

The Christian Sun.

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Rev. M. L. HURLEY, Traveling Agent.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1899.

CALENDAR.

Va. Valley—New Hope, Thursday, August 31, 1899.  
Ga. and Ala.—Pleasant Grove, Thursday, Oct. 19, 1899.  
E. Va.—Waverly, Tuesday, Oct. 31, 1899.  
E. N. C.—Wentworth, Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1899.  
W. N. C.—Liberty, Tuesday, Nov. 14, 1899.  
N. C. and Va.—Bethel, Tuesday, Nov. 21, 1899.

A JOYOUS TIME FOR CHRISTIANS.

It is the blessed privilege of a Christian to be joyous and happy in nearly all the experiences in life. Even in time of sorrow and disappointment there comes to him a feeling of resignation and contentment that the world knows not of. He has the precious promise of the Saviour that, "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord;" and, relying upon this promise, the smile of hope beams through his tears, and the thrill of joy in the realization of such a Comforter softens the pangs of sorrow and bereavement.

But in our Christian experiences there come seasons when special "showers of blessings" fall around us and upon us, and we are brighter and happier and more joyous than at other times. And with each one of us the source of these fuller, richer joys is not far to seek. We realize that we have spoken words of comfort to some sorrowing one, we have given the cup of cold water to the thirsty, we have fed the hungry, clothed the naked, visited the sick and imprisoned, ministered unto the stranger within our gates, or have performed some other good deed that has brought with it the promised reward, these "showers of blessings." We have been more actively at work in His name, and our "pay" is better.

Those who have been reading the "Field Notes" in THE SUN have observed that the past few weeks have marked one of these special seasons of refreshing in a number of our churches throughout the South. And while the "showers" have fallen more copiously upon those pastors and lay workers who have been personally engaged in these revival meetings, all of us who love the cause of Christ and are interested in the salvation of souls have experienced a spiritual refreshing in our rejoicing over the work which the Lord has done through the instrumentality of our brethren and sisters who have been right in the midst of the "showers."

Even up to the present time, scores of men and women, boys and girls, have accepted Christ, and a very large per cent. of them have united themselves with the Christian church. And still the good work goes on. A number of meetings have not been reported through THE SUN and others are in progress now with indications of the presence of the Lord in His fullness and power.

We may be mistaken, but it seems to us that we are now in the midst of one of the most fruitful revival seasons that the Christian church has ever experienced—within our recollection, at least. And it is reasonable that it should be; for our people are becoming more and more interested in the enterprises of the church which are the channels in which our efforts become united and through which they are directed into fields of usefulness in the Master's service. And we believe also that our people are getting upon a higher plane of Christian living. They seem to be more and more clearly realizing the responsibilities that rest upon them as individual Christians, and are striving to know more of Christ and to be more like him. We are led to make these statements, not from any spirit of boasting—the glory belongs to God; but from a desire to encourage our people to even greater efforts in working the work of Him who is even now so abundantly blessing us. There are, of course, many local churches that do not show these signs of a new and higher realization of their mission; but we believe that we read aright the general indications in the Christian church, when we think we find there a higher type of Christianity and a brighter promise of future growth and usefulness than at any period of our past history.

Let us thank God for the precious revivals of religion in so many of our churches and for the rich harvest of souls for His kingdom; and let us hope and work and pray that we may have these "showers of blessings" all the year round, and that they may become even more copious as the years go by.

INTERESTING NOTES.

—Rev. J. P. Barrett, D. D., returned to Norfolk Monday.

—Prof. N. F. Braunock goes to Haw River, Monday, where he will teach.

—Rev. I. W. Johnson is in a protracted meeting at Oakland, Va., this week.

—Bro. J. D. Gunter of Sanford, N. C., gave us a pleasant call one day last week.

—Mrs. Connelly and Mrs. Spence have returned with their families, from their summer outings.

—Prof. W. M. Brown will teach in Graham this year. He went down Monday to begin his duties.

—Rev. M. L. Hurley will preach at Johnson's Grove, Va., next Sunday. He leaves here today for Virginia.

—The mails have again miscarried the editor's "Notes." Up to this, the time for going to press, they have not reached us.

—Antioch, Isle of Wight Co., Va., will hereafter have preaching twice a month—second and fourth Sundays—so we are informed.

—Miss Fannie Sanford, of Virginia, Va., is visiting her sister, Mrs. M. L. Hurley of this place. She expects to make her home here.

