

Alabama Baptist.

SELMA, ALA., NOVEMBER 3, 1881.

JNO. L. WEST & CO., PUBLISHERS.

EDITORS: W. G. CLEVELAND, JR., JNO. L. WEST.

Entered at the post-office at Selma, Ala., for transmission through the mails, as second-class matter.

FIXEDNESS OF PURPOSE.

Fickle men never accomplish much, for the good reason that they never have their hearts and minds fixed upon anything long enough to complete it. They are always enthusiasts, easily discouraged, never reliable; and it is a question whether they do more good in their fits of fervor or more harm by their repeated changes.

In the Christian life, fixedness of purpose is essential to religious consistency. When men become Christians, they profess to renounce the world, the flesh, and the devil, and to make a complete surrender of themselves, soul, body, and interest, to God for time and eternity. As the Redeemer sacrificed himself for the salvation of sinners, so the believer offers himself a living sacrifice to God. The believer partakes of the Divine nature, is adopted into the family, and becomes one of the children of his Heavenly Father; he becomes a living representative of his Father's family, an exponent of divine truth, how inconsistent with professions and pretensions like these, is a careless, indifferent, worldly life! He who, while he professes to be a child of the Most High, professes to have devoted his life to the cause of Christ, yet so devotes his life to the interests of time as to exclude him from the service of his Master, is most inconsistent. He who worships God because he is afraid of punishment, and worships the world because he loves it, presents a most contradictory character. He who robs himself in the library of Heaven, in which to serve the world and Satan, is of all the most absurdly incongruous. Alexander the Great had a cowardly son who dishonored his name. The Senate voted that, as that man did not sustain the character of his father, he should not be permitted to bear his name. Every one who has taken on the name of Christ ought to adorn the doctrine of Christ, and to be faithful to our promises, consistent with our professions. Christian men have sworn allegiance to Jesus of Nazareth, and what have they to do but to obey their King? They should regard every voice that would turn them aside as a lure to the blackest treason.

Singleness of purpose is important as a matter of safety. The right path is the only safe path; it is safest in this world. The earnest, decided man of God makes a character that compels the respect of his associates. The purity of a consistent Christian life awes them into respectful deference, and thus the devoted disciple guards himself against many assaults from the worldly around him. There are men whom we would never think of trying to lead away into doubtful, worldly amusements and dissipations. We would not ask them to go to the ball-room, the theatre, or the drinking saloon. We have too much respect for their characters; we know just where they stand, and we would have little hope of succeeding; we know their hearts are fixed. How different with the fickle, inconsistent man: he must be subject to the enticements of the wicked all around him; he must endure their taunts and jeers if he declines to go with them; they say to him, "You have gone with us often, why not now? you have gone with us to the ball-room, why not go to the theatre? you have gone to the theatre, why not to the drinking saloon? you drink with us; why not curse and profane the name of God? etc. The decided man is never thus taunted by those who know him.

And, further, he is strengthened in time of temptation by his habit of resisting temptation, and by his former rigid adherence to what is right. The tendency to do right, just as the tendency to do evil, is made strong and increased by doing right. As every time you yield to temptation you weaken your power of resistance; so every time you resist you strengthen your capacities of endurance; every time you do right, you make it less difficult to continue in the right way. Satan has no respect for any character, or for any attainments in piety. He dared to tempt the Savior himself. But the man who has formed the habit of saying to Satan, "I cannot, because it is not right," will find it much easier to resist and put him to flight, than he who habitually yields to his allurements. Decision of character makes it safer for us in this world, and there can be no doubt about the world to come. He who is neither cold nor hot, is only fit to be spewed out of the mouth. They that endure unto the end are they that shall be saved. We must fight until the victory is won, if we would wear the crown. Our plans should be formed for the day of reckoning, and

we should act in view of that time.

Singleness of purpose is important as a qualification for eminent usefulness. God has a work of the greatest importance to accomplish, and Christians are his chosen instruments by which it is to be done. The work of God in this world is nothing less than the complete overthrow and utter destruction of the kingdom of Satan, the recovery of man from sin, and the eternal establishment of the kingdom of Christ. Men are the instruments he is using. A fearful warfare is waging between righteousness and evil. Christians, under the command of the Great Captain, are arrayed against the armies of the Prince of the power of the air: one party would lead men to God and good, while the other would induce them to Satan and sin. Only decided men are accomplishing much on either side. Negative characters cannot lead men, because men cannot tell certainly which way they are going, or if they are going at all. A negatively wicked man will scarcely become a power for evil; he will hardly lead a multitude to do evil. A professor of religion, who is not decided in his own mind as to whose kingdom he belongs, or on which side he is fighting, will scarcely be very useful in leading men to Christ; he will not make a valiant soldier or a successful laborer. Only Christians of decision of character have made their impress upon the hearts of men or the history of the world, and have been eminently useful in extending the kingdom of Christ. The influences of such characters never cease. Eminent Christians are most useful after death. "The cedar is most useful when dead: it is most productive when its place knows it no more. There is no timber like it. Firm in grain and capable of the finest polish, the tooth of no insect will touch it, and Time himself can hardly destroy it. Diffusing a perpetual fragrance through the chamber which it ceils, the worm will not corrode the book which it protects, nor the moth corrupt the garment which it guards: all but immortal itself, it transpires its anoranthine qualities to the objects around it." Every Christian is useful in his life; but the goodly cedars, the eminent men of God, are the most useful after death. Luther is read, but the Reformation lives. Who can calculate the usefulness of such a man as Judson?

The world needs more of what it calls iron men—men who are not carried about by every wind of doctrine, but firm, determined men, harder than granite, unless you get them heated. Right or wrong, you may hammer at such a man as long as you please and it will effect nothing so long as he keeps cool. Stern and unattractive as they appear, they are generally and most permanently useful. The world may as well try to get on without the use of iron as without this hardy, industrious, weighty class of men. Only engage their tenacity and their hardness on the right side, and they are the best men in the world.

Men of decided character move their fellows and make epochs in the history of the world. They are the masters to whom the masses pay homage. If a Christian man would be safe, he must be consistent; if he would be consistent, he must be decided; if he would be eminently useful, he must have a single purpose.

Men of decided character move their fellows and make epochs in the history of the world. They are the masters to whom the masses pay homage. If a Christian man would be safe, he must be consistent; if he would be consistent, he must be decided; if he would be eminently useful, he must have a single purpose.

THE STRENGTH OF A CHURCH.

Statistics, if they could be collected, even with an approach to accuracy, would reveal nothing, or next to nothing. The strength of a church is in the ratio of the zeal of its members, and not of their numbers. In fact, numbers were never more deceptive as a test of strength than now, for the number of persons who have no objection to belonging nominally to religious organizations, for which they have no real liking or sympathy, was never greater than now.

The amount of money a church spends, proves little also. That its treasury should be well filled is one of the natural results of the growth of wealth in every country, and of the increased power of collection created by the concentration of population of great cities, and the facilities of "getting at" the people, afforded by railway and the post-office.

Numbers and wealth alone do not give strength to a church. Holy zeal, the love of Christ, in the hearts of the members, constraining them to labor for the salvation of souls, with persevering earnestness, is that which gives a church power. The secret of the Lord is with such. Being endowed with power from on high, such a church is mighty through God to the pulling down of the strongholds of Satan.

