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NEVER LEAVE THEE."

By Rev. T. L. Baily.

(Gen. xxviii: 15.)

Take courage, faint heart, thy Savior hath spoken,
His word He has pledged, it never was broken;
Thro' trials and troubles—press on, never fear,
He will not forsake thee, He ever is near.

Look upward, believing that help is at hand,
And strength will be given for every demand;
Whatever temptation besets thee to-day,
If thou would'st overcome it, He'll show thee the way.

When dangers surround thee and foes are so strong,
Then Jesus will help thee and lead thee along;
By a way of His own, one He has designed,
By drops of His blood it is clearly outlined.

Whatever the sorrow that burdens thee now,
Whatever the clouds that encircle thy brow;
His promise is sure, abiding forever,
"I'll never forsake thee," never—no never.

Atlantic City, N. J.

AN ATLANTIC "EXILE" IN THE MOUNT ZION.

High C. Moore, Chapel Hill, N. C.

A new name at the masthead of The Messenger! I am sure the two former editors of the paper will agree that it is now in the best hands in its history, and hope that it will have a more liberal patronage than ever before. The present editor is the only one of the pastors now in the East who was present at the Beaufort Union three and a half years ago, when the first plans were set on foot looking to the publication of an Associational paper. This reminds me of the changes that have taken place since I left the Atlantic last February. Gaskins leaves East Carteret, Butler leaves Beaufort, Davis leaves Tabernacle, Taylor soon to leave Pamlico, Setzer resigned our Morehead City Church; truly, "change" is in the air. I sincerely trust good men will be secured to occupy these vacant pastorates, and that our cause will move proudly forward all along the line.

You must allow me to say in The Messenger what I have said to many privately: How glad I am that the old First of New Bern has Brother Rich as her pastor. It is a delight to learn of the excellent work he is doing and of the high esteem he has already won. I hope this pleasant relation will be one of many years' standing, and that our people all through that section will come to know and feel the impress of Brother Rich. No happier days have I ever spent than those at Morehead City and New Bern, and I shall ever feel a keen interest in the welfare of those patient, generous churches.

And now eight months' of work lie behind me in my present field. Chapel Hill is but a village, as your readers know; about 1,200 population. It is essentially a University town. And, as you might imagine, there is not a better place in the world for hard study and for good work among young men. There are nearly 600 students now registered in the University and the list will run up probably to 650 or 700 during the year. About 115 of these are from Baptist homes. Several young men from your section of the State I have been glad to welcome to the "Hill" and quite frequently to

church services. Of course "the boys" make up a good part of our congregation, but we have a village membership of about 160—the largest of any church in town. Besides, Chapel Hill is in the midst of a very thriving section of the State; and as to Baptist churches, there are twenty-three good ones right around us, the farthest of which can be reached from here any preaching day in time for morning service. Think of that! I am more and more impressed with the great work to be done here and hereabouts, and am glad to report that our work is moving on nicely. We are expecting to have a meeting here at Chapel Hill next month and are hoping for good results.

The Mount Zion Association (to which we belong) was held recently; it embraces more than forty churches and nearly 5,000 members. The attendance was about 800, the discussions good, and a 25 per cent. advance in contributions was determined upon for the coming associational year. By request I spoke on our work in the East on the basis of an editorial I gave in The Messenger last December, and I hope new friends were made for the work you brethren are doing so faithfully in the Baptistically destitute region of our lowlands. The eyes of the State-wide brotherhood are turning upon you. If you possibly can, hold and develop the struggling churches already established, reach out after other points open to you, and continue the admirable patronage of your school work at Morehead City and Winterville; and ere long our denominational jeremiad in the East shall be transformed into praising hal-lujahs. God hasten the day!

NOTES—FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NEW BERN, N. C.

The notes of last month were lost in the wilderness of the pastor's study while he and the good citizens of the Athens of North Carolina, both men and women, were in hot pursuit of that sly and soul-and-body-and-home destroying beast—the New Bern Distilling Co. They were lost in a righteous chase. They tell, and rightly too, that when Messrs. J. J. Baxter, chairman of County Commissioners; C. E. Foy and Lon Richardson, his worthy associates, finished saying "No," the distilling company was looking rather "dry," and soon was known no more by the Lord Mayor and five city Aldermen who worked so faithfully to get him a den and habitation. The five Councilmen who voted against him are Messrs. T. G. Hyman, S. G. Roberts, C. J. McCarthy, L. S. Wood and J. B. Dawson. When you come to our fair city, dear reader, find all these honorable gentlemen—both Commissioners and city Aldermen—and shake their hands and give them your thanks. This issue will bear the readers of The Messenger the news that, when last heard of, the Distilling Company was camping around about the walls of the good city of Wilmington, our suburban neighbor by the sea, looking for a hole through which to enter on his death-dealing and heart-crushing rounds. But there are loud rumors that the Prohibition Nimrods are on the lookout for his "sign" and the prayer of our people is that they may give him such a hot chase that only the hair may be left to tell the hole through which he went. Good-day, New Bern Distilling Company. We shall not grieve if we never hear of you again, unless you repent and quit your business and change your name.

