

ARKANSAS METHODIST.

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

REV. A. R. WINFIELD, D. D.,
REV. JNO. H. DYE, Editors.

"Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

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General News.

Russia and England.

The situation abroad remains comparatively unchanged since our last report. Of course the eyes of the whole world have turned recently to these two great countries, whose immense armies were about to be hurled in deadly conflict against each other. Earl Granville says that a conference has been held between himself, the Earl of Kimberley (Secretary of India) and Baron De Staal (Russian Minister at London), and the Afghan question was discussed and an agreement reached, which was perfectly satisfactory to each of the parties. It is to be hoped it will meet the endorsement of each of their governments, and that the useless, sinful and sanguinary struggle may be averted.

Our Own Country.

Seven hundred thousand dollars worth of lumber destroyed by fire in Chicago last week.

Another holocaust in Brooklyn. On the 5th inst., several large factories burned, in which it is believed fifty women lost their lives.

Ex-Secretary Lincoln attended the cremation of Major Lyford of the ordinance corps U. S. A., at Lancaster, Pa., last Wednesday.

The Southern Baptist Convention met in Augusta, Ga., last week. It was largely attended. Two ladies from Arkansas appeared as delegates, but were not received as such.

There was a sort of go-as-you-please free fight at Dodge City, Kansas, last Sunday night, in which one man was killed and two others wounded. Nice Sunday business that. "Oh, Lord! how long?"

William Wright, an ex-cowboy and soldier in the U. S. army, has recently been arrested at Terre Haute, Ind., charged with the recent robbery of a train in Indiana and killing the express messenger.

The steamer *Helvetia*, of the White Cross line, with a cargo valued at \$400,000, sunk last Saturday off Seattle, Cape Breton. That was the fourth vessel belonging to that line that has sunk in the last four years.

Hon. S. S. Cox, of New York, recently appointed Minister to Turkey, expects to leave for that country the last of the month, although a number of his influential friends are trying to dissuade him and get his appointment revoked.

A great many places are waiting for Sam Jones to come and stir them. He is doing a wonderful work, but no preacher ought to defer his revival long for anybody. Do your own work in the name and by the help of the Lord. Many in your congregations will be dead before Jones can get there.

The President and Cabinet are now sneeringly dubbed a temperance society, because no drunkard can get an appointment. The Supreme Court of Arkansas has been similarly charged. Most of the great railroad companies and industrial corporations have declared for sober men only. Verily, the blessed leaven is working, slowly perhaps, but surely.

The president, Cleveland, has appointed the following board of visitors to the United States Military academy: Hon. John Bigelow, of New York; Charles R. Codman, of Massachusetts; General Fitzhugh Lee, of Virginia; Hon. George Hoadley, of Ohio; James C. Tappan, of Arkansas; Prof. Edward S. Holden, of Wisconsin, and Geo. L. Miller, of Nebraska.

Maxwell, who it is believed murdered Preller at the Southern Hotel, St. Louis, a few weeks since and put him in a trunk, has been caught at Auckland, New Zealand. The dispatch which insured his arrest traveled thousands of miles, and over a circuitous route, through different countries before it reached its destination, but it was there in time when his vessel arrived.

State News.

The Grand Lodge of K. of P. will meet next week in Fort Smith.

The Grand Commandery of Knight Templars is in session in this city this week.

Fort Smith, Conway and Mountain Home have each had a mad-dog excitement recently.

The Arkansas Press excursionists reached New Orleans the 10th inst. in fine health and spirits.

The jury in the Mose C. Harris case gave him \$1250 damages. He sued for \$100,000. He has appealed for a new trial.

A cold wave struck our mercury, corn and cotton midships last week, and from which neither has yet fully recovered.

Senator Sam J. Johnson has been appointed postmaster at Pocahontas, Col. Witt at Conway, and Mr. Owen at Jonesboro.

Col. Conger, manager of Hot Springs railway, has tendered the Sunday-schools at Malvern an invitation to visit Hot Springs.

Pine Bluff is infested with a set of sneak-thieves, who slip into houses after all are asleep, and escape with whatever valuables they can get.

Strawberries are being gathered and hurried to market. They opened here at fifty cents per box; but have dropped now to twelve and half cents.

The skating rink craze has struck Arkansas, and holds most of the towns in its unrelenting grasp. Well, let us be thankful, it might have been worse—the cholera.

We see from the papers that the committee in charge of the banquet given the press association in Helena, omitted the wine. An excellent precedent. All honor to the ladies and gentlemen composing that committee.

Attorney-General Jones has rendered an elaborate opinion to the Board of Railroad Commissioners as to the constitutionality of the act of exempting railroad cuts, tunnels and bridges from taxation. He holds they are not exempt from taxation.

The State Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union met in this city Wednesday and Thursday. We regret that our attention was not called to it in time to announce it in our columns. May God bless them in their great work.

