

ARKANSAS METHODIST.

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

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REV. JNO. H. DYE,

"Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

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General News.

Our Own Country.

The new administration has settled down to business in a very easy, quiet way, and all the wheels of the government are rolling so smoothly that the casual observer would hardly even dream that there had been a change of administration. Ours is a great government. With all our corruption and degeneracy we are still a great people. The pride of the nations and the wonder of the world. A government of the people and for the people. Our new ministers are moving off to their respective positions to take charge of our national interests and see that the rights of Uncle Sam are respected by foreign nations.—Many of the foreign powers are engaged in a contest for the mastery and for conquest, and "Our New President" is selecting our National Representatives with great caution. Very few changes are being made in any department of the government. This may be good for the office-holders, but hard for the office-seekers. But Caesar can attend to his own business, and the editors of the ARKANSAS METHODIST have no favors to ask. There is much corruption being brought to the surface in all portions of our country, and the heart of the philanthropist grows sick in contemplating crime. The case of assassination and brutal murder at the Southern Hotel in St. Louis, actually chills the blood. The details are shocking, as we gather them from the daily press. Gen. Grant is better and has been out for a drive; it is possible he may recover. The associated press dispatches actually mention the fact that the General said "Good morning," to his coachman. Wonderful to relate! Is that anything to telegraph to the world? What polite gentleman would neglect to say good morning, to his driver? Miserable simpletons are in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph, in some parts of the world, and they often show their ignorance in heading their sensational dispatches. Grains are rising in prospect of the great war and there is dullness and decline in all other articles.

Anglo-Russian Imbroglio.

The prospects are no better for peace. All foreign news this week may be written up under this head, for everything is centering in this great struggle. The Russian Bear, emboldened by the sluggishness of the Lion, is actually standing on his hind feet, and seeking every opportunity to try a hug with the famous British Lion. Both nations give out that they desire peace, but they are still making extensive preparations for war. The battle with the Afghans on the river Kushk, seems only to have whetted the appetite of the Bear, while the Lion seems very slow to accept the challenge or see the "casus belli." Both of the governments seem rather disposed to lay all the blame on the General in command of the others forces. England stubbornly maintains that Gen. Komaroff was to blame in the last battle, and the chief cause of it, by an improper advance of his forces, while on the other hand Gen. Komaroff telegraphs his government that he notified the Afghans to recross the river Kushk and he stubbornly refused, and that he thinks it was due to British interference, and to some assurance given the Afghans of English help. Russia is seeking to enlarge her border on the Caspian and England is compelled to resist it to protect her own interest and colonies. Turkey thought for a time she held the fort, but Germany and Austria have intimated to her that if she permits the war vessels of either belligerent to pass through the gates of the Bosphorus, they will at once annul the Berlin treaty. So the sick man of Europe will be between two fires.

State News.

Rev. F. R. Earle, the famous teacher and celebrated preacher, of Cane Hill College, has resigned, and we understand he can probably be secured as a successor to Otis Patton, at the Blind Institute. He is a first-class man every way, and would suit exactly. We call the attention of the Board of Trustees to this matter, and hope they will see after it at once. He has long been the president of that splendid school, and is a man of great experience and fine administrative ability.

We have good news from Lonoke. Our friends have triumphed under the Three-Mile law, in not only keeping liquor out of their town, but have driven it out of Brownsville, the old county site and neighboring village. We say, well done for Lonoke. We are sorry for our neutral friends—they were counted on the wrong side, and still whiskey is gone. Now they will feel bad. Better stand up and be counted next time.

We see the case of the young lady asking for license to practice law in Union county is exciting a great deal of interest and much comment. The METHODIST has only attempted to condemn the precedent as wrong, and the law as right. But the applicant is one of the nicest young ladies in old Union. She is the daughter of an old friend of ours.

Attorney-General Garland, the proud son of Arkansas, has done two nice things since he has been in office, disposing of superfluous carriages and horses, and having everything closed up on the Sabbath. But the press is mistaken in writing him down as a member of the M. E. Church, South. He is a member of no Church, but has a devoted Methodist mother.

The Toledo Immigrant is a live paper, without any patent inside or outside. It will be a great day for Arkansas when the press rids itself of these patent abominations. The Immigrant contains the sad news of the drowning of Rev. Mr. Lumley in Saline river, at Vints Bluff. He was attempting to cross to fill his appointment. It is a sad case.

Many of our contemporaries are complaining of spring poetry. We have had none at this office—nor spring hats, either, that we are aware of. The latter are needed.

A stabbing affray is reported in Pochontas. One Harry Flynn was seriously cut in five places by two brothers, named Sam and Andy Dame, who are both in jail. All the parties were drinking. So much for license. One man nearly killed and two confined for the county to prosecute.

Crops are reported generally good for this season of the year all over the State, and in many places the fruit crop is fine.

