The Christian Advocate.

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THE ORGAN

OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

OF THE

M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

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RALEIGH N. C. FEBRUARY 18, 1874.

See the cross X mark on your paper. It is to remind you that your subscription has expired, and that you should renew at once.

Instructive and Doctrinal Preaching.

Men may abuse and pervert the truth, but they must have it in order to be saved. They may know a great deal better than they do, but they cannot do well without knowledge. Salvation is in and through the knowledge of truth. The preacher sometimes tells his hearers that they are already sufficiently informed, and that what is needed is, that they put the information they have into practical operation. He acts upon this assumption of religious intelligence, and seeks to arouse and incite to immediate action, while no effort is made to instruct.—There is, we admit, some foundation for this assumption, but it is often pressed too far. The golden mean, no doubt, lies practically in the union of the didactic and the hortatory.—The sermons of Christ are of this character, and the Apostles followed their Master in this respect as in every other. The men of power in the early days of Methodism, were not mere exhorters. Whitfield and the Wesleys often expounded large portions of Scripture consecutively, and their regular sermons were full of doctrinal instruction.

In the earlier days of Methodism, and even a few years back, our ministry was distinguished for its statement and defence of the doctrines of religion, and for its careful exhibition of the leading features of gospel truth. Very little was taken for granted in those days, but arguments and Scripture references were set in array to overwhelm error and to establish "the right ways of the Lord." There was a spice of controversy in the preaching of "the fathers," and a sharply militant and polemic spirit was often manifested. It was likewise noted for particular and pungent application, and for the stirring exhortation which concluded every sermon. The nail, however, was driven before it was clinched, and the foundation was made sure before the walls and cornices were thought of.

As a church, we are losing ground for the lack of doctrinal instruction.—Thousands are being won from us into other folds because they do not know the doctrines of our church. We do not preach enough on repentance, faith, regeneration, the office of the Holy Spirit, Baptism, the Holy Communion, Apostolic succession—the arguments against it. In a word, all the doctrines of our church, without attacking others, should be urged upon the people with practical force.

It is always safe for the preacher to assume that his congregation is ignorant even where intelligence ought to be found. Religious ignorance is often the greatest where the general intelligence is of a superior order.—The busy merchant, the profound jurist, the learned doctor, the refined and cultivated lady of the world, and the planter of enterprise and education, are not necessarily familiar with their Bibles. They need instruction in spiritual things as much as the most illiterate and obscure. It is a grievous error to suppose that because people live in these days of wonderful enlightenment and mental activity, surrounded by the most startling discoveries and inventions, and smothered under the mountain piles of books and periodicals, which hourly teem from the press, that they are proportionately wise in the love of the gospel. Too much intelligence may be predicated of the various agencies which are at work in the diffusion of religious knowledge. These agencies are doing much to diminish the ignorance of the world, and to mitigate the gross darkness which covers the people. But with our Bible Societies and Sunday-schools in full operation, and with churches all around us, the amount of religious ignorance is astonishingly great.

A close examination of the membership of a church will reveal a great lack of accurate and thorough acquaintance with the word of God, and the duties and obligations of our religious profession. Converted men must be instructed in the doctrines of the gospel, and guided into the higher experiences of the spiritual life, and what is sometimes set down to their indolence and selfishness, is the result of ignorance rather than perverseness.—Instruction does not necessarily hinder revival influences. Jonathan Edwards affirms that he found doctrinal preaching the best to promote religious awakenings, and the same thing is shown in great and permanent reformations which have taken place. Neither Luther, nor the Wesleys would have accomplished anything without the clear and persistent exhibition of divine truth. Times of great interest are the very best in which to instruct. The awakened soul is peculiarly prepared to receive and apprehend sound doctrine. The good ground is ready for the seed of the kingdom, and the sower casts his bread upon the waters rather than upon the barren rock. To promote the work of revivals, there is need of judicious and godly tact, the wise improvement of favoring circumstances, and unction, praying, exhortation, and the power of sacred melody. But these, without instruction and doctrinal preaching, will fail of the highest and most lasting results.

The mistaken and mischievous notion that people are already sufficiently instructed must be guarded against, while we aim to lead them up to the practice of what they really know.—Preaching is needed as well as exhortation. The "people perish for lack of knowledge," and famish for the bread of life. With all possible incitements and excitements, the gospel must be preached with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven, "Because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge." Paul, the model New Testament preacher, preached Christ, "warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom." The spiritual qualifications are paramount,—all must be fused and aglow with the heavenly baptism. But without the aim or capacity to teach, the ministry will fail in the great commission to which it was called when the Master commanded: "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

Bad Economy.

