

ZION'S LANDMARKS.

DEVOTED TO THE DEFENSE OF THE PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS.

"TO THE LAW AND TO THE TESTIMONY."

VOLUME II.

WILSON, NORTH CAROLINA, SEPTEMBER 1, 1869.

NUMBER 19.

Poetry.

The Little One.

I am a little scholar,
I daily go to school,
To learn of master Jesus
The perfect golden rule.

The scholars they all love Him,
The school is good and free;
Come all ye careless sinners
And go to school with me.

I am a little christian,
The Lord has made me so—
All over a new creature,
What wonders He can do?

I love the things I hated,
I hate the things I loved;
My Master is preparing me
To reign with him above.

I am a little preacher,
I preach the gospel free,
And all my Master gives me
I give it all away.

And when my heart gets heavy,
I go to Master's store;
I tell him all about it,
He smiles, and gives me more.

I am a little shepherd,
I feed my Master's sheep,
And on the hill of Zion
I love with them to keep.

The food my Master gives me
To feed the little flock;
It is the bread of life divine,
And honey from the rock.

I am a little watchman,
I stand upon the wall,
And when the foe is coming
I give a sudden call.

I blow my little trumpet
To let the people know;
And all who will take warning
Escape from every foe.

I am a little poet,
I made this little song;
And oftimes it doth comfort me
When I am all alone.

If any little creature
Would wish to feel the same,
I pray the Lord would set his soul
All in a heavenly flame.

"Thy presence, Lord, can cheer my heart,
Though every earthly comfort die;
Thy smile can bid my pains depart
And raise my sacred pleasures high.

"Oh, let me hear thy blissful voice,
Inspiring life and joy divine;
The barren desert shall rejoice;
'Tis paradise, if thou art mine."

Circular Letter written for the Bear
Creek Association by Elder S. C.
Little.

The Ministers and Messengers com-
posing the Bear Creek Associa-
tion, convened with Watson
Church, Union County, N. C., to
the Churches they represent:
Grace, Mercy and Truth be with
thee.

*Dearly Beloved Brethren in the
Lord,* Through Divine permission
we are again assembled, in an asso-
ciated capacity, in this inhospitable
and unfriendly world, and we ought
to be thankful to the great Giver of
all good for His kind preservation
over and toward us. Let us rejoice
in the truth of the gospel of our Lord
and Saviour Jesus Christ, in that He
being the Way, the Truth and the
Life; this glorious Redeemer is the
life giving and life maintaining

of all His dear saints or believing
children; and he never has, nor never
will forsake the work of his own
hands. As such, what he begins by
his power he carries on with his arm,
and will not break the bruised reed
nor quench the smoking flax. His
heart is love and his bowels mercy,
and he will prove himself to be an
all sufficient Saviour to all that put
their trust in him for life and salva-
tion. May we all put our trust in
him that he may dispose of us as
seems good and right in his sight,
for certain it is, that our natural
ignorance and blindness is such that,
without the teaching and guidance of
the Good Spirit, we shall soon lose
the right way, and fall into pits and
snarcs, errors and heresies, to our
great injury, and to the dishonor of
the holy religion of Christ our Lord.
May the Holy Spirit be our sure and
constant guide while in this trouble-
some world. May he lead our minds
into the mysteries of the Cross, and
may our souls center there, and we
feel ourselves at home. Yes, my
brethren, may the whole gospel be-
come very precious and refreshing to
our souls, and in Jesus may we con-
fide, and of him boast and sing his
praises. And may this polluted

world, with all its corruptions, trou-
bles, cares and woes, with all its dy-
ing interests, sink down low in our
esteem, and we live by faith on the
Son of God. And as such, we may
become well acquainted with Christ
Jesus our Lord by the teaching of
the Holy Spirit, for certain it is,
that all teaching short of this, will
be sure to end in midnight darkness.
And right here, is it not to be fear-
ed that a great many religionists of
the present day will end their career?
For is it not clearly demonstrated by
Divine truth, we live in a day of de-
lusion and darkness instead of the
true light of Gospel liberty as some
of the religionists of the day would
have you believe? Oh, may Divine
light, by the teaching of the Holy
Ghost, shine into our hearts, for by
the shining of this light, we shall be
enabled to discover the darkness of
the day, in the general, and also to
discern the dark state of things that
is now upon the true Church, which
is the pillar and ground of the truth.
This same light will enable us to dis-
cern the cold and barren condition
that a great many of the real chil-
dren of God are in at the present day.

Brethren, what is the matter?
There is something wrong. Such a
state of things would not exist if all
was right. Well, where is the fault?
It is not in God, for God has not
changed. The fault, then, most
assuredly, is in us, and as such, let
each and every one of us pray God
to give us light and understanding,
that we may by this Divine light be
enabled to search our tents thorough-
ly, to see if the accursed thing is hid
there, as was the case of Achan of
old. (See Joshua, 7th chapter and
11th verse.) We are commanded to
try the spirits. Take them to the
standard, the Word of God, and try
them there, for there is danger of be-
ing ensnared by these dissembling
spirits.

We would advise you to stand
aloof from all those modern isms of
the day; and also beware of all se-
cret political machinery, which goes
under the dissembled name of "no

harm in it," for there is poison in
the end.

Let us turn our attention toward
the modern men of the day, and
what will we find? If we find any-
thing, it must be a fire of their own
kindling, for those mighty effort
men have kindled a fire high and
flaming, and have encompassed them-
selves about with the sparks, and in
the light of their fire they walk, talk
and amuse themselves all the day
long, and in their own fire light they
speak great swelling words, which
they do not understand, about the
great deeds they themselves have
done, and the great number of
proselytes thus formed and fashioned
in the light of their fire, and what a
surprisingly state of prosperity their
cause is in, and how very popular and
respectable they themselves of late
have become in the eyes of the world,
and what is it all, but an empty blank?

Brethren, we would that the Lord
would grant that our souls might be
wet with the dew of Heaven, and we
find it good to wait upon the Lord
and draw near to Him at a throne of
Grace, and live near to God, by faith,
and feed on Divine things. If we
can feel that we live by faith on the
Son of God, we will grow and thrive
thereby. If we can view Jesus, and
contemplate his love, in undertaking
the work of salvation, and engaging
as our surety before the foundation
of the world, we will see that the
foundation of our salvation was had
in covenant arrangement between
the Father and Son, to which the
Holy Ghost bears testimony.

Let us rejoice, in that our names
were written in the Lamb's Book of
Life from before the foundation of
the world. What then shall separ-
ate us from his love? Shall wars,
pestilence or famine or distress, per-
secution or the frowns of this inhos-
pitable world? Nay, the Apostle
tells us that neither death nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities, nor
powers, nor things present, nor
things to come, nor height, nor
depth, nor any other creature shall be
able to separate us from the love of