

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. 4.

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JUNE 20, 1885.

NO. 9

General News.

England.

The principal event abroad the past week was the resignation of the Gladstone ministry. It produced quite a sensation in London, and has been the chief topic of conversation and newspaper discussion since. It is noteworthy and significant that Mr. Gladstone should meet and overcome such determined opposition in the stormy and critical periods when Kahrtoom fell, and Gordon was murdered, and later when Russia invaded Afghanistan, when his policy was so severely criticised and condemned, that after an honorable adjustment of these questions, he should find himself vanquished, when no graver question was under discussion than a two cent tax on beer. The conservatives have nothing whereof to be proud, as their victory was won by an alliance with the Parnellites, who hate the government on account of its Irish policy, and they took advantage of the absence of many liberals, who by the way ought to have been in their seats, and perhaps would have been, and closely followed their leader in any other crusade than against their favorite beverage, beer. The Queen astonished all by her quick acceptance of Mr. Gladstone's resignation, as she telegraphed it to London from Balmoral, instead of sending it as usual by a royal courier. The Marquis of Salisbury has been invited by the Queen to form a cabinet. He may find that it was easier to kill or destroy than to make alive. Mr. Gladstone is greater out of office, than his successors in power. Notwithstanding the Queen's gratification at his defeat and resignation, she will yet need his great brain and wise counsels. It has come to light since Mr. Gladstone's resignation, that her Majesty, the Queen of England, has opposed to bitterness the policy of the government, and that Mr. Gladstone was distasteful to her when he came to power, and that she rejoices that a tory and an aristocrat is in the premiership again. That she will favor the re-occupation of the Soudan, by an active and vigorous campaign, the retention of Egypt, the settlement of the Anglo-Russian dispute on the basis of the Granville-Deglers agreement, the renewal of the alliance with Germany; an entente with Turkey, and no special entente with France. This policy, it is said, has met the approval of the British foreign office all the while, and with whom the regime of the Ex-Premier has been intensely unpopular.

Ireland

Is rejoicing over the defeat and resignation of the Gladstone ministry, but it is quite possible that the new administration will be less favorable to Ireland than their predecessors.

Spain

Has a cholera scare; several deaths have occurred and the spread of the scourge is greatly feared.

Russia

Notes the change in the English ministry with undigulged interest. What will be the foreign policy of the new administration is the absorbing question.

France.

Admiral Galibes, Minister of Marine, announced the death of Admiral Courbet. He died on board his ship; caused by over-work and mental anxiety. As a mark of respect, the Chamber of Deputies immediately adjourned.

China.

The Emperor of China has ratified the Pekin treaty as its treaty of peace with France.

Our Own Country.

The President is still besieged with office-seekers, who demand his attention during the day and force him to work late at night. The N. Y. Herald urges him to shut the door in the face of this little, contemptible, office-hunting brigade, with a bang that can be heard all over the United States.

State News.

Great complaint of rust in wheat in Pope county.

Pinnacle Springs proposes to have an old fashioned camp meeting.

Rev. Dr. Withers lectured last Wednesday night, at Malvern, on spiritualism.

Judge Cates of Jonesboro, and Judge Sanders of Helena, have been exchanging circuits.

A. F. Maberry and W. T. Trice have started a paper at Cotton Plant. We wish our old friends great success.

Rev. H. D. McKennon has succeeded in establishing a district conference at Arkadelphia. We congratulate him and his district.

Crops all over the state, we believe, are clean, have been well worked, and now that the rain has come the yield promises to be abundant.

A little five year old girl, daughter of Mr. Dorris, near Malvern, fell in the well while trying to draw water, and was drowned, a few days ago.

Meltz Pauly, a young German living with our old friend, B. B. Conner, near Augusta, went to town last week and went in washing in the river, and was drowned.

Bro. A. Owen, of Cypress Ridge, called Tuesday, and reports health and crops good, and Rev. Thomas Whitaker, P. C., doing well, also Presiding Elder Clark.

The Searcy State Wheel Enterprise says three hundred and fifty-six agricultural wheels have been chartered in this state, and Grand Secretary McCulloch, circuit clerk of white county, is extending the order into Texas and Tennessee.

Argenta continues to improve. New buildings are springing up. Our true and dear friend T. W. Baldwin, is rebuilding on a larger scale than ever. We congratulate him and his good wife, who are true and helpful friends to their pastor.

Miss Blanche Pette, daughter of our old friend Col. Sam. Pette, of Batesville, was examined recently at a teacher's meeting, and given a certificate, although she was only 15 years of age. We remember little Blanche well at Jacksonport, and her now sainted mother. God bless her.

Monday night a storm dashed into the Northwest part of the State, from we know not where, which swept down the river and railroad faster than the boats or trains ever came. It dashed into this city between 12 and 1 o'clock, and just such a lowering of windows and closing of doors we have not heard in some time before. It didn't tarry long here, however, but hurried on whether we cannot tell. We have heard of no serious damage done except at Knoxville, on the Fort Smith railroad, forty miles this side of Fort Smith, where it blew down four or five houses, among others, the Methodist church there was destroyed.

