

Special Agents.

James F. Simmons, Weldon. Benjamin K. Pullen, Richmond, Va.

How we Publish.

This paper is published by contract, and upon such terms that it will pay expenses. The present number is an improvement upon the past, highly creditable to the publisher, and, in mechanical execution, equal to any other paper ever circulated in our Conference.

To accomplish this, we must have at least \$2500 given as a Publishing Fund. It may be due to the present Publisher to continue the contract with him until he shall be remunerated for the outlay necessary for a beginning.

Our correspondent, "Improvement," to whose article, on the fourth page, we invite attention, proposes to give \$25. Who will next follow this good example? We pause for a reply.

A Question.

A brother who has not had many years experience as preacher in charge of a circuit, requests an answer to the following question: "Whether it is according to Methodist usage to receive a person on trial in the church, who does not think it possible to be entirely sanctified in this life?"

1. It is better to advise with the Presiding Elder, in all cases of doubt or difficulty in the administration of Discipline.

2. Nevertheless, in this case, we will give our opinion; which is, that if no other obstacle exists, the applicant should be received.

Persons writing with our church are expected to give satisfactory evidence that they receive its doctrines, and will submit to its discipline; and it should be entirely satisfactory for them to show that they are free from doctrinal errors which would damn them, and will not disturb the peace of the church by agitating the points of minor importance wherein we may think them yet not sufficiently informed.

Objections to the doctrine of Christian Perfection by Christians have their origin in a misapprehension of what the doctrine really is, as taught in the word of God, and expounded by our standard authors, and will in every case be removed by a proper examination of the subject.

Subscribers.

We have about 3000, and want a few hundred more immediately. A brother sending four new subscribers from a circuit where a hundred copies are already taken, writes that these were obtained very easily one day while paying pastoral visits. Another not long ago sent seven, as the fruit of a little appeal to a small congregation after preaching. Will the reader try both plans and report the results? We have a curiosity to know which works best.

FINANCIAL PLAN.—The Plan of Finance adopted in 1852, through several times published, has not been seen by some of the younger preachers, and many of our readers; and for their information it is re-published on this page. We ask for it a careful perusal, that all may understand the mode of creating the Contingent Fund, and aid in the work by a liberal co-operation.

Contingent Fund.

The purposes of this Fund and the mode of its collection, are given in the Financial Plan, published in another column.

The Finance Committee have made an estimate of the amount to be raised this year, and assessed it upon the several Districts. The District Stewards, it is presumed, have already apportioned these assessments to every pastoral charge. And now nothing remains to be done but to raise the money. But how shall this be done? By voluntary contribution; there is no other method.

It is also necessary that our people be informed as to the nature of this claim upon their liberality. By far the largest portion of this fund is given annually to the superannuated preachers, and to the widows and children of preachers who have died in the service of the church.

Others have died at their posts, leaving no inheritance to their widows and orphan children, save the promise of God to the "seed of the righteous."

Others have died at their posts, leaving no inheritance to their widows and orphan children, save the promise of God to the "seed of the righteous." And God has placed the means for their support in the hands of his people; they are his stewards. Can they—dare they withhold bread from the widows and orphans of the church's sainted dead? Nay, verily: let this claim of benevolence, of gratitude and justice, be fully set before our congregations in time, and they will give the amount necessary to meet the wants of the superannuated and deficient preachers, and of the widows and the orphans. They will give freely and cheerfully.

Our Course.

Two weeks ago we had occasion to announce that this paper could not enter into the personal controversy occupying so much space in the Richmond Christian Advocate, for the reasons stated in another column.

Attempts to drive us from this position will meet the fortune of the little boy who, as with the proverb, ran a race by himself, and—got beaten. The Richmond Christian Advocate of last week quotes the article in question, and attempts to damage this paper by a personal attack upon its Editor.

We seek peace with all, and aspire not to the "had eminence" which may be won by the eloquence of vituperation.

A New Scheme.

We have been shown a circular which contains a plan to raise an endowment fund for Andrew Female College, at Culbertson, Georgia. It is not new or strange that Methodists should endow Colleges; but the scheme before us is a perfect novelty within the pale of Methodism.

Several good articles are crowded out this week for want of room. They shall appear next week. Although a long article may be inserted now and then, it is because the nature of the subject and the manner of its treatment fit it for our columns.

And Father Gripe—where is he? Numerous inquiries reach us after his health and welfare, and a general desire is expressed to hear from him again.

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Personal Controversy.

The exclusion of personal controversy from the North Carolina Christian Advocate, meets with general approbation.