Look out for the locusts! Prof. C. V. Riley, entomologist of agricultural department, says the country will soon be visited by two great broods of locusts, of the seventeen and thirteen years variety, and this will be the first time they have appeared in conjunction in 221 years. They will tarry till late in July.

There will be another excursion from the Northern and Northwestern States over the St. L. & I. M. road the 27th inst., and another on the 4th of June. We welcome them and hope they will come to stay. We need more people, industrious and law-abiding people. Such will help us to make Arkansas one of the first States of the Union.

The increased interest in fine blooded stock reported in Lonoke county, is an item of interest we are glad to record. We need better horses, hogs, mules and cows. Blooded stock eat but little more than common stock ought to have. But a Jersey cow is an endowment in any family. Just think of that butter test in Baltimore. One cow gave the milk that made 44 lbs and 2 oz. unsalted butter in one week. How we do wish that every one of our preachers, and readers indeed, had a Jersey cow. Her weekly contributions would beat most of your Sunday hat collections.

Personal.

Col. James H. VanHoose, of Fayetteville, called this week.

Rev. W. W. Mills, Maumelle circuit, made us a pleasant call last week. He circulates the *METHODIST*.

Rev. J. R. Edwards, Blytheville, sends us 5 more subscribers, and says he is after the dictionary.

Rev. E. Garrison, Searcy station, began his protracted meeting last Sunday. We wish him abundant success.

Rev. E. L. Beard, Toledo, called Tuesday. He was going to Lonoke, where he has many warm friends.

Rev. M. H. Wells, our gifted correspondent from Texas, is in the midst of a great awakening in Weatherford.

Bishop Granberry will hold the next Conferences in Arkansas. The sweet-spirited superintendent will be warmly welcomed.

Rev. J. S. Brooke, La Crosse, sends us some subscriptions, and says the *METHODIST* gets better and better. Go on; the Lord will prosper you.

Col. John P. Penn, of Augusta, is in Philadelphia for his health. We are delighted to hear of his convalescence and also that of his niece, Mrs. Polk House, who is with him.

Rev. B. Harris, Mountain View circuit, favored this office with names and money last week. We wish our dear and devout friend restored health and great success in his new field.

Capt. J. H. Barton, the enterprising real estate agent of Little Rock, is contributing much to the development of Little Rock and Argenta, and indeed Memphis as well.

Rev. H. M. Granade, P. E., Batesville, and others have published a call for a preachers' (local and traveling) meeting, to be held at LaCrosse, June 11th and 12th. See call next week.

Rev. Sam Jones fired the opening shot of the summer campaign in Nashville, last Sabbath. He will bombard the ramparts of sin till the serried hosts of Satan will capitulate or emigrate. He stirred Chattanooga from center to circumference.

Col. Thomas Essex met an excursion train at St. Louis last week, and escorted them through our State, and in his own fluent and felicitous way portrayed to them the great resources of Arkansas. He and the company of which he is the efficient agent are doing much to attract immigration.

We invite the attention of our city readers to the announcement of Judge R. W. Martin for Mayor. He possesses excellent business capacity and executive ability, and if elected would meet the high expectations of his friends. From an intimate acquaintance running back over many years, we believe he would discharge the duties of the office ably and faithfully.

Mayor Kramer is a candidate for reelection at the ensuing election. He is much better known to the citizens of Little Rock than this writer, being one of its old citizens, and has filled the position several terms. He wishes us to say, if elected he will rigidly enforce the law, and devote himself to the work assigned him, to the utmost of his ability.

Rev. C. C. Godden says his book business is improving, but that the White River conference does not patronize him very liberally. We regret this, and take great pleasure in commending brother Godden to the confidence of our brethren, and his house to their hearty and liberal patronage. He is trying to meet a long-felt want in Arkansas, and if properly encouraged will succeed and thereby contribute vastly to the developing of Methodism and good morals in our beloved State. Send your order to C. C. Godden & Co.

Field Notes.

We begin this week with a second report from Prof. W. C. Parham, of Central Collegiate Institute. We delight in hearing revival news at any time and in any place, but we do particularly delight in hearing of so gracious a work among our schools. It is a great thing to see young people coming to Christ. Sanctified education is a demand of the times. But read: "Last week I wrote you, reporting thirteen conversions and as many accessions to the Church. I now supplement that report, as follows: Fifteen conversions and eight accessions—in all, 28 conversions and 21 accessions. All but two of the conversions are from the body of our pupils, and all the accessions are pupils. The meeting closed last night. The moral bent of the school is excellent. Rev. B. C. Matthews came over from Paris and rendered effective pulpit services for more than a week. Rev. J. R. Moore, of Arkadelphia, will preach our commencement sermon. Can't you come?" Is not that glorious?

