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J. G. HARRIS, Proprietor.

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Extract from a Christmas Sermon,
On the Subject of Temptation, Preached
by Rev. J. S. Dill, Pastor Baptist
Church, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

I desire, this morning, my hearers,
to discuss some of the more prominent
sins into which this season of the year
is prone to lead that Christian who is
neither watchful nor prayerful.

1. The first of these is dancing,
and especially what is now known as
the round dance of modern society.

The square dance, if kept within
prescribed limits, is no more harmful
than other games, but against this
even, I urge two things.

1. It is almost impossible to keep
it within reasonable limits. Carried
away by so fascinating an amusement,
it runs into that excess which is for-
getful of higher and better things.
Too much time and energy is wasted
on a mere amusement. Serious and
especially religious thoughts are ban-
ished and the positive duties of life
neglected.

2. It is the stepping stone to the
round dance. It is to the round
dance what social drinking and tip-
pling is to the drunkard. To learn
to dance the square dance, to con-
stantly indulge in its fascination, is to
be strongly tempted into the round
dance. Christ's injunction is "Watch
and pray that ye enter not into tem-
ptation," and if we would keep at bay
the sinful pleasures of the round
dance, let us eschew all dancing.

Let us not place ourselves in position
to be thus easily overcome by the
tempter. Let us strike him down
upon the threshold of the temptation.
But when we turn to consider that
bane and curse of modern society,
"the round dance," I cannot find
language to express my condemnation
of what I consider one of the deadliest
foes to modest virtue, pure morality,
and the higher Christian life.

1. It is under the ban of all the
churches. There is not an evangeli-
cal church but has placed itself on
record against it as harmful to moral
and religious life. The further this
great evil has progressed, the louder
has been the cry of the churches
against it, until now the Catholic
church even, by the aid of its
relations of the confessional, have
even made it a ground of lesser ex-
communication.

2. But not only does the cry against
it come from the church, but again
and again have we had testimony
from men who care little or nothing
for religion, and many of those who
continue to indulge in it, confessing
to its evil influences.

3. If not distinctly immoral, it cer-
tainly interferes with piety. I have
yet to see a man or woman distin-
guished for piety and consecration to
Christian work, who habitually in-
dulges in the dance, and I have seen
scores of earnest workers grow cold
and indifferent, neglect Sunday-school
and prayer meeting, and forget their
God under its baneful influence.

But to my mind not only is the
round dance hurtful to piety, but it is
distinctly immoral, and should not be
tolerated by respectable people, much
less Christian men and women, and I
verily believe that if it continues to
spread its pernicious influence, the
time will come when the law will lay
its strong hand upon this siren god-
dess of sin. God forbid that such a
thing should ever be necessary, but
rather grant that the higher moral
and religious sentiments of a great
people shall prevail, and that in the
name of society, in the name of the
church, in the name of God, a Chris-
tian people will rise up, and by the
power of noble precepts and holy ex-
amples "stamp it out." I am glad to
believe that this great evil, which has
been one of the darkest stains upon
the fair garments of this lovely City
of Oaks, has received a decided
check. I think the moral sentiment
is against it to that extent that there
shall at least be one Christmas in its
history that will not be desecrated by
this sinful indulgence. Can it be that
this evil, against which the church
has planted itself as one of the most
baneful influences to her prosperity,
affords a fit festival to commemorate
the birth into the world of Jesus
Christ, the Great Head of the church?

Dr. Judson's Lecture.

Richmond has been favored of late,
not only by the gracious bestowal of
revival blessing, but by the presence
of some distinguished divines.

Without announcing any subject,
Dr. Judson said that human society
was girdled by certain laws. They
were fixed and unalterable, the same
everywhere. There is the law of moral
sense. Dr. Livingstone found in Af-
rica a tribe that had the same moral
code as he did. They thought was
wrong what he thought was wrong,
and was right what he thought right,

except that the chiefs believed they
might have more wives than one.
Conscience is in every breast.

There are natural laws. A little
child thrusts its hand against a stove.
The stove does not say, "I won't burn
it, because it's so chubby." It burns
it.

Then there is the law of providential
limitation. Every man has his limit.
A young man may exercise in the
gymnasium and feel his strength in-
crease so steadily that he will come to
the belief that there is no limit to it,
but he will find that he is mistaken,
that he can go so far and others may
go beyond him. The drunkard at
first fancied that he could only take a
little at a time, like his neighbor, but
he misjudged himself. A caged lion
sees the bars around him, and contents
himself in lying down. The leopard,
in the next cage runs from one side to
the other, trying to break through the
bars he can only poke his nose through.
So with men. Some are continually
trying to get beyond their limit, when
they can only poke their nose through
the bars. By this, of course, is not
meant that obstacles are not to be
overcome. They are often intended
to test our strength.

