

# Raleigh Christian Advocate.

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

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## Editorial.

Trifles make up life. But trifles magnified destroy life's happiness.

Disease of the mind blots out the light of reason; disease of the body blots out the light of physical life; disease of the soul blots out the light of eternal Hope.

It is an old truth, first promulgated by Christ, but never too often emphasized, that the partition separating the world from Christ is spiked with steel, and that fractions are unknown in the arithmetic of eternal life. "Ye can not serve two masters." "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart."

Why is the talk about the Czar and the "Peace Conference" still kept up? The Russian Government since the beginning of the year has increased both its army and navy and has made larger military appropriations than ever before. There is about as much peace in the Czar's late irenic pronunciamento as there is gold at the end of the rainbow. In the meantime let us pray, and earnestly work to the end, that God's kingdom may come and that His will may be done on earth as in Heaven.

It is nothing but right that there should be an earnest insistence on the part of our people for a policy that will insure justice and freedom to the people of Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines. But we are in danger of falling into criminal inconsistency in ignoring the rights of the Indians among us. It is said that Congress is on the point of passing a measure that will not only be a violation of the treaty with the Indians, but will actually defraud them of much valuable land. We trust not. But it is worth looking into. The Indian Rights Association is greatly stirred over the matter.

Mrs. E. J. Parrish, who is soon to leave with her husband for Japan, has made Trinity College a present of two beautiful paintings of Jerusalem, and two easels. The paintings she gave to go in the parlor of the Duke building and the easels are for the Woman's building. One of the easels is made of Durham county wood and was on exhibition at Raleigh during the exposition in 1884. The gifts are prized very highly by the college and will be kept in remembrance of the good woman who is soon to leave the United States.

The daily papers state that the section of the bill taken from the old school law which exempts graduates of the Peabody Normal College at Nashville, of the Normal Department of the University of North Carolina, of the Normal College at Greensboro, of the Normal and Collegiate Institute at Asheville from examination for certificates to teach in the public schools was stricken out. We understand that in spite of this that there are other laws and provisions under which this exemption still holds. If this be true, there is a manifest injustice. We have no objection to the graduates of the above named schools receiving certificates on their diplomas. But there is no sense in granting this privilege to the graduates of these schools, when the graduates of our denominational colleges are required to stand an examination every time they apply for certificates. Such legislation is unjust discrimination and we protest against it.

One of our superannuated preachers, one of our heroes, writes us a congratulatory letter and expresses the hope that the Raleigh Christian Advocate may indeed be a "Christian" Advocate. This is what we propose to make it. Unless it be Christian from upper left hand corner of first page to lower right hand corner of eighth page, it will be a failure as a religious paper and we shall be disappointed. Of course all of our reading matter will not always be purely religious, but we do not wish to publish anything that may militate against the moral and spiritual life. We wish to have a great deal of purely spiritual matter in our columns—something good for the hungry soul and strengthening to the saints. We pray for the presence of the Holy Ghost on every page of the Advocate. When those who furnish the matter have the Holy Ghost in their hearts, our prayer will receive its answer. To make men and women and children purer, stronger and better—more like Christ—is our editorial ambition.

## IN THE GRASP OF THE OCTOPUS.

A petition signed by over three thousand white registered voters of a large and prosperous county, and asking for a Dispensary for this county was presented a few days ago to the Legislature now in session. The petition was granted almost unanimously by the House. The two members of the House from the petitioning county were favorable to a Dispensary, because they were temperance men and because they wished to represent their people.

