

## THE MIRROR.

A Monthly, Devoted to Religions, Education, and General Improvement.

REV. J. M. DOWNUM, Editor.

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### SAM JONES' ANECDOTES GIVEN.

To any one who will send us a club of 5 new subscribers with cash, (\$2.00) accompanying, we will send Sam Jones' Anecdotes, in paper cover, a book of 300 pages of pithy illustrations. Send in your club at once and avail yourself of this rare opportunity.

Those who work only for self are like the ox that browses only for itself.

When we begin to grumble about poor crops we should stop and think whether we are thankful for good ones.

He who refuses to send his children to school is doing them a positive injustice—yea, even a wrong. Educate your children whether you give them anything else or not.

When you make an appointment to be present at any place, make it a point always to be on time to cause a man to lose his time than his money.

We have received a formal announcement of the election of Dr. B. F. Dixon as president of Greensboro Female College. He is a man in every way fitted for the position, and we predict for him great success.

A person on whom heaven has bestowed rare gifts may use them to cause mischief and misery to all around. This may have reference to such gifts as wealth, charms of body and mind, and social position.

It matters not what contest we may enter, it is out of place to say hard, cutting things to gain your point. There is plenty of work for Christians to do in bringing the world from sin to Christ without quarreling with each other.

If any one doubts as to whether or not the "tithe law" is still in force, let him read and consider what Jesus says about it in Matt. 23:23: "These (judgment, mercy and faith) ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other (paying tithes) undone."

Any one will do better if you speak words of encouragement to him than if you manifest a lack of confidence in him. To develop good workers may require reprimanding at times, but to show a lack of confidence in them is rarely beneficial.

How to fail—become discouraged in your work because everything is not as you would have it; tell others that you are discouraged, in words, if not in actions, and grumble at and find fault of them because they don't encourage, and a failure is inevitable.

The following from the Raleigh Advocate is worthy the attention of many churches: "No business man will have anything to do with a firm which is in the habit of paying 50 cents on the dollar. Suppose the bishop and the presiding elders were to be equally just. Brother, would your church have a pastor next year?"

A certain liquor dealer, who desires to establish a retail whiskey shop in a certain town, made the inducing (?) promise that no one should become intoxicated in the establishment, but must go outside. Such is the vile business. It sells the poor wretch the liquor, then turns him out to disturb the peace of the town or to go to his house and abuse his helpless family. No price should induce us to curse our homes with such a business. Keep the monster out!

The Mt. Airy District Conference was held at Walnut Cove, August 7th to 10th. We have not the space to give an extended notice of it. Suffice it to say that the general verdict is that it was a first class District Conference, conducted by many of the best this district has ever had. Our presiding elder, Rev. R. M. Hoyle, has a good idea as to the manner of conducting a Conference. There were a number of visitors present. The different colleges and book interests were well represented, and the papers were not lacking in number, to say the least. The delegates to the next Annual Conference are J. S. Bell, E. O. Maston, Francis Miller and B. F. Sparger.

### FOOD FOR REFLECTION.

MUCH of life's worry is the result of the attempt to secure and retain things that are not essential to noble and devout living. Happiness is not dependent on their possession, to say nothing of character and spiritual well-being.

THE characteristic sin of childhood is disobedience, and it includes and leads on to all other sins. But obedience is the crown and grace of childhood, without which no child can learn to be strong and great; without which no child can be lovable or lovely.

If two angels were to come down from heaven they would not care which one served as prime-minister and which as scavenger. A servant-girl may sweep a room so that the work will be divine. A merchant prince may stretch his arms across the seas, and yet be a mean, groveling being.

RATIONAL self-control is a great problem. Provision is made for it in the will. In this control alone, under the guidance of judgment and the dictates of a vigorous will, is there possibility of reaching any high ideal of either phys-

ical, intellectual or moral attainment. The highest freedom is attained only in the most perfect obedience of the lower powers, and the worst slavery follows the unbridled exercise of any natural impulse.

THOSE who fail in life lack, first of all, singleness of aim. There is an old story of a boy who was told he might have a handful of nuts from a jar. Being anxious to take as many as possible, he filled his hand so full that it would not pass the narrow neck of the jar, and he was obliged to drop all but two or three, in order to release his hand. The man who tries to grasp all life's prizes will obtain none; he who is content with one or two may have what he longs for.

