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The Alabama Baptist.

Vol. 5.

SELMA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1878.

No. 15.

TRIFLES.

What are trifles? who can tell
All a trifle's meaning?
Scattered ears on life's broad field
For a wise one's gleaming
Naught but his work on earth,
Fraught with pain or pleasure;
Links in Nature's mystic chain,
Though of thinnest measure.

But a trifle seems the world
So unkindly spoken;
Yet the life-bark waits for
For a gold string broken.
For a trifle seems a smile
On a kind face, gleaming;
How a faint heart grows strong
'Neath its gentle gleaming!

Just a look may waken thought
Full of proud resentment—
Just a look may fill the soul
With a sweet contentment.
Little prayers are revivings,
By their mother kneeling,
Touch a worn and weary heart
With a childlike feeling.

But a flower's perfume may bear
Back through years of sorrow
To the sunny meadow of life,
With a bright to-morrow.
And a cross of silken hair
On a young brow parted,
Wake a fount of bitter tears
For the broken-hearted.

Trifles! each one hath a part
In our pain and pleasure;
Making up the daily sum
Of our life's brief measure;
All unnoticed as they pass,
Secretly working healing;
Yet a TRIFLE it may be
God's own work is speeding.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Ministers' and Deacons' Meeting.

The Seventh Session of the Ministers' and Deacons' Meeting convened with the Pleasant Grove church, Friday before the 5th Sabbath in June, 1878.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder George W. Wilcox from 1 Cor. 3:9: "For ye are laborers together with God. Ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." After 15 minutes intermission the body was called together by the for-

At the call of churches the following delegates answered to their names, viz: New Canaan—Elijah P. Burroughs; Pleasant Grove—Elder J. B. Appleton and Brethren T. N. Appleton, N. W. Fielder, H. Sibert, J. H. Templeton, Miles Meadows, Daniel Norwood; Black Creek—N. F. Adams, R. A. Pinkerton, Wm. Drew; Providence—Elder G. W. Wilcox; Fairview—Elder H. R. Culbertson, James May; Liberty Hill—Wm. Tidmore; Macedonia—James Wilbanks, sr.

After recording the delegation, Bro. B. F. House and M. W. Chisenhall were received as corresponding messengers from Tennessee River Association.

A devotional committee consisting of the pastor and deacons of Pleasant Grove church was appointed to report on services for Sabbath. The subject of preaching to-morrow at 11 o'clock was referred to devotional committee. The following business committee was appointed by the moderator, viz: Elders H. R. Culbertson, Newton F. Adams and Bro. T. N. Appleton.

The order of business of last meeting was taken up.
Query No. 1, "What is the Scriptural plan of prayer?" Discussed by Brethren Appleton and Wilcox, and answered: "We believe the kneeling posture is best sustained by the Bible."

No. 2, "What authority has a pastor over a church, if any?" Discussed by Elders Culbertson and Pinkerton, and on motion adopted the following answer: "That we believe that the ministry has no official authority except that which is given by the church."

No. 3, "Does the Christian at all times have a knowledge of his conversion?" Discussed by Brethren Appleton, Wilcox and Fielder, and answered in the following language: "That we believe that the Scriptures abundantly teach that the truly regenerate have at all times a knowledge of their conversion."

No. 4, "Necessity of a converted membership." Discussed by Brethren N. F. Adams, E. P. Burroughs and A. A. Jolly, and answered: "That we believe the New Testament recognizes an exclusively converted membership."

No. 5, "To what extent do the Scriptures recognize a consecrated ministry?" Taken up and warmly discussed by Brethren Wilcox and

Appleton, and on motion referred to next meeting.
No. 6, "What lesson is taught in the Parable of the ten Virgins?" Discussed by Bro. Culbertson, and answered: "That we believe the Parable represents a true and false profession of Christianity at the end of the world."

Suspended regular order of business to hear report of business committee on subjects for next session.

PROGRAMME FOR NEXT MEETING.

Home Mission and the best method of supplying our destitution, by Elders W. J. Hodgins and J. B. Appleton.

The Sabbath-school, its relation to the church, by Elders G. W. Wilcox, N. F. Adams and Robert A. Pinkerton.

Duties of churches to support their pastors and the best means of raising funds, Deacons A. B. Tidmore and G. Blackwell.

Can a church consistently administer the sacrament of the Lord's supper without an ordained minister of the Gospel? by Elders H. R. Culbertson and E. P. Burroughs.

Appointed our next meeting with Black Creek church, Friday before the 5th Sunday in September. Election H. R. Culbertson to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elder E. P. Burroughs, alternate.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the ALABAMA BAPTIST with a request that it be published.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be eminently due and are hereby tendered the church and citizens of Collinsville for their noble and self-sacrificing hospitality to us during our session.

On motion, adjourned.
ELIJAH P. BURROUGHS, Mod.
G. W. WILCOX, Sec.

Collinsville, Ala., July 24th.

Evangelism.

Dear Baptist: I have read with interest what the evangelists who are sent out by our Board are doing in different parts of the State, and as no one else having spoken of Bro. J. S. Yarbrough, I have decided to write a short note.

We shall ever feel indebted to you for sending him among us, as well as for his personal labors. He has endeavored himself to us; and as a brother, he has found himself to our hearts by the most sacred ties, and we rejoice at the thought of the approaching day of his arrival at Geneva; our doors are widely extended for his reception.

As to his preaching, time only will reveal the amount of good he has done; he organized a Sabbath school here in the early part of last spring, which is prospering very well up to this time. We hear that he is, with the help of God, doing much good at different churches in this part of the country; old gray-headed sinners have become concerned about their sins under the influence of his preaching; one of those of whom I have spoken, we have been told, has not been to church since he has lived in this country, until he went to hear Bro. Yarbrough preach. I but express the sentiment of this entire community, when I say, that among the number of good missionaries sent among us, none have done their work so thoroughly, and their preaching been so highly appreciated as that of Bro. Yarbrough. One feature of his preaching so much admired is, that he labors to prevent sensation, which is so much practiced in this country; reasons with men from the Scriptures upon Christianity; persuading them to consider what is involved in their great subject, and to conform their lives to the teachings of God's holy Word. While this style of preaching may not get numbers, yet it will develop a permanent work that will accomplish greater good. He has elevated the standard of morals and religion, and impresses men with its sacredness.

We all greatly desire that Bro. Y. should be continued in this field, and although our people and country are very poor, yet we intend in the fall to contribute to the mission fund, to assist you in this noble work.

I will conclude by asking God to confer his blessings upon the Board, and the labors of all our missionaries.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN W. RADFORD.

Geneva, Ala., July 6, 1878.

Bro. Williams' Work.

Bro. Editor:—Not wishing to consume space that might be better filled by some other pen, I will give a brief outline of Bro. H. A. Williams' preaching tour in the bounds of the Boiling Springs Association.

Let me first say that the work of the State Board is a good work, but has never been so apparent to our brethren as now. We heartily endorse, and are willing to co-operate with the

Board in the full consummation of the grand and noble ends for which it was created. In no other way could we better proceed than to prosecute missionary enterprise through this channel, making it the chief depository and director of all the State funds we can command. By so doing we may have able and efficient help in Macedonia.

Our region is well stricken with poverty, as well as unwillingness, to contribute to this work, and therefore no one will be surprised at our small pitance. The Board will doubtless be led to conclude, that our section is one that must be worked out gratuitously, and this may not be far wrong. But, thanks be unto God, there are some staunch advocates of missions among us who will divide their substance with the Lord, and we still respond, thank God, that the signs of the times are better.

The missionary tours of our much esteemed Bro. H. A. Williams have produced quite a sensation on the subject of missionary labor. Our brother did not at first realize that we were in need of an evangelist. But the more they think about it the more the necessity becomes apparent to them. Instead of our missionary's being repulsed at the cold-heartedness of his sparse congregations, he is met with enthusiasm, and is held in high esteem.

Bro. Williams' ability, untiring energy and indomitable courage, make us think more of final perseverance, and inspires us with ardent desires to press onward and upward, in work, in faith, in love. Bro. W. has many strings to his bow. When one fails to drive the mark, another is brought into requisition, and signs are sure to follow. He will preach, and pray, and sing—sometimes it may seem to some a little too zealously, but all to the best effect. He frequently collects the young together and delivers them a pointed talk. He is never idle. He has always around him a group of old and young. At church or in the family circle he is equally interesting, adapting himself and his labors to all occasions and all people, that he "may perchance save some," or be an humble instrument in their salvation.

I have frequently asked prominent Baptists in our midst, "What of Bro. Williams?" and the instant reply follows, "He is the right man in the right place." I answer, Amen!

T. H. HOWLE.

From Gainesville.

Dear Bro. Editor: On last Sabbath I made a visit to Sumterville church, of which Dr. B. F. Hendon is the efficient pastor. I found that they had a good Sabbath-school in successful operation. Notwithstanding it is a country church, the school is largely attended. All go to this school, both old and young—hence the work is well done, the children are interested and delight in attending. It is the best organized and most thorough in instruction, of all the schools I am acquainted with in West Alabama. There are some true and noble sisters engaged in this school.

