

# Raleigh Christian Advocate.

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THE ORGAN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

REV. F. L. REID, Editor

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## COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE ADVOCATE.

The Organ of the Western N. C. Conference.

BY REV. H. T. HUDSON, D. D.

The Western N. C. Conference will soon meet, and one of the vital questions to be settled is that of having a Conference paper. First: Shall we have any organ at all? I answer yes, by all means. The preachers and people say, *we must have an organ*. A medium of communication seems to be absolutely necessary. We must have a medium for publishing the proceedings of our Annual and District Conferences, for making known the appointments of Presiding Elders, to supply the minds of the people with religious literature, to advocate and defend the polity, usages and doctrines of the Methodist Church. *It is a necessity*. There is no organization now amounting to anything, but has an organ to push forward its cause. Every political party has its organ; the Temperance organizations have their organs; other religious bodies in the state have their organs; and even the whiskey business has periodicals advocating its destructive interest. There is not a single Conference in all American Methodism that does not have an organ in its own bounds, or adopts one published in another Conference. Now, what a singularly ridiculous and awkward position the Western N. C. Conference would be in to grope along in darkness without the light and encouragement of the weekly visits of a well-filled paper. It is simply silly and suicidal to entertain any such idea. We must have an organ, and we propose to meet this question in a manly and unflinching way.

The next question is: Shall the conference create and sustain an organ of its own, or adopt one already existing? I answer: If the Conference can lay its hands upon one already in existence, equipped, and on a sound pecuniary basis; whose size, literary ability, and mail facilities will meet the full demands of the Conference, then it will be a waste of money and men to start a new one. To fully equip a printing office in first class style, such for instance as the RALEIGH ADVOCATE, would cost all of \$4,000. Where is the money to come from? Then, to run the editorial department would take one of our ablest men from the pastoral work. Beside, it will take ten, more or less, years to build up a circulation sufficient to put it on a paying basis. Furthermore, what is the use of two papers in N. C., when one well sustained can do the work better than two? One good paper is more valuable than two sorry ones. What is the use of a company building two railroads to run side by side when one well equipped can easily answer the demands of the community through which it runs? It would not be economical for N. C. Methodism to have two papers. I assume that at least three thousand persons on each side of the dividing line would want to take both papers—if each Conference published one. Then, at \$2.00 apiece, there would be spent for the two papers \$6,000; so that the publishing of but one would be a saving of \$3,000 annually to N. C. Methodists. Has any Conference the right to impose this unnecessary burden upon the people?

I hope the Western N. C. Conference will not embark in the perilous and foolish thing of starting a new paper. "Oh, but we have the brains to run a paper," says one. Yes, but the people have not the money to waste on your brains. I have known several instances of brainy men undertaking to run papers, who made brilliant failures. It takes something more than brains to be a successful editor. But if the Western Conference is so full of editorial brains that something will "bust," if room is not given, then let the Western Conference buy out the RALEIGH ADVOCATE, and furnish an organ for the eastern brethren. I am sure that such a trade could be effected. Another says: "Reid is making a big fortune out of the paper." I am in a position to know that this is a great mistake. Bro. Reid is spending what he gets on the paper—he is

not even laying up for "a rainy day." If any brother thinks he can make money by running a religious journal in N. C., it is because he is blind and cannot see afar off. The Baptist brethren, claiming a much larger following in the State than the Methodists, have made several decided failures in the effort to support two papers in the State. *It just cannot be done*, as has been proved by the history of religious journalism in the state. The experiments that have been made ought to satisfy sensible men.

### HOW OTHER CONFERENCES DO.

The general rule of Methodism, North and South, is for several Conferences to unite on some one paper as their Organ. The five Texas Conferences and the New Mexico Conference all unite on one paper. The three Arkansas Conferences all unite on one paper. The two Georgia Conferences unite on one; the two Alabama Conferences unite on one; the two Mississippi Conferences and the Louisiana Conference all three unite on one paper; the three Missouri and the Illinois Conferences all four have for years united on the *St. Louis Advocate*, and the two Kentucky Conferences and the Western Virginia Conference all three unite on one paper. And, so far as I know, the policy of two or more Conferences uniting on one paper has become the established usage of Methodism in reference to its periodical literature. This is the general rule. *And I know of no single instance where there are two Conferences within the bounds of the same state that each Conference has a separate Organ*. In every case, where there are two Conferences in the same state, they unite on one paper as their organ. I take it, then, that we will not dodge or postpone the question, but that we will adopt some paper now existing as our organ, and the fourth question is:

### WHICH PAPER SHALL BE ADOPTED?

I have no hesitation in saying that I believe the RALEIGH ADVOCATE will best serve our wants. The Western Conference begins its history under auspicious circumstances. It stands now abreast with the largest Conferences. It has a territory large enough, full of natural resources, populated with a people of average intelligence, full of enthusiasm, and numerically strong to begin with. And its organ ought to take rank with the best papers in the connection. The RALEIGH ADVOCATE fills the bill. It is abreast with our leading church journals. It is large in size, and will be made larger if the W. N. C. Conference adopts it as its organ. Its print is clear and beautiful. Its editorial ability is conceded to be equal to the demands of the times. Its literary correspondence is first class. Other improvements will be made in the near future. It is progressive and aggressive, wide awake to all the interests of the church, and keeps the people well posted on all religious questions. And best of all, the Methodist people through all sections of the state are highly pleased with it. Thousands of them are already bound to it by numberless tender ties and sacred associations. You could not drive them from it if you were to try. It has the field and can hold its circulation, gaining more friends and subscribers all the time.

### UNIFICATION OF N. C. METHODISM.

Then, for both our Conferences in North Carolina to unite in the adoption of the same paper would do more to unify North Carolina Methodism than anything else we could do. The object of the General Conference in throwing North Carolina Methodism together in two Conferences was to unify it—nothing will promote this unification more than the adoption of one paper by both Conferences. It will bind us together. It will keep us in close sympathy with each other—it will be a common medium through which we can commune with each other weekly—a bugle blast sounding from the mountains to the sea shore to rally the hosts of all North Carolina Methodism and lead them to victory. We must bind our two Conferences together with this common tie. But it is said, "if both Conferences

unite on one paper, we will have a great paper war." Who will make it? If any among us have such a spirit as that, must we humor them simply to keep them quiet? Almost any child will cry if it can make something by it, and the more you give a spoiled child for crying the more it will cry. We ought to do what is best for the church, no matter who cries or grumbles about it. We are not going to be frightened by threats of this kind. Threats of "a paper war" only injure those who make them. The members of the W. N. C. Conference were not "born in thickets to be scared out by crickets."

### THE PRICE OF THE PAPER.

The price of the RALEIGH ADVOCATE is low enough—as low as a first class paper can be published. Our people don't want a cheap paper if its cheapness makes it an inferior one, as it is bound to do. Did you ever measure to see how much you get in each copy of the RALEIGH ADVOCATE? In addition to the advertisements, in each issue you get about 110 pages of reading matter the size of the pages in an ordinary book. This would give you 51 books of 110 pages each for \$2.00—a little over three cents apiece. Then I have compared the quantity of reading matter in the RALEIGH ADVOCATE with what you get in other papers. Type is measured by "ems." I had a printer to measure recent issues of the following papers with the following result:

RALEIGH ADVOCATE had,	102,255 "ems."
W. N. C. Methodist had,	55,800 "ems."
Statesville Advocate had,	45,850 "ems."

### The following are the Subscription Prices of the papers:

RALEIGH ADVOCATE, per ANNUM,	\$2.00
W. N. C. Methodist,	1.50
Statesville Advocate,	1.25
If paid in advance,	1.00

From the above it will be seen that the RALEIGH ADVOCATE is decidedly the cheapest paper of the three. Leaving out of the question the quality of the matter, you get nearly twice as much reading matter in the RALEIGH ADVOCATE at \$2.00 a year as you do in the W. N. C. Methodist at \$1.50, and more than twice as much, by over 10,000 "ems," in the RALEIGH ADVOCATE than you do in the Statesville Advocate. To illustrate: With one dollar you go and buy 50 pounds of meat at the store of W—. With two dollars you go and buy 110 pounds of meat at the store of R—. Which is the cheaper, allowing the quality of the meat to be equal? A school boy can answer this. A paper furnishes intellectual food to the people; and, of course, in buying it we must take into consideration both the quality and the quantity we get for a given price.

### THE LOCALITY OF THE PAPER.

Some interested parties have made quite an ado over the fact that if we adopt the RALEIGH ADVOCATE it will be located in another Conference. The paper has been our organ in most of this part of the state for 35 years already, and Raleigh will not be any further off hereafter than it has always been. The mail facilities are such now that, for a weekly paper, the matter of location is a question of but little moment. We are all laboring to build up Methodism in the entire state. Methodism is one the state over. We are trying not merely to build up Methodism in the eastern or western section, but to have its white banner wave in triumph from the seaboard to the mountain tops of the extreme West. And to do this, it is better to have the organ located in Raleigh, near the centre of the state, where the mail facilities branch out to all parts of the state. Methodism is a big thing in the state, and it is better to locate its organ in a large central city.

