

ALABAMA BAPTIST.

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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Rev. J. T. Chadwick now receives his mail at Ten Brock.

Rev. B. F. Brothers, of Riverside, called at the office and paid to January 1906, and said some nice things about the paper.

The population of India, according to the latest census, is 117,459,193. Among these are 2,923,241 Christians. The growth of Christianity there is more rapid than the increase in population.

Dr. Campbell Morgan's Friday Evening Bible School at Westminster Chapel has proved an immediate success, over 1,500 students being in attendance at one meeting.

We want to express the gratitude of our hearts to the good people of Wetumpka, Lowndesboro and Fitzpatrick for the nice boxes of turkeys, chickens, eggs, fresh meat and other good things we have received from their generous hands.—W. J. Elliott.

The price to be paid for the eleven big exhibit palaces and other property of the St. Louis Exposition Company by the Chicago House Wrecking Company, is \$386,000. They cost \$15,000,000.

Dr. A. E. Dickinson, of the Religious Herald, says: "The best way to keep the Baptists united and happy, is to keep them at work; give them all they can do in extending the power and influence of the Baptist doctrines at home and abroad."

Miss Eva Booth, who for eight years has been in command in Canada of the Salvation Army, is to be commander in the United States, with headquarters in New York City. She left Canada on November 28th to assume her new duties.

Historians say that Henry Hudson was bitterly disappointed in his voyage to the western world, in 1609, when he discovered the river which bears his name. He had set out to find a route to China by "the northwest passage" and in this he failed.

George B. Davis, Judge Advocate General of the United States Army, has expressed for publication the opinion that the Japanese were not violating the rules of warfare in commencing the war with Russia before it was formally declared.

Secretary of the Navy Morton in his annual report asks for the largest appropriation for next year that has ever been made for naval purposes, but says in defense of this: "Last year the navy cost a little over a dollar per capita. It cost little compared to what war would cost, and it is the best assurance we have against war. We want such a navy in size, style and 'sand' that no other navy will ever desire an engagement with us. It is our greatest exhibit in favor of peace."



REV. F. G. POSEY, of East Lauderdale.

A Consecrated Minister, an Upright Citizen, and a Great Lover of Our Baptist Cause.

Rev. A. D. Glass has received seventeen by letter and baptism into the church at Glen Addie, Anniston, and the Sunday school has more than double.

Do it now!—If you love temperance and want to abolish the iniquitous "jug trade" in prohibition counties and towns be sure to write at once to your congressman in Washington, D. C., and urge him to vote for the "Hepburn-Dolliver Bill." Your letter will help.—S. E. Wasson, acting Supt. Ala. Anti-Saloon League, Decatur, Ala.

Lafayette, La.—I hated for many reasons to leave Alabama, but I feel that my coming here is of the Lord. I wish you great success in your work. Jas. I. Kendrick.

We will greatly miss Brother Kendricks in Alabama, but we pray God's blessings upon his work in Louisiana.

We have just received a good letter from Rev. Millard A. Jenkins, pastor at Dublin, Ga., in which he says: "I know it would be a pleasure to get in arm's length of you again, and touch elbows with you in the work. But my people here have made it too hard for me to leave them. I must stay on a while longer." Brother Jenkins has made a splendid record at Dublin.

Chief Engineer Wallace is gathering data as rapidly as possible on which to base the final recommendations. The drift of opinion now is that it will pay to dig a sea-level canal, instead of risking the uncertainties of a lockage system. The sea-level canal would of course cost more and take longer, but it would be far superior.

In January, 1831, the following notice appeared: "The directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company give notice that they will pay \$4,000 for the best locomotive engine of American manufacture, adapted to their road, and which shall be delivered for trial on or before the first of July next, and the sum of \$3,500 for the engine that shall be adjudged second best."—4-Track News.

There are about 20,000 carriers in the rural delivery service. Their pay is \$600 a year where their routes are twenty miles a day; smaller distances in proportion down to \$200; and they have to provide a horse and wagon out of it. They have no annual leave with pay as the city carriers do. Their average route is twenty-three miles a day, usually over roads that are by no means flowery beds of ease.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Dr. Esther M. Bok is the only physician in the Chinese quarter of New York. Indeed, she is the only woman practitioner among this race in America. She is a young and extremely pretty little woman.

Booth Tucker, now at the head of the army in the United States, will return to England, but his future charge is not announced.

Salvation Army headquarters in Toronto announces the new commissioners for the army in the United States and Canada.

London, England, charitable institutions have a total income of more than \$35,000,000 a year. Six and one-half million people used the public bath-houses last year. There are 17,000 teachers in the schools. There are 2,017 miles of street. Every year about 30,000,000 telegrams and 750,000,000 letters are received in this city.

According to the latest figures, there are 10,932,777 Hebrews in the world. Russia has 5,189,401; Austria-Hungary, 2,076,378, and the United States, 1,253,218. Germany comes next with 586,948, and then Turkey with 466,341. Of the 600,000 Jews credited to the state of New York, about 500,000 are residents of New York city.

The pens used by the children of Japan consist of bamboo and rabbit's hair. The pen itself is a tiny brush of hair tied to the end of a bamboo stick. It doesn't seem possible that writing under such circumstances could be good, but Japanese children really write very well.

I first produced a smokeless powder from pure guncotton. Later on, I modified the guncotton with a small percentage of castor oil, and in 1839 made a very successful smokeless powder consisting of seventy-three per cent. guncotton, twenty-five per cent. nitroglycerine, and two per cent. castor oil.—Sir Hiram Maxim.

One hundred years ago it took Lewis and Clark eighteen months to travel from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean. Today the fast trains make the run in three days. It has rightly been said that "steam and electricity have reduced the size of our great country to the dimensions of a neighborhood."

Without question, the reform sentiment in China has increased greatly since 1900, but it is still working in the dark, makes many blunders and is given to nihilistic undignified revilings at the throne in the newspapers, which do not help it. The native newspapers incidentally are becoming more numerous, published in the foreign settlements, of course, and while not yet properly organized, they are being much read and have considerable influence.



President Roosevelt.

THE BUSY HOUSE OF A BUSY MAN.

By Day Allen Willey.

The building in which the head of the American Nation does business is one of the most modest in the country. But a story and a half in height it really forms an extension to the White House at Washington, connected with the president's home by an enclosed corridor.

Although the offices in the entire building are smaller than the suite which is used by many an officer of a commercial corporation, the amount of business which is transacted seems almost incredible, considering the staff of officials located here, besides the president.

It must be remembered that this is the nerve center of the Nation, and that in it are held meetings which are of world-wide importance in their scope; for not only does it contain the president's private office, but the room where the cabinet holds its formal meetings, the general office of the White House clerks and stenographers, a telegraph office and the apartment of Mr. Roosevelt's secretary, in addition to a general reception room for visitors.



The Executive Offices.

The reception room which is located directly back of the main entrance is commodious enough to accommodate the score or more of persons who are always to be found in it during business hours. Some desire to see the president personally, others to see one of the officials, but it can be said that very few of the callers ever get sight of Mr. Roosevelt, for the reason that his secretary generally finds that he can attend to their needs and thus save the time of his superior to that extent.

Before the visitor enters the reception room he is quietly but carefully scrutinized by not only the doorkeepers, but some of the secret service men who are continually on duty. He may not be aware of the inspection, but it is made in every case. As soon as he steps across the threshold an attendant is ready to take his card to the official designated, although all cards intended for the president pass through the hands of Secretary Loeb first. If the

visitor gets into the personal secretary's office he finds himself in a large sunny room from which an excellent view of the White House grounds, as well as the Washington Monument, is obtained. The president occupies one of the least desirable offices in the building, as a matter of fact, being placed over in the southeast corner, and a back room at that, but this arrangement was made so that he could reach the office from the White House without going through any of the other apartments of the buildings. Next to the president's office is the cabinet room.

Simplicity is the most notable feature in the equipment of the building. The office furniture is severely plain, although ample for the business requirement.



The President's Bedroom.

Here the president frequently "puts in" seven and eight hours a day, working as steadily and often longer than the department clerks who assist him in his official duties. In fact the entire building might be called a human beehive, for everyone has something to do, and enough of it, but such is the admirable system which is carried out that everything moves as easily as a well-oiled piece of machinery.

While the president devotes much time to his family and, as is well known, believes in taking a liberal amount of recreation, some of his most enjoyable hours are spent in the quiet of his bedroom, for before retiring he frequently forgets the cares of the day in a volume of one of his favorite authors, or between the pages of some magazine. He does more reading for pleasure in this apartment than in any other, for the reason that it is one of the few places where he can obtain the quiet which he so greatly covets.

At his special request when the White House was renovated, his room was left practically undisturbed. It contains the massively carved furniture which has been a part of the White House belongings for many years, even the student lamp being of an old-fashioned pattern.

RAILWAYS IN THE HOLY LAND.

By W. H. Ballou.

The Damascus-Mecca Railroad is being constructed by Turkish soldiers. Subscriptions for it have been collected from Mohammedans all over the world, including those of the Philippine Islands, the Dutch and British East Indies.

With its completion will end the famous annual pilgrimage of worshippers on foot or beast-back, from Damascus to Mecca, conducted by His Excellency, Aledal Rahman Pasha, superin-

tendent for the Sublime Porte for the holy caravan. Incidentally, the new road is already opening the trans-Jordan country, the Thibet of Africa, to travelers, where formerly they held out their lives on the palm of the hand.

A railway already runs from Beirut, the largest maritime port of the Holy Land, to Damascus. The Beirut-Damascus Railroad was inaugurated August 3d, 1895, by its French owners. Its Hauran branch runs down the Orontes Valley to Basalbec, Homs and Hamah, whence tourists reach Palmyra, Queen Zenobia's capital, by carriages.



The ruins of Palmyra indicate that it made good its boast of being the only world's rival to the supremacy of Rome.

From Hamah, the branch railway is to be continued to the Euphrates to tap the Hauran Plain, the great granary of Egypt, from which 5,000 camels annually tote out the grain, 500 pounds to a humpback.

On Lake Tiberias at the Hot Springs of the suburbs of Tiberias City, Boston capitalists are about to erect a huge tourists' hotel and construct a fleet of excursion steamers.

The Jaffa-Jerusalem Railroad was conceived by an American, Dr. Charles F. Zimpel, in 1864, and was opened to operation on September 26th, 1892, when three sheep were sacrificed to Allah by high Ottoman officials. It is to be extended across the Jordan to connect with other railways now building.

Like all the roads now under construction by the Turks, this line is aiming to reach the interior fortresses, to serve in the quick movement of troops, and the new lines of defense of the empire. The Sublime Porte has purchased all the railway concessions of foreigners except the French concession of the Beirut-Damascus lines, which is under negotiation.

His majesty has method in his progress. He will gridiron all the Holy Land with railways for his defense, but he will make the foreigners, the tourists, pay the cost by inducing travel in his domain.

So, too, American agricultural machines, steam plows and threshers, motor mills, etc., are allowed to enter and crush out the last vestige of the methods of Father Abraham, in order that immense crops may enrich the royal revenues. Tourists who do not hasten will see mighty little of the Holy Land as described in the books. A Turkish sultan is in power who believes in great guns, great railways, great labor-saving machines, vast crops and grand revenues for the royal treasury.

Once the empire is put on a paying,

defensible basis, and his majesty will give the world an object lesson in navy building. Don't forget that Mohammedans claim to number 176,834,000 and have stood the limit of international nagging. How would you feel if you were the ruler of such an empire, and grand representative of Allah on earth, to be held up by an American gunboat, or a French third-class cruiser?

The Haifa-Mazarib Railroad is being extended by Turkish laborers and soldiers through the trans-Jordan country to ultimately connect, by main-line or branch, with all the famous towns and cities of Galilee, and the sacred mountains of Tabor and Carmel.

The Sublime Porte has recently placed with an American steel company an order for 20,000 tons of steel rails, and a recent American-filled order arriving in Syria included seventy-five modern reaping machines, twenty self-binders, twelve up-to-date windmills, five oil motor gristmills, forty olive oil presses, twenty-five petroleum engines, two steam threshing machines, one well-drilling machine, three hydraulic rams, one hundred and seventy-five silk-reeling factory outfits and six licorie and tobacco presses.

Prior to the advent of the steam thresher and since the days of Abraham, an ox had taken a week to tread out the grain of one small circle of wheat, but when it arrived in the grain fields the first American steam thresher did in one day the work of many oxen.



TO THE FRIENDS OF TEMPERANCE.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1, 1904.

The Hepburn-Dolliver bill (H. R. 4072) is liable to come up for action in the early days of Congress. This bill is designed to permit interstate shipments of liquor to be subjected to the operation of State laws upon entering the State and before delivery to the consignee as at present. The passage of this bill is of the utmost importance and to this end we seek your co-operation and that of every friend of temperance in every State.

Will you write immediately a strong, courteous letter to your member of the House of Representatives at Washington urging his active support of the Hepburn bill; also please enlist the interest of influential friends in your city and neighborhood and have a great number of them write their Congressman at once urging his hearty support. DO IT AT ONCE.

Sincerely your co-worker,
Edwin C. Dinwiddie,
Legislative Superintendent.

The New Year.

THE NEW YEAR.

"Friend, come thou like a friend;
And whether bright thy face,
Or dim with clouds we cannot comprehend,
We'll hold out patient hands, each in his place,
And trust thee to the end,
Knowing thou ledest onward to those spheres
Where there are neither days, nor months, nor years."

