

North Carolina Christian Advocate.

Christian Advocate.

RALEIGH, N. C.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1856.

Special Agents.

James F. Simmons, Weldon.
Benjamin K. Patten, Richwood, Va.

Personal.

The Editor has been engaged this week in removing his family to Raleigh, and has not been able to give the usual attention to the Advocate. His lack of service has been ably supplied by an excellent *pro tem*.

He requests that hereafter all letters be addressed to him at Raleigh. Heretofore, several of his correspondents have directed to Franklinton; and some delay has been thus made in attending to their communications, as he made a short visit to his family near that place once a week only.

He hopes in a week or two to have all his personal matters so arranged as to enable him to give additional interest to the Advocate.

Improvement.

The world was not made in a day. Certain improvements in the appearance of our paper are contemplated by the enterprising publisher. He has long ago ordered the necessary material; but some how or other the type and ink and new heading have not yet arrived.

Let our patrons wait a time with patience. Already the paper surpasses any in the State, for the same price, in size and appearance. And it will be greatly improved before long.

New Subscribers—Back Numbers.

Subscribers continue to come in. We have now about 2700. Several of the preachers have done well. We feel inclined to name them; but to do so might draw apparent reflection upon others who, if less successful, mean as well as the best. A very large majority of the subscribers have not been sent by the preachers. But the time is at hand when we rely upon our brethren in the ministry to use diligence in extending the circulation of our own paper. A few more than three hundred subscribers will enlarge the list to 3000. This can be very easily done during the present month.

The author of the proposition to be one of a hundred to obtain each ten new subscribers, by the 10th inst., has sent 29 names; easily obtained, without interference with other duties. Several others have also responded; and the time set is amended, upon authority, to the 1st April.

We continue to receive applications for back numbers. All have been exhausted. But we are ready to supply any number of new subscribers with new papers immediately.

Death.

Three funerals took place from the M. E. Church in this City last week. The tolling of the bells, the hearse, the funeral procession, the fresh habiliments of mourning met in the streets, kept us constantly reminded of the ravaging power of the monster, Death. Still the busy throng swept along unmoved, unheeding. An occasional word was dropped about the solemnity of death, and then the subject was dismissed. How prone we are to forget that we must die, and to think all mortal except ourselves. Death, considered apart from the remedy provided in the Gospel, is appalling in every aspect in which it may be viewed. The soft tread in the chamber of the dead, the suppressed tone, the grief-stricken, the glazed eye, the sunken cheek, pointed, pallid features, the shroud, the coffin, the grave, the mattock, the rambling clod, the putrifying flesh, the worm, the mound, the waving grass, the silent monument; all fill the mind with gloom and tell us that it is a melancholy thing to die. But its most appalling aspect, apart from the Gospel, is presented in the consequences which follow it: the gloom of the pit, the worm that never dieth up forever and ever. Death does not appear thus to the righteous. But, on the contrary, if the light of the Gospel gleams upon the dying couch, it scatters the darkness of the death-hour. If the rays emanating from the Cross penetrate the grave, they dispel its gloom and cause the departed to rise again, and to open to mansions

Houses of Worship.

The time has come, we trust, when our people will cease to build houses of worship, otherwise than in a good, comfortable, substantial manner. Very many of our country churches within our bounds are discreditable to the communities in which they are built. It is not only so with us, but with others the same state of things exists; it is our province, however, only to speak of what immediately concerns us. The manner of proceeding has been, in too many instances, something after this sort: a few hundred dollars have been subscribed; a building committee appointed, under whose direction a frame of a house has been put together, on wooden blocks; this has been weather-boarded and shingled, batten doors and windows put to it, and a box of a pulpit built in one end or on the side has completed the structure. Houses of this character, after having stood ten or fifteen years without any repairs, constitute very many of our houses of worship. We are glad to believe, from the signs of the times, that our people are coming to the conclusion that this is bad economy, leaving out the question of comfort. Instead of pursuing this plan, if a few more dollars were added the house could be placed upon a good stone or brick foundation, could be celled or plastered, with sash and lights and substantial blinds, and a good coat of paint on the outside. It would not cost double the amount expended the other way, and would last twice as long, without needing repairs, and be a hundred per cent. more comfortable. What is worth doing at all is worth doing well, is an old and true maxim. If inability should be pleaded by a community, and it be a true plea, of course, in such case, all that can be done is to build according to ability.