There is no such thing as breaking
a law. The law breaks us. Some cells
for lunatics have padded walls. Not
so in life. If we batter our heads
against the walls we get worse.

The second point made was that
nearly all misery comes from battling
against these laws, from being out of
harmony with them. Those who toss
sleeplessly on their beds from some
trouble are responsible for it them-
selves; they have sinned somewhere
in the past against their conscience,
their nature, or the limits God has put
on them. Hence the prophet said,
"Woe to the man that warreth against
God."

The third point was that the Chris-
tian religion harmonizes the soul with
these existing laws, and brings peace,
perfect peace. The end of our being
is attained by its possession, for then
there is no friction, no jarring between
man's will and God's will.

The Rhine flower has a stalk that
resembles a coil of wire. It is prob-
ably adapted to the sudden rise and
fall of the water. As it rises the stem
straightens out, and its broad petals
open to the sun. When the water
falls, its blossom still rests on its
glassy surface, as it resumes its origi-
nal coil. So with the Christian reli-
gion. It is adapted to every station
and condition of life.

Dr. Judson then closed with an
earnest appeal to the young men to
embrace the Christian religion.—
J. S. H., in *Baltimore Baptist*.

Encouragements.

The whole world is now open for
the reception of the gospel.

The Bible is printed in 250 lan-
guages and dialects.

There are 150,000,000 copies in
circulation.

Twenty-five woman's boards in
England and America are actively
engaged in foreign missionary work.
The Young Men's Christian Asso-
ciations are now formally inaugurating
foreign missionary branches.

The number of missionary societies
is ten fold what it was eighty years
ago.

The number of converts is nearly
fifty fold.

The increased facilities for inter-
communication.

The diffusion of the English lan-
guage.

Wonderful revivals, with pentecostal
power, are frequent in heathen lands.
The increase in membership in
heathen lands is thirty times greater
than at home in proportion to the
number of ministers employed, al-
though the tests of discipleship are
of the most trying nature.

But above all other encouragements
are the precious promises of God:

"Ye that are the Lord's remem-
brancers keep not silence and give
him no rest till he establish and till he
make Jerusalem praise in the earth."
Isa. 62: 6-7.

The following is from the word,
the work and the world:

"Our great desire is to awaken the
people of God to the unparalleled op-
portunities of our own age, and the
need of a movement more deep and
wide, more earnest and self-denying,
more bold and aggressive than any-
thing that has yet been attempted, to
reach the neglected at home and
evangelize the mighty generations
abroad—the one thousand million
souls who are dying in Christless
despair at the rate of 100,000 a day."

Let us remember, "The light that
shines farthest shines brightest nearest
home."

When your will is God's will, you
will have your will.

Rev. David Ingram Purser.

Pastor First Baptist Church, Birmingham,
Alabama.

From the New South.

This distinguished minister and ac-
complished gentleman was born in
Copiah county, Mississippi, Decem-
ber 28th, 1843. His parents were of
South Carolina stock, which had ren-
dered the Carolinas famous for their
patriotic services in the struggle for
American independence. He entered
the Confederate military service when
but seventeen years of age as a mem-
ber of the famous "Seven Stars Ar-
tillery," a battery whose name he
suggested, and whose record for four
years of hard service was in perfect
harmony with its name. During the
awful events of the war he was always
to be found at the front, and although
he took part in sixteen pitched bat-
tles, yet, under God's providence, he
came out of the service without a
wound. At Port Hudson he was un-
der fire for seventy-one consecutive
days and nights. After the surrender
at the latter place his battery was
transferred to the Fourth Mississippi
Cavalry, and he was commissioned
as lieutenant in Company C, of that
regiment. At the close of the war
he engaged actively in various busi-
ness pursuits, in which he soon real-
ized a competence.

At the early age of eleven, he had
joined the Damascus Baptist church,
near Hazhurst, Miss., and was li-
censed by that church to preach in
1868; in October, 1870, he was or-
dained to the ministry, and gave his
first year of active ministerial labor to
missionary work in West Mississippi
between Natchez and Port Gibson.
In this work, which covered a dis-
tance of seventy-five miles, he labored
day and night, overcoming obstacles
which appeared almost unsurmount-
able, reorganizing scattered and
broken churches, establishing new
ones and finding himself at the end
of twelve months pastor of seven order-
ly bodies of Christians, which his piety
and genius had rescued and organized
from a condition which was well nigh
chaotic. We next find him in charge
of the churches at Crystal Springs and
Wesson, Miss., which soon felt that
impetus in growth, which seems to be
part and parcel of his very being.

While here, his marvelous energy,
great earnestness and striking ability
attracted the attention of the great
body of Baptists in Mississippi, who,
through the State Board of missions,
of its convention, called him to evangeli-
cal work, in which he labored
with most marked distinction to him-
self and most gratifying results to the
church. His field was from New
Orleans to St. Louis, and during his
labors as an evangelist he declined
many tempting calls to pastoral work
in the large cities. It was while he
was thus engaged that he first visited
Birmingham, where his zeal, energy
and talents created a profound im-
pression.

