riches. And it is as proper to pray for escape from this danger as any other.

DIABOLICAL ACT.—The Lynchburg Republican says:

"We have the report of a diabolical act as was ever committed by the most untutored savage, which was perpetrated in Roane county, Virginia a short time since, by a set of Yankee scoundrels, wearing the uniform of the United States Government. A gentleman named Lee, of that county, had a little boy, only seventeen months old, whom he had named 'Jenkins,' after the renowned cavalry leader, A. G. Jenkins. A party of Yankees, quartered in the county, hearing of the child's name, visited the house of Mr. Lee, and asked to see the child, and when brought into their presence, deliberately shot it dead; for no other cause than its bearing the name it did. The sister of the little innocent, a girl of fifteen or sixteen summers, discovering the diabolical intention of these worse than demons, ran in to try and save her brother's life, and in doing so came near losing her own, several musket balls passing through her dress, but fortunately not injuring her. These facts we obtain from a gentleman who knows them to be true to the letter, and can establish them by irrefutable testimony. The bare recital of the particulars are sufficient, without a word of comment. Can

The South Western Baptist.

R. B. TRAGUE, Corresponding Editor.

Light in Darkness.

There are periods in the history of suffering humanity, when for many days neither sun nor moon nor stars appear. Nevertheless if we look up, all is not at last absolute darkness. For the most part, if we look towards the sun, some sparks of glimmering day appear. So in spiritual darkness, if we look towards the Sun of Righteousness, the cross of the God-man, some moral light will be seen. Let us ever fix our eyes upon the incarnate mystery suffering on the tree. Wondrous, how the light of the cross soothes every sorrow, cures every ill, heightens every joy. Let us appreciate more and more

The Satisfying One.

With blood for sins and holy perfectings For all requirements.

We are gratified to see that Hon. M. J. Wellborn has been ordained to the gospel ministry and assumed pastoral relations. His many friends have a good while believed a dispensation of the gospel was committed to him. We are happy that he himself has become convinced of that fact. We have seen men enter the ministry listlessly and apparently without any great earnestness. Sometimes what was not at first apparent, afterwards proved to have been latent. In the present case, we must be excused for saying, the Master appears to have filled our beloved brother with his own spirit. We rejoice in the fact, and with an unusual fervor, extend the right hand of fellowship to our brother.

Our Relative Denominational Position.

We mean nothing invidious when we say, that in our esteem, the Baptist denomination among other things is a peculiar people in two momentous respects. In insisting upon a credible profession of faith prior to initiation into church relations, and in the more distinct recognition of a special divine call to the work of the ministry. (But one other denomination, as we understand it, stands side by side with us in relation to the ministerial call.) About the former part of this proposition, there is no dispute, the truth of the latter part, we have a right, for present purposes, to assume. We have sometimes felt it our privilege and duty to insist upon immersion as the only baptism, upon independent congregational church government, and upon restricted communion at the Lord's table. Nevertheless, justifiably or unjustifiably, we have constantly felt a reluctance, an aversion, to lecturing others on these or any accounts, while perchance we ourselves need lecturing in reference to matters of still higher importance.

If we are right in our premises, our denomination is committed to the illustration of a higher Christianity. The world have a right to expect more exemplary piety in the membership of our churches and a nobler zeal and more fervent devotion in our ministers. We suppose our ministry have been less at fault as to their status than our membership. It happens that our people are often deficient in liberality, in regarding the infraction not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, and in general Christian activity. Certainly the exemplariness, devotion, and piety, neither of ministry nor laity, keep pace with the vast onus thrown upon us by the extraordinary character of the times. Piety in times gone-by, has often manifested fresh energies commensurate with the increase of responsibility. It is a peculiarity of our holy religion, like an obstructed stream, to rise into volume sufficient to sweep obstacles from before it.

Suffer the word of exhortation, brethren. Let us realize our special denominational responsibilities. Let us, in the strength of the Most High, quit us like men. Our agricultural and mechanical energies are rising with the necessities of war and blockade. With our armies it has been literally true that zeal has supplied arms. May it not be so with us in the interests of the great salvation? If facilities are few, let us remember that necessity is the mother of invention. That God is accustomed out of weakness to ordain strength.

