

"BOTH." Answering a query from an esteemed minister, we asserted (and still assert) that faith is both the gift of God and the act of the creature.

It is true that "God moves in mysterious ways His wonders to perform."

But it is true also that "God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain."

"Within that awful volume lies The mystery of mysteries." Infinitely happier are those who, like Watts, can sing:

"My gracious God, how plain Are thy directions given! Oh, may I never read in vain, But find the path to heaven."

At a meeting of the Central Committee, held in Raleigh the 18th of December, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, this Committee has, at the instance of the Baptist State Convention held in Fayetteville, been appointed by the Board of Trustees of Wake Forest College, to supervise the work of raising for this Institution an endowment of \$100,000 during the present year:

Resolved 1st: That while we feel embarrassed in asking our brethren to leave their homes and business and take the expense of a journey to this city so soon after the Convention in Fayetteville, we can but recognize the magnitude and commanding importance of the work committed to us, and the many serious difficulties to be encountered in its successful prosecution; and therefore see the necessity of calling together the wisdom and intelligence of the denomination to aid us in the accomplishment of the end in view.

Resolved 2nd: That we recognize among our most serious embarrassments, the lack of general interest on the subject of Education; the absence of a harmonious and well adjusted connection among our schools of various grades in their relations to one another, and to an extended course of studies; and the need of a higher grade of scholarship in all our schools; therefore that this Convention be called in the interest of general education in order to enlist more effectively all the friends of education connected with our academies and colleges, male and female.

Resolved 3rd: That all the pastors, teachers and friends of education, connected with our denomination be earnestly invited to meet us in a Convention to be held with the Baptist Church in Raleigh, on Tuesday evening the 11th of February, 1873, and the two following days, to consult on the best interests of education as connected with the Baptist denomination in this State.

COMMITTEE: W. T. Brooks, John G. Williams, W. H. Avera, W. T. Walters, W. W. Holden, J. L. Stewart, J. M. Heck, J. H. Mills, T. H. Pritchard.

W. M. WIGGATE, Secretary.

For the Biblical Recorder, MAY'S LOCK, MASON CO., KY., December 18th, 1872.

Mr. Editor:—It seems like I am writing home, when I address a letter to the BIBLICAL RECORDER—the paper and only religious paper known to me in my boyhood days, the paper made sacred to me on account of the undying interest felt in it by my once parents and now sainted mother.

"old brother Meredith, flash over my mind as a boyhood's dream, and the labors of Huffman and Mills, my contemporaries are before me with the struggles of my own manhood. God bless the BIBLICAL RECORDER, and keep it a power, alive, for the advancement of the coming Kingdom."

Just looking over my diary, I read, for three things I feel that I should be especially thankful.

1. The conversion of my child.

2. For being so filled with the love for souls as to weep and cry out for poor sinners.

3. For having such unmitigated evidence of answer to special prayer.

This is from a recent record of a glorious awakening in our church. One week ago our meeting closed which was of two weeks duration. The quotation made will give a synopsis of my own soul's solid benefits.

May I be so personal as to say that among the twenty-one added to the church, was our own darling first-born, just ten years old, our sweet little daughter, and that, too, upon an experience that was strikingly promising. Who that feels of the desire to weep over a dying world as Jesus wept over Jerusalem, is not prepared to reject with another whose own cap runs over, while the heart (as Elder Eric says), "breaks down," and the tears flow freely for the lost who are around them.

Ah! when poor weak faith is often troubling and hesitating, "Lord, I believe help thou mine unbelief," and when the "seventy times seven" cannot the trusting disciples to cry, "Lord, increase our faith." Who is there tabernacled in the

strange thing on earth: that a sinner ever refused to love his Savior. It is not strange that Jesus died for sinners. Love implies sacrifice for its object. Infinite love involved infinite sacrifice. The love was wonderful; the sacrifice was natural. The Bible explains God's plan of saving sinners. The Old Testament is a preparation for the New, and the New unlocks the mysteries of the Old. Paul speaks of God as "having made known unto us the mystery of his will." Paul hated christianity, while it was a mystery to him. But the scales fell from his eyes and he was astonished at "the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God." Some things God has not revealed; but it does not follow that they are mysteries, things concealed.