But the main point we had in view when we commenced this article, was to call the attention of the church to the importance of making always good provision for our servants in building our houses of worship. In many places, provision is made for them, but in a great many instances this seems to have been almost entirely overlooked. Our servants are members of our families. Next to providing for the religious instruction and training of our children, our obligation is greatest to our servants. And we should not only instruct and train them at home in religion, but in building our houses of worship we should be sure to make good provision for them, that they may hear the Word preached; for "faith cometh by hearing." In all cases, therefore, galleries should be built, or the house made sufficiently large to set apart a portion of it for their accommodation.

Letter from Bishop Andrew.

Our readers will remember that some time ago we announced the Committees appointed by Bishop Andrew, in compliance with resolutions of our Conference, to visit our literary institutions. A mistake was made by the Bishop, which was accounted for by us at the time; and it turns out that we were correct, as the following letter will show. Although the whole matter has been set right, so far as we have heard, yet, in justice to Bishop Andrew, we insert with pleasure his letter, that he may speak for himself:

SUMMERFIELD, A. C., Feb. 23, '56.

My dear Brother: I notice in your paper, received yesterday, that I have made a mistake in the appointment of the Committees of Visitation to the literary institutions of the N. C. Conference; and it seems that in this case I must ask forgiveness for sins of omission as well as commission. You have given the proper explanation of the matter. I ought to have appointed the Committees before I left Wilmington, but the press of business always attendant on the closing hours of an annual Conference led me to postpone it till I had more leisure; supposing that the publication of the Committees in the paper would answer every purpose. How I came to substitute Fayetteville for Goldsboro' I don't know, but I know this much, that it was perfectly unintentional. I know that the Conference had neither the right nor the wish to interfere with the Fayetteville School; and I know also that I had no wish to neglect our good friends and their excellent institution at Goldsboro'. I can assure all parties that I intended no wrong to either party; and I hope that this announcement will satisfy our good friends at Fayetteville, who seem to have been so dreadfully frightened at the ghost of Methodist influence in their school, that this, like other ghosts, was purely an imaginary being. And now, to make all the amends in my power, I beg leave to say to the brethren who were announced to visit the Fayetteville School, that they will please consider themselves as appointed to the Goldsboro' Female College. And now, my dear Brother, I am yours, affectionately,
O. ANDREW.

Our Educational Interests.

We have thought that a remark or two will not be out of place upon the subject that heads this article. The spirit of education has become universally diffused throughout our whole country. It is not confined to any particular class; the lowly as well as the high, the poor as well as the rich, seek the highest mental culture. In the olden days of the Republic, (if her youth will allow of such an expression,) it was thought wisest to bequeath patrimony, rather than expend it upon the cultivation of the mind, where both could not be done. But fortunately this delusion has passed away. The state of things, in this regard, is reversed; the doctrine now is, let the mind be filled, if the pocket is left empty. The Methodist Episcopal Church, comprising in her membership and congregations nearly one-fourth of the whole population, has felt the obligation pressing heavily upon her to meet the wants of her people, who are, in common, partakers of this spirit. True to her instincts, she has not disregarded her obligation, but becoming fully aroused on this subject, and putting forth her mighty energies, schools and academies and colleges have sprung up within her bounds, almost as if under the waving of some magic wand. The matter of greatest concern now is, to give proper direction to this grand educational movement, and keep under proper control the spirit which has been excited. There is danger of passing from one extreme to another. The greatest evil we see connecting itself with our educational enterprises, is a too strong disposition to multiply schools of the first grade, or colleges. No one, we think, who will take the trouble to look to this subject a little, will fail to see that the effect of properly organizing our schools of the highest grade, in multiplicity, (we mean, by this, giving to each a College Faculty,) will be to increase the cost of instruction, and consequently to raise the price of tuition, when the tendency of our educational movement should be such as to cheapen the price of both, and bring the highest educational advantages within the reach of the masses. Having to look to the masses, as we do, for the support of our institutions, if such a policy be adopted as to put it out of their power to patronize them, is there not danger that in the end we shall find many of our unendowed colleges closing their halls in bankruptcy, and passing away under the hammer of the creditor?

