

# ARKANSAS METHODIST.

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

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

"Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

TERMS, { IN ADVANCE.  
One Year, \$1 50  
Six Months, 75

VOL. 3.

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JANUARY 24, 1885.

NO. 40

## General News.

### Our Own Country.

We see a great disposition on the part of the retiring administration, to embarrass the incoming by entangling alliances with foreign powers, and hasty treaties with foreign nations. It is refreshing to see Hon. John Sherman standing by the side of that pure statesman, Hon. Mr. Bayard, in resisting this unwise policy. Congress seems to be doing but little in the way of public business. They are now looking into the old war pocket, and trying to stir up the dying embers of the past "unpleasantness," by bringing up the old correspondence of Davis and Sherman. Better let these old things alone, gentlemen, and work to build up the country on a permanent basis of increased public confidence in our constitution, and a true devotion to our laws. Much time and money are being wasted in discussing Inter State Commerce and we are likely to bring on a difficulty with other nations, in seeking better commercial relations with Spain and with the Inter Oceanic Canal and our treaty with Nicaragua. It is to be hoped that all these matters can be adjusted and that our country will go forward on her wonderful progress in giving the nations Christian civilization and the blessings of liberty.

### Our National Capitol.

In many respects is fast becoming like gay and voluptuous Paris. It is being filled with society men and women, and the reports heralded over the country of the ways, manners and customs of Washington City society, are disgusting in the extreme, and every little village and city in the country are trying to imitate, and we are treated to whole columns in our leading dailies of what silly women and foolish men wear at balls and parties. Flirting belles, married and single, with moustached dudes, are the shining stars in the world of fashion, and our papers must parade these senseless creatures to the front in their journals to the injury of society and the contempt of sensible people. We need to call a halt. We are sick and tired of society people and society items. Do treat the average reader with a little compassion and stop this nonsense.

### Spain.

There has been fearful suffering in many provinces from the recent earth quakes. King Alfonso has been visiting the towns and cities where was found the greatest devastation and sorrow.

### England.

There has been several vessels lost off the coast of Ireland and Wales in the last week, and many have perished. The army of Gen. Wolsey is still pushing its way through the barrenness of Egypt to the relief of Khartoum and Gen. Gordon and his men, they suffer much from the heat and for want of water, but still pursue their march. Premier Gladstone returned this week to London to attend a meeting of the Cabinet.

### Africa.

The German and French governments have settled upon a boundary line between their respective African possessions, Batangan and Gaboon.

### Austria.

Some severe suffering and great destruction of property reported along the coast of this old country by visitations of the falling snows and thundering avalanches. Klagenfurt, the capital of the province of Carinthia, southern Austria, was almost destroyed and several killed. The little village near the Simplan Mountain is well nigh destroyed.

Always try to maintain a Christian spirit, even under the most provoking and aggravated injuries. It will not pay you to get mad and you dare not seek revenge, for God hath said "Vengeance is mine." Retaliation cannot be allowed and forgiveness must be practiced.

## State News.

Jonesboro has had a very destructive fire, which has greatly retarded the growth of that lovely town.

The small town of Collins, on the railroad from Monticello to Arkansas City, has been nearly destroyed by fire.

Our legislature is moving off very slowly, and as usual, in many things adopting "the penny-wise and pound foolish policy." They have already wasted more money in discussing rules of order, newspapers and postage, than all such things would cost in three terms. We are sorry to see a disposition to do a vast amount of small business and to waste the session on Gantt's Digest. Gentlemen, "do spare that old book!" Remember how it has suffered in years gone by! and do wait for the new one by Judge Mansfield. Call a halt on Gantt's Digest. Very sorry, too, we are to see that the Senate is wasting time and money, and seem disposed to refuse the aid asked for by our Commissioners at New Orleans. They ask for \$7,000, and now there is an amendment pending for \$3,000. That is an open insult to our Commissioners, Senators. Give them what they ask and stop your grumbling. Let Arkansas have a fair chance at this Exposition—she is entitled to it. It will be worth millions to us. We suppose the great contest over the senatorship will be decided this week, and then the legislature will get to business in good style.

"Batesville has passed an ordinance fixing the rate of liquor license for the town at \$1,000; which, added to the State County and Federal license to gether with incidental fees, makes the saloon men of that town pay \$1,763.50, before they have the right to keep a decent, orderly dram-shop." [Arkansas Democrat.] But who ever heard of a decent, orderly dram-shop? Just as well talk about a good Satan. They are all evil. Good for Batesville. If they will have them, then tax till the red comes.

Dallas county has no saloons. Good for Dallas.

Arkadelphia has voted to have licensed saloons and try once more the wicked policy of cursing her own people to raise revenue to run the city. They will regret it. Mark the prophecy.

Hon. S. P. Hughes was duly inaugurated Governor of this State last Wednesday. His inaugural address was very fine and gave very general satisfaction. He enters on his official duties with great will and determination. If devotion, purpose, intelligence and true patriotism are the real elements of success, then it is already assured for he certainly has all these.