We regret exceedingly that the Legislature amended that section of the revenue bill in reference to theatres.—As it formerly stood, there was a tax of $10 per night, and $50 per month on all theatrical companies in this State. The amendment was offered by Mr. Waring of Mecklenburg, and strongly urged by him. Mr. Merrimon, of Buncombe, earnestly opposed the amendment, for which he has the thanks of all who love good government, good morals, and who desire to have the best interest of society protected and promoted. Instead of reducing the tax, it should have been increased five hundred per cent. Theatres and circuses are among the greatest evils of the day. They not only take out of the State thousands of dollars annually, but they corrupt the morals of the people. If any reduction in the taxes anywhere, why did they not make that deduction upon real estate, so that the farmers, the hardest worked, and the very best class of our citizens, might reap its benefits? We shall have more to say upon this subject hereafter.

A TIMELY LETTER.—We call attention to the article on church finances to be found in another column. It is from the pen of one of our most intelligent laymen, whose long and faithful services as a steward in the church adds weight and force to his views upon this important subject.

We are glad our lay brethren are moving in this matter of church finances. We should be glad if they would ventilate the subject thoroughly through the columns of the *Advocate*. There is no question connected with the material growth and prosperity of our church, upon which our people need instruction more, than they do upon church finances. Thousands have never thought rightly of the moral obligation resting upon them to support the Gospel, and they seem to care but little as to the ways and means for carrying on the enterprises of the church, and of advancing her sacred interests.

GOOD SUCCESS.—Rev. B. B. Culbreth, agent for Trinity College, has about completed his canvass in this city.—We are pleased to know that his success has been good—even better than he expected—owing to the great scarcity of money. When Bro. Culbreth came to the city he was comparatively a stranger to our people.—He has made many warm personal friends, as well as friends of the institution, since he came among us. It has been the pleasure of the congregations both of Edenton and Person Street Churches to enjoy his pulpit ministrations, on several occasions during his stay with us. We heartily commend Bro. C. and the College he represents to all our people and the public generally.

We are indebted to Revs. L. L. Hendren, G. W. Ivy, Ira T. Wyche, H. H. Gibbons, E. W. Thompson, P. J. Carraway, B. C. Phillips, Jas. Mahoney, J. A. Cunninggim, and others whose names we cannot now call to mind, for recent handsome lists of subscribers and renewals. We hope soon to hear from all the brethren. We are encouraged in the belief that our list will be increased during the present month beyond that of the past.

Rev. W. N. Conoley, who was appointed at the late session of our Conference, to the charge of Fifth St. Church Wilmington, writes that he has made a good beginning, and that he is laboring faithfully to bring together the scattered fold. We trust he may have good success, and that the church under his charge may abundantly prosper.

Rev. J. T. Harris, in charge of Hillsboro Station, writes encouragingly of his work, and has many pleasant things to say of the kind people in his charge.

The Reform Movement.

The Reform movement of Bishop Cummins seems to be gathering strength much more rapidly than even its sympathisers looked for. In St. Louis and Louisville, strong organizations are being formed. In many other localities there are evident indications of restlessness among Episcopalians, and thousands are only waiting to see the full establishment of the move before they fall into line. It is believed that some, who are tired of the high-church notions, forms and ritualistic views of the Protestant Episcopal Church will come over to the Methodist Church. Let this be as it may, we think the reform movement will result in good to the cause of christianity. Nothing has transpired to give such an impetus to the reform movement, as the withdrawal of Rev. J. A. Latane, of Wheeling, Va., from the Protestant Episcopal Church. He is a ripe scholar, and an able minister. His letter of withdrawal addressed to Bishop Johns is written with great clearness and force. The reasons assigned for leaving the church are unanswerable. But for the length of the letter we should publish it in full. The reasons may be briefly summed up as follows: (1) The division of the church into High and Low Church parties, which make of it an army with two banners. Justification by faith and justification by the sacraments are dogmas which mutually exclude each other. (2) The countenance given by the prayer book to unscriptural doctrines, such as baptismal regeneration, the real presence, and the priestly character of the ministry. (3) The impossibility of securing a suitable revision of the prayer-book. (4) As a consequence, the attitude of the Episcopal Church toward other Protestant Churches. Holding these views he could not remain in the church without doing violence to his conscience. The following from the Wheeling *Intelligencer* explains the action of the vestry of that city, upon receiving the letter of resignation from Mr. Latane:

"The acceptance of the resignation does not, we infer, carry with it any expression of opinion whatever on the part of the Vestry touching Mr. Latane's views. As to those views, we but state what is probably generally understood among those who are best posted on the subject when we express the opinion that the majority of the Vestry hold views in sympathy with Mr. Latane Still, inasmuch as Mr. Latane has actually and formally withdrawn from the Episcopal Church, the Vestry could not, without also withdrawing from its organization, as it were, continue him as their pastor.—There was no doubt, all the more unanimity in deciding to accept his resignation from the fact that a Diocesan Council will be held in Virginia next fall, at which it is possible some important steps will be taken by the whole body of the Virginia Church on the issues raised by Mr. Latane's letter. Prior to the meeting of this Council there would naturally be a reluctance to take any steps that might embarrass its action, especially by those who hope and anticipate that its action will be such as to substantially endorse the views of Mr. Latane. If we understand the positions of both the Bishops of this Diocese and also that of the Church organ, it is that they still regard Mr. Latane as canonically qualified to discharge the duties of an Episcopal minister for six months to come. In other words, they do not choose to throw the great influence of their positions against him, but rather in favor of him. This, we presume, is all that they could do were their views expressed word for word in Mr. Latane's letter:

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH,
WHEELING, W. VA., Jan. 16, 1874.

Gentlemen of the Vestry,—You have been called together in order that I might lay before you this my resignation of the rectorship of St. Matthew's church. The circumstances under which it is presented are explained in the accompanying paper [meaning the letter to Bishop Johns], in which I have stated at length my reasons for withdrawing from the Protestant Episcopal Church.

In this official communication I will not undertake to give expression to the feelings of regret with which I look forward to separating, under such circumstances, from a people who have laid me and mine under so many obligations. And it only remains for me to assure you of my grateful remembrance of the friendly relations which have happily characterized all our intercouse as a Vestry, of my kindest regards for every member of your body *personally*, and of my fervent prayer that God will so guide you *officially* in the trying and responsible position in which my resignation will place you, that all your actions may be for His glory, and for the happiness and peace, here and hereafter, of the people of St. Matthew's.

Very respectfully
and truly yours, &c.,
J. A. LATANE.

As we have said, the Vestry, at their meeting on Saturday, took up this letter for further consideration, and decided to accept the resignation therein tendered, which they did by passing the following resolution:

Resolved, That Mr. Latane having renounced the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church, we are most reluctantly constrained hereby to accept his resignation of the rectorship of St. Matthew's parish. In thus severing our relations to the late beloved rector, we bear testimony to his fidelity and ability in the discharge of all his duties and pray that the richest blessings may attend his family to the end of life."

A worthy brother desires to know if the cross mark is upon his paper every week because he is so ugly. Certainly not. If this were the cause of cross marks, we should be forced to the conviction that there are a great many ugly people in North Carolina, which is really not the case. The subscribers of the *Advocate* are all pretty as far as we know.

ONE in about every twenty-five of the native converts of China is said to be a preacher.

Sunday Schools.

The *Western Methodist* has a well written article upon Sunday Schools, in which it is insisted that our Sunday Schools should be under the control of the church. The following is an extract from the article:

Memorials to the General Conference, in favor of a law directing that Sunday school superintendents be elected by the quarterly conference up on the nomination of the preacher in charge, may be instanced as an evidence of an increasing if not prevailing sentiment in regard to this great and vital matter. Not only in our Church, but in others also, Christians are taking a right view, and some are already much in advance of us.

For the present, perhaps, we may not hope for any advance beyond that realized in existing relations of the Sunday-school to the Church, except the enactment of the law prayed for, in regard to the election of Sunday-school superintendents. But after a while, surely, the Sunday-school will in form, and in fact too, be brought just as close to the Church, to its heart and centre, as the prayer-meeting and the class-meeting, or even as the public worship, the preaching and other services in the great congregation. "Feed my lambs" is as authoritative and binding as "Feed my sheep." The children, as well as the parents, must have their place in the Church and be as well provided for by the Church. If the Sunday-school be, as we believe it to be, one of the best means by which to provide for the children, then the Sunday-school should be regularly, officially and positively an institution of the Church.

Supposing that many, whose term of subscription is out, are waiting to renew through their pastor, the Advocate is continued to them a while longer. We hope the preachers will call attention to this fact at *each appointment*, so as to give delinquents an opportunity of renewing before their paper is discontinued.