One thought more, and one to which we would call particular attention. The view we have taken and presented has reference to the pecuniary feature of our system of education, only. The effect of our present policy is almost entirely to exclude the idea of benevolence. What provision is made by the Church for the education of the poor? We simply ask the question now, and intend at some future period to look into this feature of the subject more fully, and shall take occasion to urge upon the Church her obligation to provide for the education of her poor.

Friends of Missions, to the Rescue!

Just as this number is going to press, we have received from the Missionary Secretary the following Circular. We publish it at once, and call attention to it, because it is important. It develops the startling fact that there is a deficiency of thirty thousand dollars in the Missionary Treasury, necessary to be made up by donations, in order to meet the appropriations for the current year. The causes are assigned which have led to this deficiency. To these causes the North Carolina Conference has in no way contributed. The amount collected last year for Missions was larger, and the sum appropriated to Home Missions was smaller, than heretofore. The surplus for the General Treasury was greater than in any former year. Moreover, we are not prepared to endorse the policy which has brought us to issue. But what then? Shall the Methodists of the North Carolina Conference see the drafts of the church dishonored, the Missionaries of the Cross starved or called home, and do nothing to fill a breach offensive to God, and disgraceful to his Church? No! They are not the people to act in that way. They love the Church at home and everywhere. They mean hereafter to cultivate the home field; but to abate no tittle of effort to spread the Gospel over the earth. An appeal to the great principle of connective union that binds us in fellowship to the whole church, and finds its culmination in the glorious Missionary enterprise, cannot be in vain.

Come, brethren of the North Carolina Conference, to the rescue. You have the means: read carefully and prayerfully the following appeal, and you will have the will to aid liberally in extricating the parent society from its little difficulty. Thirty thousand dollars is a small affair for the whole church. It ought to be contributed without delay. It can be raised easily by one hearty effort. That effort will be made; and we trust North Carolina will not be a whit behind her sister

Conferences, in a prompt and liberal cash response to the call. Persons who may feel willing to give one dollar, or one hundred, or any intermediate sum, more or less, will please forward it to Dr. Schon, Nashville; or to Rev. E. H. Myers, Charleston. The Editor of this paper will cheerfully receive and forward contributions. We trust every preacher will preach and take up a collection on the Second Sabbath in April, according to the suggestion of the Secretary.

DEFICIENCY IN THE TREASURY—WANT OF FUNDS. It becomes our duty to announce the fact to the Church, and our friends generally, that there will be a great demand for funds to meet the outstanding drafts of the present year.

This deficiency will exceed thirty thousand dollars. We make the statement in due time, and do not blame or censure any party for not having done so.

It is a startling fact. The causes may be demanded, but the emergency is upon us. Facts are stubborn things, and this is one: it does exist. We can and will, however, readily assign the causes which have led to this deficiency.

1. The encumbrances that we were compelled to make on the collections of the present to meet the drafts of the past year.

2. The decrease—the sad falling off in some of the Conferences in their collections.

3. The very great increase in the amount of appropriations in the Conferences for Domestic Missions the present year.

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From a faithful examination and analysis of the subject, we pronounce the above to be the causes of the deficiency. We must not have one dishonest draft—no, not one. There is no necessity for this. We commenced the past year with a liability of thousands, and our drafts were honored; however, it may have been by our credit.

