

We have on hand now more communications than we can publish in our next paper, to say nothing of those that shall be received in the meantime. Brethren must be patient, and we will do the best we can to give all a hearing in due time.

REV. M. T. SUMNER is hopelessly ill at Verbena. It is gratifying to know that he has every attention that filial affection, Christian love and medical skill can afford. A faithful servant of God is approaching his end.

Those who desire to have the list of Associational Meetings entire would do well to cut it out of this paper and preserve it. Our columns are so crowded that we can not publish it every week.

BRO. EAGER will leave Mobile about the middle of August on a visit to East Tennessee, where he will represent the Home Mission Board. He will return the first of October. We will hear from him while he is away.

We are glad to learn that Bro. J. W. Stewart is working faithfully and hopefully in the field assigned him.

Church Building Department of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A new department of missionary work has been organized by our Home Mission Board, namely: "The Church Building Department." It is new to the Baptists of the South, but it is not an experiment by any means.

PLAN FOR RAISING FUNDS.

1. We want this work to be made an object to which churches will contribute regularly. Enter it in the list with Foreign Missions and Home Missions; give it equal dignity and an equal share with these old established objects of your benevolence; send up funds to your Associations, specially directed to the "Church Building Department."

2. We beg our pastors everywhere to take up special collections for this work and make mention of it and support it in their public ministrations.

3. When thought advisable, we will take installment notes to be paid annually for a series of years.

4. From many brethren whom the Lord has so abundantly blessed with wealth, we shall expect large donations, and we trust that not a few will remember this department of Christian work, and will leave bequests and legacies to advance the cause, as testimonials of their gratitude to God and as proof of their Christian regard for their fellow-men.

PLAN FOR DISTRIBUTION.

Churches and communities desiring aid must file application and their necessities and importance will be considered by the Board. Where the application is accepted, we will make a loan, securing the debt by satisfactory mortgage or title-deed, or we may, if the Board thinks best, make a donation; or, we may give a part and loan a part, always using our best judgment in the disbursements. It will, however, be the policy of this department to preserve the contributions as a permanent fund, and give away only the interest which may accumulate on the loans from year to year. Yet, when funds are contributed for specific purposes or localities, the Board will cheerfully and conscientiously comply with the wish of the donor.

THE AMOUNT NEEDED.

We could use one hundred thousand dollars immediately if we had it. There are places to which our attention has already been directed where the whole amount could be wisely and profitably loaned. The territory occupied by the Southern Baptists calls for help to build one hundred churches annually for several years, and not a dollar be misapplied. I am sure twenty thousand dollars is not too much to ask for and to expect the first year. Are there not twenty men in the Southern States who will give one thousand dollars each? Are there not one thousand men who will give twenty dollars each? How easy it would be to raise the twenty or forty or one hundred thousand dollars if "every one would give as the Lord has prospered him!"

AN ILLUSTRATION.

To show the reader how the plan will work, we submit the following illustration: Suppose we loan \$400 to each applicant, the community asking aid raising \$600 more, thus enabling them to build a church at the cost of \$1,000. The \$400 to be returned, with interest, in four annual installments of \$100 each. Now, if we had \$10,000 to begin with, and should collect \$10,000 annually, with the annual installments on the loans paid, the \$10,000 would be returned, and we could build 25 churches; the 2d year with \$12,500, 31 churches; the 3d year with \$15,000, 37 churches; the 4th year with \$17,500, 43 churches; the 5th year with \$20,000, 50 churches.

In this calculation we have supposed that the interest was consumed in gifts to very weak churches, and that only the annual installments on the loans of preceding years were added to the yearly collections.

The idea is, perpetuity of the endowment, perpetuity of the work, and an ever increasing fund for yet greater results.

Communications and contributions can be addressed for the present to the undersigned, at Rome, Ga. And now, dear reader, if you have the means, and the cause seems worthy, send your money immediately, for never in its history will the Church Building Department need money worse than it does to-day.

