

# BIBLICAL RECORDER.

THE ORGAN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS—DEVOTED TO BIBLE RELIGION, EDUCATION, LITERATURE AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

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## The Biblical Recorder.

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### The South Carolina Baptists on the War-Path.

A little State but a plucky people—North Carolina proud of her twin sister—Furman University and its hopeful future—Good crops and good collections—The city of Florence and the earthquake.

Thursday morning, November 28th, was clear and bracing. The clouds which the night before had hung like a veil over the moon and stars, had taken wings and fled away, and everything gives promise of a clear sky and a smooth sea for the South Carolina saints, who are gathering from every quarter of the Palmetto State to project plans for the enlargement of the borders of the King's domain.

The sixty ninth session of the South Carolina Baptist State Convention is in session at Florence, a lovely railroad center in the northeastern part of the State. The town, the people, and especially the Convention, are all calculated to impress the stranger with life and progress, and hence a visitor is not long in getting into harness, and really feeling, for the time being, a little home like.

We entered the house and scarcely had time to survey the situation and look into the faces of a people of like mind and purpose, when the President announced that in obedience to a proclamation from the President of the United States setting aside this day as a day of thanksgiving, the Convention would spend a short while in a thanksgiving service. Rev. E. W. Saunders was called to the chair, and the great crowd sang, "How firm a foundation." This was an hour well spent, for the degree of spiritual life which pervaded the meeting in the beginning was greatly heightened, and the way seemed paved at once for a grand meeting. Prayer and praise are needed in all our denominational meetings to make them great in power and far-reaching in results, as well as great in numbers and in intellect.

The tellers report that over one hundred delegates are present, and that Bro. J. A. Hoyt was re-elected President, and in a few captivating remarks Bro. Hoyt showed that he was a leader of men as well as editor of the *Baptist Courier*, one of the brightest and most readable Baptist papers in the land.

The report of the Secretary of Missions was to the effect that seventy two missionaries were in the field, occupying one hundred and twenty nine stations, and expending in this department ten thousand seven hundred and five dollars for State Missions. We were greatly impressed with the meeting and the general make-up of the Convention.

South Carolina is not a large State, but the people are full of pluck and enterprise, and the Baptists are the people of the State, and without a doubt the best organized body of Baptists in the South. In many respects the meeting compared favorably with the Convention in Henderson, and as there is a good sprinkling of our own people, both in the pulpit and in the pew, as a matter of course one of their kin feels a little proud of the history which these people are making.

Furman University is the one object of special interest with the South Carolina Baptists just now. The endowment of their denominational school at Greenville created great enthusiasm. This school has now forty-seven thousand dollars of invested endowment fund, and these people are making a desperate effort to add twenty-five thousand more to that, and the Educational Society of the United States has offered to add seven thousand five hundred dollars to this, provided these people will raise twenty thousand dollars, and we are glad to state that over seventeen thousand dollars of this sum is in hand, and it is fully believed that the remainder will be raised before the close of this year.

The people of South Carolina are greatly blessed this year with good crops, and as a matter of fact the collections were all good, but what especially struck us was that we did not see but one single man taking up a collection for church building, and this was not so because these people are lacking in this line of work.

Florence is a nice town, and the Baptist people are ready for every good word and work. They have a neat and cozy house of worship, but that is to give place within the next year to a fine brick structure that will be a credit to the place and the people. Here, during the war, was one of the prisons for Federal soldiers, and over three thousand of these now harmless warriors of a most unfortunate but bloody conflict rest

under this Southern sod. Here Wm. M. Wingate, D. D. first saw the light, and his life-work culminated in starting Wake Forest College on a career that will widen as the ages roll on. A. McDowell, D. D., his co laborer, also started life in this South Carolina plain.