Union in effort, and immediate, universal action, upon the part of all our ministers and friends, will accomplish the object. For this special purpose, we respectfully advise, let these operations be commenced in due time, and the results, in dollars and cents, forwarded immediately to our Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurers.

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A Missionary Matter.

In our issue two weeks ago, we called attention to the direction given to our Missionary funds, contrasted with the manner in which the Georgia Conference disposes of hers.

The substance of our statement, as our readers will recollect, was that the N. C. Conference raised last year, \$10,047.23, and of that amount, retained only \$2,450 for the support of Missions within our bounds, during the current year, paying the balance into the General Treasury—while the Georgia Conference retained the whole amount she raised, and, in addition, received from the other Conferences \$5,932.32, to meet appropriations within her bounds. We then ventured to assert, that if Georgia's policy is right, North Carolina's policy is wrong. Our neighbor of the Southern Christian Advocate, under the above heading, notices the matter. After copying our entire article, he indulges in the following comment:

In the above, from the North Carolina Christian Advocate, there is an error in the supposition that only \$2,450.00 were appropriated to missions in the N. C. Conference for the present year. The drafts are drawn on Ass't Tr. at Charleston, and the Tr. of the Conference retained \$2,450 for convenience sake, to meet the first and second instalments. The others will be paid in Charleston. The drafts for the year amount to \$4,375; add to this \$604.18, paid for missionary labor last year within that Conference, above balance in hand at previous report and paid out of collections for the year, and we have left \$5,018.95 for the General Treasury, not \$7,000, as the Advocate supposes.

This indeed is a handsome proportion of the amount collected in the Conference, but not so much. Instead of the N. C. Conference doing less for the General Treasury, the other Conferences should do more. All the ground in each Conference should be occupied, and more done for the frontier Conferences and for foreign missions; and if the Georgia Conference will not do it, then the others must. We believe, however, that Conference will allow that in this matter she has done wrong, and will do so no more—the wrong consisting not in the large outlay at home, but in the small amount paid yearly to missions to meet that outlay—and to have something over.

We have inserted his article, for the following reasons:

1. To make the correction of the mistake into which we were very naturally led by the manner of the report. This, however, only changes the figures a little, but does not alter in the least the principle involved.

2. To lay before our readers the opinion of our Bro. Myers on this subject.—He says, "all the ground in each Conference, should be occupied." That the Georgia Conference will allow that in this matter she has done wrong—the wrong consisting not in the large outlay at home, but in the small amount paid yearly to missions to meet that outlay—and to have something over.

3. We have inserted his article, mainly to keep before the proper authorities, who have jurisdiction of this subject, the importance of appropriating more of our Missionary funds to the cultivation of our home fields. We are for raising as large amount of Missionary money as possible. Effort should be made every where, by all our preachers to bring the Church up to the full measure of her duty on this subject.

At the same time we are in favor of judiciously applying as much of that amount collected as may be necessary, to send the Gospel to the destitute portions within the bounds of our own Conference, if it takes it all. We have not as yet "occupied all the ground" in our Conference, by a great deal.

Information for the People.

We continue to receive letters of inquiry as to whether the North Carolina Advocate will ever be published; and when the first number will be issued. Some people appear to be incredulous, and to think nothing can be done in North Carolina. For general information, therefore, we take great pleasure in stating that this paper has been regularly issued since the first week in January, and has a subscription list sufficient for its support.

P. S. We are not yet done talking in subscribers.

GIVE THE POST-OFFICES.—The only index on the books of this paper is an index to Post-Offices. Hence the necessity of giving the Post-Office of every subscriber, on every occasion when his name is mentioned to the Editor. If brethren will attend to this, they will save us many hours of useless toil in searching at random for one name amid nearly three thousand, on the books. Remember, we have no clerk.

SIGN YOUR NAMES.—We frequently receive letters enclosing money, without signature. Brethren, sign your names, and then we shall know whom to credit. Your name never looks more pleasant to an Editor than when at the foot of a letter enclosing money.

