

ARKANSAS METHODIST.

{ Devoted to the Interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Arkansas. }

REV. A. B. WINFIELD, D. D., Editors,
REV. JNO. H. DYE,

"Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

TERMS, { IN ADVANCE.
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Six Months, 75

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NO. 24

General News.

Franco-Chinese War.

Our readers are no doubt waiting with anxiety to hear the very latest from the seat of war, if war it can be called, for so far there has been no formal declaration of it, still hostilities are progressing. It is a strange affair in the history of nations, and there seems to be no "casus belli," only a forced, stubborn determination upon the part of France to force a rupture, and indications would lead us to believe that other nations are as deep in the mud as she is in the mire. It seems that France claims a small country called Anam, and in maintaining her rights one of her vessels was fired upon and probably twenty-two men killed; for this France demands an indemnity of \$50,000,000 which China refuses to pay. China offers arbitration but France refuses, and a formal declaration of war is constantly expected. Both nations are making preparations on the most extensive scale.

Egypt.

The old Bible land is still shrouded in darkness, and affairs are in every way complicated and uncertain. Gen. Gordon is still shut up in Khartoum, after a siege of five months. He has issued a currency of his own to pay his troops and carry on hostilities. It is said he cannot hold out much longer.

England.

The old solid nation moves very slowly on this question, and it is reported that Bismarck is condemning her policy and tardy movements. She still has troublesome questions at home, and her premier, Gladstone, has enough to do to keep all quiet.

Italy.

The land of poetry and art is suffering tearfully from the ravages of cholera. Rome and Naples are suffering much from the dreadful scourge. His Holiness Pope Leo XIII, is still coquetting with the nations and disturbing the quiet of the kingdom, but the days of temporal power are forever gone from the Papal See.

India.

"Bengal, September 28th.—The famine is reaching serious proportions. Native authorities claim that the Government relief system is inadequate to the emergency." Such are the tidings from the far away land of wealth.

Belgium.

We were at Brussels, the proud Capital of Belgium in 1881, and visited the House of Parliament and saw how Liberals, the Church Party and the State Party were separated. Now we see that one of her favorite sons, Hon. M. Goblet, has called for the separation of the church and State. May he be the Cavour of Belgium as Cavour was the Washington of Italy.

Russia and Austria.

Both of these great countries are torn with dissensions, and watching with great interest the contest of the nations after increased power.

Our Own Country.

We are still in the midst of a great political struggle, and both parties are shouting for the mastery, perhaps we should say all the parties, for there are only five candidates for the Presidency. Excitement is increasing as the day of election is drawing nigh, and "mud-throwing" abounds. If we are to believe the parties the land would be sorely cursed by the election of any one of them. But we do not forget Mr. Garfield; while he was a candidate he was the vilest of the vile, when he died he was the best political saint the country ever produced. So much for political consistency. God rules and we believe all will be well.

A house without prayer is like unto one without covering—poor place in time of trouble.

State News.

Hon. J. K. Jones is making an able campaign for re-election. A first-class man in every respect.

Another sad occurrence in Oil Trough Bottom, in which one Tom Walls was knocked in the head, and it is supposed he will die.

Our rapidly growing city of Newport is on a boom, and the Herald comes freighted with news and looks as gay as a first-class city daily.

We hear Hon. G. P. Smoote mentioned in connection with the office of Chief Justice. The poet Irwyer of Arkansas would make a good one.

Hon. J. W. Butler, of Batesville, will be before the convention for the nomination for chief; so will Judge J. W. Martin and Hon. S. W. Williams, of Little Rock. All able men.

Mr. J. W. Penn, formerly connected with this paper, is now publisher of the Forest City Times. We congratulate the Times in securing such a worthy and efficient man.

Pulaski county is full of contestants. The courts are called upon to settle the late election. They may put out some and put in some others, but if that is their only chance they will wait a long time. Politicians are not given to that way of doing.

Hon. B. B. Battle is a candidate for Chief Justice. He is a very modest man, and is not going to push himself forward for anything or in any way; but from an acquaintance of many years, we commend him to the people of our State as a first class man.

Our people all over the state are complaining of a very short crop. Only a few localities are exempted. Cotton is especially short, and the staple not very good. The corn crop is better, and in most localities it will be plentiful and very good.

Bingen, but not dear Bingen on the Rhine, but the nice little town in Hempstead county, is having a big boom in the way of a district school and a neat newspaper called the Bingen Social Visitor. It is really spicy and strictly moral.