The saloons are being weighed in the balances and their days are numbered. An election will be called within a short time to give the good citizens a chance to kill them with a flood of white ballots. May God speed the day when not one of them shall be left to tell the story of their miserable

work, and may He also speed the day when every saloon-keeper, who now curses and abuses the best men and women in this city for wanting them to quit, may be a humble Christian and following some honorable and happiness-giving business. God knows that we love the saloon-keepers and their sweet families, for many of them have lovely wives and fair children, who nightly pray God to remove the liquor curse from our city and from over them.

Last Saturday night two men—Charles Meadows and Will Phillips—were drinking and cursing together. Sunday morning near where the National avenue and A. & N. C. railway intersect Meadows was found cold in death, having been murdered. Will Phillips is now in prison here to be tried for his life, he having, no doubt, killed Meadows. The death of this man and the imprisonment of the other is to be charged up to the account of the saloons here. How long shall we endure this?

The congregations at the First Church are large and attentive, and the church is moving along hopefully. The Ladies' Missionary Society will send a valuable box to a missionary at Hope, Texas. No church has a more wide-awake or consecrated band of noble women than this. They bring things to pass.

The Ladies' Aid Society enjoyed a delightful social evening with Miss Fannie Holland recently. Refreshments were served and all were refreshed. Miss Addie, the charming and handsome daughter of Mrs. Josephine Snellings, entertained the happy throng with knotty conundrums. Miss Mattie, the bright and lovely daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Rountree, won the prize by guessing the greatest number of apples in a basket, feeling full and grateful to the large-hearted Miss Fannie for the happy evening. May her shadow never grow less.

We regret to say good-bye to Rev. M. P. Davis, retiring pastor of our near neighbor, the Tabernacle Church. He goes to become pastor of the Tarboro Baptist Church. He has done the greatest work at the Tabernacle Church of any pastor whom the Church has ever had. Many regret to see him go. Among that number is the writer, who feels a personal loss in his going. We can say to the church to whom he goes, you have secured a splendid pastor, who has the "shepherd's heart," a preacher of fine gifts and a most excellent and estimable gentleman. In Mrs. Davis, you will find a refined, consecrated and cultured lady, who greatly aids her husband in every good work. May heaven's choicest blessings attend them throughout life's journey, and may we meet them in the great congregation up yonder in the city that is made of gold.

The writer goes next week to aid Rev. Millard A. Jenkins, pastor First Baptist Church, Dublin, Ga., in a meeting. The last week in November he goes to aid Rev. W. D. Hubbard, pastor Baptist Church, Shelby, N. C., in a meeting.

Brethren of the Atlantic Association, let us this year go forward along all lines. Pay your pastors better, pray for them more and address yourselves to the Lord's work with greater zeal than ever before.

W. H. RICH.

New Bern, N. C., Oct. 27th, 1903.

THE NEUSE ASSOCIATION.

The fifth annual session of the Neuse Baptist Association convened with the Pollockville Church Tuesday, October 20, 1903, at 11 a. m.

The Moderator and Clerk both being absent, Dr. W. W. Whittington was chosen Moderator and Rev. W. F. Fry Clerk. The morning session was taken up principally in arranging the

work, welcoming visitors and receiving into this Association the New Bern Tabernacle.

In the afternoon session of the first day the report on State Missions was read by Brother W. F. Fry and discussed by Brother Livingston Johnson, Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist State Convention. The report on Temperance was read by Brother J. B. Jackson and discussed by Brethren J. B. Jackson and S. F. Conrad. At night the introductory sermon was preached by Brother G. N. Cowan to a large and attentive audience, from the Scripture: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore."—Matt. 28: 18-19. After the introductory sermon the report on Periodicals was read by Brother M. P. Davis, and the claims of the North Carolina Baptist presented by Rev. S. F. Conrad.

On the second day, after the devotional exercises and some miscellaneous business, the report on Home Missions was read by Brother W. L. Bilbro, and discussed by Brethren W. L. Bilbro, B. W. Spilman and W. H. Rich. The report of the Executive Committee was read by Brother G. N. Cowan, after which reports from the several missionaries on the fields were heard. These reports show the churches of the Association, with a very few exceptions, to be in good condition. The report on the Orphanage was read by Bro. S. E. Garner and discussed by Brethren S. E. Garner and W. H. Rich. The report on Education was read by Brother A. G. Cox and discussed by Brethren A. G. Cox, W. F. Fry, G. E. Lineberry and G. N. Cowan.