It is true that "God moves in mysterious ways His wonders to perform."

But it is true also that "God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain."

"Within that awful volume lies The mystery of mysteries." Infinitely happier are those who, like Watts, can sing:

"My gracious God, how plain Are thy directions given! Oh, may I never read in vain, But find the path to heaven."

Call for an Educational Convention.

At a meeting of the Central Committee, held in Raleigh the 18th of December, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, this Committee has, at the instance of the Baptist State Convention held in Fayetteville, been appointed by the Board of Trustees of Wake Forest College, to supervise the work of raising for this Institution an endowment of \$100,000 during the present year:

Resolved 1st: That while we feel embarrassed in asking our brethren to leave their homes and business and take the expense of a journey to this city so soon after the Convention in Fayetteville, we can but recognize the magnitude and commanding importance of the work committed to us, and the many serious difficulties to be encountered in its successful prosecution; and therefore see the necessity of calling together the wisdom and intelligence of the denomination to aid us in the accomplishment of the end in view.

Resolved 2nd: That we recognize among our most serious embarrassments, the lack of general interest on the subject of Education; the absence of a harmonious and well adjusted connection among our schools of various grades in their relations to one another, and to an extended course of studies; and the need of a higher grade of scholarship in all our schools; therefore that this Convention be called in the interest of general education in order to enlist more effectively all the friends of education connected with our academies and colleges, male and female.

Resolved 3rd: That all the pastors, teachers and friends of education, connected with our denomination be earnestly invited to meet us in a Convention to be held with the Baptist Church in Raleigh, on Tuesday evening the 11th of February, 1873, and the two following days, to consult on the best interests of education as connected with the Baptist denomination in this State.

COMMITTEE: W. T. Brooks, John G. Williams, W. H. Avera, W. T. Walters, W. W. Holden, J. L. Stewart, J. M. Heck, J. H. Mills, T. H. Pritchard.

W. M. WIGGATE, Secretary.

For the Biblical Recorder, MAY'S LOCK, MASON CO., KY., December 18th, 1872.

Mr. Editor:—It seems like I am writing home, when I address a letter to the BIBLICAL RECORDER—the paper and only religious paper known to me in my boyhood days, the paper made sacred to me on account of the undying interest felt in it by my once parents and now sainted mother.

"old brother Meredith, flash over my mind as a boyhood's dream, and the labors of Huffman and Mills, my contemporaries are before me with the struggles of my own manhood. God bless the BIBLICAL RECORDER, and keep it a power, alive, for the advancement of the coming Kingdom."

Just looking over my diary, I read, for three things I feel that I should be especially thankful.

1. The conversion of my child.

2. For being so filled with the love for souls as to weep and cry out for poor sinners.

3. For having such unmitigated evidence of answer to special prayer.

This is from a recent record of a glorious awakening in our church. One week ago our meeting closed which was of two weeks duration. The quotation made will give a synopsis of my own soul's solid benefits.

May I be so personal as to say that among the twenty-one added to the church, was our own darling first-born, just ten years old, our sweet little daughter, and that, too, upon an experience that was strikingly promising. Who that feels of the desire to weep over a dying world as Jesus wept over Jerusalem, is not prepared to reject with another whose own cap runs over, while the heart (as Elder Eric says), "breaks down," and the tears flow freely for the lost who are around them.

Ah! when poor weak faith is often troubling and hesitating, "Lord, I believe help thou mine unbelief," and when the "seventy times seven" cannot the trusting disciples to cry, "Lord, increase our faith." Who is there tabernacled in the

fresh that is not wonderfully built up at the incontrovertible evidences of answer to special prayer?

Such are some of the blessings which have fallen upon me and our community in the past few weeks. Like dews upon the mountains of Hermon—the showers of grace have fallen upon us.