Yours fraternally,

G. A. NUNNALLY,

Sec. Church Building Dept.

The extracts, printed above are taken from a circular sent us by Dr. Nunnally. We would be glad to publish the circular entire, but lack of

space prevents. This new departure of the Home Mission Board has our most hearty approval and shall receive our best efforts for its progress and success. The accumulation of a church building fund has for a long time been a felt necessity. The want of it has hindered the progress of the cause in many towns, villages and country places. Little can be done by way of advancement anywhere without a house of worship. Many, very many, weak churches find it impossible to build without assistance. Special appeals have been made until they have ceased, in a large measure, to excite interest. A general fund judiciously managed meets the pressing demand. Money contributed to this department will reach far down into the future and go on and on indefinitely.

We ask for this work the prayerful consideration of all our readers. We hope it will be brought prominently before all the associations this fall and the necessity of the fund pressed until the attention of brethren all over the State, and of the South, is fastened upon it.

The Board is fortunate in the selection of its Secretary in this department of its work. No man can press the work with more energy than Dr. Nunnally.

For the Alabama Baptist.

Sufferable Offenses.

Those who have watched the course of things for the last twenty years must have noticed an apparent tendency to a total giving up of corrective discipline in our churches. This tendency first began to manifest itself in liberal concessions in regard to sufferable offenses; that is, our pastors and writers in many cases conceded with a great show of liberality, that there are many offenses which must be tolerated—overlooked—in the administration of church discipline.

Now it is not the purpose of this article to deny that there are sufferable offenses, but to remind the reader that liberal concessions in that direction by those whose position it is to exercise themselves for the purity of the churches are certain to be misused as a license for far graver evils, and this to continue until it may be expected that all classes of wrongdoing must be endured in silence. But what grade of offenses should be thus alone in the membership of the church? Is it not true that all offenses should be subjected to some grade of corrective discipline. It is not a correct idea that all corrective discipline looks ultimately to exclusion. It is meant to be corrective, and is intended to save, and heal, and restore the offender in all except the worst of cases. The reader can probably remember when the words of lecture and reproof from his parents were more dreaded than the rod itself. It would seem that the smallest offenses among church members should be subjected to reproof and private lecture, and that this should be repeated as often as the offenses occur. Once we begin to ignore these small matters, the perpetrator, like an indulged child, will go further and further until he may conclude that it is intolerant to call in question the grossest immoralities. And it is certainly true that a church can maintain its dignity and moral power when it is known to slay over gross vices in the lives of its members. It is also true that we are frequently expected to pass by as trivial things many moral crimes which the world itself holds to be great sins. Where this is done the non-professing moral man will disdain the church, and when approached in the interest of his soul he can hardly fail to remind you that you are tolerating vices in your church which he could not fellowship for a single moment; and he does not only say that he is better than many of your members, but further, he knows it to be true that he is better than they.

A church or pastor should never get in the habit of inquiring how much vice may be suffered to exist in the membership, but rather how can we get rid of sin among our people, and how little of it should we suffer to remain?

It is a dangerous thing to talk about sufferable offenses and sins that should be ignored. It was the "little foxes that spoiled the tender grapes." Get accustomed to submitting to their ravages and soon the wolf and the tiger will demand toleration.

For the Alabama Baptist.

A Few Items.

A few days since, seated in a buggy with a friend, we took a pleasant ride down to Sylacauga from Talladega, twenty miles. The crops on the route looked decidedly well, though they had suffered for rain. On our return in the afternoon we found it necessary to ride all the distance in a heavy rain fall. We spent an hour at Bro. Wilkes' home with him and Dr. Teasdale. They had just returned from their interesting and successful meetings at Fayetteville. They are now at Mount Olive, another of Bro. Wilkes' churches.

Bro. J. C. Wright, pastor at Oxford, came down and spent a day and night with us last week, and we talked about many things. The house of worship at Oxford is receiving some important improvements under the careful eye of the ladies and the pastor.