In 1883, the Baptists of Alabama,
feeling the pressing necessity of rous-
ing the people to renewed efforts for
the advancement of the cause of
Christianity and recognizing Mr. Purser
as their eminent fitness for the position,
called him to the work of State evan-
gelist, and it was while so engaged
that his present charge, the First Baptist
church of Birmingham, called him
as its pastor.

He entered upon his new and ardu-
ous duties as resident pastor here on
April 1st, 1883. At the outset he
was confronted with a membership
not only scattered and inefficiently
organized, but without a building in
which they could worship as their
house of God. Without going into
the details of Mr. Purser's extraordi-
nary work here, which would furnish
ample data for a most interesting history,
it is enough to sum up the
superb and incomparable results of his
four year's efforts. In place of pre-
siding over a feeble and homeless
congregation of 278, he is the beloved
and honored pastor of a church num-
bering over five hundred members, who
meet in a magnificent building of their
own, each Sabbath, and who, while
sitting in their comfortable chairs and
listening either to the tones of their
grand organ or to the voice of their
matchless minister, feel in their hearts
devout thankfulness to the Master for
having sent to them David Ingram
Purser.

His first wife, who was Miss Dicey
Jane Bass, of Covington county,
Mississippi, died September 13th, 1879,
leaving four little children. June 28th,
1883, he married to Miss Sallie A.
Moody, daughter of Judge Washing-
ton Moody, of Tuscaloosa, the sister
of Frank Moody, Esq., president of
the First National Bank of the same
city. In this elegant and accom-
plished Christian lady, Mr. Purser not
only found a second mother for his

little ones, but an invaluable ally and
co-worker in his ministry. Ranking
high, among the many departments
of Christian labor, to which she free-
ly gives her time and service, is her
Bible class in the Sabbath-school of
her husband's church; here this devo-
ted lady is found Sunday after Sun-
day, interesting, entertaining and in-
structing a class of more than eighty
gentlemen, ranging in age from twen-
ty to sixty years, and including rep-
resentatives of well nigh every profes-
sion and business, in whose respect,
affection and appreciation she finds
great reward for her own unselfish
efforts.

Whether viewed from the stand-
point of what he has accomplished or
regarded in the light of his present
work, the observer is impressed with
the fact that the subject of this sketch
is a remarkable man. With but lim-
ited educational advantages, yet, his
memory is so tenacious and his mind
so well stored with valuable and varied
information, that he is justly regarded
as a learned man; he possesses in the
very highest degree those elements
which go to make up the loftiest type
of manhood; tall, erect and with a
superb physique, he has been able to
sustain the terrific drain on his bodily
vigor, which his tireless energy and
marvellous mental power have exacted
for twenty-five years. His judgment
has proven to be so valuable in secular
matters, that he is not only the
pastor of his people, but their most
trusted business adviser, and not only
is this so, but our banks confer with
him, our railroad officers consult him,
and no corporation is more happy
than when it has secured him on its
directory. Thousands of dollars are
sent to him from all parts of the coun-
try with the simple request, "Invest
it for me." His sagacity and fore-
sight in managing investments for
himself and his friends, have made
him a rich man, and materially in-
creased their prosperity. In every
direction he has shown himself to be
a man of force and power; aggressive
in disposition and unwavering in pur-
pose, he goes straight to the accom-
plishment of his object, with a cour-
age and strength which overcomes all

obstacles, and hails not until success
crowns his efforts. It is safe to say
that no man in Alabama, for the last
three years, has done so much for the
Baptist church, so much for Birming-
ham, so much for himself and so
much for his friends, as has David
Ingram Purser.

In the Interest of Fairness.

I join heartily with our excellent
Bro. B. H. Crumpton in depreciating
anything like personalities or par-
tialities in any discussions to arise
in reference to the location of a college
for Alabama. If in forty years occa-
sional communications to the press I
have ever indulged in either one or
the other, I am not aware of it. If I
ever shall manifest a spirit of that sort
I shall thank my brethren for holding
me to account. I have always depre-
ciated the worship of the genius loci.
It did the great State of New York
infinite mischief, as I conceive, when
the Baptist people of that State were
founding Hamilton and Rochester.
One institution, instead of two, would
have been infinitely better, well as
they are doing with two. The same
may be said, I apprehend, of our
Methodist brethren of Alabama—a
conclusion to which they, indeed,
have ultimately come. Though I am
now pastorately connected with a
church virtually in the suburbs of Bir-
mingham, at the time I introduced a
resolution of inquiry into the Conven-
tion as to the feasibility of locating
our college, if the facts should seem
to demand it, in Birmingham or else-
where than in its present location,
and indicated my preference for Bir-
mingham, I had not the remotest
thought of any connection of any
character with that place; my indica-
ted preference rested wholly upon
supposed advantages there instead of
other places.

