

THE BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

BY REV. G. M. TOLSON.

Very little has appeared in print about this choice company of North Carolina saints. This is largely due to the fact that it is a very modest organization, and did not think it quite the correct thing to blazon abroad its merits before it occupied solid ground. But it is no longer in a chrysalis state. It has ceased to be an experiment, and is now a decided success. Suffer, then, dear GOSPEL HERALD, a loud, though not long, blast from the Brooklyn Baptist trumpet.

A quasi organization was effected April 4th, 1886, with twenty-seven members, including the pastor. The same day four other persons were received, thus increasing the membership to thirty-one. Although there have been some deaths, removals, and exclusions, there has been steady growth, and the number of members is at present one hundred and sixty. The recent Pearson meetings added some financial, and much numerical and moral strength to the brave, struggling little band. Indeed, it received even more than its proportionate share of the converts. The pastor of the first church generously said publicly on one occasion that when the constituencies of the two churches were considered, it was apparent that the Brooklyn Baptists had profited by the great meetings much more largely than his own church. But then the noble hearted Bishop of Wilmington is given to saying generous things, as all North Carolina knows full well.

After many unsuccessful attempts, a fine property was at last secured on the corner of Fords and Brunswick streets, a strategic point for both present and future work. Of course a debt was incurred. But already some of it has been paid, and the remainder, it is confidently thought, will be fully liquidated in proper time.

In order to meet its payments as they fall due, the church has been divided into ten clubs, consisting of ten members each, with one of the number as chairman, and all under the general supervision of the pastor. This was suggested by Mr. W. R. of the first Baptist church, and it based itself at once to the wisdom and aid of the whole membership. One hundred dollars was secured within three or six months, but as each club will have to raise only ten to the amount, it is believed that the whole sum will be forthcoming when it is needed. Every one seems confident, and this of itself presages success.

Meantime the church will get into its new preaching place, and will go to work there with renewed zeal and diligence. It is neat, comfortable and attractive, and will be nicely furnished by the ladies of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church. Can't the editor of the HERALD run down to see these hard-working saints this summer? He would receive a cordial welcome both as editor and Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board. We want him to hurrah for Brooklyn Baptist church; and then we want the Baptists of the State to say amen. Come to see us!

Winston's Baptist Bishop Calls Attention
to Important Matters about Your Association.

Your church and your association are the places where your voice ought to be heard and your influence felt for God and humanity. Some may prefer to remain silent in our larger gatherings, where the great unscriptural topic of having female delegates to represent our churches is discussed. The questions of temperance agitation and parliamentary law may occupy the time of our larger bodies and give many brethren an opportunity to speak—brethren who must speak on some subject or die. But in our associational gatherings, other subjects vital to the welfare of the churches press to the front. It is not so hard to squelch a crank or an irrepressible in a district association as in a large convention. Those who compose the Association soon get to business. The men who have taken their horses from the plow and gone to the Association will insist that the Lord's work must be done, so they can return to their own. The District Association is the place to carry the enthusiasm to red heat. The speakers generally know their hearers and know how and when to "strike." In our local churches, and through them, the great work of saving men must be effected; but in the Association we advise and plan and "put on foot" methods for an ever enlarging grasp, on this work. It would be a sad day for our churches if they should fail to send up their messengers annually to the Association. It would be a sad day for the world, if we should fail to meet and consult how to conquer it for our blessed Redeemer. Associations are educators and propagators.

No other agency has been so largely blessed in giving us access to the people.

No other agency has so tended to impress people with the marvellous simplicity of our machinery for carrying out the commands of our Lord. Now is the time to make arrangements for these meetings. Let the best men be chosen to go. Let the busiest men at home go on this errand for the Master. "The King's business requires haste." The brethren who have nothing to do at home, will not feel like doing anything at the Association. Don't send a brother who is opposed to aggressive measures, for he will get "lonesome." Don't send an anti-missionary, a covetous man, or a man who does not love the orphans. Send men who love Jesus Christ, who yearn for the conversion of the world; men whose hearts beat in unison with the great heart-throbbings of Him who gave himself for us. Don't humiliate your messengers by failing to send by them the help promised by your church. Don't send a brother who is unwilling to say that he will try to do more next year. Now don't; if you please, don't. H. A. BROWN.

FOGYISM.

We learned some weeks ago that one of the best preachers and most successful pastors in our State—our class-mate and a brother greatly beloved—had been giving the Bible as authority on Baptism, church membership, women's preaching and public speaking, and such like, and we pronounced him a "fogy." You can see from the following, just received, that he acknowledges the correctness of our diagnosis of his case. O, for more like him!

