

Alabama Baptist

S. S. Department.

D. W. GWIN, EDITOR.

MARION, ALA.

Tuesday, May 26th, 1874.

Lesson for May 31st, 1874.

THE SMITTEN ROCK.

Num. xx. 7-12.

7. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Take the rod, and gather unto thee...

It is very essential to a right understanding of the most important and calamitous event in the life of Moses...

Obedience to God consists in doing, as exactly as divine grace shall enable us...

In the former instance of a similar miracle, the Almighty had desired Moses, not merely to take his rod...

10. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels...

11. And Moses lifted up his hand, and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.

Here, then, was a double sin. Moses had, and probably with some parade, for it talks of his "lifting up his hand..."

12. And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, because ye believed not in me...

13. This is the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the Lord, and he was sanctified in them.

Alas! how painful a conclusion is here foretold, to such a life of labor and wandering, as has been the lot of Moses...

PLATO'S PROPHECY.—Plato almost prophesied when he described the righteous man as "one who, without doing any injustice, yet has the appearance of the greatest injustice..."

earthly Canaan, that he might enter the sooner into "the everlasting kingdom and joy of his Lord." It was, indeed, a punishment, and one which he no doubt felt severely...

LESSON.

1. What reason have we to adore the Divine goodness which has spared us under greater aggravations than the offences of Moses...

2. What need have we to watch and rule our spirits when here we find the meekest of all men carried away by wrath...

3. Our plans of earthly usefulness and comfort may fail us. Life is frail. Moses was disappointed in seeing Canaan.

4. But the believer's hopes of the heavenly Canaan are secure. God denied a lesser favor to Moses and Aaron only to give them a greater.

Communications.

Eufaula News.

DEAR BRETHREN: Have been kindly furnished with a copy of your interesting paper, issue of the 12th instant, and on reading the various articles contained therein, I have been delighted...

I find an article asking to hear from South-East Alabama, but, well selecting those whose facile pens would doubtless attract and merit attention; but inasmuch, as for the present, one of them, at least, does not feel vexed with the "cacophony scribbendi..."

Our little city is perhaps one of the loveliest spots in the land of sunshine and flowers, and her citizens are not a whit behind any of her sister cities in intelligence, morality, and a bounteous hospitality...

14. And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, because ye believed not in me, and ye did not obey my voice...

15. This is the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the Lord, and he was sanctified in them.

THE METHODISTS, Presbyterians, and Episcopalians each have a goodly membership; the latter have just held their State Convention here, with but a small delegation, but that a very refined, cultivated and intelligent one...

church." The writer of this, although protesting to the innovation, can but hope that the spirit of the remarks of the Rev. Dr. Fulton, may be re-echoed throughout his denomination...

The Baptists have an elegant house of worship, and a large membership. A debt has been hanging over the church, but not of such magnitude as to cause uneasiness...

My FRIENDS: In response to a previous invitation of your worthy President, I will submit a few words for your consideration on this, the anniversary of your Union Bible Society...

One of the most intricate and perplexing questions that has ever engaged and exercised the intellect and genius of statesmen and patriots is, what constitutes the best form of government...

The prayer meetings of the church are well attended, and a good feeling is prevalent, and hopes are cherished by all that the "set time to favor Zion" will soon arrive.

Next fall the Eufaula Association is to convene with this church. The event though distant, is looked forward to with interest, and we hope, some of your good brethren will come and see us.

Bro. T. C. Boykin, our Sunday School Evangelist, visited us a few weeks ago, and we were delighted with him. A good Methodist brother who heard his lecture on Saturday night, said it was the best Sunday School lecture he ever heard in his life.

The Baptist interest in this section is large; there are over twenty churches in this Association, but of late years they have been financially weak...

I will keep you advised from this section as opportunity offers, and when no abler pen than mine shall do so.

Eufaula, Ala., May 1874. B.

PROGRAMME

Of Sunday School Mass Meeting to be held at the Alpine Baptist Church, Talladega county, May 30th and 31st, 1874.

1. The principal difficulties and discouragements of Country Sunday schools, and how to overcome them.

2. The importance of Sunday schools to the growth and prosperity of the churches.

3. The obligations of pastors to the Sunday schools.

4. How to secure a more thorough study of God's Word.

5. The best modes of teaching.

6. How can the Sunday school be made more fruitful in spiritual results?

7. To what extent should our denominational views be taught in the school?

It is earnestly hoped that all the speakers will be on hand, prepared to discuss the subjects assigned them.

The National and State Governments, in their wisdom and sagacity, have done much to promote the great essential elements of moral and social reform...

Enon Baptist Church, Pickens County, Ala.

We, the committee, being called upon to act in the investigation of certain charges made against Elder P. F. Terrell, by Bro. H. B. Chappelle, beg leave to make the following report...

lutions and preamble be sent the Baptist of Memphis, and the ALABAMA BAPTIST at Marion, Ala., for publication, as an act of justice to Bro. P. F. Terrell.

F. H. BALL, C. RICHEY, F. E. BALL, W. A. HINKS, C. F. FOLT, J. R. L. WOODRIDGE, Committee.

Done by order of the church in conference, May 14, A. D. 1874.

J. P. LEE, Moderator. J. D. STAFF, Church Clerk.

ADDRESS

Of Major J. G. Harris, before the Union Bible Society at Livingston, April 26th, 1874.

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viduals, in the entire range of the Society. No one is excluded from a participation in forwarding this benevolent and praiseworthy enterprise.

The question may be asked, where do you confine your labors? We reply; at present, in our own country. The heathen—so to speak—are in our very midst.