The Searcy College commencement exercises passed off quite pleasantly. We had the pleasure of hearing Rev. Mr. Long, pastor of the Church of the Strangers, Memphis, who preached the commencement sermon. His sermon in the morning and at night displayed breadth and depth of thought, and industrious research, which made them creditable to himself, and exceedingly entertaining to his hearers. He made a fine impression in Searcy, and we believe he was equally pleased, as he bought a lot near the Spring Park, and will spend his summers there hereafter. We also attended the concert on Monday night and found it exceedingly interesting. Prof. Tharp is greatly encouraged, and expects a larger attendance next session. We wish him abundant success.

Personal.

Mrs. Joe Coffman, Portia, writes she cannot do without the METHODIST.

Rev. H. F. Harvey, Searcy circuit, is doing faithful work, and is planning for a revival all over his charge.

Col. Elias Moore, Secretary of State, will accept our thanks for a copy of the acts of the last General Assembly.

Rev. F. A. Jeffett preached the commencement sermon at New Hope Academy, Indian Nation, last Sabbath.

Rev. A. S. Blackwood, Augusta, is engaged in a protracted meeting, and sends us a Macedonia call. Will go if we can.

Prof. Russell, Lonoke, and Prof. Howell, Morrilton, were honored with the degree of A. M., by the Arkansas University, last week.

Gen. D. McRae, the accomplished secretary of the Arkansas commissioners, at the Exposition, has returned to his home in Searcy.

Rev. J. M. Clark, P. E. of the Helena district, expects a large attendance and a good meeting at his approaching District Conference. So may it be.

Pres't W. D. Vandiver, Caledonia Institute, Mo., writes, "we have had a fine time at commencement, a large number of preachers and other visitors."

Rev. Thomas Vincent has sent us twelve subscribers, and says he has more to follow, and that his people are generally delighted with the METHODIST.

Mr. Harry Warner will start a paper in Argenta this week. He says it will be the livest paper in the State. We wish him abundant success in his new and ample field.

Rev. E. N. Evans says they are slating the roof of the new chapel, and will occupy it in about three weeks. We congratulate the young pastor and builder, and his congregation.

Mr. Hattley Hay, Walnut Ridge, called last week and subscribed for the METHODIST. He wanted a temperance lecturer for a Fourth of July barbecue. He must be accommodated.

Rev. B. A. Morris, Walnut Ridge, writes us inviting and urging one of us to attend a grand temperance barbecue at Mt. Zion, on the Fourth of July. One of us will try and bethere.

Major C. B. Moore and wife have the unfeigned sympathy of our entire city in the loss of their bright and manly boy, Carl. He was bathing in the Arkansas river, just above the city, and was drowned.

Rev. Nat. G. Nunn, C. P. minister, formerly of Lacrosse, is now preaching to a congregation at Benton, and one at Des Arc, alternately. We were glad to meet our old friend a few days since. Our Methodist pastors will find no trouble in fraternizing with this catholic spirited minister.

Rev. J. R. Moore, Arkadelphia, called Monday. He is helping Bro. Carr, at Pine Bluff, this week. Bro. Moore preached the commencement sermon at Altus, and reports an exceedingly interesting time there. He says our Senior's address to the graduating class was the finest effort of his life.

Mr. Ed. W. Winfield will be in this office for a short time, as both the Senior and the Junior will be absent much for some weeks attending district conferences. Mr. Ed. will answer correspondents, enroll subscribers and entertain our friends who call to see us. He possesses, we believe, in happy combination the excellent qualities of his father and mother.

Field Notes.

We begin this week with a kind message sent us by Brother Cline: "A good Baptist lady at Kerr's Station, who subscribed for our paper for six months on trial, renews and says she will never do without it, as it is the best paper she knows of." A very sensible lady.

Another, a good brother, renews, and says, "I send you 75 cents, and will do better when times are easier, but I must have the METHODIST and won't do without it." Many thanks, Brother Shook, and you shall have it.

Next comes Rev. J. M. Cantrell, from Batavia, and of course it is good and savory. Read: "This is Monday morning and I am seated to represent this part of the Arkansas field. I reached the Wilcocksin circuit the first Sunday in December, preached twice that day to good congregations. Since, I have had good congregations, good attention, and have not missed an appointment this year. Eight have joined the church, one conversion and several are earnest seekers after truth. Soon after I came to my work I learned that at some of my appointments there were suitable houses in which to worship, and at some there were not. I began talking about building church houses; and at one appointment the brethren and friends responded; the winter being suitable only for talk, we put in pretty good time arranging and planning. So when spring came and the roads settled so that hauling could commence, we began to put our talk into effect. We secured a deed to about seven acres of land and began to build. We have just finished the hull of the house. We will get one hundred dollars from the C. E. fund, which will enable us to complete the house, and when complete we will have a house worth about seven hundred dollars, which the Methodist church and this community will be proud of. I am doing all I can to circulate our literature. Many of my people read the METHODIST and there are more who want to read it. You may send the METHODIST to J. M. Rogers, Harrison, Ark., and I will send you pay as want as I find out for certain who else wants to read the METHODIST. This is a good country, and I am glad that I can say that the spiritual condition of the church on this work is very good. We are praying "thy kingdom come and over all prevail." I close now to read the METHODIST, which I have just received." How well that sounds, kind words and gentle smiles fall on the needy spirit like rain drops on the parched soil.