Harvesting, we understand, has already commenced in the lower part of Georgia. The stand is said to be thin, but the heads unusually full and perfect. Up in the "black belt," the same thing seems to be true, though harvesting will not begin under two or three weeks yet, and rust or some other disaster may disappoint the present promise of an abundant harvest. In this region, corn, though somewhat late, is exceedingly promising. Abundance of syrup, perchance some sugar, will be made the present season. Plenty of every thing, for people and army, if God sends the former and latter rain, may confidently be expected.

THE RIGHT WAY.—Many wealthy men in the Church never know the luxury of giving cheerfully to the Lord. They are fearful of paying more than their share—and of being overburdened with calls, when they rarely pay at all in proportion to those of scanty means.

A gentleman of wealth, who had been much addicted to frolic and sports, was converted, and became a member of one of our congregations. This congregation had adopted the *ad valorem* principle, as a means of defraying its expenses. In a few months after this gentleman's conversion, the deacons waited on him in order to make their assessments; and knowing that he was rich, and that his proportion of the expenses would amount to a pretty handsome sum, they feared that he would not be willing to bear it, and their demand might give him serious offence, and prove an injury to him. Hence, they approached their business with some trepidation and great caution. At first, he was at a loss to ascertain the

reasons of their apparent diffidence. The deacons, perceiving this, became, of course, more explicit. The gentleman was surprised. "What on earth," said he, "do you mean? Did you suppose that I would be unwilling to pay my full proportion? When I was a man of the world, and united with a company in any scheme of pleasure, I would have deemed myself a mean man had I not paid my full proportion of the expenses. Go to the assessor's book, and put me down for my full proportion of the expenses of the Church. Do you think that I intend to be a meaner man now, since I have become a servant of God, than I was when a servant of the devil?"

Do Not Delay.

Lord I do discover a fallacy, whereby I have long deceived myself which is this: I have desired to begin my amendment from my birthday or from some eminent festival, that so my repentance might bear some remarkable date. But when those days were come, I have adjourned my amendment to some other time. Thus, whilst I could not agree with myself when to start, I have almost lost the running of the race. I am resolved thus to befool myself no longer. I see no day but to-day; the instant time is always the fittest time. In Nebuchadnezzar's image, the lower the members, the coarser the metal.—The farther off the time, the more unfit. Today is the golden opportunity, to-morrow will be the silver season, next day the brazen one and so on, till at last I shall come to the toes of the clay, and be turned to dust.—Grant, therefore, to-day I may hear Thy voice. And if this day be obscure in the calendar, and remarkable in itself for nothing else give me to make it memorable in my soul hereupon, by thy assistance, beginning the reformation of my life.

The Ungrateful Son.

The following incident was related last year by Rev. R. Weiser:

"The eye that mocketh at his father, the ravens of the valley shall pluck it out."—Prov. xxx. 17.

This terrible denunciation against ingratitude to parents, and even to the present day is sometimes virtually fulfilled.

Some years ago an Irish gentleman who was an extensive contractor on the public works, was reduced to poverty by the profligacy and dishonesty of an ungrateful son. The old man lost his wife, and to add to his calamity his health failed, and to fill his cup of sorrow, he lost his sight. Thus poor, friendless, blind and forsaken he found an asylum in the Franklin County Almshouse, Pennsylvania.

While an inmate of this refuge for the afflicted, his wicked and ungrateful son traveled that way; he was informed of his father's situation, and that his parent wished to see him, and although he passed within two hundred yards of the almshouse, he refused to stop and see the kind father he had ruined. Now, mark the result.

The very day he passed the almshouse on his way to Gettysburg in an open carriage he was overtaken by a storm, and took a severe cold, that resulted in the destruction of his eyes. He lay at Gettysburg in a critical situation until his funds were exhausted, and those who had him in charge took him to the Franklin County Almshouse.

The very day he was brought in, his father having died the day before, was carried out. He was put in the same room, occupied the same bed, and in a short time followed his neglected and broken hearted father to the judgment seat of Christ. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of an angry God.

IS THE MARRIAGE SETTLED?—"Is the matter settled between you and God?" I asked solemnly of one whose declining health forewarned us to expect her early removal from this world.

"Oh! yes, sir was her calm reply. "How did you get it settled?"

"The Lord Jesus Christ settled it for me."

"And when did He do it for you?" I inquired.

"When he died on the cross for my sins."

"How long is it since you knew this blessed and consoling fact?"

The answer was readily given, "About twelve months ago."

Anxious however, to ascertain the grounds of this confidence, I asked how did you know that the work which Christ accomplished on the cross for sinners was done for you?" She at once replied, "I read in the Bible and believed what I read."

