

Advocate.

RALEIGH, N. C.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1856.

NOTICE.

The members of the Publishing Committee of the N. C. Christian Advocate are requested to meet in the Editor's Office, on Monday, the 20th November, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The State Fair.

The Annual Fair of the North Carolina State Agricultural Society was opened at the Fair Grounds, near this city, on Tuesday the 14th inst., and closed on Friday following. During the whole time, the weather was very unpropitious, a cold north-east rain prevailing. Under the circumstances the attendance was large, in fact, visitors from almost every county.

But no doubt the state of affairs was the number of visitors, thousands.

Went of space forbids the publication of a list of the articles exhibited, or even of a list of the premiums awarded. These may be found in full in the secular papers, and in the Agricultural monthlies of the city. We are compelled to the limit of generalities.

THE EXHIBITION. There were horses, mules, and sheep, and hogs. There were also agricultural products of almost every variety. Blanton's Hall exhibited the best specimens of wheat. New York merchants exhibited the world that North Carolina wheat is better than is produced anywhere else on the globe. The corn, the cotton, the tobacco, the vegetables, generally, all gave evidence that North Carolina, in climate and soil, combines the advantages possessed by the rest of the earth, in a degree unsurpassed. Mechanic's Hall displayed fine samples of machinery, in the way of carriages, buggies, and other articles. But in point of credit, it was not creditable. Floral Hall exhibited a variety of fruits and vegetables, of needle work, and acquaintance with the art and science of the industry, which justifies the opinion that North Carolina is the greatest State in the Union for the production of good wives.

A. W. ZELANDER. In quality and value, the exhibition far exceeded the last, and was of a high degree gratifying. Professor Mitchell's address on Thursday, was excellent. It is published in the Standard, and will be distributed in pamphlet form. Some North Carolinians should read it.

THE STATE FAIR. We looked into a little crowd, and found the centre of attraction to be a gambling table. We looked into a room very near Floral Hall, and saw enough to show that intoxicating liquors were sold there. These things are to be regretted in the exhibition.

Foreknowledge—A Question.

At the request of a correspondent, we some weeks ago gave our views of God's foreknowledge, in part as follows:

"The full and absolute foreknowledge of God is very plainly revealed in the Bible, and we need not enter into argument to prove it; we may assume it as granted. True, there are some who adopt Dr. A. Clarke's theory, that the omniscience of God is like His omnipotence; that He may exert it or not, as He chooses; and that there are many things which He chooses not to foreknow. But the majority of thinking men believe this view to be unsound, for the reasons given by Mr. Watson; that the choice of an intelligent being must rest upon a reason; that the reason must have reference to the things in reference to which the choice is made; and that therefore, to assume that God chooses not to foreknow some things, is to grant that He does foreknow all things, because the act of choosing implies the foreknowledge. Hence, for oneself, at least, we admit that God's knowledge of future events is as absolute as His knowledge of past events."

Several communications have been elicited, evincing more interest in the subject than we had anticipated; but as they were without signature, we paid no attention to them. The following is from a worthy member of our church, whose object we believe is simply to arrive at the truth:

"BRO. HEPLIN: The reading of some of your remarks, in a recent No. of the N. C. Advocate, on the foreknowledge of God, has induced me to ask your opinion of the following passage of Scripture, viz: 'And it repented the Lord that he had made man upon the earth, and he grieved Him at His heart.' Gen. vi. 6. Do you suppose that if God foresaw that man would fall and become thus wicked, that He would have used this language in reference to the case, after it had actually transpired?"

ESQUIRE.

We set up no pretensions to skill in unravelling knotty questions; but we do not hesitate to give our opinion for what it is worth, on all suitable occasions. 1. The passage quoted by "Inquirer" proves that the wickedness of man was voluntary, and might have been avoided. 2. Repentance, in its application to men, implies a conviction of having done wrong. But as God cannot do wrong, neither can He repent, in this sense of the term. "God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent." Num. xxiii. 19.

3. In the passage under consideration, therefore, we must seek for some other meaning. We conceive its true purport to be expressed by Watson, (Institutes, Vol. I, p. 394.) "Repenting and changing his resolutions" are improperly placed among the affections; but, freed from ideas of human infirmity they may be, without the least inconsistency, ascribed to God in a literal sense as we find them stated in the Scriptures. They there clearly signify no more than the change which takes place in the affections of God, His anger or His love, as men turn from the practice of sinfulness to the practice of holiness.

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is not to be overthrown by a random interpretation of an occasional mysterious and isolated passage of Scripture. These views have been hastily thrown on paper, while the printer is waiting, and may not be very clearly expressed, or satisfactory to those who have elicited them. But we believe they will be kindly received and carefully weighed. If any man flatly deny the foreknowledge of God, we could easily throw questions before him which would raise insuperable difficulties in the way of his theory. But questions of this sort are not susceptible of the clearness and solution which belong to the more practical teachings of the Gospel; and an extended discussion of them would be neither interesting nor profitable.