Dr. Hendon is doing well in the pastoral duties. He preaches for them twice a month. His church love him, and do all they are able to do for the pastor and his large family.

This is a model little church—not strong by any means, save in the faith and doctrines of Christ, yet I venture to say, that it does more for the Master's cause than any other church in all this section of country. It is a developed church in every good word and work.

By the way, Bro. B. F. Hendon is the most efficient pastor in building up the waste places in Zion and leading out his people to toil and sacrifice for the Lord, that I know of in the State. He is a system man, and one who goes in for the whole of a duty, not winking at and excusing small things. In short, he has the tact and wisdom, with the true spirit of Christ, to enlist old and young, poor and rich, in the cause at home and abroad. He has done this for several churches in our association, and is now doing it for the little scattered church at Lauderdale, Miss.

Yet, he is much crippled in his ministerial duties by having to "serve table" for the little flock at home. He ploughs in the week, or does something else to which his hands can be turned to earn an honest penny for the support of a good wife and fond children. His hands should be loosened, and his whole strength and capabilities utilized for the kingdom of Christ.

We need just such a man as Dr. B. F. Hendon to act as missionary in the Bigbee Association. This Association is once strong and wealthy, but is now weak and poor. There are several important points where the Baptist cause could be resuscitated, and Bro. Hendon is the man to do it. Therefore, we move that Bro. Bailey

meet us at our next Association Convention, and help us devise ways and means to occupy this field at once, and that with the proper man.

Our church here is rather cold and troubled, but hope, by the grace of God, to recover and move on triumphantly in great things for Christ.

Yours fraternally,

L. M. STONE.

Gainesville, Ala., July 14, 1878.

From Bro. Yarbrough.

Bro. West:—I suppose this will close the pleasant relation between us, as Editor and Missionary, which to me has been both profitable and pleasant. I am only one of many who regret that you are forced to leave the editorial chair, which you have so faithfully and ably filled for twelve months. May you continue to be as faithful in your new sphere, and be more abundantly blessed and rewarded.

I have been thinking for some time that I would request some brother or friend in each of the localities where I have been preaching to give through your columns a concise statement of the work in which I am engaged and the opinion of the people in regard to the labors of the Missionary, whom the State Board have sent among them, in order that the Baptists at large, as well as the Board, may determine whether we shall continue this work or not. In this way I think the Board could get a more satisfactory and impartial account of the labors of the Evangelists.

If you think proper, Bro. West, you can publish this, and I hope the request will not be overlooked by any neighborhood where I have been laboring. I don't wish an exaggerated report, but an honest statement of facts.

And now Bro. West, I bid you farewell as Editor.

Yours fraternally,

J. S. YARBROUGH.

Orion, Ala., July 12th.

[The above was intended for last week's paper, but was received too late. We need not say that we are grateful to Bro. Yarbrough for the kindly spirit of his communication. We have received scores of letters similar to the above. We cannot repeat them all. May God bless you, and your paper, and the cause in which we are all engaged.—J. L. WEST.]

Official Proceedings of the First State Sunday-School Convention of Alabama.

SELMA, ALA., July 16th, 1878.

FIRST DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

In pursuance of the call, as published in the papers of the State, the Alabama State Sunday-school Convention met at the Presbyterian church in Selma July 16, 1878.

The meeting was called to order by J. H. Franklin, delegate to the late International Sunday-school Convention at Atlanta, who stated briefly the objects of the Convention.

The Convention was temporarily organized, by calling Rev. J. O. B. Lowry, of Mobile, to the chair; and B. B. Davis, of Eufaula, and W. R. Nelson were requested to act as secretaries.

The hymn, "All hail the power of Jesus' name," was then sung, standing; prayer and reading of the Scriptures by Rev. J. B. Hawthorne, D.D., of Montgomery; and after a few introductory and well-timed remarks by the President he declared the Convention ready for business.

Rev. O. F. Gregory, of Eufaula, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the officers of this Convention shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents, and two Secretaries, who shall respectively perform the duties assigned to like officers in similar organizations; and that a committee of six be appointed by the Chair, to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the Convention.

The President appointed the following Committee on Organization under said resolution, viz: Rev. O. F. Gregory, of Eufaula, Maj. Jos. Hardie, of Selma, Rev. A. R. Holderby, Tuskegee, Hon. J. G. Harris, Livingston, W. J. Steele, Birmingham, Rev. J. B. Stevenson, Oxford.

H. L. McKee, of Selma, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a temporary business committee of 3 be appointed by the Chair, whose duty it shall be to report brief rules for the conduct of exercises for this forenoon. The following constitute the committee:

H. L. McKee, of Selma, J. N. Miller, Camden, E. A. Schaeffer, Mobile.

H. Post offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of 3 on credentials be appointed by the Chair. The following constitute the committee:

in Jesus" was then sung.
Rev. J. Hancock, of Eufaula, and Gov. R. M. Patton, of Florence, on behalf of the delegates, responded to the address of welcome. Prayer was then offered by Rev. Mr. Motley, of Selma.

The committee on permanent organization reported the following officers:

President, Wm. L. Baker, of Mobile; Vice-Presidents, Maj. J. M. Butler, of Eufaula, Prof. W. P. McCall, of Calhoun Co., Hon. Felix Pitt, of Wilcox, Maj. J. M. Jeffries, of Uniontown, Hon. W. H. Chambers, of Auburn; For Secretaries, B. B. Davis, of Eufaula, W. R. Nelson, of Oxford.

The President elect was conducted to his seat by a committee appointed by the Chair, composed of Rev. Mr. Tenor and Mr. McBride. On taking the chair, the President, made a few happy remarks, thanking the Convention for the honor conferred on him. "Hold the fort," was then sung.

H. L. McKee, chairman of committee on business, made the following report, which was adopted:

RULES.

Immediately after the election of permanent officers, the President appointed the following standing committees, viz: One on business, to whom shall be referred all business matters of the Convention, and shall arrange for all devotional meetings; and one on resolutions, to whom all resolutions shall be referred.

All resolutions submitted to the Convention shall be in writing, and shall be referred to the proper committee without debate.

That all pastors and superintendents present be each entitled to vote; and every Sabbath-school, having an average of 25 or less, shall be entitled to one vote, and one additional vote for each 25 members; delegates arranging among themselves as to casting the vote of the Sabbath-schools represented.

The established order of parliamentary law shall prevail, except when inconsistent with these rules.

The Convention may, at any time suspend the rules for a specified object by a two-thirds vote.

Reports of three minutes' length on the state of the Sunday-school work in the several localities, were then made by the following gentlemen:

Rev. Mr. Padgett, of Autauga; Rev. Dr. L. T. Tichenor, of Auburn; Prof. W. P. McCall, Calhoun; B. B. Davis, and J. B. Besson, Eufaula; G. R. Farnham, Esq., Evergreen; Willis N. Chandler, and Dr. Hawthorne, of Wilcox; W. C. Jones, Oak Hill, Wilcox county; Wm. L. Baker, Mobile; Hon. Porter King, Marion; Maj. J. D. Cross, Friendship church, Dallas county; T. A. Hall, Demopolis; J. J. Garrett, Greensboro; Hon. J. G. Harris, Livingston; Professor Anderson, Florence; Hon. John Haralson, Selma.

The Committee on Credentials, by its Chairman, H. Post, stated that there were about 220 delegates reported so far, and asked for further time to make up a report and list of the delegates.

The time for adjournment, 1 o'clock, having arrived, on motion, it was agreed that the order of exercises as laid down in the programme be adopted as the order of business for this afternoon.

Adjourned with singing and the benediction, to meet at 3 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

opened with devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. T. B. Thomas, of Mobile; and Rev. James Gillespie, of Tallapoosa.

The minutes of the morning session were read and adopted.

The President announced the following standing committees:

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS.

H. L. McKee, of Selma; E. A. Schaeffer, Mobile; J. N. Miller, Camden.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.
C. W. Lovelace, Marion; Rev. Bruce Harris, Columbiana; Rev. B. H. Crumpton, Greenville.

The regular order of business being the discussion of the first topic—"The Sunday-school, its Work and True Aim"—on account of the absence of Rev. W. C. Hearn, D. D., who had been appointed to speak on it, Rev. H. B. Raymond, D. D., of Tallapoosa, to whom the second topic—"Of Whom Composed"—had been assigned, opened the discussion of both topics, and was followed by Rev. O. F. Gregory, Rev. J. J. McLean, and J. W. Lapsley, Col. W. H. Chambers, and W. C. Ward.

The discussion of the third topic, "The Sunday-school—its Superintendent," was opened by J. N. Miller, Esq., of Camden, and participated in by Gov. Patton and Dr. Tichenor.

Then the fourth part of the topic, "Its Teachers—Their Office, Qualifications, their Duties, &c.," was opened by Rev. J. B. Stevenson of Oxford.

The Committee on Credentials was granted further time.

