

No. 5.

Tableaux and charades, are, I think innocent in themselves. If I wish thus to entertain your friends and spend in such diversion a pleasant evening, do so, and God will well pleased at your innocent life-giving enjoyment. But here six or eight hundred well-to-do persons, or one or two Christians in every town, are asked to contribute an amount small as compared to their ability. Any of those farmers could, if pressed, raise five or six hundred dollars in a year or two for his business; those city Christians could raise for railroads, necessary for the worldly business, two or three thousand dollars, and instead of raising at once for Christ's cause, as for object worth the outlay, they give few sensitive, timid girls to work and get up a show, tableaux, charades, etc., as though the object sought in building up of Christ's cause, was not command that small amount of money, but the momentary interest of a tableau could. What sensible men think, when, next Sunday the minister says that Christ's cause is the dearest of all others to all his disciples? When men wish to have a bacchanal, or a dance that is not for anything in which the heart is never knew that they had to be around holding tableaux to raise money. The interest itself secures the money directly.—*Rev. J. C. Blackwell, in Christian Advocate.*

—♦♦♦—

No man can either live piously or die righteously without having a *—Righter.*

Alabama Baptist.

SELMA, ALA., JAN. 31, 1884.

JNO. L. WEST & CO., PUBLISHERS.

EDITORS: W. C. CLEVELAND, JNO. L. WEST.

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

TERMS, CASH, AS FOLLOWS:

One Copy, 2 months, \$1.00

One Copy, 3 months, \$1.50

One Copy, 6 months, \$2.00

One Copy, 12 months, \$3.00

Extra copy one year to the person sending 10 names, new or old, and \$5.00.

Write for specimen copies.

INTERESTING ANNOUNCEMENT.

On the first day of June next we

will distribute two hundred dollars

in gold among our friends, as follows:

1. To the person sending us the

largest list of new subscribers for THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST by that date we

will give one hundred dollars in gold

as a premium.

2. To the person sending us the

next largest list we will give fifty dol-

lars in gold as a premium.

3. To the five persons sending us

the next five largest lists we will give

ten dollars, each in gold as a pre-

mium.

No name will be counted unless

accompanied with the money to pay

a full year's subscription. Only

names of new subscribers will be

counted. However, those who have

been subscribers in the past but are

not now receiving the paper will be

considered as new subscribers.

In addition to the above, we will

give two dollars to every person who

secures for us five new subscriptions,

or five renewals, and ten dollars; the

person securing the names to retain

two dollars and send us eight dollars

with the names. Or, if preferred, we

will send the paper one year free of

charge to the person sending us five

names and ten dollars.

On either of these propositions no

name will be counted unless all ar-

rearages are paid when it is entered.

No name received later than May

31st will be counted.

JNO. L. WEST & CO.

Jan. 10th., 1884.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE ALABAMA BAPTIST.

Several years ago so many names

of those who had not paid their sub-

scriptions had accumulated on our

books that we were compelled to drop

all who had not paid in advance.

This created dissatisfaction on the

part of many good brethren who

thought that we ought to have con-

tinued their papers.

We then adopted the plan of not-

ifying through the mails, on the first

of each month, all whose subscrip-

tions would expire during that month,

and of notifying them at frequent

intervals afterwards that their subscrip-

tions had expired. In these notices,

and from time to time in the paper,

we stated that unless subscribers or-

dered their paper stopped it would be

taken for granted that they wished it

continued. We begged all who did

not want the paper continued to their

address to inform us of the fact at

once. We hoped that this course

would remove all cause for complaint.

We intended it as a kindness to our

subscribers and as a mark of our con-

fidence in them, and we felt assured

that they would not suffer us to lose

anything by it.

The result has not been satisfac-

tory. We have been so seriously in-

convenienced by the failure of those

to whom we have been sending the

paper to pay us, that we shall be com-

pelled hereafter to adhere strictly to

the cash in advance system.

Bro. West has been sick for three

successive weeks. Last week he was

totally unfitted, by reason of his ill-

ness, to meet the demands of his of-

fice. This will explain his seeming

remissness with respect to correspond-

ence and other important matters.

We regret exceedingly that imper-

ative engagements prevented us from

attending the Temperance Conven-

tion in Tuscaloosa. At this writing we

have not heard what was done, and

wait with interest to learn the result.

Keshub Chunder Sen, the great

Indian reformer, is dead. He was

one of the most remarkable men of

the century. Among natives he was

the stoutest, most powerful opposer

of caste, child marriages, enforced

widowhood, polytheism, pantheism,

materialism and idolatry in all its

forms. No man was doing so much

for the reformation of his people.

He has organized associations, im-

pressed ideas, and inspired purposes

that will go on far down into the fu-

ture, blessing and benefiting his peo-

ple and the world. We have not

read any series of articles with more

interest than those he published in

the Independent on communion with

God. While reading them it seemed

to us that the author must be a Chris-

tian, although he never ceased to be

a Brahmin. He died in the zenith

of his strength, and while his influ-

ence was powerful in the better class

of Hindu society. He was about

forty-five years of age at the time of

his death.