RECEIPTS—CORRESPONDENCE.—In consequence of having, this week, to remove his family to Raleigh, the Editor is thrown one week behind in acknowledging receipts, and in attending to correspondents. In the course of a week he will bring up all arrears.

Several articles are unavoidably crowded out this week.

A Good Omen.

We clip the following from the Daily (Petersburg) Express. That paper, as will appear, extracts from the New York Commercial Advertiser:

BISHOP PIERCE.—We find in the New York Commercial Advertiser, the following notice of the sermon preached a few days ago by this eminent divine at Newark, New Jersey:

"At 3 o'clock there was a second service, and the Rev. Bishop Pierce, of Georgia, preached. It was a sermon which those present will not soon forget. His subject was, 'Faith, Hope and Charity,' and well and eloquently did the reverend gentleman illustrate and enforce his several topics. Immediately after the eloquent divine had concluded, a collection and subscriptions were taken up, which added about \$2,000 to the amount received in the morning. The building was crowded to its utmost capacity. Every spot, both above and below, wherever standing room could be obtained, was occupied; but although the crowd was great and many were inconveniently pressed, the most unbroken attention prevailed throughout. Our pleasing feature of the afternoon exercises was that ten persons subscribed each \$100, to constitute Bishop Pierce a 'life member of the Church.'

This sermon was preached in pursuance of an announcement made through the press some time ago, on the occasion of the dedication of a magnificent new Methodist Church in Newark. According to the announcement, two of the Bishops (James and Simpson) of the M. E. Church, North, were to assist. We are glad that Bishop Pierce yielded to the invitation, and was present on the occasion. We are also glad that he preached with such power and success. It is, in our judgment, one of the greatest pulpits of the age. But what does this sending away-down to Georgia, from Newark, mean? And further, what does that proposition of ten of the audience to pay \$100 each to make Bishop Pierce a 'life member of the Church' mean? Is it an avowal of peace and union? Are we to understand this as a declaration of their position, relative to the controversy now going on in their midst on the slavery question? Do they admit by this act that a slaveholder may be a Christian, and entitled to membership in the Christian Church? If so, we are ready to extend across the 'blue' the right hand of fellowship. If it is not so, surely our Newark friends must have forgotten the position and speech of Bishop Pierce before the General Conference of 1844. Viewing it, however, in the former light, as that best accords with our feelings, we hail it as some indication, at least, of a willingness on their part, to forget old animosities, and to endeavor "to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Foreign News.

This department of our paper is a little fuller this week than usual. We have extracted thus largely from the last mails, because the news from the Continent touching our own relations with England, and also with regard to the efforts to bring about peace between the European powers, is so full of interest from all quarters, just at this time.

ANNUAL REPORT.—We call attention to the Report of the Agents of the American Tract Society, Mr. W. J. W. Crowder, on our fourth page. The friends of the Society will read it with interest.

BREVITY.—We reiterate the request that correspondents study brevity. Opinions must not be long. Brief, pointed articles are solicited.

LIBRARY NOTICES.

Notes on Duels and Duelling. By Lorenzo Sabine.

A work bearing the above title has been laid on our table. To gentlemen who are cognizant of the "Code," it is almost an indispensable acquisition. It gives the history, the rise and progress of this barbarous and inhuman practice. It records the particulars connected with some of the most celebrated duels which have been fought in this country and England. In glancing over it, our eyes fell upon the account of the noted duel between General Hamilton and Col. Barr. We had read it before, but when we closed the volume and thought of the cold, premeditated murder of that great statesman and devoted patriot, under the cover of equal combat, we felt that we did not early enough.

WAR IN AFRICA.—By arrival of the brig *Hyewald*, at New York, we learn, from Monrovia, West Coast of Africa, 5th ult., the New York Tribune learns that the Libyans and natives were at war. In an engagement at Sany the colonists had received killed and several wounded.