Next we will give a brief report from Rev. J. B. Thomas, from Bright Star, and that Star still shines: "Success to you and your most excellent paper. By the way, some of your subscribers began to complain in the winter, but now they are anxious to see the paper and say they must have it. So turn on the light, and let's have a paper not excelled by any. If there was any money here I would be able to give you quite a lift. I hope we will get money soon." All right; we are dreadfully in need of money. We hope all of our field hands will remember this is our dry season, and we need help.

Here is a good note from a subscriber. We like this note and this way of doing. Of course we will wait on you. Glad to do so, my brother: "Being aware that my time is out since Feb. 16th, 1885, thinking that I would get the money to send you to pay for this year's subscription, but falling to I will have to ask you to indulge me on credit for awhile. I will hand the money to brother J. P. Calloway, our preacher, as soon as I get it, because I can't do without it." Now that is kind from brother McReynolds, and we appreciate it.

We next give a good report from our brother, Rev. John McLaughlan, at Camden. Rev. John McLaughlan is a true man. Read: "Believing a few notes from this, your home of former years, would be of interest to you at least, if not to the readers of the *METHODIST*, I pen the following. I commenced my labors here on the second Sunday in December, 1884. Was kindly received, and have had many tokens of the kind appreciation of my people since I came. Not satisfied with occasional presents of provisions—pickles, canned fruits, etc.—on last Tuesday night they stormed the parsonage in force—fathers, mothers, young men, maidens, and a little army of Sunday-school children, each one bearing an offering, until the large table fairly groaned with the burden of substantial and luxuries of almost every description, with which it was loaded. I will not attempt a description of the joyous scene or the many pleasant things that were said, nor the many songs and joyous laughter of the throng, nor how the hearts of the preacher and his better-half were gladdened that God's providence had cast their lot among so kind and appreciative a people. In regard to the spiritual condition of the work, the signs are propitious. Congregations are large and attentive, and increasing in numbers every Sabbath. Have been devoting special attention to the children; preach to them the first Sunday in every month. Have taken in to the Church 12 children and young people, all of whom are members of

the Sunday-school. Financial outlook promising. I took up a collection for missions on last Sunday in March, and raised, in cash and subscription, \$140. Will take up my other collections in due time. You may set Camden down at conference as 'collections all fall.' I am doing what I can for the *METHODIST*. God speed you in your noble efforts to bring the Church up to the Bible standard of Christian piety." That is good from our old home. They are a very clever people.

Rev. J. R. Edwards writes us from Blytheville, as follows: "Owing to the severe winter I did not reach my work until the 18th of March, consequently got a late start, but am getting on very well. Have so far been able to meet my appointments. My work is very large; so I have not been able to visit all my people yet. We are having good meetings—old-fashioned Methodist meetings. You and the readers of the *METHODIST* will understand that this means happy times. The Lord is with us at every appointment. The good people of Chickasawba circuit received us warmly and made us feel at home the first hour we spent with them. We have not been visited with storms and tornadoes like brother Ritter, but have had one continued gentle shower, and no sign of slacking. I send some subscribers."

We close this week with a letter from our old-time friend, Rev. J. E. Caldwell. Precious man! God bless him: "Leaving farming matters to take care of themselves a day or two, in company with my wife I started last Saturday for Rock Spring, where I had an appointment Sunday to preach the funeral of Thomas C. Hudson. Spent an hour or two most pleasantly with an old parishioner, a faithful, Christian woman, now enjoying the grace of God and exulting in the hope of eternal life, Mrs. Sarah West, who came to Arkansas from Tennessee in 1844. She enjoyed our having prayers with the family. We are soon where scores of the Methodist preachers in Arkansas have often delighted to be, and where they received not only a cordial welcome and an abundant hospitality, but the assurance of a deeply religious sympathy in their work—familiarily called by everybody 'Aunt Miama's.' Just how much we enjoyed that visit, after two years' absence, this pen will never undertake to say. True, the dark shadow was on the hearth; one, who for more than thirty years had been accustomed to meet us with heart and hand in welcome, was not, for God had taken him. But, thank God, Thomas C. Hudson was not only full of years but abundant in good works, revered and loved by all who knew him. This was well attested in the large congregation that attended his funeral, both white and colored. Nearly fifty years ago this veteran struck tent on the bank of the Ouachita river where Arkadelphia is now, and cutting his road as he went he settled in the Manchester community. From that day to the one that witnessed his glorious departure for heaven, never heart beat truer to the cause of religion than did that of Thomas C. Hudson. We felt that the words, 'Well done, good and faithful servant,' were perfectly appropriate. How precious the memory of such a man! We spent Sunday night with another blessed patriarch of Methodism in this region, Mrs. Nancy Strong, now in her eighty-fifth year. How she loves to talk of forty-eight years ago, and the preachers that visited her house then! Two things I have always found in reaching distance of Aunt Nancy, her Bible and the old Advocate. She is very pronounced in favor of camp-meetings and class-meetings. These have been two blessed days with the deaf preacher, and I felt like I wanted to tell it. May I add one word to pastors: Brethren, don't neglect the aged in your pastoral work."