

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, D. D.,

"Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

TERMS, { IN ADVANCE.
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General News.

Domestic.

Our country is clad in mourning. Our great chieftain and ex-President expired at Mt. McGregor, N. Y., on Thursday the 23d inst., at 8:08 a. m. Viewed by the world's standard of success, Gen. Grant was among the first military leaders of this age. Among the Federals, he only had one equal—McClellan—among the Confederate we see Lee and Stone Wall Jackson both towering above him. He was a great man, but a poor politician. Strong in will power, he was never lacking in determination. The great elements of success in his character, were pluck and energy. Like Napoleon, he ever said: "There shall be no Alps." He was a greatly injured man, when he was made to dwarf the soldier into the politician. He never did measure up to the real standard of a great statesman and politicians made him do many things for the sake of party, that neither his heart or judgment approved. All the reconstruction measures, with the vile men they brought to the front, never could have been in full accord with the sentiments of the great soldier. The endeavor to force him upon the country for a third term was the work of office-seeking, time-serving politicians, who would fain gratify their own cupidity by the great popularity of the nation's chieftain. It seemed that Gen. Grant could never rise above the influence of these little base fellows, some of whom desire to figure even in his burial. 'Tis well that God permitted him to linger so long amid the fires of affliction, till the real gold of this grand character could shine out in all its resplendence, and the dying hero could do more with his death than had been accomplished by his life—in cementing the bonds of his dissevered country. He was one of the great and prominent figures of this mighty age, and the whole world stops to shed a tear over his fall. We are sorry to see the contest over his burial place. Let the sorrowing wife and children attend to that, and let their choice be the easy settlement of the question, and no matter where he sleeps, he will never die out of the nation's heart and confidence.

Foreign.

The great Anglo-Russian difficulty is not yet settled. Lord Salisbury has renewed the proposal that Russia should withdraw her troops from advanced positions in the Zullicar pass, in order to avoid a possible conflict with the Afghans. Russia will agree to it on condition that the Afghans be restrained from occupying the positions evacuated by the Russian troops. Such occupation will be the signal for an immediate advance by the Russians. Military activity.—The military activity at Odessa is maintained. It is rumored that preparations are being made for an early movement toward the Caspian Sea. The Irish question is again to the front in Old England. This time it is Hon. Mr. Bright that has given offense to the Sons of Erin, and they charge him with a breach of the privilege of parliament. Cholera is still raging in Spain. Italy has sent a squadron to Alexandria. The reports of the death of the El Mahdi is confirmed at Cairo. The Panama Canal Company has asked for another loan of 50,000,000 of francs in bonds. The French government declined to accede, as they are not able now to pay the budget. An anti-vaccination convention will meet at Charleval to-day. Herbert, Spencer, Hacket and Buckner, will send approving letters. A large attendance of Swiss, French, German and Dutch medical men is expected. Guess these scientists and doctors have struck their calling at last. They certainly know very little about religion and the Bible.

State News.

Old Camden has had a \$10,000 fire. We are sorry for this loss on our old friends. We love Camden.

The Argenta Incident is out in a new dress, and looks as sweet as a pink. It is a newswy paper.

Hon. Mr. Alexander has been appointed postmaster at Pine Bluff, vice Hon. A. A. C. Rogers, suspended.

Camp-meeting near Holly Wood, in Clark county, embracing the 5th Sunday in August. We hope to take in a part of it.

Sheriff Fletcher, of Lonoke county, returned a few days ago with the murderer, Ruffin, caught at Stormville, Miss.

Magnolia has passed an ordinance that boys under 21 shan't play billiards in that town. How about the grown up children?

Crops are suffering in many portions of our State. The rains are spotted, and corn and cotton are both suffering in the hills.

Pic-nics, barbecues, and camp-meetings are being held throughout the State. Keep away whiskey, drink cool water, and then you will all have a good time.

Hot Springs don't rejoice much over the appointment of Gen. Field as Superintendent. All right. Help to elect him door keeper of the House of Representatives, and then our folks will have another chance.

Hon. S. H. Emmerson has been appointed postmaster at Malvern. We are glad of this. Sam is one of the true men, and Malvern one of the nice towns, and good things should go together as well as good people.

Hon. T. C. McRae was the fortunate man this time, and will make the race in the Third Congressional District. We heartily congratulate him. "Lean dog for a long race." My friend will appreciate this, this hot weather.

