

The Free Will Baptist.

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No. 20

POETRY

For the FREE WILL BAPTIST.
THIS GOOD IN GOD TO TRUST.

BY REV. A. R. BRADBURY, A. M.

'Tis good in God to trust,
Better than trust in man,
For he is wise and just,
Conceived salvation's plan;
He offers to protect his saints,
If they will leave their sad complaints.

Truly the Lord is good,
Better than things of earth,
All creatures he gives food,
Regardless of their worth,
He will the wants of all supply,
All creatures underneath the sky.

'Tis good to trust in him,
Better than trust in kings,
He'll wash men clean of sin,
From all their meaner things,
He'll lift them up to realms of light
Where they in God will'er delight.

On God 'tis good to lean
Better than on princes,
He'll make us pure within
By his providences,
No dangers can beset our way,
As we march on to perfect day.

LIFE'S EVENING.

The evening of every man's life is coming apace. The day of life will soon be spent. The sun, though it may be up in mid-heaven, will pass swiftly down the western sky and disappear. What shall light up man's path when the sun of life is gone down? He must travel on the next world; but what shall illuminate his footsteps after the nightfall of his journey? What question is more important, more practical, more solemn, for each reader of our journal to ask himself? That is a long journey to travel without a friend.

Yet every man must perform it. The time is not far distant when all men will begin the journey. There is an evening star in the natural world. Its radiance is bright and beautiful, and cheering to the benighted traveler. But life's evening star is good hope. Its beauty and brilliancy are reflected from the Sun of Righteousness, whose bright rays light up the evening of life, and throw their radiance quite across the darkness of the grave into Immanuel's land. It has illuminated the footsteps of many a traveler to eternity. It is of priceless value. A thousand worlds can not purchase it; yet it is offered without money and without price, to him who will penitently and thankfully receive it.—Sel.

A HAPPY HOME.

A happy home is the brightest spot on earth the eye of God looks down on. Love and peace in his home sends sunshine round a man wherever he goes; disorder and trouble there is misery everywhere. There are few worries of life which a man can not now and then shake off, but who can shake himself free from the skeleton in the closet, from the worry in the household, the blister on the heart? A day will tell how many a man carried that with him without wincing down to the grave. When husband and wife are helpmeets to each other in the best sense, when order and love and goodness prevail in the house, then the man who has a hard battle in life to fight can leave his struggles behind him when he enters there. With all our faults, we are the most home-loving of people. Whatever helps home-life is a national blessing; whatever hurts home-life is a national curse and the greatest curse that can touch these blessings is what would tamper with the peace and blessedness of our homes.—James MacGregor, D. D.

EDWIN ALDEN & BROS'S Illustrated School Catalogue.

A 32-page pamphlet, showing engravings of different colleges and seminaries, study rooms, artistic landscapes of college grounds, with cost of sketching and engravings, whether for advertising purposes for catalogue use, together with the cost of advertising in the best papers, sent free on application. EDWIN ALDEN & BROS., Newspaper Advertising Agents, 140 Nassau St., N. Y. 65 W. 4th St., Cincinnati.

SPRING HOPE, N. C.,
August 3rd, 1886.

DEAR BRETHREN:

In fulfillment of the order passed by the first Union Meeting, District Elder, D. Davis left his home on Sunday evening, July 18, to travel as an ambassador for Christ on the border of the Free Will Baptist connection north-west. On Monday he preached at Free Union Church, in Nash county, at two o'clock, p. m., and arrived at my place late that night. I being the second man to go out on that great mission chosen by Elder Davis as a co-worker with him on said mission, accordingly on Tuesday morning, the 20th, we started on our journey for Mr. Allen Strickline's school house in Franklin county, and arrived at 11 o'clock. We met with a larger congregation than we expected to meet, owing to the pressure of business with the farmers. We opened services by reading the first chapter of the gospel by John; and after singing, prayer was made to God, asking Him to prepare the hearts of that people for the reception of His word. We preached from the first verse of the lesson we read. "In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God."

We were followed by Elder Davis. Text: "The throne had six steps." The sermon was very interesting, and every article of our faith was established. We went home with Mr. R. Collins, his wife and daughters. Sister Collins is a Primitive Baptist and her daughters are Missionary Baptists, but they are Free Will Baptists in sentiment. They believe in open communion and foot washing. The people in that vicinity want us to organize a church there. Brethren, our labor in that vicinity was not in vain. We hope to see them again. May the God of peace bless them for their Christian courtesy to us as His servants.