The whole question, I conceive, is,
where can we command the means of
founding and sustaining a college
which shall compete in the facilities
it offers with State institutions or de-
nominationally, not for a time, but for
all the future. This is the question,
however difficult, that must be solved,
if we are not to be left behind in the
rush of events and the miraculous
progress of our great State. If any
other point shall be shown to be more
eligible, every consideration taken
into the account, than that likely, in
my present judgment, to distance all
others, I shall not feel the slightest re-
gret, or withhold any feeble aid I
may be able to offer.

I trust brethren, throughout the
State will come up to the approaching
Convention fully posted as to all the
facts bearing on the question, and

that a noble fraternal discussion of
the whole subject shall take place. A
famous painter, touching and retouch-
ing his *chef d'œuvre*, already perfect,
in the eyes of his friends, in answer
to the question, why he did so, said
he was "painting for immortality." Brethren, we are building for immor-
tality—for all the great future. We
are to decide the question whether the
prestige and influence of Cambridge
and Oxford, of Edinburgh and Glas-
gow, of Harvard and Yale, are to be
ours. A mistake or two in the be-
ginning may be fatal to our aspira-
tions; a happy idea or two may "lead
on to fortune."

It must be too impatient.
Time may be required. If a great
property may be acquired, not con-
vertible at once into money, let it be
seized upon. I believe school prop-
erty, in our State, utilized at once, or
in definite purpose, is exempted from
taxation.

I do not conceive that contributions
toward an endowment ought to be in-
terfered with by uncertainties as to lo-
cation. No action of the Convention
or Trustees of Howard College, so far
as I know, has been taken as to the
place where donations shall be ex-
pended. Let them go on. Surely no
broad minded donor will be grieved
that what he gives be applied accord-
ing to the dispassionate judgment of
the denomination at large, after full
and fair review of all the facts and in-
terests involved.

The name and fame of the Howard
are worth a great deal; and its life-
time friends will naturally wish to pre-
serve them intact, unless insuperable
reasons forbid—a contingency not at
all likely to arise. This will be only
to follow precedents which have every-
where commended themselves to the
wisdom of the fathers.

In fine, unanimity, or the nearest
possible approximation to it, will be
demanded, or the great work of build-
ing and maintaining the great institu-
tion we need will be entirely imprac-
ticable. God grant that the spirit of
wisdom and grace, may possess our
Baptist hosts on this and every other
great interest we cherish.

F. B. TIGGINS.

General Meeting in the Tuskegee Association.

There will be held with the church
at Salem, Lee county, a general meet-
ing to convene on Friday before the
5th Sunday in May, to which Baptist
ministers generally are invited, and
the churches composing the associa-
tion are requested to send delegates.

PROGRAMME.

Friday, 11 a. m. Sermon by Rev.
G. A. Hornaday.

2 p. m. The meeting will be organ-
ized by electing moderator and clerk.

SUBJECTS.

1. To what dangers is Christianity
exposed in this country at this time?
2. How can we arouse the mass of
our churches, from their sleep of death,
to proper Christian activity?
Saturday morning, 9 a. m. Devo-
tional exercises 30 minutes.

1. Revivals, their necessity, how
to secure them, how to conduct them.
2. What is meant by the phrase, A
strong church?

Saturday 2 p. m. Devotional ex-
ercises.
1. How is symmetrical Christian
manhood to be attained?
2. Christian missions, the obliga-
tions imposed by the opportunities of
the age?

Sunday, 9 a. m. Devotional ex-
ercises.
1. The Sunday-school, its impor-
tance, duty of church members. Its
influence, relationship to the church.
11 a. m. Preaching. Adjourn.

Chin's Com. on Programme,
B. B. Preaching at night, 8 o'clock.

The Baptist Teacher.

The increase in the circulation of
the periodicals of the American Bapt-
ist Publication Society continues un-
abated. During the month of March,
the net increase was 25,000. A care-
ful comparison with previous years
shows that the Southern States have
largely contributed to this growth,
and especially to the increase of the
Baptist Teacher.

The denomination can justly pride
itself on the marked ability shown in
this invaluable teacher's companion.
It has never taken any backward
steps. In 1870, it appeared as a
twelve-page paper. In 1876, it was
increased to sixteen pages. In 1880,
the change was made to the present
magazine form, and the amount of
reading was again largely increased.
Commencing with the April num-
ber, another forward move is made
—by reducing the advertising space
two pages, and correspondingly in-
creasing the space devoted to the
lessons.

The marked success of the Teacher
is due to the fact that it is always in
the lead, and always gives more than
an equivalent for its price.