Pope, Logan, Franklin and Columbia counties have gone against license, and many townships in other counties. Our temperance army is neither disorganized or demoralized, but we are prepared for a more vigorous campaign in the near future.

Railroad Disaster.

On Tuesday evening, 23rd Inst., a fearful accident happened above Newport on the Batesville branch of the Iron Mountain Railroad, in which three persons lost their lives. It was a collision of a hand-car and a locomotive; carelessness the cause, and the section boss has disappeared. It is thought he was to blame for the sad casualty.

Horrid Murder at Camden last Tuesday Morning. A negro was shot and killed by Capt. Jno. Ritchie. Such occurrences are deeply to be deplored, and would be less frequent but for the fearful curse of open saloons, but we understand the courts have pronounced it a case of self-defense.

Little Rock and many other towns of Arkansas are to be cursed with another abomination in the way of a travelling circus. The hand-bills ought to disgust all persons of decency and morality. They are simply scandalous and outrageous. Why prohibit vicious literature through the mails and allow these. Why do our city authorities permit them to be posted over our city to the injury of good morals.

Visit your closet three times a day, and never think that your soul can do on less than your body.

Personal.

Hon. J. W. Martin is mentioned for Chief Justice.

Rev. R. T. Yeates of the 2nd Baptist church, has left for Louisville, Ky.

Judge W. C. Ratcliffe and family are home from Mt. Nebo. We welcome them.

Widow Bedottis is having a big run. There are widows in Arkansas worth a million of such

Hon. U. M. Rose and family are home after their summer jaunt. We welcome them with delight.

Bishop Keener holds the Memphis conference this winter. We hope to see him.

W. D. Rainey, from Raineyville, was in to see us. He reports a grand meeting at Flat Bayou.

Rev. W. W. Graham, formerly of our conference, sends cheering news from Texas. We wish our friend abundant success.

Our Bishops will soon all be in the field, and then such a scattering of shepherds. All right; nobody scared in Arkansas.

Rev. M. H. Wells, formerly of our conference, will be heard from in our columns next week. We welcome our old chum.

Col. Sibley, formerly of the M. & T. Ry. has accepted a position on the St. L., I. M. & S. Ry., with headquarters at Little Rock. He is welcome.

Mrs. Apple and her two daughters-in-law honored our sanctum this week with their presence. Come again, ladies; such apples are always welcome.

The METHODIST learns with great regret of the death of Mrs. L. E. Dawson, of Ouachita. We extend our heartiest sympathies to the afflicted family.

Rev. W. A. Pendergrass sends us six subscribers and says he is doing his best for the METHODIST. Many thanks, and please don't grow weary in the good work.

Hon. J. M. Smith is the Senator elect from Saline, Hot Springs and Grant counties. That people delight to honor him, and he is every way worthy. He is a safe man.

Rev. Jno. H. Dye, the junior editor, departed for the Bluff City on the 25th. We hope he will return with many subscribers and a fine lot of advertisements. Memphis ought to help Arkansas, for we were true to their paper for over thirty years.

Rev. J. R. Moore and his wife are well and happily situated in Arkadelphia, and there is another daughter. Our brother says, "congratulations in order, but private." Well, that will do for private folks; but the editor sends his right here.

Rev. Jno. W. Boswell sends a note of thanks for kindness shown in the good manner in which his articles have seen day light in our columns. Another instance where the thanks are due to the writer. Only one fault to find of Bro. B's manuscripts, i. e. we don't get enough of them.

Rev. Cadesman Pope, the gifted pastor of St. James church in Augusta, spent Monday night in the city, the guest of his brother, Mr. Alex. Pope. He was returning home after an extended visit north. His presence added much to the interest of the revival meeting.—Coweta (Ga.) Advertiser.] Glad to see such news from our old friend.

Our christian people are determined to do away with saloons, and politicians might as well find it out and prepare for it.

Field Notes.

Rev. B. A. Morris, of Walnut Ridge, Ark., writes under date of Sept. 15: "Brother S. D. Evans commenced a meeting at Lester's Chapel, on the 6th inst. The Lord has blessed his people, and up to date, thirty-two persons have been converted to God, and thirty-seven joined our church. Brother Evans baptized twenty-four, and still the work goes on. Twenty-two at the altar last night. A deep interest is felt throughout the community. Eight new subscribers for your paper. Pray for us that religion may so rule this people, that vile men will have plenty other quarters to run their whiskey-drinking and soul-destroying hells."

