

wisdom and duty of doing more for State missions now than ever before. Talk about "hard times," it will be "hard times," indeed, wherever and whenever infidelity and iniquity predominate.

We should strive to extend the leavening influence of the gospel throughout the whole State. What is to be done? By who, when, where shall the work be accomplished? It is evident that one man cannot do everything for this cause. Our Corresponding Secretary may, and should plan and suggest and instruct others—and in every way, indeed, to the extent of his ability—but he cannot compass all the work of State Missions. Each pastor ought to take hold and instruct, stimulate and encourage his people, and try to secure a contribution from each one of them. If the work in each church be systematized and conducted deliberately and earnestly, it may be accomplished with ease, and with results most gratifying. And let it be borne in mind that now is the time to begin. We do not say that in every instance the collection should be taken at once—indeed we would advise against this if no preparations have been made—but we do insist that it is high time for every pastor to bring this subject to the attention of his people, and to make such arrangements as may best secure the largest and most numerous gifts.

Get the people interested in the great subject; warm up their hearts by constant appeal to Christian motives, and then when the money is needed it will be forthcoming. The Baptists of the State did grandly last year. Great will be their honor if, amid the difficulties which now encompass them, they do still better this year.

PROF. A. K. YANCEY.

The *Tuscaloosa Times* says: "Prof. A. K. Yancey has resigned his position as President of the Alabama Central Female College, and accepted the Presidency of a Female College in Missouri. He will, however, continue his labors in the A. C. F. College, until the close of the present session, and his resignation will cause no interruption in the course of the College. Several prominent gentlemen are in correspondence with the Board of Trustees, on the subject of filling the place of Prof. Yancey, and the Board will have no trouble, it seems, to secure the services of a competent man for the position."

We shall part with Prof. Yancey with sincere regret. He came among us a few years ago a stranger, but he immediately identified himself, not only with the Baptist interests of Tuscaloosa, but of the State at large, exerting his influence in behalf of all our benevolent enterprises and contributing liberally to their support. He has been especially liberal in his support of State Missions and Theological Education, and has ever been a warm friend and earnest supporter of the ALABAMA BAPTIST. We recall with gratitude many acts of valuable service that he has done this year.

Prof. Yancey's work for the Alabama Central Female College is known and appreciated throughout the State. He has been remarkably successful in his efforts to build up that institution. During his administration the patronage of the school has been greatly increased and he has made its influence felt in all sections of the State. His success is to be attributed largely to the fact that he is not only an excellent teacher, but a thoroughgoing business man—a rare qualification for one who occupies his position.

The Baptists of Missouri are to be congratulated on the acquisition of Prof. Yancey to their ranks. When he enters the State he will become a Missouriian, and will identify himself heartily with the Baptist interests of Missouri.

A SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS

Bro. Pariser, on behalf of the Board of Ministerial Education, reveals to us in his communication in this paper a sad state of affairs. He gives notice that our young ministers who are at school at Howard College and elsewhere will be notified at once that the Board cannot aid them after the close of this month for want of funds. The lack of money to keep our young brethren at school till the close of the session arises from the fact that many churches and individuals who promised to contribute to this object have not complied with their promises. In making its arrangements, the Board relied upon the faithful redemption of these pledges. It had nothing else upon which to rely. There ought to have been no reason for its asking anything else, for the promise of a Baptist should be as good as his bond. Alas! that it should not be so. It is to be earnestly hoped, for the honor of themselves, for the honor of the denomination, and for the good of our young preachers and the good of our cause, that those who have not already redeemed their pledges for ministerial education will do so immediately.

Brothers of Alabama, it is possible that we will permit our young men to be sent home at the close of this month? Shall it be published to the world that such is the fact? God forbid! We are not willing to believe it. Upon a low estimate this paper will be read by at least ten thousand Baptists in Alabama. Will not each read immediately—by the next mail—forward to the Treasurer of the Board a contribution, however small, for this object—five dollars, one dollar, fifty cents, twenty-five cents, or even ten cents? Do not hesitate to send it because you can only send a small amount, and by all means send it at once. All contributions should be sent to T. L. Huggins, Esq., Birmingham, Ala.

Good Church and Our Country Home, which we offer in connection with the ALABAMA BAPTIST, are monthly publications. No names were forwarded for the April numbers. All names received to date will be forwarded this week, with the money to pay a year's subscription for the papers for all who are entitled to them. All whose names have been received to date may expect the May numbers.

The State Mission Board held its quarterly meeting in Selma last week. Among members from a distance, we had the pleasure of welcoming Brethren Abner Williams, Robt. Frazer, W. B. Crumpton and John P. Shaffer, and, of course, the faithful Corresponding Secretary.

FIELD NOTES.