Encouraging News.

Dear Baptist: In compliance with
your request, I will send you a few
items from my field.

I am happy to be able to state that
New Hope church has nearly com-
pleted their house of worship. This
little band of believers are doing most
nobly in the cause of the Master.
They show by their works that they
are ready for every good cause. They
have made liberal sacrifices of their
money toward building the Lord's
house, and they are no less liberal in
the support of their pastor, and other
good causes, such as missions, Sun-
day-schools, &c. Bro. Stockton is one
of their deacons and their secretary,
and also clerk of the Tuskegee Asso-
ciation. He has the confidence of all
the members of the little church, and
of the entire community, and hence
wields a blessed influence among them
as a leader. As pastor and people,
we feel happy in our present circum-
stances, and with our future prospect.

CRAWFORD CHURCH.

At this church we have succeeded
admirably, until within the last few
months. During my pastorate here
we have built an elegant house of wor-
ship and baptized, I suppose, about
fifty souls, and made considerable
headway in the mission cause; but
now our prospect, from a human
standpoint, is not promising; but, I
will not be much surprised if in the
near future the Lord shall lift Craw-
ford out of her sorrowful condition.
If we will only be willing to know
and do the right, with Christ-like
courage.

PHILADELPHIA CHURCH.

This assembly of saints have been
united recently, for a number of years
under the pastoral charge of Bro.
Charles Johnson, of Salem. As their
present pastor, I feel, in the main, en-
couraged at the prospects of the future.
The church has entered upon new
resolutions regarding its discipline,
&c., and the sisters are soliciting sub-
scriptions for the purpose of repairing
their meeting house. The brethren
and sisters of this church are abun-
dantly able to do a good part toward
the cause of Zion, as home
missions, and the cause of the
colored people in this
land and abroad.

CONCORD CHURCH.

This church is located near Salem,
in this State. They have called me
to serve them for this year, but I have
not yet answered them. This is quite
a weak church. I am to visit them
next Saturday and Sunday, and will
likely serve them the remaining part
of this year.

On yesterday evening we were cal-
led to the cemetery at Crawford, for
the purpose of burying the youngest
child of Bro. & Sister Wells, a sweet
little girl of about 16 months. Bro.
Wells is a subscriber to your paper
and is the superintendent of the Sun-
day-school here. Sister Wells is our
organist. We trust this sad affliction
will be to them as a refiner's fire, and
raise them nearer to heaven and to
God.
G. D. BENTON.

Wonderful.

The *Christian Leader* thinks James,
the apostle, was a "presiding elder."
This novel idea of the *Christian
Leader* reminds the writer very forcibly
of the circuit rider who said in all
good earnestness before a large con-
gregation, "I prefer James translation
of the Bible because James was our
Lord's brother, and wrote one of the
epistles."

As ridiculous as the above state-
ment is, yet Bro. W. P. Harvey, of
Georgetown College, Ky.; Bro. Beal,
of Collierville county, Ky., the writer,
and many others will testify to the
utterance.

By the side of the above beauties
might be placed that other golden
thought of an enthusiastic circuit rider
who exclaimed: "Brethren, I believe
that John the Baptist was a Metho-
dist."—J. H. MILLBURN, (Fulton, Ky.)
in *Gleaner*.

Appointments.

Eld. W. C. T. Mosely, of the Ala-
bama Association, will fill the follow-
ing appointments in the Centennial
Association in May:
Siloam, Saturday and Sunday, 9th
and 10th, 11 a. m.
Macedonia, Monday, 11th, 2 p. m.
Liberty, Tuesday, 12th, 11 a. m.
Mt. Zion, Wednesday, 13th, 11
a. m.
Perote, Thursday, 14th, 11 a. m.
Indian Creek, Friday, 15th, 11
a. m.
Fair View, Saturday, 16th, 11 a. m.
Aberfoil, Sunday, 17th, 11 a. m.
Sardis, Monday, 18th, 11 a. m.
Greenwood, Tuesday, 19th, 11 a. m.
Mt. Carmel, Wednesday, 20th, 11
a. m.
Midway, Thursday, 21st, 11 a. m.
Pastors, ministers, deacons, breth-
ren and sisters, please publish these
appointments to the very best advan-
tage, so as to have a good attendance
at each place.

Letter from Greenville.

Dear Baptist: I have been here
more than six months and believe
that I can now say how I like my
new home. Very often when a pas-
tor goes into a new field he is treated
so kindly that he feels like praising
everybody and everything, and after
a while he feels the other way. I am
pleased with Greenville. Our church
is doing well, and I believe will con-
tinue to improve. So far my salary
has been paid monthly. Several old
debts have been arranged, and I be-
lieve we are getting in a healthy finan-
cial condition. Our Sunday-school is
large and improving. Bro. Park has
done excellent work as a superin-
tendent. On last Sunday he resigned,
and Bro. J. S. M. Smith was elected
superintendent. Bro. Smith was dea-
con, treasurer and superintendent of
a church in South Carolina, where I
was pastor. I can testify to his abil-
ity and worth, and recommend him
to the Baptists of Alabama. He
moved here in January, and is already
doing a fine business. Bro. T. W.
Hart gave us one of his well prepared
sermons on last Sunday morning,
which was well received by those
present. His many friends in Green-
ville are always pleased to see him.