Encouraging.

From a pile of letters just received, we select one and open it, when behold, several gold dollars greet our eyes. We at the signature, and perceive of a working member of a

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Texas Christian Advocate.

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of conscience in violation of guilt: it is not atonement for it. Remorse being conviction, is the ground of following punishment, not the punishment itself. Conviction is a reason for punishment, not its substitute. Remorse always grows out of an apprehension of merited punishment. But if remorse supersede future punishment, then, to continue one that in present remorse he is suffering that penalty which he fears will meet him hereafter, is to render it impossible for him to meet the claims of the violated law by remorse in this life, because it takes away the fear of future punishment, which is an essential element of remorse. The system thus destroys itself, and a closer examination betrays the utter want of coherence, or even plausibility.

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ITEMS.

Olin High School. A friend writes, "Olin High School is getting on well. There are 47 students."

Honor Doctor. Dickinson College conferred the honorary degree of D. D. on Rev. Wm. Arthur, of the British Conference. Mr. Arthur declines to accept it.

Nomination Declined. Hon. Rufus Choate having been nominated for Congress by the Democrats of the 4th District in Massachusetts, declines, because his private business demands his attention.

Napoleon III. The English correspondent of Zion's Herald, reports it as an accredited fact in Europe, that the mind of the Emperor of the French is failing; that the cares of State and too much brain-work, have unsettled his intellect.

Burglary. The Concord Gazette says, on one night last week a thief broke into the desk of the Agent at the Railroad Depot near that place. He got a bad dollar for his pains.

College Report. The Herald of Truth brings tidings of a glorious revival in the Holston Female College, at Asheville, N. C. Between sixty and seventy of the pupils have made a profession of religion.

Surrender of Yorktown. This closing scene of the Revolutionary war took place on the 19th of October 1781. The anniversary of the event occurring on Sunday, was celebrated in this city on Monday the 20th inst. The Portsmouth Rifle Guards, a fine looking, well drilled company, paid a visit to the Oak City Guards of this city; and the two companies with the cadets, paraded our streets in all the "pride pomp and circumstance of war."

California Appointment. Dr. Samuel Langdon has been appointed by the Governor of California, Resident Physician of the California State Lunatic Asylum. It is an office of profit; and Dr. Langdon entered on his duties on September 22d. Dr. Langdon is also a minister of the gospel, and was well known and highly respected in North Carolina, as Agent of the American Bible Society, a few years ago.

Thanksgiving Day. The Governors of Maryland, Missouri, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Maine, have appointed Nov. 20th as a day of public Thanksgiving and Prayer. What day is to be appointed in N. Carolina?

A North Carolinian. J. J. Pettigrew has been elected to Congress from Charleston, S. C. He is a son of Hon E. Pettigrew, of Tyrrell county, N. C.; graduated with the highest honor at the University in 1847, and has for some time been practising law in Charleston.

Warning to Toppers. Lieut. Jennings Estelle, of Walker's army, was executed for murder, in Nicaragua, on the 19th Sept. He was born in Tennessee in 1833; was mostly raised in Mississippi; and had spent several years in California. He confessed himself guilty of several brutal murders; and warned his comrades against intemperance, as the cause of these murders, and of his own miserable end.

Fire. A fire occurred in Boynton, Va., on the 16th inst., which destroyed property to the value of about \$20,000.

Death of an Editor. The Baltimore Free Press, of Walker's army, was executed for murder, in Nicaragua, on the 19th Sept. He was born in Tennessee in 1833; was mostly raised in Mississippi; and had spent several years in California. He confessed himself guilty of several brutal murders; and warned his comrades against intemperance, as the cause of these murders, and of his own miserable end.

Sailing of Missionaries. Among the passengers of the steamer City of Manchester which sailed from Philadelphia on the 16th inst., were the following missionaries: Rev. R. J. Dodds and wife; Rev. Joseph Bestie and wife, of the Reformed Presbyterian Church; and Rev. Gulian Lansing, of the Associate Reformed Church at Damascus, in Syria. They go for the purpose of extending the mission already planted in Damascus.

Dover Baptist Association. This body closed its 73d Annual Session in Williamsburg, Va., on the 13th inst. It was an occasion of much interest. The new Baptist Church not being completed, the Methodist and Episcopal Churches were opened to ministers of the Association. Baptists and Episcopalians in Virginia, are decided in their opposition to Methodism. But they do not see fit to adopt the extreme sectarian course toward other churches which prevails among them in North Carolina. And hence, when conventions, Conferences and Associations meet, the courtesies of Christian fellowship are mutually extended and accepted. This is as it should be.

