The Biblical Recorder.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1893.

REV. C. T. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR J. C. CADDELL, AGENT AND CORRESPONDENT.

THE BIBLE IN OUR COLLEGES.

A good deal is being said and written now about the propriety of using the Bible as a text book in our colleges, male and female. Some think it would not only be wise thus to use the Bible, but also to demand a pretty correct knowledge of the contents of the Bible as a condition of graduation. Others. again think that all of our larger schools should have a regular theological depart-

ment of study.

The wisdom of teaching the Bible in our colleges is so evident that the plan of using it as a text book hardly needs discussion. The best manner of using it thus, is a question on which good and wise men may differ. Would it be best for each college to have its chaplain whose business it would be to conduct morning and evening prayers, teach classes in Bible study, deliver stated lectures on Bible themes, &c. ? Some might think this plan leans too strongly toward that of the Establishment. We must confess that we see no danger here. ' A denominational college is not a State institution, and the chaplain or preacher located at the college would be there by the choice of the faculty or trustees, and not by State appointment; and if his services did not prove acceptable, a successor could be readily found. We have among us quite a number of able and consecrated men who might find such work more suited to them in their old age than the more active and exacting duties of the pastorate. And who are so competent to mould the minds and hearts of our young men and women while pursuing their college courses as these more aged and experienced men? We fear that sometimes our able and experienced pastors may be more or less neglected in their old age. If pastorates are offered to them they are not such as they have held. Others again which they are entirely competent to fill may not be available; and sometimes when failing health and the infirmities of old age begin to creep upon them they are simply neglected. What a splendid field of usefulness would open up to some of these able veterans of Christ if there was a demand for their services in our male and female colleges! It is a work for which many of them are eminently qualified, and which they could prosecute successfully, even in their old age. And there is a peculiar fitness of things in this idea, because young America is not too respectful toward the aged, and is apt to think he has the world in a aling, and does not need the counsel of the more experienced, either in secular or religious matters.

As to whether a certain curriculum knowledge of the Bible should be insisted upon as a condition of graduation in our colleges is a question, it seems to us, that can be readily disposed of. We do not think such plan a wise one, because it would have a tendency to lower the standard of Bible teaching and grievously afflict the land with a large class of men and women who might imagine that they had mastered its contents. Who can claim to be a graduate of God's Holy word? Who can afford to cease its study in early or maturer life, thinking he has mastered its contents? In this case the drift would be from the present state, in which our colleges are graduating a large class of young men and women who know little about the Bible, to one in which they would imagine at least that they knew all about it. The one state would be hardly more satisfactory than the other.

Cannot the Bible be reverently used in our colleges as a text book without demanding actual graduation as to its contents? We think it can.

As to the plan of having a theological department or annex connected with our colleges, we also have decided views, and they are such as to lead us to doubt the wisdom of the whole arrangement. Some of our ges have, we believe, tried it and have tired of it; others have contemplated it, but afterward abandoned it.

The arrangement is open to the objection that it lowers the tone and dignity of Bible teaching, and turns loose upon the country annually a large number of young men who may think that they need no further study of the Book of Books, and hence, may ignore the vitally important course at our theologi-cal sombaries. "A little learning is a dan-cerous thing," and if there is any real wism in this mying, it applies especially to a tile learning in theology. If possible, es-cally is these times, our young men that interpolate making the ministry their life-cal should take a partial or complete more in thrology in such a school as our requirement of the think it we could riberate me to the Bindrate Recombed that week, only margined the medical

has come when the ministry demands firstclass talentand first-class study by way of preparing for it. There are beights in God's word that untrained and unholy feet should lowing from a distinguished humorist, viz. not tread; there are depths where untrained and unskilful feet may stumble and fall. Thank God, the poor unlettered man can tell his fellow about Christ, and thus preach the gospel; and the preacher that has never studied theology may be eminently useful in leading souls to Christ; but still let it be remembered that we live in an age when the shrewd intelligent foes of Christianity are exceedingly active and aggressive. We need some Sampsons, some like Peter and John; but the demand for such men as Saul of Tarsus is rapidly increasing.