Rev. J. M. Talkington writes of a good meeting in progress at Beebe. He has been assisted by Rev. F. A. Jeffett, of Searcy. They are calling for help, and the wondrous power is spreading over the town.

Rev. H. Jewell has returned from Pine Bluff, and reports over twenty conversions and the revival influence increasing. We hope Bro. Pipkin will give us full particulars next week.

Rev. J. W. Berry sends another report from Lewisville circuit: "I have finished another tolerably good meeting. Closed the meeting under good head way on account of exhaustion and no help."

Rev. W. W. Anderson reports another meeting on El Paso circuit. Good meeting at Macedonia; four accessions, and the church moving on to victory. Truly the Lord has been gracious unto us. The meeting still going on.

Rev. J. H. Corley, Center Point circuit, Arkansas Conference: "A fine revival at Hebron—twenty conversions—numerous backsliders reclaimed. Church alive. Oakley Chapel, thirty conversions. Church revived. Young and old are happy; the converts range in age from 9 to 50 years. Preacher sick. Pray for us." We will.

Rev. H. B. McNeil writes: "I see in the last issue of the METHODIST, you wish the vote on the license question. This county (Monroe) went for license, 164 majority. This is just one hundred less than the vote of 1882, the majority then was 264; so you see with all men and democrats could do, we gained one hundred. Brinkley and Cypress townships voted against license." That was good, and we say well done for Brinkley. Hope Monroe county will be free next time.

Rev. S. D. Evans has had another good meeting: "I have just closed a meeting at Strangers. Had a good time; 7 conversions, 9 accessions, and the church was greatly blessed. We have had up to date 125 conversions, and 130 to join the church." Our friend, don't forget the METHODIST. Many thanks. Continue the good work.

Rev. B. H. Greathouse closed a business letter with this crisp note: "Meeting closed last night. Twenty-five were converted and seventeen joined the church and others will follow." Good.

Rev. J. H. Wade writes on business, and complains of a lost letter, and closes thus: "Having some good meetings. Hope to see you at conference." Guess we did not get that letter. We publish all in the Field Notes that come to hand.

Hon. F. P. Laws reports the meeting at Beebe still progressing with grand results, and calls for help. We would respond, but we cannot; our Junior is off on duty.

Rev. W. A. Steele reports from Salem Camp-meeting; saying, "It was a

grand success from beginning to end. Over thirty conversions and nearly the same number of accessions. It was a time of great joy to the church. Many family altars were erected and all christians went off to their work very much strengthened and encouraged. The following ministers were present: C. C. Godden, Dr. Hunter, H. H. Watson, L. B. Hawley, Z. T. McCann, W. W. Mills, J. M. Cline and J. C. Rhodes came in the last evening.

Rev. M. C. Harris sends the following cheering news from Sugar Loaf Springs, in the Cleburne Mission, White River Conference: "We are having a glorious revival of religion at Sugar Loaf Springs; one conversion last night and several penitents. The Lord is doing great things for us. Cannot tell how long the meeting will continue. Our God is carrying it on in his own good way. Our local preacher is doing a fine work. We expect to have the Fourth Quarterly Meeting here, and the good people either want the Dye to come or send the Winfield." He speaks well of the METHODIST, and says they are going to extend its circulation. Our brother is hopeful though the crops are poor. Guess our Dye will be on hand, this scribe can't fill his place.

Rev. J. R. Maxwell reports for Bro. Dykes from Colville, Benton county, Ark.: "I write to you from Center Point circuit, thinking that the many readers of your most worthy paper (or our paper) would like to hear from this part of the field. Brother Dykes has just closed a protracted meeting at Hebron church of seven days, which was one of the best this winter ever attended; never saw as many penitents at the altar. Ten conversions one night, and eighteen in all. Eight accessions. One convert white. Bro. Dykes was preaching. That sounds like the olden time. The general outlook is encouraging. Zion's army is moving forward under the banner of the Prince of Peace. I have held two meetings on my charge—Clifty Mission. Result 23 conversions, 13 accessions, and the church greatly revived."

Rev. Thos. Vincent writes from Newburg: "Our Fourth Quarterly Conference for Newburg circuit was held last Saturday, and the meeting continued until last night. Our P. E. was with us in the Spirit of the Master and did us some good preaching. We had about 20 conversions, 10 accessions and more to follow. It was a good meeting from the very beginning. Our local preachers did good and faithful work. To our God belongs the glory."