When the matter was considered by the Senate Committee and the time came for a vote as to whether the bill should be reported favorably or unfavorably, the Senator from the petitioning county appealed to the Committee to stand by him and report the bill unfavorably. He said, as reported by the papers: "Senators, I demand an unfavorable report on this bill. These people have come here to shame me and cast a stain upon my honor. Stand by me, Senators, as I have stood by you." The appeal was granted, and the bill was reported unfavorably to the Senate. The Senator's plea was that his people at home in a mass meeting had insinuated that they were without a Senator. He claimed that he had promised the liquor men of his party that their business would not be interfered with in the present Legislature, and he would work against the bill in order to keep his pledge. The advocates of the Dispensary said that they did not blame him for this, but asked him to allow the other Senators to vote as they thought best. The request was not granted. The appeal to the Committee was made with the result as stated. The next night in the meeting of the Senate, the bill was defeated by a vote of 31 to 12. In the debate, prominence was given to the statement that the party had given its word to the liquor men that their business should not be interfered with. Some voted against the bill because as they said, they had to keep their word to the liquor men. Others voted against it, as they said, on moral grounds. One Senator, who two days before stated publicly before the Senate that he was for the dispensary in another county "tooth and nail" said that he was against this dispensary. Still others voted against it because they felt that they were bound by "Senatorial courtesy."

Senator Glenn made the principal speech for the dispensary, and it was a grand one. He said: "All honor to my friend for doing his duty, but I took my oath to do my duty, and I will do it. God knows that I wish not to mount any pinnacle of greatness at the cost of an immortal soul. When the vote was announced as to the Guilford dispensary you all cheered, but while I now raise the white flag of Mecklenburg with its enrollment of 3,000 names, you are silent. Why? It represents three-fourths of the business interests, and three-fourths of the intelligence, three-fourths of the white people, and nine-tenths of the morality of Mecklenburg, and I appeal to you by all that is noble and just to vote aye."

Thus the interests of over 3,000 white men of a noble county were sacrificed on two altars—that of a pledge to the saloon and that of "Senatorial courtesy." We had been for years hearing of the whiskey power and Senatorial courtesy, but we did not dream that the time would ever come in the history of North Carolina when the sacred interests of over 3,000 white men would be sacrificed on these unworthy altars. If in these years of grace the whiskey power can exact of any State party the promise that the saloon will not be interfered with, it is time for the people to know it and to go to their knees in sack cloth and ashes. If the saloon aided by the honorable body to which American freemen look for succor can thus run roughshod over the sacred interests and principles of the people of a county, what encouragement have we for the future except that which comes from the interposition of Divine Providence.

May God grant that the Old North State may never again see such a scene as was presented on last Friday night in Raleigh. We write not as a member of any religious denomination, not as a member of any political party, but as a simple Christian citizen, who desires the supremacy of justice, morality, and religion.

Faure was a self-made man and added to his executive ability many noble qualities of heart.

## LET US RALLY TO THIS STANDARD.

We call attention to Bro. R. B. John's article in another column. He is exhorting the brethren to make the coming Epworth League at Newbern an occasion of pleasure and profit. We trust that his words will be heeded.

He states a very solemn truth when he says that the North Carolina Conference is woefully behind in this great enterprise of the church. We have never been able to hold a successful Epworth League Conference. Our Conference stands almost at the foot of the roll as respects number of leagues. Many of our brethren are sick and disheartened, while not a few are altogether recalcitrant.

Why have we such a state of things? It is not difficult to diagnose the case. But we must probe deep. One thing in the way is the utter indifference, if not hostility, of some of our preachers to the Epworth League. They say it is useless machinery; that it is not practical; that its work can be done in the Sunday-school. We are glad to say, however, that there are but few of this kind.

Another thing in the way is the lack of stimulus and inspiration coming from contact with our connexional representatives of the Epworth League. Why is it that so few of the connexional brethren visit our Conference? We have never had with us, as far as we are aware, our Secretary of the Epworth League. We have been needing him all these years among us. We needed him at Morehead City last year and at Goldsboro the year before. We are glad that our new Secretary, R. D. DuBose, is expected to be with us at Newbern. We are glad that other eminent League workers will be there.

It is folly at this late date to engage in a lengthy argument to prove that the Epworth League is a good thing. The wisdom of the church expressed through the General Conference is behind it. Its fruit has been seen and eaten all over Southern and Northern Methodism. It is a well of inspiration and salvation to the young. It has its place, and God will keep it there.