Rev. A. G. Stacey, formerly of the South Carolina Conference, but now president of Austin Female College, located at Austin, Texas writes thus of the *Advocate*: "I have just received your elegant and interesting *Advocate*. A North Carolina Methodist must feel a deep sense of gratification in contemplating your success."

THE CROSS MARK.—An excellent christian lady writes: "Your ominous cross mark reminds me that I must renew my subscription or be deprived of the *Advocate*. I should miss your paper sadly, so please find enclosed $2—pardon delay and continue the *Advocate* to my address."

We call attention to the new Advertisement of Marion High School for young ladies. A letter of recent date from the principal, Rev. S. R. Trawick brings the gratifying intelligence that the school is progressing finely. Bro. Trawick is a gentleman of many years' experience in teaching and he is well qualified to impart thorough instruction to those placed under his care.

COMPLIMENTARY LETTER TO THE REV. P. A. STROBEL.—We cheerfully publish the following letter, addressed to the Rev. P. A. Strobel, late Bible Agent for N. C. one of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society:

REV. P. A. STROBEL—*Dear Brother*: I have at hand your notes of Jan. 8th and your very comprehensive review of the condition of Bible affairs in North Carolina, which it was very considerate in you to forward at this early date and which will be put to its appropriate use in our next Annual Report. The list of present officers of Auxiliary Societies shows also the same fidelity and care which have characterized all the Statistical returns which you have forwarded since assuming charge of our work in your District. Regretting most deeply the untoward circumstances which led to your resignation, we feel that the service you have rendered has been of great benefit to the people of North Carolina and very satisfactory to the Board of Managers.

In the earnest hope, that God's blessings may ever attend you, I remain,

Very truly yours
EDWARD W. GILMAN,
Cor. Sec'y. A. B. S.

Bible House, New York, Jan. 22nd 1874.

Bro. Boshamer in charge of Henderson circuit, writes Feb. 12:

"You can say that we have a gracious revival in Henderson, which is the result of a union prayer-meeting, inaugurated a short time since. The meeting has been alternating between the Baptist and Methodist churches. It is now at the latter, and because it is more central, will remain there.

The Baptists, Presbyterians and Methodists, are laboring together harmoniously. I will give you the results in my next."

Miss Mary F. Jordan, lately employed in the Orphan Asylum, has taken a music school at Cary. The children and her associates give her up with extreme reluctance. Her labors were very efficient, and her deportment was a model of propriety.

She has left a beautiful picture, illumined with the light of a lovely christianity, in the gallery of our memories.

J. H. MILLS.

We are requested to state that the post office address of Rev. J. N. Andrews is Mount Olive, N. C., instead of Goldsboro', as heretofore announced.

North Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church reports a net increase of 543 members, 320 probationers, 1 local preacher, 30 churches, 1 parsonage, 1 Sunday school, 5 teachers, and 1,613 scholars.

A subscriber requests us to say to post masters, to be careful in delivering papers and letters. It is frequently the case that papers and letters are handed to others than the persons for whom they are intended.

Letter from Dr. Pierce.

We take from a late issue of the *Southern Christian Advocate*, this brief but comprehensive letter from the venerable Dr. Pierce. Great bodily affliction does not weaken, but strengthens his faith in that religion which he has so long and faithfully preached to others:

If you please, you may publish this card, as I think I have sympathizing friends enough to be gratified at seeing something from myself, as to my present condition. It is now forty five days since I took my room and bed, and I have not felt myself well enough to leave my room, except as necessity compelled it, in getting from Griffin to Macon, and from Macon to Sunshine. At Macon, I was shut out from the annual, joyful religious festival, which had filled the cup of my religious and social delight for more than threescore years. But what reason have I to say, with David—"Praise the Lord!" It was the second Annual Conference, where I was due, as one of the body, from which I was ever entirely kept away. My brethren remembered me, in a way, which if it ends where it is, will be a precious memorial to me of an honor which I never claimed, as due me, but which I desired to deserve for an honest effort to leave Methodism in its spiritual godliness, as good or better than when its promotion was intrusted to me, as a junior preacher, in 1805.

Worn as the physical machinery of life is, I am, under medical advice, going through a gentle course of alterative and restorative medicines, with many hopeful signs of as much recovery as one of my age could possibly look for. From want of more mixing up with the benefits and blessings of labor and converse, I become gloomy, and tempted, and feel sometimes as if the only pillar left to me, in the temple of my experience is, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation."—This morning, while the family were at prayer in another room, I read my morning lessons: and read with intense sympathetic interest the 42d Psalm—to which I refer my brethren, as containing and setting forth the status of my present experience. I want you all to pray for me, that I may fight the good fight of faith. God's blessings be upon you all, my dear fellow laborers in Christ!