This man who never failed is a myth: such a man never lived, and is never likely to. All success is a series of efforts, in which, when closely viewed, are seen, more or less, failures. The mountain is apt to overshadow the hill, but the hill is a reality, nevertheless. If we fail now and then, and again, we need not be discouraged; we must remember it is only the part and experience of every successful man, and that the most successful men often have many failures.

CHRISTIAN INDUSTRY.

Swift complained that "Pope was never at leisure for conversation, because he always had his head filled with some poetical scheme." That was too large a space in one's life for literature, but not for religion. What a Christian he would be who could never spare time for conversation of the stamp of Swift's frivolous and worldly conversation—because "some high or humble enterprise of good," attempted "under the great Taskmaster's eye," always filled his head and heart! Are we not required to be Christians of that style—Christians "instant in season, out of season?" That was the injunction of Paul to Timothy, and, doubtless, his example too. Shall we not, then, follow him, as he followed the Lord? Shall we not strive to be "in labors more abundant," and appeal to that as the decisive proof that we are "fervent in spirit" after a godly sort? Shall not our lives testify that the cause which truly fills the head and heart will fill the hands also?

Dr. Henderson appeals to his friends in Alabama. Read his appeal in another column and do what you can to assist a poor church to build a house of worship. The fact that he asks for help assures all that the object is a worthy one. He requests that contributions be sent to Rev. T. M. Bailey, Secretary of the State Mission Board.

Read Dr. Tupper's note in reference to a Missionary Doctor. The Board needs \$400.

QUERIES.

"Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father; but go to my brethren and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father and your Father, and to my God and your God."—John 20:17. Where has Christ been? Does this passage teach that the soul remains in the grave until the Resurrection, when the soul and body appear at the Judgment?

ANSWER.

Where Christ had been? He has not chosen to inform us: nobody knows. He was not with his disciples as he had been. He appeared to them occasionally during the forty days between his resurrection and ascension, but never in any human habitation. It is not profitable to attempt to find out what has not been revealed. Nothing is here taught as to the condition of the soul after death. Explaining this passage, Stier says: "Do not stay here to embrace me now, either to pay my homage to me, or to confirm my faith, both which things will have other opportunities of doing; for I am not yet withdrawn from your world, and ascended to the heavenly court of my Father, as you imagine I shall presently do, but I shall yet continue for a little while on earth and give you further opportunity of seeing me again; let nothing, therefore, detain thee any longer, but go immediately to my brethren and say unto them," etc.

FIELD NOTES.

Some brethren are such queer people. Almost every day we receive communications on business, in which the post office address is not given. Of course we cannot give them the attention demanded unless we happen to know the address or can ascertain it. About six weeks ago a brother wrote to us on business. He did not give his post office address and he neglected to sign his name to the communication. We could only preserve the letter and wait for him to write again. He has written again—a most unkind and offensive letter. But the fault is his, not ours. We do not take offense at what he says. We refer to the matter simply to show brethren how it is. Give your post office and your name. During the latter part of July Rev. J. P. Lee, of Pickens county, held one of the best meetings of the season at Borders Springs church, just over the line in Lowndes county, Miss. As the immediate result of the meeting, fifty-eight were received by baptism, three by letter, and four were restored—sixty-five in all. Others have probably been received since. Our informant says of "Uncle Joe," after the meeting, "I think he was the happiest man that I ever saw." We can readily imagine that he was. An attempt is being made to erect a national hospital in the District of Columbia as a memorial to President Garfield. The committee, of which Gen. W. T. Sherman is chairman, appeals to the citizens of the United States at large for funds to be devoted to this object. An appeal, signed by the pastors of the various denominations having places of worship in the District of Columbia, is made to all the pastors of the different denominations throughout the land, to set apart Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 5th and 6th, or the nearest available days, for discourses and collections in their places of worship in aid of the fund. All contributions are to be forwarded to Hon. J. S. Gillilan, Treasurer of the United States, who is the treasurer of the fund. The Baptist church in conference last Sunday, after accepting the resignation of Rev. S. A. Goodwin, extended a call to Rev. J. S. Gillilan, now pastor at Auburn. It has not yet been ascertained whether or not he will accept. He is a young man of ability and popularity, we understand, and the Baptist church here will do well, no doubt, to secure his services. —Union Springs Herald.

A protracted meeting has been in progress at the Clinton Baptist church the past week, conducted by Rev. J. D. Cook, of Pushmataha. "All of us think the Alabama Baptist is one of the best papers on my table." So says Rev. L. M. Stone,

President of the Shuqualak, Miss., Female College. —Rev. Jefferson Falkner, of Mountain Creek, has our sincere thanks for representing the claims of our paper at the meeting of the Tallapoosa River Association.

We regret to learn that Bro. Jno. W. Orme, on his return home from the meeting of the Alabama Association, got his right hand severely injured in a gin. He has our sympathies.

During a recent meeting at the Baptist church in Northport, about fifteen professed conversions; all of them, says the Tuscaloosa Times, with one or two exceptions, under fourteen years of age. "The 243 Congregational churches of Maine, with a membership of over 21,000, report 111 infant baptisms for the year, or a fraction less than a half of an infant for each church. The Boston Daily Journal, referring to these statistics, makes bold to say that 'the observance of infant baptism is declining in the churches.' It is earnestly hoped in some quarters that this will continue to be the order. It is a move in the right direction." —Watch Tower.

Dr. Shover has been dismissed from the faculty of the "Atlanta Baptist Seminary." A young man about twenty years old has been appointed to take his place. We learn from the Index that this was done without the knowledge of Dr. Shover and without consulting with southern members of the Board of Trustees. Had for the Seminary— "O'Connor sent anything into the waste basket I write to you, if you think best. I am not writing for glory but for good. Herewith I send you an article." There were good reasons why we could not publish an excellent article from the sensible brother who writes as above. He did not become offended, but renewed his subscription. —On Wednesday last, Rev. J. S. Paulin, of Clayton, died the misfortune to lose his horse by death. On Thursday morning, as he went down town, A. H. Thomas approached him riding a nice horse, which, in a neat speech, he presented to Mr. P. as a gift from the citizens of Clayton. It was a handsome gift to a most worthy man. —Eufaula Times. We congratulate you, Brother Paulin. The Baptist church of Tuskegee have purchased a lot for a parsonage. —Bro. B. F. Riley has written a history of Concubinage. The volume will be ready for delivery about the 1st of December.

The committee of ladies appointed by the Baptist church to solicit funds to pay the preachers, have collected \$200 for Rev. A. P. Ashurst and \$50 for Rev. L. R. Sims, for their services this year. Rev. A. P. Ashurst at the conference on Saturday accepted the call to serve as the pastor of this church the ensuing year. —Columbia Enterprise.

The Tallapoosa Democrat announces the death of Mrs. Sarah White, near Dadeville. This estimable and Christian lady had been for a number of years a member of the Baptist church, and was among the earliest settlers of Tallapoosa county.