You rejoiced in a late number of your paper over the genuine work in brother Landrum's church in Memphis—you may rejoice again at another genuine work at May's Lock. By this salvation I greet you and my brethren in N. C., and exhort all in these words:

"If your hearts bein the work, hold on, hold on, Though the way may be gloomy and sad, A light will appear, the pathway be clear, And the heart of the worker be glad; Heaven's portals will open and music resound, And the mansions of bliss will ring, With praise for the brave who labored to save, And the angels will joyfully sing, Hold on, hold on, my brother hold on; Hold on till the prize is won, Hold on to the plough and watery no more, For the work is almost done."

JOSEPH E. CARTER.

DEAR RECORDER:—I baptized 11 at Reids X Roads the 2nd Sunday in this month, and if able will baptize 8 at Pine next Sunday. I have baptized during this year at Reids X Roads 25, at Pine 19. The Lord is doing a good work in this county.

E. ALLISON.

I notice your "I am discouraged" with deepest sympathy, and the many causes of your discouragement, which in my mind, are as true as truth itself. While reading the several reasons your enumerates as might be quite discouraging to you, and the one that was most discouraging, and then your independent future determination. I could but exclaim to my wife, who is a deep sympathizer in the success of the RECORDER, that the number containing these discouraging sentiments, was worth the whole price of the RECORDER for one year. When will Baptist learn wisdom and independence?

L.

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION.

The longer a christian lives the more he is satisfied that nothing either great or good can be accomplished without special spiritual qualification. It is not enthusiasm. It is not the pursuit of a single object. It is not an idea "on the brain." It is Christ's power on us that will enable us to achieve. It is the gracious gift of Heaven.

A great movement has begun in this State. The brethren at Fayetteville meant something by their resolutions. They were honest and in earnest when they said, the whole state must be canvassed, the pastors employed, the active laymen engaged, the associations permeated, the churches addressed, the households reached, and all asked to make their free will offerings to the Lord, this year, for this good enterprise. But what of all this, if the Lord shall not prepare us for it.

It will stagger any of us who think of it, who think of the gigantic proportions of the undertaking, and of the difficulties to be encountered; if special grace is not bestowed; if strength, courage, unflinching devotion, are not given to the immediate laborers; and if the great and good One does not pour out upon us all the spirit of an enlarged liberality and a generous self-sacrifice to bring our gifts and offerings with overflowing hearts. He can fill us with those labor and those that offer gifts. He can fill us full of the work. He can exhilarate us with the spirit of sacrifice. He can make it a joy and a luxury to give to the Giver of all. O for the spirit of our Father, to baptize us for the work! W. M. W.

For the Biblical Recorder, A WORD FOR ELDER BENNETT.

In a recent number of the RECORDER Elder Bennett us the following language:—Christ and salvation are not deposited in an off house or store room for the sinner to go after them, and partake; Christ comes in the soul receives him. This is equivalent to saying, God gives faith, man exercises it, or God gives the power to believe, man believes. Thus he admits what he labors through a whole column to disprove, and what is manifestly true of faith and of every other christian act and exercise, God gives the ability and the disposition both to will and to do, but the willing and the doing are the acts of creature. The poet has well expressed the truth in the lines:

The power by which we act is His, And He the glory too.

Any teaching that differs essentially from this is unscriptural, unphilosophical, and untrue, and must do harm.

THE BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION.

The Committee, as brethren will see, have not waited to learn from any expression of the denomination at large whether we should or should not have a Convention. It was thought desirable for the reasons briefly set forth, to extend the call at once. It will be observed that the call is not made for the furtherance of a single object,—the endowment of Wake Forest College. But its design is, to move, if possible, the whole denomination in the State to greater interest in every form of education. Topics for consideration will be published as soon as collated and assigned; and speakers and writers when appointed will be informed. Every effort will be made to render it one of the most profitable and

inspiring meetings which has been held in our State for many years. Pastors, teachers, and friends of education, brethren all, will you come? Presidents of Rail Roads will be applied to for their usual half fare rates. The expenses will be diminished, and every thing done to facilitate your coming, and make your stay in the city pleasant. This is to be a great year in our annals. Brethren come. We must not fail in this meeting. W. M. W.

Senior Breaking.

The old College chapel is lighted up, and all are in expectation of the entrance of the class.

