

ARKANSAS METHODIST.

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

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"Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

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General News.

Foreign.

The great excitement of London now comes from the exposures of crime in high life and aristocratic circles by the Pall Mall Gazette. It is frightful and the whole city is in a ferment. Instead of trying to correct the evils and abate crime the police authorities are busying themselves to destroy the Gazette and tried to put the paper under the ban of public censure. The whole kingdom has taken it up and the Gazette is being backed up by the Church and Clergy. Dr. Spurgeon endorses the Gazette out and out.

The cholera is raging in Spain with more force than ever and has even attacked the highest circles in Madrid. It is frightful in its destruction.

China is preparing for war with Russia and Japan is preparing to join her. Russia is said to be making encroachments on the Celestials and they will not submit to these outrages from the great ugly bear of the frozen zone.

Mr. Gladstone, the ex-Premier of old England is taking a lively interest still in European affairs. He was too conservative for old Albion, but far ahead in every respect of DeIsrael; but the progressives demanded his removal.

Spain declines to enter into commercial treaty with Uncle Sam, and he is rather snubbed by this country, bowed down with decrepitude and age.

Russia is still in trouble on the Afghan frontier and has lately imprisoned the clerk of the English Consul and gave him a sound beating. Russia is determined to advance in that country.

Little Peru has a revolution and serious trouble is expected.

Austria and Serbia has entered into a treaty—offensive and defensive and will proceed to capture and distribute Macedonia.

Domestic.

Our first home news is anything else but pleasant. Our great Democratic President was out last Sunday on a fishing excursion, spending God's Holy day in this sinful way. We told you that you were throwing up your hats and tearing your garments for nothing. Politics only means ins and out, and it is hard to tell which is the worst. The papers are contenting themselves because he is no worse than Mr. Arthur. But what of Mr. Garfield? and what would have been thought of General Washington on a Sunday fishing? Attorney-General Garland is applauded by the country for stopping all work on the Sabbath, but the President sets the bad example to the youth of the country by fishing on that Holy day.

Dreadful catastrophe reported at Metonka and several lives lost and not a single survivor. A fearful case of mob law in Oxford, Miss., an attempted rapist hung in a church yard in broad day light, and it was witnessed by all the people. Which is the worse, mob law or capital punishment? Answer, ye advocates for abolishing capital punishment; for we will certainly have one or the other.

Gen. Grant was reported better on the 12th and sat near enough to hear the hymns of a service conducted by Rev. Dr. Newman who could not close a service so solemn without expressions that have always marred his discourses. What a contrast. A dying ex-President listening to hymns, and the living President fishing. So men change when they come to die.

The revival influence in our country is not abating at all, but increasing in volume and power as weeks pass along. At Memphis Bro. Sam Jones is simply moving everything before him. The whole town was under excitement and all business suspended. Atlanta is shaken as with an earthquake, and Texas and Arkansas both are sharing largely in the revival. To God be all the glory.

State News.

Fort Smith District Conference at Paris this week. We hope to be there.

The Rural and Workman has a condensed report of the crops from all parts of the State. It is splendid.

Returns come in slowly from the Third Congressional District, but the fight is certainly between McRae and Bearden.

Hon. John McCauley has been appointed postmaster at Searcy, and the people are well satisfied and rejoicing over great prosperity and fine water.

We learn with regret that Col. Lee Thompson, the Senator for Pulaski and Perry, is very ill at his residence in this city. Hope he will soon be better.

District Conferences at Paragould, Pochontas and Mulberry, last week. Our Junior took in the two first and will report. We had good friends at Mulberry.

The Democrat of the 13th has the City Ordinance as passed by the Council in full. It is an abomination of abominations and our people will never submit to it.

Gen. W. T. Cabell has been appointed U. S. Marshall for the Northern District of Texas. Many old soldiers will rejoice at the luck of "Old Tige." We congratulate him.

Col. C. M. Neel is the second largest planter in the South, and will soon be the first. Pine Bluff is proud of her enterprising son, and well she may be. He is an honor to our State.

The Hamburg News is out in a brand new dress, without any patent inside or outside, and looks every inch like a May Queen, and is brim full of good reading. Success to our brother Keith.

The race in the third congressional district is becoming very lively. Hard to tell or even conjecture who will lead, but they are all strong men and we will have a strong man as successor to Senator Jones.

Another of the old time men of Little Rock has passed away—we refer to Major A. J. Hutt. Before the war he took an active part in politics and was a successful merchant. Since the war he has devoted his time to mercantile pursuits with his only son.

There is trouble growing about the working of our penitentiary convicts, and it will become worse and worse. Our State must provide to work these men inside the walls and not bring this convict labor in competition with the labor of her own good citizens.