Twenty-four Mormon missionaries sailed for Europe on the Guion steamer, Abyssinia, October 18th, to recruit the ranks of the Mormons in Utah. If they meet with any success in stealing negroes and bringing them here to be slaves, they would be prevented by law, but they are allowed by our own government and the governments of Europe to entice with impunity white men and women into a condition of life far worse than slavery ever developed. —Christian Herald.

The Pope of Rome repeated his complaints against the Italian Government on Sunday, October 16th, to a band of pilgrims who asked his blessing. The Pope in his address stated that the deplorable state of affairs placed before him the alternative of enduring continual captivity, made harder daily, or of going into exile. He therefore asked Catholics to watch and pray for the liberty and independence of the Pope. He concluded by saying that he was no longer secure in his palace; that he was outraged in his person and dignity in a thousand ways. The gravity and earnestness of the Pope made a profound impression. He closed his address with his arms raised to Heaven as though imploring help. A very honest feeling exists against the Pope among the pilgrims of Rome. They stoned the pilgrims as they left the Vatican, and shouted, "Down with the Vatican!" —We clip the following from the Union Springs Herald. We regret to know that Bro. Goodwin will leave Alabama. He is one of our most interesting speakers, and one of our most attractive preachers. "Our whole community without regard to doctrinal differences, regret to learn of the approaching departure of Rev. S. A. Goodwin, D. D., from our midst to another field of labor. He has been the beloved pastor of the Baptist church here for nearly two years, during which time he has never been weary in well-doing. The church edifice here, which by his untiring zeal he has made one of the handsomest in the State, is a fitting memorial of his remarkable executive ability as a pastor. Being entirely free from cant, or religious pretense, of the 'I am better than thou' kind, his frank manners and unassuming frank homilies won at once the respect and regard of our people, and especially the young men of our town, among whom he wielded an immense influence for good. Since accepting the pastorate of the church here, Dr. Goodwin has declined several more lucrative calls from a sense of duty. He now accepts the call of the Danville, Va. church because it will benefit the health of himself and family to remove to a colder climate."

"If any good has been accomplished by the evangelist's visiting such churches I would be glad to have it pointed out." —H. E. LONGGRIER.

Will this good brother listen as well as he writes, and let me tell him what I have seen under the work of the "State Board." There was a church numbering 120 members, with no Sabbath-school, no prayer meeting, no discipline almost, paying the pastor from sixteen to thirty dollars per annum. With drunkenness in the church and community, and the pastor never known to speak against the sin while in the

pulpit. The pastor knowing that Sabbath breaking was a rule in the community, (and it a Baptist community) and never a word heard from the pulpit, exhorting the people to "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." And the pastor not known to lead daily in family prayer. And the church under a foolish leadership equally as culpable that had the effect of preventing the development of the church. And this while some of the brethren were yearning for a more demonstrative serving of the blessed Master, and feeling that they were blameable for not "walking by new and living way which he hath consecrated for us."

Now about this time Bro. Bailey "robbed other churches, taking wages of them to do you (us) a service," and powerfully convinced our consciences, reproving, rebuking, exhorting us with long suffering and doctrine, edifying the body of Christ; and some he rebuked sharply, and I hear made mad, for to this day they refer to him as "That man Bailey." He set the church to thinking, taking, and thus we found out each other's sentiments, and we did better after unto this day. I ask the dear brother of Unity Association, if we were not in need of a missionary? And should it not be expected that the seed sown by this faithful servant of God would bring forth fruit? Yes verily; and in due time to the glory of God.

If the blessings that the philanthropy and reform of Count Rumford brought should move the poor of Munich, from the emotions of their hearts, to weep tears of affectionate regard and gratitude whenever they saw him; can any blame attach to one who feels that blessings have come to him and the community through the labors of Bro. Bailey, and speaks to answer when the question is asked? May I not then say of him, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel; and of his work in our midst." As the dew of Herman that descended the mountain of Zion. The great good that has followed the work of the State Board in this part of the State can be testified by scores of good brethren. I have only written this to testify that which I feel to be somebody's duty. W.

Missionary Doctor.

Several years ago Miss Howard went as a missionary Physician to China, where a man is not admitted to the sick-room of female members of the family. The wife of the Viceroy, who is the second in authority and influence in the Empire, was desperately ill. After the best native skill was exhausted, Miss Howard was called in, and by the blessing of God, the royal sufferer was restored to health. The result of this was that, when Miss Howard walked in the streets, the people made obeisance to her, as they do to a Mandarin; and the Viceroy established a Dispensary, where, under the Superintendence of Evangelical Missionaries, medicine and medical treatment are dispensed to all who apply, at the expense of the Government.

When Mrs. M. T. Yates was in this country, she urged that a woman Missionary Physician should be sent to Shanghai by the Southern Baptist Convention. After correspondence with several young women on this subject, the Board of Foreign Missions has accepted for this service, the daughter of an eminent Baptist minister. The acceptance was on the condition, however, that the medical education of the appointee should not tax the Treasury of the Board. The expense of a two-year course of medicine in Philadelphia will be some four hundred dollars. Relying on the assurance that the needed funds would be raised by a special effort, the young lady has gone to Philadelphia, and entered upon her studies. Several friends have signified their willingness to give each ten dollars or more for this good object. Are there not forty who will send us, at once, ten dollars for our Medical Student? Few Missionaries have the prospect of doing so much good as this thoughtful, cultivated, and pious young woman, who prepares herself to go as her Master went, administering first to the body that she may get more effectual access to the souls of the perishing heathen.

H. A. TUPPER, Cor Sec'y. Richmond, Va.

To My Old Friends in Alabama.

Dear Brethren and Sisters: For the first time in my life, I shall venture to ask a pecuniary favor of you, a favor that only effects my ministerial usefulness. The facts are these: Not quite two years ago, I moved back to my plantation in Cedar Creek valley, nearly equidistant from the villages of Fayetteville and Sylacauga. In this neighborhood, in less than a mile of me, a little Baptist church was organized about a year ago, where I have occasionally preached. In the surrounding country there are many people living who have no means of attending church and Sabbath-school elsewhere—enough, indeed, to fill an average country meeting house. They are utterly unable to build a house, and are now worshipping in a small town, among whom he wielded an immense influence for good. Since accepting the pastorate of the church here, Dr. Goodwin has declined several more lucrative calls from a sense of duty. He now accepts the call of the Danville, Va. church because it will benefit the health of himself and family to remove to a colder climate."

"If any good has been accomplished by the evangelist's visiting such churches I would be glad to have it pointed out." —H. E. LONGGRIER.

Dear Brethren: I have promised myself more than once to send you some word from this field of labor, but thus far my promise remains unfulfilled. However, "better late than never."