And now, dear reader, have you read in the Bible, and believed what you have read? It is written, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15). Does this bring comfort to your soul? Do you believe this faithful saying?"

THE WONDERFUL WORKS OF GOD.

You cannot go into the meadow and pluck a single daisy by the roots without breaking up a society of nice relations, and detecting a principle, more extensive and refined than mere gravitation. The handful of earth that follows the tiny roots of the little flower is replete with social elements. A little social circle has been formed around that germinating daisy.

The sunbeam and the dew drop met there and the soft summer breeze came whispering through the tall grass to join the silent concert. The earth took them to the daisy germ, and all went to work to show that flower to the sun. Each mingled in the honey of its influence, and the "wee canny thing" with an aliment that made it grow. And when it lifted its eyes toward the sky, they wove a soft carpet of grass for its feet. And the sun saw it through the leaves and smiled as he passed on. And the daisy lifted up his head, and one morning, while the sun was looking, it put on its silver rimmed diadem, and showed its yellow petals to the stars.

GRUMBLING.—The grumbling disciple is never satisfied. The preaching is bad; it don't warm up his feelings. The prayers are cold; he can't fellowship with them. He thinks the Lord cannot bless such a Church. He is almost afraid to belong to it, lest he should be responsible for its sins, and be dragged down to perdition along with it. He sees so much inconsistency all around him that he is discouraged. "Brother A. drives a hard bargain; brother B. is crooked in his dealings; sister C. is not careful how she handles the 'unruly member'; and so on to X. Y. Z. Poor man! how I pity thee! But, 'I have been young and now am old, yet I have never seen' any good come of grumbling, fretting, or scolding.

A SURE FOUNDATION.—The bridge which the Gospel lays over the gulf of God's wrath for poor sinners to pass from their sins to the favor of God here, and the kingdom of God hereafter, is supported by no other arches than the wisdom, power, mercy and faithfulness of God, so that the believing soul need not fear till it sees these bow or break. It is called the everlasting Gospel; when the heavens and the earth go to wreck, not the least jot or tittle of any promise of the Gospel shall be buried in their ruins.—Gurnall.

SCRAPS OF TIME.—Try what you can make of the broken fragments of time. Glean up its golden dust, those raspings and parings of precious duration—those leavings of days and remnants of hours which so many are sweeping out into the vast waste of existence. Perhaps, if you be a miser of moments—if you be frugal, and hoard up odd minutes, and half hours, and unexpected holidays—your careful gleanings may eke you a long and useful life, and you may die at last richer in existence than multitudes whose time is all their own.

It is the great design of the Scriptures to teach the best to despair of being self-saved—the worst not to despair of being saved by Christ—and to offer to all the help they want.

Secular Intelligence.

FROM THE LONDON TIMES.—However, the experience of the past does not teach us that hardships and privations unnerve the soul of men and such then to submission. The well-dressed hirelings of King George, whose camp-kettles overflowed with nourishment, exemplified the facility of the endeavor to starve the God given spirit of freemen, when off hungry barefooted and tatter-torned fathers drove them from the soil they had consecrated to liberty. It is luxury that enervates. It is abundance that breeds sloth and creates infirmity of purpose. Adversity that chastens, strengthens as well as these lean and hungry Confederates, like the Indian dervish will find inspiration in their agony, and the gift of endurance in its necessity. The free air of heaven to breathe, and a principle to contend for, all the sustenance that free souls need, and for physical wants, nature has provided so abundantly in the South that decades of civil strife will not exhaust the supply that is absolutely essential to subsistence.

There is doubtless already a very general scarcity, not of food, but of the facilities to obtain food, throughout the Confederacy but a very limited allowance—a biscuit or so per diem, a few ears of corn from the nearest field, and a draught from the nearest spring or river course, will hold life in and spirit too, and enable a willing hand to wield its weapon. We do not believe that any prolongation of the war will starve the South into submission; and if it were possible, it were unworthy the North, boundless as are her resources, her numbers and her wealth, to anticipate the inglorious result.

We find the following in the Atlanta Register of the 1st: CAPTAIN E. S. MOLES.—We saw yesterday, passing up Whitehall street, a drove of mules, with the brand U. S. upon them. Upon inquiry we learned that they were a portion of the mules captured by Gen. Wheeler in his raid upon Cassville in the rear of the enemy. The mules were the most miserably jaded animals we have seen for many a day, and if they are a fair specimen of the balance of Sherman's army, his transportation must be upon his last legs.