L. PIERCE.

Sunshine, January 30th, 1874.

The Baptist pastors of New York recently held a conference at which a Baptist substitute for infant baptism was not only discussed but suggested after a talk about the duty of Baptist pastors to young children. They are frequently called upon, said one minister, to baptise infants, sick or dying, by sprinkling; but holding only to believers' baptism, and that by immersion, they must inevitably refuse. This refusal sometimes causes grief to the parents, who have a sort of superstitious belief that the baptism of their children under such circumstances does the little ones good. Brother Spellman wanted the advice of his brethren whether it would be proper for him in such cases to take the children in his arms as the Saviour did and to bless them in the name of the Lord. Mr. Miller and Mr. Browner and others do respond to calls in this way. Mr. Browner cited a case where recently he was called to sprinkle a child who was dying. The family were Presbyterians, but their own pastor was absent from the city, and another, to whom they applied, refused to baptize the dying child unless the parents withdrew their letters from their own and united with this pastor's church. This they refused to do Mr. Browner took the babe in his arms and asked God's blessing upon it, and the result has been that the parents and the other children have since joined his church and Sabbath school. Dr Banvard mentioned a case where he also was requested once to sprinkle a babe over the dead body of its father. He refused. Mr. McArthur remarked that it is not so much the sprinkling of their children that parents seek as something to be done which shall satisfy their own scruples and the child be constructively benefited. He therefore has made it a regular practice to take the children in his arms and pray for them and over them.—*Ex.*

Religious Brevities.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, North, during the past year, is said to have gained in money $4, 000,000, and in membership 5,000.

£5,000 have been promised to the Bishop of Durham towards his expenses in any proceedings he may take against the Ritualists.

Rev. Richard Jones, a highly esteemed local preacher of the M. E. Church, South, died in Christian triumph in New Orleans, Jan. 29.

A Western exchange says: 'Rev. Seth A. Clark, a Baptist missionary in the western part of Kansas, has a portable church tent capable of seating seven hundred persons. He has two good mules, and a wagon on springs, furnished expressly for the transportation of his church from place to place.'

The German papers state that the Pope's last Encyclical has given a powerful impulse to the spreading of Old Catholicism in Germany. This ought to discourage the Pope, notwithstanding his infallibility.

Bishop Smith of Kentuckey refuses to give Rev. William C. Butler, former rector of a Protestant Episcopal church in Louisville, a dimissory letter to the Diocese of Delaware. in consequence of his ritualistic tendency. If the ritualistic tendencies are wrong, by what rule does it appear that Bishop Cummins is wrong?

Rev Dr. Carlton, late senior Book Agent of the Methodist Book Concern in New York, has been elected City Treasurer for the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Church Finances.

When we consider our church membership, the intelligence it possesses, the experience we have had, the vastness of the claims on us, as a denomination, the amounts we attempt to raise from year to year for the various enterprises of the church, it is a matter of much surprise that we have no regularly organized financial plan. I am aware that the question of finance is one attended with much difficulty, both in church and State; yet it occurs to me that there are brains enough in both to surmount the difficulties.—This article, however, will be confined principally to the want of proper support of the ministry. Having been a steward in the church for a number of years, and treasurer of our circuit,—thereby having all the settlements to make with the preachers,—I have, necessarily, given this question much anxious thought. My reflections have led me to conclude that many of our people have been improperly educated on this subject, in and out of the pale of the church. I say in and out, for sinners are equally interested with Christians in the support of the Gospel; enjoying alike its protection to life, liberty and property. Too many seem to say in their faces, and feel in their hearts, 'we have done a charitable act,' when they pay a part, for oftener than otherwise it is only a part of what they really owe toward the support of the ministry—toward the liquidation of a debt, they should regard as of higher dignity that any written contract with man—for in the one case they are discharging a debt to God, in the other a debt to man.