On Sunday morning Rev. J. E.
Bassett, of the Methodist Protestant
church united with our church and
was baptized at night. He is pastor
at Fort Deposit and Maningham. At
night, after baptism, he preached to a
large congregation and all were de-
lighted with his sermon. He is a
brother of Prof. J. H. Bassett, of
Evergreen, wrote in your last issue,
and calls the "Sankey of Alabama."
Should they go forth as Moody and
Sankey they would do much good.
Bro. J. E. Bassett will be ordained
next Sunday night. He is a young
man and has only been preaching one
or two years. I wish I could re-
member the exact words Bro. Bassett
used when he united with the church
Sunday morning. He spoke some-
thing as follows: "Brethren I have
been connected with the Methodist
church for some time, and a year ago
last August was ordained to the gos-
pel ministry. I have been with
them in the most trying conditions of
this life."

Under the management of Dr. J. L.
Lamar, will hold its own, and occupy
the field as a Baptist Sunday-school.
Bro. J. J. Good is the much esteemed
pastor. The Sunday-school mass meet-
ing in the evening was well attended.
There were some good speeches made
by several brethren.

At Ad we had a Sunday-school
gathering on the first Sabbath in this
month. Teaching in the morning,
and dinner on the grounds; after
which we discussed the Sunday-school
work from five different subjects.
The speeches were very interesting,
and the attendance large. We or-
ganized a Sunday-school, with Bro.
G. W. B. as superintendent. We
also raised by subscription about sixty
dollars to purchase an organ for the
school.

At Mt. Hebron we organized a Sun-
day-school, with Bro. Hogan as superin-
tendent. Here we hope to be able
to maintain the work. The outlook
is good.

At Prattville we had a most deligh-
ful meeting. The school's superin-
tendent is Bro. J. W. Matthews.
They use some Uniform Lessons,
and some catechisms. The exercises were
interesting. The mass meeting in the
evening was very largely attended, all
the other schools taking part. Bro.
L. G. Skipper is pastor, and under
his wise and careful management the
church and school are both thorough-
ly alive.

On last Sabbath we met with the
church and Sabbath-school at Ver-
bena. Here we had an exceedingly
pleasant time. Bro. A. J. Brooks is
the efficient superintendent, and is
alive to the work and abrest with the
times. Singing among the small chil-
dren is one special feature of this
school. We recommend it to others.
Bro. Skipper is also pastor here, and
is much beloved by his people. He
is doing a good work.

We hope to visit every church in
the Montgomery Association at least
during this year, and try to stimulate
the Sunday-school spirit among them,
and organize schools where there are
none. We ask the co-operation and
prayers of all Sunday-school workers
in this good work. In this fast age

of materialism, when people are
early

Alabama Baptist.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., APRIL 28, 1887.

J. G. HARRIS, Proprietor and Editor.
S. HENDERSON, D.D., Associate Editor.
C. W. HARRIS, Office Editor and Manager.

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The following items we gather from a private letter to Col. Murfee, from Rev. J. M. Phillips, of Henderson, Ky.: "Since my meeting closed I have re-organized my church and set all to work. I have divided the city in four sections, appointing a superintendent to each section. We have one section's meeting each week, following each other in succession. Each superintendent has two lady assistants whose duty is to visit every family in the section, secure their attendance on the meetings of the church and get their children in the Sunday-school. The meetings are held in the homes of the people and do much to promote the social feeling in the church. My Sunday-school which numbered when I came here only about 35, now has an attendance of 250. The church has grown from 100 members to 325. It has been a difficult and in some respects an arduous work. But the Lord has been with me. I feel assured that

I made no mistake when I left Louisville. I love Alabama, and was loth to leave the State. But the Lord directed my steps, and I now see why he did it."

BAPTIST CHURCH IN TALLADEGA.

ITS NEW PASTOR—MATERIAL PROSPERITY!

On our recent trip to our old home we called an hour or two in Talladega, and met our Bro. Lofton, whom we found greatly encouraged in his work in that rising city. Talladega is one of our most beautiful and improving inland cities. The railroads already centering there, and some other that are soon to reach that place, have thrown great life into the business of a place that is destined to be one of the most desirable in our State. A better population is not to be found in the South, and the country is not surpassed in Alabama, either in its agricultural or mineral resources. Jefferson county cannot surpass it in its iron ore deposits, and then it has a solid bed of marble running through its center, from the purest white to jet black, unsurpassed.