The Committee on Business reported that the Convention adjourned at 6 o'clock and re-assembled at 8 1/2 o'clock when the order of business as laid down in programme shall be pursued.

No. 7, Dr. F. A. Bates; Class No. 8, Judge Porter King; Class No. 9, Rev. O. F. Gregory; Class No. 10, Capt. C. W. Lovelace; Class No. 11, Y. C. McBryde; Class No. 12, Rev. J. A. Lowry; Class No. 13 (Infant class), Mrs. M. Rothrock; Secretary, Lyman Brazier, Librarian, G. E. Sage.

Teachers and scholars are to meet promptly at 8 1/2 o'clock. Scholars and visitors at 9 a. m. Prompt attendance of every teacher required.

On motion adjourned, with prayer by Rev. Mr. Hancock.

NIGHT SESSION.

The exercises were resumed with devotional exercises conducted by Major J. M. Buford, of Eufaula, and Rev. A. R. Holderby, of Tuskegee.

The minutes of the afternoon session were read and adopted.

The discussion of the assigned topic, "The Relations of the Sunday-school to the Church," being the regular order of business, was then opened by Rev. B. T. Winkler, D. D., and followed by Rev. E. P. Palmer, D. D.

Adjourned, with doxology and benediction pronounced by Rev. B. H. Crumpton.

GOLD.

Wonderful Discovery of the Precious Metal in Randolph and Clay Counties.

Ex-Gov. W. H. Smith of our town, while spending last week at the East Alabama copper mines, in which he has considerable interest, made a discovery of gold which surpasses any discovery ever made in this section of the country. He brought home, a few days ago, a sample consisting of about two pennyweights, which he obtained from a small quantity of ore, beaten and washed in a pan. He found the quartz on the surface, and after testing it cut the vein in four different places, in the distance of a mile, extending into Randolph county and crossing the lands of the Copper Hill Mining Company and the lands belonging to Mr. R. J. Wood, of the latter company.

The lead runs parallel with, and near the great copper lead of the above two companies, and appears to have several shoots or parallel veins all along the main lead thus discovered.

In the few days which Gov. Smith devoted to testing, he became sufficiently satisfied with the prospect to work in earnest, and is now adjusting his plan to build a mill to crush the ore.

There is no doubt that in his Red Hill belt, extending through Randolph and into Clay, on the other, there is a vast amount of gold yet waiting to be discovered. It is estimated that great quantities of gold which were taken several years ago from the mines at Abacochee and Pinckney, in this same belt of country, and the immense amount of copper taken out of the Copper Hill and the East Alabama copper mines during the last three years, there is reason to believe from the many other discoveries of copper, mica, and other valuable minerals, and especially from this last discovery of a gold lead so rich and extensive—that the vast mineral resources of this Red Hill belt have only been tapped, and that with a proper application of a little capital, and a great deal of skill and patient perseverance, immense fortunes may yet be realized here.

The way is open, and the adventurous fortune hunter can here find a field, ample, inviting and promising.—*Wetmore Journal.*

A New Missionary Enterprise.

Mr. William Taylor, of San Francisco, is known as "Coliforma Taylor." He is an out-and-out missionary, and a zealous worker in the cause of missions. Like most such men he has a hobby, and it seems to be a very good sort of a hobby. He believes that a good way of doing missionary service is to send out a colony of teachers, who can and will preach as the door may open. It is said that he has conducted work on this system in India with good results.

He proposes now to try it on some what large scale, and has therefore organized a party of Methodists, young men and women, married and single, comprising graduates of Boston University and other similar institutions East and West, to go out to Central and South America under his auspices. They are to sail from New York about July 1. Talcahuano, Iquique, Coquimbo and Valparaiso are among the points to be occupied. The enterprise is expected to be self-supporting, though just how is not stated. The teachers are to be paid fair monthly wages, and are to give all instruction in English, for which purpose a full supply of text books is carried with them. The results of this experiment will be looked for with interest.

The Earth not a True Globe.

Our planet is not a true globe, because of its former plastic condition before the formation and cooling of the surface. When the globe was soft it was more or less yielding, and then the rotation of the earth to which I have reference tended to drive off, as it were, the matter in the equatorial regions, so that the distance through the center of the earth between the two surfaces as far as possible removed from the poles of rotation, or those parts of the earth which the imaginary axis comes through, is rather greater than the distance between the two points where the axis comes to the surface. The reason of this fact, and that it may have been so, has been beautifully established by several experiments. That the earth was once hot, and that by its irregularities of its surface, and by its shape as a whole,

We must not imagine, however, that there has been but one change. The minor irregularities are all gradually changing by inner energies and the action of air and water, and it may be that, even the largest ones are young, compared with the age of the planet's surface. Nor does the change end here; the equatorial protuberance itself may now but after all mark a point in a great cycle of change, which has compelled the earth to rotate about one axis and now about another.

Mathematicians consider it highly probable that the axis of the earth may have been in ancient times very differently situated to what it is at the present, and indeed, that "it might have gradually shifted through 10, 20, 30, 40, or more degrees, without at any time any perceptible sudden disturbance of either land or water."

Thus it appears that Nature prevents catastrophes by the very hugeness of the scale on which she works.—*North American Weekly, in Good Words.*

Rain.

The first water,—how much it means! Seventenths of man himself is water. Seven eighths of the human race rained down but yesterday! It is much more probable that Caesar will flow out of a bung hole than that any part of his remains will ever stop one. Our life is indeed a vapor, a breath, a little moisture upon the pane. We carry ourselves in a phial. Cleave the flesh, and how quickly we spill out! Man begins as a fish, and he swims in a sea of vital fluids as long as his life lasts. His first food is milk; so is his last and all between. He can taste and assimilate and absorb nothing but liquids. The same is true throughout all organic nature. 'Tis water-power that makes every wheel move. Without this great solvent, there is no life. I admire immensely this line of Walt Whitman:

"The slumbering and liquid trees."

The tree and its fruit are like a sponge which the rains have filled. Through them and through all living bodies there goes on the commerce of vital growth, tiny vessels, fleets and succession of fleets, laden with material bound for distant shores, to build up, and repair, and restore the waste of the physical frame.

Then the rain means relaxation; the tension in Nature and in all her creatures is lessened. The trees drop their leaves, or let go their ripened fruit. The tree itself will fall in a still, damp day, when but yesterday it withstood a gale of wind. A moist south wind penetrates even the mind and makes its grasp less tenacious. It ought to take less to kill a man in direct support of the sun is withdrawn; life is under a cloud; a masculine mood gives place to something like a feminine. In this sense, rain is the grief, the weeping of Nature, the relief of a burdened or agonized heart.

But tears from Nature's eyelids are always remedial and prepare the way for brighter, purer skies.—*John Burroughs.*

Something About Sun-Dials.

I heard a brother telling his three sisters something about the sun-dial in their father's garden. "This is what he said:

Sun-dials had already come over from Babylonia to Greece as early as 580 B.C., or in the fifth Olympiad. Ptolemy ascribes the invention of the sun-dial to Anaximenes of Miletus.

The portable sun-dial, with a magnetic compass, was invented by the noted Pope Sylvester, in the 16th century. The oldest sun-dial that we know was exhumed on the Tuscany hill near Rome, from the ruins of a villa. Sun-dials serve to show us the hour of the day, when the sun shines, by the shadow of a pointer. They, therefore, are right only when they are in the right position. Sun-dials are either fixed or moveable. The fixed are fastened upon pedestals or walls; the moveable may be carried from place to place.

I know a sun-dial, a moveable one, too, which also only shows the right hour when it is in the right position, but it shows it in the dark as well. It is shut up in a dark place, and trembles this way and that way, and it is all dark outside, but all light within. Do you want to hold it in your hand, little reader? Then put your hand upon your little heart, and when Jesus Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, shines into your heart, and when your heart is rightly placed towards his Sun, then it will always go with the right beat; and if it is inclined to go too fast or too tardily, and a ray of the divine light falls in upon it, then you will see what hour it has been, and will turn again to God. And when it has ceased beating, and the dark night comes, lo, light will come to it, the whole and full,

Alabama Baptist.

SELMA, ALA.

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1878.

JOHN L. WEST, PUBLISHER.

EDITORS:

E. T. WINKLER & JOHN L. WEST.

Tell your neighbor that we will send him this paper from now until Jan. 1st. for only \$1.00.

OBLIGATIONS TO THE CHURCH.

How great an institution the church is, few of us pause to consider. It is true, indeed, that many recognize a substitute bearing that name as worthy of all their reverence and affection. Their imaginations are possessed by its historic glories and its outward pomp. Their affections are held to it by the memory of their fathers. Their social pretensions are sustained by its prestige. Their awe is awakened by sacraments to which they believe the grace of God to be attached, and by a priesthood claiming to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people. The pride with which such persons refer to "the church" shows their sense of indebtedness to it. And the agony they experience when these high claims are found to be groundless and the difficulty they experience even then, in making any change of ecclesiastical relation shows how strong is the grasp which the unhallowed communion has laid upon them.