Selfishness is one of the meanest of vices—Love, one of the noblest of virtues. To disregard the welfare of those around us, either mental, moral or physical, is to disregard the teachings of the Great Preacher, "love thy neighbor as thyself."

The Bible has a history that has come down to us through fire and blood, persecution and martyrdom. Every manner of torture, oppression and cruelty has been visited upon the believers in the Divinity of the Scriptures...

Anterior to the Christian era, the Persians, and almost every oriental nation, were governed by the wild legends, traditions and superstitions, handed down and cherished by the rulers, the better to sustain their own supremacy.

This period was pregnant with idolatry, witchcraft, and nameless crimes. It established, beyond contradiction, that ignorance of the masses begets an indifference to civil liberty and religious toleration and principle.

The ignorant mind is a fit temple for the indwelling of unholy feelings and sentiments. The unlearned are willing supplicants at the call of their masters, and often are made the tools for the destruction of government, the demoralization of society, and the overthrow of right.

(TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.)

"I Only Cried With Her."

A poor widow, the mother of two children, used to call on them at the close of each day for the report of the good they had done.

"Going to school this morning, I found little Annie G—, who had been absent some days, crying very hard. I asked her mother what made her cry so, which made her cry more, so that I could not help leaning my head on her neck and crying, too."

"Mother, she said this, and then she hid her face in her book and cried as if her heart would break—Mother, I could not help putting my face on the other page of the book,

In Memoriam.

At the home of her son, Edward Lyon, in Lowndes county, on the evening of May 11th, 1874, Mrs. S. C. Bell calmly breathed her last.

Mrs. Bell was born in Carroll county, Tennessee, October 10th, 1803, and married Rev. I. Lyon in 1849. After his death, she married Mr. A. Bell. Mrs. Bell became a member of the Baptist church in early life.

As a friend, a wife, a mother, and a Christian, she was faithful and affectionate, in the discharge of her duties. Her last illness, a period of eight days, was a season of suffering the most intense; yet she left undoubted evidence that death was to her a relief from all sorrow.

and crying, too, as hard as she did. After we had cried together a long time, she hugged me and kissed me, telling me I had done her good. Mother, I don't know how I did her good, for I only cried with her. This is all I can tell, for I can't tell how I did her good."—Gen.

"Nobody ever comes to Christ until he cannot go anywhere else. The sinner comes to him by stress of weather—driven in sometimes, as ships are into harbors of refuge, because they cannot keep pace with it outside the bar. It is when the sinner is in difficulties that he is driven to Jesus Christ; and every soul that is really looking for eternal life in the right place, is looking to Jesus, gathering to Jesus; and I see little silver threads going out from Christ, the centre, from all over the world, drawing men to himself. I hope there is one of these threads drawing you. Oh! yield to the gentle pressure! Follow it; for there is your only hope."

Look again, and you will see that all over the world those that are saved are gathering to Jesus, rallying round him, and accepting him as their leader, instructor and king. The Jews said, "We have no king but Caesar;" the Christians say, "We have no king but Jesus." I mean no spiritual lord, no teacher, no leader, except Jesus Christ himself. "Unto him shall the gathering of the people be." His people out of all nations shall come and take his easy yoke and wear it, and find rest unto their souls. And now, at this moment, my eyes can see myriads all over the world who are coming nearer and nearer to Jesus, with instant eager cry, saying, "Draw us, Lord, draw us nearer to thyself; make us more like thyself, help us to live more to thy glory." Is there one of these golden threads drawing you? Then run if you are drawn, and seek to love your Lord and serve him better than ever you have done, for "unto him shall the gathering of the people be."—Spurgeon.

Texarkana, Texas, claims the distinction of being the "Enchanted Village of the Lone Star State." It is about seventy-five days old, and was built in the midst of a dense forest. It now numbers over two thousand inhabitants, and there are two hundred buildings going up. It contains a general ticket office, two railroads, two express companies, two telegraph lines, and forty schools.

Never be cast down by trifles. If a spider break his web twenty times, twenty times will he mend it. Make up your mind to do a thing, and you will do it.

There is one being above a beautiful woman—it is a woman beautiful and modest.—Pythagoras. Our familiar name of luncheon is derived from the daily meal of Spaniards at eleven o'clock, termed once or twice (pronounced Ponchey).—Ford's Gathering in Spain.

Mr. W. B. Modawell is a native of North Alabama, and this fact would add to his popularity and influence in that section of the State. For many years he resided in Perry. He is a man of the people, a representative man, and one whom the people would be pleased to honor.

Give him McKinstry's seat, and the Senate will have a presiding officer of whom the State will be proud and the body presided over with honor, dignity, ability, and justice.—Clark County Democrat.

THIEVING.—We hear of numerous houses being entered by thieves in the county, and sundry articles taken therefrom. It seems that our vigilant Police have driven them from the city, and they have taken to the country, where they are committing all kinds of depredations.—Eufaula News.

The grangers are determined to get the best of the lawyers. Many of them have a standing committee to whom all questions of dispute among the individual members of the grange are referred.

Col. Joel W. Taylor, of the Tuscaloosa Times, addressed the people of that city, last Wednesday, on the issues of the campaign.

A County Convention for Calhoun county, of the Democratic and Conservative party, has been called. July 15th is the day appointed.

The Indianapolis Journal, a leading Republican paper of Indiana, calls the veto the "President's death warrant."

There has been another large fire at Greenville; loss \$2,000; insurance \$4,000.

Look over your right shoulder at the new moon if you wish good luck.