Providence, R. I., has over eighty churches—one to every 1,500 inhabitants. The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church meet in semi-annual session in St. Louis, May 14, 1885. T. G. Bush, Esq., of Mobile, is to deliver the address before the graduating class of the Judson, June 15th. Chas. has discarded the Roman Catholic religion as the religion of the State, and has announced perfect liberty to all forms of the Christian faith. Rev. O. E. Cox, who has been pastor of Trinity Baptist church, Brooklyn, for eleven years, has tendered his resignation, to take effect in six months. "You give us a splendid paper and I enjoy reading it very much. God bless your paper—your paper—and greatly prosper it!"—Paul Willis, Monticello, Fla.

Nineteen Sunday-schools are connected with the London church over which Rev. Newman Hall is pastor, and these schools at present contain in all 5,600 children.

Prof. W. W. Legare, who has been President of the Marion Female Seminary for the past two years, has connected himself with Prof. Alonzo Hill of the Tuscaloosa Female College.

The *Christian Advocate* says: "A reasonable estimate, justifies the opinion that more than 40,000 persons have confessed conversion during the past three months and joined, or are intending to join, the Methodist Episcopal Church."

"Rev. A. Austin, a leading Baptist minister from Ontario, Canada, is expected to die at any moment of consumption. It is encouraging to any weak Christian to hear him speak so confidently of his heavenly home."—W. G. Brown, Cullman, Ala.

Here are some of the leading facts in connection with the Baptist denomination: Associations, 1,178; ordained ministers, 16,678; churches, 28,599; membership, 2,507,733; received by baptism, 135,740; Sunday schools, 10,994; officers and teachers, 32,247; scholars, 795,780; value of church property, \$26,685,950.

"Geo. C. Needham, the evangelist, reached here to-day from New Orleans and will conduct a series of meetings in St. Francis Street Baptist church. There has been a growing interest and activity in the church for some time and we are hoping for blessed results. Will not our brethren all over the State pray for us?"—Geo. B. Eager, Mobile, April 18th.

In the United States there are 900 organized Universalist churches and societies, and they have about 766 churches and 700 ministers. About 40,000 families are members of the denomination, and their church property is valued at \$7,000,000. The doctrines were first preached by John May, in 1790, and the first church was organized at Gloucester, Mass., in 1779.

Since Bro. Nunnally has been in Eufaula the house of worship has been repaired and greatly improved. Inside blinds in the main audience room, new gas chandeliers, new carpets are being ordered. Since last Sabbath week a very interesting meeting has been in progress. Eleven have been received and more are ready, and many others are seriously considering their soul's interests. Glorious results are anticipated.

At a meeting of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, March 16, the Finance Committee, from an examination of the Treasurer's accounts, reported that the receipts for the current year, ending May 1st, will show a deficiency of nearly \$2,000; that the receipts from the living membership of the church to March 1st were \$35,568 less than last year; that the total amount from legacies is about \$20,000 less than last year; and that meanwhile the expenditures for the growing work were \$33,282 greater than last year. To save the Board from debt the sum of these three items must be made up as an extra gift before May 1st.

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Ministerial Education Again.

Give More and the Kingdom is Near.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, or local Board, of Ministerial Education on Monday, the 12th inst., it was decided to call a meeting of all the members, to be held in Birmingham, Tuesday, the 13th. At this meeting the board will be organized to inform all young ministers now receiving assistance from it, whether at Howard College, the high schools of the country, or in the Seminary, that after the last day of this month, April, the board will render them no further assistance, because of the depleted condition of its treasury, the churches having failed to supply the requisite amount of money, and the policy of the board being opposed to going into debt. The board finds itself called upon to do one of two things, either of which is very unpleasant. The first is, to send the young men home, or, in other words, discontinue its assistance to them. The second is, to go on to the close of the session and report a debt, to the college and to others, when the Convention meets. The question is not what will please us, or any one else, but what is best for the cause of Christ. So after looking over the field carefully, and we trust, prayerfully, the board is fully decided that it cannot report a debt to the convention. Hence this communication beforehand, that our action may create no surprise among our people.

Some may ask, why this sudden decision, which will so materially affect our students? The answer is found in the statement of two facts: First, a bill from Howard College for "furnished rooms and fuel for ministerial students," amounting to two hundred and forty-eight dollars, which bill we were not expecting; second, the failure of many of the churches to redeem pledges made at the meetings of associations last fall, in connection with the failure of the denomination at large to respond to a recent call made by our president through the ALABAMA BAPTIST for help to meet the unexpected bill from the College.

There is one, and only one, way for the board to continue our young men in college, and that is for the churches all along the line to give us another little push. If this is not done we will have no choice in the matter, as nothing but money will be counted as voting for the boys to stay in college. D. L. PURSER, for Board.

From Kentucky.

Dear Baptist: The winter is just about over in Kentucky—at least we hope it is. The cold has been almost unbearable most of the time since January. It was indeed trying to your correspondent, and thoughts of a southern home were strongly entertained. I have a most delightful home. One year's work has only united me more closely to this people, who have given me so much encouragement. I have never spent a happier or more useful year since I entered the ministry. The Lord has greatly blessed the church since I came here. Nearly fifty have united by letter and baptism, several backsliders have come to the front and are active. We have a live Sunday-school and prayer meeting, which neither heat nor cold has suspended. These last features are especially gratifying to me, since the church has made failures on both heretofore.