Here in this Southern soil rest the remains of Luther Rice, who founded Columbian College, and whose life was so golden as to enshrine his memory in the deepest affections of every truth-loving and Bible-honoring man or woman in the land. Here in this Florence section you are within one hundred miles of the pent up forces which for centuries had lumbered under the old city of Charleston, but when aroused leaped from their hiding places and assumed the hideous forms of an earth quake, the very mention of which awes us into thoughtfulness and silence. In conversation with friends they tell us that even here in Florence not only were the people greatly agitated, but the dumb beasts were strangely affected by these electric forces which, rushing through the pores of the earth, filled the air with sadness, desolation and death. Dogs howled piteously, the cattle lowed in a strange and mournful way, the horses neighed and pawed at the doors of their managers, and everything animate and inanimate assumed an attitude of solemnity which these people will never forget, and which one at a distance cannot conceive.

The Convention was splendidly entertained, and to pastor and people, and especially to Dr. Covington, the delegates and visitors are under lasting obligations.

We have not space for all that we would like to say of this meeting and people, but hope to allude to some of the members again.

### Personnel of the Convention.

Rev. R. H. Griffith is a Cosmopolitan. If you once see him you will never forget him, and always be glad to see him again. We believe he was born somewhere in old Virginia; was trained and fitted for the highest degree of usefulness in North Carolina, and is now serving the South Carolina Baptists as agent of Furman University.

Bro. J. A. Hoyt is editor of the *Baptist Courier* of Greenville, the courtly President of the Convention, and one of the most urbane and polished gentlemen in the land; about fifty years old, and stands out as one of the most conspicuous candidates as the next Governor of our sister Carolina.

Dr. J. C. Furman is the oldest member of the Convention. A man of quick perception and of ready debate, a scholar, a wise counsellor, and fine specimen of a Southern gentleman.

Rev. B. G. Covington is pastor of the Baptist church in Florence, and about thirty-five years of age. He belongs to North Carolina, and has been loaned to the Florence people to let the Palmetto tribes see what fine specimens of men the Old North State can produce, and how reluctant we are to prolong the loan.

Dr. J. A. Munday seems to be the Bargains of the Convention—the same wise, lovable pastor that led the Warrenton people into wider fields of usefulness. As pastor of the mountain city of our neighbor State, he does not seem a day older than when he packed up bag and baggage in the mountains of Virginia, to gladden the hearts of our own people.

Rev. J. Hartwell Edwards is tall, but well proportioned. Years ago we were with him in the Columbian College, and was then and is now a model of a man and pastor and preacher. Oxford, Miss., shared his labors for a term of years, but he now makes glad the hearts of the good people of Cheraw. Long live this good man.

Rev. E. O. Dargan, D. D., is the son of a preacher, and a preacher of rare gifts himself. A small man with a large head; has preached in Virginia and California, and is now shaking up the battle-scarred, earthquake Charlestonians. Dr. Dargan is warm-hearted and genial in the social circle, and gifted to a large degree as preacher and author.

Rev. C. C. Brown was the wit of the Convention. He is in the bloom of young manhood, a very pleasant speaker, and measures well as a preacher.

Rev. A. J. S. Thomas is tall but well proportioned. His is the quiet, thoughtful face of a business man. He is Secretary of the Convention, a fine gentleman and preacher, and seems to have the elements of leadership in a large degree.

Rev. G. W. Gardner is thirty-eight years old, though he looks like one just getting out of his teens. He is a graduate of Furman University, and is quiet and modest in his manners. There is a rich playfulness about his face and eyes indicating a bright, cheerful life and a sharp penetrating intellect. Bro. Gardner is the pastor-lect of the Baptist church in Oxford, Miss., one of the best churches in that State.

Rev. R. W. Saunders is the pastor at Cheraw. He is tall and well proportioned. He is a good man and a fine preacher, though quiet and unassuming in his manners and looks to be thirty-five years old.

Rev. W. T. Houdley was pulled out of the soil of old King and Queen county, Va., and transplanted in this Palmetto soil, and now he looks like one to the manor born. For ten years he has stood at one post, and has the appearance of a bright, cheerful burden bearer.

Never seek an occasion of strife.

### South Carolina Thoughts.

The centre and circumference of my religion is Jesus Christ.—Rev. T. M. Galphin.