A letter from Santa Barbara county, received by a gentleman in San Francisco, states that 5000 head of cattle were sold in that county at auction, a few days since, at thirty-seven and a half cents each.

Trans-Mississippi.

The efficient courier, Major Rose, arrived here this morning. He is enroute for Richmond, as bearer of dispatches from Gen. Kirby Smith, and will leave to-morrow (Friday) morning. The Major has had a rough road to travel since he left for Mobile, but with energy and sagacity, he has been able to overcome it and looks as fresh as a rose. He left Shreveport on the 10th ult., and crossed the river on the 23d. He informs us that the whole remnant of Gen. Bank's army was about twelve thousand. He set out with about thirty-five thousand. A portion of the remainder was at Tanna and a portion at Vicksburg. Banks, it is stated, is on his way to Washington. His absence is very much deplored by our forces, for whom he has been a most efficient quartermaster. The amount of stores which he left behind was enormous—including everything valuable. Among them was a whole lot of the most needed farming utensils, which it is supposed, were for reaping the crop of Texas, and planting there permanent farms. Among the train was also a bevy of Yankee school marmes, whose business was to teach the young African idea how to shoot. All these grand preparations have come to an untimely end, and the enemy can be said to hold no place in Louisiana, except New Orleans and the adjacent country.—Mobile Trib., 3d.

Vicksburg intelligence says there are between five and seven thousand negroes in and about that place. The "whites" are looking for them to "take the town" every day. Since the murder of Mr. Bobb, by the negro troops, the citizens have become much alarmed, and many express a determination to move to a safer locality.—Clarion, 2d.

"I propose to fight it out on this line, if it takes all summer." Thus roared Grant to Stanton, from the Rappahannock, on the 11th of May. After attempting again and again to "fight it out on that line, and having as often failed, with terrible loss of life, he abandons the line of the Rappahannock, and is attempting to reach the point (without fighting) from which McClellan was driven in 1862, which he might have retained without the loss of a man. Grant has not only abandoned the line which he declared he should fight it out on, "if it took all summer," but he has sacrificed seventy-five thousand men in the vain endeavor to force Lee out of his path. That he will be more successful in the object of his campaign, should he succeed in reaching the point from which his predecessor started, we do not believe. He may be in a better position to escape with his shattered forces, but he will be as far as ever from the goal of his ambition.—Richm. Sent., 2d.

THE FIGHTING DURING THE MONTH OF MAY. The month of May, which has just closed, might be justly termed "bloody May." The terrible and unprecedented carnage in Virginia, Georgia and other portions of the Confederacy where the opposing armies have met, would seem to give it that designation. A friend, who has taken the trouble to make a rough estimate of the killed in battle since the first of May, has given us the benefit of his calculations:

In Virginia—Yankees..... 30,000
Confederates..... 10,000-40,000
In Georgia—Yankees..... 12,000
Confederates..... 10,000-17,000
In the West—Yankees..... 9,000
Confederates..... 4,000-13,000
Total killed in May..... 70,000

THE TRUE INDICES.—Gold, on the 24th, immediately after the announcement of a victory by Grant, rose to 186, being an advance of 4 per cent, on the previous day's rates.

The Northern people say that Grant has lost four times as many men as any General who ever commanded the army of the Potomac. It has been ascertained by actual account, that he lost more men on the 12th, in the contest of Spotylvania Court house than Napoleon Bonaparte lost on the memorable field of Waterloo.

Extraordinary Torpedo Damage.

The State Journal, published at Goldsboro', N. C., relates the following in its issue of Friday:

We learn from a well informed correspondent that on Friday last the Yankees at Newbern sent out to Batchelor's Creek four large torpedoes to be "planted" in the Neuse, at Spring Garden, ten miles from Newbern, to guard against any Rebel gunboats likely to be sent down upon them. At this point they were removed from the cars to the Commissary building. Three of them had been safely deposited but the fourth on entering the building, was struck so violently that the "machine" exploded. The explosion "set off" the building and its contents at a rapid rate through the air.

One hundred men, including twenty negroes were within range of the missiles, of whom sixty-three were instantly killed the rest wounded. Amongst the killed is a notorious Yankee villain, Lt. Willis. We also saw, also, that Hezekiah Davis, an old citizen of that neighborhood, was present and got killed.

At the scene of the disaster it is said the Yankees had erected a tall tower or lookout, in the top of which a Yankee was at the time posted. The tower suddenly disappeared, and if the sentinel on that tower has yet been found our informant has not heard of it.