The subject thus briefly discussed is one that demands the careful consideration of the trustees, faculties, and students of our colleges. Its agitation and discussion in all of our denominational papers would be timely. We believe in denominational colleges. More attention to the Bible in their courses of study would give them a stronger plea for denominational support, and greatly additional force to the argument, often used by brethren representing our colleges, that what is given for their support is given for the cause of Christ.

## A GROSS MISREPRESENTATION.

About the coolest thing which has recenty appeared is this statement of the Rev. R. Dabney, D. D., in the Christian Observer: A Presbyterian minister found printed statistics of the Baptists in North Carolina apparently authorized by the State Association claiming 75,000 members. I had an inquiry made in a well informed quarter, and was told by the Baptist authorities (italics his. Ed.) that the real number was about 15,000." The Baptist Year Book for this year gives the number of white Baptists in North Carolina as 141,052; colored, 106,989. We turn Dr. Dabney and the Christian Observer over to the BIBLICAL RECORDER. In a question of veracity between the State Association and Dr. Dabney's unknown "Bap tist authorities." count us on the side of the Association. He owes it to himself to give the name of the "Baptist authorities" in that State who impugned the veracity of the Association. -- Western Recorder.

To refer to the foregoing statement, credited to Dr. Dabney in the Christian Observer, as the "coolest things which has recently appeared," but mildly expresses our sentiments.

He must be a dotard indeed who would hope for a moment to find a single newspaper reader in the country who would give credence to such a statement. It might pass in Central Africa, but hardly else-

Surely it must be a mistake, and it certainly reads that way. In the face of the facts we cannot believe that the Christian Observer, Dr. Dabney, or any other responsible person, would give publicity to such a statement. It has been many, many years since we claimed so few as 75,000 Baptists in this State. We are not so modest as that. If left to our own estimate we would place the number to day at 325,000 members. But let us leave the whole matter to the United States census reports, taken under the supervision of Dr. J. L. Carroll of New Jersey.

BAPTISTS IN NORTH CAROLINA. Regular Baptists (white) ..... 153,648 (colored) ..... 136,856

Total......290,504

These are the figures of the United States census authorities, which may be obtained in detail by Dr. Dabney, for future reference, and by the Christian Observer for the enlightenment of its editors, on application to the government at Washington.

Dr. Dabney's "Baptist authorities," 15,000; the U. S. census, 290,504. Cool, indeed !

Now let the Observer acknowledge and correct the mistake, or let Dr. Dabney come forth with his "Baptist authorities," Such a statement, or such a mistake, if it is a mistake, should not be allowed to go uncorrected, and we thank our contemporary for calling our attention to it. We hope the Christian Observer may see fit to enlighten those of its readers who may have been so blind as to be misled. However, that is hardly necessary, as no responsible person would believe the statement, though it were circulated for a century.

IN AN editorial August 16th we quoted from the Religious Herald a statement made at the Dan River Association by Wm. Ellyson, the Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board of Virginia, viz: "There has been no practical advance in State Missions in Virginia within ten years." But the word isn in the quotation made by us was by mistake changed to three. This from the Religious Herald a statement made

excellent Seminary at Louisville, Ky. It is made the comparison in our editorial, which true that some of our pasters have become first class preachers without doing so; but they have had to toil night and day for years since leaving college for that knowledge of theology they now have. The time is made the comparison in our distorial, which followed, seem to Bro. M. P. Matheny out of place, and in our last Issue he takes advantage of it and administers to us a sharp criticism. Bro. Matheny then proceeds to make statements about the "Virginia" Plan" and the work of missions in North Carolina, and gives figures. Both his statements and his figures remind us of the fol-"It is better not to know so much than to know so many things that ain't so."

Our comparison was correct. Ten years ago (1882) the churches of our Convention gave for State Missions \$3,000.77, two years ago (1890, when the Convention met at Shelby) \$12,348 31, and last year (1892)

Here is a gain for State Missions in ten years of \$11,272 18, and a gain in the past two years (since the Convention met in Shelby) of \$1,924 64.