"Sunday night services have been discontinued in Christ Church until the first Sunday in September." So says the Gazette. Wonder what will become of the sinners in that time? We thought all the churches in this city belonged to Christ.

We have seen the plats and drawings for the additions to the Blind Institute. They are very beautiful. Dr. Bond has great taste on that line. We are glad to see the Superintendent has been visiting other institutions of like character. We hope he gained much valuable information.

Superintendent Frey has resigned as Superintendent of the Texas and St. Louis R. R., and will receive a very important position on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas R. R. The banquet may have been well enough, but that wit flowing out of wine is a poor affair at best. Better quit such foolishness.

"Angelo Marre has tiled his billiard hall in a most elegant manner, and has sent to Italy for tiling for the front part of his saloon." So says the Gazette, without notice or comment. Wonder how many of his customers will send to Italy for anything. Poor fools! killing yourselves and ruining your families to make this saloon man rich.

The Hamburg News has a good report of the District Conference at Rock Springs. How we hated to miss it. We see a sad item in this paper. One of our dear friends has lost her three little boys at one time. They were all drowned in Saline River. Dear Sister Rowls, how we sympathize with you; but thank God the children are safe. Oh! how dark earth would be without the light of heaven.

Personal.

Rev. H. Jewell returned from District Conference on Saturday evening. Class meeting on Sunday evening with good results.

Revs. J. M. G. Douglas, J. C. Rhodes and Rev. H. M. Granade will receive premiums this week. We like this because we love to help those who are helping us.

Rev. A. D. Jenkins gave us a call on his way to the District Conference at Benton. He did not forget the METHODIST office, and he never does. Come again.

Prof. W. H. Tharp, of the Searcy Male and Female College, was in last week. See his corrected advertisement. This is a first-class college with a first-class faculty.

Our office man took in the Benton District Conference and came back delighted. Guess the brothers and sisters too, dealt very kindly with the young man Edward.

Our Junior returned from the Pine Bluff District Conference on Saturday and will report next week. Sorry we both missed Camden, Monticello, and Arkadelphia. That was our loss.

Sam Jones has stirred the very depths at Plattsburg Camp Meeting and now is in the blue-grass regions of old Kentucky. If Bro. Sam will only leave off a little slang—and steer a little farther from irreverence we will go for him all the way through.

Bishop Wilson is still at Ashville, N. C., summering and drinking from the celebrated Tate Springs. Hope he may entirely recover, and be ready for duty this coming autumn. We desire to hear many more of his elegant sermons.

A friend remembers this senior and with a few fitly chosen words encloses a "V." Such favors are not only appreciated for their intrinsic value, but they are the expressions of love and confidence. Many thanks to that "true friend."

Rev. T. H. Wave, of the Monticello district reports a fine meeting at Plantersville, the place of their District Conference. They gave our paper a rousing endorsement. Many thanks. Sorry we had to miss you, for we have not forgotten the fine time we had last year.

Professor Hancock, of Maple Hill Seminary, near Lebanon, Tenn., was at Pump Springs Camp Meeting. He is the principal of this magnificent school, and we can safely recommend it to all our people. Advertisement next week.

Rev. O. P. Fitzgerald D. D., editor of the Advocate is certain that none of the brethren in and about Nashville headquarters would care to have a quadrennium of Episcopal service. Wonder if any of the brethren could be induced to enter for the long term.

Prof. Otis Patten, ex-Superintendent of the Blind Institute, was in to see us. He is always welcome. The good people of Arkansas will never lose sight of, or forget this true friend of the unfortunate. Badly treated, still he will ever live in the love and confidence of our people.

Rev. R. A. Young D. D., our indefatigable Missionary Secretary, sends us the pressing call found on our eighth page. Let every preacher read and attend to this matter very promptly. The case is urgent and there must be no delay. Act at once, like men who love God and his church.

Bishop Hargrove and wife are out toward the Pacific Slope, and will not return before October. Hope they will have a pleasant trip, but don't think they will find much for us in Montana. It is time for us to quit this foolishness. The people in all that region have the gospel, let us turn to Mexico and China—not forgetting Brazil.

Field Notes.