Hot Springs is excited over the man whom Col. Lamar, Secretary of the Interior, is likely to appoint Superintendent of the Reservation at that place. We remember with great pleasure, Gen. Kelley, when he filled that position. We hope an Arkansas man will get it this time.

Our city is much engaged and excited over the late bill providing revenue for cities of the first class. The ordinance proposed to be passed by our City Council was so manifestly unjust that our people remonstrated strongly against it and one of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings we ever saw in Little Rock was held last Monday night, 6th inst., and addressed by Hon. H. C. Caldwell, our Federal Judge. It was a clincher and absolutely knocked all the life and justice out of the occupation tax ordinance. However the Council modified it and then passed it. But it will be enjoined. We own a small house in this city and we believe we are as poor as almost anybody, but we ask for justice. Let our Council at its next meeting order every owner of property to improve their sidewalks, and put a tax on us to improve the streets, but don't impose this unjust occupation tax upon our laborers and mechanics. It must not be done.

Personal.

Prof. Cabell is in Forrest City putting in some good work for Cedar Bluff Female College.

Bishop R. K. Hargrove is off on his western tour. He has a hard field, but he is a very strong man.

Rev. Sam Jones left Murfreesboro, Tenn., this week for the great camp-meeting in Missouri, near Plattsburg.

Rev. J. B. McFerrin, D. D., our Book Agent, is flying around like a boy in his teens. He is a wonderful man.

Hon. A. D. Bright was one of the large figures at the late Conference at McKenzie, and he made a fine speech based on figures.

Wilson Williams, Esq., bursar of the Vanderbilt, will renew his notes to our paper in a few weeks. He will be very welcome.

Our Junior will go to Salem this week while we journey to Paris. We hope the brethren will return us both loaded with subscribers.

Rev. C. Pope is expected to be at the Pine Bluff District Conference at Toledo. He will receive a real ovation from his old friends.

Early York, Esq., of Palarm, was in to see us this week. He is a great admirer of our paper, and we are always glad to see him. Come again.

Rev. R. A. Young, D. D., our portly Missionary Secretary, is going right forward and gives a good account of our missionary interests.

Bishop J. C. Granberry was at the meeting of our Church Extension Board last week in Louisville. Every body will be glad to see him in Arkansas.

Rev. E. N. Evans expects to open the new Chapel of old Spring Street Church next Sunday. It is handsome, and when their new church is built it will be a daisy.

Rev. P. A. Peterson, D. D., of the Virginia Conference, is at Hot Springs for rheumatism. He is a noble specimen of the Old Dominion. Hope we will meet our old friend.

Rev. H. Jewell was down in Cleveland county last week, to visit his family, who are summering down there. He brings a good report from the brethren as well as the crops.

Rev. A. West, D. D., of Alabama, sends us a strong endorsement of our editorial on "Counting Converts." The Doctor is one of the bravest men living. Nothing can drive him from the courage of his convictions.

Rev. R. B. Cavett, of the C. P. Church, sends us a pressing invitation to go to his assistance in a meeting at Valley Grove. How gladly would we go if we could, but we cannot. He is a noble christian man and we would be glad to work with him.

Bishop H. N. McTyeire was fresh from a meeting of our Church Extension Board at Louisville, where important steps were taken looking to the organization of a new conference in our Mexican border territory. The Bishop will organize it in San Antonio next fall. He is in fine working trim.

Rev. W. S. Scott sends us a pressing invitation to his protracted meeting, and wishes us to dedicate a new church August 2nd. Sorry we can't go, but we are engaged to attend a District Conference at Rogers, in North-West Arkansas. And for the best of reasons we are compelled to decline an invitation on like business at Salem.

The ministers and delegates of the Washington district who come on the railroad will be met at Nashville on Wednesday the 22nd and carried out to Pump Springs camp ground. The conveyances will meet the train at 12 o'clock. Brethren take due notice. J. M. G. DOUGLASS.
Center Point, July 6, 1885.

Field Notes.

We closed last week with a great shout from Hot Springs, and we begin this week with a report from Brother A. S. Blackwood, of Augusta, that delightful city on the bank of the beautiful White. Our brother is a worker and no mistake: "Our third Quarterly meeting was held last Saturday and Sunday. Bro. Jeffett was with us, but was very sad over the recent loss of his precious little boy, "Tommie." He preached for us twice and the congregation was deeply moved both times. The reports to the conference showed a healthier condition of the church. We had just closed, a week before the Quarterly Conference, an interesting revival, in which there were eight persons converted to God, and the church much revived. During the revival Brother M. B. Winstead preached for us twice and Brother M. C. Morris preached several times very acceptably. I had to close the meeting at about the most interesting stage owing to sickness of myself. I have recovered, I think, and intend ere long to hold another meeting." A good report, but not satisfied. May the next be much more abundant in good results.

