THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

M. Barfield, ... Manager

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PUB'S ANNOUNCEMNT.

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FOOD.

It is possible for us to starve to death surrounded by plenty of food, and die of thirst surrounded by water. We may be surrounded by food, but not the right kind, and by an ocean, but its waters all salt. Give a horse flesh, a dog grass, cow fish, a man fodder, and they would soon be in a miserable condition. You say such feeding would be foolish. Now, if this is true of natural life, it is equally so as to spiritual life, for the soul is as much in need of proper food, as that life of day. There is no minutes. feeding upon On motion world, which plan of simply inquiring our ministers.

On motion of Eld. L. the resolution of last cot is rs to keep an accura soul

eaven, as for a dog to e on hay. Agur said, "Feed me with food convenient for me," and Christ taught us to say, "Give us this day our daily bread," for our souls continually need the bread of Life. Many parents are careful as to the food their children eat, but never one time think that the mind is being fed, and fed by the company that is kept. The natural food makes the natural person, and the food for the mind is the basis, and forms the character. The reason why we have so many sorry men and women, the food upon which the mind fed was corrupt.

Can a person take poison, and not be poisoned? Evil communication will corrupt good manners. If the mind is fed upon infidelity, atheism and pharisecism, it will continually be in dread of hell and eternal judgment. If such food is not giving you trouble now, there will be a time when it will; it will not always stay fair, the storm will come. Tell a child lies, and let its mind feed on them, and by the time it is grown, it will be a professional liar. We may become intoxicated by strong drink, our bodies may be runied by our eating. So may our souls be intoxicated by sin, and heaven to us be lost. May the God of heaven bring us to the banquetting house, (church) and His banner over us be love.

The law of the Lord is perfect, concerning the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold; yea, than much fine gold—sweeter than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned, and in keeping of them, there is great reward." Psa. 19: 7-11. Satan is feeding you with the food of deception, when he makes you believe that you can by your works, independent of Christ, merrit salvation. The humble soul is willing to feed on the crumbs which fall from the Master's table, while the self-confident and independent soul is not.

Let us endeavor to cultivate a more thankful disposition for natural food and drink, and seek more earnestly the Bread of Life.

JUDSON VERNON.

HEAVENLY MEDITATION.

DEAR EDITOR:

As our Conference has just closed, and we had to take the parting hand of so many of our dear preachers, brothers and sisters in Christ, to meet them perhaps no more until we meet in Immanual's land where parting will be no more. O, my soul, rise on the wings of meditation, and survey the glories of our eternal home! May our Blessed Savior help us all to look beyond the dim visions of mortality, beyond the swellings of Jordan, beyond the sting of death, beyond the gloomy grave, and behold, with the eye of faith, those delectable mountains where shines the city of our God in more than earthly splendor; and where we can meet in one

glory, while infinite ages roll away. This will be our happy dwelling place—our Father's house. How brightly shine those celestial mansions irradiated by the glory of Immanuel! No clouds rest on these peacefull dwellings. There all is light and joy.

"There is a place of sacred rest,
Far, far beyond the skies,
Where beauty smiles eternally,
And pleasure never dies."

Our heavenly Father is there; and in his gracious smile there is joy unspeakable and full of glory. There the Savior will be in our midst, to refresh our souls with the glorious manifestations of his eternal love. He will appear in perfect beauty from Zions holy hill. There Sharon's lovely rose will bloom in everlasting day.

"Oh! blessed Spirit, to my heart,
This dear celestial flower impart;
With joy I'll prize the Savior here,
Then go to heaven and view him there."

Immanuel's land is a place of unfading beauty. Eternal spring blooms in the reamls of endless day.

" state below!
There the flowers unwithering blow!
There no chilling blasts among,
All is love, and bloom, and joy."

In glory, Christ shall appear in all the loveliness of his person and character. The presence of Him who loved us, and gave himself for us, will make a sweet, glorious heaven indeed.

"Oh, glorious hour, it comes with speed!
When we from sin and darkness freed,
Shall see the God who died for man,
And praise him more than angels can."

When we enter the portals of glory, we shall see the King of Zion in his beauty, and be perfectly blessed in the full enjoyment of his endearing society through heavens eternal day.

"There shall I see thy smiling face,
And never, never sin;
There from the rivers of thy grace,
Drink endless pleasures in."

MRS. T. F. HARRISON.

COMMUNICATION.

Dear Editor:

There is one thing that has long been neglected. That is Christmas day work.

Near everybody want to celebrate the day for a day of rest. They all say it is the Savior's birth day. How do they prove it, or how do they celebrate it, as a day of good or evil? I answer, they show it to be an evil day, instead of a sacred day. This shows they care nothing for the birth of Christ.

You can see men just running over the fields and in the woods with their guns and dogs. Where should they be? I answer, at the church. If Christ should make his second appearance on that day, how many would he find watching? But few.

You can see church members with their 5-gallon jugs going to get their Christmas drinks, to stay at home all day, instead of going to the church. They spend from one to five dollars per Christmas for liquor, for just one or two days sport, and blaspheme the worthy name of Christ.

If the church treasurer calls on him to pay one dollar to the church for the advancement of the cause of Christ, he will say at once, there is one thing about religion that is scandulous that is, it has gone into speculation. A so-called Christian will murmur a week or two before he will pay one dollar to the ad-

One in whom he gets his every day food from. But he will go willingly to the rum seller and pay him two or three dollars to damn his children and wife and tear down the cause of Christ and estab the cause of the devil more perfect.