But in the face of these figures, taken from the report of the Treasurer to the Convention and published in the minutes, Bro. Matheny says: "There has practically been no advance in State Missions since the year we met in Shelby." This is only one of his reckless statements. It should, perhaps, be remembered that, in matters of figures and finances, as is generally reported, we believe, in the States where this brother has lived, he has not been a remarkable success. His figures about the expenses of our Convention's work are much further from the facts than the cases cited by us above. But for sixty years all these things have been published in the Convention minutes, and we need not now write more on this point. We know of no work done by the Baptists of the State for the past ten years which has been more successful than State Missions, and believe there is no State in the South where the denominational work is more judiciously and economically carried on than our Convention work in this State.

Some of our exchanges are discussing the question of the length of school vacations, and the tendency of opinion seems to be against the present length of ten or twelve weeks. This is a question that has many sides, but we believe that vacations for colleges, and especially theological institutions, are entirely too long. Of course this depends on how the vacation is spent. If the theological student engages in active work while not at college, it may afford him valuable experience, and to a certain extent enable him to return to college. If the vacation is spent in idleness, "waiting for college to open," then it were better to have no vacation at all. Life is too short for a young man to spend two months of a year in idleness. As for the children, they need a good long vacation.

In another aspect of the question it is argued that the institutions, on which benefactors have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars, should not remain useless for a quarter of the time; and this seems to us a most plausible argument. Yet the settlement of the question in favor of very short vacations presents many seemingly insurmountable difficulties, and it is probable that our present system will continue for years.

THE Roman church is to day pursuing the policy towards the United States which has characterized her from the beginning. It has been said that "the uniform policy of Rome is to sail with the flowing tide whenever it is able to discover which way the tide is making." It will sacrifice anything, endure anything, and compromise to any extent, if through it all she can hope to win in the end. She would appear now to be greatly interested in our American ideas and institutions; she would have us believe she is thoroughly in sympathy with popular liberty. But her history, past and present, exposes her. The intellectual darkness which has invariably characterized those countries in which Rome has the power, and the low order of morals of their inhabitants, is sufficient indication that the church of Rome never moves to advance popular liberty until compelled. If she can gain her end by the torch, she will not scruple to use it; if she cannot gain it by the torch, then she has ready recourse to fawning and flattery. With her the end always justifies the

REV. A. M. SIMMS of Texas, the new pastor of the Baptist Tabernacle of this city, arrived on August 28d, and was greeted at the depot by a large concourse of his flock, led by Rev. Dr. Thos. E. Skinner, Rev. Baylus Cade, and Bro. N. B. Brough-ton. After a general hand-shaking, Dr. Simms was escorted to the residence of PERSONALS AND OTHER ITEMS.

... Rev. L. Johnson baptized four converts at Lilesville recently. ... The Carolinian says that George W. Vanderbilt is building a Baptist church at

Biltmore. ....Rev. G. W. Fisher was engaged in a good meeting at Prospect church, near Yanceyville last week.

....We regret to learn that Rev. J. C. Rockwell of Newport, Tenn., is dangerously ill with typhoid fever.

.... Rev. J. B. Newton baptized fifteen converts at Clemmonsville on the 27th ult. as the result of a meeting.

Rev. J. E. Hutson of Richmond, Va. well known as an evangelist, began a revi val at Rich Square last Sunday.

....Rev. J. W. Suttle has resigned the pastorate of the church at Blackburg, S. C., to accept a call to a Florida field.

... Rev. Henry Sheets has been called to the pastorate of Abbott's Creek church, in Guilford county, for the next year.

... Revs. Jos. G. Bielock and C. M. Murchison are engaged in a protracted meeting at Mountain Grove church, Catawba county. .... Rev. C. W. Blanchard was engaged

in a good revival at Cary recently, and as a result of his labors ten converts have been

Rev. F. M. Jordan, the veteran evangelist, has received a call to the pastorate of the Second church, Durham. His acceptance is doubtful.

Rev. N. S. Jones did good work in a revival with Rev. C. S. Cashwell in Yadkin county, recently. From thirty to forty converts are reported.

.... Rev. C. W. Blanchard, who has been engaged in several revival meetings in this and other counties, is expected to return to his regular charges soon.