1905.

The old year's winged hours,
From day to golden day,
With winter snows, or summer flowers,
Have sped upon their way.

What priceless boon, O Time,
To thy New Year is given!
Oh, may it help our feet to climb
The narrow path to heaven.

—Dean Farrar.

OLD-TIME NEW YEARS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

A hundred years ago the "White House" was a brown freestone structure in the midst of a sparsely populated, untraveled and almost unbroken country. But there were stately New Year receptions at the home of the chief magistrate of the nation then, as there are now, even if the guests did have to go on horseback or trail through paths of mud.

When President and Mrs. Adams took possession of the executive mansion, 101 years ago, they drove down from Baltimore in a two-horse chaise—there being no railroads or trolley cars in those times. Somehow the driver lost his way and the presidential party had the discomfiture of being overtaken by darkness, while still far from their destination.

When they finally arrived at the new capital of the nation and jogged up the lane leading to the house that was being built as the president's home, they were greeted by no burst of light or ceremonial welcome. Instead the great halls and rooms were dark and bare; there was not firewood enough to keep them warm, and the servants, foolish-virgin-like, had not lamps with oil in them enough to overcome gloom. In fact, the reception must have been a rather "cold" affair even for the hardy travelers of those pioneer days, for Mrs. Adams afterwards remarked that the place did "look exceedingly barn-like."

By New Year the downstairs portion of the building was still unfinished and unfurnished, and Mrs. Adams was using the East Room, also called the "banquet hall," as a drying room for clothes, while the state parlors were stately in name and imagination.

It was decided to hold there a New Year reception, nevertheless, and the oval-shaped library on the second floor, which gave a fine broad view of the surrounding Maryland and Virginia

hills, was prepared for the occasion.

As it did not seem to occur to anybody that cabinet officers and their wives might be made useful on such an occasion, the president and his good wife did the honors alone. It was a very formal affair. Mrs. Adams sat in state, and the president, in knickerbockers, irreproachable small clothes, and impenetrable dignity, stood beside her. After each guest had paid his respects to the hosts he passed on to another room and was served with refreshments by a colored waiter.

The press of that day was not enterprising enough (or else it was too sensible) to record the exact quality, quantity and cut of the dress of the distinguished hosts; but it may be assumed that their garb was typical of the fashion of the times. It is safe to say that Mrs. Adams aided in keeping the extremely upright position that she doubtless assumed by the stiff brocades and velvets of her gown, and that the president, in addition to his knee-breeches, wore a gaily-colored waistcoat, a high stock and collar, and had his hair carefully powdered and twisted into a neat braid down the back.

This first reception was just a century and one year ago. Then in 1814 the British came up the Potomac and burned the "President's House," as it has been called, and "White House" receptions were necessarily suspended. But in 1818 the blackened walls were painted white to hide all trace of British vandalism, and the building was rechristened "The White House," a name that has ever since clung to it.

Since 1829, when the edifice was completely finished, all official functions have been held in the state parlors and the East Room. In the early years of the republic the New Year receptions were scenes of fine display, especially on the part of some of the foreign attaches. Some one writing about these occasions speaks of "flashing jewels, siken dresses and nodding plumes," and adds:

"My attention was drawn to what seemed like a rolling ball of burnished gold carried swiftly through the air upon two gilt wings, toward the president's house. It stopped before the door and from it alighted, weighted with gold lace, the French minister and his suite. We now perceived that what we had supposed to be wings were gorgeous footmen, with brass chapeaux and gilt-braided skits, and armed with glittering swords."—Everywhere.

"LET ME BE THE THING I MEANT."

The old year is not dying. Although we may count in hours the remainder of its presence with us, still it will live on and on, a link in the chain of years past and to come that measures human lives. Its birth was to many a time of rejoicing. At its feet were laid rich offerings, hopes, brighter than noonday, aspirations for things high and noble, vows and promises, the gold, frankincense and myrrh of a rich treasury. And yet with but a few hours left of what was meant to be the best year of all, the record shows blurred and dis-

figured pages marked by failures and disappointments until in bitterness of soul the cry goes forth: "It were better not to vow than to vow and not pay." How slow we are to learn the lesson of experience. If only the mistakes of one single year could be so indelibly written upon the mind that it could not forget, and so go blindly over the same road, stumbling into the old pitfalls it would be well. The force of habit is often a chain too strong for the weakened will to break. Comparatively few have enough resisting power; strong in many points they fail to strengthen the weak places, not even at times recognizing them until it is too late.

The old year, like all those that have preceded it, must go from us laden with broken vows, misspent hours and bitter disappointments. It is well that hope is immortal. No life need be utterly wasted. There are always some foundation stones left firmly imbedded upon which a new temple may be formed. Character, after all, is the only thing we may be sure of, because its perfection lies so largely with God and ourselves. True! untoward surroundings may mar for a time the noblest character. Temptations like storms that rend and lay waste much of the beautiful structure, so much that human power may turn away in despair of ever restoring it to beauty, but there never was a soul building so tempest-tossed, so marred by life's storms, but that the Divine architect could remodel and fashion it into more than its former loveliness. He can find the stone that has been rejected and build thereon. When the new year with its promises of joy and peace is heralded to us by the same angelic voices that told the glad story of the birth of a world's Redeemer, let us meet it hopefully, bringing again as of old our offering, praying that we may remember wherein we failed in the past, never forgetting that over and above all underlying all human weakness, is the strength and love of the Prince of Peace.

"The year is past and over,

Save but a breath for prayer;

For the tasks undone, for the evil wrought,
O thou God of grace is forgiveness sought—

Farewell, farewell, Old Year!"

—Burlington Hawkeye.

MAKE THIS THE BEST YEAR.

The New Year bell rings out its solemn call alike to those who are Christians, and those who are not. To this latter class it will be a "happy New Year" if they will secure Jesus Christ as their friend at once. If you say, "I will do this as soon as my business is in better shape," you are bargaining with Satan, who is sure to cheat you. If you say, "I will decide for Christ by-and-by," you are deciding against him. Take the first step at once, and put the hand of your faith into that loving hand that was pierced for your sins. Do this promptly, and perhaps a bell of joy may be rung for you in heaven! Brother Christian, determine

to make this the best year of your life, the richest, ripest, strongest, happiest. But you cannot grow in grace "by wholesale." Begin the year by putting the knife into some bad habit or besetting sin. Begin by laying stiff hold on some neglected duty. Consecration means letting Jesus Christ own the whole of you. Holiness means serving Christ in little things; and remember that in all the year 1904 you will see only one day, and that will be called "to-day." The ladder to heaven is climbed, not by a leap, but round by round.—Theodore L. Cuyler.

We must recognize the great end of all this panting and running and toiling—not that you or I should reach the goal, and be rich and honored in men's mouths, but that the torch of truth that was put into our hands when we started should reach the people at the end all alight with truth as when we took it. Let it be our hands, if we can, that brings it there, and then the honor shall be ours; but that must not be our end. Let no petty conceit or unfledged pride keep us from giving it to a fresh and stronger man, with a hearty God-speed to run the next stage of the same great journey.—Phillips Brooks.

You close your doors and brood over your own miseries and the wrongs people have done you; whereas, if you would but open those doors you might come out into the light of God's truth and see that his heart is as clear as sunlight toward you. If you would but let him teach you you would find your perplexities melt away like the snow in the spring till you could hardly believe you ever felt them.—George MacDonald.

The soul that shuts itself and holds its peace while the world is near, grows securer in silence of contemplation, and lets out its gentle thoughts and whispering joys, its hopes and fears, unto the listening ear and before the kindly eye of God. There is a communion which is the voice of the soul pleading its birthright, crying out for its immortality; it is the heavenly homesickness.—Henry Ward Beecher.

One vow will not suffice the long year through.

One prayer a twelve-month's needs may not allay;

Crown every morn with pure resolve, anew,

And live each day as though 'twere New Year's Day.

—Gleaner of Things.

I am glad to think I am not bound to make the world go right, but only to discover and to do, with cheerful heart, the work that God appoints.—Jean Ingelow.

We ought not to be weary of doing little things for the love of God, who regards not the greatness of the work, but the love with which it is performed.—Brother Lawrence.

Woman's Work.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES AND WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CALHOUN ASSOCIATION.

Mrs. T. A. Hamilton.

The plan of work to be pursued by your State organizer during the coming year, will differ from that of the past in this regard, viz: instead of going from place to place, because contiguous to each other, or because they may be easily reached on the several railroads, the associations will be worked up, one at a time, under the supervision of the Vice-president of the Association.

This has several great advantages, it will reduce the expense of traveling, it will give the visiting sister the assistance and we hope oftentimes the presence of the Association Vice-president in her visits to the societies, and enable her to reach many churches away from the railroads, and help them to a better understanding of woman's work. It remains to be seen if this plan will be successful, as we have never heard of its being tried before, but we believe it will be an improvement on the former plan. It will relieve our good Brother Crumpton in a great degree of planning itineraries, for which we have been most grateful, but which have been troublesome to him, no doubt. In comparing notes with a State organizer at our annual meeting in Savannah she expressed herself much surprised that so much pains should be taken in this way by the secretary of your State Board, but then she did not know Brother Crumpton! A good beginning in the new line of procedure was made when we entered first the

Calhoun Association,

and it was a rare treat to spend a week under the roof of its consecrated vice-president, Mrs. O. M. Reynolds, and to abide in the "Chamber of Peace" as some one discriminating both in taste and appreciation has called that upper room. The work of the week had been succinctly mapped out, and with the company of our dear friend and sister, we went forth to the appointments.

At the first church, where we found acquaintances and friends, and under the superintendence of Bro. A. G. Spinks and his noble wife, we held a good meeting with the woman and children. The Sunbeams shone brightly—a large Band having been newly organized. Mrs. Spinks being assisted by Miss Powell and Miss Crowder. And wise that is—to have in training those who may come after us, and carry on our work! We are confirmed in a belief that that church will some day be greatly honored in having its own representative on a foreign field. What glimpses of the coming glory God sometimes grants his children! And one of the fairest vistas opening to

the eye of faith is that some day the churches of Jesus Christ will feel they fall short of duty and privilege when they are not supporting some good man or woman as their own missionary. At the

Parker Memorial

the young ladies came out finely, notwithstanding lowering skies, and we had a real love feast, dwelling upon the life and love of our kind, good friend, Mrs. Daisy Winton Pettus Ray, who had been the inspiration of our Annual meeting in July, and whose career in a foreign land we shall watch most lovingly and prayerfully. It was worth the trip from Birmingham to hear of a Society who a month before the time of gathering the Christmas offering, had the envelopes filled and were ready now to bring into the treasury the gift they had laid aside for Him, "whom not having seen, they love." Theirs is an enviable record. May many emulate their example. With the Woman's Missionary Society presided over by Mrs. Reynolds, who has also "The King's Sons" in charge, the Sunbeams by Mrs. Hampton, The Missionary Jewels by Mrs. ——— and the Young Ladies' Society by Mrs. Gardner, all will agree that this church is in fine trim for work and they are doing it well.

It adds zest and interest to one's life to form new and pleasant friendships; it deepens and sweetens life to renew old acquaintances, which are ne'er forgot, but to combine the finding of old friends among the new is a most delightful experience, and that was our's as we met at

Oxford,

with the women and children of Brother Ivy's church. He is indeed "a workman" who has no need "to be ashamed." Every division of his work is planned and manned, as is his way, with care and forethought, and the results are commensurate. Here we found a Woman's Society that had been in existence twenty odd years, some of the original members being still of the number who compose it today. The young ladies had just packed a box for the frontier, and showed what good timber they were made of, when they did not stagger at the thought of supplying a family seven in number. The Sunbeams shone beautifully and bright, but that is our Sister Ivey's way of having her band demean themselves. May God bless them all and continue His signal favor to these devoted sentinels of His. After holding sweet converse together about the things of the kingdom we parted with hearty "God-speeds," and the echoes of the fresh young solo voice as the words "One, sweetly solemn thought comes to me o'er and o'er," come to strengthen our hearts. A glimpse of the pretty lake beyond Oxford and the mountains lying "round about" even as Jerusalem of old was encompassed, offered a fitting finale to a perfect day of bracing air and golden sunshine, but lowering cloud and threatening skies tried the strength of the faithful few, who gathered the next day at

Ozanna

to greet their untiring Vice-President

and the visiting Sister. However, they were there in sufficient numbers to claim the promise that where two or three are gathered together in His name, He will be in the midst, and a precious little meeting was ours. The children came from school and swelled the number present and brightened up the occasion, as they always do. Again we had the pleasure of fitting names to personalities in becoming acquainted with Mrs. B. D. Fitzgerald, the Sunbeam leader here for some time. Would that a worthy successor might be raised up in her stead, as she can no longer continue to care for the lambs!