We begin this week with a short note from our old friend and former fellow laborer, Rev. T. A. Graham, of Walnut Tree. He writes: "I am just home from a protracted meeting. Had several conversions and organized a church. I send three new subscribers for the METHODIST. Your paper is giving great satisfaction. Will make an earnest effort for it this fall." Many thanks, my old friend.

Next comes in our brother, C. C. Graham, from Plummerville, with six subscribers, and the following good report: "Enclosed please find nine names to whose address you will please send your paper; will settle for same at Annual Conference. We held our third Quarterly Conference at Center Ridge, July 11th, Bro. S. H. Babcock, P. E., in the chair. Attendance of official members small; spiritual condition of the church very good; finances somewhat behind. Brother Babcock came to us with the credentials of the Master, and at the very first meeting, while he was telling us of the love and power of Jesus, our hearts were filled with love to God and man, and we rejoiced in God our Saviour. The meeting throughout was blessed with the presence of God to own and bless his children. The visible results, are five conversions and five accessions; the church has also been awakened and equipped for future service. Praise God from whom all blessings flow." We join you in that Doxology after that good note and sweet benediction.

Next comes Brother W. H. W. Burns from Cabin Creek Circuit. We give this as handed us by the P. E., as his report to the District Conference at Mulberry. It is a model one: "Cabin Creek Circuit, W. H. W. Burns, P. C. 1. Spiritual state of the church. No. of appointments, 7. No. of appointments added to the charge this year, 1. No. of organized societies, 5. No. of societies that have regular weekly prayer meetings, 2. No. of societies only occasional prayer meetings, 3. No. of societies that have regular class meetings, 1. No. of societies that have only occasional class meetings, 4. No. of members, 308. No. legally disposed of this year, 60. No. received by letter, 10. No. received church vows, 1. Making a net decrease of 49. No. of families in which there are Methodist, 108. No. of Methodist families or families whose heads are Methodist, 89. The proportion of Methodist families who hold family prayer—about 1-5, or 17 out of 89. The proportion of membership who read the Bible daily and have regular secret prayer, about 1-10. The proportion of membership who read the Bible and pray in secret occasionally, about 9-10. The proportion of members who attend regular upon the ordinances of the church, about 9-10. The proportion that attend upon the social meetings of the church, about 2-3. The proportion of the membership supplied with Methodist literature, about 2-3. No. of church papers taken, 50. 2. As to Sunday-schools. No. of Sunday-schools, 3. No. of members, 285. These Sunday-schools are conducted by the formula laid down in the Methodist Sunday-school Quarterly, and patronize our Publishing House, at Nashville, Tenn., in the use of literature and periodicals. 3. As to financial systems—we follow the Disciplinary plan in raising all the collections, as far as practicable. About 9-10 of the membership contribute to all the institutions of the church, as far as their ability will allow. We have four church houses, only two of which can be said to be in good condition. We have a parsonage unfinished and in debt, but we hope to finish and pay it out of debt before the Annual Conference." We wish

we could see reports from all our works at our District Conferences after that plan.

We next present a letter from our brother, J. H. Perkins, from Center Hill, which will show how our old friends love our paper and how they work for it. Wish we had scores of such good friends: "I sent you a communication about June 6th, which I, as well as some others regret that it found its way to the waste basket. It is likely you failed to publish it because I am not a subscriber for your paper. If so, will state in reply to this, I have not subscribed for a paper since I've been in the State, this the seventh year. Reason: I have been postmaster most of this time, and there is always plenty of papers sent as samples and more or less dead on hand. I am a friend to you and am working for your paper manfully. I sent you a legal notice some time ago, that your paper to J. E. Brothers was not taken out, since then I persuaded him to take it, which he is now doing, but am sorry to say to you that your paper addressed to B. F. Sissoms is not taken out. I have done my best on him, but he will not take it out any more. Reason: Not able to pay for it. I am very much interested in your paper and wish you both abundant success. Bro. Dye is very fresh in my memory. Bro. Winfield has forgotten me, does not remember old Papa Goode, on the Panola circuit. Rev. Thos. Goode, at whose house he spent many pleasant hours, as well as myself. I married his daughter, who heard him (Winfield) try to preach (or did preach) on old Panola circuit. Oh, what good old days those were. Bro. Jim Bates is there yet."