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Those who advertise in this paper will please inform us how long the advertisement is to be inserted. If the time is not specified, the advertisement will be continued until forbid, and charged accordingly.

The Credit System.

The credit system works badly for newspapers. Some subscribers go to parts unknown; some neglect, and others refuse to pay; so that among them the printer suffers no little.

The Editor of the Roanoke Republican calls upon each subscriber who will not forward the cash, to send a lock of his hair, and proposes to go into the wig business. But this expedient, we fear, will not answer.

At no period before, have influences among Christians tended more strongly to float them away from the old landmarks; and no literature extant can bind men to the Bible so strongly as the old Methodist Literature.

Tracts.

The Tracts have not arrived from Nashville yet. In fact, the bill, received two weeks ago, was without date, and gave no information as to the steps taken to secure their safe and speedy arrival.

See, in the Agent's report in this paper, what the American Tract Society is doing in North Carolina. That Society is good; but ours is better, much better. When we see what they are doing, and what we are not doing, we really feel provoked—"unto love and to good works."

The Pacific Methodist.

We have received the prospectus of a paper with the above title, to be published at Sonoma, California, by Rev. O. P. Fitzgerald, provided a sufficient number of subscribers can be obtained.

The new paper is to be the organ of the Pacific Conference of the M. E. Church, South, and will be devoted to its interests. We feel inclined to tell the California brethren to stop and consider; that we have papers enough; that it is not possible for them to have one; that it will do soon for want of breath; that they had better take one of the old established papers, ours, for instance, which, with most disinterested zeal, we are ready to furnish at short notice, &c. &c. But, upon reflection, we are a little inclined to doubt whether the mail facilities, and the proclivities of California people, will justify the expectation of a very large subscription list for the North Carolina Christian Advocate among them.

Truth is truth, whether uttered by one generation or another; and it is much easier to call the unanswerable arguments of Robert Hall "lax views" than it is to refute them.

As we have been taught, so teach we.

It Troubles Them.

Certain writers in the last Biblical Recorder are in trouble because the church at Newark, N. J. extended to Bishop Pierce the hand of fellowship.

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To Advertisers.

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Advertisements, as well as subscription to the paper, should be paid in advance. All the business transactions of this paper are designed to be on the cash system.

Methodist Literature.

The reader will find on the first page a "Vindication of Methodist Literature," from the pen of the venerable Dr. Bangs. His estimate of the Wesleyes will be confirmed by every one familiar with their writings, and capable of appreciating them.

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Let the books be ordered from the Depositories, and circulated among the people.

ARATOR.—The April number is now out. It is well filled with matter interesting and profitable to the Agriculturist. Price, \$1 a year, in advance. Address T. J. Lemay, Raleigh, N. C.

FOREST CHAPEL.—Notice is hereby given that R. T. Hoffin expects to preach at Forest Chapel on the second Sunday in April.

Dr. Ryland on Close Communion.

Dr. John Ryland, Senior, one of the most distinguished of the Baptist ministers in England, of the last century, was in favor of mixed communion. He had republished Bunyan's reasons for the practice, with some additions of his own.

Five in Lynchburg, Va. The Piedmont Car Works have been burned up. Loss, \$20,000.

Stabbed. On Monday morning, an affray occurred between two negroes, in this City. Frank, who belongs to Parker Rand, Esq. received a dangerous stab at the hands of Hubert, a slave of Mr. Madison Royster.

New Counties in Virginia. The Legislature of Virginia, recently adjourned, established four new Counties, named respectively, Roane, Wise, Calhoun, and Tucker.

Baptist Church in Danville.—Elder J. B. Hardwick has accepted a call to become Pastor of the Baptist Church in Danville, Va.

Rev. A. C. Allen. It will gratify the numerous friends of this brother in North Carolina, to learn that he is well, and that the institution of learning over which he presides, at Okolona, Mississippi, is in a flourishing condition.

More Mormons. The ship Caravan arrived at New York from Liverpool on the 23rd March, bringing 456 Mormons, who are going to Utah.

Awful Shipwreck. The ship John Rutledge sailed from Liverpool for New York on the 16th January. On the 18th February she struck a field of ice, and in a few hours went down. The passengers and crew took to the boats. But one of the boats was picked up; and all were starved or frozen to death, except a man named Nye. It is now believed that all in the other boats have perished. Thus have 144 souls been hurried into eternity.

Biblical Recorder.

That paper of yesterday charges us with him of Richmond, and charges the Editor of the North Carolina Christian Advocate with attempting to disturb the peace of the Methodist Church.

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Financial Plan.