—A school house is to be erected on the lot adjoining the Christian church parsonage on Church street, in Burlington, and school will be opened at an early date.

—The Norfolk & Carolina railroad will run a special car through from Norfolk to Elon College next Wednesday for the accommodation of Elon students and friends.

—Miss Anna Long, of Mebane, an accomplished teacher of experience, will have charge of the Primary School at Elon this year. She will open school the 11th, we believe.

—Rev. B. F. Black left Monday for a ten days' visit with his mother in the Virginia Valley. He will, while away, visit Luray Cave, Natural Bridge and the Smithsonian Institute, in the interest of Elon College museum.

—Rev. P. T. Klapp left Monday for Virginia to help Rev. J. W. Harrell in a series of meetings at Bethany. He and Rev. J. R. Jones of the Friends church closed a very gracious meeting at Bethlehem, N. C., Friday, in which there were over fifty conversions.

Notice.

Church Street School, Burlington, N. C., is in need of a high grade teacher of experience. The directors have instructed me to receive applications for the place. Applicants will address me at Burlington, N. C. P. H. FLEMING.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Pennsylvania Letter.

Teachers in Christian institutions ought to be decidedly on the side of the Bible. I recently met a student from a theological seminary who said: "When I went to the seminary I was decidedly a Christian, but my teachers have so mixed me up that I have gained no good by going. Dr. M. comes along and teaches me that there is no such thing as a personal devil. Dr. H. comes along and teaches me that there is a personal devil. Then Dr. T. comes along and teaches me that much of the Bible is to be rejected—he is of the 'higher critics.'" Well the student might be confused, and for one I hesitate not to say we need no such reckless work in any of our schools, either theological or otherwise. It is time that all such difficulties in our school work were removed, by the boards of trustees, if necessary. We need to watch with great care what is taught in our centers of learning. Let our young people be once taught the doctrines of the "higher critics," and they will go out and sow the seed in the leading families of our churches. This one of the devil's most effective methods of work for the pulling down of the work of the church of Christ. Let us be careful, very careful of what is taught in our schools—vigilance is the price of safety, and we must pay the price in advance, or we shall lose.

I have spent a portion of my vacation in reading a new book, it is called "The Real Christian," by Rev. S. P. Jacobs of Bedford, Mich. I had the book in hand for some days but laid it aside to be read at this time. Its reading has been a real pleasure to me, and more, a real profit to me, as I believe it will be to all who prayerfully and carefully read it. The author writes well and gives abundant evidence of wide reading. He holds that the real Christian is the divine ideal of man, and that is man at his best. His discussion is comprehensive and fearless. He recognizes the successive stages of Christian experience, such as conviction, justification, regeneration, and sanctification. He is true to the Wesleyan view of sanctification. He deals with Acts 15:8, 9, in a new way. Some have tried to show that heart purity was unknown before Pentecost by quoting that passage, but Bro. Jacobs rather proves by it that heart purity was given before that event. He also discusses with force a much neglected theme in Christian experience, "Christian Glory." He founds his arguments on John 17:22. To many professing Christians this experience has the thought of impossibility in it, but it is scriptural, and should be sought as truly as any other gift of the Holy Spirit. He analyzes it as follows: I. It is a present gift. II. It is the special object of inspired prayer. See Eph. 1:15-21. Eph. 4:14-21. Also 2 Cor. 3:18. III. It is a present experience. 1 Thess. 2:12; Matt. 4:17; 2 Thes. 2:13, 14; 1 Tim. 1:11. IV. It is a prominent phase and factor in advanced Christian living. Col. 1:10, 11, 26, 27; 2:9, 10; Eph. 3:16-19; Col. 2:3. V. Modern examples. John Wesley, John Fletcher, Mrs. Edwards, William Bramwell, William Carvassa, Chas. G. Finney, Rev. Asa Mahan. These all bore testimony to the reality of the experience which Jesus declared in John 17:22, as of course many others have done. Most Christians do not believe in Heb. 6:1, the "go on" idea, and therefore they never reach by experimental knowledge the gift promised by Jesus in John 17:22. Beloved people, let us open our eyes and go to the spiritual heights which are above and beyond our present experiences in the divine life. And as we go, let us remember that the promise given in Joshua 1:3, is equally ours—we have but to step upon God's promises to us in faith to find in fact that He has given them to us. I regard Bro. Jacobs' book a most valuable one, and I commend it most heartily to all reading and thinking Christians. It is well printed and bound in cloth, 326pp.—price \$1. It may be ordered from Rev. S. P. Jacobs, Bedford, Mich. I wish it might be found in the home of every Christian, and more, carefully and prayerfully read by every one in the home—under the Spirit's power the results would be blessed and lasting.