The Woodruff County Vidette, one of the best papers in the State, mentions the case of Angelo Marre as one growing out of the Gazette's high license scheme. Yes, that is one of the high licensed saloons that is intended to show how the whiskey traffic can be regulated. Abominable!

The Jonesboro Times gives the case and its conclusion, and asks what sort of people we are in Little Rock anyhow? We answer, all sorts and chiefly bad.

The card of Hon. D. E. Barker appears in our columns this week, announcing him as a candidate for the congressional nomination in the 3d district. He is Drew county's noble son, and has twice served her in the Legislature. He is an able man.

We are sorry to see an account of the loss by fire of the residence of John N. Cotton, of Forrest City. We extend our sincere sympathy.

Personal.

We greatly erred in putting down our good brother Goodloe, at McKenzie as Rev., and then a still greater error in calling their fine school McKenzie Institute instead of McTyelre, for our Senior Bishop. It is a fine school and has a splendid principal, if he is not a preacher.

Prof. W. A. Garner, of that fine school in Drew county, called Rock Springs Academy, sends us two years' subscription to our paper, and says he can't do without it. He strongly endorses our articles on Popular Education, and compliments our paper generally. Such a commendation will offset a hundred such critics as the one that appeared in the Gazette. We may be a fanatic, but we will never forsake principle.

Mrs. N. S. Melton, of Quitman, brings us under obligations for a new subscriber, and we hope she will continue her good work.

Rev. E. N. Evans was in to see us this week, and informs us that his people will take steps to commence work on their chapel forthwith. Their plan is to build a chapel now and let it make one wall of the new church building, and they can use this till the new church is completed. We wish them great success.

Hon. W. H. Wheeler, of Warren, was in to see us this week. He is one of our noble laymen and we are always glad to see him.

Rev. T. R. Welch, D.D., former pastor of the First Presbyterian church of this city, has been appointed Consul to Hamilton, Ontario. We congratulate our old friend, and we know he is worthy of the honor.

Prof. Otis Patton, ex-superintendent of the Blind Institute, was in to see us this week, and showed us the full and free endorsement of all the teachers and employees of the Institute to his fidelity and great interest of the school. He was a faithful public servant.

Mrs. Dye, of Searcy, the accomplished wife of our Junior, has been visiting the City of Roses this week, and of course our sanctum was honored by her smiling face. The female portion of the editorial staff can't be beat in this country.

Rev. David Morton, our indefatigable and portly secretary of Church Extension, sends us a summarized report of the doings of the Board for the last twelve months. It is indeed flattering. The annual meeting is in Louisville this week, and we hope in our next issue to give a report of it.

Rev. A. Monk has returned to his Alabama home. His brethren would welcome his return to the Little Rock conference at any time.

Rev. T. J. Whitten, the popular P. E. of Paris (Tenn.) district, sends us some good reading for our next issue, and tells of a glorious revival in McKenzie, Tenn.

Rev. H. M. Granade is doing a good work on his district, and he never forgets the METHODIST. He has already gotten the dictionary (Webster), and he is after Bishop McTyelre's History of Methodism.

Rev. J. J. Tarleton has the dictionary, and Rev. W. F. Walker, Ralston's Elements; and brothers Turrentine and Keith are both securing the commentaries.

Rev. A. T. Goodloe will appear in our paper next week, and we hope to hear from him often. He is a fine correspondent, and with the help of brother Cherry and that imitable female correspondent, Mrs. Mooney, our Tennessee department will be well represented.

Mrs. Dr. Pirtle, with her accomplished daughter, Miss Lizzie, and Master Elmo, left for the Golden Shore last week. They will be much missed in our city.

Field Notes.

We begin this report of our workers with a short dispatch from brother Arnold, from Sugar Loaf. Sweet place, and he sends a sweet message: "Our first quarterly meeting on the Cleburne circuit was held at McMahon's Chapel, 14th and 15th ult. Bro. Jeffett, our P. E., presided, and did good work. He is, indeed, a P. E.; he pushes his work before him, and he is full of the Holy Ghost and preaches with power. Besides the usual business, we received Bro. Peck, a minister from the Missionary Baptist Church. In his remarks he said, 'I love my Church. I saw my father, whose hair was gray with age, excluded from communion, and reconciled myself to it; but when I was forbade to ask his preacher in the pulpit with me, I could not bear it. I want the prayers of all Christians, and cannot be debarred the privilege of worshiping with them.' We had a good meeting. Pray for us."