The church at Morehead City has called Rev. Jos. Hiden, son of the distinguished Dr. J. C. Hiden of Richmond, Va., to its pastorate. He will accept.

.... Rev. George H. Church, formerly of Bryson City, began work as pastor at States ville on Sunday last. We hope God's richest blessings may mark his work in his new

... Rev. C. S. Cashwell had the privilege of baptizing twenty five converts at Eatons on the 27th. The Baptist cause in Western North Carolina seems to be in excellent con.

.... We were pleased to have a visit from Rev. C. M. Billings of Danville, Va., on his return to resume his studies at Wake Forest. Last week Bro. Billings began a revival at Bayleaf, this county.

... We learn with deep regret that Dr. I. T. Tichenor, one of our most beloved Southern leaders, is dangerously ill at his home in Atlanta. May God spare his useful life to the work for many years to come. ....Dr. G. C. Lorimer of Boston has an-

nounced that he will rebuild the Trement Temple of Boston. It will be built on a larger scale, and the Doctor hopes to make it surpass the glory of the old Temple.

....On August 27th Rev. E. H. Walker was ordained to the Baptist ministry, through presbyters Drs. Hillyer and Gwin, at Hopeville, near Atlanta. Bro. Walker is a grand-nephew of Dr. Jno. E. Dawson.

Robert J. Burdette, the famous Baptist humorist and lay-preacher, has an-nounced his intention of being ordained to the full work of the Baptist ministry. He will aftend the Divinity School of Chicago.

.... A correspondent writes that about five hundred people were turned away from Broad Street Church, Winston, on the night of the 27th ult., who wanted to hear one of Bro. Broughton's series of sermons to young

We hope the efforts of brethren Harris, Tichenor and Bell to establish a chil dren's missionary day may prove successful. We could engage in no better work than in inspiring the children to benevolence in and sympathy with our missionary work.

....Rev. J. L. White of Asheville, N. C. preached again at Brantly last Sunday (Aug. 29th) to the joy of a large audience. A number of persons asked the prayers of God's people. He spent the week at Ocean Grove. — Baltimore Baptist.

....Nothing speaks more strongly for Sunday closing of the great fair than the attendance figures. For the week ending August 26th more than 1,000,000 people entered the fair grounds, and only 20,000 of these could be counted on Sunday.

. We were pleased to see Prof. J. B. Carlyle of Wake Forest on his return to College from a vacation spent for the most part in Tennessee. Bro. Carlyle has completely recovered from his late illness, and is pre-pared to resume his work with his former zeal and ability.

....The meeting at Waxhaw Baptist church closed last Sunday. There were fifty-two accessions to the church—three by letter, two restored, and forty-seven by baptism. The congregations were very large, and the interest was great. The pastor, Rev. A. B. Caudle, was ascisted by Rev. J. A. Bivens.—Monroe Enquirer, Aug. 31.

Rev. J. F. MacDuffle writes from East Durham : "Our 'factory folks' here East Durham: "Our 'factory folks' here are more highly favored than most of the other factory villages. Our good Bro. Branson (Methodist) has so steered the financial boat as to keep the operatives at work. They have made full time and have been paid for it, so far as I know." Many of our brethren might relieve the present times to some extent by helping the less fortunate. fortunate. The Pan and wout the f t with the life born, stricks the life which

Rev. Chas. Durham of Asheville, a last June graduate of Wake Forest College, has been engaged in good revivals in the western part of the State and in Spartanburg, S. C. Bro. Durham is one of Wake Forest's most promising young graduates, and we are pleased to learn of his growing

.... Dr. N. B. Cobb returned Monday last from a series of meetings at Bear Creek church, Chatham county, which, despite the inclement weather, proved very successful. There were about twenty penitents and seven converts. The church, which is one of the oldest in the Sandy Creek Association, was greatly revived.

