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JANUARY 19.

IN MEMORIAM.

So long thy power hath blessed me, s Will lead me on

O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till The night is gone, And with the morn those angel faces smile Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile

Since the last issue of the Reporter, we have stood at that most solemn of all places on earth and witnessed the closing of the tomb forever upon the forms of two friends. Today we offer these columns. His reminiscences of simple tributes-our tears and old times, his war stories and his--sweetest remembrance.

JOSEPH W. PRATHER.

The funeral was conducted from the home by Rev. Mr. Winecoff, of the M. E. church. In the parlor the coffin lay embanked with the most exquisite and costly floral offerings, testimonials of the love in which the deceased was held. The choir sang "Lead, Kind- Mr. Editor : ly Light," and other favorite hymns of the departed. Not a dry eye was in the assemblage which filled the rooms, the halls, the porch, and every available standing place. The minister's remarks were very touching.

Then came the tearful moment when the dead man was to be borne away forever from his loved home. With bared heads, crossed lances. The sun shone with splendor, though the air was cold. The Blue Ridge, snowcrowned, scintillated with brightness. The muffled tread of the hearse horses, the silent march of do, but they are continually the Masons, the subdued voices of growling and snapping and fightthe funeral directors, the bowed heads and the tears of the relatives and friends, the long line of nicer to leave your dogs at home. slow-moving carriages, and the Oh, they say that they can't make NAT'L other various incidents of the oc- old Trip stay at home. Well I casion-how they shall linger in our hearts!

At the grave the Masonic ceremonies and was the locked circle and the will of the people, and besides save march around the casket, each lots of cold bread for the pigs member dropping upon the coffin

CAPT. S. B. TAYLOR. The funeral of the late Capt. S. B. Taylor was conducted from the M. E. church, Thursday A. M. at 11 o'clock by his pastor, the Rev. J. T. Ratledge, assisted by the Rev. J. H. Robertson. "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," "Nearer, My God to Thee," and "How Firm a Foundation" were softly and sweetly rendered by the choir, after which the body was laid to rest by the side of his wife, who preceded him to the grave several years ago.

The pallbearers were the four sons who survive-Messrs. S. H. Jno. M., J. Spot and Roland C. Taylor.

Capt. Taylor was one of the Reporter's most valued friends, and was often a contributor to these tory sketches, published several months ago, were very entertaining and instructive and we hope to re-print them at an early day. There under the whispering pines where he lies may his spirit

Letter from William.

sleep in peace, within the shadow

of the old church he loved so well.

Having promised you that I would write again, and dogs being on my mind at present, I would like to write a word or two about the way my neighbors raise their dogs.

Of course, they want to do the thing thats right by them, for its not an uncommon thing to see nearly as many dogs at preaching as you see people. There are people in this neighborhood that has been carrying their dogs to the Masons carried their brother prayer meeting and Sunday school sadly out through the gate under and preaching for years, and I can't see that their dogs get any better. I don't believe that those dogs understand the Gospel, for they won't sit down and be quiet and listen while the preacher is preaching like good dogs ought to ing all the time of service. I don't believe they will ever be converted. So I think it would be much have heard it said that if you feed one about two ounces of shot out of a double barrel shot gun that it would stop the most unruly dog were beautiful that there is from going to church. touching, among which Try it neighbor, and get the good

Some years ago I raised a hound and he followed me to church one a sprig of evergreen with these Sunday, but I don't believe he en sad words : "Alas ! my brother ! joyed the sermon for he left be-Thy soul we surrender to God, thy fore preaching was over, and he was never known to go to preaching after that. Now, if John Smith goes to church with about three doses of He professed religion and joined Walnut Cove hallelujah on and Bluff, Tenn., in 1872. He had a is indicted, but if Jim Blank and high sense of honor, was a loving Jake Jones carries their dogs to church and they get into a fight and have the women and children playing leap-frog over the benches The sincere sympathy of the and there is nothing said about it.



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body to the tomb."

Joseph W. Prather was born at Mount Airy September 10, 1852. the M. E. Church South at Pine happens to say anything wrong he husband, an affectionate father, a true friend,

writer goes out to those who knew Oh for a dog-killer in truth and him best-knew all the noble indeed for this part of the moral qualities of his character, and who vineyard. weep for him with a grief which ter and its readers. only time can allay.

With best wishes to the Repor-

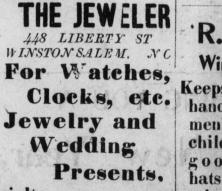
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