In addition to the regular salary last year the church presented me with \$200 to fit me for housekeeping. My fare to the Kentucky Baptist Convention was paid by the church. I have just returned from a twelve day's trip to the World's Fair. The major part of the expenses of this journey was donated by the church and congregation. Thus you see I have many things to stimulate me to activity, and I am constantly thanking God and taking courage. Another cheering feature in my work is that, notwithstanding we have lost some of our best paying members by death and removal, the church voted to increase the pastor's salary two hundred dollars, and the deacons have not about to raise the amount and pay it over before the close of the year.

I write these things not in a boastful spirit, but that my friends in Alabama may see that I am making efforts to be useful, and that my labors are appreciated. Praying that God may bless his work and workers in Alabama and the world over during this year, I remain, C. W. HARR.

From Baldwin County.

Dear Baptist: I am in Baldwin county, in the midst of a great work—the mission cause—which I am trying to prosecute to the best advantage. The field is large and the work hard—hard in different ways, religiously and financially. The people are generally poor, but remarkably make a way for the minister comfortable. I have been over my field and am encouraged in the work. The people with whom I labor are a drifting or a floating people, moving in and out. Of course some would object to this on the ground that you can't

From Marion.

Bro. West: Thinking that the people of Alabama would like to read a short letter from Marion, "the Athens" of the State, prompted me to write this article. Marion has lost one of her best citizens in the person of Dr. W. W. Wilkerson. Few men have done more for our denomination in this State than he has. He was a native of Montgomery to get such a man. We have now in his place Dr. Charlie Wilkerson, an excellent gentleman. Dr. Ball, an old citizen, and a prominent dentist, has rented his office to two young dentists, Frazier Bros., graduates of the Vanderbilt, and active members of the Baptist church. The two newspapers of this place have consolidated, making one good paper. The people are rejoiced at the prospect of a new railroad. Just out of town a Capt. Reese has a grass to which I would like to call the attention of every Southern planter. It is the "Texas Blue Grass." On good land, after reaching about two feet and a half it begins to seed, and continues to grow until it is three feet high and upwards. It stands the most severe droughts by which our land is sometimes blighted. However, the most valuable quality is, the rigors of winter do not affect it. Now, in early spring it is at its perfection. Long has the South suffered for such a grass. Every acre of good land well set is worth \$100—that is, if lands in Kentucky are worth so much. It grows in every soil, and flourishes in the shade. How changed will be the condition of our country when verdant hills and slopes shall wave in a sea of perennial green, upon which a thousand cattle are feeding in the bleak days of December! Doubtless it shall come to pass. It yields from two to three tons per acre. Last night we listened to a soul stirring philanthropic temperance lecture by that devoted woman, Mrs. Chapin. Oh! for the day when all men shall heed her wise admonitions. The Baptists of Marion are enjoying one of the most glorious revivals now that I have witnessed for many months. It has been years, possibly, since Marion was so blessed. The Judson is thoroughly aroused, and the Howard most interested. Many have already joined, and many others are anxiously enquiring "the way of life." Undoubtedly Bro. Davidson is the man for this place. God is blessing him and his people.

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build a church with a floating people that would last long. But think of the widespread influence of the gospel that is preached among such people. Men are being converted, they join the church and remain there until the timber is exhausted around them, then they move into other sections and build up camps and settlements filled with a Christian influence, and men from almost every quarter must come in contact with them. Many of the men that I preach to live in other States; they are here only for a short time, just to work up the pine timbers of this country. Most of them are irreligious. Oh! that they may be brought under the influence of the gospel.

Most of the churches in Baldwin are pastorless and their membership scattered. The Baptist cause here has been too long neglected. Methodists also have been doing but little in their cause. I know of several important points they have abandoned for some cause, I know not what. The Mormons have seen this and have taken advantage of it, and are to day making an alarming progress even in our midst. They are more numerous along the bay than elsewhere. I spent last month among them, and found them stronger than I had imagined them to be. I could detect one that was under Mormon influence in a moment by proposing to sell him or her a book. They will not buy, nor let others do so if they can prevent it. I found some who were once Baptists, and some Methodists who have fallen into their miserable ranks. The lower end of Baldwin—that portion of it along on the bay—is filled up with a variety of faiths and opinions.

There is a great work to be done in Baldwin, and as I am in the field I pray the Lord will make this year the commencement of that work. Baldwin is destined to be a great farming country, when the timbers have all been utilized. Little truck farms have already been located; the owners have been benefited, and are now enlarging their farms. The brethren will remember me in my lonely travels; and any favors shown me either by writing or visiting will be correspondingly received by the people with whom I labor. I have the promise of several subscribers to the ALABAMA BAPTIST. Now may the Lord protect our cause and bless our editor.

Wilson's Station.

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