....The new Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, Dr. R. J. Willingham, entered on his duties on the 28th ult. Now let our churches make his burden as light as possible by responding to his calls. Dr. Harris, the Secretary ad int., deserves the gratitude of the Baptist denomination for als efficient work during the past two

. . We are glad to announce that the attendance at the opening of the forty-third annual session of Oxford Female Seminary on the 30th ult. was highly gratifying to President Hobgood. Chowan Baptist Fe-male Institute and Wake Forest College open on the date of this issue, and we hope the attendance will fully come up to the merits of these noble institutions.

.... A good meeting has recently been held with Rock Spring church, Flat River Association, resulting in twelve additions to the church—six by baptism and six by letter and restoration. The pastor had no ministerial aid. Many of the twenty converts lived in the neighborhood of other churches. The work is prospering at this mission station. -J. A. Stradley.

death of Mrs. Annie Nicholson Lee, one of the best of Christian women, which occurred in August, at the residence of Bro. John H. Nicholson, one of the oldest deacons in Gardner's church, Warren county, where she had gone on a visit only a short time prior to her demise. She had been married quite recently to Bro. Lee of Wilson.

.... Rev. Hight C. Moore has some interesting notes by the way in this issue. We are glad to learn that he is pleased with his surroundings. He writes: "Wife and I are faring nicely. The climate is delightful. Surroundings are beautiful. Associates are kind. We expect a most pleasant stay of a few months in Rochester. Last Sunday heard Dr. Edward Judson, son of the great missionary. His sermon was one of pathos and power. "Strangers in a strange land," we meditate long and lovingly on "home, sweet home."

College, Mr. J. O. Atkinson, now professor in Elon College, is said to have led all his classes in post graduate work at Harvard University last session. Those who remember the excellent work done by Mr. Atkinson during his four or five years of studentlife at Wake Forest, will not be surprised to learn that the dean of the faculty has writ ten that he made a higher record than has been made there for years. This is a way that Wake Forest men have of doing when they pursue special lines of study in the great universities.

.... Rev. B. W. Spilman of Weldon, who has been serving a three months' "supply" for the Baptist church here during the absence of the pastor, Rev. J. H. Lamberth, completed his work on Sunday and left yesterday for Weldon. Though coming here an entire stranger he has grown well upon the people and made a host of warm friends throughout the community. He is a young man of unusual ability, a fine scholar and a close student. He is also a lecturer of considerable reputation, and will fill a number of engagements while taking a month's va-cation before returning to Louisville Theo-logical Seminary in October. He lectures in Norfolk to morrow night, and also has appointments for Baltimore, Petersburg and other cities.—Greenville cor. Richmond Dispatch, Aug 30,

... Rev. J. K. Fant, who recently resigned the pastorate of the church at High Point, after a most successful ministry of about two years, preached his farewell sermon on the 27th, on the theme "The Christ that is within me." The Enterprise has this to say: "Mr. Fant's work here has been very successful indeed. The membership as a whole has done more and worked more in unity for the cause under his pastorate than it has ever done under the pastorate of his predecessors. And as far as "working members are concerned, there were more of them actively engaged than was ever possible to bring to the surface at any time previous."
We are glac to learn that Bro. Fant has been tendered several calls to pastorates in this State, which he is considering.

... Rev. Dr. Thomas Hume, the distinguished Professor of English Literature at the State University, returned home last week after an extended trip North. He deweek after an extended trip North. He de-livered twenty-two lectures before the Na-tional School of Methods of Teaching at Chicago; eleven on "Shakespeare's Method of Treating English History," and eleven on "Nineteenth Century Poets," with par-ticular reference to the late laureate. He writes: "From 12:30 p. m. to 9 p. m., gave opportunity enough at the World's Fair, and I had it for three weeks. It was a privilege to meet the able men of the Bap-tist pastorate and professorships in confer-ence, and to have the honor of lecturing to them on Shakespeare's Theology and Moral ence, and to have the honor of lecturing to them on Shakespeare's Theology and Moral Teaching. After the inspiration of his ever fresh sermons, I was admitted to the gracious hospitality of Dr. Henson's delightful home circle, and old North Carolina and Virginia experiences were recounted by him and his wife, a graduate of good old Chowan Institute. He is easily first in the pulpit, and of manifold and charming activity outside." gothin and the truths of the graphis he

element has reported distributed its stoped to tuelt over folly.