Our newly elected Secretary of State, Hon. E. B. Moore has entered on his official duties, and Secretary Frolich gracefully retires to the shades of private life, where he will not remain long, for the people will not permit it. He has made the State a magnificent officer, and saved several thousand dollars of the money allowed for current expenses. Arkansas owes him a debt of gratitude.

Governor Berry speaks very complimentary of the management of the Lunatic Asylum in his recent message to the Legislature, all of which we endorse with a great deal of pleasure; but we feel sorry that his Excellency did not feel free to recommend appropriations for new buildings, and improvements for the Mutes and the unfortunate Blind. We hope our General Assembly will vote all these institutions ask for. We can't afford to economize where blind children are liable to be burned up, and the deaf and blind are suffering.

Our Legislature is now taking its first ballot for U. S. Senator. The vote stood in the Senate—Dunn, 10; Berry, 9; Jones, 7, and the Republicans voted for Ferdinand Havis, of Jefferson. In the House the vote stood—Jones, 25; Dunn, 31; Berry, 24; Republicans for Havis, and the rest scattering.

## Personal.

Bishop A. W. Wilson is now at Hot Springs in this State seeking health in that wonderful valley. We sincerely hope this Siloam of Arkansas will entirely restore our Bishop and let him with renewed health enter upon his loved employ.

Rev. E. C. Castleberry has gone to Georgia to visit his parents. We wish him a very pleasant visit and a safe and speedy return to Arkansas.

Rev. E. N. Evans is getting fairly at work at Spring street, and his accomplished wife is now with him. Their people gave them a rousing reception. It was good.

Rev. G. W. Briggs, the new editor of the Texas Advocate, is throwing new life into the old Texas Advocate, and is fairly making it sparkle. It may be better in some respects under its new regime, but it will never have a braver man at its head than Dr. Johns.

Bishop Granbery had his losses as well made up as possible when he reached St. Louis, and he is well and safely domiciled in his new home—3006 Chestnut street.

Rev. F. A. Jeffett, P. E. of Searcy district, went home sick before the election of chaplain to the House, and his name was not placed before that body. He is improving, we are glad to say.

Rev. J. L. Hays, of Waldron, Scott county, and a supernumerary of the Arkansas conference, also an ex-Confederate soldier, has been elected chaplain of the House and entered on his duties.

Rev. Frank White was elected chaplain of the Senate. He is a Missionary Baptist, and being blind he distanced his competitors. One of them, Rev. M. D. Early, was a minister of his own Church.

Rev. W. A. Clements, a local preacher of our Church, is a member of the House and has the honor to represent Yell county.

Bishop Parker is among the flowers of Florida, and working for our Methodism in that growing State.

Mrs. Sue Morrison, widow of the Rev. A. A. Morrison, D. D., Denver City, has given to the Church there for the cause of Church Extension town lots valued at \$4,500. Noble gift from a noble woman! May their number be multiplied.

Rev. Sam Janes, the great Methodist evangelist, is in Brooklyn helping Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage in a great revival meeting. The giants are together now, and we may expect to hear of the rattling of bones in the valley of dry bones, or rather in the great Sodom of America.

Rev. E. R. Hendrix, of Central College, Mo., never lets up on our Centennial affairs. He continues to put in the very best ticks possible, and if this year is not more fruitful than the past it will be no fault of his.

Bishop Hargrove is holding conference in Minden, La. We have most pleasant recollections of that noble town in North Louisiana.

Mrs. Sue Mooney continues to contribute to the Church press. She is a gifted writer. We hope the METHODIST will sparkle ere long with one of her shining, glittering, diamond-like letters.

Rev. S. M. Cherry and wife, of Culleroka, Tenn., will have each a letter in our next paper, and it will be difficult for our readers to determine which is the best, for they are splendid.

Rev. Jno. H. Dye, our junior, was over at Searcy last Sabbath, and our new chaplain, Rev. J. L. Hays, officiated at Argenta in his stead.

## Field Notes.

The field hands are doing well and many of them are having a good time and we congratulate them on their good position and pleasant surroundings. We begin with a note from that sturdy, strong P. E., Rev. D. T. Holmes. Hear him:

"Mr. Editor: All the preachers on the Washington district are at their posts except two. O. H. Keadle has not come to Fulton circuit, and I have not heard from him. E. M. Wright, appointed to Dallas circuit, went back to Georgia on a visit, and on account of feeble health has declined to return. So I need a preacher for this place. If a young man could be found at once he would find a welcome and a field for usefulness. Will you help me to get the right man?"

We will do our best. We make the call this week.