HOWARD COLLEGE AND THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION.

We are glad to know that the at-

tempt to make Howard College effec-

tive in educating the young ministers,

soon to be the pastors of Alabama,

is engaging the earnest, serious con-

sideration of the best men among us.

Wise men, good men are prayerfully

considering. We have not much un-

easiness as to the result. No question

of more vital importance is before

us. The interests of the churches, as

well as the continued progress of the

college, are involved. Just how the

college may be made most effective

is the question demanding solution.

There seems to be no difference of

opinion as to the fact that the as-

sistance of the college is needed, and

there is no objection to its rendering

the help required. The thing to be

done creates no division. How it

can be best done is the dividing

question. It is not unusual or unex-

pected that brethren should differ in

the discussion of such a subject.

When last year we agitated the sub-

ject of ministerial education, and

held the mind of the denomination

to it for weeks before the meeting

of the Convention, we accomplished

all we expected when nearly \$3000

was raised for ministerial education

and a Board of Ministerial Education

was created. The establishment of a

theological professorship was not

suggested to us until it was too late

to secure its consideration during

Convention. The establishment of

the professorship did not come with-

in the compass of our purpose until

it was suggested by brethren for

whose sound judgment and good

sense we have greatest respect. We

thought it a good thing. We think

so now. Good, wise men, whose

opinions have great weight with us,

think differently. Other good, wise

men, agree with us. In some form

this matter will be brought before

the Convention in Tuscaloosa next

July. Its prayerful consideration

and its calm discussion cannot but

result in good.

Some brethren fear that a theo-

logical chair would not be supported,

and therefore oppose its creation.

Others think that it will injure the

patronage of the college to make the

theological instruction prominent in

connection with it, and others that it

will injure the Seminary. The Board

of Trustees have decided that not

more than one twelfth of the students

attending can be educated free of

tuition. If a larger number of theo-

logical students attend their tuition

must be provided for.

Others think that a professor who

is a theologian could fill a place in

the faculty and at the same time meet

the demand for theological instruc-

tion. Others again think that the

pastor of the church in Marion can

put in position to fill the place, and

others yet think the college should be

conducted strictly as a literary insti-

tution with no reference whatever to

theological students, and others still

think the chair should be cre-

ated and endowed before the profes-

sor enters upon his duties. And yet

there are others who think that the

professor should be appointed so as

to enter his office at the beginning of

the next session, and that his ap-

pointment will increase the patronage

of the college and secure its further

advancement and not in any way in-

jure the Seminary.

While so many and varied op-

inions obtain it will be well to keep

the object clearly in view, and work

gently and faithfully to devise ways

and means for its accomplishment.

We cannot afford to divide on a sub-

ject so important, touching as it does,

vitality, the churches and the college.

Let brethren holding these various

opinions press them with the best

arguments they can command. Let

this be done earnestly and in the spirit

that the importance of the subject

deserves and demands and we will go

to Tuscaloosa with a plan matured

that will secure the hearty co-opera-

tion of all and preserve the cordial

harmony now prevailing.

Alabama must grow and educate

the large majority of the pastors who

are to fill her pulpits in the future.

Howard college can in some way be

made a potent factor in the accom-

plishment of this important end. The

subject of ministerial education must

not cease to engage our earnest at-

tention.

Monday, Jan. 20th, we were called

by the church, in Greenville, to assist

Bro. Fountain in the ordination of

Bro. S. C. Johnson to the work of the

ministry. Bro. Johnson is from Flor-

ida. He enters immediately upon evan-

gelistic work in the south-eastern

part of the State under appointment

of the State Mission Board.

We enjoyed our visit to Greenville,

and were glad to find Bro. Fountain

succeeding admirably. He is one of

our best preachers, and a diligent

watchful pastor. We were not sur-

prised to find that he had taken deep

hold on the church and congrega-

tion, and that the church is making

constant progress under his ministry.

We do not know a pastor who has a

dearer, more comfortable home.

A rare chance for Ministers to get

the Tennessee Baptist for 1884.

See advertisement in this paper.

PERMANENCY in the pastoral relations

is essential to the continuous

growth and development of the

churches. It is necessary in order

to effective work, and solid progress.

A pastor is called, takes charge of a

congregation. If he is active, dili-

gent and acceptable, in a few months

he learns the condition of things,

takes in the situation, learns the needs

and begins to provide for the wants

of the church. He becomes ac-

quainted with those with whom he is

to work and learns the different de-

partments of Christian work to which

they are adapted. He organizes his

forces, and prepares his sermons and

lectures in view of the spiritual wants

of those to whom he speaks. If he

studies and continues active, earnest

and faithful as the months go by, he

deepens his hold upon the people

and increases his influence upon his

congregation, and continues to enlarge

the sphere of his usefulness. He in-

forms himself and his people in re-

gard to the general enterprises of the

denomination, and learns to press

the claims of these enterprises effec-

tively. He identifies himself with the

interests of his congregation and co-

operates with pastors in the advance-

ment of general interests. Feeling

himself permanently located he gives

himself, his time, and talents unreser-

ved