Some of the brethren being absent when the report on Periodicals was read, it was again taken up and the claims of the Biblical Record, Charity and Children, etc., were presented by Brethren J. S. Farmer, W. L. Bilbro and A. G. Cox. M. P. Davis spoke in behalf of The Atlantic Messenger.

Brother G. N. Cowan explained the intention of the Building Committee to concentrate at one place in the Association till a house of worship has been built. Brother J. B. Jackson read the report on Digest of Church Letters. This digest showed a total increase of eighty-one members during the year and that the churches in the Association contributed \$789.44 more than was pledged for the objects of the Convention. Every field in the Association that had a pastor during the year, increased their contributions. The contributions for the past year were \$458.35 more than the year before, not counting the Greene county field this year, which had no pastor. There was a resolution passed condemning the Sunday excursions on the A. & N. C. railroad. The report on Sunday-schools was read by Brother J. B. Newton and discussed by Brother B. W. Spilman. Report on Aged Ministers' Relief Board was read and discussed by Professor G. E. Lineberry. The report on Foreign Missions was read and discussed by Brother G. N. Cowan. The report of General Missionary Blanchard was read by Rev. G. N. Cowan and adopted. A committee was appointed to carry out the plan of the July Union Meeting, to raise \$4,000 to pay on the Winterville school debt, and thus secure the liberal offer of Brother A. G. Cox, of between \$4,000 and \$5,000 and clear the institution of debt. We cannot afford to let such an offer as this slip. If we should fail, it would, quite likely, mean the loss of the institution to our Association. This committee was composed of Brethren G. N. Cowan, W. F. Fry, J. B. Jackson and B. W. Spilman. The Association adjourned to meet with Mt. Nelson Church next year. While the attendance was not as large as we had hoped it might be, yet we had a good session.

J. B. JACKSON.

NEUSE UNION.

This Union convenes with the Winterville Baptist Church November 27 to 29, 1903.

Program.

Introductory sermon on Friday night by S. W. Oldham.

Questions for discussion:

1. Spirit of Missions—Its Relation to Pastor and Church. G. N. Cowan, B. W. Spilman, F. C. Nye.
 2. Ways For Developing a Church.
 - (1). By the Pastor—W. L. Bilbro.
 - (2). By the Deacons—A. G. Cox.
 - (3). By the Lay Members—G. E. Lineberry.
 - (4). By the Women—T. H. King.
 3. Doctrine of Christian Giving—J. B. Jackson, J. D. Cox, S. W. Oldham, T. H. King.
 4. A Pastor's Work: Its Joys and Sorrows—W. F. Fry, J. B. Newton, G. N. Cowan.
 5. The Most Vital Phase of the Sunday-school Work as Related to the Neuse Association—B. W. Spilman, J. B. Carroll, W. F. Fry.
- Preaching to be arranged for Sunday.

J. B. JACKSON,
For Committee.

THE PAMLICO FIELD.

Brother Setzer:

With this issue of our beloved paper my work in the Atlantic Association ceases. It has been a pleasure and profit to mingle with my brethren in the Atlantic for two and a half years. Wherever my lot may be cast, I shall always remember my first pastoral charge, with the many kind people with whom I have worked. I have preached three hundred and twenty-six prayer-meetings, made six hundred and ninety-two visits, married eight couples, baptized twenty-two people, and buried nine. There has been progress along all lines.

Brethren, we must save Aurora and Oregon. Brother McLeod last year served four Churches—Belhaven and Pantego, on the north side of the Pamlico River; Oregon and Aurora, on the south side. The field now splits. He has taken Belhaven for two Sundays; Pantego and Columbia for the other two Sundays, leaving Oregon and Aurora without a pastor and cut off from all other fields. Brother McLeod is nearest, the Bayboro preacher is next, with a whole county; Brother Crudup, of Washington, next. Now, brethren, what shall we do with these two struggling points? Shall we let the cause and interest Baptists have here perish? I say no! No! There is territory enough, people enough and means enough to start a strong field over there. There is Aurora, Oregon, Idalia, Durham's Creek, Edwards' Mill, Blunt's Creek, South Creek and other points—fully enough territory for any man. This field will belong to the Atlantic Association and we must take hold of it and put a man over there and pay him to do the work. Something must be done with these points or we lose ground. There are other people and creeds who are seeking to take our foothold. Let us do our duty and all shall be ours.

Yours for Christ,

J. R. TAYLOR.

Did you ever know a man who was a staunch advocate of a thing until some one else was elected as president or leader, and then did you ever see him "flop" over on the other side and kick as hard as he could? We knew a man like that once.

The teacher who never prays for her scholars and never visits them during the week is not the proper person to teach them on Sundays.