Rev. A. O. Evanns is having a fine meeting at Lonoke. Thanks for invitation to come and help. Wish I could, but Spring Street claims my time at the present.

Rev. A. S. Scott reports for Mt. Ida circuit. The Lord has been with us on Mt. Ida circuit. I have just closed a meeting at Mt. Ida. Rev. O. H. Keadle did some valuable service. Much good was accomplished."

Rev. E. N. Watson was to assist Rev. L. G. Johnson at Gurdon this week. We expect to hear of a great revival; indeed it had commenced when we left.

Rev. I. A. Vernon writes from Viola circuit: "I have held five meetings. Had between fifty and sixty conversions. Many backsliders reclaimed, and the church greatly revived." Our brother has many good things to say of his local brethren and his P. E., but we had no room to publish these compliments and many other good things our brother wrote, but we must thank him for his words about the METHODIST, and shall expect a long list of subscribers soon.

ARKANSAS METHODIST

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DYE & WINFIELD.CORRESPONDING EDITORS:
Julien C. Brown, Jno. W. Boswell,
H. R. Withers.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1884.

EDITORS ARKANSAS METHODIST:—I wrote to the General Ticket Agent of the St. Louis Iron Mountain, and Southern Railway Company, to know what if any reduction would be given to members and delegates to the White River Annual Conference. I received to-day the following in reply: "Our local rate is three cents per mile, which is equivalent to the reduction given religious assemblies by lines who charge five cents per mile. We must respectfully decline to make any further reduction."

From this we see that full fare will be required of all. Yours, etc.

GEO. THORNBURG, Sect'y.
Powhatan, Ark., Sept. 12, 84.

Centenary Address.

To the members and friends of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in the bounds of the Yellville District, Arkansas Conference:

Grace be unto you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. We this year celebrate the centenary of American Methodism as an organized church in the United States. For over one hundred years it has existed as a separate organization seeking to spread scriptural holiness in the land. During this period of time its successes have been so great, that only the Divine approval can account for it. Through its instrumentality multiplied thousands have been turned from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God. And we hope that you that are now its members, (perhaps through the means of grace which it alone has supplied), are all filled with joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Ghost. It is therefore very meet, right and our bounden duty in a suitable way to give thanks to Almighty God for these signal blessings to us as a church.

In doing this, see that the current expenses are paid in full, of your circuit or station, as well as contributing to the objects set before us by the Central and Conference Committees, and also for our District Parsonage. It is the will of God that they that preach the gospel, should live of the gospel, that they may be wholly given up to their calling, that their profiting may appear unto all. But a meager insufficient support very often prevents this. Yea it does more; it brings down upon a people who can do better a curse from God; that tends to penury for withholding more than is meet. Let the assessment for the support of the ministry be paid in full, and if on this district, it be largely exceeded it would not be amiss. Brethren in the stewards office give the people ample opportunity to contribute. There is no claim more important than this one of ministerial support. There are six other regular collections, to-wit: For Church Extension, for Conference Claimants, for Bishop's Fund, for Domestic Missions, for Foreign Missions and for the American Bible Society. They are every one important. A deficiency in any of them will that much hinder the church in its work for the spread of the kingdom of Christ. Help the preacher bring them all up and in full.

In the past some have contributed to these claims; but many even of our members have given nothing, or almost nothing to them. And but few have given up to the measure of their ability. Let us observe this centenary year by amending in this particular. Let all study the work of the church, and let every one give willingly, cheerfully and of their ability for its maintenance. "All of us to the wall, and every one to his work," if we would see the temple rise. Surely there is a recompense of reward for those who serve the Master. The liberal soul shall wax fat. Honor the Lord with your substance, and the first fruits of all your increase, so shall thy barns be filled

plenty, and thy presses burst out with new wine. Let us be thankful for spiritual life, and for present acceptance with God through the redemption in Christ Jesus, and the shedding forth of the Holy Ghost, that the church, and prominently the Methodist Church was kept so prominently before the world of mankind. Let us also be thankful for the clear views embodied in our doctrines of the truth, as it is in Jesus; for temporal blessings, for the effectiveness of our organization and for its wonderful prosperity. Bring an offering and come into His courts and observe the Centenary day in October. I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go into the House of the Lord." Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O, Jerusalem. Praise ye the Lord, in the church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

