

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."

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

VOL. 3.

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JANUARY 10, 1885.

NO. 38

General News.

England.

The old mother country is certainly going to be taxed to the uttermost of her great capacity to protect herself at home and abroad. The London Times, the leading journal of all Europe, and really the pioneer of thought in England, is speaking out very plainly on European affairs. Mr. Gladstone and the whole cabinet have been asked to resign in consequence of great blunders in Egyptian affairs. Bismarck, it is said, has taken the most daring step of any leader since the days of the First Napoleon, in occupying a portion of Lower Guinea, thus invading the colonies of Her Majesty. An order has been issued at Portsmouth for all men to report for duty; and there is certainly great activity and unusual bustle about the strange preparations that are being made to start out the fleet on some mission unknown.

Germany.

Is restless, and seems determined to make some rapid advance movements on the political Chess Board. She seems determined to interfere with the treaty that Spain is about to make with the United States, and she is evidently intent on a disturbance with England.

France.

It is said, is openly insulting to Uncle Sam, and has actually become so arrogant and presumptuous as to excite the attention of all tourists to Paris. It is said that the women of America are caricatured in their dress and manners in every French Theatre, and in all French society. France is showing a purpose to protect Panama and interfere with the Great Canal, the Inter-oceanic artery that is to bind nationalities, and let their blood and interests mingle. It is said she will throw her protecting wing over Paraguay in the next few months, and unite with Germany to humble Spain for her disposition to have better commercial relations with us. She has changed her Secretary of War, and will commence an active war on China.

Russia.

Full of trouble at home, still she is ready to join with any nation of people who will help to humble old Albion. She is even ready to unite with her old enemy, France, to do this. Nihilism has actually entered her Church University at Moscow, and the old Arch Bishop had to call in the soldiers to arrest and whip the boys. Of course the interest of Russia is now more immediately identified with Germany and France than with any others, and both of them think the United States are confederate with England in the Great Inter-Oceanic Canal, and if possible, they intend to force a collision and throw our government, with England, Spain and Italy, on the aggressive—and thus secure the sympathy of the rest of Europe.

Our Own Country.

Washington's words will never be forgotten by his countrymen: "Avoid all foreign entangling alliances, and cultivate the spirit of fraternity and peace with all." We really think the nations are disappointed at the fact that after the rule of the Republican party for over twenty years, there can be a peaceful change of administration when the majority on the popular vote was only a little over one thousand.

Our great Exposition at New Orleans is another source of vexation. The old king is neither dethroned or dead, and King Cotton still has great power over the world's commerce. It is certainly a grand affair, and we are rejoiced that it is a movement of Southern men with Southern capital to bring our industries to the front and let our people have the power in the country and abroad that they are entitled to. It is a great success and does honor to the Crescent City.

State News.

Hon. J. K. Jones, the able representative of the Third Congressional District, has been in the Capital City this week. He was en route for Washington City.

Hon. G. Dexter Dunn was among the notables to be seen on our streets the past week. Both of these gentlemen we believe are willing to serve the people in the United States Senate, if they say so, and the probability is they will say so.

A tearful difficulty in Prescott, in which Dan O'Leary was killed by a former friend and a relative.

Helena has had another fire, though no very serious loss.

Hon. Geo. Thornburgh will arrive on Thursday, and will make a lively race for Speaker. He is a very strong man.

We hear of three very sprightly boys who want to be pages. Masters Elmo Pirtle, John Winfield and Colburn Butler. We cheerfully commend these boys.

The burning of the college building at Lonoke was a severe blow to that noble town. But they will soon have another.

Our old friend, S. H. Tucker, is an aspirant for post-master of this city, under the new administration. No worthier man ever asked an office. Hon. Jacob Frolch, we understand, is being mentioned for the same position. If we were not for Tucker we would certainly be for Frolch. Either will be an honor to us.

Our Legislature will convene on next Monday at 12 m. Much business of importance is to be transacted. Not the least of which will be the election of a United States Senator to succeed Senator Walker.

Our revenue system is sadly deficient, and the whole business needs overhauling. We hope our worthy Representatives will find better employment than in getting up so large a bill that it will become too burdensome to be considered, and will only answer for a ball for the members to play hot ball with as they did during the last term. No throwing off wads this time, gentlemen. Our people did not elect you for that, and the State has no money to waste in that way. Come to business; stick to it; do your business well and then go home to receive your applause from your constituents for duty well performed.

Clarendon is under a severe overflow. White River is at its best, and our dear friends are under the liquid wave. We sympathize with that nice town, and we know it will be more beautiful than ever after this unwilling baptism.