1. There shall be in Conference a Contingent Fund, created annually by the yearly collections, the collections for necessities cases, the proceeds of Centenary and Relief Fund, donations and contributions from any other sources, for the support of the Bishops, superannuated, distressed and deficient preachers, and the widows and orphans of our deceased members; which Fund shall be annually disposed of according to the provisions of our Discipline, subject to the approval of Conference.

2. There shall be a standing Committee of Seven, appointed by each Conference for the ensuing year, to be called the Committee of Finance; whose duty it shall be to prepare annually for publication a succinct account of all our Financial operations; embracing a statement of the resources of the Conference of all kinds, the amount of deficiency on those circuits that have failed to pay their preachers, the sums necessary to make up the allowance of the Bishops, the worn-out and deficient preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased preachers; together with all other information touching our financial operations which in their judgement may be of interest to our people.

3. The more effectually to secure the co-operation and assistance of our lay Brethren, as well as to enlist our people generally in the work of raising this Fund, there shall be chosen at the annual meeting of the District Stewards in each District, one Steward, who shall attend the ensuing N. C. Conference, to act in conjunction with the Committee of Finance in disposing of the Contingent Fund;—and also in devising such means and measures as may be judged necessary to meet all the cases of necessity in the Conference.

4. This Committee shall make as accurate an estimate as they may be able to, of the amount necessary to be raised to make up the probable deficiency at the ensuing Conference, and apportion the same to the several Districts, and the District Stewards' meetings in each District, shall with the aid of the Presiding Elders, apportion the amount to be raised in each District to the several pastoral charges in it.

5. The amounts thus apportioned to each District and the several pastoral charges in it, shall be published in the report of the Finance Committee.

6. Should the sum to be raised in each charge not be obtained on the first application, the preachers shall renew the public collection and continue their efforts, privately or publicly, until, if practicable, the sum is collected.

7. The manner in which each preacher in charge has performed his duty in raising his part of the Contingent Fund, shall be made the subject of special enquiry in the examination of character before Conference. In order to this, it shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Committee of Finance to have before him a list of the circuits and the sums apportioned to them, and when the name of each preacher is called by the Chairman of the Committee of Finance, he shall make his report to the Chairman and place the money in the hands of the Finance Committee.

ITEMS.

Five in Lynchburg, Va. The Piedmont Car Works have been burned up. Loss, \$20,000.

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Wife Superior Court. This tribunal is now in Session, Judge Person presiding. There is said to be an unusual amount of business on hand, though no cases of public interest.

Found Dead. On Friday morning last the body of Chris. Woodard was found dead a mile or two from this city. He left town intoxicated and it is thought fell into a small stream of water, from which he recovered himself only to perish with cold near its margin.

Another Sudden Death. We are under the painful necessity of recording the sudden demise of another young townsman. On Saturday, the 25th ult., Mr. Wm. S. Pitt, Clerk of our County Court, was taken sick with the mumps, and after a few days, partially recovered; but having somewhat exposed himself, he took a violent cold, which produced several hemorrhages—although quite feeble, he again appeared to be convalescent, and continued so until Monday morning last, when, after getting up and eating breakfast as usual, he was suddenly seized with apoplexy and died instantaneously.

Declined. We stated, the other day, says the Baltimore Sun, that Rev. Dr. Fuller of this city, had been invited to deliver the valedictory sermon at the North Carolina University. We since learn that the invitation was declined by Dr. Fuller some two months ago.

A Valuable Woman. Miss Peggy Land, a young woman of Pickens, S. C. District, about twenty-four years of age, after trying weaving, carding, spinning, and sewing, last year, went to farming, and made cotton which netted her \$100. Hereon crop was two hundred and fifty bushels, worth sixty cents per bushel, and she made thirty-five bushels of wheat, worth one dollar and fifty cents a bushel. She accomplished this herself, without assistance or hiring. She ploughed, drove the cart, cut her wheat and cribbed her corn.

Choir Singing in Synagogues. The novelty of choir singing has been introduced into the worship of the Green street Synagogue, New York. A visitor, describing the services, says that he was much impressed by hearing sung one of the psalms in the grand air "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

Pea Nuts. To give an idea of the trade in pea nuts in lower Virginia, the Norfolk Argus states that 2,000 bushels were received by one house in that city last Thursday. Shipments, at good prices, are frequently made to northern markets. They are selling now at \$1 a \$1 20 per bushel.

Acquitted. Reid, the young law student at Chapel Hill, who killed Check in that vicinity a few weeks ago, has been acquitted. The jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide.