The cheering and the music begin, and we know that they have entered; a body of fine looking young men walking up the aisle and seating themselves upon the rostrum. As the music discourses eloquently from the hands of Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Mills, who are seated at the organ and piano,—the ladies I mean, not their hands—the class are allowed a moment to survey the audience, and calm their excitement. It is not the first time they have appeared in this capacity. Still, they are not veterans. For them it is an occasion. Ladies are present; and for young men of their age, that is sufficient.

The President announces the name of Mr. R. T. Vann, and his subject: "The Proper Study of Mankind, is Man." Who will doubt this? If any one does, this gentleman will certainly relieve his scepticism before he gets through. It is, on the whole, a very sober, sensible production. The style is excellent, abounding in beautiful imagery and yet concise. Who does not wish well to this speaker? Without hands; with nearly all of one arm torn away, and that the right; and the other with only an inch or more below the elbow, he is yet able to write a clear and legible hand, to use his chalk at the black board as rapidly as the majority of students; and with his big lexicons, Latin and Greek, before him, his eye fixed on the page, and turning the leaves with his tongue, he is able to master the lesson as soon as the best. The Lord intends this young man for some good work. But bow my pen runs on. I had forgotten that there were four young gentlemen to follow him; and my paper, and probably your space, nearly exhausted.

Mr. H. T. Trantham is announced. His subject—would you believe it?—is "Love!" Alas for the ladies! But he makes a good speech in spite of his subject. Isn't it wonderful how often a Senior can take "love," or "courtship," or "marriage," and finds them inexhaustible themes, ever old and ever new?

But Mr. N. B. Cannady is standing before us, full of life and vigor. Every motion—and he has some motion—speaks a man of intense vitality. His subject is—"Something Suited to the Occasion." He makes some good hits; drives his points with great force; stirs us up; makes us laugh; and then leaves us seriously thinking, that if one writes, or speaks, he should, he must have "something suited to the occasion."

Mr. W. O. McDowell rises without a subject, or rather the President announces, that he has "No Subject," for his subject. It was hard to see how this could be. But we were all convinced, before the young gentleman was through that a man could make a most excellent speech and have "No Subject." He told us how many things he could say, and of what general subjects he could treat, if he were not strictly confined by the terms of the announcement to "No Subject." And he illustrated very happily the good rhetorical maxim, that one must have a subject, and to this he most closely confined himself, even when he has "No Subject." On the whole "No Subject," as a subject, proved to be a happy selection.

We were now prepared to hear Mr. J. J. Vann, a young man of fine, robust frame, and strong, solid sense. He was the last speaker, and announced as his theme,—"Six Transit," which indicated to those of the audience who caught the sense the easy translation that the exercises were nearly over. His earnest manner however, and vigorous diction, arrested attention, and did not allow us to feel that the exercises were finished until we had heard him. "Six transit," and the class retired from the rostrum, and the audience repaired to the Hall for special pleasure; and "we" I write as doth an editor,—went to our homes, thinking for a long time, that this was, altogether, one of the most pleasant and interesting occasions of the kind that we have been permitted to attend for years.

WORK BROWN: FIRST CONTRIBUTION.

The last RECORDER had just left the printing office for distribution when a sister of very humble means met me, and handed me one silver dollar for the endowment. It was not solicited; it was not expected; but there the work begins.

Years ago, in the Commons Hall in Raleigh, during the sitting of the Baptist State Convention, the movement to raise \$50,000 was initiated by two brethren of wealth contributing \$5000 each. Several others followed quickly with subscriptions of \$1000, \$500, \$100. The enthusiasm was boundless. \$24,000 in pledges was secured on the spot. The spiritual fervor was extraordinary. Old men wept. Young men were so excited they could not speak. It was the pathos of action. Joy, and weeping, and grasping of hands, as I never saw it in a revival

Dr. Poindexter, who was present, and who contributed gratefully to the meeting power of the occasion, said, he had attended many meetings North and South where general movements were initiated, but that he had never witnessed one at all comparable to this. Of course we raised the \$50,000! Yes; but it was after hard work, and patient, perplexing effort; and the following convention was obliged to subscribe, through its numbers, about \$5000 in order to secure the amount.