It is true that some have never been taught to feel, and really do not appreciate the obligation resting on them. This should be corrected by the preaching of at least one sermon to every congregation at some time during the Conference year, on the christian duty of paying what we owe, first to God and then to man. Some have fallen into the miserable, I had almost said contemptible habit of deferring the payment of this debt to the end of the year, thereby subjecting the pastor to much serious inconvenience and troublous anxiety, besides the heavy loss he must necessarily sustain, in being compelled to purchase his family supplies on a credit. The reasons for deferring payment are various. Some fear the preacher may die before the end of the Conference year, and they will not get value received. Others seem to want to save the interest on the money; and still others seem to just mortally hate to pay it, and defer the evil day as long as they can, sinfully indulging the hope of evading the payment altogether.—"I am not mad," "but speak forth the words of truth and soberness," when I exhort all such, in all christian kindness, to stop and reflect on this matter. For if there be truth in the word of God, this kind of religion is not worth the small pittance they pay: it will not stand the final test, in that great day, for which all other days were made. I know a man may give all he has, and yet be entirely destitute of the true principles of Christianity, and that giving to this, yea, to *every* benevolent enterprise, does not constitute religion; yet a religion that will excuse a man from using the means with which God has blessed him, for the support of the gospel, will not avail when he comes at last to render up his final account.

While there are too many such characters, as I have described above, yet I am free to admit, that no little of the blame for deficiences attaches to us stewards. There are very few congregations but can be reached if approached aright. Let us, at all events, try to do our duty, and then if we fail the sin will not lie at our door. Let us use our best endeavors to collect all we can, early in the year, and impress upon the minds of our respective charges the importance of prompt responses to the urgent demand for at least quarterly payments of assessments; and my word for it, we will find much less trouble in defraying the expenses of our circuits, than by waiting until the end of the year; we will be enabled to relieve our preachers of much anxious care, many of whom are almost entirely dependent on their salaries for the support of their families.

This will doubtless be a hard year, hence we should work the harder, in order to success. May God help us!

ROANOKE.

Agassiz and Hugh Miller.

HUGH MILLER whose fame is world wide, was first brought to the notice of scientific men by Prof. Agassiz. At a meeting of the British Scientific Society, Miller, who was then a common day-laborer, approached Agassiz with a specimen of rock in his hand, and began to make certain inquiries concerning it. During the conversation that ensued, Agassiz discovered that this common day-laborer was possessed of a large fund of geological information, which he had acquired by personal investigations, induced solely by his innate love for the science. Agassiz was delighted at meeting him, and introduced Miller to the members of the Society, explaining the manner in which he had become acquainted with him. The friendship thus formed continued through their lives, and Agassiz wrote the introduction to Hugh Miller's first published work.—*Selected.*

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Seed Thoughts.

— Second thoughts are the adopted children of experience.

— Like most garments, like most carpets, everything has a right side and a wrong side. You can take any joy, and by turning it around find troubles on the other side; or you may take the greatest trouble, and by turning it around find joys on the other side. The gloomiest mountain never cast a shadow on both sides at once, nor does the greatest of life's calamities.

— Let no one overload you with favors; you will find it an insufferable burden.

— He who murmurs at his lot is like one baring his feet to tread upon thorns.

— The true motives of our actions, like the reed pipes of an organ, are usually concealed; but the gilded and hollow pretext is pompously placed in the front for show.—COTTON.

— Above all things, avoid laziness.—There is plenty to do in this world for every pair of hands placed on it, and we must so work that the world will be richer—better because of our having lived in it.

— Real merit of any kind cannot long be concealed; it will be discovered, and nothing can depreciate it but a man's exhibiting it himself. It may not always be rewarded as it ought, but it will always be known.

— Six things are requisite to create a "happy home." Integrity must be the architect, and tidiness the upholsterer. It must be warmed by affection, lighted up with cheerfulness, and industy must be the ventilator, renewing the atmosphere, and bringing in fresh salubrity day by day: while over all, as a protecting canopy and glory, nothing will suffice except the blessing of God.

— Wisdom and virtue make the poor rich, and the rich honorable.

— Mr. Beecher says, "the cheapest thing on earth is a mean man. A faithful dog dies and is missed, a good and stately horse dies and is missed; the emigration of the birds in Autumn is a source of sadness to us, but mean men die and few tears fall."

— To every man there are many, many dark hours—hours when he feels inclined to abandon his best enterprise; hours when his heart's clearest hopes appear delusive; hours when he feels himself unequal to the burden, when all his aspirations seem worthless. Let no one think that he alone has dark hours. They are the common lot of humanity. They are the touchstone to try whether we are current coin or not.

— We should give as we would receive, cheerfully, quickly, and without hesitation; for there is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers.—SENECA.

State and Local Items.

We have received a copy of the HERALD, a new and sprightly paper just started at Oxford, N. C., Wm. Biggs, Esq., Editor and publisher. We wish this enterprise great success.

The State taxes for New Hanover county for the past year were about $100,000.

