

ARKANSAS METHODIST.

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

REV. A. F. 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. 3.

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, MARCH 28, 1885.

NO 49

General News.

Anglo-Russian Imbroglio.

Affairs are by no means satisfactory to either government. Nothing is settled, but only a temporary lull. Russia becomes more insistent and determined as England seems pacific and wavering. The Russian army is not withdrawn and really not even halted, and the war-like spirit is increasing in Russia every moment. Gladstone is evidently awaiting a favorable turn in affairs in the Soudan, before he strikes a decisive blow in the Afghan frontier. The Indian forces are rallying with great enthusiasm and are only waiting to be strongly reinforced by the English troops, when they will at once assume the aggressive and resist all encroachments on the part of Russia. War now seems inevitable, still it may be averted by other complications.

Franco-Chinese War.

Reports have been prevalent in Paris that China was suing for peace, but close investigation proved it false; she is only asking for an armistice to bring in new supplies of rice. The French only lost in the battle at Kelung 198, but the Chinese report that their loss at Thuyenquen was 900 men, and that they are greatly harassed by the Chinese troops, and all supplies are cut off, and the country through which they are to pass is devastated. It is reported that China will soon undertake the aggressive.

Soudan.

There was a fearful battle between the Arabs and British forces at Suakin, last Sunday morning, in which it is said the Arabs lost 3000 men and the British lost 5 officers, 51 privates, and 170 wounded, but their actual loss was doubtless much greater, and the rebel loss overstated. It is reported that the Arabs fought with great determination and bravery. The English army is in bad condition and the rebel forces rapidly increasing. The heat is becoming oppressive and the English forces are suffering greatly.

Paris.

The red flag of communism floated over 600 punch bowls last week in the gay metropolis of France, and the jeweled city of the world. The records of crime is fearful and divorce has become so common that the courts seem powerless to check the tide of matrimonial infidelity. Let our country look at France and take warning. Cursed with infidelity, it is being ruined with communism and crime.

Art.

The Globe-Democrat has gone into the picture business, and undertakes the task of sketching the Texas lawmakers. If possible, they are worse than the pictures of Arkansas Legislators presented by the Gazette. If Texas and Arkansas can survive this they need not fear that anything can ever happen to retard their progress.

Our Own Country.

Our new President is still busy with the army of office seekers. But few appointments have been made. The following have been confirmed by the Senate. Geo. H. Pendleton, of Ohio, minister to Germany; Edward J. Phelps, of Vermont, to Great Britain; Henry A. Jackson, of Georgia, to Mexico; Robert M. McLane, of Maryland, to France; Ben. H. Hill, Jr., United States attorney for the northern district of Georgia; David S. Baker, Jr., United States attorney for the district of Rhode Island.

The following have been nominated to be envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary of the United States: Edward J. Phelps, of Vermont, to Great Britain; Robert M. McLane, of Maryland, to France; Geo. H. Pendleton, of Ohio, to Germany; Henry A. Jackson, of Georgia, to Mexico; Macewas E. Benton, of Missouri, attorney of the United States for the Western district of Missouri.

State News.

Hon. J. H. Berry, ex-governor of Arkansas, has been elected U. S. Senator to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of Senator Garland to a Cabinet position.

Hon. Poindexter Dunn was second in the Senatorial race; and he is first-class Senatorial timber and will keep well for four years.

Gov. Hughes has approved the City Bill and it is now the law, and we must make the best of it; but we view it as class legislation, and that it will only benefit a very few real estate men of cities of the first class.

The Center Point Tocsin hits the legislature a hard lick on the Garland County Bill, and it was richly deserved. It was an unfortunate act and one that will endanger all our laws. If one law of a general nature can be set aside by a special act, then all our laws are at the will of our legislature, and the will of the people amounts to nothing.

Some of our legislators are complaining at our criticism of the body for failing to pass the Free Pass Bill, required by the Constitution. We understand that our remark, that the bill was buried when referred to the Judiciary Committee, was considered severe and unkind. Well, we only quoted what we heard some of the members say when it was referred. Don't be too sensitive, gentlemen. We certainly intended no reflections on the honor of any one, but was only preaching and leaving every man to make his own application.

Our new Road Law is the best Arkansas ever had, and the State is indebted to Hon. Geo. Thornburgh for it. It will make everybody help to keep good roads.

The Report of the Senate Committee on the Blind Institute, as published in the Gazette of last Friday morning, was the most outrageous document that ever found its way into a paper of such standing as the Gazette. It was too bad for a Police Gazette. We were astonished and mortified. The reply of the Trustees is simply terrific, and is crushing to the reportorial committee. Of course such men as compose that Board cannot be harmed either by this report or a failure to confirm them as the nominees of the governor. Dr. Hunter has a record of fifty years in Arkansas that will stand like the rock Gibraltar against all such flings. This whole matter ought to have been settled in the committee room and senate, and would have been in any other State except Arkansas; but here it seems we are always greedy of our own disgrace. Poor Arkansas, how you are made to suffer at the hands of your friends!