Hurrying to meet the Glen Addie sisters before the short afternoon should draw to a close, we found ourselves in their pretty house of worship. Again a little company of consecrated women awaited our coming, and again we drew close together in spirit and in body and found strength in Christian fellowship. They ordered the quarterly literature sent their Secretary, Mrs. S. Harrington, and we hope Mrs. Clara Hawthorne, will consent to reorganize the Sunbeams. There can be no surer way of securing a membership in the future full of zeal for missions at home and abroad, than to train the children to know nothing else. A belated train came near defrauding us of the pleasure of an all day meeting at

Choccolocco,

but thanks to the entire sea-worthiness of the "Ship of Zion," as the comfortable and accommodating carriage of the Calhoun Association's Vice-President is playfully called by those who see it so often going on a mission, and the amiability of our genial host, we made the trip through the country and over the mountains to meet our sisters at "Harmony." It would have been with much more of effort to have effected this conference of workers, and it would take the facile pen of Brother Crumpton to tell of the dinner that was spread at the church. The Christmas envelopes were distributed and much of good counsel taken together, when we adjourned to the school house going thither in the goodly "Gospel Coach," another consecrated carriage, and down by our sister Borders. Here we met the bright children and young folks who were practicing for their Christmas exercises, and delighted us by singing their anthem for that occasion. Someone has said that the purest of all joys was to plant a seed in the ground and see it come forth and watch its development. I can grant it the second place only in line of delights. To see a young mind and heart bring forth the "peaceable fruits of righteousness" after doing the patient seed sowing, is paramount. The hospitable home of our dear Sister Davis, who had postponed leaving for Atlanta in order to entertain us, supplied a most welcome shelter until the late train bore us back to Anniston, where warmth both of heart and hearth awaited us.

This going forth "two and two" is as cheering in these latter days as when the disciples were sent out by the Master in blessed companionship. Together we wended our way the next day

Jacksonville,

the historic home of many, renowned in the political arena, upon the Bench, and in the annals of our "Lost Cause." It was a real pleasure to be within the gates of Judge Cook's typical Southern home, with its unbounded hospitality, and to set about the task of renewing and continuing a friendship begun sometime before between the members of his family and ourselves. There are few more important or more engaging obligations than those of "keeping our friendships in repair." To meet the members of the Jacksonville Woman's Missionary Union is to see a working force second to none in the Association. They are "full of good works." The devotional exercises were led by our Sister Green, who has the faculty of making herself the beloved member of every organization in the church, and really has been the founder of nearly every Society among the children, the youth, and perhaps the sisters. Miss Mary Ramagnano is the Sunbeam leader, and quite a number of her band gave us welcome. The day was full of profit and pleasure, and we turned our face homeward thankful for knowing how true and kind and loving and helpful God's children can be and are "in deed and in truth."

The proximity of the holidays forbade trespassing upon the sisters' time any longer, but we hope to reach others at some more convenient time.

We reiterate the sentiment expressed at the beginning of our tour in the Calhoun Association, that this plan of working among our Societies has opened most auspiciously. May the good accomplished be in proportion.

REV. E. LEE SMITH.

Our beloved brother and pastor tendered his resignation as pastor of Park Avenue Baptist Church, North Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 7th, to take effect Dec. 18, 1904, and his resignation we were loth to accept, but we feel very thankful, indeed, that we could have him for pastor if only for a very short time.

Brother Smith has been with us only one year and two months, during that time ninety-three souls have been added to the church. Our house has been completed from a mere frame to a most complete place of worship, also a very nice parsonage has been built. With his lovely Christian wife Brother Smith has ever labored faithfully and earnestly among us, always ready to help and pray with the sick and comfort those in distress.

Sister Smith cannot be excelled as a Christian worker. She has organized at his place a Sunbeam Society, a Baptist Young Peoples' Union, and also been President of Ladies' Missionary Society. We cannot help but feel grieved to give them up, but we pray God's richest blessings upon them wherever they may be and upon their little son Jesse Barnett.

Mrs. E. B. Davis,
J. T. Purson,
A. W. Smith,
J. S. Carnell,
Committee.

Correspondence.

A LONELY GRAVE.

I stood beside a lonely grave,
 Green grass its only cover,
 While tender pity whispered low,
 "Perhaps 'tis someone's mother."
 No marble shaft to mark the spot,
 No roses climbing over,
 No token of a tender love
 Save God's own wild, sweet clover.
 Glad laughter of my thoughtless
 friends,
 Was ringing clear and clearer,
 As, with their gay and gladsome words,
 Their careless steps drew nearer.
 But still above their wanton tones
 That voice I could not smother
 Came murmur'ing low in accents sweet:
 "Perhaps 'tis someone's mother."
 Three snowy blossoms from my belt
 In grace were leaning over;
 With trembling hands I laid them down
 Upon the soft, green clover.
 No one had seen save God above,
 But as I joined another,
 My heart kept whispering sad and low:
 "Perhaps 'tis someone's mother."
 —Lella Mae Wilson.
 Opelika, Ala.

MINISTERS' BENEFIT SOCIETY.

Every good wife has a spell of housecleaning once in a while, as many a husband knows. It is not uncommon for him, while his wife's fit is on, to take his meals in the pantry, or down town. If he is a good husband he tolerates this as a necessary evil.
 In like manner our Society must have a housecleaning once in a while, the active work of which devolves mainly upon the Financial Secretary. It is then that he is looking over his books and wiping from the roll of membership the persistent delinquents.
 He doesn't enjoy the work as well as the housewife does, but he knows it is necessary. The financial future has to be regarded, and somebody has to do it. Our constitution says: "Any member failing to remit his assessments within thirty days after being notified by the Secretary-Treasurer, shall be thereby suspended from all rights and privileges of membership. He may be re-instated by paying all assessments made since his last regular payment." We have been forced to drop a few names from our roll, but others are taking their place.
 Our Order has passed the experimental stage and now we are on a good solid basis. One year ago we had sixty-five members, now we have one hundred and forty enrolled. We have on hand money enough to pay all bills with a small balance in the bank. We have already demonstrated to the brethren that this is the cheapest possible protection for a preacher. The annual fee of one dollar a year will pay all expenses. When a member dies each one is assessed two dollars, which goes to the family of the deceased.
 The outlook so far is very encouraging, and our watchword should be "Onward." More important than eith-

er the long pull or the strong pull is the pull altogether. For further information or for blank applications address

W. J. Elliott, Secretary,
 No. 4 Hamner St., Montgomery, Ala.

BAPTIST AFFAIRS IN BIRMINGHAM.

600 were baptized the past year, and 933 were received by letter and restoration, making a total of 1,593. The net increase, however, was 840. This includes the membership of the new church on 27th street on the south side. This increase is within 170 of half as many as have been received in the last eight years—the average increase each year being 235.

Six new churches have been organized. Total number of churches in the Birmingham Association is 55. Number of churches in the city of Birmingham five, with one strong mission. The present membership of the Association is 6,755; 18 of the churches have preaching every Sunday, 10 twice each month, 25 once each month.

D. H. Morgan, Lipscomb, Thompson-town and Slosses; R. S. Gavin, Bessemer; F. H. Watkins, North Highlands; O. H. Bamber, 27th street church; J. F. Gable, North Birmingham; E. Lee Smith, Park Avenue, (resigned); J. W. Patridge, Wahouma; J. F. Parker, Gate City; J. S. Vandiver, Packer Memorial. All of the latter class are in the country. We have only two churches in the Association pastorless; 21 of our pastors are new men, viz: J. W. Sandlin, Wylam; J. H. Longier, Ensley; Wallace Wear, Compton Hill; G. B. F. Stovall, Elyton; E. O. Dewitt, Powderly and Bell Ellen; A. E. Burus, Brighton; J. M. McCord, Oxmoor; J. S. Swansy, East Thomas; A. E. Pagan, Tuxedo and Searles; J. W. Vesey, East Birmingham; Brother Crouch, Woodlawn. Besides these about 15 college boys go out to preach in the destitute and other places almost every Sunday, which gives us a preaching force of about seventy in the Association.

The total contributions for all missions last year was \$9,313.85, an increase over 1903 of \$3,362.00. Contributed for all purposes \$75,000.00, an increase of \$13,000.00. Total value of church property \$208,250.00. Increase in value of church property over 1903, \$27,000.00. Pupils in Sunday schools 4,944, an increase of 348 over the previous year.

The building of the First Church is an achievement of which every Baptist ought to feel grateful. With this grand old church in their magnificent new home, and Southside better equipped for good than ever before in her history, and two other new churches in the city with strong young men as their leaders, with the magnificent work being done at Southside mission, and the twenty new men, young, vigorous, Godly, coupled with the magnificent old guard who have been on the field for years, who can tell what the Baptists in this Association will do by the help of God another year? Let our motto be, "Every foot of ground in this great and growing district for Jesus Christ."

S. O. Y. Ray.

WHAT DID THE ANGELS SAY?

S. M. Provence.

According to the Authorized Version they said: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Canterbury Revision: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased." (Marginal reading—'men of good pleasure.')

Bible Union Version: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men."

Norton's Translation: "Glory be to God in the highest heavens, and joy be on earth; favor is shown to men."

Twentieth Century Translation: "Glory on high to God, and on earth peace among men—in whom he delights."

Another rendering of the second line, frequently adopted, is "And on earth peace among men of good will."

The chief difficulty is in this line, and in one word of this line. According to the best text, this word is endokias. It is the last of the words quoted from the angels, a noun in the genitive case, singular, and modifies one or the other of two preceding nouns, "peace" and "men." Interpreters have without exception, so far as I know, joined it with "men." The translations quoted here illustrate the confusion into which this has led, and the unsatisfactory meaning obtained. What is the sense of the announcement of "peace among men of good will" or "men of good pleasure?" The Twentieth Century translators cut this knot boldly by making a relative clause of the noun (which destroys the authoritativeness of their rendering) and that, too, without making the sense any better. Professor Norton splits the sentence at another point and makes a wholly independent sentence out of the last three words, destroying both connection and sense.

It has occurred to me, as a possible solution of the difficulty, to make the troublesome word modify "peace." The position would be somewhat unusual, but not impossible, especially where great emphasis is to be expressed. Of course, our comparatively modern punctuation is to be disregarded. The contrast is plainly indicated between heaven and earth, and the universal character of the blessing is shown in that it embraces both heaven and earth. "In the highest" means on high, or in heaven. "In heaven, glory to God; and on earth, the peace of good will among men. Or, "Glory on high to God; and on earth, among men the peace of good will." The only possible violence done to the Greek in this rendering is the insertion of a preposition with its noun between another noun and its modifying genitive. Winer (Grammar of the Idiom of the New Testament, Liine-man's edition, Thayer's translation, page 191) seems to show that this is a possible construction.

"Peace and good will" is very suggestive. At that very moment, though the temple of Janus in Rome was closed and the world was taking a breathing spell from the horrors of war, the storm of strife was liable to burst at any moment. Whatever peace there

was among nations was not the peace of good will, but the peace of lower motives. The peace of good will was the greatest public need. The song of the angels, coupled with it the "Glory to God on high," and so set forth the Messiah's mission to be the bringing in of the reign of universal peace. The ultimate triumph of righteousness, the complete vindication of the government of God, the final subjection of all things to Him, will fulfill the angels' prophetic song.

THE FUTURE OF HOWARD COLLEGE.

Adiel J. Moncrief.

Some day between Christmas and the New Year I will depart for my new field at Brunswick, Ga. While I am happy at the thought of returning to my native State, and to the larger work at Brunswick, and was never better satisfied of doing God's will and my duty, yet I have many regrets at leaving Union Springs and Alabama, where I have labored for nearly three years under circumstances uniformly pleasant and prosperous.

While my labors in the State have been devoted almost wholly to the local field, I have felt fully in sympathy with the larger work of the State and have tried to be faithful to all the Baptist institutions. If in presenting the claims of these institutions to my people I have been partial to any, that partiality has been to Howard College. One of the chief sources of regret I have in leaving Alabama at this time is the interest I feel in the College and desire to help in the present work of enlargement. To my mind it has been a question how long this institution, so vital to the interests of Alabama Baptists, could continue to live from hand to mouth, begging its current support as at present.

The future of Howard is not assured. It can only be assured by enlargement and endowment. The school may not ask for patronage upon the ground of denominational loyalty for no interpretation of such duty can require a father to send his son to an inferior school. Every self-respecting Baptist should scorn to ask for boys on such ground. If it cannot compete with the institutions of the State and of other denominations then let it surrender the field to them in the interest of the public good.

Considering its meager resources, Howard has done a magnificent work in the past, but under the changed conditions of the present it cannot continue to do even what it has done with the same resources. So the alternative seems to be either abandonment or endowment. But the Baptists of this great, rich, growing State will not consider for a moment the abandonment of an institution whose work and influence have been the most potent factor in the life of the denomination, so there is nothing to be done but to give to the college an endowment that will place it upon a plane of competition with the best.

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Dr. DeWitt's Eclectic Cure.

To those who have Dr. DeWitt's Eclectic cure, the directions are as follows:

For Toothache.

Saturate a piece of cotton with Dr. DeWitt's Eclectic Cure and put into the cavity of the tooth, and bathe outside well.

Sore Throat.

Spray or gargle the throat well with Dr. DeWitt's Eclectic Cure, weakened with water, and bathe outside freely.

For Chills.

Take a teaspoonful of Dr. DeWitt's Eclectic Cure every hour for four or five hours before chill is expected.

Cure for Whiskey.

Half a teaspoonful in water will satisfy the craving for spiritous liquors. Man may cure himself of using Alcoholic Stimulants.

For ordinary diseases, follow the directions.

For Nervous Debility, take one teaspoonful in from one fourth to one-half glass of sweetened water. Dose for children in proportion.

Drinking Water Harmless.