Thence we went to Bro. R. D. Bowden's, ten miles further on, where we were received with a warm welcome by the family. On Wednesday, we preached at the school house at 11 o'clock in the morning, and at 2 in the evening. Text: "Turn ye not aside, for then should ye go after vain things which cannot profit nor deliver." 1st Samuel 12: 21. Elder Davis preached in the evening. Text: "Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways and see and ask for the old paths, where is the good way and walk therein and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said we will not walk therein." There was a large congregation, and they were much pleased with the sermon. Elder Davis preached again that night. We intended to preach there on Thursday also, but owing to the funeral of the oldest minister in that country, we took our appointment in and went to the finer-

al ourselves where we met all of 1000 people. The crowd was badly disappointed by the preacher's not coming. Eld. Wester was 80 or 90 years old; he was a preacher about 60 years. The Lord blessed his labors while in the ministerial duties; he built up a number of churches in the Lord's vineyard. He was an affectionate husband, a kind father, a good neighbor, and a minister worthy of his profession. We feel to say that earth has lost a good citizen, the churches a faithful pastor, and heaven has gained a jewel. The family, the church, and large circle of friends, has our sympathy.

On Thursday night, Eld. D. Davis preached at Saints' Delight to an attentive congregation. We went to Sallie Murphey's School house, near Jones' factory; Eld. Davis preached Friday and Saturday, and did some of the best preaching I ever heard. We organized a corps of eight members and in the afternoon, we commemorated the death of our Master and washed the saints feet. Elder Davis had to leave Saturday after service to attend Court in Goldsboro on Monday; he being summons by the sheriff as a witness in a very important case. On his way home he preached at Free Union Nash Co., and at 11 o'clock Sunday, we learned he had reached home safe. I remained at the School house and preached Saturday night and would have stayed longer had it not been that the school was in session. We opened the door of the church Sunday and three came forward and united with us, and at night we opened the door of the church again and two more came forward and united with us, all making 13 in number. The baptism will take place during the second week in August. We left those parts Monday and am sorry to say we had to leave seven persons deeply interested about their future well fare, but we hope that the Lord will pardon their sins so they can rejoice with those that rejoice in His name. In conclusion of these lines, let me admonish the brethren of each Union meeting district to send ministers out on the borders of the connection on every side and send men that can defend the cause of our Lord and Master. Don't send Evangelist out to organize churches where they can't be cared for, but send them to prepare the way for the reception of the Free Will Baptist Doctrine; then the people's heart will be open for the reception of the doctrine. If we had have sent ministers to Franklin Co. ten years ago that would have preached our faith, we to-day, could have had organized churches for every ten miles over the county. As it is, you can give me Eld. Davis to go with me, and in six months we can organize more churches than we can care for; so let us

prepare the way first and the work will be accomplished. Brethren, meet me at the Union meeting on Friday before the fifth Lord's day in August, and let us talk the matter over. Please send old father Davis to Franklin again, for he will do the cause good. We return our sincere thanks to the people for their kind hospitality to us as the servants of Christ. May God bless them. Amen.

J. W. VALENTINE.

TEMPERANCE.

DEAR EDITOR:

Since my communication on temperance, I have been assailed for believing that intemperance leads a soul to everlasting destruction, or that there is sin caused by selling ardent spirits to the sons of men. Furthermore, my good friends say that it was seen by the eyes of Almighty God, before the foundation of the world what would or would not come to pass; that then and there—a portion of these God like images which hereafter were to be created in the likeness of their maker, and for his glory—were ordained to everlasting happiness, and a portion to everlasting condemnation; and it makes no difference how much the first drinks, it does not keep them from heaven, nor how much the latter obeys, it does not save a soul from hell;—and that ardent spirits are the gift of God, and there is nothing better than for man to enjoy his dram—for such is what God has blessed him with. Now I want to mention some of its blessings they contend for. In time of disease it aids in the patient's recovery, they drink it in warm weather to keep cool, and in cold weather to keep warm, and to sharpen their appetite, and thousands of things too wicked to mention. Wake up, oh thou highly favored ancestors, thou that deceivest the people by thy flattering speech, awake to the word of God, and teach your descendants that no drunkard will never enter the kingdom of heaven. I knew a man about six years ago, during a cold snap, while the peach trees were in bloom, to spend about three hundred dollars in employing laborers to keep fires around his field to prevent the frost from off his trees; but while the laborers slept, their lights went out, then came along the frost, and devoured their employer's peaches. Like the man that loafed around the grog shop till he gets his fill of that odious poison and loiters away to his heart-broken family; but by the way he falls down and sleeps beneath the ice and snow—then comes along dreadful disease and takes hold of his body—while death stares him in the face. Can a man, when his house is on fire, pour oil on his floor and prevent the flames from the roof?—about as soon as drinking whisky from