Next comes our solid and faithful worker at Russellville. These are both a little old, but, like old wine, only the better for that, and like wine, always good when used in the right place: "I send you this 'field note,' showing what we have done this conference year, to date: Collected for foreign missions, \$11.40; domestic missions, \$21, paid in full; conference claims, \$1.40; Bishop's fund, \$1.75; church extension, \$2.40; Bible cause, \$10.40; for the poor, \$30; improving parsonage, \$11; for Sunday schools, about \$35; amount of books sold, \$12.75. We have dropped from the roll of the church, 4; dismissed by certificate, 1; expelled, 1; received by certificate, 2; received on profession of faith, 3; decrease in membership, 1. You will see from the above that while we are trying to nourish the tree and give new strength so that it will send forth new and fruit-bearing branches, we are at the same time trying, in the fear of God, to prune it, ridding it of 'dead branches' and 'water sprouts,' so that what remains may bear abundant fruit. Pray for us that our labor may not be in vain in the Lord. We are laboring, praying and looking for a genuine revival—a revival of the primitive kind; a revival that will not make people shout simply, but that will make them work for God; a revival that will make men feel the touch of Divine power, opening their eyes and making them see that without conversion they are doomed to a 'lake that burns with fire and brimstone'; a revival that will make them cry out, 'Men and brethren, what must we do to be saved?'; a revival that will be permanent, lasting in its effects upon society. I have no patience with a manipulated sensation, called a revival, that disappears like vapor before the noonday sun, the converts of which are among the first to 'join in affinity with Ahab' and go off after the things of this world. But I want a revival that will destroy the love of the world in the heart and establish the love of God instead, and make people love the worship of God above all things. God grant us all such a revival speedily. The METHODIST is not forgotten, as you will see." Brother Melton is a faithful worker, and always does good work.

Next comes our indomitable P. E., Rev. S. L. Cochran, with a fine report, but there he is a little off, we think. Bishop Pierce hurt himself with tobacco, and his doctors told him so, and it was certainly a bad example. But we are for fair play, and our brother shall speak for himself: "I am now making my second round on the Jonesboro district. Had a good time Saturday and Sunday, 4th and 5th inst., at Sugar Creek church, on the Harrisburg circuit, Bro. A. C. Griffin, pastor. The good Lord was with us at every con-

ing together, and the services of the holy Sabbath will long be remembered by all of us. It was a bright and beautiful Easter Sunday, and at 9 o'clock in the morning the Sunday-school services commenced, with a large number of pupils, officers and teachers for a country Sunday school. The school is well supplied with our own literature, and the students came up with good lessons. After the lessons were over, of course the P. E. had to give the children a talk, and the little folks enjoyed it very much, indeed. Tears filled their eyes, and they promised to be good boys and girls and to get to heaven when they died, by coming up and giving me their hand like good little soldiers of the cross. At 11 o'clock, a sermon on the resurrection of our Lord from the dead, and then the holy sacrament was administered to a large number of communicants. The Lord was with us all through the services, and we all rejoiced together in the love of God, our Saviour. Love feast at 3:30 p.m., and we had another precious season. 'Heaven came down our souls to greet, and glory crowned the mercy seat.' I thank God for the prospect of a good work of grace on the Jonesboro district this year. We look after the interest of the ARKANSAS METHODIST in all our quarterly meetings, and will be one of the P. E.'s of Arkansas to help increase its circulation throughout our State to at least one thousand more subscribers by the first of July, by bringing the matter before all of our quarterly conferences and insisting on all the P. C.'s to increased efforts to put a copy of the paper in every Methodist family in the State. I like the 'field notes' of the paper. Sister Alexander's is splendid. She touches up the sunny-faced P. E. of the Batesville district so nicely, and in such a good Christian spirit, on the tobacco and dog question. Hit 'em again, sister Alexander. Our good and great Bishop Pierce used tobacco, enjoyed religion, preached grandly, done good, died happy and went home to heaven, and so have thousands of others, and they ought not to be classed with sinners."

Here comes another great worker, our brother Blackwood, and he always has something good: "Last Sunday, 29th ult., was our quarterly meeting occasion. Bro. Jeffett, our P. E., was with us, and was truly in the spirit of his work. He preached us three sermons that were full of comfort and encouragement. He is popular with my people, and I dare say on all the charges in the district. He meets his appointments promptly, and looks after all the interests of the Church. The reports to the quarterly conference show that we are on the up-grade in Augusta. May our velocity increase until we reach the point near enough to God that His presence shall be felt by every heart in this charge. We have received several letters. Our Sunday school grows in interest every week. We want to hold a protracted meeting, commencing about the 7th of June. Would like to book one of you for a week's service about that time. I send you money for two subscribers. Will send others as soon as I can. May God bless you."

We close with our old-time friend, Rev. Michael Martz, away up in the river bottom. Be sure to read him: "At the last session of the White River conference, the Osceola and Frenchman Bayou circuits were united, making a new Osceola circuit, for which no preacher was found. This preacher was employed by Rev. S. L. Cochran, P. E., and got to Osceola circuit March 25, 1885. Quoting a brother's words, he found the circuit 'all run down.' The work embraces an excellent farming country, is forty-five miles in length, and has, for months been almost entirely without any preaching. Osceola has seven saloons, and though the Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists have organizations here, the town has been with out preaching the past winter."