Enormous Fraud. The amount of the defalcation of Garland, the Treasurer of the city of New Orleans, is ascertained to be \$465,168. It appears to have been spent in speculation, stylish living, and politics.

Shanghai—Thirty Negroes Gone. Thirty likely negroes belonging to Samuel S. Simmons, of N. C., left for parts unknown last week.

Medical College. The Annual Commencement of the Richmond Medical College took place on Thursday evening, 20th ult. Diplomas were given to twenty-nine of the students. The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Wellford.

Baptist Church in Raleigh. A portion of the congregation of this church have purchased the lot, on the West side of the Capitol, fronting on Hillsboro' Street, known as "Cook's Lot," for the purpose of erecting a new and larger place of worship than the one now in use. It will be built of the best material and in the latest style. The old church will probably be used by the colored members of the congregation.

French Mission at Detroit. Rev. Theo. Carter writes under date of Feb. 26th: "Thank God, Brother Comagne finds us in the midst of a delightful revival. I am so much engaged in our meetings every night, visiting, &c., every day, I can hardly find time to pack up."

Profanity Punished. On Monday, at Savannah, John Tanner, contractor for sweeping chimneys, had his contract revoked, and was fined \$50, for using violent and profane language in the presence of ladies.

N. C. Railroad. The following is a statement of produce sent from the depot at Graham, during five months ending last March: Flour, 104,515 lbs.; flour, 1,990 bushels; wheat, 3,291 bushels; tobacco, 39,110 lbs.; brandy, 9,980 gallons; dried fruit, 633 bushels; onions, 22 bushels; cabbages, 13 dozen; butter and lard, 1,271 lbs.; corn meal, 955 bushels.

Theological Institute. The Universalists of New York have applied for a charter for a Library and Theological Institution, to be located at Canton, N. Y. They have subscribed \$50,000, and say they will raise \$100,000 for it.

North Carolinians in Mississippi. We have before us a list of the members of the Mississippi Legislature for 1856. It is a somewhat novel and interesting document, giving us the name, residence, nativity, age, politics, religion, and even the number of babies claimed by some of each of the members. In the Senate there are 4 North Carolinians. The oldest member of the Senate is 76; the youngest 32. The ladies will be interested in learning that 25 are married, 2 single, and 4 widowers.

In the House of Representatives we find 9 North Carolinians, and among them the name of an old acquaintance, Harvey F. Johnson, a native of Buncombe, and son of the late John Johnson, Esq., of Henderson county. Mr. Johnson is put down as a Democrat, a Methodist, a Lawyer, 25 years of age, married and has two babies. Hurrah for Buncombe!—Asheville News.

Bank of Yanceville. The annual meeting of the stockholders of this Bank is to be held in Yanceville, on the 17th April.

Hotel for Sale. The "Yarborough House," one of the largest Hotels in Raleigh, is to be sold at public auction on the 19th May next.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER ENVOY. Three Days Later from Europe. Boston, March 27.—The English steam Propeller Envoy arrived last night from Liverpool, having sailed therefrom on the 12th inst. She brings three days later advices.

The Peace Conference were holding daily sessions. Nothing had transpired in the Crimea. Fifty thousand British troops were reviewed at Belknap's 5th March.

ARRIVAL OF THE CANADA. THREE DAYS LATER. HALIFAX, March 28.—The Peace Conference is still in progress. The indications appear favorable. Prussia has consented to take part in the Conference, and Mantoufel goes as its plenipotentiary.

From Cuba. ARRIVAL OF THE EMPIRE CITY. NEW YORK, March 28.—The steamer Empire City has arrived from Havana, bringing dates to the 23rd inst.

LATER FROM HAVANA. CHARLESTON, March 28.—The steamer Isabel arrived to-day from Havana. The British steamer Argos had arrived at Havana from Port Royal, having on board nearly fifty cases of Yellow Fever.

California News. STEAMER ILLINOIS ARRIVED. NEW YORK, March 27th.—The steamer Illinois from California arrived this evening at 6 o'clock with \$1,200,000 in treasure. The "John L. Stevens" with mails and passengers from New York 5th of February, arrived up, on the 1st inst. The Golden Gate for Panama and Brethren Jonathan for San Juan, left on the 5th. The missing account books of Adams & Co., were recently found washed ashore near San Francisco.

MARKETS.—Dull receipts. Gold diminishing. The South American and Chilean war steamer Zarina foundered near Maule on the 30th, and over 300 lives lost. The steamer from Costa Rica state that Walker threatened to attack Pinar Arenas. Government had sent troops to defend that place. Indians on the Atlantic coast attacked Santiago, New Grenada, which they partially burned.