Though not at present a subscriber and a reader of the ALABAMA BAPTIST, I trust I shall be, and that very soon. Without some of the best papers, a missionary in the foreign field will fail to keep abreast with the state of affairs at home, and will separate himself too much from those upon whom he is so dependent, whose aid, and sympathy, and prayers he naturally expects and longs for. The day has come when the foreign missionary need no longer be looked upon as a man almost in another world, whose letters are received six months after they are written, and who never gets the fresh news from home. In our day, even from distant China, Dr. Yates can send a message of greeting to the Southern Baptist Convention and receive a reply while that body is still in session. Here, in Rome, we receive the important news from America before many a small inland town of Alabama or Mississippi; e. g.: During the illness of the President, we knew every day the symptoms of less than twelve hours previous; and when at last the fatal moment came, and he lay in his coffin, we had received the sad notice that Garfield, our Christian President, was dead. The foreign mission field has been far away from the home field, and hence the foreign mission work has been far removed from many a home Christian's heart. How thankful we should feel for the wonderful change in this respect, and how inexcusable we are if we fail to utilize it, both to our own advantage and for the more rapid advancement of the kingdom of Christ on earth! Through the ALABAMA BAPTIST I shall hope to keep myself informed concerning the workings of our Denomination in your State, and from the same source I trust the Baptists of Alabama will keep themselves informed about our work in Italy, and that thus a mutually pleasant and profitable relation will be established between the two fields.

Two days ago (Sept. 24), we returned to Rome, after an absence of three months in Naples, where we have an evangelist and a little church. As we took our accustomed seat in the Rome Chapel yesterday morning, we felt decidedly at home, and participated in the services with gratitude and joy. In glancing over the familiar faces, I recognized that one old gray-headed man, who never failed to be present, occupying a front seat and paying close attention throughout the entire service. During our absence, he had been called away by death. The pastor tells me that he visited him frequently during his illness, feeling satisfied to the last that he was a subject of Divine grace, "a new creature in Christ Jesus," and that his hope of Heaven was indeed "an anchor to his soul, both sure and steadfast, entering into that which the veil." Death-beds have proved a source of no little encouragement; to Protestants in Rome during the last few years. In addition to the good Christian testimony of several members who have died, in more than one instance some poor man or woman, who had been a regular member of the congregation but had not yet made an open profession of faith in Christ, when sickness came and death was near, had repudiated Catholic notions, refused the communion and confession to a priest, declaring himself a Protestant Christian, in spite of most unfavorable circumstances. Several unexpected cases of this kind have given reason to hope that the good seed have not been sown in vain.

The brother mentioned above had been a professed Christian for about ten years. For some time before Victor Emmanuel entered Rome (1870), he had been a Liberal in his views, and strongly opposed to the Pope. About 1860, he was accused of being in secret correspondence with an anti-Papal conspirator, was convicted and condemned to several years imprisonment. After his release, in 1868, he continued to do what he could to hasten and facilitate the entrance of the Italian army into Rome. Such a man would naturally think favorably of Protestants and Protestant principles, and we find him very early openly avowing his faith in Christ and attaching himself to the "sect everywhere spoken against." As far as I know, he has left a good name and a good influence behind, and we have reason to hope he has received "a crown of life" in Heaven.

The services in our Chapel yesterday were to me particularly interesting and enjoyable. The congregation numbered between fifty and seventy, most of them persons thoroughly respectable in appearance, as well as quietly attentive during the entire service. The singing, which is always good in our church, was sweet and inspiring. The hymns we generally use were composed by our evangelist in Venice and set to music, some of which is very beautiful, by his organist. Our organist in Rome is one of our members, a young man who has taught himself music as a means of usefulness in the church, and though he lives in quite another part of the city, and works hard for his daily bread, he scarcely ever fails to be present at the four weekly services, and thus far has refused to accept any pecuniary remuneration.

In view of the fact that three candidates for baptism were present the sermon of the morning was from Romans 6: 4, in which the pastor, Signor Coccorda, dwelt specially on the doctrine of baptism, death and burial to the world and resurrection to newness of life with Christ. He appealed to the candidates to examine themselves to see if they had living faith in Christ, and communion with God; if, said he, "how can there be a burial without a death?" and alive unto God; and, if not, to stop where they were.

Since the days of the early Christians, immersions in Rome have been very rare, and hence it is a strange

sight to most of those who witness it here. Immersions are not always decently and impressively administered in Italy; in part, because of the lack of a suitable place, and, in part, because not unfrequently the candidate and the administrator do not know how it should be done. We need baptistries sadly, in order that the ordinance may be properly and beautifully administered, and when some rich brother in Alabama feels liberally inclined, I think he could do better than to furnish one of our churches in Italy with a good baptistery, e. g.: our new chapel now in course of erection at Torre Pellice. However, the ceremony yesterday was all that one could desire. The first candidate was the wife of one of our best members, whose mother and relatives generally are strong Catholics. Through her, however, we hope some of them may be brought under the influence of the Gospel and led to Christ. The second candidate was an old man 60 or 70 years, with long snow-white hair and a most benevolent and Christian face, and the father of one of our evangelists. He was one of the first evangelical Christians in Italy under the new regime, and was for several years a member of the Free Church of Italy. We consider him a valuable addition, for he will scarcely ever fail to encourage the pastor with his presence and an intelligent, Christian attention to the exposition of God's Word. The third candidate was a young lady, of perhaps eighteen years, whose mother is English and has lived in Rome twenty-eight years. For several years she and her family, consisting of three daughters and two sons, have been occasional attendants at our church, her regular place of worship being an English Episcopal church. She told me yesterday that she preferred to have her children, who are really Italian, having been born and reared here, attached to an Italian Evangelical church. She herself having changed her views on the subject of baptism, etc., has decided to make her home with us, and hopes soon to be baptized, trusting by the grace of God that her entire family will soon follow her steps.

After the baptism, we united in celebrating the Lord's Supper, the new members partaking with us. A hymn and a prayer closed the morning service, and after a hearty, general handshake, my wife and I left the church, feeling that our first Sunday morning in Rome, after the summer's absence, had been one of peculiar religious joy and satisfaction. May God grant us to us and our church many such during the coming fall and winter.

Dr. Taylor and family are still in Northern Italy, where they usually spend the summer, while he looks after the interests of our work in those parts.

I start to-day, in company with Signor Coccorda, to attend the general meeting of our evangelists in Milan, Sept. 28th, the first of the kind for three years. It is likely that several important changes will be made at this meeting, and we are earnestly praying for the presence and influence of the Holy Spirit.

But few foreigners have as yet returned to Rome, though we suppose the number will rapidly increase after this week, the unhealthy season passing away with September. Hoping to let you hear from our work again, I remain,

Your brother in Christ,

JOHN H. EAGER.

How Far Dr. Toy has Gone!

Messrs. Editors: I ask you to publish the following extract from the *Examiner and Chronicle* of the 13th of October, written by a regular correspondent of that paper, who styles himself "Hillside." Is the disciple above his lord? If the master has gotten thus far in so short a time, what may we expect of the disciple who has manifestly taken some long strides in the same direction? This is a subject and a situation too serious for young brethren in the pulpit to suppose that they can afford to sport with it. The Word of God is not a thing to be "Toyed" with. I. J. D. R.