It is a matter of physical impossibility to locate a paper in every Conference, when two or more Conferences adopt it. The place of publication can't be in two places at the same time. And what difference does it make where the RALEIGH ADVOCATE is published, provided it meets the wants of the people and is readily circulated all over the State? It would not matter, if it were published in the Moon, provided it dropped down every week full of such things as the people want to know. The North Georgia, the largest Conference in the connection, has its

organ in the South Georgia Conference—a smaller Conference. The two Mississippi Conferences have their organ located away off in New Orleans, in a smaller Conference and in another State. The five Texas Conferences and the New Mexico Conference have one organ, and, of course, there are five Conferences there that cannot have the paper located in their bounds. The two Kentucky Conferences have their organ located in the bounds of the West Virginia Conference, the smallest of the three Conferences that unite in adopting the paper. Here are two large Conferences that unite with a smaller Conference in the adoption of a paper published within the bounds of the smallest Conference. And so with other Conferences. Only one place can have the honor of publishing the paper, but the whole state—the cities, towns, villages, and rural districts, can have the benefit of its circulation, and this is the main thing after all. The great concern ought to be with us, how to get its circulation extended all over the state—not where the type shall be set up.

The leading question about a religious journal is not where does it start from? but what kind of ideas, news, communications, etc., does it carry in its basket to the people? The fountain of the contents of a paper may be a matter of interest. Well, it is likely that the matter filling the paper will go from the West as abundantly as from the East. Who cares where the basket is made, provided it is full of good, luscious fruit? The few men, who are now crying so lustily "for home manufacture," are preaching in clothes made in the North; riding in buggies made in Ohio, cracking their horses with whips made in New England, carrying watches made in New York and breakfasting on biscuits made of Western flour. Why, brethren, you are 1800 years behind the times. The question, "Can any good come out of Nazareth," has been long since answered, and the false idea it was intended to convey long ago exploded.

### CLAIMS OF THE RALEIGH ADVOCATE.

The RALEIGH ADVOCATE is already entrenched in Western Carolina. It now has a large circulation in the bounds of the Western N. C. Conference. It took toil and years to build up this circulation. It is misleading to assert that certain other papers pre-occupy the territory. The RALEIGH ADVOCATE occupied the ground at least 25 years before the other claimants appeared. The intrusion comes in on another line. If there be any claim based on pre-occupation, then the RALEIGH ADVOCATE has it. The N. C. Conference, before division, claimed the territory as its legitimate field for the support of its organ. Since division, the Western N. C. Conference has not disposed of its right to any other paper. And if it sees fit to adopt the RALEIGH ADVOCATE and give its territory to its circulation, no one can rise up and say, "my local rights have been infringed upon." I suppose the day has passed by when the right of "squatter sovereignty" will be admitted. We have nothing, however, to say against the legal right of any individual to start and run a paper. But we do say, the church in its Conference representation had nothing to do with bringing the other papers into existence, and, therefore, is under no obligation whatever to take care of them.

But the Conference did bring into existence the RALEIGH ADVOCATE—the West as well as the East, and is bound to it as a mother is to a child. We, in the West, together with the East, are responsible for the existence of the RALEIGH ADVOCATE and ought to take care of it in preference to any other. The RALEIGH ADVOCATE is our cow and should feed in our pasture; and if some men, of their own motion, should turn their calves into our pasture, without a Conference permit, we think it quite impudent for them to turn to us and say: "What is your cow doing in my pasture?" We might well say to them: what are your calves doing in our pasture? That is a question appropriate to be asked and answered.

The RALEIGH ADVOCATE has been the organ of seven-ninths of the Western N. C. Conference for years, and is the only paper that ever had

such a relation to us. It is not unreasonable, then, that it should desire a continuation of this relation, and it is not surprising that the preachers and laymen should prefer it as their organ to any other. Is it not reasonable, just and right that they should prefer it above all others?

### THE PERMANENCY OF THE PAPER.

When a paper is presented to the people, a vital question arises: "How long will the paper run?" There are so many papers that start out with a great flourish of trumpets, and after a few years they collapse for the want of funds, that the people have a right to know something as to their foundation for future continuance. In order to insure the continuance of a paper and make it all the public demands, a large circulation, or a large amount of ready money is necessary. A certain number of people in the West, some years ago, attempted to establish a Methodist paper. A few rich men pledged \$60,000 for its support. That paper ran about six years and did not become self-sustaining, and so was discontinued. The *Nashville Advocate*, with a circulation of 27,000 and subscription price at \$2.00 per annum, was not self-sustaining last year. The organ of the two great Georgia Conferences lacked \$129.00 of being self-sustaining last year. So it will be seen that it takes not only means but great tact to run a first class paper successfully. The reason why the RALEIGH ADVOCATE has paid its way is because of the skillful management of its editor and the additional fact that he has been doing the work of two or three men, nearly killing himself, in order to economize and improve the paper. He has done remarkably well. We feel like saying to him: "Well done, good and faithful servant." Now, let both Conferences unite on the RALEIGH ADVOCATE and give him the whole field of North Carolina, and I'll predict that he will build up a paper that will have still greater influence in the Connection, that will build up the church, and reflect much honor and great credit on North Carolina Methodism.

