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The Elements and Means of Church Prosperity.

The Introductory Sermon of the Flat River Association, delivered at Mt. Moriah, Orange County, N. C., Aug. 10, 1855, by R. I. DEVIN.

And the word of the Lord increased, and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly.

The Christian Church is a peculiar organization. It is not like any other society on earth. It was instituted by its great head to spread the gospel over the earth.

1. First, we will notice several items which constitute some of the essential elements of church prosperity.

1. The genuineness of the faith. It is the Christian's brightest ornament, the secret of his usefulness, and the source of his highest joys.

2. Another important element in the prosperity of a church, is an intimate and practical acquaintance with the word of God.

3. A burning-bird met a butterfly, and being pleased with its beauty of person and the splendor of its wings, made an offer of perpetual friendship.

From the South Western Baptist Methodist Church Property Case. THE "SUN" AND "MOON" OF "OUR EPISCOPACY" SLIGHTLY ECLIPSED.

The Bible is a book that must be read, studied and searched. If we would understand its great and sublime truths, if church members would be qualified for usefulness, able to defend truth and vanquish error, they must have a familiar and practical acquaintance with the Scriptures.

It is proper that we again state the precise question at issue in this discussion. It is important that the reader should have it always distinctly before his mind. The question is this: Is Methodist Episcopacy in its nature and tendencies, anti-democratic and anti-republican?

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THE "SUN" AND "MOON" OF "OUR EPISCOPACY" SLIGHTLY ECLIPSED.—AN INTERESTING ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO WINGS OF THE "TERRIBLE ARMY WITH BANNERS"—ESTIMATED LOSS UPON EACH SIDE—MORE ABOUT THE "DEMOCRATIC ELEMENT."

Now, therefore, there is utterly a fault among you, because you go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? Why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?—1 Cor. vi. 7.

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