The explosion was heard twenty miles, and created great consternation in the garrison at Newbern. The long roll was beaten, signal guns were fired and every preparation was made quickly to meet the Rebels. Such a scene of wild confusion is said to have existed in the good old town as has never been exceeded except in the immediate vicinity of the explosion.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ONE THOUSAND TESTAMENTS FOR BAPTIST SABBATH SCHOOLS. TEN CENTS A COPY. BOUND IN BLACK MUSLIN. A. T. SPALDING, Selma, Ala. June 3, 1864.

NOTICE.

LETTERS of Administration of the estate of Frank Paul, deceased, having been issued to me by the Judge of Probate of Macon county; all persons are hereby notified to present their claims against said estate within the time required by law. R. O. HOWARD, Administrator. June 16, 1864. 2d-67-57.

NOTICE.

LETTERS of Executryship upon the estate of Elizabeth Paul, deceased, having been granted to me by the Judge of Probate of Macon county; all persons are hereby notified to present their claims against said estate within the time required by law. R. O. HOWARD, Executor. June 16, 1864. 2d-67-57.

NOTICE.

TAKEEN up at the plantation of the undersigned, a small span horse, which the owner can have by paying the necessary expenses. R. F. LIGON. June 16, 1864. 2d-67-57.

MARRIAGE.

Married on the 25th May 1864, by Elder J. M. Wood, Rev. P. M. D. BROWN, of Ala., and Miss MARY C. WILKINSON, daughter of V. B. WILKINSON of Sevier, Ky.

Mamie Leonard. Died, on the 4th March, MAMIE LEONARD—aged 4 years, 6 months and 20 days. She was a lovely child, the idol of the family, and especially her broken hearted widowed mother. She was gentle, kind and affectionate, and highly favored with beauty, and her intellect far surpassed her age. Often has the writer of this little tribute to her memory, heard her father, whose bodily afflictions for years before her death were of the severest character, say—it seemed to him that little Mamie was sent in mercy to soothe his painful moments. She survived that saddest father but a short while. For weeks before she left this veil of tears, she sang daily that beautiful little Sabbath school song.

"I want to be an angel," the reality of which she is in the full possession of, the comforted afflicted mother, for your dear little Mamie sleeps in Jesus, and though you miss the sound of those soft footsteps, and that lively voice, you shall see her by and by, where there will be no more parting. May a merciful Savior comfort your bereaved heart, and prepare you to meet your darling little Mamie in that glory land.

WILLIAM M. BISH was born in Wake Co., N. C., Feb. 27th 1810; married Miss Frances Herndon June 28, 1832, removed to this State 1833, and died at his residence in Greene county, April 12th, 1864, in the 54th year of his age. In his married life there was a beautiful blending of all those essential elements, and shining virtues which compose and color the noblest character. He possessed in an eminent degree, all those splendid qualities which enabled him to adorn all the relations of life, to fill positions of usefulness with honor to himself and benefit to society. He was a friend to the poor, the widow and the orphan; was first in the sick room to minister and sympathize with the afflicted; was first in every thing that pertained to the good and welfare of the community; first in labors to promote the cause of Christ, and to extend the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. For years before his demise, he was a faithful and efficient officer in the Church. His conversation breathed much of heaven, was tinged with the essence of love divine; his piety blended itself with all his feelings and actions, and raised his thoughts and affections heavenward. It was such as clothed him with humility, wrought for him a spotless character, and made his life a bright series of useful, benevolent and pious actions. He was a light to the Church, an ornament to his society, a blessing to the world. His death has bereaved a most interesting family, and a happy home, producing a void in the vicinity and afflicting the church militant of one of its brightest jewels. But we mourn not his loss who have no hope. From the commencement of his last illness, he was conscious of his approaching dissolution; spoke of it calmly, was ready and willing to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. In a word, if honestly I purpose, strictness in morals, integrity of heart, nobility in friendship, a life devoted to the good of men and the glory of God—all the virtues consecrated by a deep and ardent piety and placed on the high altar of devotion, have any claim to respect, the memory of the deceased will long be cherished with tears of admiration and sorrow by all who knew him. J. C. W. Fortland, April 1864.

Died, at the residence of her grand-mother, Mrs. W. M. High, near Forkland, Ala., on Saturday morning, June 4th, 1864, after a painful illness of one week, MARY MANN, only child of Serg't M. Mann and Mary C. Willford; aged two years, six months and twenty days. D. S. S. Fortland, April 1864.