If you are going to the Mountains or the Seaboard, a vial of Dr. DeWitt's Eclectic Cure is a very proper thing to carry with you. A few drops will render change of water harmless.

See This.

Sumter, S. C., July 29th, 1897. Gentlemen: I have used Dr. DeWitt's Eclectic Cure for neuralgia and it has never failed to give almost instant relief. It is the best remedy I have ever tried.

Mrs. Rody Williams. A cure for Asiatic Cholera, and for all Stomach and Bowel derangements. A Marvellous Relief and sovereign cure for Muscular Rheumatism, many pains and facial neuralgia.

Sovereign remedy for Cramp Colic, Cholera Morbus and Cholera.

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THE EDITOR'S SONG.

How dear to my heart is the steady subscriber,
Who pays in advance at the birth of each year;
Who lays down two dollars, and offers it gladly,
And casts 'round the office a halo of cheer.

Who never says, "Stop it, I cannot afford it!"
Or, "I am getting more papers than I can read,"
But always says, "Send it, the family all like it,
In fact, we regard it a household need!"

How welcome is he when he steps in the sanctuary,
How he makes our heart throb! How he makes our eyes dance!
We outwardly thank him, we inwardly bless him,
The steady subscriber, who pays in advance. —Selected.

REV. F. G. POSEY.

Rev. F. G. Posey, whose photograph appears elsewhere, is one of the most widely known and highly esteemed citizens of East Lauderdale. He was born April 18, 1834, and has lived in Lauderdale county 64 years. He was baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist church at Union Grove Church in 1861, and ordained in 1870. He volunteered in the Confederate army, Co. I 9th Alabama, and was with Gen. Lee at Appomattox at the surrender. As a minister of the gospel his influence has been valuable. He is a man of unblemished character, earnest and sincere in his work; faithful to all his duties, hospitable and generous in nature;—a good man who will leave the world better that he has lived in it. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and holds his membership at Green Hill. His church membership is at Mt. Pleasant, and he is now pastor of Union Grove congregation, where over forty years ago he connected himself with the church.

PRESIDENT PATTON'S LECTURES.

President Francis L. Patton of Princeton Theological Seminary delivered a course of lectures in Chicago last week under the auspices of the Moody Bible Institute on "Fundamental Christianity," which made a profound impression. A large downtown hall and an afternoon hour were chosen in order to reach the business and professional men. Those who have known Dr. Patton best were surprised at the discovery of popular gifts in his presentation of the profoundest truths, which they did not suppose him to possess. The particular subjects treated were: "The Theistic View of the World," "The Seat of Authority in Religion," "The New Christianity," "The Person of Christ," "The Philosophy of Salvation." The great value of the

course at the present crisis in philosophic and religious thought has led to an arrangement between President Patton and the Moody Bible Institute for the introduction of the series at different times during the year in other of our great cities. Churches and committees interested in the matter should correspond with the Institute.

"You say you got rid of that counterfeit quarter I gave you, Sam?"
"I certainly did, boss."
"But don't you know it was wrong to pass it?"
"I didn't 'zactly pass it, boss; you see, I was passin' 'round de plate in church las' Sunday, an' I jist exchanged it!"—Yonkers Statesman.

Why have you not paid your church subscription? Do you say that you have not been able? Then how is it that you have been able to buy tobacco and cigars and many other useless things? How about the money you spent at the theatre and circus? Some in the church very much poorer than you have paid their church subscriptions in full, and you have not paid a red cent. He who chews and smokes can pay his church subscription and really has no excuse. Do your duty, help on the church, bear your part of the burden. Will you allow a poor weak woman or child to bear the burden and work that you ought to do? Wake up and get to work.—Exchange.

SOME OF YOUR NEIGHBORS

will probably be quick to take advantage of the offer which is being made by the Vernal Remedy Company, of Le Roy, N. Y., to send free of charge to every reader of the Alabama Baptist who writes for it, a trial bottle of Vernal Palmetto (Palmetto Bery Wine), the household remedy that is attracting the attention of physicians and the public at large, for the reason that it is the best specific known for the quick and permanent cure of all diseases of the stomach, liver, bowels, and urinary organs. The proprietors want everyone to try the remedy before investing any money, so that all can convince themselves that it is the greatest restorative and tonic in the world. Better send today and check your disease at once, for if you wait a week or two it may be too late. Only one dose a day is necessary.

LOOK HERE, ARE YOU SICK!

If so I have a remedy that will absolutely cure any case of kidney trouble, indigestion, constipation, sick headache nervous affection, loss of appetite, female weakness and rheumatism. If I don't cure you sound and well in six months, I will refund the money. Any kind of reference given on demand as to my medical, social and religious, moral and financial standing. I suffered twenty years with liver and kidney trouble. In six months I cured myself after I had tried many remedies, and I have cured many others. In fact I have got the first patient to write me to refund the money. I will send any one a month's treatment for one dollar. Only the tablet to be taken every night. If you are troubled with any of the above diseases, send me one dollar money order and get thirty tablets. I mean what I say, one dollar a month. Respectfully, Rev. W. M. Cole, M. D., Mountville, Ala.

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If so send to me for immediate shipments of plants for early headers. I have now ready for delivery, 150,000 plants of the best varieties known to the truck business. They are grown in open air on the South Carolina sea coast, and will stand very severe cold without injury. Price \$1.50 per thousand. Special rates for 5,000 and over. Send remittance by registered letter, or money order, or plants are shipped C. O. D. if desired. For early gardens prepare to send now. Supply was exhausted last year. L. C. BEHLING, Teleg. and Express Office, Meggetts, S. C.

NEW BOOKS YOU NEED.

Revival Addresses—Torrey, net \$1.00
Crises of the Christ—Morgan, net 1.50
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Young Man's Make-up—Vance, net 75c
21 Revival Sermons—Banks, \$1.25
Religion in Home—Meyer, net \$1.00
Mod. in Crisis in Religion—Lorimer, net \$1.00
Heart Side of God—Kegwin, net \$1.00
Beecher Illustrations—net \$3.50
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BAPTIST BOOK CONCERN,
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Use "Sterious Praise" in Singing. Round and Shaped Notes.

Children's Page.

THE NEW YEAR BOOK.

"The book of the New Year is opened,
Its pages are spotless and new;
And so, as each leaflet is turning,
Dear children, beware what you do.

Let never a bad thought be cherished,
Keep the tongue from a whisper of
guile,
And see that your faces are windows
Through which a sweet spirit shall
smile."

THE CHILD AND THE YEAR.

The child to the youthful year:
"What have you in store for me,
O giver of beautiful gifts, what cheer,
What joy dost thou bring to me?"

"My seasons four shall bring—
Their treasures; the winter's snow,
Autumn's store, and flowers of spring,
And the summer's perfect rose.

"All these and more shall be thine,
Dear child, but the last and best
Thyself must earn by a strife divine,
If thou wouldst be truly blest.

"Truth, patience, courage, and love,
If thou unto me canst bring,
I will set thee all earth's ills above,
O child, and crown thee a king."

—St. Nicholas.



HOW A NEIGHBOR SAVED OAT.

A Maltese kitten in New York fell into a narrow space between two high buildings, where no means could be found to reach her. Nooses, boxes hooks, and all sorts of contrivances were let down to her by ropes, but puss was afraid of them, and would not help her would-be rescuers. So the neighbors fed her by letting things down to her. They gave her water and milk, and sat on the roofs and talked to her. She was one of the most famous cats in the city. She remained in her prison for two years, and grew fat and sleek. But at last a rope was thrown over her, and she was drawn out and adopted by a kind family. The beautiful thing about this story is the unflinching devotion of the whole neighborhood to the unfortunate kitten during all of those two years. It makes one proud of New York people.

PAUL'S NEW YEAR'S GIFT.

Paul's little visit at grandpa's was at an end, and he had come home. The butler opened the door quietly, and

THE MEN AND WOMEN

Who Enjoy the Choicest Products of the World's Commerce.

Knowledge of What is Best More Important Than Wealth Without It.

It must be apparent to every one that qualities of the highest order are necessary to enable the best of the products of modern commerce to attain permanently to universal acceptance. However loudly heralded, they may not hope for world-wide preeminence unless they meet with the general approval, not of individuals only, but of the many who have the happy faculty of selecting, enjoying and learning the real worth of the choicest products. Their commendation, consequently, becomes important to others, since to meet the requirements of the well informed of all countries the method of manufacture must be of the most perfect order and the combination the most excellent of its kind. The above is true not of food products only, but is especially applicable to medicinal agents and after nearly a quarter of a century of growth and general use the excellent remedy, Syrup of Figs, is everywhere accepted, throughout the world, as the best of family laxatives. Its quality is due not only to the excellence of the combination of the laxative and carminative principles of plants known to act most beneficially on the system and presented in the form of a pleasant and refreshing liquid, but also to the method of manufacture of the California Fig Syrup Co., which ensures that uniformity and purity essential in a remedy intended for family use. Ask any physician who is well informed and he will answer at once that it is an excellent laxative. If at all eminent in his profession and has made a special study of laxatives and their effects upon the system he will tell you that it is the best of family laxatives, because it is simple and wholesome and cleanses and sweetens the system effectually, when a laxative is needed, without any unpleasant after-effects. Every well-informed druggist of reputable standing knows that Syrup of Figs is an excellent laxative and is glad to sell it, at the regular price of fifty cents per bottle, because it gives general satisfaction, but one should remember that in order to get the beneficial effects of Syrup of Figs it is necessary to buy the genuine, which is sold in original packages only; the name of the remedy—Syrup of Figs and also the full name of the Company—California Fig Syrup Co.—printed on the front of every package.

Universally Accepted as The Best Family Laxative

SYRUP OF FIGS

is Recommended by Many Millions of The Well-Informed Throughout the World—

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looked down at him with a twinkling eye.

"Happy New Year, Jenkins!" and the small man skipped into the hall.

"Happy New Year, sir!" answered the big man.

Paul tugged away at his rubber boots, but was glad of Jenkins' help. "See the skates grandpa gave me!" he said, proudly displaying the shining treasure. "Where's mamma? I want to show 'em to her right away."

"Your mother says you're to go into the library and wait until nurse comes; then you can go up to see her."

"But I want to go now!" Paul objected. Nevertheless, he went obediently into the library.

Backing up to his father's easy chair, he was just about to make himself comfortable when there came a small shriek from the hall and a rustle of garments, and somebody seized him by the coat collar.

"Gracious goodness!" nurse panted.

"In another second you would have sat down! You gave me a turn, Master Paul."

"What's the matter?" asked Paul, rather indignant at this unceremonious

treatment of a boy who was old enough to own skates.

Nurse laughed softly. "Turn around and look at the chair," she said. "It's another present."

A large pillow filled the seat of the great chair, and on it lay a soft roll of flannel. Paul backed away. "What is it?" he asked sturdily.

Nurse carefully drew down a fold of the flannel, and there was tiny pink face, with blinking blue eyes, a mouth like a round O, and no hair to speak of.

For an instant Paul stared with wide-open eyes; then, with a whoop of delight, he dashed into the hall and up the stairs.

"Mamma, mamma" he shouted, "come down, quick! The little New Year's in the library!"—Marion Dickinson, in Youth's Companion.

A LETTER OF THANKS TO SANTA CLAUS.

Santa Claus, I write to thank you For the things you brought us here. I send you lots and lots of love; And wish you a Happy New Year. The sled you brought my brother, Ted,

I use it sometimes too For its a very large one And there's lots of room for two. My doll I named "Rebecca," After an aunt of mine;

I dearly love that dollie, I think she is just fine.

The books you brought my brother, He has read them both clear through, So he said to me this morning,

"Mabel, you may read them too"— Dear Santa, I'll not write again Until Christmas, 1905.

Then I'll ask for lots more presents And hope you'll remember me—

Barcece.

It is often true, that men are both better and worse than their creeds; it is also true that a living faith is better and more acceptable to God than a dead orthodoxy. The good Samaritan was heterodox in creed; but orthodox in practice. Jesus beautifully set forth the neighborly kindness of the Samaritan in contrast with the selfishness and inhuman brutality of the two representatives of the orthodox religion.—Baptist Commonwealth.

Alabama Baptist,

Established 1874 and Controlled
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REV. FRANK WILLIS BARNETT, Editor and Owner
 L. O. DAWSON, Associate Editor
 REV. J. W. HAMMOND, Corresponding Editor
 REV. A. D. GLASS, Field Editor
 JOSEPH T. BARNETT, Business Manager

ONCE AGAIN—WHO MAKES THE PAPER?

Being a contributor rather than an editor, writing only signed (*) articles, being in no wise responsible for the policy, appearance or purpose of the Alabama Baptist, I may be permitted to say something about this paper that would not be strictly proper were my relations to it other than they are.

If we think correctly about our State organ we will think first of all, not whether we are building up the property of an individual, but whether this necessary adjunct to an intelligent Christian's life is in the homes of our people. It is hard to say, which needs a clean religious paper the more, a country home where church privileges are few, or a city home where a daily flood of putrid matter pours in from manifold presses. When a pastor urges the Alabama Baptist into the hands of his people, he is, in a measure, conferring a favor on the editor who profits by his action, but this is secondary and incidental. His primary object and duty is to help his people toward right living and intelligent service. If a man should be selfish enough to refuse work that would help an individual property, he still would be bound by his duty to render this necessary service to his people—and there are many who take a double joy in that while they serve their flock they build up a brother—even tho' he be an editor!