What we want at Newbern is a Conference that will send a great wave of Epworth League enthusiasm all over our Conference, from the Alamance line to Kitty Hawk. We want to hear ringing out from Newbern a call that will marshal every worker for God into the Epworth League ranks.

In order to have such an occasion at Newbern we must have present the preachers and delegates. You say you cannot go. Of course you cannot go unless you make a sacrifice. We will never have our Epworth League work to prosper in our Conference until we are ready to make sacrifices for it. A lack of this readiness is the thing from which we are suffering to-day.

Begin right now to make preparations to attend. Pray for the success of the Conference. Speak a good word for it whenever possible. Stir up the young people. Let us meet together in the name of Christ, and the Conference of 1899 at Newbern will be a glorious success.

## HOW THE PREACHERS CAN HELP US.

It is a fact which we wish to be duly emphasized that the success or failure of the Raleigh Christian Advocate is largely in the hands of the preachers of the Conference. The Advocate is the child of the Conference. The editor receives his commission from the Conference. The interest of the Advocate is the interest of the preachers, the Conference, the church. When the Advocate suffers, the church suffers; when the Advocate rejoices, the church rejoices. The interests of the Advocate are bundled up with the interests of the Sunday school, the missionary society, the church school. As we said last week, these facts bring to us a sense of relief. We have so many earnest and prayerful co-workers in the preachers of the Conference.

We take it for granted that one of the prime questions now being asked by every preacher of the North Carolina Conference is: "How can I help the Advocate?" Well; we will tell you.

You can help the Advocate by praying for it both privately and publicly; by lodging in your prayer meeting talks and sermons some brief exhortation on the duty of taking the church paper; by talking Advocate in the homes, on the street corner, and wherever you go; by carrying with you sample copies, and

showing to all you meet who are not subscribers. Do not lay the flattering unction to your soul that when the editor or business manager visits you, you will effect a canvass of your work. If all should act upon this thought our organ would die with the foliage of autumn—if not before. You are the authorized agent of the Advocate. Your charge is your territory, and your time is from Conference to Conference.

You can help the Advocate by sending us news. A postal card may hold it. Send us the postal card. Our church is connexional. One part is interested in every other part. The public is as much interested in news from Smoky Hollow Mission as from Fine Church Station. Send us contributions. You have had some thought burning in your mind for some time. Take it out. Store its illuminative energy in manuscript and let it blaze out in the Advocate. Do not make the mistake of supposing that the potentiality of thought is measured by breadth and length of manuscript. Generally it is the reverse. We have not the room, and the people have not the love, for long articles. But write, write, write. Do not be afraid of criticism. Write, and we will not afflict you with stale clippings and spring poetry.

We want several thousand new subscribers this year. Help us, and we will have them. At another time, we will try to tell the laymen how they can help us. Without their help we cannot succeed.

## THE PITY OF IT.

The thought of God's unutilized and unaccepted blessings is a painful one. The source of these blessings, the price paid for them, the love accompanying them, the evil destiny without them are elements whose apprehension and appreciation must always augment the pain of the thought.

The "unspeakable gift" is priceless. It has no limitation. But only those who accept Christ receive it. Because Christ Himself is the "unspeakable gift." There is unspeakable pathos in that expression of Christ: "Many are called, but few are chosen."

We look at the tree loaded with young fruit. The storm comes and the ground is covered with the fruit that only a little while before swung joyfully on the trembling boughs. We can smile because we know that the fruit that remains will be only the larger and sweeter. Many of God's blessings fall to the ground, so to speak. Men and women will not use them nor even accept them. There is no compensation as in the case of the tree. Without these blessings men go into eternal death.

It is sad to see men in their fight with poverty working from fifteen to eighteen hours a day in order to keep away the wolf of hunger from wife and children. It is sad to see poor women stitching their life's blood away for a mere pittance to furnish bread for the starving children. It is heart-rending to see girls selling the priceless jewels of their virtue in order to obtain the necessities of life. But it is a sight to make angels weep to see thousands of men and women starving for the bread of life and perishing for the water of life, going out into the eternal darkness, when the bread is at their very feet and the water is flowing in life giving streams all around them.