We see it stated that among the many beautiful inscriptions engraved on the gold watch presented to Dr. O. C. Pope of Texas, in consideration of the vigorous and successful part he took in forwarding the famous excursion after the Water Convention, those who went on the excursion are styled "Baptist Pilgrims." We think we would have used some other word instead of "Pilgrims." Henceforth those brethren are to be known as the "Baptist Pilgrims," and that excursion as "the Baptist Pilgrimage." And just here let us say that we have

regretted to see that brethren have objected to paying the subscription to the new Baptist house of worship in Monterey, because the house will not belong to or be understood as built by the Southern Baptist Convention, the church being one of the missions of the Home Mission Society of the North. It seems to us to be an improper objection. Did not the little Mexican church in that city extend an extraordinary hospitality to the "Pilgrims"? And was not that the sentiment which moved the liberal and noble subscription? We did not subscribe until we rejoined the Pilgrims at San Antonio on their return, but that was our understanding at the time, and we further understood that it was virtually a contribution to the Home Mission Society, and so was on all hands an expression of the general good feeling which prevailed, without regard to boards, societies, or sections. Thus we understood it, and it strikes us as a small matter to obtrude little objections. That is a Baptist church of like faith and order with ourselves. That's where the Pilgrims went, and there they rested and received hospitality.

For the Alabama Baptist.

Mea Regrada.

By mail I have received a parcel in the form of a staff, some four and a half feet long, with a card attached, "From Dr. W. H. . . ." This puzzles me in two respects. There are two Doctors there, father and son, one a D. D., the other an M. D.; one an elderly man, the other a young man, whose initials I believe are the same. I don't know how I shall dispose of the matter, unless I divide my discourse into two heads.

A distinguished ministerial friend once came on an incipient porker under the tence, which, dismounting, he relieved; and on whose helpless predicament he founded a sermon, as he rode on to church. Another evoked a genuine Gospel sermon from his text, "Take a little wine for thy stomach's sake," etc., from which he deduced the theme, The Christian Duty of Preserving Health; and as I had been long and fearfully sick, the attack brought on, and recuperation interfered with, by neglect of the laws of health, he reached me; solemnly representing that such an one disabled by incaution, overstudy, imprudent eating, and the like, would have to account for all lost time; I never had more sharp points turned on my conscience under one discourse in my life. Pricked, painfully pricked, withing, my wife constantly nudging me with her elbow as something came home, I suffered keenly.

Now if I had the genius of my friends, I could get something out of the staff.

My venerable friend, the D. D., some eight or ten years my senior, and always delicately organized, is quite infirm, and, I dare say, needs a staff, ala Dr. Johnson; but I would remind him that his life has been turned around, and that except in the matter of locomotion, I was never better. An organization of his kind, equal to almost any strain. So that he has no right to hint I am growing old; and I will scarcely concede that such a thing is imminent. If he means to suggest that my inner man needs a staff, alas! I must confess it. That mystic personage is feeble indeed. Very well, the outward tabernacle itself, I know, must, before a great while, grow weak and tumble down; the Master will not allow myself to make repairs; but I will console myself with the hope that I "have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." In that new tabernacle, I shall, I trust, in due time, make acquaintance some day, on the other shore, with my elder brother, never to be interrupted; for, although sprung from Baptist parents, he retreated, in early life, from the hyper-Calvinism, or ultra-democracy, or burial ceremony, or from whatever else, into a broader, breasted theology, into another communion, making water but a symbol of purification. I have been cognizant of his laborious, devout and consistent career, and I say with another brother, sitting in a pulpit with a speaker whose discourse had been a little New Zealand in its ruggedness, but healthy upon the whole, "Thank God, thank God!"

The M. D.'s fine powers and fine acquisitions have not taken exactly the same direction, but there is something said about giving a cup of cold water that has often interested me; and I have seen his respect, hearty and unfeigned, for the friends of the Galilean, and trust that the frequent calls of the distressed upon him may constantly suggest that an hour may come that shall shelve the offices of a greater Physician.