REFORMED CHURCH OF FRANCE.—The Reformed Church of France has 196 consistories; over 500 pastors and places of worship; 300 schools, attended by 12,000 children; besides normal and other advanced schools; and a theological college, having 7 professors and fifty students. About as many more students for the ministry study at Geneva.

HEAVY FAULT.—S. S. Simmons, of Hyde Co., N. C., a large shingle getter, known in Eastern Virginia, Baltimore, Philadelphia, &c., has failed, with liabilities of a half a million. He has always been considered immensely wealthy—worth three hundred negroes, several fertile farms and immense lumber and cyprus swamps.

THE HERMITAGE.—A bill has passed the House of Representatives in Tennessee, for the purchase of the mansion of the late Gen. Jackson, by that State. The remains of that great man repose in the garden.

THE DANVILLE RAILROAD.—The Danville road will be finished to Danville next week.

General's second in rank in the army of the Revolution, upon no difference of his own, but simply, solely, to prove to the generation to which they belonged, and to posterity, that Washington, as an officer, was equal to the station which he filled, and as a private gentleman was entitled to consideration and respect. These are pretty fair specimens of the most of quarrels generally which bring on duels.

For sale by W. L. Pomeroy.

ITEMS.

DANVILLE FEMALE COLLEGE.—The members and friends of the Methodist E. Church in Danville, Va. have subscribed \$16,000 towards erecting a college building. More will be raised if necessary.

REV. E. CLEGG.—We learn by a letter from a friend that Rev. B. Clegg has declined removing to the West.

MISSIONARY SECRETARY.—Dr. Schott, Missionary Secretary, has returned to Nashville, Tenn., and requests his correspondents to address him at that place.

BISHOP PIERCE.—Bishop G. F. Pierce is writing a series of articles, giving a history of his trip, in his Episcopal visitation to the South-western Conferences.

REV. JOSEPH WELLS.—This venerable pioneer of American Methodism is still living in Baltimore. He is 92 years old, the oldest Methodist minister whose name is enrolled on our itinerary. He was once stationed in Wilmington, N. C.

MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY.—The annual meeting of the Board of Managers of the Missions will take place in Nashville, on the 10th Monday in April. We may expect, at an early day, a programme of the exercises.

DR. DEWE.—Dr. C. F. Deems has been invited by a number of the citizens of Petersburg, Va., to deliver a lecture in that place, on the 11th inst., and the next evening, the 12th, a magnificent service of Plate will be presented to him by citizens of Petersburg, as an evidence of their estimation of his eminent worth.

GUILD.—The magistrates at last Court took preparatory steps to build a new Court House in Greensboro.

REVIVAL.—We learn there is a revival in the Methodist Church in Portsmouth. Rev. C. A. Davis is pastor.

HENDERSON.—The following municipal officers were elected last week: H. H. Burwell, Mayor; Dr. A. C. Harris, W. P. Boston, Hardy Harris, P. W. Wyoche, and Col. P. E. A. Jones, Town Commissioners.

HENDERSON IS IMPROVING IN EVERY RESPECT. Flourishing Male and Female Academies, conveniently located, with competent teachers; and many new buildings among which is a new Methodist Church, attest the enterprise of its citizens.

FIRST MARTYR OF THE REVOLUTION.—The first martyr of the Revolution, in North Carolina, was John Grady, of Duplin, Co. He was killed in the battle of Moore's Creek Bridge. A committee was appointed, we believe, at the recent celebration of the anniversary of that battle in New Hanover to erect a monument over the spot where he was interred. He was the only man killed on our side in that battle. By all means, we think North Carolina should build a monument over the spot where his remains repose, to perpetuate his memory.

DR. HUGHES.—Archbishop Hughes, in his recent lecture in Baltimore, expressed the opinion that the Roman Catholic Church in this country can anticipate little increase in its numbers or strength from immigration, and that the future hopes of the Church must be based upon its retaining its present numbers and the increase from conversions. He thinks the present condition of the Church and the numerous accessions which he says have been made to it from converts of American birth, justify the most sanguine expectations in this regard.

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