Why is it that we do not feel an equally enthusiastic interest in the gospel church? Why are we more inclined to consider the services we render to it, than those which it renders to us? Are we indeed laying the church under obligation to us by the labors, the gifts and supports we extend to it; or are we not receiving more than an equivalent for all we have done, in the contributions made by the church to our state in life and to our own personal development? Upon this subject we find some very suggestive remarks in a contemporary showing how largely we are indebted to the church in regard to mental culture, social position and spiritual life.

In regard to entire process of education is constantly going on in every community to which the best thoughts of cultivated and able men are from Sabbath to Sabbath communicated. The Sunday-school also accumulates in the minds of the young a large store of knowledge and experience otherwise unattainable. The church deserves grateful recognition on this account.

The social position of many has also been due to the church; strangers have been entertained; men in embarrassed circumstances have been helped, young aspirants have secured professional advancement, success in life has been promoted by the active aid of Christian brethren. The number of those who have not needed such help is small. As to the large majority of church members, we are satisfied that they can recall periods when they have been signally benefited and encouraged by Christian sympathy.

But it is specially in regard to our higher interests that the extent of our obligations to the church appears. To quote from our contemporary: "We are prone to think that the obligation lies the other way. Have we not, we ask, done our best to promote the spiritual welfare of the church? Have we not done our part, perhaps more than our part, of its work? Is not our voice often heard in its meetings? But, on the other hand, what an incentive it is to doing right to know that we are expected to do right. The signal, 'England expects every man to do his duty,' sent an unwonted thrill of patriotism and valor through the stout heart of every British seaman at Trafalgar. And equally it is often an inspiration which makes all the difference between victory and defeat, to know that the watchful eyes of sympathetic brethren are upon us. And who of us has not gone to the social meetings of the church, despondent and heavy-hearted, with wounds bleeding from some recent defeat, perhaps, or with souls weighed down by some trial too great for us to bear alone? And how has our spiritual tone been keyed up, our hearts cheered and the burden lifted by our going thither? We have gone out from that meeting new men, and have begun again the battle of life with new courage.

We confess to a feeling of sadness whenever we hear a Christian man talking as if the church did not give him all that is his due. To our mind it indicates that he has never once dreamed of the extent of his obligations to the church. If we appreciated those obligations better, should we not respond more promptly and more cheerfully to our duties as mem-

bers of the body of Christ?" The want of a zealous church spirit is our weakness as Baptists. There is such a sensitiveness in regard to personal independence that we do not feel as we should the sacredness of our religious association. Ought we not to cherish a tender, filial veneration for the church in which we were born into a new and heavenly life, upon whose bosom we were cradled, in whose household we have grown up to Christian maturity, and upon whose sympathy and aid we have so largely depended? Her welfare and honor ought to be inexpressibly dear to each of her children.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY

The debate in regard to College and University education inaugurated by Dr. Francis Wayland has not yet been settled, and, as we sometimes fear, is not approaching a settlement. Perhaps the college system had never obtained so perfect a form as under that wonderful administrator. It had to be sure, the faults charged upon the old college curriculum—"its uniform grind for the lower classes and the jumble of all manner of sciences in the upper." Still the analytical processes which were insisted upon, in every department, gave to the student an easy insight into the subjects of study, a certain inventive and original power, and also a facility for making new acquisitions. Thus Wayland's stamp was impressed upon the graduates of Brown University.

The chief defect of the old course, however, was its inability to comprehend the studies which belong to a liberal education—such as literature, history and the natural sciences, and those studies which it did embrace could not be pursued beyond certain definite and somewhat narrow limits. Hence Dr. Wayland recommended an eclectic course which would allow the students to pursue such studies (after the earlier years of study) as would best fit them for their appropriate spheres in life. The plan was not without its advantages, yet was objectionable because it made education partial, necessitated an increase of the number of professors, and introduced a chaos into the College and University system. A more unsatisfactory system than that which now prevails among not a few of our highest institutions of learning cannot be imagined. Many which profess to teach everything, do in fact teach nothing, or at least they do not teach anything efficiently. More time is given to the classics, but translations are in universal use. The course is more complicated—and more superficial. More enthusiasm is displayed in boat races than in the acquisition of useful knowledge. And what is the real meaning and value of the titles they give "bachelor of arts" and "master of arts"?

That some change ought to be made, every body acknowledges. There seems to be no general agreement as to what that change ought to be. In a recent thoughtful article in the Princeton Review, Prof. B. L. Gildersleeve gives his views upon the subject. His fundamental idea seems to be that there should be no incongruous blending of the College and University systems. He would have the college course "a dead pull, without any scientific presentation" of subjects; the university should employ "the discursive faculty" upon "high ranges" of thought. He objects to the four-year curriculum and the simultaneous advance in the conditions of entrance into college, that the latter requires an advance in the age of the candidates, and the former shortens the time of special preparation for a profession. In the case of high conditions for entrance, which a youth under eighteen cannot reach, he contends that the college course ought not to extend beyond two, or at most three years.

The defect in the argument of Prof. Gildersleeve is that he makes so wide a distinction between the college and the university. In the one case he makes education to consist in the reciting of lessons and the reading of Latin and Greek. In the other case it consists in scientific study and personal research. What is wanted in higher education he sees very clearly. He objects that "in most of the higher classes, if not in all, the mastery of the text-book is the main thing, and if there are lectures, the lectures are little more than compilations, little more than text-books in the making, or else mere popular discourses, with most of the disadvantages and few of the elegances of the French method." And his own idea of what a higher education involves is given in the following words: "It is not a question of harder or easier Latin and Greek; it is a question of method. It is not a question of more complicated problems in mathematics, or the learning of more recondite laws of physics. It is a question of method. The student should be taken into the workshop of the professor, should see him work, should have the tools put into his hand, and should be taught to use them."

Now, in our judgment, what Prof. Gildersleeve describes as the highest stage of education is really fundamental to it, and so belongs to every stage. The teacher should be the pupil's companion and helper from the very beginning, and save the lad, if practicable, from any "grind" or "dead pull" at each period of his advance. Especially should the youthful spirit be guarded from discouragement at the beginning of its course. The pupil should be taught by the concrete, the visible and the tangible, and be protected from the terrible tyranny of words.

Upon this point some remarks were made a few months ago, at the Indiana State Teachers' Association, which indicated a conception of the true idea of teaching. One of the speakers criticised the present mode of education, and said that it "too often consists of empty forms; there is too much abstract teaching and not enough of the concrete and practical working out of real problems. One school was employed three weeks in making South America in their playground, till they understood every particular of the geography of that country, and the interest excited was so great that the whole school wanted to emigrate to South America. It is a positive necessity often to simplify the instruction for the benefit of the dull pupils. It pays to devote proper time to the steps of learning in any branch, more especially in arithmetic, rather than have only a confused idea when all had been gone through. The work must be made as pleasing as possible, so as to promote the feeling of pride on the part of the pupil. If a pupil is not ready to graduate, he should commence over again, and graduation might be twice a year instead of annually."

PEDOBAPTIST TESTIMONY.

The New Testament commentary edited by Dr. Ellicott, Bishop of Gloucester, will be prepared by distinguished scholars of the Church of England. Prof. Plumptre, Professor of Exegesis, in King College, London, is the author of the commentary on the first three Gospels. This commentator who has no connection with or interest in Baptists, gives the following candid testimony in our favor, in his notes.

He says, on Matt. 3:1: "The baptism was, as the name implied, an immersion, and commonly, though not necessarily, in running water."

On Matt. 3:11, in dealing with the much disputed question of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, he says: "As heard and understood at the time, the baptism with the Holy Ghost would imply that the souls thus baptized would be plunged, as it were, in that creative and informing Spirit which was the source of life and holiness and wisdom."

On Mark 7:4, he observes: "The Greek verb (that for wash) differs from that in the previous verse, and implies the washing or immersion (the verb is that from which our word 'baptize' comes to us) of the whole body as the former does of part."

On that frequently perverted text, Luke 11:38: "Here the word 'wash' (literally, though of course not in the technical sense, baptized) implies actual immersion, or at least a process that took in the whole body. Mark 7:4 shows that this was the Pharisaic standard of ceremonial purity."

Finally, with reference to Luke 12:50, he says: "The baptism of which our Lord now speaks is that of one who has come into deep waters, so that the floods pass over him, over whose head have passed and are passing the waves and billows of many and great sorrows."

We commend these notices to the attention of our readers. The author is not only one of the most distinguished theological writers of England, but is too great a scholar to tolerate denominational unfairness.

S. S. CONVENTION at SELMA.

The report of the proceedings of the Sunday School Convention is partially given on our first page. The spirit of the meeting may be judged from what we have published. The second day's proceedings are crowded out. The Sunday School workers interchanged their ideas in regard to the institution and its management, and made the exercises as interesting as they were profitable. Another session is to be held next year.

In regard to this whole matter our opinion is, that the Denominations can do the Sunday School work better apart than together. The best S. S. work we can do as Baptists, must be done in connection with our own churches. The Bible schools in our churches will do more to promote the sanctification of the Lord's Day, and the intelligent piety of the people than any other agency beside the pulpit. Yet, such convocations as that held at Selma, will do good in various ways. They will help to form intelligent plans of teaching, and will inspire new interest in the Sabbath study of the word of God.