Yesterday the Southern Pennsylvania Christian conference met with the church at Mt. Union, Bedford county, Pa., in its 16th session. Rev. Joseph Barney, for years the most active of the ministers of this conference, was elected president for the fourth time. He has long been an untiring worker. He is now showing the signs of age and overwork. He is nearing his seventieth mile post, and is in fact feeble. It is hard for him to realize that he can no longer do the hard work of other years, but his friends see that he must begin to relieve himself of the harder portions of the work. Bro. H. P. Williams, who has been secretary of this conference for many years died last spring. His assistant, Bro. Ira Mellett, was chosen his successor. He is a young man of promise, a layman, who takes hold of the work as if he were a preacher in fact.

Visiting brethren were invited and welcomed to seats as deliberative members, as follows: Rev. I. G. Bishop, Mission Secretary, Dayton, O.; Rev. E. T. Iseley, Leaksville, Va.; Rev. A. R. Garland, of the Rays' Hill (Pa.) Christian conference; Rev. Ezra N. Turner, Canada, and the writer from Norfolk, Va. So far chiefly routine work has claimed attention, but the outlook is for a good meeting. This field is made up very largely of rural churches, and a great deal of work is needed. There will likely be more said for missions in this meeting than on any previous similar occasion, as this is Bro. Bishop's first visit here. In my next letter I will give some further particulars of the work done, the Lord willing.

Yesterday Mrs. Barrett and little Ethel left us for Virginia, being called home by the illness of her mother, Mrs. E. A. Eyerett of Nansemond county. Mrs. E. is not only very feeble, but not far from 80 years old. May abounding grace be given her for her day of weakness and suffering. I hope to be home on first Sunday in September.

J. PRESSLEY BARRETT.  
Aug. 18, 1899.

Christian Conference.

The Virginia Central Christian Conference, convened at East Liberty, Page county, Thursday morning, August 10, 1899.

After religious exercises, the roll was called. All the churches were not represented by delegates in the beginning of the session, most of them were before the close of Friday morning session.

Churches when electing delegates should be careful and elect those who will go the first day and stay until the session closes. The ministers were all present except one.

Revs. J. G. Bishop, Missionary Secretary, of Dayton, Ohio, and W. T. Herndon, Missionary, of the C. M. A., were invited to seats as deliberative members.

We were very glad to have Bro. Bishop with us. It would be very helpful if he could visit all of the conferences.

Part of the morning was taken up in reading the minutes of last session—some of us think this practice of long ago unnecessary as we have our minutes read and corrected during the sitting of conference and then printed in pamphlet form and sold or given away, so no one need be ignorant of our proceedings.

After noon the report on temperance was read, and after an interesting discussion, was adopted.

Rev. J. G. Bishop was given time to present the Christian Missionary. We are glad to say there are 75 or 100 subscribers in the Central and Valley conferences, yet there ought to be three or four hundred.

At night Bro. Bishop gave us a very interesting and helpful sermon.

Friday—After the opening of conference by religious exercises, calling of the roll and enrolling of delegates, the following visiting brethren were invited to seats as deliberative members: Prof. E. L. Moffitt, editor of THE CHRISTIAN SUN, J. J. Lincoln, principal of Shenandoah Graded School, Rev. J. J. Key, of the M. E. church, Bro. J. S. Kagey, M. L. Bryant, D. C. Gollady, of the Virginia Valley conference.

The report on Foreign Missions was read and discussed. Rev. J. G. Bishop gave us a very interesting talk, also Rev. W. T. Herndon. It is very sad that our Conference, of 18 churches, is doing so little to help send the gospel to the

heathen—only a few of our churches are doing anything. Where does the fault lay? Some may say with the ministers. I think both we, the ministers, and the laity are in fault; if the churches do not do their duty in this great and noble cause they will have to answer to God for it, for there is enough in the Bible to teach them their duty. I do not believe the Lord will excuse the minister who fails to give and teach his people to give to help bring the world to Christ. To preach missions and fail to take the collections is of little or no value.

Prof. E. L. Moffitt was allowed time to present THE CHRISTIAN SUN, and the Christian Missionary Alliance of which he is secretary.