But this time we start for twice the amount, to be raised in cash, or its equivalent with a contribution of ONE DOLLAR.

And there is, at present, no excitement, no outburst of enthusiasm. We are laying our plans, and moving off quietly, but resolutely, to a great work. One dollar to start with. Who shall despise it? It is suggestive. It has its lesson. At no point, in all probability, will there be such a meeting as was held in the Commons Hall on the occasion referred to. Nowhere, and at no time, will there be condensed, as in a furnace, such a glow of enthusiasm. Still we do expect the fires to burn; but the flames will be scattered and diffused more. Only one in fifty of our membership, perhaps not so many, were touched by the first effort; but now we want all to be reached. The villages, the hamlets, the most obscure retreats; all the churches, all the Sunday schools, every man and every woman of our wide spread denomination, must learn of the movement. We want it talked over by the preachers and the deacons, by the superintendents and teachers in the Sunday schools, by the fathers and mothers around their firesides. Baptists must awake. The common pulse must be quickened. Interest, whether much or little, at the beginning must grow, and deepen, and widen. Education is in it; the better education of all. A rising movement is in its progress, usefulness, a higher life in the kingdom. A noble and generous work is in it, to stimulate our benevolence to stir and engage our affections. We all see the need. Can we move together? Can the whole brotherhood be reached? Drops, we know, make the ocean; grains the shore on the sea. These contributions from all, is it possible to get them? Of course, there will be a necessity for much labor, and for many laborers. Are we willing to try it? The experiment is worth a fair trial, and we may learn a great deal from it. There need be no great excitement. We want a steady pull; no jerking, no stitching; good, hard, persistent work, done quietly, but earnestly. One year; one year of hard work; one year of general contributions; one year for the peace and pounds, for the rich and the poor to meet together; one year for all the brotherhood, to have the same mind and heart for a great undertaking; THIS ONE YEAR. God help us. W. M. W.

For the Biblical Recorder, THE EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION.

DEAR RECORDER:—Allow me to express my cordial approval of the call made by the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Trustees of Wake Forest College for an Educational Convention, to be held in Raleigh on the 11th of February. I trust there will be a full attendance of the friends of Education and of the College. Let us all go to work with the beginning of the new year, firmly determined, with the blessing of God, to place the College on a permanent foundation, and to fit it for still greater usefulness. If we will only work to this end with faith and with the unity and enthusiasm which so noble an object should inspire, success will crown our efforts during the ensuing year. W. W. HOLDY.

Vandalism.

DEAR RECORDER:—It is my painful duty to inform you of an act of vandalism by some hand in human shape, in burning down a little church at Oak Ridge, in this county, on last Sunday night, 8th of December. By the will of the great Jehovah and the efforts of his servants, brothers Jones, Jordan, Brown and others our little church numbered some thirty or forty, and was situated at Oak Ridge, a small church built by the Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists. Since the conversion of many souls to God's sect, who call themselves Primitive Baptists, have been greatly exercised in mind and some of their preachers have been abusing our church to an extent unheard of in a civilized community. Our ministers have not noticed them, which perhaps has incensed them the more, and it is believed that some one who was a friend of that sect was the incendiary, who burnt the church. The members and preachers of our church, have acted with prudence and forbearance, and have evinced no disposition to engage in angry discussions in regard to our cause; but some of those who are of the persuasion I mentioned, have, as I believe, in consequence of the accessions to our church, become almost rabid. This I regret, as we wish to be "let alone" and not to interfere with others. What our church here will do for a place in which to worship our Lord and Master I do not know. The people in this region have been greatly impoverished by the war and how can we build a church is a very try to me. I trust to him who rules the universe, and hope to invoke the aid of our brethren throughout the nation to aid us in raising to the honor and praise of the Most High, a suitable house of worship. AMHOUR.

Maria Liza Kile, Siler co., N. C.

Dr. Bible of New Orleans died and left \$40,000 to the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C. This statement is printed here for the encouragement of some pious Baptists who are desisting of leaving pious sums to Wake Forest when they die. Better make your donations now and live to see your money doing good.