Now we come to our brother, John A. Shropshire, from Roseville. How well we remember that elegant town on the banks of the old Arkansas. Read this good report: "As no one has honored our backwoods here with a field note, I believe I will try and write a few lines and you may call it a little patch note. I thought our pastor R. P. Hardcastle would give our diggings a little puff, blow, or something of the kind, but have not yet seen a scratch from him. Perhaps he thinks we hardly deserve a blow, not even a puff. Well, anyway, he is neither dead nor sleeping—of course I mean spiritually sleeping. He is going right ahead with his pastoral work, trying to accomplish all the good he can. He is what we call an earnest worker, as this is the third year that he has been with us is very good evidence that we like him splendidly. He makes it a point to take a subscription for the ARKANSAS METHODIST every opportunity. We think the paper is improving wonderfully fast. Hope it will soon be enlarged. Poor Gin, we feel so sorry for him. Do try and get the poor fellow to come up to Logan county, and we will try and learn him to do without lots of fun and plenty of whisky. Crops in this locality are tolerably good, cotton though is getting grassy again—owing to so much rain of late. Health is generally good. We hope to see you up here at our district meeting at Paris in July. The last time I saw you was at Old Sardis Church, in Bradley county—I believe it was in 1865 or 1866. Now if our pastor don't write up a little note and tell you something that I haven't, I will give him a good currying next time." Of course brother Hardcastle will write and we expect to pass Roseville and take these notes with us.

Next we will give place to a private note from our old friend Rev. Jas. E. Caldwell, as it gives expression of opinion on a question vital to our Zion at this time: "I have thought of saying a word or two as to change of our name. I think what you say in your issue of the 27th inst. is as a nail driven in a sure place," at least so far as our conference is concerned. Due regard for our good and great men, who lived and died with the name, and the fact that we have prospered everywhere with it, it seems to me quite sufficient to settle the question finally—"No change." This was my notion in 1874, and I can see no reason to change. The M. E. Church, South, is my mother. I love her very name. Hope to see you at our District Conference." It was our purpose to be

there, but our P. E.s have disappointed me.

Next we report from Brother W. A. Freeman, on Social Hill. That is a splendid name, but the report is better: "It is a pleasant task for me to write you this evening, as I have the twenty-four subscribers (the number requisite for the dictionary.) At first I thought it would be indeed a task for me to reach the much desired and needed premium; but when I had secured a few "subs," and the paper began to make its visits (Pleasant visits), "Old Gus," as he is familiarly called, began through his columns to speak such good things, that those subscribers already secured began to "blow up," (as they ought to have done) the "old reliable," and we had no real difficulty in securing the necessary subscribers. How happy one feels when they have accomplished some desired end, that they thought could hardly be done. I often enquire of your subscribers how they like the paper and its "Eds," and thus far it has given entire satisfaction. We are moving off very well with our work and the good Lord is blessing our labors, and is giving us access to the hearts and consciences of the people. This scribe has just had a "gracious refreshing from the presence of the Lord." We thank God and take courage. We enclose you 15 subscribers, making 25, and we are in no notion of "letting up," but will try to make the hearts of two poor, tired editors glad, if the good Lord spares us till next annual conference." Many thanks to you and my old friends.

Next comes a good report from Rev. J. B. Thomas, Bright Star: "Please find obituary of one of the most lovely children I ever knew, all that knew her loved her—her parents are members of our church and request the publication—make any changes you see fit. Bright Star circuit I think greatly improved; a deeper piety exists now than ever before. The discussion that arose from the note I sent you with regard to whiskey has done good. Many who had before been taking their dram, not that it did them any good, or that they really wanted it, have resolved never to touch the accursed stuff again, and I am sure it has done good. Continue to fight the demon until it is banished from our land. The paper is increasing in popularity here. Success to the METHODIST." We are thankful for the good done, and we know that star will shine brighter.

EDITORS ARKANSAS METHODIST:—We protracted the meeting which commenced with the Dardanelle District Conference, June 26, until July 5; was assisted by the Rev. W. D. Mathews, P. E. of the District, part of the time. The meeting resulted in the conversion of 33 souls, and the adding of 23 to the membership of the church. There were 17 adults and 4 infants baptized. There is not a female over 13 years of age in the town who is not religious, and every man in town, save two, are either religious or have promised to be. We are indebted to the brethren of the District and visiting brethren, especially Dr. Winfield, for valuable assistance. But to God be all the glory.

P. B. SUMMERS.

We close this week with a short report from our young Brother Cameron: "I see by the date on my paper that my subscription expires the 27th of this month. I have not got the money to renew, but will have by the middle of May. Please credit me that long, will you? I can't think of doing without it, I like it and must have it. I will renew through my pastor, Bro. C. M. Keith, as he wants the Commentaries and I want to help him. Bro. Keith came to us a stranger, but we soon learned to love him. Success to the METHODIST."