his bare skin. But, say they, it is a blessing. Surely, God gave the fruit and grain,—but did He teach men how to distill and get drunk, then torment their souls, for doing his will? But we look at another blessing. We are blessed with mines of steel and iron. But does the good Lord teach us to make guns and pistols, and then teach us to kill each other as fast as we can, and then declare that "no murderer shall enter the kingdom of heaven?" And again, my friends say that strong drink don't cause any mischief—it is not that, but the man within himself. Let me appeal to the wise, and see if reason don't teach better doctrine than that. Does not Isaiah, the prophet say, "but they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment? Does not Hosea, the son of Buri, declare that "new wine take away the heart?" And again, does not Paul say in first Corinthians "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are?" Then let me appeal to you dear readers, and beg you to abstain from that bitter cup which defiles the temple, grieves the spirit and takes away the heart; for the path of duty and the way to heaven is plain.

And to you brother ministers, I say, touch not this cup, and especially when about to enter the sanctuary; that the pulpits may cry out in behalf of temperance; that each and every man may be saved from the woes pronounced against intemperance.

And to you dear brothers and sisters, if you are about to drink that bitter cup, reflect before you put the cup to your lips,—remember, such habits lead on to the commission of every crime, and "whether you eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God;" till every grog shop or hell holes are closed up. Then will morality spread, religion grow, and peace abound; while truth and righteousness kiss each other.

J. K. RUFIN.

AN IOWA JUDGE'S REBUKE.

Hon. F. M. Hubbard, district judge of the eighth judicial district of Iowa, in passing sentence upon some liquor dealers for violation of the prohibitory laws of the State: While there are greater crimes known to the law which are punishable with great severity, there are none which involve more of those qualities known as deplorable meanness and audacity than the selling of intoxicating liquors. You who stand before the court for sentence are, in every murderer; and you are, within the spirit, if not the letter, guilty of manslaughter; for the law says whosoever accelerates the death of a human being unlawfully is guilty of a crime. Your blood is upon the witness stand, and who undoubtedly committed perjury to screen you from the law, not only abundantly testified that you are accelerating death, but that you are induc-

ing men to commit still greater crimes than your own. You still maintain the appearance of respectability, but how morally leprous and scrupulous you are inwardly! The ruin, poverty and loneliness which you are inflicting upon this community declare as from the hearstone that you are living in idleness and eating the bread of orphans watered with widow's tears; you are stealthily killing your victims, and murdering the peace and industry of the community, thereby converting happy, industrious farmers into misery, poverty and woe. No one can know the degradation and total demerit to which men can be brought, until he looks upon the desolate ruin caused by your hellish traffic. You are persistent, defiant law breakers, and shamelessly boast that in defiance of the law and moral sense of the community, you will continue your wicked and criminal practices. It has, therefore, now become the imperative duty of this court to let fall upon you so heavily the arm of the law that you shall either be driven from your nefarious traffic or ruined in your fortunes of wicked prosperity.—Sel.

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Notice!

NORTH CAROLINA, Superior Court, Jones county, Spring Term, '86.
Dinah Bryant, vs. Daniel Bryant. Summons.
To Daniel Bryant: It appearing to the Court by affidavit that you are a non-resident of N. C., you are hereby notified that the plaintiff has begun an action against you for divorce on the ground of adultery, and you are hereby notified to appear at the Superior Court of Jones county, to be held at Trenton, on the 3rd Monday before the 1st Monday in September, 1886, and answer or demur to the complaint now filed in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court, otherwise the plaintiff will apply at said Court for a divorce from the bonds of matrimony. Witness Thos. Whitaker, Clerk of Superior Court Jones county, this 22nd day of March, 1886.
THOS. J. WHITAKER, C. S. C.
Wm. E. CLARK, Atty for Plff.



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