Mr. Eugene Pullen, of New York, lectured last Monday evening at Tucker Hall. Subject, "Behind the Scenes." It was a popular take-off. Mr. Pullen, though a Banker, is a pleasant speaker, extremely artistic in his declamation. The audience was large and the speaker very often brought down the house. Dr. Fritchard generally leading in the laugh.

Mr. F. P. Hubbard, of the University Monthly compliments his as being, though he is not a preacher, is happy. The boy weighed 10 pounds, on the 18th last.

THE WRONG DOCTOR.—In our notice of Raleigh Association, we stated that Dr. Harrell preached on Sunday. It was Dr. Wingate. Dr. Harrell led in the singing.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS FOR ROCKVILLE CHURCH. Thomasville Church, \$4.40. Yanceyville Church, 8.00. Elder J. E. Taylor, 1.00. Elder J. A. Standley, 1.00. J. W. Massie, Baltimore, 5.00. Hood, Bowlight & Co., Philadelphia, 5.00.

The above amounts were received in response to the circulars sent out. If all the pastors would grant our modest request, we would have ample means to build our house. We have purchased a lot and had it surveyed. It contains 2 acres. We paid \$50.00 for one acre, the other was given to us. Our location is a desirable one. We wish to commence building in the spring and finish in next fall.

W. R. GWALTNEY.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS. YATES CHAPEL. Miss Carrie A. Foster, \$1.00. Miss Eunice McDowell, 1.00. E. S. Andrews, Tr. Sandy Creek Assn., 1.35. E. S. Andrews, Tr. Sandy Creek Assn., 7.50. Forestville Church, 7.25. Forestville Church, 1.20.

STATE MISSIONS. Yanceyville Baptist Church, 12.00. First Baptist Church, Wilaigton, 6.00. Pamlico Association, 30.40. Liberty Association, 1.00.

ENDOWMENT OF WAKE FOREST COLLEGE. Maudie Whitehead, 10.00. George Scattergood, 1.00.

J. S. G. WILLIAMS, Tr.

Certainly the whole church should be in the Bible school. For any church will be strong in the measure in which its members feed upon God's life-giving word. We predict that it will not be very long before the nomenclature of our work shall need to be changed to meet the very proper demand that the name should accurately describe the thing named.—S. A. TIGER.

Three daily and eight weekly papers are published in Raleigh. Every one except the BIBLICAL RECORDER is edited by a lawyer or a preacher.

Two, whose article appears in this paper, is just the opposite of what his name implies. He made one of the more effective speeches we have during the Convention at Fayetteville. He is now dead.

Elder J. M. Holloman is the very efficient and popular pastor of 60 churches in the Raleigh Association. He is so faithful and diligent in his part of the work that he thinks we are too hard on Raleigh Association. Well, he is generally right. A good gun kills sometimes.

To the Editor of Wake Forest.—Above all others, the Annual of our institution should feel the greatest indebtedness for its prosperity to the denomination, and especially to the friends of the cause who have labored for its advancement. It cannot be denied that the necessity of the move is imperative. The objects to be attained are grand and glorious, and the gigantic struggle they would entail, without and within the church, should be the aim of all our efforts. I hope to many of these aims, will meet the Educational Convention in Raleigh in February. It matters not what our location may be, the "where" is not so much as the "what" should our movement be. Let us work then with the Convention, and our aims will be kept in view, and our efforts will be crowned with success. W. H. FACE.

EDUCATIONAL.

OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL.

Classical and Mathematical School.

TALLY HO, N. C.

Reidville, S. C., Female College.

SCHOOL FOR YOUNG MEN AND BOYS.

BINGHAM SCHOOL.

Raleigh Female Seminary.

YOUNG LADY'S GRADUATE SCHOOL.

AMHOUR.

Dr. Bible of New Orleans died and left \$40,000 to the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C. This statement is printed here for the encouragement of some pious Baptists who are desisting of leaving pious sums to Wake Forest when they die. Better make your donations now and live to see your money doing good.