And now we will let our brother, J. F. Armstrong, fill out this week's report, with a fine report from the District Conference at Pocahontas: "Just from District Conference at Pocahontas; a small attendance, but sessions and services very interesting. Brother Smith presided with a great deal of acceptability. Bro. Thornburgh was elected secretary, and was eminently useful in all the interests of the church and remarkably religious. The preaching was very good, and the moon shone on Thursday night in all its brilliancy, and one member of the congregation remarked that it was quite a blessing to have the moon at its full, to shine upon us in all its gospel glory and heavenly benedictions. Bro. Harwood arranged for our hospitable entertainment with no little degree of dexterity, and the good people of Pocahontas abounded in a generous hospitality. Bro. Harwood, whose health has been feeble ever since Conference, is still in exceeding bad health and has preached but few times since Conference. Were it not for his zeal and energy in saving souls, he no doubt would quit at once his much loved employ. He enjoys much religion in his bodily sufferings. May God grant him grace to sustain him in all his personal afflictions and if consistent with the will of heaven, may he be restored to good health again. From the reports of the brethren, one would judge the district to be in tolerably good condition, only. Bro. Smith presided with the tenderest regard for the feelings of the brethren composing the District Conference, and respected the privilege of each member. Bro. Thornburgh, I presume, will write you a letter and report in reference to the District Conference. Well, Dootors, the last found its way to the waste-basket; well you are the judges as to what ought to be published in the paper. I am no murmurer, and this may meet a similar fate, but I will send it knowing that the part you are chiefly interested in will find its way to your pockets. Wishing you great success in all your paper and church work, I remain yours, most truly.

ARKANSAS METHODIST ADVOCATE FAMILY.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1885.

TENNESSEE NOTES.

I am glad to note the growing acquaintance between Arkansas and Tennessee in respect of schools. In the schools with which I am most familiar, in my own State, Arkansas has always had a fair representation of numbers, and these numbers in material have challenged comparison with the patronage from any other State.

While, however, Arkansas has given generous support to our schools, our school men have not advertised largely in Arkansas, except in the excellent work apparent in the young ladies and gentlemen when returning to adorn the active walks of life.

In the ARKANSAS METHODIST of this week I read the advertisements of five Tennessee schools—Vanderbilt University, Culleoka Institute, Memphis Conference Female Institute, Mrs. M. E. Clark's Select School for young ladies, Nashville, Tenn., and Chapel Hill Academy, in Marshall county, Tenn. Vanderbilt, Culleoka and Jackson are old favorites, but Mrs. Clark and Prof. Wall are new candidates and worthy ones.

I visited Mrs. Clark's school at Franklin and I was much pleased with her methods and management. Prof. Wall's school is located in a charming country, and it is one of the best schools I have visited. Prof. Wall believes in the co-education of the sexes, and there seems to be a generous sort of rivalry between the boys and girls that provokes them to good, earnest work.

It was my privilege to attend one of the examinations, and I confess that I was surprised to find a school so fully abreast of the times. The teachers know what to teach and how. I can cordially commend and recommend this school, and the others to those in quest of desirable locality and superior schools.

I was in Nashville last month attending the seventh annual meeting of the Tennessee Conference Woman's Missionary Society. We failed to secure a full representation, but had a good working body with short, concise reports. The delegates present resolved to take stock in the school proposed by Miss Haygood, in the letter published last week in the ARKANSAS METHODIST.

The missionary quilt which you kindly noticed, and on which Arkansas Methodism is represented by the name of Rev. A. R. Winfield, was an exhibition, a veritable thing of beauty. We made one hundred dollars on it before the annual meeting, then it was purchased by Rev. Jas. D. Barker, D. D., pastor of McKendree Church, for one hundred dollars. It was then donated to the Conference Society by the generous purchaser, so that we have another year in which to obtain names and money on the quilt; and I cordially invite all who are willing to aid our cause to send me names and a contribution. The work is exquisite embroidery, and different kinds of painting on elegant material. There is a scroll, white, on black satin (painted) on this scroll are the names of Bishops, and other ministers, it is full as are the spaces around. From the scroll are lines, and these lines extend to white winged birds, and are held in their mouths. Of course the legend is: "I saw another angel flying in the midst of Heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."