"WHAT FREE THOUGHT LEADS TO.—An illustration of the inevitable tendencies of free thought, when faith in plenary inspiration is lost, was given in the recent session of the Unitarian Ministers' Institute at Princeton, in this State. Prof. Toy, formerly of the Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, but now of Harvard, gave a dissertation on Ezekiel in which he endorsed, without qualification, the most destructive criticism on the Old Testament by German scholars who deny all supernatural elements in revelation. He asserted dogmatically, as if the case no longer admitted of honest doubt, that Ezekiel originated the sacerdotal element in Judaism, and introduced into its sacred books, from the Babylonian records, the story of Eden and the Flood. The theology founded on the supposed Mosaic teachings of the creation and fall, and on which Paul builds so cogent an argument in his great Epistle to the Romans, Prof. Toy declared to be 'simply a beautiful series of legends borrowed from ancient Babylon.' A curious corollary to this theory spun from ingenious brains, Prof. Toy added that Ezekiel was 'a great ethical teacher, who felt an individual responsibility for the religious conduct of his nation.' One must have singular ideas of ethics, and more singular qualifications for a teacher, who can borrow legends from a Pagan mythology, and invent a sacerdotal system, and deliberately use these for the name and authority of Moses, the great lawgiver of Israel.

The Independent, and a few Baptist ministers at the South, think that an outrage on religious freedom was committed, when Prof. Toy was forced to resign his chair at the Louisville Seminary! What is the value of a Chair for 'Old Testament Inspiration' when no 'Old Testament' is left to need interpretation?"

The report of Rev. R. S. Duncan, Statistical Secretary, furnishes the following figures for the white and colored Baptists of the State, respectively: Associations, 66 and 4; churches, 2,296 and 149; ministers, 841 and 79; baptisms, 5,062 and 926; dismissions by letter, 9,939 and 162; deaths, 947 and 201; exclusions, 1,512 and 415; total membership, 79,970 and 9,945; grand total, 89,915; net gain, 490.

Rev. A. Macchett read the report of the committee to which was referred the matter of "Co-operation." Many brethren participated in the discussion which followed. The fact was brought out that there was a more general co-operation in the work of the body than ever before. Though the reported receipts for one or two years in the past were larger than this, those figures included the money expended by District Associations in their own work, and merely reported to the State Board; while this year the figures include only the direct work of the body. It was also shown that Missouri ranks among the first of the States in the general co-operation of the churches in the State work. The Baptists of Missouri are neither divided nor inactive, as compared with other States.

The Woman's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society held their fifth annual meeting at the Second Baptist church, Wednesday morning. The annual report shows that for the year ending Oct. 1, 1881, the receipts amounted to \$959.72. Auxiliary societies have been formed in various churches, and the number of contributors is increasing.

Rev. M. J. Breaker, President of the Sunday-school Board, read the annual report of the Board. This stated that the five Sunday school workers in the employ of the association traveled last year 9,781 miles, preached 320 sermons, held 22 institutes, delivered 156 addresses, visited 462 families, distributed 13,547 pages of tracts, organized 23 Sunday-schools, and aided 10 Sunday-schools. The report further gave the information that there were 517 Baptist Sunday-schools in Missouri, 120 Union Sunday-schools in which the Baptists associate. These schools have 1,911 male officers and teachers and 1,345 female officers and teachers. There are 20,344 male pupils and 31,021 female pupils. Twelve thousand one hundred and three members of these Sunday-schools are members of the Baptist church, and during the year there were 4,034 conversions from these schools. The report also showed that during the year there was \$17,109 expended by Sunday-schools and \$1,500 for State Bible work. The committee reported that the Sunday-school section of the association was out of debt and had a small cash balance in the treasury, and had one-third the amounts pledged last year uncollected.

There never was a time when the spirit of jealous rivalry was so completely absent, and no time when the colleges were so universally prosperous.

The report of the Board of Ministerial Education was read by Dr. W. R. Rothwell. The report gave the information that during the year there were fifteen applicants for aid in ministerial studies, and forty-nine in William Jewell College. To these, pecuniary aid was given to the amount of \$839.72. The boarding club of the College has expended during the year, \$2,360 in the expense of board. The annual cost of supporting a ministerial student was stated to be about \$160.

Dr. Yeaman reviewed the work of the session, gratefully mentioning the harmony of all the sessions and the moderation and promptness with which the business had been transacted.

The meeting was remarkable for its unbroken harmony. There was scarcely a contested question or a close vote. The belligerent member, if there was such, was out of business. His employment was gone. For this state of feeling we ought to be doubly grateful. Has God's Spirit been melting these hearts into one?

The gospel is hidden away in Christ. We are to lift away the curtain, that people may see the majestic character of Jesus Christ.—Geo. B. Eager.

Your Convention is a veiled landscape to many; let the golden fingers of real truth lift the veil, and the future is grand.—Geo. B. Eager.

Missouri General Association Notes—From Central Baptist.

The committee on credentials, appointed last year, proceeded to enroll the messengers present. Their final report showed an attendance of 303 members. Of these, 208 represented 85 churches; 44 represented 22 District Associations, and 51 were life members. From these figures it will be seen that there were more messengers present and that they represented a larger part of the denomination than at any previous session of the body. The membership of District Associations alone, which had special representatives present, is about 36,000, besides the membership of the 85 churches, some of which were not included in this enumeration. If to these figures are added the membership of at least 200 other churches, which have made contributions to the work of the Association during the year, but which were not represented by messengers, it will at once appear that more than half the denomination have united in the blessed work done.

Dr. J. C. Maple read the report of the Missionary Board, showing up to the hour of its reading, the following statistics:

During the year the Board had employed 33 local and district missionaries. These missionaries had preached this year 2,067 sermons, witnessed 544 conversions, baptized 475 converts, organized 6 new churches, built

C. W. HOOPER & CO.
GROCERS,
Numbers 1 and 3 West Water Street, Selma, Alabama.
MILLER'S AGENTS FOR FLOUR AND MEAL.
AND DEALERS IN
WESTERN PRODUCE.
Cash buyers will be offered inducements.

S. F. HOBBS, No. 40 Broad St. Selma, Ala.
WATCHES, DIAMONDS,
Fine Jewelry, Clocks, Silver and Plated Goods, Spectacles & Eye Glasses
Of every style and grade. Also
PIANOS AND ORGANS
From the best makers, sold at lowest rates and on easy terms.
Watch Repairing and Engraving Specialties.
Standard Railroad Time.

W. B. GILL, Corner Washington and Selma Streets,
Carriages, Wagons and Carts, Furniture of every Description,
Bretts, Photos, Extended Top Barouches,
Buggies, Rockaways, Children's Buggies,
STUDEBAKER'S CELEBRATED UNDER-TAKERS DEPARTMENT.
Full supply of all kinds of
Metallic Burial Cases, Metallic Burial
Cases, Wood Caskets, Wood Cases.
Best in the United States.

FINE BOOTS AND SHOES.
LATEST STYLES OF SHOES, SLIPPERS, and TIES.
For Ladies, Misses, and Children.
Full Line of Edwin C. Burt's Fine Shoes.
FOR GENTLEMEN LOW SHOES IN ALL WIDTHS.
Shoes for Old Men. Shoes for Tender Feet. Ladies' Kid Slippers at from 75cts to \$1.
T. A. HALL, 32 Broad St., Selma, Ala.

Royston's Fire-Proof Warehouses.
SELMA, ALA.
Consign Your Cotton Directly to Royston's Warehouse.