Dr. Lofton has captured the young people of the city by a series of Sunday evening lectures, somewhat unique in style and method. He draws a design for each lecture, in which he embodies its leading object. For instance, he took us down to the Baptist church and showed us the drawing for his next lecture. The subject is "scandal," and nothing could surpass the appropriateness of the picture. It had the body of a serpent, and just such a human face as we would all associate with a scandal-monger—such a face as only this contemptible vice could express. We may well believe that his young auditors, on seeing the drawing and bearing his lecture, will always associate the revolting combination of the serpent with the lowest form of the human face. In winding the pencil our Bro. L. is quite a genius.

We passed through Anniston, which, next to Birmingham, is the most rapidly rising city in Alabama. Recent transfers of property in the city, and along the line of their A. & L. railroad, have put everything for fifty miles on a boom. Sylacauga, the present terminus of the road, has doubled its population, we suppose, in three months. The farming interests of Talladega county are decidedly in advance of any previous year at this season in their promise. Our church in Sylacauga is putting on new strength.

S. H.

Nothing but the infinite pity is sufficient for the infinite paths of human life.—John Inglesant.

CHURCH COLLEGES.

It is not always that we agree in doctrine with our Methodist brethren, but we do feel the fullest sympathy with many of their practical ideas and plans, and the subjoined article from Bishop Hendrix, is worthy of careful perusal by parents of every denomination:

"Our church institutions are not on the

conscience of our people because of the

too slight importance set upon the religious

training of our children. We would

have better schools with more family

altars. We are often more careful of

the morals of our daughters than of

our sons, and hence the large attend-

ance of our female schools. An aroused

conscience on the religious training of

our sons and daughters would show

itself in a vastly increased attendance

in our Christian institutions, parents

counting the slight additional expenses for

tuition, a small matter in comparison with

the benefits of a religious atmosphere and

the association with Christian teachers

and students. Once fully on the con-

science of the church, our people

would give to our colleges as they give

to church buildings and to missions,

and far more will be contained in

liberal bequests for Christian education.

What are we to do? Years ago it

was our boast in the South that we

had more students in college in proportion

to population than the North had. But

in what colleges? Largely those of the

Eastern and New England States. With

one or two exceptions we have not properly

endowed and supported the institutions of learning in

our own territory. Statistics show that

Harvard and Yale receive the majority

of their students from New England.

Any worthy college makes patronage,

and in time patronage makes a worthy

college. Hundreds receive a college edu-

cation because a good college is in their

own or an adjoining State. It is possible

to provide in many of our Southern

States colleges where students can receive

an education as at any New England

college. These must not multiply too

rapidly, but more will be needed in

time. We need now to greatly strengthen

those we have in libraries, apparatus,

endowment and patronage, keeping well

in mind those which are of strictly

collegiate grade. The church must direct

the higher education of our youth, or

unbelief will be increased manifold as

she asserts her right and place as an

educator. Let us abandon our foreign

missions as soon as our colleges.

Said Judson on one occasion when

passing Madison University, "If I had

known what I know now, what I

would do with it?" "Yes," said his

companion, "you would give it to

foreign missions." Said Judson, "I

would give it to Christian college like

that." "Planting such colleges" said

the missionary, "and filling them with

religious students, is raising seed-corn

for the world."

The conscience of the church must

be reached by pastors pressing more

the religious training of our children;

by a campaign in which our Bishops,

college presidents, editors, Presiding

Elders and pastors shall all unite in

the attention of the church is arrested

and the conscience of the church aroused

to enlarge, equip and patronize our

church schools. We must educate the

church as our children, and we cannot

begin too soon. —Bishop Hendrix, in Southwestern.

Died, Friday evening, the 22nd,

Miss Jennie Benson, of this city. Sud-

denly she was summoned from time

into eternity, but not unprepared.

She had been a faithful member of the

First Baptist church. Funeral services

were held at the church Sabbath

morning in the presence of an im-

mense concourse of friends. Dr.

Wharton's remarks were comforting

and instructive. To the sorrowing

ones we offer our condolence.

Be Not Deceived.

1. Be not deceived in supposing

that only those who have nobly pledg-

ed themselves to pay the debts of the

churches to their foreign missionaries

are called by God to make sacrifices

to perform this duty.

2. Be not deceived in supposing

that without all these pledges are re-

deemed, and all the Lord's money for

Foreign Missions on hand, or in the

pocket, or in the bank, or in the re-

cent investment, is sent forward, and

promptly, to the Board of Foreign

Missions, the debt can be paid.

3. Be not deceived in supposing

that these pledges being paid, and these

needed remittances being made, the

whole indebtedness of the Board

will not be discharged.