In either corner to the right and left of these winged messengers, are the names from the Indian Territory, sent me by Mr. Jno. F. Simpson, of Eufala, Indian Territory. There are many artistic features on the quilt—flowers of scripture in painting and embroidery—in the center on rich velvet a cluster of large lilies, with the legend, "Consider the Lilies," the legend applying also to some lovely lilies in embroidery. There is also the Mexican Cactus, (painted) and the Pansy Society Badge, with motto from Mrs. Alden, editress of the Pansy, the best children's magazine that

comes under my notice. The list of editors is not long, but we hope to extend it. Winfield and Fitzgerald give a good beginning. But it would take a long letter to tell you all the objects of interest on our quilt. We wish it to make much money for our treasury. No plethoric purse has as yet been emptied into our coffer; no monumental gifts. We cannot hope for enlargement of the work until the grace of liberality be more abundant. O, that many would imitate the example of Bishop McTyeir's and resolve to double their contributions to the woman's work this year.

In the City of Rocks one sees many signs of material progress, and would fain hope that church activities are in *pari passu*. This is at least a matter of speculation. Where one sees and hears so much he seldom takes the time for extra amount of doing.

The genial editor of the great official smiled from behind a prodigious pile of papers, manuscripts, some on the table some on the floor, having, I presume, already been cast under foot. I had only a salutation of greeting and farewell from the Book Agent. Mrs. Butler was absent in the interest of the Woman's Advocate.

The gospel tent looked lonely, but the name of Sam Jones was on many lips. He is at this writing holding forth in Murfreesboro. I understand that one saloon has closed out, but that the stores of Jewish merchants, like the gospel gates, stand open day and night, and Sunday.

The travel yesterday, (Sunday), to hear Bro. Jones, was heavy, excursion trains were crowded, those who could not go were disappointed, and the law of compensation hardly covered their cases.

Meantime, Bro. Jones is Bro. Jones, and all attempts on the part of Bro. Smith to be Bro. Jones are fearful failures. The lion's skin he stretched ever so much, will not hide the ears. Such imitators bring religion into contempt with sinners, and the discovery is attended by all the demonstrations of the old fable—the dogs bark, the mules kick, the old horses prick up their ears and chew thoughtfully, while the thoughtless brood of poultry that were seeking shelter and safety are scared and scattered when the familiar bray is heard.

I missed your editorial, sorry I did, on "Our Name," but I read with great delight and hearty approval, the article of your correspondent, Geo. Thornburgh, on the same subject. As Sam Jones would say, "Them's my sentiments." Let us keep our name—this generation could love no other half so well. Let us keep it and abandon the costly and unnecessary experiment of planting the magnolia in the North. Southward and across the seas let our course of empire win its way.

"Counting the Converts," that editorial ought to be circulated and read and thought upon. I am sometimes like the man in the land o' mist, and cannot discern those that be upon the right nor those upon the left, while the voice of the shadowy pilot sounds afar off and is lost in the spectral darkness. Penitence and prayer and faith, with holy song to help, and the way will shine, and the voice be heard all along the line: "I am the way the truth and the life."

This is my birth-day and I am reminded of Bro. Jones again, on the average husband—not mine—mine does much better; but the one Bro. Jones was telling about says, "this is wife's birth-day—she is a good woman—does a lot of hard work and never complains—she is a good woman and ought to have a present. I will go down town and buy her one." He goes to town, looks all around, sees many pretty things, wishes to buy his wife a present. Finally he buys a handsome hat for himself, for, says he, "nothing will please my good wife half so much as to see her husband with a good hat."

MRS. SUE F. MOONEY.
July 18, 1885.

No Bishop Timber at Nashville.

I have just shaken hands with Dr. Young in the Publishing House, and am authorized by him to say to you that he is at perfect agreement with Dr. Fitzgerald that there is no Bishop timber hereabout! And all the brethren say—a—say—say—A—men!

A. T. GOODLOE.
Jerusalem, July 14.

Letter from New Orleans.

EDITORS METHODIST:—I have just returned from the Sea Shore Camp-meeting. It is useless for me to attempt a description of these grounds or of the meeting to you. The meeting was something new to me (my first camp-meeting.) I enjoyed it far more than I can express. The grounds have been chosen with rare judgment and are a boon to the Methodist people throughout this and neighboring localities. Right on the Sea Shore with a most magnificent beach. The slope is gradual and beautiful. I am told that one can walk out two miles in the water and not have the water come higher than the neck. A soft sandy bottom gives the impression of walking on a velvet carpet. The land slope too is very pretty to the shore. The grounds are beautifully shaded by trees of a large variety—Sycamore, Hickory, Oak and Wild Magnolia, being among the kinds. Any Methodist person can go there and build a tent by complying to certain easy rules. A ground tax of \$10 is asked, and it is expected that a tent worth \$100 will be put up. Many persons take their whole families over and stay from first of May till first of November, with every advantage of a sea shore resort.