All Cotton Receipts will be promptly delivered to parties as instructed.
A United States standard weight always on hand to test the accuracy of our scales.
We deliver cotton only when the receipt accompanies the order.
The only Warehouse in the city with free accommodations for wagons and their teams. Trustworthy watchmen employed.
Storage as low as any other warehouse. Drayage free from Railroads.
Y. L. ROYSTON.

Hard Times!
Notwithstanding the Hard Times, people must live, and we propose to do our part in aiding them to pass through this critical year. To this end we shall continue to sell Groceries at a Fair, Living Profit, and upon as liberal terms as possible. We adopt, therefore, as our principle,

"LIVE AND LET LIVE."
By adhering to this motto, and by close attention to the wants of our customers, we hope to merit a fair share of the Public Patronage.

GARY & RAYMOND,
Water Street, Selma, Alabama.

Louis A. Mueller,
DEALER IN—

China, Crockery, Glass-ware, House Furnishing Goods & Toys.
BROAD STREET, SELMA, ALABAMA.

OFFERS RECENT ARRIVALS OF COMPLETE BREAKFAST AND DINNER SETS IN
AMERICAN CHINA.

Consisting of 1 Dozen each Tea, Breakfast, Dinner, Soup, Preserve, and Butter Plates, 1 dozen Egg Cups; 1 dozen Cups and Saucers; 4 flat Dishes of different sizes; 2 Vegetable Dishes; 4 Covered Dishes; 1 Soup Tureen with Stand and Ladle; 1 Sauce Tureen complete; 1 Sauce Boat; 1 Tea Pot; 1 Sugar Bowl; 1 Cream Pitcher; 1 Slop Bowl; 2 Cake Plates; 2 Pickle Dishes; 1 Butter Dish; 1 Fruit Stand; 145 pieces, at \$20.00 a set. The same number of Pieces in Iron Stone China, at \$18.00 a set.
AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED

Adams and Westlake's Kerosene Oil Cooking Stoves.
The best substitute for the ordinary Cooking Stove.
Descriptive Circulars sent on application.

A. W. JONES. E. K. CARLISLE. ABNER WILLIAMS

CARLISLE, JONES & CO.,

Cotton Factors & Commission Merchants,
AND MANUFACTURERS' AGENTS FOR SALE OF

Agricultural and Mill Machinery.
SELMA, ALABAMA.

AGENTS FOR
HALL COTTON GINS,
TAYLOR COTTON GINS,

WITH OR WITHOUT FEEDERS AND CONDENSERS.
PRESSES,
IN GREAT VARIETY, FOR STEAM, HORSE, OR HAND POWER.

ENGINES,
ALL OF LATEST AND MOST APPROVED DESIGNS.

Malta Cultivators
AND
HAPGOOD SULKY PLOWS.

The LIGHTEN DRAUGHT and most practical Machines of the kind yet manufactured.

Call on us and see Samples, or write us and get

Circulars, Price Lists, and Terms.

Liberal CASH ADVANCES made on
Growing Crops.

THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Phil's Burglar.

I am Phil Morris, fourteen years old, and the youngest clerk in Covert Savings Bank. The cashier is my Uncle Jack, and he began at the bottom, where I am, when he was a boy. He says that a boy had better grow up with a country bank than go West and grow up with the country. He thinks there's more money in it.

"If there's anything in it," he said one day, "you'll work your way up to be bank president some time." And I guess it's better to be president of a country bank than to be President of the United States. Any way, you wouldn't have to be shot before folks began to find out that you were doing your level best to keep things straight. Uncle Jack says and does such queer things sometimes that people say he's odd. They tell about his being so wrapped up in the bank that he never had time to hunt up a wife. I notice, though, that when father and mother died, and left me a wee little baby, Uncle Jack found time to bring me up, and give me a good education to boot. Oh, he's as good as gold or government bonds, Uncle Jack is.

We live in rooms over the bank, where old Mrs. Halstead keeps house for us. Underneath, we do the business. There's heaps of money in our two big vaults. Last summer—and, mind you, this was while I was away on vacation—two men broke into the building. They came up stairs, and into Uncle Jack's room. One had a bull's-eye lantern that he flashed in Uncle Jack's face as he sat up in bed, and the other pointed a big pistol right at his head.

"Tell us where the vault keys are, or I'll shoot you," he said.

"Oh, Uncle Jack," what did you do?"

"What would you have done?" he asked, in his odd way.

"I know what I wouldn't have done," I answered him, straightening up a bit—"I wouldn't have given 'em the keys."

"Ah!" Uncle Jack says, kind of half doubtful, and then went on: "Well, I told them to shoot away. And they knew as well as I did that shooting wouldn't bring them the keys. So when they found they couldn't frighten me, the scoundrels tied me, and went off in a rage, with my watch and pocket-book."

That was last summer. One night along in the fall Uncle Jack started off down town. "It's Lodge night, and I may not be back until late," he said. "You won't mind staying alone—a great boy like you." And of course I said "No."

But somehow, after Mrs. Halstead went to bed, I found I did mind it. I don't know what made me feel so fidgety. Perhaps it was reading about a bank robbery in Bolton, which is the next town to Covert. It was thought to be the work of Slippery Jim, a notorious burglar. And while I was thinking about it, I dozed off in Uncle Jack's easy chair.

"Ow—lw!" I sung out all at once. And if you'd woke up of a sudden to see a rough looking man, with a sloop hat pulled over his eyes, standing right in front of you, you'd have done the same. "What—what do you want here?" I sort of gasped; and I tried to speak so he would not hear my teeth knock together.

"The vault keys—where are they?" he answers, short and gruff. And then he kind of motioned with his hand—I suppose to show the revolver he was holding.

I was pretty badly scared; but all the same, I didn't mean he should have those vault keys, if he shot the top of my head off.

"Come, hurry up," he said, with a sort of grin. And I noticed then that he had red whiskers, and some of his upper front teeth were gone, so that he didn't speak his words plain.

"I should know you anywhere," I thought. "Strategy, Phil Morris," said to myself, bracing up inside; for a story I'd read about how a lady caught a live burglar came across me like a flash. "Please don't shoot, sir," I began to say, with all sorts of demi-semi-quavers in my voice—"please don't! I'll show you where they're kept." So making believe to shake all over, I took the lamp, and led the way into Uncle Jack's bedroom. "The k-k-eyes are in th-there, sir," I told him.

You should have seen how my fingers trembled when I pointed to the little store-room that opened out of the chamber. They keys were there, true enough, but I'd like to see any one except Uncle Jack or I find them. I suppose you have heard of such things as secret panels.

The store-room floor is lower than the chamber floor. Many a time, when I haven't been thinking, I've stepped down with a jar that almost sent my backbone up through the top of my head.

"In th-there, eh?" said my bold burglar, quite cheerful like, and pushed by me to the open door.

I set the lamp down, and my heart began to beat so that I was almost afraid he could hear it. "Now or never," I whispered.

It was all done quicker than you could say "knife." I put my head down like a billy-goat, and ran for the small of his back. "Butted" isn't a nice word, but that's just how I sent him flying headlong into the closet. I heard him go down with a crash that shook Mrs. Halstead's biggest jar of raspberry jam off the shelf.