But it is not enough to put a religious paper in the home. That paper must be strong enough to meet the de-bright, readable, virile, wide-awake, progressive, conservative, pure, sound—it must have in it all the elements of uplifting leadership. So far as Alabama is concerned, that need, if met at all, must be met by this paper. It is of small moment that other journals are stronger or weaker than this one. A few individuals here and there may take such periodicals, but the great masses of Baptists in this State will read the Alabama Baptist or nothing. It is therefore a matter of grave concern to make this paper a tower of strength. No other can or will reach our people.

Therefore we are right in expecting Brother Barnett to be such a continual student and man of prayer that every issue shall speak of the lofty purpose of a man who toils not for loaves and fishes, but for hope of bringing in the kingdom of God. The most loyal constituency on earth cannot make a paper whose editor fails in these essentials of real power.

But even so, it is impossible for any editor, however strong, to make a paper such as it ought to be without the

heartly and constant help of his people.

It takes money and a lot of it to issue a great weekly paper. That must be supplied by the subscription price and by the income from advertising. Both of these sources of supply depend upon the number of subscribers. That number depends in part upon the paid agents of the paper, but chiefly upon the bishops and other leaders of the churches who know its value to the cause. If the income of the paper should be such that it cannot spend the money needful to make it the best, the fault lies chiefly with the churches and their leaders.

Likewise the people on the field must make up the news of the paper. It is important that each family should know the progress of the kingdom, be informed of how the battle goes, and know what great things are being undertaken, calling for their co-operation. This weekly history must be written by a thousand correspondents when anything worthy of note passes under their eyes. If the paper ever fails to be newsy the greater part of the blame will rest on the people.

A great religious weekly needs in its columns the contributed thought of the strongest thinkers in its territory. I say in its territory, for each State must make its own paper if it has one. These contributed articles must not be scrappy notions hastily jotted down. They must come from the heart and brain of men who would give to the world a message they deem of prime importance.

Being a contributor myself, I can with good taste join in the swelling chorus of congratulations to the editor, and at the same time say that one weak spot in our paper needing strengthening is in its contributed articles. Here the strongest bishops and laymen of the State have a duty they cannot shirk with a clear conscience. The overwhelming tasks of busy life must not crowd out this duty. Some one or more of them should go every week into the thousands of homes entered by the Alabama Baptist speaking words of power to each member of those family circles.

Again we say the responsibility to make a great paper rests chiefly on Brother Barnett, but in a larger measure than any of us have hitherto realized it rests on the forces in the field. If the Alabama Baptist is what it ought to be the Baptists of Alabama must make it such. The world may, by it, judge the editor, but by it also will they judge the churches of the State. And justly so, for their life is mirrored in its columns.

So then, in this personal way, I send my New Year greetings to the brotherhood. I know of no better thing we could do for every interest fostered by our churches than to more and more adapt this paper to our special needs, make it stronger in every column with each passing week and within the twelve months of 1905 put it in 12,000 Alabama homes! We can do it, and the ability imposes the obligation.

L. O. Dawson.

A LIBERAL BAPTIST.

Mr. George Griffin, a member of the Southside Baptist Church, who is always doing something either for his church, his employes, or his city has recently endeared himself to the school children by presenting to the public schools of Birmingham a fine collection of stuffed wild birds and animals. The collection, which attracted much attention at the St. Louis exposition, was purchased by Mr. Griffin through Judge N. B. Feagin, who learned during his recent visit to St. Louis that the taxidermist who owned the collection would part with it at a bargain because he needed the money to prosecute his researches in science. The collection was valued by experts at \$3,000, but Mr. Griffin was enabled to purchase it for about one-third of that sum.

The collection embraces twenty-two cases of birds and the smaller wild animals, which contain upward of 600 specimens. Nearly every bird known to science in America is included in the collection.

Brother Griffin makes this splendid gift to the school children of Birmingham as a memorial to his little daughter, Mary, who died at the age of 13 last year while a pupil of the Paul Hayne school. The collection will be installed in a room in the new high school building and will probably be called the "Mary Griffin collection."

This good act furnishes the foundation for a splendid scientific museum for the public schools of the city.

SOLD LIKE SAUSAGES AND FISH.

"As a result of studying at close range the Massachusetts Legislature, its workings and those who worked it," says Mr. Lawson in Frenzied Finance, Everybody's Magazine for December, I do not hesitate to say that: "The Massachusetts Legislature is bought and sold as are sausages and fish at the markets and wharves. That the largest, wealthiest, and most prominent corporations in New England, whose affairs are conducted by our most representative citizens, habitually corrupt the Massachusetts Legislature, and the man of wealth among them who would enter protest against the iniquity would be looked on as a "class anarchist." I will go further and say that if in New England a man of the type of Folk, of Missouri, can be found who will give over six months to turning up, the legislative and Boston municipal sod of the past ten years, who does not expose to the world a condition of rottenness more rotten than was ever before exhibited in any community in the civilized world, it will be because he has been suffocated by the stench of what he exhumes."

DEATH OF JAMES P. EAGLE.

The death of James P. Eagle, of Arkansas, at Little Rock, on Dec. 19, 1904, removed one of the South's most loyal sons. He was faithful in his religious and civic life, being greatly honored both by church and State. Dr. John T. Christian in the funeral address well

said: He was so much to the work of the church, the State and the Southern Baptist Convention, that at this distance, under the shadow of his loss, we have no adequate idea of its far-reaching power. He gave of his means, his influence, his time, his life, for the advancement of the kingdom of God.

I think he was, all in all, the greatest man Arkansas has ever had. He was great where other men are often weak—he was great in character. His rugged bravery, his sterling honesty, his fervid piety, made him a great citizen as well as a great Christian. I will call this James P. Eagle, as Thomas Carlyle called Martin Luther, with some modifications, a true great man, great in courage, affection and integrity; one of the most lovable and precious men. Great not as a hewn obelisk, but as an Alpine mountain—so simple, honest, spontaneous, not setting up to be great at all; there for quite another purpose than being great. Ah, yes, unsheddable granite, piercing far and wide into the heavens; yet in the clefts of it fountains, green, beautiful valleys, with flowers. A right spiritual hero and prophet; once more, a true son of nature and fact, for whom this generation, and many more that are to come, will yet be thankful to heaven. He was at once a son of man, lowly, humble, grateful; he was a son of God, trusting, hoping, loving.

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPHS.

Let Baptists realize the New Testament ideal of a regulated church membership and come unto their own.

Paul wrote to Timothy: "Endure hardness as a good soldier," but some preachers are wondering where they can get an easy job.

Rev. E. L. Smith has accepted a call to the Birmingham West End Baptist Church and will begin work the first of January.

Many people who laugh at the pope for claiming "papal infallibility" by their dogmatic arguing cause their hearers to wonder if they have no sense of humor.

Bishop Johnson tells the English and American residents of India that whether they like it or not they are really representing Christianity to the people. "In fact," says he, "they are like the pictures in the lesson book which illustrate the letter press."

There are too many "Tom Thumb" Christians in our churches. They are no bigger than when they joined as children. The Apostle Peter believed in growth, for he said, "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour."

It is said that Senator Dolliver seldom delivers his lecture on this, a poor boy's country, unless a protest is raised in some quarter against the familiar statement that young men of ambition are better off, born poor. But Justice Brown, of the United States Supreme Court, holds to the old notion, and with Senator Dolliver agrees that the young man of wealth generally curls up on the door mat and has to be kicked off.

Will correspondents please remember we can not publish anonymous items! Please sign your name. We do not publish the name, but must require it to protect ourselves. Many good items must be consigned to the waste basket for this reason.

Happy New Year to all those who have found fault with us, to all those who appreciate the task of trying to please everybody, and last but not least, to all those who have criticised us and thus helped us to more nearly please our kind readers, the above compliments of the season are heartily extended.

A level-headed preacher from the editorial point of view, recently wrote: "How would I run a newspaper? In the ground, more than likely, if you will pardon a crude expression. I have not much patience with those people who think they can improve upon the work of some one who has had years of experience in some special line of work. Ordinarily ignorant men are like defective guns; they go off half cocked. They are always ready to give profound advice upon subjects about which they know the least." He had better hide out or the host of brethren who feel that they are born editors will run him down for uttering such rank heresy.

Beginning with the January issue of The Teacher, there will be included with each lesson two or more questions and answers from Broadus' Catechism. These same questions and answers will be found in all the Quarterlies beginning with The Bible Class and down to The Primary. This will be continued through the year, giving these questions and answers each week, and so with the omission of a few sections, completing the Catechism as prepared by Dr. John A. Broadus. This offers an opportunity to supply what has long been recognized as a great need. But these questions and answers will do little or no good merely by being printed. Unless teachers, superintendents and pastors make use of the opportunity given them, it will go unutilized.

We would like to talk with the Baptists who are not subscribers; but it is not easy to reach them, and we are going to trust our friends to do the talking for us. You will frequently hear people say they can not afford to take the Alabama Baptist. It is not worth while to pay much attention to this. Rather seek to show them the advantage of the paper to them, and to the church and the denomination at large. So great a body as the Baptist denomination can not make progress without one or more denominational newspapers. Baptists do not commit the government of the church to a small body of men; we are democratic, hence the need that each church member be well informed concerning Baptist principles and Baptist affairs. No paper which represents a part of the denominational work, such as missionary magazines, Sunday school or young people's papers, can take the place of a journal whose field is the entire denomination—all of its work instead of a certain part of it.

Field Notes.

Whitney.—Our meeting last third Sunday was a glorious day with us. Bro. W. M. Tullis was ordained to the ministry. Bro. N. A. Hood examined Brother Tullis in the Holy Scriptures. Bro. C. J. Pike gave the charge. Bro. N. A. Hood led the ordination prayer. It was a glorious day with us. We want to support those noble brethren that God has called to preach His gospel. Lord bless our beloved pastor, Bro. C. J. Pike, who is so faithfully serving us, and may we all continue in this good work for the Master!—C. W. Beason, Clerk.

Hixon.—I have just passed the best and happiest year of my life in the ministry. A tidal wave of revival has passed through my four churches and as evidence of their appreciation I am retained in my old field for another year. One calls in January. In the employment of the State Mission Board I am praying for ability to do more than in my past two years in this work. May the God of heaven find for you avenues for yet more marvelous success in 1905.—J. B. Kilpatrick.

Livingston.—Among the best pleased people in Alabama are the Baptists of Livingston. A few weeks ago Dr. W. M. Blackwelder accepted the pastorate of Livingston Baptist Church, and his people are delighted with him. His congregations are large; his sermons logical, forceful and spiritual. We believe the Lord will greatly bless Dr. Blackwelder in his new field.—J. M. Collier.

Troy.—More than seventy members have been received into the fellowship of our church as the result of a meeting now closing. Dr. J. J. Partin, of Joplin, Mo., who is tenderly remembered by many Alabamians, has been with us nearly two weeks and has faithfully preached the gospel. This number goes far beyond a hundred received since we came to Troy the last of March.—W. D. Hubbard.

Gadsden.—We have recently had a most delightful meeting in the First Baptist Church of Gadsden. Dr. J. W. McCollum, our returned missionary from Japan, was with us and preached every day. To say that our people were delighted with him would be a very mild statement. What a delightful preacher he is! Some people have the idea that missionaries can't preach much, but you can't find any with that idea in Gadsden now. There were twelve additions to the church, six by letter and six for baptism. The largest results of the meeting are found in the quickened spiritual life and in the enlargement of our ideas of the kingdom of God and our duty toward it. The cause of missions will doubtless take on new life among us. The last Sunday morning he was with us he spoke for an hour and a half on his work in Japan to a crowded house and held the attention of every one to the close, even the children, and many expressed themselves as sorry when he

closed. We thank God for his coming to us.—J. G. Dickinson.

Prattville.—Rev. A. J. Preston resigned the care of this church last Sunday, and left this week for Mobile to take charge of the work there. We regretted exceedingly to lose Brother Preston. He has been with us nearly five years and has done a great work here. We lose not only a noble pastor and an able preacher but a good citizen, and the whole community will feel the loss. We trust that the Lord will continue to bless him in his work in Mobile, and congratulate the good people of that place on being so fortunate as to get him. We need a strong man to take hold of the work here and pray that we may be guided to the right man. Our church is in better condition than it has ever been, and ought to do more and better work.—Will Anderson, Prattville, Ala.

Citronelle.—I have just returned from Citronelle, where I was in a ten days' meeting with Bro. J. R. Curry and his loyal people. It was a good meeting. The people said it was one of the best for years and years, not only in the Baptist Church, but in the town. Brother Curry had the ground well worked when I got there. He preceded the meeting proper with a week's prayer service. Every unconverted person who attended at all regularly was converted. Only two or three "Letter Baptists" are left in the town, and they promised to do better later on. From the standpoint of numbers, the Baptists are not very strong down there; but they have the reputation of being the leaders in genuine piety, etc.; and they are united and well organized. Brother Curry and his good little wife (she is a model woman for a preacher's wife) have a strong grasp on the hearts of the people. While I was there, they had a pressing invitation to move over into Georgia, but both of them said: "No, we will stay here;" and I think they decided wisely. The Lord is surely with them in their work. Citronelle is one of the coming towns for the Baptists. Watch and see if the prediction is not true.—R. S. Gavin, Bessemer, Ala.

OFF FOR CALIFORNIA.