Anyway I love—who does not?—to be remembered; to be supported by kindness in little things; to be heaped up by the stress of many trials, from a beach, a shore, on which one may repose. Whoever for an expression of good will? Who that has the consciousness of friendship in his own bosom does not feel his heart glow when it is seen in another?

I shall lean on such thing in the remnant of life; seek to stay myself on the friendship of our common Redeemer at last; and of other things the staff shall ever remind me.

E. B. T.

I see from the columns of your paper that the Columbia Observer wants a young man who does not chew tobacco, smoke nor drink whiskey. I think I can suit him that far. Let me hear from the Observer again."—Jno. F. White, Monroeville, Ala.

"I have this day mailed to the clerks of the different churches of the Unity Association a blank form of an associational letter furnished by Rev. Jno. L. West & Co. I hope if they receive them that they will fill them out in full. It not may I insist that the church and Sabbath school statistics be reported as full as possible; if any churches can not send messengers, will they not send letters giving full statistics of church and Sabbath school?"—H. E. Longrich, Jones Switch, Aug. 3d.

"I have been preaching at night at Shiloh church, Pike county, Ala., with the following results: Received by baptism, 15; by letter, 4. Very large congregations, and interest increasing to the close."—T. H. Stout, Clayton, Aug. 3d.

LITERARY NOTICES.

"THE MINER'S DAUGHTER." A story of the Rocky Mountains. By Miss L. Bates. 320 pp. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society. Price, \$1.25.

The Far West has been developing with wonderful rapidity. Life in that wide and wonderful region has taken to itself peculiar forms, which are well worthy of the study of chroniclers in the other States. The scene of this story is laid in Colorado. In that vigorous young State there are mountains and plains, with occupations and diversified interests. The ranches for sheep and cattle, the mines, the busy, bustling towns that spring up as if by magic, furnish very interesting material for such narratives as this fresh and vigorous sketch of the miner's daughter, and of the friends who surrounded her, Col. and Patsy and James, Lovell and Dick Lightfoot are fair specimens of the better part of the mixed population. Mr. Seaver and his wife may be taken as a model pair of such a field. It would be well if hundreds of such men of talent, fact, and true character could be located in these fields, so inviting for those who are not afraid of labor, are more careful for the progress of the Lord's work than for their own incidental comfort. The volume is full of incident, and full of incitement to good.

For the Alabama Baptist.

Baptist Cause in Demopolis.

A New House of Worship to be Built—\$700 Raised in One Day.

I have just returned from Demopolis, where, aided by Bro. W. B. Crumpton, we held a series of meetings lasting just one week. The congregations increased in number and seriousness to the close of the meeting. A number were forward for prayer. Three were received by letter. The church was greatly revived and strengthened.

A lot in the central part of the town has already been purchased. An effort was made on Saturday evening and Sunday morning in which about \$700 were raised for the erection of a house. This amount will be increased to \$800 or more in the town, and then we propose to appeal to the brethren without to complete the amount to \$2,000. We must have a \$2,000 house in this town. Demopolis is one of the oldest towns in the State, located at the confluence of the Warrior and Bigbee rivers, on the Central line of railroad, and has about 2,000 inhabitants.

The little church here, now numbering fifteen members, is a noble band of Christians. It has, amid many discouragements, struggled through an existence of thirteen years without a house of worship. The subscription list furnishes some noble illustrations of sacrifice. One lady without means gives \$50. This will be made with her needle. Five months of her time will thus be given to this special object, whilst all the interests of the church are liberally supported by her. Others might be mentioned. We do not propose to build a barn, but a house after the most improved pattern, with a baptistry in it. At the proper time, brethren, you may expect to hear from me on the subject. You have been neglecting your duty to Demopolis for half a century, and the time will speedily come when you may with joy redeem yourselves from this opprobrium. I am coming.

Bro. Crumpton preaches good sermons and sound doctrine, and has left a fragrance with his name in Demopolis that will last.