I didn't stop to take breath until I'd locked the door and barricaded it with Uncle Jack's big mahogany bureau—just as the lady did in the story. Then I breathed—and listened. What I heard made my eyes stick out a bit. First I almost felt like crying. Then I laughed until I did cry. I suppose the excitement made me hysterical. It wasn't ten minutes before I roused up Mr. Simms, the constable, and Jared Peters, who lived next door. Mr. Simms brought along an old pepper-box revolver and a pair of handcuffs. Jared Peters had his double-barrel gun, but in his hurry he forgot to load it.

Up stairs we hurried. The two men pulled away the bureau, and

Mr. Simms, who was in the army, stationed us in our places.

"Look a-here, you feller," Mr. Simms called out, "the strong arm of the law is a-cov'ring of you with deadly weapons. Surrender without resistance—Phil, yank open the door."

I flung open the door. Jared Peters covered the prisoner with his gun. He was covered with something else too—Mrs. Halstead's raspberry jam, that he'd been wallowing around in. He didn't look proud, though, for all he was so stuck up.

Before he could open his mouth Mr. Simms had him handcuffed and dragged out into the chamber.

"There," he said, with a long breath, "I guess you won't burgle no more right away."

"For goodness' sake, Simms—Peters—don't you know me—Mr. John Morris, cashier of the savings-bank?" That was what the prisoner said just as soon as he could speak.

Well, I didn't wait any longer. I just bolted for my own room, where I could lie down on the floor. And there I lay laughing until I was purple clear round to my shoulder blades. Then I went to bed.

"Philip," said Uncle Jack, solemnly, while we were at breakfast next morning. "I should beg your pardon for trying to test your courage in the—constantly idiotic way I took to do it last night, but—and I looked pretty sheepish—"I—I think I got the worst of it."

"I think you did, sir," I answered him, choking a bit.

"The disguise was a good one, though," he went on with a sort of feeble chuckle, "and leaving my false teeth out, changed my voice completely—eh, Phil?"

"Yes, sir—until you hollered out in the closet that it was all a joke, and wanted me to let you out," I answered him, as I got up and edged toward the door.

"Why didn't you let me out then?" roared Uncle Jack, who is rather quick-tempered.

I hope I wasn't impudent. Truly, I didn't intend to be. "Because, Uncle Jack," I said, as I turned the door knob, "I have heard you say more than once that he who cannot take a joke should not make one." And as I dodged through the door I heard Uncle Jack groan.—*Harper's Young People.*

"I Love You."

A tired woman hushed to sleep her nestling babe. Beauty once made her face radiant, perhaps, but all that beauty is gone now. The blue eye is dim and faded—the pale brow covered with lines of care. Perhaps, with that far-off look of hers, she sees three little graves, green with many summers. Her home is very humble—all day she has toiled, and the fainting spirit almost surrenders to fatigue, the downcast eyes tremble in tears—she is so weary. And every nerve tingles when the "boys" come hungry from school, some with a tale of sorrow that mother must hear.

And after they were hushed with kisses or chidings, it is time to get supper for seven hungry mouths, and the accustomed, never ending routine of putting away and cleaning up, till the worn-out creature wonders with a sigh if there really will ever come a rest to her—an eternal rest.

At last she can seat her weary limbs in the old corner rocking chair. The babe, whose eyes close fitfully to a lullaby, lies in his father's lap. He is a plain man, that good father, with an honest face and a great heart, that would take in all the cares and sorrow of the household.

The babe sleeps. With a rude gentleness he lays it on its mother's bosom, and as the ruddy firelight plays over her careworn features, he looks upon her with eyes suddenly grown lustrous and beautiful. He lifts his great hand softly till it rests on her shoulder, as he says:

"I love you, Mary."

How the poor heart leaps into love, light and rest. How vanish the cares that trod upon her very soul. She reflects not now that the pretty babe with pink-flushed cheek against her breast has worn her patience threadbare with its constant fears and unrest. She forgets that the fire would smoke, the broom burn, that the children teased her, that the clothes-line broke, and that every limb in her frame ached with fatigue.

What were those in comparison with the steadfast love that has burned for eighteen years; is the sunlight of happiness, through the clouds of despair, when beauty made her winning, and when her charm of loneliness had gone, and the freshness of her youth departed forever? What cared she for aught outside her home, though she had many sorrows, while such words thrilled her whole being?

"I love you, Mary."

Ah! you long, long married, repining husbands, who exact every attention and duty—how much would it cost to make your home thus beautiful, with all its cares? I tell you, one word will loosen great burdens from the shoulders of the woman you call wife. Try it. Go home some night and look upon her with the eyes of long ago. For one moment think how great trials she took into her heart when she married you. Then tenderly clasp her hand, and as she looks with wonder-opened eyes, say to her in a low and steady voice, not carelessly and sportively, but earnestly:

"I love you."

Trust me, it will be to her and to you both better than diamonds.—*Exchange.*

A Thorough Job.
Judge M—, a well known jurist living near Cincinnati, was fond of relating this anecdote. He had once occasion to send to the village for a carpenter, and a sturdy young fellow appeared with his tools.

"I want this fence mended to keep out the cattle. There are some unplanned boards—use them. It is out of sight from the house, so you need not take time to make it a neat job."

"I only pay you a dollar and a half," the judge went to dinner, and coming out found the man carefully planning each board. Supposing that he was trying to make a costly job of it, he ordered him to nail them on at once just as they were, and continued his work. When he returned the boards were planned and numbered ready for nailing.

"I told you this fence was to be covered with vines," he said, angrily. "I do not care how it looks."

"I do," said the carpenter, gruffly, carefully measuring his work. When it was finished there was no part of the fence as thorough in finish.

"How much do you charge?" asked the judge.

"A dollar and a half," said the man, shouldering his tools.

The judge stared. "Why did you spend all that labor on the job, if not for money?"

"For the job, sir."

"Nobody would have seen the poor work on it."

"But I should have known it was there. No; I'll take only the dollar and a half." And he took it and went away.

Ten years afterwards, the judge had the contract to give for the building of certain magnificent public buildings. There were many applicants among the master-builders, but the face of one caught his eye.

"It was my man of the fence," he said. "I knew we should have good, genuine work from him. I gave him the contract, and it made a rich man of him."

It is a pity that boys were not taught in their earliest years that the highest success belongs only to the man, be he a carpenter, farmer, author or artist, whose work is most sincerely and thoroughly done.

A Model Boy and Man.

President Garfield did everything as if he believed that "whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well." Thoroughness was a principle with him. He planned boards so well for the carpenter, at twelve years of age, that praise and other jobs followed.

He served the "black-salter" so well, at fifteen, that he was offered much larger pay to remain. He was so efficient on the canal boat, at sixteen, that he secured early promotion and the verdict of the captain, "the best hand on board."