My Dear Brother: You don't like circular letters, nor do I; but it can't be helped. Please read every word of this carefully. Very much depends upon it. Brethren of the State Board of Missions are kind enough to insist upon my taking a month off. I have finally concluded to do it. When you read this I may be in Sausalito, California. But for the fact that my only brother, whom I have seen only once in forty-three years, is growing old and I may never see him again unless I go now, I would not think of leaving at this critical period. Here are the distressing facts. Our Mission treasury is empty; we are owing the Missionaries; the month of January, according to our plan, is the last State Mission month until after the Southern Baptist Convention in May. February, March and April must be given

wholly to Home and Foreign Missions. If good collections are not made in January for the work in Alabama we are left in a sad plight. You see why I hesitate to leave the State just now. Dr. C. A. Stakely, of the First Church, Montgomery, says: "Brother Crumpton, write to fifty pastors, begging for good collections in January and you go along and take the trip,—you need it. I am sure the pastors will take care of State Missions if you will trust it to them." I am writing to more than fifty and I hope that not one of them will disappoint me. Many of the regulars to whom I do not write will be heard from. I am going to trust the pastors with this important matter. But, brother, let me warn you,—that collections won't do the work. It requires a strong pull all together. The collections should be worked up well before the collection day. God knows that His cause in Alabama lies nearer my heart than all else besides, and I have not spared myself for its upbuilding. The trip will doubtless refresh me and enable me to take fresh grip on the work when I return. I promise that this renewed strength shall be given to Him and to my brethren. Wishing for you and the Cause we love a glorious New Year, I am,

Fraternally yours,

W. B. Crumpton.

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 30, 1904.

(Brother Crumpton dropped us a few lines from San Antonio, sending his love to the brotherhood. May God bless our beloved Secretary and may the pastors throughout Alabama do what he asks in the above letter is our prayer.)

Gov. Eagle in his will leaves \$15,000 to Ouachita Baptist College at Arkadelphia, an institution in which he always took a great deal of interest, and \$2,500 to the Second Baptist Church of Little Rock, to be applied to a new building fund. The estate is approximately estimated at about \$150,000 consisting largely of real estate in Pulaski and Lonoke counties.

Please say in your columns that I go to Newport, Ark., next week to take charge of the Baptist Church there for full time. Change my paper to that point from Carrollton, Ala. I shall send you some notes now and then from my new field. A happy and prosperous New Year to you.—H. M. Long.

On Christmas eve, Pastor L. T. Reeves, of Cullman, was the happy recipient of a handsome gold watch and fob. It was the gift of the Ladies' Aid Society of his church. These Christian ladies are always loyal to church and pastor, and have done so many noble deeds that it may be truthfully said of them as it was of Dorcas, "They are full of good works which they do."

Farris-Colburn.—In the presence of a small company of friends and relatives at 1 p. m. at the home of James Colburn I united Mr. J. W. Farris and Miss Savannah Colburn in the holy bonds of matrimony. May peace and prosperity be theirs!—Rev. J. W. Rogers.

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Baptist Exchanges

That cultivated audience was so delighted with the old man's sermon that the newspaper reporters interviewed him. One asked about his library. He had but three books in it, and those he could repeat large parts of from memory. These books were the Bible, hymn-book and Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. If he had had also Matthew Henry's Commentary he would have had an ideal library.—Western Recorder.

One of our humorists remarked of one who proudly boasted that he was a self-made man, that it relieved the Lord of a great deal of responsibility; so we feel that our denomination has been rid of a great responsibility in the announcement by President Harper that the Chicago University is no longer a Baptist institution. Like the colored man who was learning to read when somebody inquired whether he could read the Bible replied, "Oh, I've gotten beyond that, I read the newspapers now." So our late university has gotten beyond the denomination now.—Baptist Commonwealth.

The University of Chicago has inaugurated a new enterprise which promises to have large results. This is the Oriental Exploration Fund. The Semitic department of the University, of which President Harper is the head, has long been interested in oriental exploration and a timely gift of \$10,000 a year for five years from the University's patron has enabled it to proceed to practical realization of its ideals. During the last summer while President Harper was in Constantinople efforts were put forth and through the activity of the American minister a firman was obtained from the Sultan of Bismya, a Babylonian mound supposed to occupy the place of the ancient city of Isin.—Standard.

As our mail carrier threw down a large pile of papers on our table the other day he remarked, with something of an air of disgust: "Doctor, do you read all these papers I bring you every week?" "Yes," we replied. "Well, I declare, I wouldn't be an editor for anything." We suggested that we might swap places for a few weeks, but he declined the proposition. And yet some people think that the editorial chair is lined with roses! Just to think of having to wade through so many papers every week. Of course, however, we do not read everything in them. Nor can we spend much time on each one. It should be said too, in justice to our editorial brethren, that there is a real pleasure in hearing from them, and as a rule we read the different papers with much interest. Baptist papers in the South have improved wonderfully in the past decade.—Baptist and Reflector.

The characteristic principle of the Baptists is not the practice of immersion, as is sometimes erroneously as-

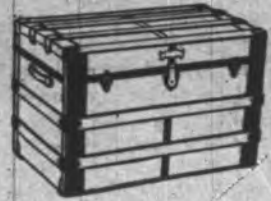
sumed. They hold that doctrine in common with the Greek Church, the Anglican Church, the Disciples, and some minor sects. The Greek Church ordinarily practices the immersion of infants. The Anglican rubric prescribes the immersion of infants, except when the parents certify that the child is not able to bear it. The distinctive mark of the Baptist faith is the baptism of believers only. We practice immersion because Christ so commanded; we limit baptism to believers because Christ so taught; we confine believers because that is the only legitimate deduction from the teaching of the Head of the Church and the invariable custom of the Apostolic Church membership to immersed churches. It is safe to follow New Testament teaching and practice; it is perilous to depart from it, as the history of the Church abundantly and lamentably shows.—Examiner.

The anti-board General Association, Texas, raised only \$1,745 for foreign missions, \$50 for home missions, \$11,063 for state missions. The General Convention of the organized forces raised over \$80,000.00 for state missions alone, and over \$150,000 for the general work. The per cent. of the anti-board workers is out of all proportion to the amount raised. It is strange that sensible men would undertake to do a great business without system, but then the anti-board people are not doing a great business.—Argus.

Not long since, in my reading, I came upon this phrase: "I am a child of the future." A great deal is said and written these days of living "a day at a time," and it is a "good rule to live by." Yet I think we sometimes make a mistake in thus narrowing our horizon. When the way is particularly dark around and before us, we need to remember not only that we are continually with God, but that He is holding us by the hand, guiding us with His counsel, but that "afterwards" He will receive us to glory. Let us sometimes take, as it were, a glimpse of that Glory that awaits us, looking away from the bitter longings and disappointments of this life, to that glorious "afterwards" that God has in keeping for His children.—Baptist Herald.

In one of the books of Les Miserables Victor Hugo describes with thrilling power the death agony of a man lost overboard in a storm at sea. But who shall find language to describe the fate of a lost soul as it goes out into the boundless ocean of eternity? Many in our day are trying to escape the vision and the responsibility it entails by denying the peril. But the Word of God recognizes it, and in terms of profoundest solemnity pleads with men to accept the offered salvation while there is yet time. It emphasizes the need of immediate decision; it offers no "second probation." How dare we change or nullify the message of infinite love, which calls upon men now to repent, lest they perish forever!—Examiner.

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Because "Nifty Sellers" make the coffee richer, clearer and more appealing. One box of Nifty Sellers at 5 cents saves the price of a dozen eggs. Your grocer should have them. If not, send us his name and 5 cents for a full size box, postpaid to you.

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BELLS

Steel Alley Church and School Bells. Send for Catalogue. The C. E. BELL Co., HILLSBORO, O.

Sunday Schools.

The Sunday school of the Third Church, St. Louis, Missouri, has two hundred and sixty-six enrolled in the Home Department.

The "Graded School" question is well to the front and will not be downed at the call of any one. On every hand the discussion is proceeding, with more or less of definite results.

I shall pass through this world but once; therefore whatever good thing there is which I may do, let me do it, now; let me not postpone nor defer it, for I shall not come this way again."

Sunday School Teacher—What! Is it possible that you have never heard the story of Cain and Abel yet?

Little Elsie—Of course, I haven't. My mother says it is bad manners to pry into other people's family affairs. —Selected.

The membership of the Sunday schools of the South is reported to be nearly a third larger than the church membership. And this in the face of the fact that less than one-fourth of the church members attend Sunday school.—Baptist Union.

The annual output of Sunday school periodicals in the United States and Canada amounts to about 450,000,000 copies. The material for 1905 is already issuing from the press. An immense army of editors, authors, engravers, printers, and day laborers is represented in this output.

I mean the children in your class. I am not asking are they at home or out of town, nor are they sick or waiting on the sick? But, are they on the Lord's side? Are they saved or are they lost? Are they in the broad road or in the narrow path? Are their faces and heads towards the golden gate or are they turned towards the pit?

And what are you going to do about it?

Would it not be well to go in search for your pupils and find out where they are?—Ex.

Speaking to a friend the other day, a good brother said:

"You ought to hear our new minister and see how he demolishes the higher critics."

"Are there many higher critics in your congregation?" inquired his friend.

"I have never thought of that; but when I come to think of it, I do not know of any."

"Are there any in the town or neighborhood?"

"I really have not heard of any."

"Well, what do you think of the wisdom of your preacher going out gunning after higher critics when he is not certain that there is one of them in the woods? He puts me in mind of my little boy hunting for bears in the garden."—Western Recorder.

Obituaries.

O birds, sing over him,
O sweet dews, cover him,
O breezes of the early day
That linger softly on your way.

Leave blessings dear
For one with quiet breast,
At last in peace at rest,
Who lieth here.

Not his a victory,
The spirit was not free,
The mixture in life's crucible
Perchance was not apportioned well.

No calm was there;
Great forces warred and wrought,
And each for mastery sought.
Say him a prayer!

And yet what need to pray?
Forever and always
The Father's love enfolds him still,
A grace transmuting every ill,
As sun the candle flame,
That love outshines our own,
And balm for grief is sown.
O, praise his name!

In heaven's economy
How can there ever be
What blindness deems a wasted life?
Though all its forces spend in strife
Their brief day here,
The warfare is not lost,
A soul's eternal cost
To God is dear.

—Elizabeth W. Denison in Christian Advocate.

THOMAS.—S. F. Thomas died suddenly in his home at Central, Ala., the 17th of June, last, in the 49th year of his age. Though he is gone, the Christian life that characterized him, holds its place in the midst of the people with whom he lived, with an extended radiance, to a wide circle bereaved, and will live in the minds of those surviving him to the end of their days, with a transmission to others, in their stead, giving glorious lustre to Him, after whose life his was modeled. He leaves no thorns on his grave to pierce the bare feet of even a little babe, but sweet roses, rich with their fragrance, in springtime, to kiss away the sorrow of loved ones who weep there.

W. R. Whatley.

HARPER.—On July 19, 1904, the angel of death entered the beautiful home of Dr. G. H. Harper, of Manislee, Ala., and bore away the sweet spirit of his beloved wife, Annie Bragg Harper. The deceased was the only daughter of Mrs. Annie Hobby. She was born June 17, 1881, and was reared near old Pineville, now Beatrice, Ala. None knew little Annie but to love her. She was married to Dr. Harper in August, 1896, and eight years spent in this relation but strengthened their fondest of matrimonial bliss. Thus in the full bloom of young womanhood, at the age of twenty-three she has been taken away from husband, mother, three little children and five noble brothers. In her veins flowed patriotic blood akin to the brave General Braxton Bragg of Confederate fame. While a mere child she gave her heart and life to her Savior, and grew stronger in the love of her Redeemer to the last. Owing to her sweet Christian influence her husband embraced her Savior as his own only a short twelve-month before. Then how sweet the anticipation of spending a long Christian life together. But no, while man proposes God disposes.

In her last sickness she said: "If I should die I'd go to heaven." She had suffered with only a mild attack of typhoid fever. Her doctor husband thought it safe to leave her for a few moments to visit a sick patient. Ere he had returned the hand of death was upon her. Her last conscious moments were spent in prayer for her precious little ones. Papa and grand-parents, surely the God she loved will send angel watchers to bless the sweet motherless ones. This death was all the more sad because it came so sudden and unexpected. So universally popular and beloved, many hearts are made sad by her sad and sudden death. While her pastor at Manislee I was often entertained in her hospitable home, where her cheerful disposition rendered all around her happy.

Alas! how she will be missed in the home, in the community and in the church which she so much loved. Loved ones, "Weep not as those who have no hope," but remember that the Lord has said: "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord—for they rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

—Dear Sister Annie, thou art:—

"Safe in the arms of Jesus,
Safe on his gentle breast,
There by his love o'ershadowed,
Sweetly thy soul shall rest."

J. B. Kilpatrick.

**GOOD POTATOES
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To grow a large crop of good potatoes, the soil must contain plenty of Potash. Tomatoes, melons, cabbage, turnips, lettuce—in fact, all vegetables remove large quantities of Potash from the soil. Supply

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Never fails to restore the natural color to any gray hair. Prevents dandruff and promotes growth. Price \$1.00 per bottle.

Try the Xanthine Dyspepsia Tablets, and you will find them superior to anything you have ever used. Price 50c per box. We pay charges on all orders addressed to

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Write for circulars.