In these days much is said of poor boys who became famous, and perhaps we are too apt to throw a halo of romance about the struggles of these boys to overcome obstacles. But let us not deceive ourselves into the belief that the discouragements and drags which those boys overcame were, after all, so very different from those that beset everyday boys, who sometimes do, and sometimes do not, overcome. It is, after all, overcoming that has brought the world's "Well done!" which we call fame.

THAT which is to be remembered pleasantly never presents itself at first as a memory or as a basis for a memory, but as a present duty to be attended to or neglected; and our instant decision on that point settles the question of its subsequent value as a memory. Doing our duty hour by hour, even though the duty be an unpleasant one, is what we must set ourselves to. Having pleasant memories of unfulfilled duty will follow as a matter of course, when the time for memory-shaping has gone by.

If it takes twenty years to complete a task, it is plain that the man who tries for nineteen years only will not succeed. Had Columbus become discouraged when again and again he was refused assistance—when after years of appeal for help he found himself poorer, older, no nearer his heart's desire than ever—do you think he would have become the honored discoverer of America? Had Washington surrendered during that awful winter at Valley Forge, would we be living today under the stars and stripes of the noblest government in the world?

James Clement Ambrose writing in the Northwestern Christian Advocate pays a well merited tribute to North Carolina. In a paper of such extended patronage among the best class of those who hold Northern sentiments, it will do our State no little good. He says: "If the exact duplicate of North Carolina—climate, coast, forest, lowland, upland, mountains and minerals—stood on the line of migration Westward, and could displace 50,000 square miles among the Dakotas, every go-Wester would cling to it as the prize land in beauty, comfort, utility, till it should be crowded like the out-bound Madison street car at p. m. Why is the original less attractive than would be the duplicate? To me it is not; and it is so to others half because they don't know its fitness for a homestead, and half because the politicians and their press have made them believe, on the one side, that the white people South carry a bowie-knife over their ear instead

of the goose quill; on the other, that the black people South are brutal monsters. I have told you before, and at length, that such pictures are false. \* \* \* All in all, it is a land of golden opportunities, even outside the gold belt—a breadth of American nature the most churlish American even will do well to take pride in as a part of the domain he calls his country."

### The Western North Carolina Methodist.

This paper is published in the rapidly developing city of Asheville, N. C., and is now extending its circulation throughout the new Conference. The editor has been attending district conferences east of the Blue Ridge, and has greatly increased the circulation of the Methodist. Send for a sample copy. Address, Methodist, Asheville, N. C.

### The Drummer Evangelist.

Charlotte Chronicle.

Arthur Butt, who has charge of the choir at the Fife meeting at Lincolnton, arrived home yesterday. Mr. Butt says up to yesterday there had been 500 conversions at the meeting, and that the interest manifested has been unparalleled in the history of Lincoln county. Tremendous crowds have attended every service. Rev. Mr. Wetmore, of the Episcopal church announced in the meeting Saturday morning that he didn't want to have the service at his church Sunday morning "interfere" with the service at the Tabernacle, so he would change the hour of service to 9 o'clock. Mr. Fife thanked him for the consideration, and asked his congregation of several thousand to attend Mr. Wetmore's service.

### Seven Orphans Run Away.

Oxford Day.

Seven children at the Asylum are much attached to Dr. Dixon and his family, and part with them with keenest sorrow. Some of the children show a disposition to rebel, and because their beloved superintendent is to leave, they want to leave too. Several runaways have occurred in the past few weeks. Lately seven boys disappeared at one time and struck out for parts unknown at present. Search is being made for them, and they will very probably be found and brought back.

There never was a braver fight nor a more successful one than the farmers have made on the jute trust. Without doubt, jute is a most excellent bagging, and had the manufacturers been content with living profits, they had a monopoly, since no other article was considered so suited to the cotton planter. But the spirit of greed possessed them, and they formed a trust and put the price up to fifteen cents. The farmers determined not to use it. They applied the boycott and today jute is quoted at 5½ cents.—News and Observer.

One of the most remarkable and exciting political campaigns that has ever been known in this country is now in progress in Arkansas. The Democratic candidate for governor is the Rev. James P. Eagle, a Baptist. The labor candidate for Governor is the Rev. N. B. Fizer, a Methodist. He has been indorsed by the republicans. Both candidates are eloquent preachers and excellent stump speakers. They are figuratively speaking, turning Arkansas upside down.

THE MIRROR is only forty cents a year.