4. Be not deceived in supposing

that these pledges being paid, and these

needed remittances being made, the

whole indebtedness of the Board

will not be discharged.

5. Be not deceived in supposing

that, though God works within his

people to will and to do of his own

good pleasure, their salvation or the

salvation of the world can be accom-

plished without his people working it

out with fear and trembling, and with

no little self-denial and sacrifice.

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

Richmond, Va.

The temperance cause of Hale

county is moving grandly forward.

FIELD NOTES.

Dr. Ray Palmer, the noted hymn

writer, is dead.

The Dadeville Baptists have \$2,700

for their new church.

The Primitive Baptists have organ-

ized a church in this place.

Rev. J. D. Cook is giving his time

to the work, and has a very good

field.

Elder C. Lloyd preached in the

Baptist church at Mt. Willing on the

17th.

Rev. N. C. Underwood, of Brund-

ridge, will please accept our thanks

for some renewals.

Bro. Hamberlin is improving. He

writes that Mr. T. D. Rice, of this

place is also better.

The meeting at Dr. Hawthorne's

church, Atlanta, resulted in no ad-

ditions to his church.

Anti-prohibition in Atlanta seems

to be too dead ever to be revived

again.—Savannah News.

Rev. G. S. Anderson, of New-

berne, has been called to the care of

the church at Fort Deposit.

There are thirty-eight millions of

people in Japan. The whole country

is ready for the gospel of Christ.

Rev. T. E. Morgan, of Honora-

ville, is quite unwell. May even his

sickness prove a blessing to him.

Rev. W. H. Burton, of Center, has

been quite low with pneumonia.

Hope to hear soon of his recovery.

Can't Bro. J. Gunn write us about

the Baptist cause at Tusculum, She-

field and other points of the valley?

Bro. Custer Williams, of Pickens

county, organized a Sabbath-school

of sixty members recently at Millport.

Pleasant Grove Baptist church, in

Clay county, was burned on the 3rd

of April. Rise up, brethren, and

build.

It won't cost much, can't you help

your pastor off to the Convention? He

will be a better preacher when he

comes back.

Rev. A. W. McGaha filled the pul-

pit of the First Baptist church on the

10th; the pastor, Dr. D. I. Pusser

could not leave the meeting at Troy.

Rev. Geo. Dana Boardman, D.D.,

of Philadelphia, will deliver the com-

memencement sermon for the Southern

Baptist Theological Seminary, Louis-

ville.

Won't our Baptists who are helping

to build new towns or boom old ones

secure the donation of a lot, or lots,

for Howard College or the Judson In-

stitute?

Rev. L. D. Bass has returned Louis-

ville to take a short course in the

Seminary. Rev. Mr. Bassett will

supply his Greenville pulpit until he

returns.

A little blue feeling stole over us

one day, but the mail brought a letter

from Bro. J. K. Milner, of Columbia,

with \$15 in it, saying there would be

more to follow soon.

The Western Watchman (Catholic)

says: "We hope the time may come

again when blatant infidels will be

classed in the social and criminal code

with murderers and traitors."

The Texas Baptist and Herald is

proving itself a strong factor in the

prohibition fight now being waged in

the Lone Star State. Let us all pray

that Texas may banish the saloon.

Rev. W. A. Whittle has a nice let-

ter in a couple of papers touching his

stay in Louisville, trip to New York,

New Haven, and bidding farewell as

he takes a steamer for the Old World.

The Texas Baptist and Herald says

we deserve the 10,000 subscribers that

we are now craving. Can't all the

wide awake Baptists of Alabama say

as much and help on the glorious day?

Editor Robertson, of the Reflector,

is a wise citizen, as well as wide

awake preacher and editor. He

thinks he could tell a thing or two

about the "Inter State Commerce

Law."

Louisville, Ky., has given two

acres of ground to the "Home of the

Friendless, or fallen women," and

\$10,000 have been subscribed. Pas-

tor H. Allen Tupper has been very

active in this work.

Prof. Jos. M. Dill has been elected

president of the Troy Normal School.

This is a splendid selection. We

know Prof. Dill to be one of the most

successful educators in the State and

an upright Christian.

Seventeen churches of Texas have

arranged to send their pastors to the

Convention. How many Alabama

churches have done the same? Go

to work reader, and raise a few dol-

lars for that faithful pastor.

Tusculum is alive with progress.

The noble firm of S. F. Nunnallee &

Sons, who have long given one of the

best weeklies in the State have begun

the publication of the Daily Gazette.

Much success to them.

Death has claimed as his victim

Bro. Joseph Yarboro, of Pickens

county. He leaves a wife and sev-

eral small children. We commend them

to that God who is the protector of

the widow and the orphan.

A letter from Rev. P. S. Mont-

gomery, Ashville, informs us that he

has been in bad health this winter.

We hope soon to hear that the breezes

of spring have brought again strength