The great work of the disciples of Christ is to watch for opportunities.—Dr. Lansing Burrows.

A great many people are afraid of public opinion, but the thing I fear is going in debt.—Dr. W. H. Whitsett.

Every Christian man and woman is under solemn obligations to extend the gospel of Jesus Christ.—Dr. Lansing Burrows.

The doctrine of the Bible is our ideal, while personal piety is simply putting this ideal into practice.—Rev. C. P. Evin.

A church is not worth more to a man or a people than its power to build up a good character in its members.—Rev. C. P. Evin.

There are 930 dram-shops in South Carolina, and every one of them stand as a menace to every institution in the State.—Rev. T. M. Galphin.

It takes seven hundred times as much money, from a moneyed standpoint, to convert a man here than it does in a heathen land.—Dr. T. H. Pritchard.

Thank God for the young men and the young ministers who are in this assembly, and who will lift up the standard high after we are gone.—Dr. J. C. Furman.

As you foster the work of this State Board, you foster and encourage every other enterprise before the Baptist churches of this State.—Rev. W. T. Houdley.

Next to the mercy of God in saving my soul, is the mercy of God in permitting me to be a colporteur with him in the redemption of this world.—Dr. Lansing Burrows.

The colporteur is something more than a book agent; he is the servant of the Lord to pray with, and present Christ to, the homes which he may enter.—Rev. J. L. Vass.

The Lord intends the gospel to compass man in all his parts and powers, to be as high as his noblest aspirations and as deep as his most personal wants.—Rev. C. P. Evin.

He shall see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied; but nothing will ever satisfy that great soul of his except the complete restoration of this world to right.—Dr. Lansing Burrows.

Our colporteurs must not only carry such books as the people want, but they must carry books that the people need. The Devil will carry them what they want.—Rev. J. L. Vass.

There is a very intelligent lady in Cuba who is an Episcopalian, and she said to me that the Baptists were the only people in the world who, under God, can evangelize Cuba.—Dr. I. T. Tichenor.

I have known some politicians who, before an election, can lead in prayer and pray right well; and then, after an election, lead their friends into—well, into a soda fountain saloon (!)—Rev. C. P. Evin.

No, that brother never will make any thing of a leader, for he lacks capacity.—Rev. J. H. Edwards. Well, he may lack capacity; but he don't lack confidence in what little capacity he has.—Dr. J. C. Furman.

The world never saw a nobler people or a better church than that first church in Jerusalem, when every member felt that he did not claim anything as his own, if his brother stood in need.—Dr. T. H. Pritchard.

As I stand before you, I feel an inch taller; and though I am not one of you, yet I am very close kin to you, and I like you, because for one hundred years you have led in the education of your ministry.—Dr. T. H. Pritchard.

Some churches neglect to set the Lord's table if the deacons are not present. Why I had a thousand times rather take the bread and wine from the hand of a godly woman than from a dram-drinking deacon.—Dr. Lansing Burrows.

You read of Christ standing at the door of the sepulchre and weeping over the sorrows of our homes; you hear of his entering the circle of fallen humanity and lifting up his voice to heaven in their interest; you hear of his walking all night in going from place to place, but you never hear of his living just to enjoy himself.—Dr. Lansing Burrows.

A brother here promised ten dollars to this student's fund, but sent me fifteen. I wrote him back to send me a pound of the soil of the old State, and he did not do it; but I want a box and I am going to take a pound of your soil back with me, for I have a woman in my house who was born here, and I want to show her where she came from.—Dr. W. H. Whitsett.

There is an old story to the effect that a circle of subjects once appeared before the sovereign of the land, and one, who was a lawyer, said, "I plead law, sir, for all the people." The doctor said, "I practice medicine for all." The merchant came up and said, "I measure goods for all." Then the farmer came up, dressed in plain garments, and, pulling out a coin, said, "And I, sir, pay for all."—Dr. T. H. Pritchard.