He did farm work so well, at eighteen, as to elicit the commendation of neighbors. He was so thorough in his studies, that his teacher held him up as a model scholar. His excellence in teaching was so high that, in two years, he rose to the head of the institution. He was so efficient as a State Senator, that his services were required in organizing regiments for the war. His thoroughness as a colonel in the army made him brigadier; and then major-general; then United States Representative; then United States Senator; then President before he had time to act as a Senator.—*School Journal.*

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

Sweet Potatoes—Selecting Seed, etc.
As the time for digging and hilling or otherwise preserving, this valuable crop is near at hand, a few thoughts based upon considerable experience may not be amiss. And as there has been line upon line and precept upon precept written upon the best method of hilling, etc., I will merely state that I have been very successful in saving large crops for several successive years, by placing them carefully, to avoid bruising, upon a bed of clean, sound pine straw, covering them with the same four or five inches thick, then with pine bark (shingle fashion); finally with earth, at first lightly, and add to it as the weather may indicate. If pine bark is not convenient, dry corn stalks carefully placed over the straw will answer very well. The most important matter is to avoid covering too closely before they have gone through the heating and seasoning process, a good plan being to leave them several days without any earth, allowing them free ventilation and finally to leave a large air hole in the top of the hill, so that you may conveniently pass your hand in and examine the potatoes. This should be left open until they are entirely seasoned, and then only closed with straw. I have been fully as successful in hilling them without any shelter over them as with a shelter of large scurf of bark, or a wide piece of board or a hill to keep out the rain. The hills also should be examined after heavy rains, which may wash off the earth and leave them exposed to the cold snap which almost invariably follows heavy rains in winter.

A very important matter is the selection of roots for seed, and this, so far as my knowledge goes, is generally not only neglected, but abused by using small stringy roots, that are unfit for anything else, for seed. It is true that the small potatoes have as many eyes or germs as the larger ones, and will, if bedded, produce bushel for bushel—a few more draws—but they are slender, delicate plants, the off-springs of delicate and dwarfed roots, and of course unfit for seed. What would be thought of a farmer who selected the inferior wheat, corn and oats for seed?

In my opinion the potato crop might be increased both in quality and quantity from twenty-five to fifty per cent, by simply selecting the choice, medium sized, well formed roots for seed.

Our climate and soil are remarkably well adapted to the cultivation of this valuable root. No crop pays better; then select a few choice potatoes for seed, feed your small strings to your hogs and cattle, and you will be doubly repaid for your care, and for the difference in your seed.—*J. T. Farrall in Columbus Times.*

Alabama Cereal Production.
An extra bulletin issued by the Census office shows the production of cereals in Alabama, and every county of the United States.

In Alabama, the leading crop producing counties are Barbour, 437,415 bushels; Jackson, 1,099,486 bushels; Montgomery, 1,671,447; Lawrence, 798,931; Madison, 1,033,225; Sumter, 699,883; Cherokee, 599,381; Hale, 595,184; Talladega, 454,873 bushels. The smallest crop producing counties are Baldwin, with 28,428 bushels; Winston, 88,781; Mobile, 25,372; Escambia, 34,336; Geneva, 58,837. The total cereal production of Alabama is 25,451,278 bushels from 2,055,029 acres.

Of oats, the leading producing counties are Dallas 111,213 bushels; Barbour 90,295; Jackson 90,962; Lee, 101,911; Wilcox, 92,933; Marengo, 83,234; Madison, 81,161; Chambers, 80,492; Montgomery, 42,292. The smallest producing counties are Winston, 4,443; Washington, 3,547; Mobile, 1,440; Cullman, 8,168; Baldwin, 5,108 bushels.

The total production of oats in Alabama aggregates 3,039,639 bushels from 324,628 acres.

The production of rye throughout the State was small and pretty generally distributed. Cullman county contributed 2,513 bushels; Calhoun 1,700; Cherokee 1,020; DeKalb 1,182; Jackson 1,613; Limestone 1,378; Lauderdale 1,133; Montgomery 115 bushels. The smallest producing counties are Choctaw 29 bushels; Covington 50; Coosa 72; Dale 87.

The total rye product of the State amounted to 28,402 from 5,834 acres.

The banner wheat county of the State is Tallapoosa, with 99,061 bushels; then come Talladega with 89,863; Madison 80,710; Chambers 75,945; Calhoun 67,660; Jefferson, 60,038; Blount, 60,856; Jackson, 58,335 bushels. Montgomery county produced 393 bushels from 58 acres. The smallest products were 85 bushels from Coffee county; 179 from Wilcox; 30 from Clarke; 150 from Butler; 129 from Crenshaw; 336 from Dale; 487 from Dallas; 906 from Henry; 225 from Sumter.

The total product of wheat in the State aggregated 1,529,657 bushels, from 264,971 acres.

Pencil marks can easily be removed from walls, wood work and marble by rubbing with a damp woolen cloth and a little sapollo.

OUR PUZZLE CORNER.

Enigma.
Composed of 21 letters.
My 12, 13, 14, 21, 17 is rust.
My 20, 11, 6, 13, 1, 15 is motive.
My 18, 15, 2, 5 is genuine.
My 4, 9, 19 is a reward.
My 7, 8, 1, 15, 16 is a leather strap.
My whole is a band of concert singing.
IDA.

Word Puzzle.
What word of ten letters contains the following words without transposing any of its letters?
1. A passage.
2. An adverb.
3. An animal.
4. A man's nickname.
5. Upon.
6. A mountain mentioned in the Bible.
7. Ardor.
8. Near.
9. Devoured.

Word Square.
1. Anger.
2. An extensive part of the earth's surface.
3. Overlaid with gold.
4. Devours.

Concealed Double Acrostic.
1. To whom did Elijah show himself? 1 Kings 18: 2.
2. Who sold purple in the city of Thyatira? Acts 16: 14.
3. How did Christ find the disciples? Matthew 26: 43.
4. Upon what did the woman sit? Revelations 17: 3.
5. Who was Job's brother? 2 Sam. 20: 10.
6. Who kept Jethro's flocks? Exodus 3: 1.
7. What relation was Jehosheba to Joash? 2 Kings 11: 2.
The initials and finals to the answers will spell the name of a beloved weekly visitor to many homes of this State.

COUSIN DOT.

ANSWERS TO LAST PUZZLES.

CROSS-WORD ENIGMA—Sweet pea. Transpositions.—1. Flesh, shelf. 2. Trace, crate. 3. Clean, lance. 4. Debar, bread. 5. Sole, lose. 6. Trade, tread. 7. Shoe, hose. 8. Rise, sire.

DIAMOND.
B
I
R
E
B
R
I
N
K
E
N
D
K

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
MADE FROM GRAPE CREAM TARTAR.—No other preparation makes such light, flaky hot breads, or luxurious pastry. Can be eaten by Dyspeptics without the fear of the ill results from heavy indigestible food. Sold only in cans, by all Grocers.
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., New York.

W. G. BOYD, BOOKSELLER and STATIONER.
Carries full lines of everything in the trade, and is prepared to give close prices to all buyers. In person, or by express. FOR CASH.
22 Broad Street, Selma, Ala.

MRS. LYDIA E. PINKHAM, OF LYNN, MASS.
Woman can sympathize with woman.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND.
Is a Positive Cure
For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

That feeling of hearting down, causing pain, weight and headache, is always permanently cured by its use. It will all times and under all circumstances, remove fatness, flatulency, distension, craving for stimulants, and all nervous weakness of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.

For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our fair female population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaint, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and Ulcers, Prolapsus, and all diseases of the stomach, Intestines, Liver, and all other organs. It is a sure remedy for Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Headaches, Dizziness, and Indigestion.