Saturday the report on Home Missions was discussed. To my mind is one of the vital subjects of our conference. Shall we go forward or backward? As we all live by our labor, tell me how a minister can go out and preach, organize and build up churches except the laity support them and how will this be done without a Home Mission fund in the conference? I confess I do not know; but with a well organized mission department all of our ministers might soon have full work and all of our churches supplied with preaching and new churches coming in each year.

It is easy and pleasant when all the ministers lend a helping hand. I long to see a church where all her members will give and work for missions.

Sunday a large congregation assembled for preaching. At 10 a. m. Rev. J. W. Dofflemeyer preached a strong and interesting sermon on Foreign Missions. At 11 a. m. Rev. J. G. Bishop followed with an able and interesting discourse, giving the condition and needs of the heathen.

In the afternoon the writer preached and took up a collection to help defray Bro. Bishop's traveling expenses. Bro. Bishop came with us to Leaksville and preached for us that night.

E. T. ISELEY.

Field Notes.

Beginning with the fourth Sunday in July I have been five weeks in protracted meetings.

I assisted Bro. L. I. Cox at Belevs Creek three days. The weather was rainy and kept some of the people from church, but we had an interesting meeting up to the time I left. This church has grown steadily since its organization and seems to be in good condition now.

Our meeting at Lebanon, held in connection with the Sunday School convention, did not result in a large ingathering of members but was a good meeting, and the church was much encouraged. In the spring I urged the building of a recess in the rear of the pulpit and the work was completed in time for the convention. A neat, convenient and comfortable addition to our church is thus made. I am much pleased with it. A beautiful pulpit set of furniture, costing about twenty dollars, was placed in position by the liberality of Bro. J. A. Foster. He kept his purpose all to himself, and completely surprised us. I feel much encouraged with this church and believe the future promises much to this people.

Revs. J. W. Wellons, Rufus King and Herbert Scholz did the preaching during our meeting.

At Hines Chapel I was assisted by Revs. P. T. Klapp and Rufus King. Here we had a good meeting with four accessions to the church.

The 13th of August I commenced a meeting at Union, Halifax county, Va., which lasted until Thursday evening following. Rev. J. W. Patton was with me, as I had assisted him at Hebron from the third Sunday in July. Our meeting at Union did not develop into a widespread revival. There were several things that may have hindered the work. The church is contemplating moving from the old site to a point near Virgilina. Since the location of the A. & D. Railroad and the town the necessity of moving has become imperative. A more accessible point must be occupied. With this I think there is hope for Old Union yet.

J. W. HOLZ.

The protracted meeting at Amelia commenced on the second Sunday in August. The rain interfered some, but the meeting was good. There were ten or more converts, two united with the church, with more, I think, to follow. Bro. L. F. Johnson did most of the preach-

ing, and the Lord greatly blessed his efforts. Bro. Johnson is a good revivalist.

The neighbors were so interested in the church that a number of them went to work and laid the floor in the new church, thus the spiritual house and the material house were being built at the same time. The prospects are now that in a few years Amelia will be a church of power for good.

W. G. CLEMENTS.

Alabama Letter.

I returned yesterday from La Grange where I organized a Christian church for Bro. James Young with twenty charter members.

Bro. Dollar deadened the timber while he was on the home mission work, I helped him to burn it off, Bro. Young broke up the land, and now I have planted it and turned it over to Bro. Young for cultivation.

LaGrange is one of the prettiest cities of Georgia on the West Point & Atlanta road, with a population of 5000. It has always been noted for its beauty and push.

Mr. Sam P. Smith, a very wealthy man, has, though he is not a church member, built a neat little chapel and turned it over to Sunday school workers to occupy as long as they would keep up a Sunday school. He also invited all denominations to use the house for preaching.

He kindly invited our little organization to occupy the house free of rent just as long as they wished to worship there, and when they wished to build a larger house he said he would give them a lot adjoining it. It is about 300 yards from the depot and half a mile from any other church, in a cluster of the nicest people of the town.

I want the Christians to pray for Mr. Smith, for his prosperity and salvation. Mrs. Smith is one of the nicest ladies I ever met. They have no children except an adopted child of 11 years as sweet as the morning rose.

The church elected as deacons, Bros. Crowder and Moony. I failed to get the name of the clerk, Bro. Kent as sexton and Bro. J. B. Young, pastor.

Second Sundays will be their preaching days. The church has a bright future, I think.

I go to New Hope Academy tomorrow to institute another church. This makes six weeks that I have been in protracted meetings with but six days' rest.

Yours in Christ.  
J. D. ELDER.

Earnest Words to Elon's Y. M. C. A.