If asked, said one, what has Buddhism done for the world, I would point them to down-trodden India. If asked what Mohammedanism has done, I would point them to the degraded Turks. If asked what Confucianism has done, I would point them to desolated China. But if asked what Christianity has done for the world, I would point them to the Christian civilization of Great Britain and America.—Dr. T. H. Pritchard.

I heard of a preacher once who had a member in his church who would not give a cent for missions. One day after preaching the preacher called on that man to pray and requested him to pray especially for missions. All knelt down, but no voice was heard from the old man. The preacher looked around to see what was the matter, when, to his surprise, the old man was tipping his hat back to his seat, for he had just laid ten dollars on the table.—Dr. T. N. Bailey.

The Baptists can supply every public school in the land. They can supply every institution of learning with able and efficient professors. They can supply every State with able and progressive legislators. They can supply every bench with upright and just judges. There isn't a district in the land but what you can find some Baptist amply fitted to represent that people in Congress. There isn't a State in the Union but what contains one or more Baptists who could adorn the Senate with satisfaction to every right minded man. In fact, every position from that of a teacher in our public schools to the President of the United States could be well filled by Baptists, and then not exhaust our intellectual supply.—Dr. I. T. Tichenor.

When Richard Baxter was a boy, his father placed in his hand a small religious book, the reading of which was blessed to his conversion to Christ. Baxter wrote a little book entitled "A Call to the Unconverted," a copy of which fell into the hands of Philip Doddridge, and was the means of leading him to Christ. Doddridge wrote a little book entitled "Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul." A copy of this book fell into the hands of William Wilberforce, the reading of which led him to Christ. Wilberforce wrote a little work, "Practical Hints on Christianity." A copy of this was read by Leigh Richmond, and he was brought by it to Christ. Leigh Richmond wrote "The Dairyman's Daughter," and thousands of people by the reading of that book have been brought to Jesus.—Rev. T. N. Bailey, D. D.

### Letter from a Medical Student.

Dear Bro. Bailey:—Although a medical student hasn't much time to devote to anything outside of his studies, still I always find time to read the *RECORDER* which comes like a love-letter from all the dear brethren whom I have known and learned to love in dear old Carolina.

Rev. A. C. Dixon—whom all North Carolinians love—at the beginning of the session preached sermons on three consecutive Sundays for the special benefit of medical students. They were largely attended and made a profound impression on all who heard them. It caused many to reflect upon the dangers and temptations that surrounded them in this great city; and to heed the note of warning that was so timely sounded by Mr. Dixon.

There are about thirty students at the College of Physicians and Surgeons from North Carolina. Most of them attend Mr. Dixon's church, and feel proud of him as a native North Carolinian.

Three Wake Forest boys are in attendance: Mr. W. W. Robertson of Virginia, who stands among the foremost in his class; Mr. D. T. Smithwick in the Dental Department, who is recognized by his classmates as one of the best informed and most thoroughly equipped of the class. He has already had large experience in his profession, and bids fair to be one of its shining stars; and the writer.

Mr. B. R. Browning, a graduate of Wake Forest in the class of '87, is one of the graduating class at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

While Baltimore is known as a Catholic city, and while the Catholics predominate over all other denominations, still the Baptists are a mighty power for good, and rank among the leading denominations of the city, and what is better, they are making rapid strides upward, and I think it but a fair presumption to say that in a few years the Baptists will predominate.

I would like to give you my impressions of Baltimore, but that would make my letter too long. Ed. H. BOWLING, Baltimore, Md., 323 St. Paul street.

Restlessness and fretfulness hinder godliness. The very restless will never be very godly; the very godly will never be very restless. "Be still, and know that I am God."

Cunning leads to knavery; it is but a step from one to the other, and that very slippery; lying only makes the difference; add that to cunning, and it is knavery.—La Bruyere.

All preaching starts from "Christ crucified" and returns to that. It is no narrow theme, but a swivel gun that may be swung in any direction and directed to every practical issue of life.