The tents are mostly comfortable wooden houses, containing from four to six rooms, galleries fronting the water. I occupied Christian Keener's tent, which contained four rooms and a hall; and found myself as comfortable as at home, though, of course, the houses are rough, being of undressed lumber in upright style. But why need I explain a camp ground to you, I expect you have been on many. But this impressed me as such a blessing, outside of the annual meeting, which is of course the primary object in view. The grounds are kept beautifully. Meats and other marketing are brought every morning to the door; and, being a Methodist, one can live there delightfully without any extra cost all summer.

A gate fee is charged of 50 cents for the season of six months; for the grounds, bath houses, warves and boats must be kept in order.

Now for the meeting. It was grand and was an exemplification of how God will bless when there is a concentration and consecration of religious power. I heard there were twenty-eight preachers present. Bishop Keener was there, but only favored us with one sermon—3 o'clock on Sunday—I was disappointed in that, for I felt for every reason that he ought to have preached at 11 o'clock on Sunday, and at other times also. I am somewhat impressed by this that the people down here don't appreciate that man of such grand mind and abilities. His sermons always seem to me like every sentence is a truth moulded and hammered down so that it is as unanswerable as an axiom. Dr. Harrison, of Nashville, was there and preached several times, Dr. Mark Andrews and Dr. Andrew, son of Bishop Andrew, Dr. Carter, Ahrens, and many others. It was a feast. We had music, vocal and instrumental. The committee on music prepared for the instrumental part by furnishing an organ and cornet. To the latter I think at first there were a little whispered objection, but it all melted away as I shall tell. The lad who was hired to go there to play on the cornet had never been in a meeting at a protestant church. I am informed never heard a hymn, i.e. as we sing. At first he made sad havoc of some of our sacred familiar tunes. But being first rate at reading music, they soon got him tamed down. It was soon noticed when not called on to play that he was noticing the words of the hymns, then he was noticed to join his voice with the others, at times when the spirit moved some brother or sister, to start a tune without waiting for the formality of commencement. Then he began to ask the boys questions regarding our methods and about conversion. Much to the surprise of all he went to the altar one night and continued going until he professed to be converted. Preachers who talked with him were much pleased and entirely satisfied at the genuineness of all he professed. He asked many curious questions and would not take the communion until it was fully explained to him. And he said he could

not break his mother's heart by leaving the Catholic Church, and he would consult her and then decide. Said he: "If I can keep my faith and stay in the church I am in, I will." "We will see what we will see." One strange thing about this is that Mr. Werlein, who took the boy out, would not allow anything said to him until he sought it, because he was set against proselyting. I could tell you of many interesting and delightful things, but I commenced this letter on a matter of business, and only thought to tell you I had been to the Camp-meeting, and lo! I have been led to say all these pages.

One thing more then I will desist. A lady arose in the experience meeting and said that years ago she was converted under Bishop Keener's preaching, when she did not understand one word he said. At that time knowing no English. The Holy Spirit took a tone, I suppose, and sanctified it as in the case of Hernandez, our Mexican preacher. The experience meetings were instructive and delightful.

Please, from this time till further notice, send my ARKANSAS METHODIST to me at Plainfield, New Jersey, where I go next week. My sister and I sail by ocean steamer to New York on next Wednesday, 22nd inst.; thence to Plainfield to my sister's, Mrs. Porter. I hope my friends in Arkansas still have interest enough in me to remember me in their prayers.

You say that long time ago I promised you a letter, this will certainly redeem that promise. It may be with such good effect that you will not want another promise soon. Give my love to Sister Winfield and Mrs. Powell. Tell the latter we missed her last spring when we were enjoying Mr. Powell. We are to have another exposition, come to it.