BE LEACH PAT is the Original and Simplest Variable Friction Feed.

SAWMILLS**S**

Avoid imitations and infringers and buy the Genuine. Leach Pat is the Original and Simplest Variable Friction Feed. Leach Pat is the Original and Simplest Variable Friction Feed. Leach Pat is the Original and Simplest Variable Friction Feed.

Free Medical Books to the Sick.

Dr. J. Newton Hathaway of Atlanta, the author of eight valuable medical books on as many different diseases of the body, has just announced that he will send any one of the books free of charge to those afflicted. As Dr. Hathaway is the recognized authority on Chronic Diseases in this country, you can readily appreciate the value these books will be to you. His idea of sending them out free is to further acquaint those afflicted with his successful method of treating the Chronic Diseases of men and women. His treatment for these diseases is based on 25 years of close study, during which time he has been connected with some of the leading hospitals of the world, where he was in position to study every form of the different diseases. He has been established in Atlanta for nearly 18 years, and this alone is sufficient to convince the most skeptical of his reliability, without taking into consideration some of the marvelous cures he has effected.

Simply mention your disease and the right book will be immediately sent you. 1. Diseases of the Vital Organs; 2. Throat and Lung Troubles; 3. Female Diseases; 4. Stricture; 5. Varicocele; 6. Blood Poison; 7. Kidney, Bladder and Rheumatism; 8. Nervous Debility. If you do not suffer yourself send him the name of some one that does. The address is J. NEWTON HATHAWAY, M. D., 90 Inman Building, Atlanta, Ga.

Mortgage Sale.

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage executed by Will Hill and Easter Hill, his wife, on the 30th day of August, 1892, to the undersigned mortgagee to secure the debt therein named, which said mortgage was duly recorded in volume 170, page 207, of Records of Mortgages, in the office of the Judge of Probate of Jefferson County, Alabama, on the 9th day of December, 1892, and default in the payment of said debt having been made, the undersigned mortgagee, Luke Hill, in accordance with the terms of said mortgage will, on

WEDNESDAY, THE 8TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1905, before the door of the Court House of Jefferson County, Alabama, in Birmingham, offer for sale and proceed to sell, within the legal hours of sale, at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate, to-wit: Beginning at the southwest corner of NW4 of NW4 of NW4 of SW4, section twenty-six (26) Tp. 17, R. 8 west, thence running east thirty feet, thence north one hundred feet, thence west thirty feet, thence south one hundred feet to point of beginning, being a lot 30x100 feet, at or near Enon Ridge, a suburb of Birmingham, Ala., at present occupied by said mortgagors, situated in Jefferson county, Ala., and being the property described and conveyed by said above mentioned mortgagee. LUKE HILL, Mortgagee.

Z. T. Rudolph, Atty.

Mortgage Sale.

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage executed by T. G. Berents and Georgina Berents, his wife, on the 18th day of August, 1903, to the undersigned mortgagee to secure the debt therein named, which said mortgage was duly recorded in volume 341, page 346, of Records of Mortgages in the office of the Judge of Probate of Jefferson County, Alabama, on the 5th day of September, 1903, and default in the payment of said debt having been made, the undersigned Mortgagee, in accordance with the terms of said mortgage will, on

WEDNESDAY, THE 8TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1905, before the door of the Court House of Jefferson County, Alabama, in Birmingham, offer for sale and proceed to sell, within the legal hours of sale, at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate, to-wit: Lots twenty-two (22), twenty-four (24) and twenty-five (25) in block number five (5), in Groveland sub-division, in East Woodlawn, Ala., in the SW4 of SW4 and NW4 of SW4, section 15, Tp. 17, south, range 2, west, situated in Jefferson County, Alabama, as platted and recorded in Map Book No. 4, page 108, in the office of Probate Judge of Jefferson County, Alabama.

Also the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE4 of NE4 of section 24, Tp. one (1), R. 8, east, in Jackson county, Alabama, all being the property described and conveyed by said above mentioned mortgage.

BERMINGHAM DRY GOODS COMPANY, Z. T. Rudolph, Atty. Mortgages.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Continued from page 5.

There is no question of ability on the part of the Baptists of Alabama to do this. They are not poor in purse nor few in number. Alabamians love to boast of the resources of the State—and well they may, for the natural resources of her territory are unsurpassed—and prophesy great things for her future. Nor are these resources wholly undeveloped at present. If the communities I have visited are representative of the State, there is large accumulated wealth here. A conservative business man—a Baptist—of Union Springs estimates the wealth held by members of the Baptist church here at not less than \$1,000,000. I was told in Troy—having nearly the same population—that the Baptists there have even more wealth than here. Other towns of the State which I have visited seem to be on a par with these, so I am persuaded that the Baptists of Alabama ought to give Howard College a half million dollars without any appreciable strain upon their ability. They have been content to do things on a scale far below their rating.

The plan of the Endowment Committee for raising \$200,000 is a splendid one in theory, for it makes possible the solicitation of a gift to the college from every Baptist in the State, which would serve the double purpose of securing an endowment and enlisting the interest of the whole constituency of the institution. But this plan depends for its success upon the voluntary labors of scores of brethren, and it is a difficult matter to make men feel any certain sense of personal duty in a work of this kind. As manager of the twelfth district campaign I have appealed earnestly to the foremost pastors and laymen of the district for help, and from only two or three have I received a willing response. Some have made excuse, others have refused outright, and more have not replied to letters at all.

This is not intended as a criticism of the plan, and I hope no member of the committee will so construe it, nor do I desire to berate the brethren for their seeming indifference to this work. All excuses that have been made to me for non-co-operation have been good ones—there are plenty of good excuses for all. I am writing this with the desire to impress upon the brethren of Alabama the great importance of giving their money, time and influence to the work of endowing Howard College without further delay. It may mean the sacrificing of some personal interests, it may mean an added burden of labor to some already overburdened, all as a work of love—with most of the love on one side at that. But the call of God carries the duty of just such labor and sacrifice all along the line for the sake of His cause. If the endowment of Howard College means the enlargement of its usefulness to the cause of Christ then this work is bound up in the duty of every Baptist in the State. God give us a larger vision of duty, and a profound conviction that we are doing things for the Master on too small a scale—a scale not commensu-

rate with our abilities and opportunities.

Union Springs, Ala., Dec. 8th, 1904.

EDIFICATION.

It is not out of order to inquire what is the object of preaching and of church meetings? Wrong objects and ends in these will debase the principles and practices of God's people. The divine end of all church worship whether it be the preaching or of the other parts of worship is set forth in the New Testament.

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

The edification of the saints that they may be strong, matured, perfected in piety so as to glorify God, in conduct and character and to save sinners.

Edify means to build up, to make a substantial house by laying one brick on another—to make a strong stable Christian character by adding grace to grace and principle to principle. This building is a slow, laborious process—Christians do not grow like the trees grow, inevitably, by a little bright sunshine and sweet breezes gentle rains, and glittering dews, but they grow as a stone building grows, by patient toil, by being plumbed, and squared, and fitted by slow advances.

The church which saves sinners will edify saints. A church whose service is to edification will not fail to save sinners.

To edify is not always pleasant to the church member, it means often to trim, square, to smooth, to polish, and to fit and this is sometimes a painful process.

Let all things be done unto edifying" is Paul's comprehensive direction about this matter. All things to build up—nothing for anything else; even adornment and symmetry are lost sight of. The pulpit has no right to assert its rights to do anything else but edify. "All things," says Paul, "are lawful for me, but all things edify not." "We do all things, dearly beloved, for your edifying;" this is the self-denying and laborious ordinance Paul obeyed.

"Let every one of us please his neighbor, for his good to edification,"

is the Divine direction. "Authority," says Paul, "which the Lord hath given us for edification;" apostolic authority bestowed for the one single end of edification. Again does he remind the church of his authority and its design!

Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.

And again and again we have this vital subject pressed home to the church as the object they are to have in view.

Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

Go hard after the things which edify, as well as those which bring peace. Peace, because peace is the soil in which edification thrives.

Notice of Stockholders' Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Advance Publishing Company will be held at the office of said Company on 22nd Street, between Morris and First Avenues, in the City of Birmingham, Alabama, at 11 a. m. on Monday, January 30, 1905, the object of said meeting being to increase the capital stock of said Company by (\$10,000.00) Ten thousand Dollars increase and also to issue a like sum to-wit: Ten Thousand Dollars of preferred stock in said corporation and for the transaction of any further business that may come before the Stockholders.

J. R. Hornsby,
Secretary and Treasurer.

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Before Treatment. After Treatment (With False Nose.)

With Soothing, Balmy Penetrating Oils. Cancer, Tumor, Catarrh, Piles, Fistula, Eczema, and all other Skin and Weman Diseases.

Cancer of the nose, eye, lip, ear, neck, breast, womb, in fact, all internal or external organs or tissues cured without knife or burning plaster, but with soothing aromatic oil.

Out this out and send for an illustrated book on the above diseases. Home treatment sent when desired. Address DR. R. E. WOODWARD, 502 Main St. Little Rock, Ark

Commissioner's Sale.

Probate Court. Sale for partition and division.

Under and by virtue of a decree of the Honorable, the Probate Court, entered in the premises on the 2nd day of January, 1905, whereby the undersigned was appointed Commissioner to sell the herein-after described lands for partition and division between the joint owners thereof, I will on Wednesday, the 25th day of January, 1905, between the legal hours of sale, sell at public outcry, to the highest bidder, in front of the Court House door of Jefferson County, Ala., the following described real estate, to-wit: That part of fractional lot one (1) and two (2), in Block 88, purchased from the Abernathys by Elizabeth Beasley as by her deed from them, dated July 20th, 1886, fronting 80 feet on Blount Springs road with a three room house and appurtenances on the same and more particularly described as beginning at the Southeast corner of said Beasley lot run 81 feet West, thence North 120 feet; thence East 95 feet; thence South 80 feet to point of beginning. Terms of sale cash.

Robert A. Morris,
Commissioner.



in Rings, Bracelets, Shirt Waist Sets, Pins, Chains, Lockets and Hat Pins are handsomer for 1905 than ever. Ladies' week here, and specially attractive prices prevail. Visit Ruth's this week to see the LATEST.



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For use in all church services, including prayer meeting and Sunday school.

PRICES: Single Copy, postpaid, 85 cents; per dozen, \$8.00; per 50 copies, \$30.00; per 100 copies, \$55.00. Transportation extra on these quantity lots. Beautiful Pulpit Edition in Morocco and Gilt, \$1.50, postpaid.

The Baptist Hymn and Praise Book Contains 416 Pages with 577 Hymns.

It is well-bound in cloth, excellently made, of high-grade workmanship in every particular.

It is in music edition only with round notes. The words go with the music on every page. The Hymns and Songs are of exceptional worth. They have been selected with the greatest care—the very cream of the old and the new. No labor or money has been spared to make The Baptist Hymn and Praise Book what it should be. It is just the book our people need and want, and for which they have been waiting these years. It will speak for itself, and win its place, and be a power and delight in our churches.

This great book is now ready, and all orders will have prompt attention. Send your orders to . . .

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

J. M. Frost, Secretary,
Nashville, Tenn.

Somewhat back in speaking to the students and faculty on the relation of the university to religious education. President Harper, of the University of Chicago, branded the theological seminaries of the country as failures and the churches as being too much occupied with denominational questions. He said the seminaries had not solved a single religious problem in 50 years. Dr. Harper then announced plans and curriculum for an ideal religious university. In addition to providing courses in theory, the university would be a laboratory in which practical work along the line of university settlements should be conducted by the students under guidance.

MOBILE ASSOCIATION.

The Mobile Association is perhaps better supplied at present with efficient pastors than it has ever been before. Some of us have been praying and laboring for such a state of things and are rejoicing at the evident prosperity of our churches.

Bro. W. A. McCain, who was the pastor of Meaherville and Zion churches, resigned Meaherville in the fall to accept a call to Bayou la Batre for half his time. Meaherville, with the assistance of the liberal and generous hearted W. T. Smith, has secured the services of Brother A. T. Sims for all his time. This church is the outcome of the efforts of Judge Maupin and some others. It is about a year and a half old and has one hundred and fifty members.

We are delighted to have Bro. J. M. Kailin in our Association again. He was pastor of some churches in the Mobile Association some years ago, but has lived in Texas since then for a number of years. He is now preaching for Bay Minette, Grand Bay, and Wheelerville churches. He is a most valuable acquisition to the ministry of the Mobile Association.

Brother J. D. Wilkes, who has been working in Baldwin county as missionary for nearly a year, has done a great work considering the difficulties of his field. He has baptized more persons during the past year than any pastor in the Association, has organized one new church, and re-organized two others.

The Swedish Baptist Church of Baldwin county, has at last succeeded in getting a pastor, Brother Karl O. Arry. The Home Mission Board is assisting in the support of Brother Arry. This is a very earnest and consecrated band of Baptists and deserve all the assistance they have received. It was my pleasure some time ago to make them a visit. Brother Alexander, the Moderator of our Association, was with me and we were profoundly impressed with what we saw and heard.