Messrs. A. G. Lee & McMackin advertise for sale two first-rate dump carts, with harness and a carriage, and double set of harness.

Wilmington proposes to have an extensive cotton factory. Four gentlemen have subscribed ten thousand dollars each, with the prospect of increasing the amount to one hundred thousand at an early date. Will Raleigh allow Wilmington to take the lead in such matters? We ought to have a cotton factory in this city.

The Directors of the Commercial Bank of Charlotte have chosen as President of the Bank, Maj. C. Dowd, of that city.

Col. S. L. Fremont informs Babington of the Cleveland Banner, that the C. C. Road will be completed to Shelby by August next.

The first meeting of the Trustees of the University of N. C. takes place at Raleigh, February 18th.

The Fayetteville Statesman says:

The old Scotch "hunting shirt," so seldom seen these times which is made of home spun and home manufactured cloth, cut as a long robe gathered in the back, but open before as a common frock coat and extending to the ankles, was worn at court last week by our old friend, the soldier of 1812, Sion Horne, Esq. "Uncle Sion" is bended over by the weight of many years, but walks with an activity which speaks well for so old a man. May his end be peaceful and happy!

APPOINTMENTS.—Gen. Cox, Chairman of the State Conservative Executive Committee, at the recommendation of the Conservative members of the General Assembly from the 9th Judicial District, has appointed the following gentlemen to compose a District Executive Committee: E. C. Grier, of Mecklenburg; P. B. Means, of Cabarrus; Jasper Stowe, of Gaston; J. C. Cobb, of Lincoln; G. W. Gidney, of Cleaveland; G. M. Whiteside, of Rutherford; J. K. Simpson, of Polk.

THE RALEIGH WAREHOUSE TRUST COMPANY.—The bill to incorporate the Raleigh Warehouse and Trust Company passed its third reading in the House on yesterday. It had previously passed the Senate. The incorporators are, D. G. Fowle, Len. H. Adams, J. G. McPheeters, Wm. H. Crow and A. T. Mial, and such other persons as may be hereafter associated with them. The capital stock is fixed at $50,000 and may be increased to $500,000. The shares are $50 each. The Company have authority to carry on a general warehouse, storage and commercial business, and may receive, on storage or deposit, all kinds of produce and merchandize, including coin, gold and silver for safe keeping or shipment, and may make advancements in money on the same, and may also advance money and supplies to farmers on growing crops, and receive and collect interest and commissions for storage, labor, &c. The bill is calculated, it is affirmed, to advance the material prosperity of this city in a commercial point of view.—DAILY NEWS, 12th inst.

From the Greensboro PATRIOT we get the following items:

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE.—There was a change of schedule on the Salem road Monday, leaving Salem at 9:30 P. M., arriving here at 11:30 P. M., returning at 1:30 A. M., connecting with the night trains from Richmond, Raleigh and Charlotte.

SIAMESE TWINS.—A letter from Mount Airy informs us that the surgeons who secured the bodies bound themselves, under a heavy bond, not to unnecessarily mutilate the remains, nor to put them on public exhibition.

A letter from Jackson Hill township, Davidson Co., informs us that a twelve year old son of Mr. David Smith, is suffering from a case of hydrophobia caused by being bitten by a cat, in an effort to separate a pair while fighting.

At a recent meeting of the Real Estate and Loan Association of Wilmington, a committee was appointed to consider and report upon the policy of subscribing $10,000 to the proposed Cotton Factory to be put in opereration there.

A number of robberies are exciting the Wilmington people.

A petition of ship-masters and others from Wilmington, asking an appropriation by Congress for the improvement of the mouth of the Cape Fear River, was recently presented to the U. S. Senate by Senator Merrimon.

There are 21 prisoners in the Mecklenburg jail—14 whites and 7 negroes. Five of the whites were consigned from Greensboro upon the burning of the jail at the latter place.

The financial report of the County Treasurer of Mecklenburg makes the following exhibit: receipts for the fiscal year, ending Jan. 9th, $56,722.00; disbursements, $52,374.86; balance in tacasury, $4,347.14.

M. Bourgy, who is said to be possessed of good qualifications, takes charge of the musical department at Misses Nash and Miss Kollock's school in Hillsboro', N. C.

While Mr. Umsted Smith, who lives about 7 miles from Hillsboro', was walking in the woods during the recent sleet, a falling limb prostrated him upon the ground. He remained in a senseless condition until his friends alarmed by his continued absence, made search and found him.