G. S. ANDERSON

Neuberne, July 24th.

For the Alabama Baptist.

Mission Meeting of Oanana Association.

The next Mission Meeting will be held with the Baptist church at Springville embracing the third Sabbath and Saturday before, in August, 10 o'clock a. m. Saturday—Special prayer-meeting for missions. One hour.

11 o'clock a. m.—Subject: The Need of more Consecration upon the Part of Christians. R. J. Waldrop, Revs. R. E. Huey and M. M. Wood, T. V. B. Moor, M. K. Vann and Rev. A. J. Waldrop.

2 o'clock p. m.—Subject: Our Obligations to the Mission Work. Revs. E. B. Waldrop, G. T. Green, King Vann, H. F. Wood, Manohar Robertson, D. T. Huey, Rev. W. O. Bailey, D. S., and C. Williams.

9 o'clock a. m. Sunday—Sunday-school exercises and mass meeting. Speakers for Sunday school mass meeting, and preaching during the meeting will be arranged by the deacons of Springville church.

We hope for a large attendance at this meeting, as it will be one of special importance to the Association. Revs. W. C. Cleveland, D. D., J. H. Foster, D. D., and J. M. Phillips are expected to be present, and we hope they will not disappoint us.

R. H. STERRETT, R. E. HUEY, T. V. B. MOOR, Committee. M. K. VANN, R. W. BECK.

"I see from the columns of your paper that the Columbia Observer wants a young man who does not chew tobacco, smoke nor drink whiskey. I think I can suit him that far. Let me hear from the Observer again."—Jno. F. White, Monroeville, Ala.

"I have this day mailed to the clerks of the different churches of the Unity Association a blank form of an associational letter furnished by Rev. Jno. L. West & Co. I hope if they receive them that they will fill them out in full. It not may I insist that the church and Sabbath school statistics be reported as full as possible; if any churches can not send messengers, will they not send letters giving full statistics of church and Sabbath school?"—H. E. Longrich, Jones Switch, Aug. 3d.

"I have been preaching at night at Shiloh church, Pike county, Ala., with the following results: Received by baptism, 15; by letter, 4. Very large congregations, and interest increasing to the close."—T. H. Stout, Clayton, Aug. 3d.

LITERARY NOTICES.

"THE MINER'S DAUGHTER." A story of the Rocky Mountains. By Miss L. Bates. 320 pp. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society. Price, \$1.25.

The Far West has been developing with wonderful rapidity. Life in that wide and wonderful region has taken to itself peculiar forms, which are well worthy of the study of chroniclers in the other States. The scene of this story is laid in Colorado. In that vigorous young State there are mountains and plains, with occupations and diversified interests. The ranches for sheep and cattle, the mines, the busy, bustling towns that spring up as if by magic, furnish very interesting material for such narratives as this fresh and vigorous sketch of the miner's daughter, and of the friends who surrounded her, Col. and Patsy and James, Lovell and Dick Lightfoot are fair specimens of the better part of the mixed population. Mr. Seaver and his wife may be taken as a model pair of such a field. It would be well if hundreds of such men of talent, fact, and true character could be located in these fields, so inviting for those who are not afraid of labor, are more careful for the progress of the Lord's work than for their own incidental comfort. The volume is full of incident, and full of incitement to good.

For the Alabama Baptist.

Deaths in Alabama.

In Mobile, John T. Harris. In Greenville, T. V. Watts. In Selma, Mrs. S. W. John. In Eufaula, Eldridge Gardner. In Northport, Daniel Watkins. At Midway, James McCormick. Near Mobile, Dr. W. T. Webb. Near Gosport, Capt. Daniel Lee. In Tuscaloosa, Mrs. Amy Cribbs. In Mobile, Capt. T. L. Matthews. At Blount Springs, Carter Beverly. In Mobile, John Thompson Miner. At Opelika, Col. George W. Hopper. In Montgomery, Mrs. Daphne Hicks. In Montgomery, child of Wm. Lomax. In Perry county, George M. Crawford. In Barbour county, Rev. Aaron Helms. In Talladega county, Mrs. Mary Terry. In Northport, daughter of Benjamin Boswell.