The Baptists of Mobile seem to be doing well. At St. Francis street we have taken up collections for two of our denominational interests this season, Ministerial Education and State Missions, and raised more for each than the church ever gave before. Since the first of November we have had more additions to the church than we have had during the same period for any year during the past six years. Bro. W. M. Hartin, pastor of the Dauphin Way church, has made a fine impression on his people, and the church is growing quite rapidly. Their Sunday school numbers one hundred and twenty. This church has a fine location and some day will be a strong church. Palmetto Street Church has secured the services of Brother A. J. Preston and he is on the field. He preaches his first sermon as pastor next Sunday. We are looking for great things from this church in the days to come. His many friends in Mobile rejoice that Brother H. H. Shell, the former pastor of this church, is prospering in his new field.
W. J. E. Cox.

EVERY HOME NEEDS IT And You Can Have it free.

Royaline Oil, the great Antiseptic, outclasses them all. It stops pains, heals wounds, cures burns, cuts, sprains, bruises, colic, cramps and diarrhoea so quickly that it seems almost like magic. And it never fails.

It marks the highest point of merit yet reached along that line. It wins trade from everything of its kind on the market because it does the best work, inside or outside, for man or beast.

All that you need to convince you of this is just to try it. You will then use nothing else. And you can get it free if you act promptly.

Write for free sample today, sent prepaid by mail. Regular sizes sold by druggists for 10c, 25c and \$1.00. Sold on guarantee for 12 years. Not one bottle ever returned.

Royaline Medicine, Co., Ltd., New Orleans.

COMPLETELY FILLS THE BILL.

Mr. J. B. Adams, Editor Southern Vindicator, Hammond, La., says: "I have tried many, but for a general utility medicine I know of nothing that so completely fills the bill as the celebrated Royaline Oil."

Do You Want to Make an Investment?

We have decided to offer to the general public \$10,000.00 of our Preferred Stock that is in the treasury of our Company. If you have your money placed in banks and are getting from 3 per cent. to 4 per cent. interest on same, why not purchase some of our Preferred Stock on which we guarantee an annual dividend of 8 per cent.? We will sell this stock in as small amount as \$100.00 worth or more, and if you have a few hundred dollars to invest this is an opportunity for you to make a safe investment and get 8 per cent. interest on your money. Not only do we guarantee you a dividend of 8 per cent. which is payable annually, but we agree that after three years to redeem any stock you might purchase, paying par value for same plus any dividend that may be due. The stock is also free from taxes. You are just as safe in buying this stock as you would be in depositing your money in a bank, as we have a capital of \$200,000.00, \$150,000.00 of which is common stock which is all paid in. In addition to this we have a surplus of \$130,000.00.

If you are interested and wish further particulars, write us, and we will be glad to furnish you with full information.

E. E. FORBES PIANO COMPANY, Birmingham, Ala.

HELP WANTED. Men and women in each State to travel, distribute samples, advertise and carry on our business. Salary \$15 per week. \$5 per day for expenses. KUHLMAN CO., Dept. C, 5 Atlas Bldg., Chicago.

Old Men and Women Do Bless Him.

Thousands of people come or send every year to Dr. D. M. Bye for his Balm Oil to cure them of cancer and other malignant diseases. Out of this number a great many very old people, whose ages range from seventy to one hundred years, on account of distance and infirmities of age, send for home treatment. A free book is sent, telling what they say of the treatment. Address Dr. D. M. Bye Co., Box 482, Dallas, Texas (if not afflicted, cut this out and send it to some suffering one.)

WANTED.—I will be greatly obliged to the brethren if each pastor will kindly send me the names and addresses of the influential temperance men in his charge. This is important.—S. E. Wasson, acting Supt. Alabama Anti-Saloon League.
Decatur, Ala., Box 44.

It is possible to get a vision of God and yet how few do it in spite of the fact that Jesus pointed the way in the sermon on the Mount, saying: "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."



Money saved is money made.

\$2.50 BUYS A PAIR OF FAMOUS

Autograph SHOES

THE EQUAL OF ANY \$3.00 SHOE

ON THE MARKET TAKE NO SUBSTITUTE

IF YOUR DEALER DOES NOT CARRY THEM A POSTAL CARD TO US WILL TELL YOU WHERE YOU CAN GET THEM.
CRADDOCK-TERRY CO.
LYNCHBURG, VA.

Preachers' Corner.

A well-known artist was once engaged upon a sacred picture. A very handsome old model named Smith sat for the head of St. Mark. Artist and model became great friends, but when the picture was finished they lost sight of one another. The Christian Endeavor World tells how they afterwards met:

One day the artist, wandering about the Zoological Gardens, came upon his old model, with a broom in his hand, looking very disconsolate.

"How are you, Smith," said the artist, "you don't look very cheery. What are you doing now?"

"Well, I ain't doin' much sir, and that's a fact. I'm engaged in these 'ere gardens a-cleanin' bout the hehephants' stables; a nice occupation for one o' the twelve apostles, ain't it, sir?"

In attending a church to which strangers resort, and in which there are few vacant pews, one has a good opportunity to test the hospitality of the pew. It is not unlike the hospitality of the home. In some homes welcome breathes from every face and voice, and smiles at you from every room. So it is with some pews. The rightful possessors give place with beaming smile or look when the ushers pause at the door and trust to their good offices the friendly comers who do not really belong in that house of God. Even in sanctuaries where the free-pew system obtains, there is a principle of natural selection and a custom of grouping by which households are apt to draw together. The visitor, however, should not be made to feel that he or she is an intruder, nor should there be in the heart of the pew-holder reluctance to accommodate any one who may come to God's house. Probably there are few easier ways to show real Christian graciousness and sweetness of character than by silently extending in a crowded church the hospitality of the pew.—Ex.

A PASTOR'S NEW YEAR GREETING.

Pastor C. A. G. Thomas, of Edenton, sent out a pretty folder to his people for the new year. Our readers will value this extract from his message:

Dear Christian Friend:

A stranger stands at your door today. He holds in his hands fifty-two beautiful bound volumes with golden clasps. His name is 1905. The books are weeks fastened together with the golden clasp of the Sabbath. The pages are spotless; and upon them you must write the record of your life. What will you write? Will the pages be blurred by sin, or adorned with loving words and noble deeds?

Suppose an angel were to tap at the door of your heart and whisper that this would be your last year on earth, how would you feel and act? Would you waste your hours in pleasure and deaden your soul in worldliness? Or would you gather up your talents, and girding yourself afresh make the year the best of your life? It may be

your last. Strive to write a bright record. Upon the first page of the first book write a song of gratitude, a glad welcome to these new privileges and opportunities, and a pledge of fidelity to the Author of your being. As you take your pen to write, your pastor wishes you to make the best record of your life.—Biblical Recorder.

"THE SILENT PASTOR"

The religious paper is a silent pastor. The editor does not ring the door bell and wait for some one to ask him in, take his hat, and to invite him into the parlor and to a seat. He does not meet each member of the household, shake hands and ask about the health of each, and report how folks are at home. He enters like an invisible spirit, or is received as a bundle from the postman, to be opened at pleasure, and examined by each one at any time, morning, noon or night. His communications and instructions are given to the whole family together, or to one or more at a time, in the parlor-room, the kitchen or the bedroom. When the family have received all he has to communicate, and are so edified and pleased as to desire him to visit some distant friend, he will go to the postoffice and into the mail, and visit another family and repeat everything to all that can hear or read.

Our silent pastor is not sensitive in regard to the reception and treatment he meets. He never hears any criticisms, however loud and severe. He knows not whether he is kindly or rudely dealt with. He stays where anyone puts him, and is ready to do his work when desired. If he is in fellowship, with anyone and a child cries, or the bread is likely to burn, or a horse is to be fed, or the floor to be swept, or it is necessary to go to market, or church, or the cars, he waits patiently and is ready again to communicate when asked for.

What he has to communicate is very interesting and profitable. It has respect to Christian doctrine and duty, the meaning of the Scriptures, church history and Christian work, missions and Sunday schools, temperance and the Sabbath, literature, education, art, science and government, vice and sin, and whatever is useful in this life and that which is to come. Every wise head of a family should welcome his visits. Whoso shuts him out does his own soul an injury and denies his family knowledge, culture and the bread of life.

The silent pastor never goes alone. He taketh seven or more other spirits with him, generally wiser than himself. He can have his choice of silent copastors—Baxter and Doddridge, Chalmers and Whitfield, Alexander and Plumer, Cuyler, Spurgeon, Wishard, "C. E. B." and "Pansy," and others too numerous to mention, as many as he chooses and such as suit him, each week, with everything new at every visit. Verily such a silent pastor and his silent co-laborers ought everywhere to be cordially welcomed, and other pastors should encourage him by every means in their power.—Herald and Presbytery.

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We desire to extend the compliments of the season to our many friends and to wish prosperity to the people of this city and section.

The marvelous success of this bank, made so only by the generous support of the people of this community, is greatly appreciated by the stockholders and officers, and we wish to take this method of conveying the expressions of our sincere gratitude.

We now have more than 4,000 depositors, who are giving us their loyal support. We confidently expect to double this number during 1905.

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We are not interested in any other bank.

We promise greater effort in proving to the public that we are interested in helping to teach the people that the best way to build up a community is "to learn them to save."

Mr. J. B. Cobbs will be actively engaged in the management after January 10, and will devote his entire time to the affairs of this bank.

Arrangements are now being considered to enlarge the banking quarters for the proper conduct of its growing business.

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Only 15c for Initialed All-Linen Handkerchiefs.

Christmas is in the air. We feel it already—we breathe it. What is it, anyhow, this genius of spirit of Christmas that breeds about us annually, making the old world so genial and kindly? By the way have you prepared your gift list? Time to rethink yourself and get about the holiday shopping. Handkerchiefs, of course, are the principal gifts from women to women—so handy, you know.

Dear old Santa came along the other day and spoiled a cornucopia full of crisp, dainty linen Handkerchiefs on our counter. He almost gave them to us, which is the reason why we can sell them so cheaply.

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The paper is getting better every week.—Sam H. Campbell.

God bless you. You are giving us a good paper.—James D. Ray.

I am glad to say that your paper grows better week by week.—E. A. J. Cumbee.

With best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, I am, G. G. Miles.

You are making a great paper of the Baptist, and I rejoice at your success.—W. R. Hood.

May God's blessing continue upon you and the good paper you are giving us.—I. B. Eyrd, Jr.

I shall always be glad to do what I can for the paper and its genial editor.—J. G. Dickinson.

I rejoice with you in the success of your paper. It has grown from good to better.—J. W. Moon.

I will do all I can to aid you in your efforts. I assure you I am in sympathy with the Baptist.—James A. Owens.

Am delighted with the Alabama Baptist. It gets better all the time. May God bless you and the paper.—I. I. McCullum.

I wish I could get every Baptist to take and read the paper. May God bless you in all your labors in my prayer.—W. H. Hudson.

May you live a long time and may the good Lord bless you in the good work that you are doing in my sincere prayer.—J. M. Carter.

I wish you a happy Xmas and prosperous and happy New Year. I hope to get in some substantial work for your paper right soon.—S. A. Adams.

I send three names and will try to get more, for I am anxious for our people to read more. May God bless you in your great work.—W. E. Bradley.

I am truly glad to know that the Baptist has reached the number of homes that it has. May God grant that it may even reach every Baptist home.—W. A. Thayer.

May your Christmas be most happy and the New Year full of blessings for you, your wife, and our paper. With best regards from my wife and myself for you and ours, I am your friend and brother.—A. P. Montague.

I have had it in my heart to write a week or two for the paper, but my hands have been so full that my intentions haven't taken any practical shape. I hope to have more time after January. May you have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.—I. H. Foster, Jr.

A merry, restful Christmas and a happy New Year as reward in small degree for your great faithfulness and unceasing success in the marked and growing improvement of the dear Baptist.—I. Binyan Kilpatrick.

You requested it in your circular, and we have kept our eyes on you this year, and marvelous has been the improvement in our paper. God bless you! I will help you to get the 10,000. Yours for the greatest success.—E. E. George.

I enjoy the weekly visits of your, or our, paper no little, and am pleased to note the improvement in it. God bless you in your efforts to put the paper in the home of every Baptist family in Alabama.—H. M. Long.

I am always waiting patiently, and glad to see the Alabama Baptist. I read your paper, sometimes in the devotional exercise of my school, and get good results. May God bless and prosper you in your work.—Rev. J. S. Gravelle.

Balator: Words are inadequate to express my gratitude for the noble paper you and your co-laborers are furnishing in the Baptist; I am determined to do more for the paper this year than I have ever done, if it is the Lord's will.—J. E. Creek.

The paper is improving rapidly and I appreciate it more now because its management seems to understand thoroughly that our mission as Christians is not to answer the cry of "higher criticism" but to answer the cry of the thirsty soul for "the water of life." That our battle is not against science but against sin.—T. W. Neal.

You are giving us an excellent paper and we eagerly await its coming each week. You are doing a noble work. I don't see how a Baptist can afford to be without the paper in his home. I am praying for you and speaking a good word for the paper every opportunity I have. God bless you in the work.—Chas. M. Brewer.

My good wishes for your success have been yours since you took charge of the paper. The future of the Baptist is now assured, and the Baptists of Alabama will have a strong aggressive organ. May the Lord richly reward your efforts for the promotion of every good. With best wishes for a happy Christmas and many returns of some.—Ard J. Mancrief.

Richmond, Va.: In closing the old year so full of God's rich blessings, I want to thank you for the help that you have given. May you have a happy Christmas in heart and home, and may you soon enter upon the best year of your life temporally and spiritually. God bless and use our newspaper men.—E. J. Willingham.