The Arkansas Industrial University has just entered on a new year. Prospects favorable. We hope our legislature will deal kindly and liberally with this State school and be certain to make a liberal appropriation to the Blind Institution for new buildings. Give the Lunatic Asylum all they want, and don't forget the Mutes.

One matter of great moment we invite attention to, and that is provision for a chaplain to our penitentiary. We must do something to try to reform these men and not return them to society as they came; if we do, our punishment is a failure.

The destruction by the late flood cannot now be estimated. It was simply fearful. We had a water fall in Little Rock in 4 days of over 12 inches and the whole country was submerged, greatly retarding business and obstructing travel. All the roads suffered more or less, but the Iron Mountain particularly. But everything is getting in running order once more, and the country will breathe freely again.

Personal.

Rev. V. V. Harlan, P. E., of Clarksville District, with his accomplished wife, passed through our city en route to their new home, or rather her new home. We were glad to see him looking so well, and right heartily do we welcome them to Arkansas.

Rev. W. B. Branham and wife were with them on their way to New Hope Academy, Indian Territory.

Rev. D. J. Weems was also with the gay and happy crowd, returning to his new work at Van Buren.

Rev. J. M. G. Douglass is reported as making two very fine impressions at Bingen, one in the pulpit, and the other at dinner. Most of us would be more successful at the last. Can't say of that tall Arkansian, but rather guess he did well at both.

Hon. S. W. Williams paid us a very agreeable visit the past week. He is one of the ablest men of Arkansas, and as noble a Christian gentleman as ever lived.

Hon. W. Jasper Blackburn, editor of the "Free South," honored our sanctuary with a call. He is one of the bold, independent thinkers and writers of the present day. Call again, Colonel.

Bishop Granbery met with a serious loss just before, or rather just after leaving Richmond for St. Louis. All his books, book cases, family relics and furniture were burned. We are deeply grieved at this misfortune, of our dearly beloved Bishop. He is now safe in St. Louis and bears his loss as a true Christian man and Scriptural Bishop, both of which he is in the highest sense.

Bishop McTyrie closed his work for the season in old South Carolina a few weeks since. We think he only attended eleven this time, and nobody cries out for him to take care of himself. Well, the Bishop is gifted on that line.

Rev. J. E. Godbey, of the South-Western, has now and then a paragraph about able men being kept at strong points. What is the matter, Bro. Godbey? We never thought of the lightning striking any where about St. Louis. Be careful, brother, or the world will think some body is hit. Of course able men should be on strong points, but not the ability of maneuvering tricksters.

President Carlisle, of old Warford College, S. C., was numbered among the clergy at Baltimore. Well, he is every inch a lay Bishop. Grand man.

Gen. D. H. Hill, ex-President of Arkansas Industrial University, will make his future home in Macon, Ga. Many of the people of Arkansas will remember with gratitude his work for our State University.

Bishop Parker made a fine impression in the old North State. He fairly captured the preachers and people. Wonder if he could not be induced to come to Texas or Arkansas to live. New Orleans is hardly large enough for two Bishops, even with the Exposition.

Rev. R. V. Taylor contributes a touching article for our paper this week. It is the mournful sweetness of a hallowed grief. The Taylor family, formerly of North Carolina, and then of West Tennessee, is one of the very remarkable ones of our great country. Old Uncle Edmonds and his brother, Howell, will never be forgotten by the people and preachers of Tennessee. God bless you, my old friend of earlier years, and there is a great meeting awaiting us "up yonder"

J. B. Sutler, the active merchant and efficient S. S. S., of Wheatley, gave us a call Tuesday.

Hon. V. B. Tate, Senator from Baxter county, called on us this week.

Field Notes.

Rev. W. A. Pendergrass writes from Marvel circuit: "Dear Dr., I shall do all I can for our paper. Long live the ARKANSAS METHODIST and the editors. I will forward the money as soon as I get a postoffice money order. Yours in the simplicity of the gospel." Many, very many, thanks.

Rev. Geo. W. Logan writes on business and concludes thus: "I took up my appointments on the first Sabbath in this month and will complete my first round on the 4th Sabbath. Have been gladly received everywhere, and hope to be able to do a faithful and successful year's work, with the help and blessing of Almighty God. While I am looking after other interests of the Church, the claims of the ARKANSAS METHODIST shall not be forgotten." We can trust you, my dear George, and we know you will be true and faithful. So just roll them in by the scores.

Rev. A. J. Johnson sends the following: "Dear METHODIST, I have got to my work and I am looking around to see what is best to do. It is cold and gloomy, though I see nothing as yet that would hinder Tyronza from being one of the first circuits in the Jonesboro district. The people are kind, the land is rich and I feel as though God had a hand in the appointment and will help us. I did not pay for my paper at Conference for fear I would not have money to get to get to work, but I send one dollar now. Believe me yours in Christ and a well-wisher to the paper." First rate start, my son. You will make it all right and Tyronza will move up this year.