The discovery has been made that Bishop Kavelles and other French missionaries are held confined in the capital of Corea, and are in danger of death. A call has been made for their rescue.

FIELD NOTES.

The Ebenezer Baptist church has recently purchased a new organ.

Don't fail to read the advertisement of Berg and Zachry, to be found in another column.

The publication of this paper is purposely delayed one day this week, in order to give the full proceedings of the State Convention.

A union church has been completed at Piedmont Hill, Monroe county, Ala.

Rev. Dr. S. Henderson will attend the next session of the Bethlehem Association, which meets at Brewton, M. & R. R.

Bro. J. A. Rowe, of Sylacauga, a new subscriber, has gone to work for us already. He sends a new name, and says: "You may expect several more dollar subscribers from me."

Will some one who reads this be kind enough to give the address of M. J. Wells and J. W. Broughton? They write to us on business, but give no post-office.

Bro. J. M. Womack, of Scottsboro, writes: "Poor as I am I cannot do well without your paper. It is ever welcome to our humble home. I hope ere long to be able to work some of its interest."

Bro. J. W. Moore, Broken Arrow, says: "We need many copies of your paper for this part of the world. Go to work for us on our \$1.00 offer, Bro. M."

The Deaf and Dumb Asylum, located at Talladega, Ala., was visited by a large number of the delegates of the Alabama Baptist State Convention. All testify to its able and efficient management by Dr. Johnson.

We are indebted to Bro. W. S. Rogers, of Selma, Ala., for the report on the proceedings of our State Convention in this paper. We take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to our dear brother for his kindness and the excellent manner in which he has performed the task.

A brother who has been attending the sessions of the Alabama Baptist State Convention for 30 years says that for numbers, for personal appearance, for intelligence, for unanimity of sentiment and harmony of action, the recent session at Talladega has never been surpassed.

On our return from the Convention, we were pained to hear of the sudden death, from heart disease, of Bro. L. B. Parker, who resided a short distance from this city in Autauga county. He was a good Baptist and a most excellent man.

It is a matter of regret that North-west and North Alabama did not have more representatives in the Convention at Talladega. The Convention goes to Birmingham next year, and we hope that section will then be well represented.

ROBE CHAPLAIN, Agents, treasurers, pastors, and evangelists, have funds for this chapel, are earnestly requested by the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions to send immediately, as the drafts for the chapel mature on the 1st of August. If any have not contributed to the object, they are affectionately solicited to do so at once. The Board cannot pay unless the money is sent to them.

I want to see our State Mission Board established. I feel that it has already accomplished much good in supplying the destitute regions of our State with the gospel, but in order for it to be a grand success, more good, active, energetic men of good qualifications must be put in the field. An indifferent, lazy man had better be kept at home for such men are an injury to the cause, when sent out to do mission work.—C. D. Woodruff.

The brethren at Talladega have just completed a beautiful and substantial house of worship. The building is of brick, with a slate roof. The basement is fitted up for a lecture and Sunday-school room. The audience room above is fitted up in excellent style. We understand that the building of this church is largely if not mainly due to the exertions of Dr. Renfro, the beloved pastor. It will stand as an appropriate monument to the memory of that laboring preacher and noble and godly man long after he has passed to his reward.

The Baptists of Alabama are engaged in a grand work—the work of State evangelization. There is a general desire, and determination all along the line, to "go forward." We hope we expect to have not less than fifteen missionaries in the field this year. Brethren in the ministry, brethren in the laity, let us bestir ourselves for the time, have come to "awake out of sleep." The work will be done, and whoever fails to do his part, must stand off and see it done by others.

We had the pleasure of meeting at the Convention all but one of the evangelists who have been laboring under the appointment of our State Mission Board. They are all godly men and men zealous in every good word and work. Each one spoke in turn of the prospects in his field of labor and of the work which he had been doing. Our hearts were made glad when they spoke of the kindly treatment which they receive and the encouragements which everywhere meet them as they continue in the work. Brethren, we must sustain these noble, self-sacrificing men, and we must sustain them liberally.

One of the heaviest blows ever administered to Universalism was given by Rev. Lemuel Haynes, a gifted and witty colored preacher, who argued that if Universalism be true, then the righteous Noah was the only one who was really punished at the flood, by being compelled to continue in a world of sorrow. The antediluvian sinners were too bad to live on this earth, so God sent a flood and swept them all into heaven.

"God saw that the violence was too bad. To save the goodly land, And so he took the rascals up. To dwell in his right hand."

DEDICATION SERVICE IN TALLADEGA.

The Baptist church house in Talladega having been completed, it was opened for and dedicated to the worship of God on last Sabbath week, Dr. Tichenor, of Auburn, preaching the sermon. His subject was, "The Glorious Gospel of the blessed God." It was one of Bro. Tichenor's happiest efforts—a thorough and powerful gospel sermon. The house was packed with most attentive hearers.

On parting with Dr. T. he said to us that one other person and ourselves were the ones that he was anxious to please on that occasion, and we take this method of saying that we were every way satisfied with this opening service.

Dr. Henderson preached at night an able discourse. His subject was, "The Ministry the ordained agency of spreading the Gospel." Both of these brethren did their best, and we are all grateful.

LITERARY NOTICES.

THE AMERICAN MILLINER AND DRESSMAKER, Sharps, Cor. Franklin and Hudson Sts., N. Y., has a good supply of fashion plates and literary articles of superior quality. It is an excellent magazine of the kind.

FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE has its usual ample store of miscellaneous reading. The great objection to this monthly is that it is too popular among our young folks who regularly "use up" each number.

BIBLE STUDENT, A monthly Journal of general and religious information, designed especially for Bible schools. Rev. S. Landrum, D.D., stated contributor. 75 cents a year. Memphis, Tenn.

THE DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL AND LITTLE VISITOR. Monthly. S. J. Norton, Leadville, Tenn. 50 cts. a year.

This magazine has for its sole object the promotion of practical godliness. We hope that it will be patronized accordingly.

GODEN'S LADY'S BOOK for August has a fine illustration of a scene in Anne of Green Gables. The fashion plate and a representation of a Ladies Collar Box are colored. There is also a variety of other pictures in the fashion and work department. A full supply of tales, poetry, recipes and puzzles given interest to the volume.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE, 41 Barclay St., N. Y., has two serial stories, three articles on Eastern Politics, three poems—one of them from Victor Hugo. There is also an interesting article on the new books of the season. Blackwood ably defends the position of the British ministry on the Eastern question.

FORD'S CHRISTIAN REPOSITORY for July is a valuable number. It contains among its articles the Introductory Sermon by Dr. B. H. Carroll before the Southern Baptist Convention. The proof that Vespemebrius was falsely quoted by Pervin to make the Waldenses Pedobaptists is given from the Texas Baptist Herald. The venerable Dr. Sherwood contributes one article. We cordially commend this sterling Baptist magazine.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE for July 6 and 13. Contents: The Future of Asiatic Turkey; The Political Adventures of Lord Beaconsfield; Jas. Madison; Within the Precincts, by Mrs. Oliphant; Johnson's Lives, by Matthew Arnold; A Doubting Heart, a new serial by Miss Keary; Froude's Life and Times of Thomas Becket, by Edward A. Freeman; Daisy Miller; Jewish Proselytism before the War of Titus, by Francis W. Newman; Lady Caroline Lamb's Old Maps of Africa; The Shadow of a Dream; Desultories; Consolation; Lotteries; A Lancashire Dairist; Nice People; and poetry and miscellany. \$8 a year. Boston, Mass.

Report of the Alabama Baptist STATE CONVENTION, at Talladega.

THURSDAY, JULY 18.

The Convention met with the Talladega Baptist church to-day, 11 a. m.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. E. B. Teague.

The incumbent officers, Judge Haralson, President, and Prof. Goodhue, Secretary, were re-elected by acclamation.

Dr. Renfro, in behalf of the church and community, extended a hearty welcome to the body, and pointed to the rapid completion of their excellent new house of worship as an evidence of the intense desire of the church to give the Convention a pleasant and delightful entertainment. He also reported the church without debt.

Adjourned till 3 p. m.

3 p. m.—The usual committees were then appointed.

Bro. T. M. Bailey then read a most

excellent and gratifying report on State Missions, which was referred to a special committee.

ADDRESSES FROM EVANGELISTS.

The several District Evangelists were then requested to address the Convention on the work in their respective fields of labor.

BRO. WILLIAMS

reported the work in his field as arduous but quite encouraging; it is a growing interest, wherever he has been. That he found a great want of information. That he made it a point to hunt out the most destitute sections. And that he met with some opposition, but that this generally faded away as he brought himself in contact with the people.