Business Department.

Receipt List.

Paid to Volume No. Amount
Mrs H. Jolly..... 17..... 4 \$5 00
B. Lockart S W B for sol..... 11 66
Mrs M F Roberts..... 17..... 5 08
J. B. Howell..... 17..... 5 08
A. P. Ellison..... 17..... 4 00
W. W. Battle..... 17..... 18 66
Rev B M Ware..... 17..... 45 00
Mrs M E Hill..... 17..... 4 00
Mrs M Boyd..... 17..... 4 00
Mrs M Floyd..... 16..... 37 33
Miss F Marsh..... 17..... 12 50

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Due Notice.

Forbearance has been to be a virtue. We have repeatedly requested absent brethren, as we did not charge for them, but they increase in length. Our little future compels us to change our rule. We shall in the future charge absent brethren matter as absentees over ten days from this rule we shall not depart.

LAND FOR SALE.

NEAR TUSKEGEE, ALA.

A small tract containing 100 acres, lying near Upright Creek, four miles from Tuskegee. It is well improved, and watered, with 80 acres cleared, the other 20 heavily timbered. Address Box 120, Tuskegee, Ala., or apply to Postmaster. May 25, 1864. 2d-67-55.

Land for Sale.

THE undersigned offers for sale his valuable farm near Upright Creek, Macon county, Ala., containing 100 acres, good land and a small tract of water on it and a small tract of timbered land. Any one wishing to purchase will do well to call on J. M. BOYD. May 25, 1864. 2d-67-55.

"GERALD GRAY'S WIFE."

NOW READY

THE FIELD AND FIRESIDE

NOVELETTE, No. 2.

CONTAINING

THE CHARMING STORY OF

"GERALD GRAY'S WIFE."

Single copies (Postage Paid) \$3.00. Orders for 10 copies, or more, accompanied with the Cash, \$2.00 each, in NEW CURRENCY.

STOCKTON & CO.

May 20, 1864. n1-56 Paid \$3.00.

LOOK HERE!

I will exchange a good substantial ROCKAWAY for shafts and pole, and a No. one BUGGY, good as new for Corn or Wheat, at old prices.

Apply to Mr. J. H. DILLARD, at his residence, June 9, 1864. 2d-67-55.

TO HIRE.

A BLACKSMITH, Apply to Col. Fredrick March 10, 1864. 2d-67-55.

NEW TANYARD.

OUR Tanyard is in operation, and we are receiving working hides. Those wishing information or enquire of Mr. Thomas, B. H. Jackson, and the Tanning and Dressing Co. TUSKEGEE, Ala., April 7, 1864. 2d-67-55.

NEW TANYARD.

I propose to receive and tan hides at my tanyard in Auburn at one dollar and fifty cents per pound. An excellent tanner has charge of the business. Auburn, 24th April, 1864. 2d-67-55.

MILL! MILL!!

WE are now prepared to make good meal for all who will favor us with their patronage, at the Mill, recently owned by Mrs. Cunningham, and the Tanning and Dressing Co. TUSKEGEE, Ala., April 25, 1864. 2d-67-55.

LOOK HERE!

THOSE who have not invested enough in real estate to pay their taxes for this year, will find it to their interest before submitting to the tax of 25% per cent. on their money, to call on the undersigned. April 7, 1864. 2d-67-55.

LAND WANTED.

SETTLEMENT of land is wanted, containing from 10 to 1500 acres, mostly oak and hickory upland in the woods. Those having such a tract to sell in East Ala. or West Ala. or in the State of Georgia, or in the State of Louisiana, or in the State of Mississippi, or in the State of Alabama, or in the State of Florida, or in the State of Texas, or in the State of Arkansas, or in the State of Missouri, or in the State of Illinois, or in the State of Indiana, or in the State of Ohio, or in the State of Pennsylvania, or in the State of New York, or in the State of Vermont, or in the State of New Hampshire, or in the State of Maine, or in the State of Massachusetts, or in the State of Connecticut, or in the State of Rhode Island, or in the State of Delaware, or in the State of Maryland, or in the State of Virginia, or in the State of North Carolina, or in the State of South Carolina, or in the State of Georgia, or in the State of Florida, or in the State of Alabama, or in the State of Louisiana, or in the State of Mississippi, or in the State of Arkansas, or in the State of Missouri, or in the State of Illinois, or in