I wonder if they will want to celebrate the judgment day with a jug of whiskey. It is time that every church member was getting his eyes open to the fact that Christ wants men to praise him some for the work he has done for them.

It is really astonishing to see how liberal men will work for the devil. The devil does not have to appoint some one to go to church members to get them to help him out or 'lectioneer so as to get to spend some money with him Christmas day. Men pay one dollar to the cause of Christ, and five dollars to the cause of the devil.

I hope all who reads this will try to keep in remembrance of the Savior's birth day, and try to keep it holy, for he is holy.

Your Bro. in Christ,
W. H. FROST.

CROWNS.

BY K. D. [illegible]

Crowns,—what are they? Who wear them? Some are of beautiful gold, studded with glittering pearls or sparkling diamonds; Kings and queens wear such. But what sort of a crown did we put upon the King of kings when he was among men? Did it excel in beauty and grandeur all others, as he excelled in worth? Ah, no! Blind, cruel men, that would not see his loveliness, plaited "a crown of thorns" for his aching head. You would not do so cruel a thing, would you? Yes, many a poor struggling Christian wears a crown of thorns to-day. Who put it there? Jesus says, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Look at poor old white-headed father! Is he stern and hard to please? Perhaps a crown of thorns goads and pricks the sensitive head which makes him so.

Do we ever speak unkind words or turn a deaf ear to that one whom we ought to honor? Cares and trials,—briars,—thorns!

Does mother wear a placid countenance and beam upon us smiles of joy, beneath a crown of fond memories, or has her crown been one of thorns too.

Is it "only a step mother" who reigns in our home? Is she cross, exacting, and hard to get along with? What kind of a crown have you given her? Do the briers of ant looks, the thorns of unkind words and actions, constantly goading until the poor, weak, human soul cries out in agony? Help her to be gentle, patient, and kind.

Oh! dear ones, while weaving your crowns, how it would comfort a weary heart, if some tender little heart's ease were woven in! How it would rest the throbbing head to lay upon it a few sweet violets of humble submission to parental authority! How beautiful it would be, if many a sweet, unassuming pansy of gentle kindness were woven in! How georgeously brilliant would a few pure, fragrant roses of love make the parental crown! How the dear old eyes would shine down upon us in tender affection, if we would just weave for the dear old heads, soft and beautiful crowns of gentle, obedient manners, loving actions and kind words! How much they have borne for us!

We talk of the crowns they are to receive over yonder. Oh, cease to leave all the good and beautiful things until after they are dead; and crown the faithful old heads now with beautiful flowers of loving kindness. Do not add thorns to the suffering patience and forbearance of one whom God has given you to honor and obey. Give them roses, and God will crown you with laurels of everlasting joy.

EARRINGS vs. EYESIGHT.

Those very curious people who imagine that their eyesight depends upon a little ornament in the ear may do well to read what Mrs. Booth, of the Salvation Army, has to say on the subject. She says:

"It has occurred to me that it may be helpful to women soldiers or to officers when dealing with their soldiers to be reminded of the fallacy of supposing that the wearing of rings in the ears will benefit the sight. There are a good many myths and traditions, which were thoroughly believed in olden times, which still, somehow or other, seem to cling round the minds of the imaginative, despite all common-sense arguments to the contrary. We do not believe, in the Salvation Army, in the wearing of earrings or any other adornments in the way of jewelry. Very likely, in dealing with some new converts, you will find that they will cry out against the removing of earrings because they had their ears pierced for their sight, and in many instances they may really be afraid of losing their sight or injuring it by the removal of these rings. Assure them that there is no connection between the lobe of the ear and their sight. They might, with just as much force, wear a ring round their toes to keep their teeth from decaying. If they meet you with the fact that they have found real benefit from this procedure, you can tell them that imagination is so strong a factor that if they could bring themselves to believe in the efficacy of some remedy, it is quite possible that they might obtain some good from it from a sheer application of will power in opposition to nervous sensation.—Mrs. Ballington Booth

A RESOLUTION.

Through a resolution passed at the last annual meeting of the Cape Fear Free Will Baptist Conference, held at Johnson Union church, Johnston county, the following committee was appointed to apportion the ministerial labor among the different ministers of this body: Bros. H. W. Jernigan, Chairman; G. B. Strickland, Secretary; W. P. Coiier, Alex Mons, J. W. Taylor and W. A. Calvin.

The work was assigned as follows:

Prospect	J. F. Hill.
Mt. Pleasant	[illegible]
Anderson Creek	[illegible]
Hodges' Chapel	[illegible]
[illegible] Springs	[illegible]
Pleasant Grove	R. C. Jackson.
Shady Grove	[illegible] Jackson.
[illegible]	[illegible] Jackson.
Long Branch	W. R. [illegible]
Stony Run	W. R. [illegible]
[illegible]	W. B. Hare.
[illegible] Chapel	J. A. Hodges.
Lee's Grove	J. A. Hodges.
New Hope	[illegible] Strickland.
Johnston's Union	Robt. Strickland.
St. Mary's Grove	J. E. Smith.
New Chapel	J. E. Smith.
[illegible] Chapel	[illegible]
[illegible] Grove	C. B. [illegible]
[illegible] Chapel	J. F. Hill.
Hopewell	J. H. [illegible] and C. B. [illegible]
Lee's Grove	W. L. [illegible]
[illegible] Grove	[illegible]
Bethel	J. W. [illegible]

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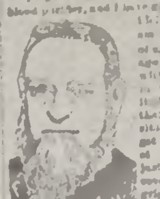

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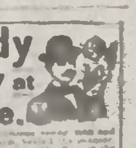

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