Arkansas is so well off in regard to the appropriation for her display, I have been listening and hoping to hear of her declining the \$2000 promised each State by New Orleans, Louisiana, New Orleans in particular has to bear nearly all the burden of the thing, and yet her claims must only be paid last. It does not seem just. Some of the States acknowledge great benefit, and still have a surplus of money on hand. They ought to be generous and help us out. Wishing you and the ARKANSAS METHODIST a prosperous year, I am, most kindly and respectfully,
MARY S. OBER.

EDITORS METHODIST:—A great deal is now being said about Sam Jones through your paper and others. It would be very remarkable indeed, if we should all exactly agree about the man and his methods. No unprejudiced mind can look over the vast field covered with the rich results, without being deeply impressed with the facts that God is in the work. The results are being tested; and do they not stand the test?

It is not my purpose to drift into the controversy, I wish simply to call attention to one important feature following the revivals conducted by Sam Jones, and that is the fact that the effects are not confined to the towns or immediate communities where his meetings are held. But in nearly every instance a wave is put in motion through his meetings which rolls out for miles away, and the heart of the church is deeply stirred at a great distance. For instance, here at Decatur, Ala., where we had been lying as bleaching bones for many years. We are sure we have realized the sweep of the wave which has radiated from Nashville. We had been praying, preaching and working otherwise, for a deep, mighty revival for months. During the revival at Nashville two young men of our Sabbath-school went there "on purpose to get religion," and they returned full of faith and the Holy Ghost; and very soon after their return I appointed a prayer meeting for the young men, and then the revival began deep down in the hearts of the people. About this time a man of our town was converted while reading one of Sam Jones' sermons in a newspaper. So the work went on until the entire town seemed ready to surrender at the cross; whole families had been converted at the altar. The whole community has been shaken as by an earthquake. It is no "spasm," no "sensation." Nearly one hundred souls have been converted, (pardon

me for counting,) and so far eighty have been added to the churches; I have received fifty-five and more to follow. The ages of the converts have ranged from seven years to seventy-five. Sam Jones is not here, but the great tidal wave has come and lifted the habitations of iniquity.

MILLARD J. LAW.
Decatur, Ala., July 17, 1885.

EDITORS METHODIST:—Newport District, White River Conference, held its first session at Pocahontas, July 9-12. P. E. Smith presided with modesty, courtesy and dispatch. All the pastors but three were present; also a goodly number of local preachers and laymen.

The P. E. was thorough in his inquiries, and brought out the condition of the District pretty freely. The blanks originated by Bishop Hargrove were used, but not fully understood by all. In fact the blanks are not practical in all respects. The General Conference should have a committee on reports of all kinds and provide forms at once, full, practical and convenient.

The committee on Bible cause offered a resolution urging our ministers and people to stick to the King James Bible in preference to the new version, which was adopted, but after discussion was adopted by a large majority.

The committee on Centenary congratulated the Conference on what had been accomplished for centenary objects.

The committee on Temperance advocated a strong position on the temperance question, and a "pull altogether" by the church.

The committee on Missions reported that Corning circuit should be a mission; that there should be a mission between Newport and Cache river; and probably should be one on Jones' creek and Spring river on the State Line.

The committee on the Spiritual State of the Church, gladly reported an improved spiritual condition. The committee urged our people to take more interest in family worship, and as the best means of conducting family prayer they suggested the following:

Buy song books and learn good songs.

Buy a Bible for each member of the family.

Have a convenient place to keep them by themselves.

The whole family read the lesson in concert.

If a long chapter read only half. Do not tire the children by either long chapters or long prayers. Sing a song cheerfully. Kneel in prayer.

In this way all the family take part and each feels the importance of performing his part.

The finance committee said the finances were behind considerably, and the principal reason was the want of system and efficient stewards.

Walnut Ridge was chosen as the place at which to meet next year.

Geo. Thornburgh, C. G. Johnston, Joe W. Coffman and W. H. Phipps, were chosen delegates to the Annual Conference; the latter is a local preacher. W. E. Irby and G. G. Green were elected alternate delegates.

Rev. G. A. Dannelly was the only visitor to the Conference. The Junior of the METHODIST was expected, but did not appear. The Conference was as thoughtful as ye Editor—it said nothing about papers.

The prospect was good for a revival when I left. The town of Pocahontas did nobly by the Conference. Every one appeared to be well located.

Yours, &c.,
GEO. THORNBURGH, Sec'y.

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