BRO. YARBROUGH

said that he tried to impress the Baptists wherever he went with the necessity of Christian activity; and that the churches generally in his field were sadly inactive. That he did not encourage the organization of churches where there were no hopeful prospects for permanency. That the people would go to preaching, time and distance, were no special consideration with them. And that the people in some sections and some churches seemed not to want a pastor, but were willing to help support an evangelist.

BRO. CURRY

reported his field as taking a more hearty interest in the State Mission work. That the people in the poorer sections seemed to appreciate preaching more and contribute more liberally than the people in the wealthier sections. And that he felt much encouraged in his work.

BRO. WILKES

said that he was frequently asked why the Board should send men to churches that had pastors? And that he replied that it was that mission of evangelic and pastoral work which the New Testament recognized. That he was greatly encouraged. He had found more intelligence, a ripe piety and the brethren more orthodox than he had expected. That he had always desired to be an evangelist and that he expected to go on in this way of preaching.

BRO. KIRVEN

said that there was a good deal of destitution in his field. He had first gone to the pastors then to churches which had no pastors or were in a broken down state. Pastors had almost unanimously co-operated with him. He was much encouraged. Much yet to overcome.

BRO. BABER

said he was encouraged. The people showed a liberal spirit. Churches were becoming more active. The Sunday-school work was prosperous. He thought influences were put in motion which resulted in the building up of Sunday-schools and awakening churches, which work would not be reported as the work of the evangelist. While another had complained of mountains, he had to contend with mud and bridges and sand. He had had several avocations, but his present work was the hardest of his life.

The report of the Howard College was read and turned over to the Committee on Education.

Bro. West made a report on the ALABAMA BAPTIST, and tendered his resignation as publisher, and the report was turned over to a special Committee.

CONVENTION SERMON.

8 1/2 p. m.—A large congregation assembled to hear the Convention Sermon by Dr. Gwalthney. Text: "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward." Ex. 14:15. After bringing before the audience in a vivid manner the circumstances of Israel at the time, and explaining that prosperous surroundings as well as adverse created a strong motive for a forward movement, this able brother brought the thought of the text to bear with great fervor on the Baptists of Alabama and their State Mission work. Picturing the sad state of the denomination up till 1875, and reviewing the grand work of the State Mission Board since that time, he urged an onward, progressive movement.

Making Progress his theme, he discussed: (1) The motives, (2) The means, (3) The conditions of wonderful progress. The sermon was eminently practical, clear, forcible, eloquent, and must have made an indelible impression on the minds and hearts of all who heard it.

FRIDAY, 19.

8 1/2 a. m.—Convention met and spent half an hour in devotional services.

Report on Judson Institute was read by Bro. King and referred to the Committee on Education.

A resolution was offered by Bro. Harris, looking to the support of indigent Baptist ministers, and the needy families of deceased ministers, and a committee was created to consider the subject and report to the body.

The report on Foreign Missions was read by Bro. O. F. Gregory.

DR. HENDERSON

spoke on the sad want of a mission-

ary spirit in our churches, and thought the fault was with the ministers, and urged the preachers to keep the subject of missions before the people. He exhorted to a forward movement all along the line with his characteristic fervor and eloquence.

BRO. CRUMPTON

spoke happily on the inspiration of the events of the age, and the necessity of educating the churches on the subject of missions.

DR. WINKLER

spoke briefly on the Foreign Mission work in general and especially on the Italian Mission. He drew most forcibly and eloquently the analogy between Paul and the Baptist church at Rome, contending for the fundamental truths of Christianity against heathenism and Judaism, and our mission under the direction of Dr. Taylor contending for those same truths against sacramental ritualism and Christianized pagan superstitions. He thought we should strike at the citadel of error. After referring to the persecutions of Rome visited upon the brethren who held our faith in the past, he urged that we should retaliate by preaching the gospel of love in Italy and Rome. Jerusalem crucified Christ, yet he required the apostles to begin their work in Jerusalem. This purely impromptu effort showed the great mind and the great heart of Dr. Winkler, and his entire consecration to Christ, and his unspeakable devotion to "the faith once delivered to the saints" in a most pleasing way. A liberal contribution was then made with a view to raising \$500—Alabama's quota of the amount needed to finish paying for our Rome chapel. During the collection several brethren made timely remarks. Nearly \$400 were raised.

A communication was read by Dr. J. H. Johnson, inviting the Convention to visit the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at this place, and a special committee was appointed to visit the institution. Adjourned till 3 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

3 p. m.—The report on Sunday-schools was read by Bro. W. Wilkes. After some discussion about certain terms and the report was amended, and prayer by Bro. Gregory for God's blessing upon the Sunday-school work, the report was adopted without any remarks on the main subject.

The report on Home Missions was read by Bro. Kinnebrew. After considerable discussion the report was amended, and Drs. Winkler and Sumner spoke to the main subject, and a collection was taken up for Home Missions, amounting to about \$100 in cash and pledges.

It was moved and carried that the Convention intersperse its exercises with singing, and two stanzas of the hymn commencing, "Come thou fount of every blessing," were then sung. A precedent was thus established, which if followed discreetly, will doubtless do much to relieve the tedium which sometimes has to be endured.

The two amendments to the Constitution proposed last session were brought up and both motions were tabled. Adjourned.

MASS-MEETING.

A large and enthusiastic mass-meeting was held Friday night in the interest of the State Mission Board. Bro. H. A. Haralson presided.

Dr. Renfro, President of the Board, spoke of its origin as a necessity, reviewed somewhat its history, and stated the direct object of the meeting to be, to raise the salary of the Corresponding Secretary, Bro. T. M. Bailey.

BRO. HARRIS

of Livingston, spoke of the importance of teaching the divine truth, and urged in eloquent terms the laymen whom he represented to support the teachers of the gospel. He claimed there were two treasures, and but two, into which men throw their money, viz.: the treasury of the Lord and that of the devil. He had known professed followers of Christ to throw their money into the treasury of the devil. Who is it that does not know just such Christians??

If his majesty is at all economical he must have enough to start a right respectable bank. Bro. Harris would have it understood that he was not a preacher, but if he is not careful how he makes speeches before Conventions, he'll find, ere long, one of Dr. Hawthorne's crying friends.

DR. HAWTHORNE

made some felicitous introductory remarks, and then referred to the grand work of the Virginia State Mission Board. He thought the same general results might be achieved by Alabama Baptists, and urged the importance of encouraging the evangelists, and of multiplying the number. He thought the great need was more love to God and man. The last thought was impressed by several happy illustrations. It is useless to say that his address was splendid, eloquent, or anything else. Such an inquiry never arises in the mind of one who has heard him. The amount of \$1,200 for Bro. Bailey's salary was raised.

SATURDAY, 20.

8 1/2 a. m.—After devotional exer-

cises of half an hour and the reading of the minutes, Bro. Boothe (colored) messenger from the colored Alabama Baptist Association to the Convention, was requested to address the body. His talk breathed the spirit of Christian love and abounded in sensible remarks. He told how deeply his people felt the need of a more intelligent ministry, and reported their Institute at Selma as in a hopeful condition. He said his people appreciated our sympathies more than those of any other people, and hoped that we should continue to give them our sympathies and lend them a helping hand in such ways as we could. His address was listened to very attentively.

Discussion on State Missions was resumed and Bro. Crumpton spoke earnestly of the importance of building up the Baptist cause in Pensacola. The geographical position—the low state of morals—the depleted condition of the Baptist church there, struggling for life without a pastor, were urged as motives for undertaking the work.

The matter after going through a committee, was recommended to the favorable consideration of the State Mission Board.

The report on State Missions was adopted.

The report of the special committee on the ALABAMA BAPTIST, after being amended, was to the effect that the ALABAMA BAPTIST be turned over to Brethren E. T. Winkler and J. L. West, subject to the single reservation, that the Convention should have the refusal of it if at any time it should be offered for sale. The report was adopted.

The report on education was read by Bro. Thames. Brethren Teague, Lowry and Hawthorne spoke on Howard College, by special request of the committee.

MR. TEAGUE

first convinced everybody that he had no ax to grind in speaking in the interest of Howard College, and then reviewed its history—called attention to the impress he graduates made upon society wherever their lots were cast, and that for good—to the blessed Godly influence the society of Marion had upon the students—to the excellent discipline maintained—and to how its virtues and excellencies challenged comparison with the best colleges of all the land. The Dr.'s speech was well conceived, abounding in profound thought, earnest—quite impressive, and certainly had the eloquence of facts, as he would express it.

BRO. LOWRY

spoke of its fruits, calling attention to living examples of power, eloquence and usefulness which had been trained in the Howard, to the elevating influence it was exerting upon Baptist ideas in the rural districts, and emphasizing the fact that it was a college and not a university, drawing very clearly and rigidly the distinction between a college and a university. As to what it wanted, an endowment was greatly needed to put it on a surer foundation, and the patronage of Alabama Baptists. He thought the Board of Trustees should hold a meeting at every annual State Convention—this would quicken the zeal of the alumni and devoted friends of the college all over the State, and these would go to work and thus an enthusiasm would be gotten up, and enthusiasm was much needed. The speech was worthy

Alabama Baptist.

SELMA, ALA.