Next comes our brother, C. W. Harris, from Cato, in the midst of the work of that great worker, Rev. E. C. Castleberry. No better man or more faithful one in Arkansas. He is a real itinerant: "I venture to write for your columns a brief communication, and especially as I see nothing in them from this part of our State. We must be heard from, and know of no better mode than through the columns of the METHODIST. This is, indeed, a beautiful country; nature and art combined has made it so, and the most beautiful feature about it is that it is settled up principally by a clever, social and christian people, and I mean just what I say. Methodism is largely represented here, nearly every one are Methodist, and members of that church. Churches are numerous and the people generally turn out in full to hear our beloved preacher (Brother Castleberry,) at all of his appointments. We all love him dearly and hardly see how we could ever give him up, and he knows how to infuse the true spirit into the church and keep her alive, and he succeeds admirably in so doing. He preached a good sermon at Mount Carmel church last Sunday, and was full of the Holy Ghost as usual. All were deeply impressed and a grand spritual feast ensued, and this writer had partaken so largely of the feast that he could not resist giving the preacher a warm

embrace; all seemed to enjoy it and were exceedingly happy; it was good to be there. The health of this community is good, comparatively, but little sickness just now. The farmers are all busy working their crops, and I believe are hopeful and anticipate a good yield. It is to be hoped, at least, that no one will be disappointed in that. How could we get along without the farmers? They are the bone and stnew of the country, and I am sorry to say are not appreciated as much as they should be by some people. Most of our great and good men were once tillers of the soil. While all classes are more or less dependent on each other, let us not forget to hold in high estimation the humble tiller of the soil."

Here we will give a full report of a most wonderful work of grace in Russellville. The whole town was stirred and the fire is catching in adjoining towns. We rejoice with our Brother Melton and his people. Read and prepare to praise God: "Last night closed one of the most wonderful revivals that was ever known in the history of this town, if not the most wonderful revival ever known in the history of the State. Twelve days work resulted in something near three hundred converts to the religion of Jesus, together with many reclamations. The meeting was conducted by the Rev. W. M. Robison, of Milan, Tenn., a preacher of the C. P. Church, who is now devoting his time to evangelistic work. He is a duplicate of our Sam Jones. He came to us as the Savior went to the temple, with a platted scourge, and oh! how he did ply it. Backsliders and hypocrites received such castigation as I never witnessed before. No character of sin and worldliness was left untouched. To describe the man and his methods is impossible. We can only say as the Samaritan woman, "Come see a man who told us all things that ever we did." From what I have seen of Sam Jones, through the papers, they are on the same line. One thing is sure, God is with Brother Robison. He speaks as one having authority. His sarcasm is keen; his humor convulsing, and his pathos touching. He excites frowns, and smiles, and tears, almost simultaneously. For about two days, at the beginning, Russellville was in a perfect bubble. Some were for him and some against him. Some blessed him and others cursed him. But he took it all in a good humor, and was as jolly as a school boy. He said, "the woman took the broom and swept till she found the piece of silver. She raised the dust, no doubt, as we are raising it in Russellville, but is my broom and your dust." The secret of his success is, that he has faith in God and dares to tell the people the unvarnished truth. The good that his visit has done this town can not be estimated. And his visit did not only effect the town, but the country for miles around. Men from Dardanelle, Dover, Potts' Station, &c., come to see and hear and were converted. John Quinn, the sheriff, and Rice Hogan, the ex-sheriff, were both drawn down from Dover and converted. Every tomahawk in town was buried, and peace reigns supreme. The language of our hearts is "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, good will to men." Bro. Robison begins at Dardanelle, Saturday night, the 6th inst., and we hope he may be blessed as he was here. I hope we may be able to keep him in Arkansas all this year. He is engaged to go to Morrilton as soon as he works up Dardanelle. He has also petitions from Dover, Clarksville, Ozark and Van Buren. It is to be hoped he will also be solicited to go to Conway, and go and turn it upside down. All the churches of Russellville will reap largely of the benefits of this unprecedented revival. Brothers Greathouse, Massey, Hill, Smith, Steel and Matthews, of our church attended, and Bro. Morphis, of the C. P. church, at Morrilton; Dr. Patton, of the O. S. P. church, of Dardanelle; Dr. Searcy and Revs. Reeves and Box, of the Baptist church, beside the resident pastors." This is a long field note, but everybody will enjoy it, and then we all take a rest for a week.