Shelby, N. C., Oct. 22nd, 1890.

FOR THE ADVOCATE.

### Misunderstandings.

How many griefs and troubles which come to us in this world are purely the result of misunderstandings! We think people say what they never did say, or mean what they never did mean. We count men unreasonable and harsh; we fume and fret about matters which do not go to our liking; we complain about what men have said or done; and all this while the persons whom we are blaming meant nothing of the kind that we surmise, and know nothing whatever of our tribulations. This is one reason why persons who have grievances should go at once to those concerned. They are often the only ones who know the truth, who can explain the misunderstanding, correct the error, or right the wrong. They can tell what they intended to say, or intended to do; and in a great many instances we shall find, on going to the proper parties, that we have utterly misapprehended the facts in the case, and have judged others unkindly, and have made ourselves miserable for nothing. In many a case we shall find that we have taken offense where no offense was intended; that we have counted words harsh which were kindly meant; that light and tripping phrases which were carelessly thrown off, have been taken to heart as they never should have been; and that we have made ourselves and others miserable when there was no need of it whatever.

### Letter From Bishop Galloway.

Mr. Editor: My recent visit to North Carolina gave opportunity to note somewhat the spirit and progress of the church in that ancient commonwealth. I was delighted with the one and gratified at the other. Of many observations made I shall probably write in detail for other columns.

In this note I want to express my hearty sympathy with your College movement. The beautiful site selected for the new Trinity buildings at Durham was pointed out to me while passing through that Eastern city of Western enterprise. It is certainly all that could be desired—elevated, undulating, commanding. When adorned by the hand of art and graced by the splendid structures to be erected, in full view of all passing trains, it will be the joy of all friends of the higher Christian education in your great State. You did well to remove to a more central and accessible point. It is idle to argue against steam. The railroad geography is fatal to many an enterprise. Towns have resisted and resented, only at last to yield and die. So with Colleges. They cannot exist in the far interior. Classic shades are not found in forest solitudes.

Now, if all will heartily unite in an effort to provide a liberal endowment, Trinity College will become the most potential factor in North Carolina Methodism. An endowment is an absolute necessity to the equipment of a male college for even respectable work. Tuition receipts, however liberal the patronage, cannot sustain a competent faculty. It would be interesting to study the indebtedness of Methodism to endowments. Beginning with the youth, John Wesley at the Charter-house School, we are under obligation to endowed foundations for many of the greatest scholars, who have adorned our history and for our mightiest pulpit orators and ecclesiastical leaders.

With such a constituency as to

the two North Carolina Conferences, Trinity College ought not to be behind the foremost of our institutions in patronage and influence. Let a son of North Carolina urge you to take warning from other sections and not disintegrate the educational life of the church by multiplying colleges. A College for every Conference has been the unwise ambition of many sections. Its evil will be felt to the third and fourth generations. Southern Methodism owes Dr. Francis A. Moody a monument, grander than granite, for his broad scheme of College federation inaugurated in Texas. That policy ought to be confectional, and will be. The past is strewn with the wrecks of College enterprises born of local and sectional ambitions. They represent wasted energy, misdirected zeal, and the unwise administration of the Lord's money.

I am under promise to President Crowell to assist him in some college work at a more convenient season. In the meantime, I shall watch with interest the spirit with which your Conferences rise up to meet the grand opportunity before them.

Fraternally,  
CHAS. B. GALLOWAY.

### Threads of Thought.

Our memories are the echoes of joys and griefs forever gone. The most real and the truest joy we have in life is in making others glad.

About the most difficult effort we can make is to try to realize our own ideals. The flower that first opens to the sunshine will keenest suffer from the frost. To give praise sincerely is only a just expression of our recognition of true worth. He who is sensible may also have a good share of sensibility and sensitiveness. That is a brave soul, indeed, that has the power to turn his "double-pain to double-praise."

It would seem to be preferable to wear out, rather than to be saved from rust by a put-on polish. It is not always what we have accomplished, but quite as often what we had hoped to do, that has afforded us the most satisfaction.—*Good Housekeeping*.

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