It is good spiritual exercise for us all, to sit down at the close of each day, and see if God has sent us any blessing which we have not gratefully accepted and utilized. We must give an account of these ignored or neglected gifts. Both Christians and sinners need to ponder the beautiful and earnest invitation: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters."

## LOOKING THROUGH THE BARS.

Our good friend, Dr. Palmore, seems to be doing some "bushwhacking" just now. He has a good paper in the St. Louis Christian Advocate, and he wants to sow down our Conference with it even if he does have to grant a big discount in order to bring it into business competition with the Conference organs.

"They say," that Dr. Palmore was able to enter certain European territory on confessing a bucolic vocation (or avocation, which?)

But from the way the Texas Christian Advocate and other papers have been erecting barricades, we would judge that the would-be intruder from the Mississippi Emporium will not be able to effect an entrance.

We have no fears in our Conference. Our people, while acknowledging the merits of the St. Louis, are willing to pay their money and work for the "Old Raleigh" which we believe they think is "good enough" for them.

We charge Dr. Palmore nothing for this "ad" on the editorial page. He has our sympathies in his extremity.

## WEEKLY REVIEW.

The present Legislature is evidently trying to impress the people with the fact that economy is not a lost art. The Senate a few days ago spent quite a while in discussing the question as to whether the pages should receive a few dollars extra for their work. The general reduction of salaries, however, is the most radical expression of the economical mind of the General Assembly. It is proposed to reduce salaries—from that of the Secretary of State down. As a simple citizen we think that the Legislature is going too far. Other States are laughing at the salaries paid our State officials and claim that the offices in such salaries can be filled only by weaklings. Economy is one thing and stinginess is another. Such economy as is proposed by the present Legislature will prove very expensive in the long run.

In a few days the present Congress will come to an end. It will have proven a memorable one—the most memorable since the days of the civil war and Reconstruction. It seems hard for Congress to accomplish the much needed legislation looked. The army bill is an important one. The Nicaragua Canal commends itself to every one as a very important enterprise, yet legislation in this direction seems unaccountably blocked. The McNary resolution has passed. This means that the Senate is opposed to the permanent occupation by our Government of the Philippine Islands. It makes no difference what the legislation on this subject is, God intends that the Philippines shall rest as a sacred responsibility on this Government.

The Joint High Commission of the U. S. and Canada is now in session at Washington. It proposes to adjudicate all vexed questions between the two countries. It is probable that a permanent International Tribunal will be established to settle all disputes concerning commerce and transportation. If this should be the case, a great step will have been made in the direction of unusual peace, the dream of the Czar. But it will be only a step. It is easy to talk about the nations meeting and establishing a national modus vivendi. But the execution of the plans is another and almost impossible thing. The Prince of Peace must be the chief factor in all measures looking to the harmony of the nations.

Miss Helen Gould proved herself a golden-hearted woman during the late war with Spain. She is deserving of praise. Reared in the lap of luxury, she counted all wealth and preferment as naught in the presence of the needs of suffering humanity. She deserves the gold medal, voted her by Congress. But Congress ought to go slowly in this matter. There are others who were as patriotic and self-sacrificing as Miss Gould. Their names have not been heralded over the country. They will die in comparative obscurity. Do not these need medals? Let Congress take care lest it be guilty of obsequious partiality.

A measure is on foot in the Legislature to make each Dispensary in the State pay a franchise tax as follows:

1. Each dispensary for a town of less than 100 people \$50. 2. Each for a township in any county \$200. 3. Each for town of over 1,000, \$200. 4. Each for a town of over 3,000 \$300. 5. Each for a town over 6,000 and for each dispensary for a county \$500.

If this should be done dispensaries would have to bear a burden which the saloons did not carry, and it will be seen that verily the grip of the saloon is on the neck of Old North State.

Francis Felix Faure, Sixth President of the Third French Republic was born in Paris in 1841. His father was a cabinet maker. The son soon became a successful merchant, manufacturer, ship-owner and Deputy Mayor. In the Franco-German war, he received the ribbon of the Legion of Honor.