Freewill Baptists. The Triennial Convention of the Freewill Baptist Church began its session, October 1st, at Mainville, Warren county, O. The attendance from every part of the eastern States is large. The Freewill-Baptists have in the United States 1,173 ministers and 49,809 Church members. The first Church was formed in New Hampshire in 1780.

Cost of Episcopacy. The papers of the Protestant Episcopal Church are trying to stir up the members of that communion to endowing their Diocesan Episcopacy. New York and Pennsylvania have large funds, the others have little or none. The Bishop throws himself upon the Parishes along with the pastors. Alabama has 1100 communicants. The assessments on the Parishes made in 1854, for the support of the Bishop, were about \$2,400, or more than \$2 for each communicant! The salary of the Bishop we observe, is \$2,000 per annum.

Dismissed. Mr. Hedrick, the Black Republican, has been dismissed from his professorship at the University, by the Executive Committee.

The Medical Profession in Austria. According to a recent statistical return, there are now in the Austrian monarchy 6,308 physicians, 6,200 surgeons, 19,000 midwives, and 3,000 apothecaries—making about one physician and one surgeon to every 6,000 inhabitants, and one apothecary for every 42,000.

Death at a Reel. A young woman named Temple, died suddenly at Vernon, Ct., on Friday last. She was at a religious meeting, and while laboring under much excitement and giving utterance to her feelings in shouts, fell to the floor dead.

Poisoned. The Athens (Tenn.) Post says:—At a camp meeting at Shady Grove, in Jefferson county, on last Monday morning, many persons were taken sick and were found to be poisoned. All who ate dinner on Sunday at the tent of Mr. J. F. Shaffell were sick to the number of thirty-five, so far as we have heard; all are, however, recovering, except one negro woman, who died, although some were dangerously sick. It is supposed that the poison was perpetrated by a negro of the family.

Chapel to the memory of Luther. The German Journal of Frankfort states that a subscription, limited to three kreutzers (about fifteen centimes) each person, has been opened at Worms for the construction of a Gothic chapel in that town, in honor of Luther, and of his protest to the Diet of Worms.

Coal and Iron in North Carolina. Mr. Haughton of Chatham co., N. C., has sold his coal plantation on Deep River to an English mining company for \$140,000. Mr. Thomas Unthank has sold his farm which joins Mr. Haughton's, and contains valuable beds of iron ore, to the same, for \$10,000.

Suicide of a North Carolinian. A gentleman named Boyd, from North Carolina, committed suicide in Cincinnati on Tuesday last, by shooting himself in the head with a revolver, while his wife and family were at breakfast in an adjoining room. He had grown despondent from ill health, and the poverty entailed on those dear to him.

Baptists in Pennsylvania. The Northumberland Baptist Association, in Pennsylvania, have unanimously adopted resolutions 'against the extension of slavery over territory now free.'

Gold in the South. Since 1829 the great product of the mines of North Carolina, as far as is indicated by the mint returns, are \$4,233,336, and of Georgia \$5,685,864; total \$9,920,100, and the aggregate expenses of maintaining them \$20,000 annually, or about \$400,000 for the whole period.

How He Looks. A New York Correspondent of a Georgia paper says: "I saw Fremont the other day—a dark complexioned, swarthy man of 43—though some seven years younger in appearance. I should say he is about 5 feet 8 inches in height, and weighs 140 pounds. His forehead is low but broad—eyes deep set and very close together—nose (his best feature) long and straight—and nothing, either in face or manner, to found a favorable opinion, in respect either to character or talents. An inferior, or at least ordinary looking man, such an one as among a thousand strangers would be about the best designated as a candidate for the Presidency. The luxuriant development of hair and whiskers which delight the Jessie Club in his pictures, are minus in the original and far from being abundant. His beard straggles thinly over a considerable surface, and his black hair, unquietly parted in the middle, is manifestly beginning to assume the same consideration."

Dividend. The Bank of Cape Fear has declared a dividend of \$1.30 per share, payable on the 1st Nov. We suppose the 30 cents is to be paid to the State, as tax.

The Wilmington and Weldon Railroad has declared a dividend of \$1 per cent.—Fayetteville Observer.

The Sound of the Church-Gong Bell. A letter from Widdien, Turkey, of August 27th, says "We have this morning heard a sound which the people of Bulgaria have not heard for ages, the sound of a bell calling all the Christians to church to thank God that the Sultan has been pleased to restore to us our liberty of worship. Widdien is the first Bulgarian town that has received a bell."

Mormon Bluster. Brigham Young has lately been making some important prophecies—among others that if Utah is not admitted into the Union they would set up an independent government, and that the Lord will protect them in it. They have been emboldened to this by the news which was received there from the States respecting the Kansas difficulties, which coming as it did, very much exaggerated, led them to believe that the dissolution of the Union was at hand.