T. M. C. BIRMINGHAM, P. E.

We gladly welcome to our columns Mrs. Fannie Suddath, of El Paso. She is a very gifted woman, and one of deep piety; we need the help of all such to help us make a first class paper for our people. Read her communication below, and be certain to read the centenary address of Rev. T. M. C. Birmingham, it has the apostolic ring; then read the centenary paper from the chairman and secretary of the Arkansas Conference. Let all our people respond to the centenary call. Let no Methodist in Arkansas withhold his contribution this year; you cannot afford it. Gratitude demands an offering. Respond readily and cheerfully, and our God will bless you:

MR. EDITOR—After a four days feast of christian experience, at the Clear Creek camp-meeting, permit a word of probable interest through your paper to its many readers.

The camps were all filled with earnest christians, who manifested their zeal by their cheerful and regular assemblage to this annual "Feast of Tabernacles." The opening services on Friday evening were conducted by Rev. Mr. Smith, P. E. Morrilton District, plain, scriptural sermons were delivered on every occasion. There was no display of fine language, or fine apparel, and I am happy to add there were no notes used whatever, but each one spoke as the Spirit prompted. The singing was free, full and universal, no set choir or formal programme of song, but an heavenly music, which touched the chords of christian love, which gave response in shouts of praise. A number of children were penitents, and of course they were converted. The adult sinners stood and gazed upon the little ones, happy in their new birth, as though a monstrous farce was being enacted at the altar. The gaping crowd little thought that "Jesus of Nazareth was passing by," and had called the children to follow him. It is sad to know the longer a sinner resists the Holy Spirit, the more difficult it is to repent, and then how gracious the precious truth, that those who "seek Him early shall find Him;" and then suffer the little ones all to come, until the church militant shall be vocal with the children's song of praise, and the church thronged triumphant with saints who just knew their Lord, when they were but a child. What a rebuke to the contentious disciples, was that, when Christ placed "a child in the midst," and said: "except ye become as a little child, ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven." How pride should fall in the dust and worldly wisdom become abashed before the little ones who hear and believe. How the older sinner should tremble to know a lack of faith is the soul's eternal ruin. There is no greater insult to our Lord than doubt. By the nature of unbelief we charge God with falsehood; and accuse his church of fraud. Oh, my soul, beware, lest thou lack faith and lose thy promised rest. Let the sinner smite his heart, and while he cries "Lord be merciful to me a sinner," let him cry "Lord, I believe, help thou my unbelief."

The Quitman College has an encouraging prospect in view. All are hopeful and sanguine. The church moves on slowly but surely. The Sunday-school prayer meeting and class-meeting are all in successful progress. The Woman's Missionary

cause is at a standstill, but hopes are entertained that it will be revived again. The Arkansas Conference suffers a severe blow in the loss of Brother Haralson. We are all loth to give him up; his holy life and christian sympathy has gladdened many a hope of ones, and his last sermon at Clear Creek, shall linger a precious token of our friend and brother. May God go with him, and dear sister H., to their new home. May a Saviour's love be their joy, and a home in heaven be their reward. We thank God for christian experience and the communion of saints, and we trust by infinite grace, to "meet beyond the river." So dear brother and sister farewell, until we meet beside the stream that makes glad the "City of God."

Respectfully,
MRS. FANNIE E. SUDDARTH,
El Paso, Sept. 11, '84

Selma Circuit Little Rock Conference.