### Letter from New Jersey.

Dear Recorder:—It is now the afternoon of Thanksgiving day, and I am in a grateful mood—especially pleased after receiving the last *RECORDER*. Nothing connected with the late Convention in Henderson so heartily pleases me as the honor conferred upon Dr. Pritchard. I mean the promise given to him in the Convention. In my humble judgment there is no man in North Carolina to whom the Baptists of the State are more indebted than to Dr. Pritchard. Nor is there a man in the State of a more Christly spirit, or one who has a stronger hold upon the confidence of the people at large. He has always wielded a wide influence in the State, and has never been known to show any bigotry or selfishness or narrowness, and has ever been among the leaders of every good movement started in the State for the improvement of the people and the furtherance and establishment of Baptist influence and principles. I have been made to tremble time and again for the last few years lest he should leave the State. Such a move would be a moral calamity.

By the way, Dr. Pritchard, and Bro. Battle of New Berne, placed at the head of the proposed female college would secure success at once for the institution. These men would not care to be placed in the lead in the proposed educational movement unless they could be made to feel that their services were thus needed. But should they be thus convinced, I believe they would make sacrifices and accept the work for the good of the denomination and the human race.

No conventions or anniversaries held in any State show more or wiser work done than is done by the North Carolina Convention. The enthusiasm of the brethren is contagious every time I read of it. And in reflecting the spirit of the denomination, the *RECORDER* has an influence not to be measured by State lines. What a power it is! Bro. Stradley is right when he says while we work about in spots the *RECORDER* works all over the State, championing every good cause. The harmony of the Baptists of the State is impressing others, and their energy and aggressiveness is waking up even the politicians who seem to be on hand now and then to behold your order and steadfastness, &c.

The showing of the State Board of Missions "bats the record." If Rev. C. Durham could be spared and would come we would have him at the head of our State Mission work in New Jersey in less time than twelve months. We need just such a man and hope soon to find him and put him in the field. Our State work is suffering and we all know it, and are looking around to see what to do and how to do it. Glad that the Henderson people responded so generously to the needs of the saints. Nothing less than magnanimity need ever be expected of that people, so kind, so true and faithful. God bless them every one.

Last Tuesday evening I attended a recognition service at the Iversall Street church, Brooklyn, and delivered a charge to Bro. Williams, formerly of the Tabernacle church, Raleigh, who is now pastor in Brooklyn. Several other pastors from New York and vicinity were present, among them Drs. Eddy and Hampton of Brooklyn, Dixon of New York, Horns of Riggsbury, and others. The people are delighted with Bro. Williams, and his congregation is "picking up" rapidly. He makes a sacrifice in taking hold of the Iversall Street church, but it will not be of long duration. They are gathering strength every day. I have not met but one Southern man since I came North who is not a success. And I feel proud of this fact. We have Applegarth of Baltimore at the First church New Brunswick, N. J., J. T. Dickinson at Orange, N. J., Potest at New Haven, Dixon at New York, Williams at Brooklyn, and up to a few weeks ago we had Jones of Richmond at the First church, Elizabeth.

There are others up this way who have been North so long, I do not remember them as Southern men. Of course, Dr. Deems of the Church of Strangers is known by us all. He now claims as his denomination the Christian Endeavor Society and asked that a marriage between himself and the Society be allowed at Jersey City a few weeks ago when there was a large annual gathering of this society, which is now world-wide.

The Sermon Bible, so highly commended by Bro. McManaway, about which I wrote you, I will examine again at my leisure, and see if I think any better of it. Bro. Applegarth of the First church, and a pastor of a Methodist church in this city and myself all examined it together in my study, and doubted whether or not the men whose names are given ever saw the sermons attributed to them. They seem to us such feeble productions, but possibly we did not happen to notice the best in the two volumes examined. Be that as it may, I suggest caution in the selection of helps for the pulpit. I have heard from Bro. McManaway on the subject and am glad he is satisfied. There is nothing like it.

We are happy and contented. This is my fourth year here, instead of third, as you stated in the *RECORDER*. The work goes on prosperously. Fraternally, M. V. McDUFFIE.

Civility goes a great way toward making friends and keeping them.