The Roman Catholic Church in Prussia. The statistics recently put forth show the continued supremacy of Protestantism in Prussia, and the failure of the Church of Rome to extend her sway. The population of the latter is scarcely more than one third of the whole; and among all the functionaries of the court of the cabinet, the Master of Ceremonies is the only Roman Catholic. In the active department of the state no Roman Catholic is to be found.

The Next Congress. According to a statement in the New York Journal of Commerce, the ten States that voted for members of the next Representatives have chosen Democrats and 42 opposition, being a gain for the former of 38 members.

Gen. Louis Cass. A correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, writing from Detroit, thus speaks of this veteran Senator: "Gen. Cass is rejuvenating. He positively looks better than I have seen him for years past, though he is enraging the length and breadth of the State, and speaking once or twice every day. He has just past his 74th year, but appears as active and youthful as ever. All who hear him avow that he has never, on any previous occasion, been as eloquent as now. I was myself present, when he drew a picture of the consequences of disunion, which would have made angels weep. The people shouted, while the old man eloquently was himself moved to tears by the picture his imagination had depicted."

A Church Division. The South-Western Journal states that the members of the Third Street M. E. Church (South Carolina Chapel) in that city will shortly retire unanimately, have withdrawn from the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Louisville Conference, on account of a dispute regarding an absolute removal of the preacher at the end of every year, and elected themselves into an independent congregation.

The Fayetteville Female High School. The second year of this institution commenced on Monday last, with such a throng of students as clearly indicates a large measure of public approval. There are already 100 young ladies on its rolls.—Obs.

The Slavery Agitation. The Presbyterian of Hanover met in Liberty, Bedford county, Virginia, on the 1st inst. Rev. J. W. R. Handy, of Portsmouth, Virginia was chosen moderator, and Rev. L. P. Ledoux and W. H. Matthews, clerks. Among the resolutions adopted was one expressing decided disapprobation of the continued agitation of the subject of slavery in the General Assembly, and declaring in favor of the Presbytery separating from the Assembly in case the agitation is continued, and with others, joining in the establishment of a Southern Presbyterian church.

Slavery in Nicaragua. President Walker of Nicaragua, has issued a decree declaring null and void all laws and decrees of the Federal Constituent Assembly, as well as of the Federal Congress, adopted previous to the 17th of April, 1856, an act of the Federal Constituent Assembly to the 17th of April, 1856, abolishing slavery in Central America. The repeal of the statutes revising original laws, and therefore the right to hold slaves is acknowledged by the government of Nicaragua.

President Pierce and the Methodists. A correspondent of the Boston Herald thus writes from Concord, N. H.: "Last night at 7 o'clock the Faculty of students of the Methodist General Institute of this city paid a visit to President Pierce in a body, which consisted of Drs. Vail, Merrill and Patton, the Faculty of professors, and fifty-one students, consisting of young men from almost every State in the Union. The event in this association was an extremely rare occurrence."

The students were personally introduced to the President by name, and shortly thereafter each belonged was announced to the same time; the ceremony of introduction over, the President addressed the visitors briefly. The following is the substance of his remarks:

"He referred in a few words to the happy condition of our country, and the unparalleled prosperity with which it was blessed, and expressed the hope that the young men present would be glad to meet, would consider the importance, among other paramount objects, of obtaining a knowledge of the constitutional theory of our federal government, and the duties it imposed—as they would affect the individual, the mass, and the States which belong equally and equally to all. He earnestly trusted that they always be found diligent in application, checking all the institutions of the country which are sanctioned by public opinion. The occasion, he said, was a day of extreme happiness, which was due to the assurance which had been given him that the Methodist Biblical Institute was in a prosperous condition; nothing since its commencement he had taken deep interest in whatever concerned its advancement and influence in useful labor. He was especially happy to see that the prosperity presented in the whole appearance of so many young men on this occasion, representing so many portions of our great confederacy. Though not needed with the Methodist denomination, it is a pleasant times attended on the part of members of this body, and in earlier years had made acquaintance with families who belonged to it, whose friendship he had always highly prized, and truly would not soon forget. He would forbode the possibility."

"He remembered with peculiar fondness the late Rev. Dr. Cook, who was chaplain to Congress—who was long in the President's esteem. He had attended the ministry of that eminent man for two years, and had found him one of the most devoted servants of his Master, and the most faithful and eloquent minister he had ever listened to. Dr. Cook was considered a wonderful man—his reputation was gratefully and worthily cherished. In conclusion the President thanked the faculty and students for their kindness in calling upon him, and expressed his best wishes for their individual and denominational prosperity."