Rev. C. M. Keith writes us a postal from Alexandria of a splendid reception among his people and feels perfectly at home. People are treating him in excellent style and everything promises a very happy year. We have a large list in that noble old circuit, and we want you to renew them every one and get lots of new ones.

Rev. J. F. Carr writes of a very kind reception at Pine Bluff and of a very fair prospect of a good work in his charge. He is a fortunate man and preacher. Good parsonage, clever people and—a working church. We congratulate you on your good appointment, and the ARKANSAS METHODIST will expect great things of you.

Rev. R. D. Moon is back on Calamine mission, with Strawberry running through it. He is delighted. Hear him: "My people have received me back very gladly, and they are continually pounding us and making provision for all our wants. We have much to do. Besides our work in the usual way, we have ninety-three young converts to train for the work and fit for the services of the Church. We need help. It seems to me, Doctor, that some chapters in our excellent paper addressed to young converts would be very timely and appropriate and do much good." All right, we will try to write them, and we know you will not forget to help our paper.

Rev. W. Arnold writes from Sugar Loaf circuit: "I have reached my work and at Sugar Loaf we have had several services during Christmas. Had watch-night meeting on Wednesday night; and while the bell was tolling at 12 we were praying silently for help to live more devoted this year." How sweet that name! Sugar Loaf! Oh, my brother, you are fortunate. May that Loaf never grow less but always yield an abundant supply. Wish you great success.

Here is a man after our own heart. Hear! "Dear Sir: So my wife is a Methodist and I am a Spurgeon Baptist. I think we can afford to invest one dollar in your excellent advocate. I am pleased to hear that you are

making a success of your newspaper enterprise. Send paper to Mrs. Mollie E. Phillips, Lono, Hot Springs Co., Ark. M. C. PHILLIPS."

Now that has the true ring. Oh, for a thousand such Baptists! and we will give them every one a Methodist wife if they will follow the example. And here is another not a whit behind this one, a brother from Northwest Arkansas. Our good brother, J. L. Byler, writes: "Enclosed please find \$1.50 for your most excellent paper, the ARKANSAS METHODIST. I cannot do without it and I do not wish to lose a number." No, my brother, you cannot and must not do without it, and we want to find several thousand of the same mind. Step up. Who next?

Our brother D. B. Warren of Gainesville, sends us the report of Jonesboro district conference (which we are very sorry we cannot publish, but our paper is too little,) and closes with this delightful note:

"The 1st quarterly conference for Jonesboro circuit is in session at this place now. Bro. Taylor, the excellent pastor, is here, as well as our new and beloved presiding elder, Bro. S. L. Cochran, both full of zeal and devotion to the work they have in hand, and I trust they will be eminently useful this year. There is great need of a gracious revival of religion in this town as well as other parts of the district. God grant that it may come and be very effectual in the salvation of the people. The presiding elder has located his family at Gainesville, which is a prohibition town and where they have a very excellent school. W."

Rev. W. J. Davis has already removed from his home to Lockesburg, and is well pleased with his work. He tells of a kind reception and clever treatment. Of course; who could treat you otherwise?

Rev. W. A. Steele reports for Magnolia circuit. That was a long move, Will, but you know you have been pretty well cared for, and our itinerancy means light and shadows. You are among a noble people, my boy, and you are the very man to build that parsonage and you will do it. We feel that the ARKANSAS METHODIST will have a long list in that work ere another year has come.

Rev. J. S. Nicholson speaks from the mountains of Montgomery: "Nothing new in Caddo circuit. Small conference assessments—about the same as last year, and everything moving on well. I am working for the unabridged dictionary, but don't know how I will succeed." If you will go before your people and tell them you are working for it, you will certainly succeed. The people will certainly take the paper when they know it is to help their preacher. Let all our preachers try this.

Miss I. C. DeVelling will leave Little Rock 9th inst. over the Arkansas Valley Route, and will visit the following places, to-wit: Pine Bluff, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th; Monticelle, 13th, 14th and 15th; Warren, 16th, 17th and 18th; Arkansas City, 19th and 20th. Will return to Little Rock and remain until after the State Convention of the Christian Temperance Union and Prohibition Alliance, which convenes in this city 27th inst.

To the Preachers.

Many of you paid money on your accounts without giving the names of subscribers for whom you paid. Will you, each and all of you, send us at once the names of those you paid, giving their postoffices, so we can arrange our books accordingly? Brethren, please attend to this as soon as possible. It is important to all concerned. DYE & WINFIELD.