My dear fellow workers, I should like to impress this fact as the very first important feature of our work: that our efforts must be accompanied by the most careful and strict organization. The very significance of the work itself suggests this to me; but other reasons arise which are suggested by the five words, Definiteness, Comprehensiveness, Continuity, Power, Speed.

Definiteness—In this effort as elsewhere we must probe for the specific points in question, study carefully and exactly what you want to do, then go about it.

Comprehensiveness—The entire field must of necessity be amply covered, every man should have an opportunity to take part in the work provided he is willing to make the required sacrifices to the Association.

Continuity—In order that the impressions made by the Association upon the men may be lasting, endeavor to show the same interest in the men throughout the year that is shown during the opening days. A strict observance of this will be of inestimable value to the Association and may be the cause of many a young man's spiritual awakening.

Power—At this critically important time the whole energy of the Association should be centered upon the effort to reach the new men, and this can be effected only by well organized work.

Speed—If ever in the life of the Association hasty work is required, it is now at the beginning of the fall term, when strenuous efforts are being put forth to lead the new men into the fold of Christ. Delay means lost opportunities and possibly lost souls.

The need of more men who are as energetic and as thoroughly alive to active Christian work as in the preparation of a debate or the writing of a prize essay, is very plainly seen in college life today. Such methods of ap-

plication are needed in order to shed Christian influences around the large number of new students entering each year; for how vastly important it is that this class of students especially, be offered the privilege of choosing at once the right course and be directed on the very threshold of their college career into right purposes.

I appeal to the members of our Association to enter into covenant to pray for the important work which confronts us just now with all its complications. We must not lose sight of the fact, that those associations which have been blessed most have been those whose members have remained incessantly in secret prayer with God. It is this holy communion which brings us back after vacation is over with an irresistible spiritual momentum.

We have dwelt to some extent upon organization, and much more could be said; but plans no matter how well formulated, if there is a deficiency which comes through the need of more prayer, more consecration, will be of no avail. Our trail human agencies will surely fail unless backed by divine force.

D. B. MARKS.

Thanks.

Thanks are returned to Dr. G. S. Watson, of Union Ridge, N. C., for about 80 volumes for the College Library. These books are from the library of the late Dr. J. W. McCauley, and in accordance with his request are placed in the Elon College library. Dr. McCauley was a man greatly beloved by almost all who knew him, and this generous act of his, as well as thousands of others during his life, is worthy of being imitated.

Thanks are due also to Mr. Burt Thomas, of Jonesboro, N. C., for a nice librarian's table for the reading room. The table is made entirely of oak and is nicely ornamented. Mr. Thomas is a last year's student, and this handsome present bespeaks his interest in the college.

W. P. LAWRENCE, Curator.

We had not been in Asheboro one week until a crowd, composed of men, women and children, came to our house at an early hour on Monday night, Aug. 21, and gave us a pounding pure and complete—bringing various and sundry useful articles, ranging from watches to a bedstead with sidetracks for tin, china and glass ware, and a long list of edibles thrown in.

We are not informed as to who was the leader in this pounding, and as all seemed to lead it would be hard for anyone to say; but church lines seemed to be entirely obliterated, as all churches here were represented, and quite a number were present who are not affiliated with any church.

As the smoke of the battle has cleared away sufficiently to enable us to recover from our surprise, we wish to extend our most sincere thanks to these good people of Asheboro, and assure them that our appreciation will not soon fade away.

C. C. PEEL AND WIFE.

DIED.

At the home of her daughter, Mrs. Albert Graham, near Union Ridge, N. C., on August 11th, 1899, Mrs. Permelia Cooper, in her 93d year. The deceased had been a widow for a number of years and had lived with her daughter where she died. She was not affiliated with any church but said she was ready for the change. After burial services by the writer her remains were laid to rest at Union church. To the children, grand children, relatives and friends, we extend sympathy and the consolation of God's Word.

C. C. PEEL.

Bro. Chas. H. Holland of Holy Neck church died at his home near Holland, Va., Aug. 16, 1899, aged 31 years. For three years Bro. Holland had been greatly afflicted with consumption, but was confined to his bed only a few days before his death. He realized his condition and talked till the last, passing away in calm Christian resignation. He never married, but remained in the home a kind, obedient and helpful son. He leaves an afflicted father and mother, three brothers and three sisters. The funeral was conducted from the home by the writer. May the divine consolation be with the bereaved ones.

N. G. NEWMAN.

Renew your subscription.