Here comes that stirring, indefatigable preacher, Rev. A. S. Blackwood, of Augusta, Ark.:

"Yesterday we packed our household goods and with my family boarded the steamer Chickasaw, at West Point, en route to this place. At midnight we landed here and were met by Mr. Ed Bonner and conducted to the parsonage where the ladies of the Church had put in order one room, putting wood in the fireplace that only awaited the touching of a match, which was soon done and we sat down to rest, in comfort. Before leaving Mr. B. informed us that breakfast would be sent us in due time. My brother W. B. Otey was on hand with his drays and soon had our goods put in the parsonage, so that by 3 o'clock, a. m., we are enabled to kneel down and thank God for a prosperous journey and retire for the remainder of the night. This morning at seven o'clock we are up and do justice to a good breakfast sent us. At nine o'clock a dray drives up and begins to unload flour, meal, meat, molasses, rice, sugar, coffee, tea, cheese, and many other good things too numerous to mention. We now begin the work of unpacking, etc., the monotony of which is broken only by the sight of a sumptuous dinner sent us by the ladies. We now begin to realize the force of a remark made by a good woman who had once lived here, "that the people of Augusta know how to treat a preacher and his family to make them happy." May the Lord bless this people for their love and kindness. I will do all I can for the METHODIST. Bro. Garrison did much for the paper, and I think opened the way for a greater work. Many prayers will be offered here for his success in his new field of labor. I am praying and working for a revival. Pray for us."

Next comes Rev. B. G. Johnson, Ex. P. E. and as true a man as ever breathed. Hear the "Old Reliable": "I am trudging along on my second round on Mineral Springs circuit. The weather has been rainy, snowy, sleety and gloomy, and it has been difficult for one to keep his mental and moral faculties properly harnessed so as to be on up grade. I have been reading and praying, writing and preaching and trying to get ready for a vigorous campaign when the dark days pass away. It is an effort for me to adjust myself to my small charge after having been eleven long years on extensive district work. Like Isaiah I may say, "the bed is shorter than a man can stretch himself on," but by God's grace I am going to do the best I can. We must not despise the day of small things for out of them great things are made. I am in striking distance of home all the time which is a great compensation for loss of latitude and longitude. We have eight appointments on this circuit, embracing our growing town, Nashville, at which place we have no house for worship. During my tour of district work

I have traveled about thirty-three thousand miles almost entirely on horseback (only using two horses); held about five hundred and thirty quarterly conferences and eleven district conferences, and preached about three thousand times. Never have missed but three appointments through the entire time, one from physical affliction and two by sickness of my wife. How good the Lord has been to me through those long and laborious years. During this time many young men have entered the traveling connection from my fields of labor. Some have gone to their great reward and others still cultivating the Master's vineyard. I have just entered my twenty-fifth year as an itinerant Methodist preacher in Arkansas, and if the Lord should spare me twenty-five more years I expect to spend them all in his service. I can but recognize the fact that a Divine hand has led me all along the past. I never had a poor appointment. They have always been better than I merited. My salaries have been small, yet we have lived well and the children have been educated."

That has the true ring. From P. C. to P. E., then again to P. C., and still with a devotion unflinching and a determination unflinching, the old veteran pursues the path of duty without one word of complaint. Thank God for the itinerancy.

Next comes an old P. E. of the Memphis conference, himself the son of one of the best P. E.s that ever mounted a saddle. G. W. D. Harris was one of the three men of our Church of faultless voice and manner. The other two were Bishops Paine and Peirce. All masters. But hear his son, W. T. Harris:

"I have been reading your paper for some time. I like it. It is outspoken, fearless, earnest and in every respect a clever paper. You are against whiskey, tobacco, filth and rascality generally. You are Methodist to the core. You are not as learned as some papers I read, not as elaborate in your discussions as others; but you are clear, decided, honest and brave. You are doing good. May your paper live long, go into every Methodist family in Arkansas and many out of Arkansas. I now, in the presence of all your readers and everybody else who will see, shake hands with Bro. A. Hunter on his Centennial Notes, especially his views on "Organic Union." I give my other hand to brother L. Pulliam on old fashioned "class meetings." I am for class meetings and for loving the M. E. Church just as she is. I am sure I can love her just as much at this distance as I would if we were united. As an individual member of the M. E. Church, South, I can join her—if she will have me—when I get ready, and I trust I will be ready when the trump sounds and Jesus comes. Then may we all go into the Church triumphant together!"

Next comes Rev. C. M. Keith, of our Conference, with such a good report that he must have the closing word: "We have just had, to us, an entirely new experience in itinerant life. We never before, so fully comprehended the significance of the term, 'pounding,' as so often used by our preachers, as we now do; for, to-day a wagon came from the good people of Salem, and gave us a most merciful 'pounding,' and we found it to mean pork, butter, lard, molasses; flour, sugar, rice and fruits (dried and canned,) turnips, onions, potatoes and other culinary articles, such as an itinerant entering upon a year's labors, after a long move, rejoices to have. But, Doctor, what am I to do with it all, now I have it? for I have no one to take care of it for me, (my wife not having come to our work yet,) nor to serve it up so that I might take care of it myself. However, we feel very grateful to those dear, good people for the kindly remembrance. It makes us still more desirous to serve them with our might. God help us to be faithful, and serve them acceptably, and to Divine approval. Accompanying the goods was the following kind, expressive note: 'Dear Bro. Keith—Please accept these presents from the good people of Salem as an humble offering. They wish you a successful and prosperous year's labor.' And who could doubt the sincerity of that wish, being accompanied, as it was, with such unmistakable tokens of good will. Again, we tender our heartfelt gratitude, and say, God bless the dear people and help us labor to faithfully with them to His glory and their good."