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1878.

LEGEND IN ALSACE.

RICHMOND DISPATCH.

Know'st thou Gretchen, how it happens
That the dear ones die?
God walks daily in his garden.
While the sun shines high.
In that garden there are roses,
Beautiful and bright,
And he goes round, delighted
With the lovely sight.
If he marks one gaily blooming,
Than the rest more fair,
He will pause and gaze upon it,
Full of tender care.
And the beautiful rose he gathers,
In his bosom lies—
But on earth are tears and sorrow,
For a dear one dies.

[For the Alabama Baptist.]

Minnie Carlisle.

HELEN B. D.

[CONCLUDED.]

IV.

The first person she met was Eugene Ravenswood. He stopped and leaning down from his horse handed her a note, saying pleasantly, "Miss Minnie, I was commissioned to deliver this note to you, from Mrs. James. I am glad I met you. I believe Lula is sick, I promised to stop to see her to-morrow morning. How is little Tommie this evening? Well? Ah, I'm glad to hear it. You will be at prayer meeting to-night? We ought to be encouraged, Miss Minnie, at the increased interest. Good evening!"—and with a genial smile and bow, the minister passed on. Minnie quietly opened her note. It was urgent in its entreaty to come to see Lula James, who was sick with fever. The young teacher walked rapidly now, and was soon at the door of a white, neat cottage. The lady of the house met her with an anxious face, and the eager exclamation,

"Oh! Miss Minnie, I am so glad you've come. Lula has been raving for you!"

"Is she very ill, Mrs. James? I didn't know she was sick at all till I received your note. Last Sunday morning she seemed well."

"Yes, she was taken with sore throat and fever on Tuesday evening and has been getting worse since. Mr. James would not let me send for the doctor, said you would come and tell us what to do. Mr. Ravenswood passed by a short while ago, and I had just finished a note to you, so I asked him to take it for me. Come, Miss Minnie, and see Lula!"

When the two entered the sick room, at a glance the visitor saw that the child was very ill. She turned to the mother and said calmly,

"She has a very high fever; perhaps it would be better to send for the doctor." It was done accordingly.

Minnie asked Mrs. James to watch the child closely, while she went home to tell Martha that she would spend the night with the sick scholar.

When the doctor arrived, he pronounced the case one of scarlet fever. The mother shrieked with terror and hid her face in her hands, but Minnie said gently,

"Dear Mrs. Jones, be quiet. We will nurse Lula, and if it please God to spare her, He will."

V.

In a darkened room, low sobs were heard one quiet, November evening. Beautiful Minnie Carlisle lay at Death's door, and only her father's sobs broke the stillness which pervaded the little chamber. Minnie had been nursing Lula for two days, when Mr. Carlisle went after her and commanded her to accompany him home. She obeyed, and for a time performed all her duties faithfully, leaving in the morning for school regularly and returning home in the afternoon. But her delicately strung organism could not stand the constant tension of nerves, and two weeks after Eugene Ravenswood handed the young teacher the note from Mrs. James, Minnie, overcome by the struggle to keep up, was helped to her bed by Aunt Martha; and she remained there till "her white spirit" winged its way to God.

Tommie escaped the destroying pestilence.

Minnie was the only victim.

On the evening while the spirit of the young Christian was just peering out into the mysterious Shadow-Land, a sad group gathered around the bedside. The father knelt with his face buried in the pillow; Tommie sat on the foot of the bed, gazing vacantly at first one and then another of the little circle, unable to realize what it all meant; Aunt Martha stood behind Tommie, with her hand on his head, and watching with sorrowful gaze the wan figure before her; Eugene completed the circle, with his tall form and firm, composed face.

Minnie stirred now, and opening her deep blue eyes said faintly,

"Father, come close to me. I am dying! Will you meet mother and me in heaven?"

"Oh, my darling," the strong man sobbed, "if I only could! You have been a living, beautiful example to me, and now I will have no one to help me."

Minnie slowly turned her eyes to Eugene, and her soul spoke out to him through their medium.

"Will you help you, dear Mr. Carlisle?" Then, after a pause, "Let us pray." The minister's voice echoed through the little room, and penetrated deep into the remorseful man's heart. The setting sun, sent his rays through the open window, gilding the whole coverlet and brightening up the dark waves of Mr. Carlisle's hair as he bowed beside his dying child.

When Mr. Ravenswood said the words, "For our Savior's sake," Miss Minnie looked up at him and clasped Minnie's hand in his promised to serve God now and always, with the help of Jesus. With a smile on his lips and a holy light in her eyes, Minnie turned to Eugene, and while he leaned low to catch the words, repeated the sweet promise that had been the play of her life.

"And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, we faint not."

She had converted a sinner from the error of his way, and saved a soul from death.

Lastly, death silence.

A day of deep repose—
For locks smoothly braided,
Upon her breast a rose;
Upon her marble cheek,
Look of blessed peace,
Upon the forehead meek!

—Mobile, Ala.

FARM AND HOME.

RESIGNATION.

SELECTED.

Father, I have learned to trust,
And feel at length that thou art just
To take away
Each selfish benefit,
Which hindereth me
From trusting thee;
I now resign
All I may find myself forsaken
And all I cling to was taken—
Of friends and love,
Thou few were left—
Accept I look up,
And calmly say
Be thou my stay.

Now with confidence I rest
Upon my precious Savior's breast,
And feel that he
My friend will be,
Through all the strife
And pain of life.
With Jesus near
I need not fear.

Insects and how to Kill Them.

Among the difficulties with which the cultivators of plants have to contend, perhaps the greatest is the deadly warfare with minute insects, which infest not only the plants, but also the soil in which they grow. The green fly, or locust, is sometimes called, as one of the most common, and is one of the most easily destroyed of any of them. In greenhouses or conservatories they may be readily exterminated by fumigating once or twice a week. Henderson's rule is to burn half a pound of refuse bicarbonate of soda, to every 500 square feet of glass surface. Where plants are kept in the house in small numbers, a better way is to wash over them with a little tobacco, repeated until about the color of strong tea. Another way is to apply the tobacco in the shape of dust; syringing or sprinkling the plants slightly with water, then sprinkle them with tobacco, so that it will adhere to both sides of the leaves, and to all parts of the plants. Another method is to turn the plant bottom upwards, place a paper underneath, and with a feather, or small wing, brush off the insects and burn them; it is also well to dip the plant into warm water, which will often destroy their eggs. Tobacco is a powerful remedy, and often not only destroys the insects, but also the plants, therefore it should be used with caution—the old maxim is, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," and if plants were carefully washed and properly taken care of, there would be no need of so many remedies against insects. If it is found that a plant is infested with insects it should be kept away from all other plants.

The ground or blue aphid, or louse, is closely related to the above, but feeds from the roots of the plants in the soil, while the green fly feeds on the leaves in the air. They attack many varieties of plants in hot, dry weather. Such plants will droop, and, if examined, the ground aphid will be found working on the extremities of the roots. To destroy these water the soil thoroughly with a strong solution of tobacco, as dark as strong coffee.

The red spider is the most minute, yet the most voracious of insects, and a deadly atmosphere of its delight. Although so small its presence may be discovered by the leaves of the plant turning brown and sear. Perhaps the best way to destroy them is to sponge or syringe the plants thoroughly with water or weak soap-suds. Red pepper has been found to be very disagreeable to them. It should be dusted on with a pepper castor, turning the plant bottom upwards, so that it may get it into the soil. Mealy bugs, and brown or white insects, which appear lifeless, and are here to be destroyed by being brushed off, washed off, or watered with lime water, in proportion to one pint of slacked lime to five gallons of water.—Selected.

Training the Tomato Plant.

A novel method of training the tomato plant is given in the report of the Maine Pomological Society—in substance as follows: "Stakes seven or eight feet long were inserted in the ground the last of May, three feet apart, in a warm, sheltered location; and strong tomato plants were procured, which had been started under glass and contained one or two blossom buds. These were planted near the stakes. Each plant was then tied to its stake with lashing, and all the side branches which had pushed at the axels or angles formed by the separation of the leaves were pinched or cut out with scissors, so as to compel the plant to grow on a single stem; and every week during the season these branches were removed, and the stem from time to time was tied to the stake. When a sufficient number of clusters had been formed, the remainder were removed, so as to concentrate the whole energies of the plant to the growth and ripening of the remaining tomatoes; and the heaviest branches were supported by tying them to stakes. As the result, the ripening of the tomato by this method is accelerated, and its flavor improved, because every part of the plant is exposed to the free action of the sun and air. It is not soiled by coming in contact with the ground, is not apt to decay, and more ripe tomatoes can be raised in a limited space; but it requires constant care and industry."

Save the Old Paper.