"You say you learn that I have somewhat of a 'fogy,' &c. Well, yes, I am still clinging to the 'blood' for cleansing, and to the 'Book' for guidance. 'No other way I know.' Still trying to preach more and more simply the glorious gospel of Christ and relying upon the Spirit for power and success. Still opposed to departures from the 'faith once delivered to the saints.' Still 'agin' women preaching and women voting, and doing some other things that the 19th century civilization (?) would thrust upon them. Still 'agin' the preachers who scrape the sky, and stir the dust from the stars, and 'pluck honors from the pale faced moon.' Still 'down on' the brethren that support their beavers, and walk with their little limber canes, and wear their clerical coats to advertise their profession. Still opposed to quoting Latin in the pulpit, telling the brethren about the 'original,' and trying to prove by science (?) that man is a monkey minus the tail. Still believing that it is 'better not to know so much than know so many things that ain't so.' Yes, going on in the same old way, despising shams, hypocrisies and lies. I am trying, yes, every day, trying, to be better, to conquer self and sin, and come into the full likeness of my Lord. I am trying to forget the things that are behind and to reach out after those things that are before. Pray that I may do it.

"Your true friend,
and Bro. in Christ,
"H. A. BROWN."

FATHER KNOWS THE WAY.

Two little children were returning with their father from spending an evening with some friends at a distance. They stayed longer at their friend's house than they at first intended. The shades of the evening had fallen, night was coming on, and before they had proceeded far a heavy curtain of murky cloud seemed drawn about them. They had to cross a moor, pleasant enough in broad day-light, but not so pleasant with darkness around. A silence fell on all, as the father, busy with his own thoughts, took a little hand in each of his, and pressed forward.

"Johnnie," whispered Amy's timid voice, in her brother's ear, "are you frightened?"
"No," replied the little man, as a little man should, "not at all."

"Why, Johnnie, it is awful dark," again murmured the timid voice, this time almost with a sob.

"But, you see," returned the boy, confidently, "father knows the way."

The father had heard the low conversation, and stooping down, he lifted Amy into his strong arms, while he clasped his boy's hand more tightly.

"Thank you, my children," he said, "you have taught me a lesson. I, too, am going home to my Father's house, above. It is but a little way, yet often dark and dreary, so that my heart gets afraid. Still, it is the best path, and when I get home I shall be constrained to declare, 'He led me by the right way.'"

Amy did not understand her father's words, but she knew she was clasped to his loving breast, held securely in his strong arms, and that hushed every fear. Johnnie felt his father was pleased with this simple confidence, so in faith they all pressed on together through the gloom. Soon they reached the light and warmth and joy of home.

As Amy's mother laid her down to rest that night, the little girl murmured very contentedly: "Mamma, I was not one bit frightened when I 'membered father knew the way."—*Central Presbyterian.*

—It is by the daily lives of Christians that Christ is either honored or dishonored.—*Whiting.*

—Heaven does not make holiness, but holiness makes heaven.—*Brooks.*

—Be not buried in the present. To-day becomes yesterday so fast.—*Robertson.*

—There is many a thing which the world calls disappointment; but there is no such word in the dictionary of faith. What to others are disappointments are to believers intimations of the will of God.—*Newton.*

—The deliberate avowal of a criminal in jail in Philadelphia is very significant. His manners and conversation show that he has had a good education and moved in respectable society. It is even rumored that his father was a Baptist minister. The prisoner served in the army during the war, and attained the rank of lieutenant, but, being honorably discharged he fell into dishonest ways and became a regular thief. He has spent most of his time since in prisons. Lately an attempt was made to get him pardoned, and it was essential that he should show contrition. "I have no desire to go back into respectable society," he coldly said; "having been a criminal and associate of criminals so many years, I prefer to end my days among them." Such candor is rare among men of his class, but the prisoner doubtless spoke the truth. Sinners who are postponing to a dying hour their reconciliation with God, and those who are hoping that after death there may be another period of probation, appear to have forgotten the principle that underlies the confession of this Philadelphia criminal (Rev. 22: 11, 12).

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Arrive Sanford.....	11.15 "	1.40 p. m.
Leave Sanford.....	11.27 "	2.30 "
Arrive Greensboro.....	2.30 p. m.	7.25 "
Leave Greensboro.....	3.30 "	10.15 a. m.
Arrive Mt. Airy.....	7.15 "	5.15 p. m.

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