We give below the late Sunday Law as passed by the General Assembly. It closes everything and only allows druggists to sell medicines, and all this is proper and right:

THE SUNDAY LAW.

A bill for an act to repeal section 1886 and amend section 1887 of the Revised Statutes of Arkansas.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of the State of Arkansas, That section 1886 of the Revised Statutes of Arkansas be, and the same is, hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. That section 1887 of the Revised Statutes of Arkansas be amended so as to read as follows: "Every person who shall on Sunday keep open any store, or retail any goods, wares and merchandise, or keep open any dram-shop or grocery, or who shall keep the doors of the same so as to afford ingress or retail or sell any spirits or wine, shall on conviction thereof be fined in any sum not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars."

Sec. 3. That this act take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Gen. Grant is no better and cannot long survive. Let all smokers take warning.

Personal.

Professor S. V. Wall, of Chapel Hill, Tenn., adds his name to our list of subscribers, with many kind words for our paper. We hope to see him in our part State this summer.

Prof. Vandiver, of Bellevue Collegiate Institute, Caledonia, Mo., writes that he is having a season of great prosperity, and his prospects are very flattering. New improvements are being made to his buildings, and he is expecting a very large school. He is sure of success.

Rev. R. T. Davis, a new comer to our conference, bids fair to be one of our Haggais. He has about secured one church at Hazen, and now he is right after another at DeVall's Bluff. We wish him great success. He writes encouragingly.

Rev. J. R. Sanders send us pay for a subscriber who had recently married and one who was converted last summer. She was teaching, but would take time to attend service and then make up her lost time. She delighted in our paper. Sorry to give up such a lady from Arkansas.

Rev. J. W. Kelley, of the South Carolina conference, has passed away. He was a noble, strong man; and this old conference has lost another strong man, Rev. W. P. Mouzon.

Rev. J. M. Cline passed down this week. He is on one side of the Old Arkansas and Dr. Hunter on the other, but mud, sleet, snow and high water will not permit of active operations.

Bishop Keener and Dr. Kelley have just made their annual visit to Mexico. See "Appointments" on Missionary page. Sorry the Bishop was absent when his colleague and old friend passed away. He was much attached to Bishop Parker.

Hon. J. M. Hanks, of Helena, was a pleasant caller at our office last week. He is an old-time farmer, and one that politics has no attractions for. Has a happy home with a Christian wife, and he is a happy man, and a good friend to the METHODIST.

Rev. A. R. Kennedy, D.D., of the Second Presbyterian church of this city, gave us a pleasant call. Come again, doctor.

Bishop Granbery went to hold the Baltimore conference at Salem, Va., in the place of his deceased colleague, Bishop Parker.

Bishop McTyeire will soon enter Texas on a long campaign of district conferences. Hope he will give Little Rock a call going and returning.

Bishop Hargrove will make Atlanta, Ga., his home for a season. We know the Georgians will enjoy the Bishop, and he will do them good service.

J. B. Suttler, Esq., of Wheatley, furnishes our readers a splendid article this week, which we copy from the Louisville Courier-Journal. Read and digest. It is opportune, and full of sound sense.

Rev. S. G. Shaw, of Gonzales, Texas, makes a call for dates and facts concerning the late Rev. M. J. F. Beasley. Let all respond to this call who can help in giving the Sunday schools the bibliography of such a sweet-spirited man.

Rev. A. Hunter, D.D., was in to see us this week. He is now the only man in efficient service who was received into the Arkansas conference at its first session, held at Batesville in 1836. He is still well preserved and doing active work.

Our legislature will adjourn next Friday. It has been a hard-working, laborious body, and has done much good work for the State. We think it a very great error that they did not pass the Free Pass Bill, and a worse one that they did pass the Garland County Bill, but still they have done much good work.

Field Notes.

We will give the place of honor this week to a good sister who writes hopefully and encouragingly. Our sister Rosaner Cole must write often, we will always be glad to hear from her:

"The cheerful face of the ARKANSAS METHODIST has been a weekly visitor to our home for some time. We also take the Christian Advocate. Well, in Fort Smith district, National Springs circuit. Rev. R. P. Hardcastle is our pastor. We love him very much. Brother Butt is our presiding elder. I am a poor writer, anyway. This is my first for a newspaper. I see no one writes from this circuit. I thought I would venture a few lines for the METHODIST. Last Sabbath was our appointed time for quarterly conference, but no preachers here. High water, the excuse. I wonder if it did not rain and get the water muddy 50 or 60 years ago. It seems from reading history disappointments were not so common then as now. I have never heard from brother Butt through the papers. Surely he can not write. What has become of brother Harlan? He has quit writing. He is surely dead or married. I pray the Lord will be with us this year, and much good be done in His name. May success crown your every effort."