I began my protracted services at Selma the third Saturday night in August. Brother J. R. Jones of the White River Conference was with me, Brothers E. N. Evans, E. M. Wright and M. B. Hill came in on Monday; the spirit was poured upon us, gave power to the preached word which proved the power of God unto the salvation of four souls. The church was thoroughly revived and many tongues shouted praises to God. Brother John Dickson rendered valuable services. Received four into the church on Friday night. I left for Star City Saturday morning. Brother Ben Ingram, C. P. and I had arranged to hold a union meeting there, and indeed it was a union meeting. We preached alternately for seven days and nights. God was with us, christians were made happy, sinners convicted, and four converted, three joined our church; one the Presbyterian. I baptized one infant. The church was greatly revived. Several members had been silly enough to dance. I at once took them in hand, all but one asked the church to forgive them, and promised to do so no more. How many members of the church of God are simple enough to allow the Devil to catch them on this hook, and that without bait even. I left Star City at 10:30 p. m., traveled twenty-five miles alone in the night, happy all the time that I could work day and night for Jesus, who did so much for me. Last Sunday night, at 10:20 p. m., we closed a glorious revival at Mt. Tabor. It embraced our fourth quarterly meeting. Our much beloved P. E. T. H. Ware was with us three days, preaching in great power. Brothers Gold, Evans, Hill and Wright, rendered a week's valuable service. The services were conducted ten days and nights after the Methodist camp-meeting style. Four services a day. Surely it was good to be there. The spirit of God was poured out upon us in great power. Men that never before cared for religion, were praying and praising God. It was the first camp meeting held there. God so greatly blessed us, that we are encouraged to make better preparations, or next year. We were blessed with one of Brother John Blakely's best sermons on Sunday. Subject: "Justification by faith;" and as he talked on our faith grew, reached heaven, and God poured such a blessing down upon us, our souls could not contain it. Brother Jones, of the White River Conference, and several local preachers rendered valuable service. More than forty-three embraced Christ, and eight or ten backsliders in the church were converted. Twenty-two have already joined our church, and many more will join. Eleven children baptized. Truly the Lord directed us and blessed us in our efforts to worship Him. I have three meetings to hold yet, though entirely unable for service this week; suffering with rheumatism. Hope to report many more conversions and accessions. I go trusting in God. More anon.

W. S. SCOTT.
Sept. 10, 84.

The worst things are the perversions of good things. Abused intellectual gifts make the dangerous villain; abused sensibilities make the accomplished tempter; abused affections engender the keenest misery.

To the Ministers and Members of the Arkansas Conference.

Dear Brethren—We call your attention to the action of the last Annual Conference, setting apart the first Sunday in October, as Centenary Day in our Conference. Please see that the day is properly observed in all of our charges; and on Circuits it would be well to devote each Sabbath in the month to this work, so that Centenary services may be held in every congregation. We call your special attention to the following paragraph from the address of the Centennial Centenary Committee to the Annual Conferences:

"While the leading object of this Centenary observance is the spiritual improvement of our people, by reviewing God's signal mercies during the century, it is most important that we show our gratitude in such a form as to make the church far more efficient in the future. It will be borne in mind that the usual regular collections should in no wise interfere with the Centenary contributions. These latter are a thank-offering in acknowledgment of the divine blessing upon the labors of the past hundred years. Coming but once in a life-time, they should be on a commanding and monumental scale, that future generations may know how we celebrated so great an event. Moreover, while the General Conference expressed such a willingness to include in the aggregate Centenary collections, such special local contributions as might be made to relieve church property of burdensome debts, and to erect or greatly improve churches or parsonages; yet our people are everywhere urged to keep chiefly in mind, the great leading objects of our Centenary celebration, namely, a loan fund of \$500,000, to be administered by the Church Extension Board, the special mission being for education and other purposes in China, Mexico and Brazil, and the strengthening of our schools and colleges with the most liberal aid, and the creation of a "Centenary Educational Fund." These special objects for the liberality of the church are recommended after the most mature consideration. These being realized, we will be able to plant and strengthen our Methodism in all her fields, both at home and in foreign lands."

It now remains for us to follow the above plans and suggestions. We ought to do something worthy of Arkansas Methodism this year. While our thank-offerings may not be as large as in many of the older and stronger Conferences, yet we can and ought to do liberal things, "not from our incomes, merely, but from the gathered capital of a life-time let our thank-offering be laid upon the altar of our beloved church."

We greatly need educational facilities. The Conference felt this need, and at its last session, recommended that the Centenary Committee "take into consideration suggestions in reference to the establishment of a Central Male College in the Arkansas Conference, and also the appropriation of Centenary Educational Funds for such a purpose." The Committee has acted upon that recommendation, and has made a conditional purchase of the property of the Central Collegiate Institute at Altus—the purchase being conditional upon the action of the Annual Conference. The price to be paid for the buildings completed, and ten acres of land, is \$12,500; one-third to be paid January 1, 1885, and the balance in one, two, and three years. Already about \$7,000 of the amount has been subscribed, and that with but little effort. We recommend the claim of this enterprise and also the claims of other church schools in the Conference, to the liberality of the church. We also urge that where it is at all practicable houses of worship be built for all of our congregations, and that a parsonage be provided in every charge, not now supplied. Each donor will have the privilege of selecting the objects of his gifts. And now let us have a "Centenary thank-offering from every member."

V. V. HARLAN, Chr'm.
T. H. BARCOCK, Sect'y.
Ark. Conf. Cen. Committee.

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