The Hillsboro' RECORDER is informed that Alamance Superior Court will not begin until the second week of the Term. This is caused by the fact that Judge Tourgee is now holding a special term of the Superior Court in Wake county.

An Asheville girl of 14 years, has sued a young swain of 19, for breach of promise.

A sharper professing to be an agent of the New York Daily Graphic, has been humbugging the people of Monroe and Wadesboro'.

The Carolina Military Institute at Charlotte, has 90 students, and Horne & Graves, at Hillsboro', have seventy-

General News.

The Conservative victory in England is complete. The latest advices report such large Conservative gains as render it probable that Mr. Gladstone will resign the Premiership before the new Parliament assembles. The reaction against Mr. Gladstone's shuffling and half-hearted policy has been strong and thorough, notwithstanding an indisputable increase of radical sentiment and growth of radical thought in England. It is now stated that Gladstone and his colleagues are contending over the question of resignation, and Disraeli is said to have already arranged his Ministry.

Edwin Booth, the great actor, has gone into voluntary bankruptcy.

Nine hundred communists are awaiting trial in Paris.

General Sickles, late Minister to Spain, has left the Spanish Capital and is coming home.

A newspaper published in Mexico says that sixteen murders instigated by the priests have been committed in Puebla within the last year.

The next meeting of the National Grange will be held at Charleston, S. C. The constitution and by laws of the order will be translated and printed in all languages.

John C. Henry, Chief Clerk in the Revenue office in Lynchburg, Va. has absconded with a large amount of money. He left $20,000 secreted in a drawer.

Bishop Doggett, who has just returned from California, saw a wheat field there seventeen miles long. When the owner plows he starts the plows on one furrow and goes all day, and when night comes stops and camps out, and plows back the next day.

A little girl in Connecticut, three years old, fell down and broke one of her arms, and when it got well she fell and broke it again; after awhile she tumbled down stairs and broke both of her legs, and then, when they got well, she fell a third time and broke her other arm

Some philanthropic philosopher has thrown out the proposition that it would be a good thing to make of our gigantic Arctic Territory of Alaska a penal colony for the United States, the idea, doubtless, being suggested from that terrible penal colony of Russia in the wintry desolation of Siberia.

The *Galaxy* for March will contain an interesting article by Rev. J. L. M. Cusry, LL. D., of Richmond, Va., on the Confederate States and their Constitution, in which certain points of advantage in the Confederate Constitution over our existing Federal Constitution are suggested.

A special from Cambridge to the Baltimore *Sun* says: Last Wednesday night, at Tobacco stick, Dorchester county. Md., Mary Travers, wife of Thomas Travers, colored, gave birth to female twins, something like the Siamese pair. They are united by a fleshy band from the lower part of the breast bone to the abdomen, and face to face. One was borne dead, the other lived a few minutes and had its arm around the dead one's neck. Dr. Benjamin has bought and preserved the bodies.

MURDER OF A CHILD.—A band of masked men broke into a house in Montgomery county, Kentucky, not long since where there was but a little boy, aged eight years. He attempted to escape and they shot him inflicting wounds from which he died. A vigilance committee is talked of.

The *Golden Age* wickedly says: A Maine woman ate a gallon of oysters the other day for $100. She cleared $15, the funeral expenses amounting to $85

Washington News.

According to a recent decision of the Postmaster General, newspapers when endorsed with the name of the sender, or when the number of papers contained in a package is written outside, are not subjected to letter rates of postage. Under the old law, when anything whatever, other than the address of the party to whom the package was going was written on the cover of a newspaper, the whole package was charged as letter postage and the party receiving it had to pay the extra charge.

SOUTHERN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—The directory for the present Congress shows the following Confederate soldiers now in Congressional halls:

Major-Generals—Matt W Ransom, J B Gordon and P M B Young, Democrats.

Brigadier-Generals—Phillip Cook and Robert B Vance, Democrats, and L Allcorn, Republican.

Colonels—Hiram P Bell, James M Leach, Alfred M Waddell, DeWitt C Giddings, Roger Q Mills, Edward Crossland, L Q Lamar and William M Robbins, Democrats

Lieutenant-Colonels—Morgan Rawls, James H Blount, John P Caldwell, Washington C Whittorne and John D C Atkins, Democrats.

Majors—Thomas Whitehead, Joseph H Sloss, Robert A Hatcher and Asa A Willie, Democrats, and Richard H Whitley, Republican.

Captains—Charles Pelham and Charles Hays, Republicans.

Privates—William G Hernden and William P McLean, Democrats.