In Pickens county, daughter of Dr. J. Moody. In Selma, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roman Kellogg. In Selma, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hooper. In Mobile, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. J. Green. In Monroeville, son of Judge and Mrs. W. C. Sowell. At Andalusia, child of Mr. and Mrs. Giles Harrellson. In Talladega, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Ballard. In Pickens county, daughter of Dr. Jas. R. and Mrs. Dora Phillips.

earnest missionary work. It will interest any reader, young or old, and can scarcely fail to make warm friends for the Christian men and women who work for Christ in the new Far West.

Miss MAY F. McKAN has written for the American Baptist Publication Society several pleasing and very acceptable volumes. Baptist readers will remember her "Agnes and Mattie," "Florence Walton," and "Katherine." A new book is now ready by the same author, entitled "Marion Elliott; or, Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh." You will remember the offerings brought by the Wise Men to the infant Jesus. Marion Elliott regarded a loving, joyful, and faithful service of Jesus as her best offering. A friend says of this book: "The whole tone of the work is stimulating and invigorating, and can not fail to awaken in the minds of young Christian readers a desire to live up to the best that is in them—to become living epistles, known and read of all men as 'Christians.'" It is bound in neat style, has several nice engravings, and hence is attractive in style as in matter. Price, \$1.25. You will be sure to read it, and will be profited by it if the excellent teachings it contains are lived in your daily life.

Alabama News.

Chancery court is in session at Marion.

D. C. Jackson has gone from Talladega to Texas.

A Methodist church is to be built at Andalusia.

Circuit court will begin at Union Springs the 14th.

There are eight prisoners in the Conecuh county jail.

The crops around Carrollton are literally parched up.

The telephone office at Union Springs has been closed.

The office of the Marion Standard is offered for sale.

There are but three prisoners in the Henry county jail.

The small-pox scare at Birmingham has about died out.

J. M. Oliver is again editor of the Tallapoosa Democrat.

The Montgomery telephone exchange has eighty subscribers.

There was a Sunday-school celebration at New Site yesterday.

G. R. G. Buckhaults will move from Greenville to Texas.

A real Estate Loan Company has been organized in Selma.

Tuscaloosa men soon have a cotton seed oil mill in operation.

Hog cholera is alarmingly prevalent in parts of Dale county.

Montgomery and Prattville are to be connected by telephone.

Robt. Oden, of Childersburg was drowned at Prattville recently.

The Selma street car track has been extended to East Selma.

A thief stole the bucket and rope from a public well in Marion.

John Collins has been appointed street overseer at Birmingham.

It is stated that the Columbia Sentinel is to be moved to Calera.

John F. Thompson is associate editor of the Columbia Enterprise.

To the 1st, Eufaula had received 44,829 bales of cotton this season.

The Baptist ladies of Linden have formed a Ladies Missionary Society.

T. W. Ellis, of Ashland, Clay county, attempted suicide at Talladega.

A farmers club has been organized in Preston Bend, Greene county.

Sam Polak, of Montgomery, was drowned at Long Branch while bathing.

Col. D. M. Seals, of Eufaula, died from the effects of a paralytic stroke.

The residence of Maj. J. A. McGan, near Orville, was burned last week.

Lawrence R. Vann, an employee at Pratt Mines, fell and broke his neck.

The white teachers of Choctaw county will hold an institute September 5th.

Dr. H. T. Bracken lost his steam saw and grist mill near Danville, by fire.

Joseph E. Woods, of Pickens county, has lost two gin houses within a year.

There has been considerable sickness and several deaths at Talladega recently.

Luther Benson is to canvass Talladega county in the interest of prohibition.

Several horses were stolen during the Assembly camp meeting in Butler county.

Rill Cowan, negro, was killed at