Thanks, my dear sister, we will try to merit success and at the same time to do good.

Next comes our boy preacher again. His father did us good work for many years, and now his boy takes his place as he retires. Brother Scott is doing a fine work in Garland county, but he shall speak for himself:

"The severe weather having given way to pleasant spring, we have endeavored to banish everything from our mind but gratitude for past and present blessings, and bright and hopeful visions of the grand possibilities of this conference year, and, in fact, of each hour. The farmers are busy sowing. Money is scarce, but we are trying to press into every little vale, and scatter the most precious seed on the mountain top and in the valley, with the blessed assurance that, though some may fall 'by the wayside,' some 'on stony ground' and some 'among thorns,' some shall fall into good ground and spring up and bring forth fruit to the honor of God and our Lord Jesus, and that if 'we sow we shall reap, if we faint not.'"

He closes this letter with two subscribers and one conversion.

Next comes another sister, reported by that sterling P. E., Rev. H. M. Granade. She strikes a healthy blow and the P. E. repeats the stroke:

"Well, brother Granade, you and Dr. Winfield have got off on the dog and tobacco subject; and right here I'll put in a blow. That's right, keep hitting 'em till the whole mess is cleaned out—dogs, tobacco, whiskey and all. And don't forget that ugly slang of which I hear so much and of which I am so tired. Yes, sister, it will take many a hard lick to clean out the broad road of public, social and private habits of life and conversation, to which we are subject. Your good women must help us by your training the young, your prayers, your loving words and smiling co-operation."

Right after these good people we will bring in the old pioneer, Rev. Young Ewing, formerly of Arkansas, then among the red men and now back in Arkansas:

"The ARKANSAS METHODIST and the Christian Advocate came to hand this morning. Welcome visitors! for with a big snow on the ground, housed in by the weather, reading is in order. I take up the best first, and then have the best all the time. The ARKANSAS METHODIST is opened first. The Field Notes read; they are charming. Just think of it! With storms and poundings and bastings, the preachers

have been received. Now, Dr., you know I have been in the work a long time. I would like to describe my reception this year. You may name it—I have no name for it. Friday, after the adjournment of conference, I reached my appointment. Spent Saturday feeling about for the work. I found there was no parsonage here. True, they had bought a house, but had not paid for it. The preacher must pay rent, high rent, before he could have it. Preached on Sunday. Went away Monday morning to move here, saying none of those things could move me. In due time, one bitter cold evening, arrived at my own hired house, with wife, children and some household goods, and camped in the house for the night. Think of it! How thrilling it would have been to see the gate fly open and a crowd of friends coming in with lots of the good things of this life, spend an hour or so and then leave, allowing the preacher and family to go to rest and dream over their good fortune to be cast among such kind friends. Three months gone! Expenses for living, \$150; received \$50. The outlook very fine. Will have a good time this year. Thirty-eight years have come and gone, and have never failed to have good work; always successful, and we expect grand improvement this year, for there is room for it."

Next comes "A Strong Methodist," from Washington county:

"I thought a few words from this section of the country might not be a thing of wrong doing. The METHODIST is a welcome caller at my home, always bearing good news. Our first quarterly conference for this, the White River circuit, Arkansas Annual Conference, was held at this place (Mankins) on Feb. 28th and March 1st. Our new P. E. was on hand at his post, and full of love and good works. The people on this circuit are well pleased with Bro. Anderson. He is a fine preacher, a true Methodist and an earnest worker. We are aiming to erect a church house at this place this year, and have the offer of a lot on which to erect a house by a Baptist minister of this place. Some of our people say that our P. E. is, or will be, a fit subject for the Episcopacy. He is young in age, but not in grace, love or works. Don't think his superior is easy to be found, considering his age. Bro. Harrison, our P. C., is gone to Texas to see his parents. He will return in this month. Oh! that we had a few more such men—preachers—as Rev. J. A. Anderson. As a result, the Church would prosper and all things move on right. God speed the time. Bro. Anderson will preach in the evening, April 21st, near here, on Episcopacy. Hope I can hear it. Well, God prosper you and the METHODIST, and if this writing is thought worthy a place in your paper's pages, all well; if not, it can find a lodging elsewhere all the same. Pray for me."

We like such a Methodist, and we love such letters.

But we close this week with a rich letter from our good brother Jolly, away up in Baxter county. He is a jolly man and a first-rate preacher. Read, and then wait for something richer next week:

"This is my second year on the Mountain Home circuit. We have been very kindly received. The people are caring for us while we are trying to build them up spiritually. I think we will have completed two new church houses this year, and if we were on the railroad would invite you up to dedicate them for us. The ARKANSAS METHODIST is growing in favor with my people. Will send more subscribers soon."

Rev. H. M. Granade, P. E. of Batesville district, is never behind anybody; \$10.50 and more new subscribers. He is a real worker and a first-rate leader.