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of the very spots where pearls were sought for in ancient times. The pearls are brought up from the deep by divers, and differ much in size and value.

earl of extraordinary value. He had probably never seen or

What does the pearl mean? Evidently salvation. For this is the prize of the gospel, the great blessing of "the kingdom of heaven," the fruit of the comheaven, the fruit of the comig and storifice of Christ. Ineed, Christ himself may be
aid to be the pearl, in the sense
in which the apostle Paul says,
But what things were gain to
me, thosa I counted loss for rist, that I may win Christ

ints whose business it is to not enough to make a man chants whose business it is to deal in pearls, either employing the divers themselves, or buying of those who do so. These customs are probably little changed since the very time when our Lord spoke this para-The parable represents a the pearl, but how many are erchant meeting with one seeking it in truth? We must sail of extraordinary value, seek salvation as the one thing seek salvatiou as the one thing needful; we must be willing to heard of so rich a one before. Could he but get possession of it, his fortune was made. So, without hesitation, he goes and sells all that he has, all his other pearls, all his stock in trade, all his apparaty of every kind. all his property of every kind, and buys it. Thus he gave up all that he had for it, and thought his real than all besides. self happy to gain it even Let us value it accordingly words, "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Let us be like the mer-

made up his mind as to the val

sorrowful. Ah! well he mis

overshadow our souls. He knowledge solely depended the success of our little voyage, every one was disposed to criticise him. There could be no doubt that if he failed to bring us safely to the landing place on the opposite side of the river, he would be obliged to endure the reproaches of every one who had embarked. Indeed, it was soon perceived that some were unwilling to wait for his failure before they gave vent to their feelings. The Catawba River Sunday School Convention met at the North Catawba church, Burke On, N. C. on Friday the Way to the ferry stairs during a fog as imponetrable as midnight dexenses, they be gan to murmur in anticipation. The ferrymen were the first to The ferrymen were the first to evince their unessiness, by which were noticed by the pas-engers and regarded as prog-

he helm bowed, and made ans he held his place he intend-

H. Martin, D. W. Conway and on Sunday.

Brethren Elijah Bradshaw. Rev. M. V. B. Maco Brethren Elijah Bradshaw, Reubin Hawks, J. H. Huffman, J. H. Corpening. Zion-Jos. Benfield, J. stic of ill success. One of Benfield and Rev. M. V. B.

Flemings Chapel-J. T Hudapeth, J. H. Oristenbe and J. M. McCall.

Curry's Grove-Rev. D. W. Barber, T. A. Clark and G. C.

ector and Elisha Perry. Pleasant Hill—M. D. Brit-

Bruington-E. A. Poe. Preaching by Elder G.

The form of the control of the contr

Rev. M. V. B. Macomson and D. W. Barber preached Saturday night to a large and attentive congregation. A committee consisting of D. C. Cockertam, J. H. Corpening, E. A. Poe were appointed to draft subjects for discussion at the next meeting and have them published in the Reconnex. Ordered that a convention red that a copy of these

R. H. Moony, President