Never throw away old paper. If you have no fish to sell, it is use in the house. Some housekeepers prefer to cloth for cleaning many articles of furniture. After a stove has been blackened it can be kept looking very well for a long time by rubbing it with paper every morning. Rubbing with paper is a much nicer way of keeping the outside of a tea-kettle, coffee-pot and tea-pot bright and clean than the old way of washing them in suds. Rubbing with paper is also the best way of polishing knives, tinware and spoons; they shine like new silver. For polishing mirrors, chandeliers, lamp chimneys, etc., paper is better than dry cloth. Preserves and pickles keep much better if brown paper, instead of cloth is tied over the jar. Canned fruit is not so apt to mold if a piece of writing paper, cut to fit the can, is laid directly on the fruit. Paper is much better to put under a carpet than straw. It is warmer, thinner, and makes less noise when one walks over it.—Ex.

"Sound" said the school master "is what you hear. For instance, you cannot feel a sound." "Oh yes, you can," said a smart boy, "Johnny Wilson," repeated the pedagogue, "how do you make that out? What sound can you feel?" "A sound thrashing," quickly replied the smart boy. "Correct," said the school master. "Come up!" And that smart boy felt and smarted.

How sweet, as learning! Listen to the Rev. J. S. Cook: "Our conversation had turned upon the new idealism and I had asked the Professor if he did not think that the plastic nature of the human mind might not be explained by a particular reference to the 'Weltanschauung' of Tauber, as explicated in his 'Geschichte der Erkenntnis der Menschlichen Erkenntnis'." He did not speak for several hours. We should suppose it would have that effect.

Two Englishmen were out shooting; one had a license, the other had not. A keeper approached, and the one who had a license ran away. The keeper was a good hunter, and an exciting race ensued over about a mile and a half of pine-ploughed fields. At last the keeper got up to the runway. "Now, sir, where's your license?"

"It was lodged," "Then why did you run away?" "Oh, I'm fond of exercise," answered the man; "but you, if you don't mind better ask my friend if he has one?"

In a little village in the north of Ireland, lived two old inhabitants, known by the names of Darby and Pat, each in his own way, rather eccentric, and always ready with a witty answer. The former was one day taking his daily walk, when he met his friend Pat, and asked, "What time might it be now?" Pat, having a short stick in his hand, gave Darby a sharp crack over the head with it, and said, "It's just struck wan." Darby, looking up a little surprised, but always ready, said, "Tooth and it's a lucky job it wasn't hear an hour sooner."

A minister was telling his Sunday-school class all about Samson and his exploits. "With what remarkable weapon did Samson slay his enemies?" he asked. No one knew. In order to coach the school a little he tapped his jaw and said, "Children, what is this?" They were quizzed, and the victory was won. A little boy, who, if he keeps the promise of his childhood will some day be a candidate for office, cried out, "I know! I know sir!" Elated at the success of his plan, the minister turned to him and said, "Well, my little man, stand up and tell the whole school what it is." He arose with great dignity and replied "It's the jawbone of an ass, sir."

HUMOR.

The following may be seen on a tombstone in a town near Dublin:

"Here lies the body of John Wood, Lost at sea and never found."

When Emerson recklessly wrote, "Very natural action is graceful," had he ever seen an angry woman throw a stone at a cow?

After a man gets to be thirty eight years old he can't form any dew holes much. The best he can do is to steer his old ones.—Josh Billings.

When the officials of a banking institution commence to use the funds for their own benefit, they say, "Let's speculate." Pretty soon this suggestion is slightly changed to "Let's speculate."

In a recent case for assault the defendant pleaded guilty. "I think I must be guilty," said he, "because the plaintiff and I were the only ones in the room; and the first thing I knew was that I was standing up and he was doubled over the table."

A French writer, reported by the *Breakfast Table*, says, "Not one American in a hundred has a hand-some chin." That is very true; American chins are not much for beauty, but for solid, untiring colossal strength—you hear us?—Hawkeye.

A new preacher used the word "Optimism" in his sermon, and at the conclusion of the service a farmer who was present thanked him for his discourse, but intimated that he had made a mistake in one word. "What you call Optimism," he said "in this part of the country we call hop-poles."

The latest sentimental agony in song is a tender ballad, beginning:

Who will come above me, sighing,
When the grass grows over me?

—We can't say positively who, but if the cemetery fence is in the usual repair, it will probably be the cow.—Hawkeye.

An old Scotch lady had an evening party, where a young man present was about to leave for an appointment in China. As he was exceedingly extravagant in his conversation about himself, the old lady said as he was leaving, "Tak guid care o' yourself, my man, when ye're awa'; for mind ye, they eat puppies in Cheena."

Here is a stray quib which is timely just now: "A freshman has the reputation of having this untutored place." Freshman—Of course sir; the freshmen all bring a little learning here, and as the seniors never take any away, it naturally accumulates.

A MASTER OF CHOUKE.—The Dean of Chichester has got ahead of Darwin and his school in a well turned point, address. In a recent sermon at Oxford he said: "Ye men of science, I will not grudge you your science, and I will not grudge you your Zooloogy, but I will grudge you your Zooloogy." What more could the development theory ask than that?—Standard.

Two small little girls sat upon the side walk in front of the H.K. Co. office, one of them nursing a large wax doll. Her companion asked in tones of deep earnestness, "Does 'oo have much trouble with 'oo baby?" "Oh, goodness, yes!" was the reply. "She cusses me all 'e time. She's cussed and cussed ever since she was born. I don't fink I'll ever born any more."

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His High Noon.—He wore sheep-skin trousers, and his pants in his boots, and he covered his horses with old pieces of rag carpet, and entered a hardware store and asked to look at a sheet iron stove. He was shown several patterns, one after the other, but none seemed to suit his ideas. "I have shown you every style of parlor stove on sale by any house in Detroit," said the dealer as they stood before the last one. "Yes, I suppose so, but none of them suits the bill," was the dubious answer. "Why not?" Aren't they big enough, tall enough, handsome enough, or what is the trouble?" "Wah! I'll tell you," slowly replied the would-be customer. "The old woman she has taken a story paper, and her head is chock full of such nonsense. She says, 'Evangeline, Emma, Arabella and Riverbell, the gals they say all the time talking about Hamlet, Topsy, Petrichio, Romeo, and so on. I'm kinder posh up on astronomic myself, and in all the time thinking about Venus, Mars, Saturn and Jupiter. Now, you haven't got a stove in Detroit with a more romantic name than 'Ajax,' and just imagine folks like us sitting around a stove with a name like that!'" He thought he'd look further, and as he unbuttoned his coat, called out "Whoa, now, Lads! Betella—called out there, Ophelia!"

Vegetine

FOR DROPSY.

NEVER SHALL

FORGET THE FIRST DOSE.

PROVIDENCE.

Dear Sir, I have been a great sufferer from dropsy. I was confined to my house more than a year. The summer of the time I was entirely helpless. I was obliged to have two men to lift me in and out of bed. I was swollen to inches larger than my natural size. I tried all remedies, but I never shall forget the first dose. I could realize its good effect from day to day; I was getting better. After I had given a 5 or 6 bottles I could sleep quite well nights. I began to gain weight quite fast. After taking some more bottles, I could walk from one part of my room to the other. My appetite was good; the dropsy had in this time disappeared. I kept taking the Vegetine until I gained my usual health. I heard of a great many cures by using Vegetine after I got out and was able to attend to my work. I am a carpenter and builder. I will also say it has cured an aunt of my wife's of Neuritis, who had suffered for more than 20 years. She says she has not had any more, for eight months. I have given it to one of my children for Canker Mouth. I have no doubt in my mind it will cure any humor; it is a great cleanser of the blood, and it is the only medicine I will recommend it to the world. My father is 80 years old, and he says there is nothing like it to give strength and life to an aged person. I cannot say too much for this medicine. I am, very gratefully yours,

JOHN S. NOTTAGE.

ALL DISEASES OF THE BLOOD.—If Vegetine will regulate the blood, purify, and cure such diseases, restoring the patient to perfect health after trying different physicians many remedies and suffering for years, is it not worthy of the name of a great medicine? you can be cured? Why is this medicine performing such great cures? It works in the blood, in the circulating fluid. It can be called the Great Blood Purifier. The great source of disease originates in the blood; and no medicine that does not act directly upon it, to purify and renovate, has any just claim upon public attention.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 23, 1877.

Dear Sir, I have suffered from a breaking out of Cankerous Sores for more than five years, caused by an accident of a fractured bone, which fracture ran into a running sore, and having used every kind of ointment and nothing helped me, until I had taken six bottles of your valuable medicine, which Mr. Miller, the apothecary, recommended very highly. The sores healed, and I can say I can say it, I owe my health to your valuable Vegetine.

Your most obedient servant,

ALBERT W. KOEDER.

"It is unnecessary for me to enumerate the diseases for which the Vegetine should be used. I know of no disease which will not admit of its use, with good results. Almost insupportable chronic diseases, caused by poisonous secretions in the blood, which can be entirely expelled from the system by the use of the Vegetine. When the blood is perfectly cleansed, the diseases which it carries with it, such as Rheumatism, Gout, all pains of the joints, healthy action is promptly restored, and the patient is cured."

No. 3 connects closely, at Dalton, with East Tenn. Va. & Ga. R. R. for all Eastern Cities, Tenn. and Va. Springs, and all points in the Northwest.

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