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1904

Gospel Plea, Volume 9 (1904)

Joel Baer Lehman

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GOSPEL PLEA.

"PREACH THE WORD."

VOL IX. Edwards, Mississippi, Wednesday, April 20th., 1904 No. 15.

Helpful To All.

The story of missions during the past century records some of the greatest triumphs of any age. When we read of some of the miracles of the first century, as for example Peter's rescue from the prison in Jerusalem, we think it almost too wonderful to be true; but the story of many of our missionaries records more wonderful things accomplished by natural means. Forty-six years ago Docter Duncan went as a missionary to the Indains of southern Alaska. When he first landed at Victoria the people tried to persuade him from his mission. They told him that these Indeans were the fiercest in the world and he could not possibly live among them, but he went. He first entered a trader's fort and began to learn the language. On the second day after his arrival he was walking on the gallery of Fort Simpson and saw a slave woman taken to the beach and murdered in cold blood. A few moments later he saw two bands headed by a medicine man approach and tear the victim's body to pieces with their teeth, this being a part of their religious ceremony. For eight months the misionary was learning the language from a trusty Indian who visited the Fort. Soon he spread the word about that a man in the fort was preparing to teach them the word of God and curiosity became so great that they invited him out and his work began. He did not teach long, however, until the chiefs ordered him to close his school and on refusal they came near killing him. But his courage was not daunted and he went on. He soon saw however that not much could be done if his pupils mingled freely with the tribes men and so he decided to take them to an island all to themselves. To-day he has a village of eight hundred living in well built houses with good side walks, a fine church and an excellent school house. It is perhaps the most peaceful, moral and industrious community in the entire United States. It is a christian colony into which no unclean thing has been permitted to come. His village is what Booker T. Washington's Tuskegee would be could he have it on an island to himself. The Doctor afterwards went back to England and learned brick-laying, carpentry ect. and taught his people so that all houses and the fine church were built by Indian labor.

Now there is one lesson from all this. If the mass of the people had the faith of Dr. Duncan all the work we are doing in civilizing the people would be as successful as his. But instead we have in our so- called Christian civililization many who are Christians in name but have none of the faith of old time Christians. Think of it, in forty - six years uncouth cannibals are redeemed so that they are able to build a modern town! But our failure comes from expecting such results of our so-called civilization. Senator Tillman sees the depravity of negro society and he fulminates against them in language most brutal. He does not know that negro depravity is made up of two elements, negro weak character and the vices acquired from the white man. If our society were made up of Dr. Duncans instead of Tillmans the results would be otherwise. John Temple Graves says we must transport them. No indeed, we must not transport them but we must transform them. We must cease the folly of planning to do what is utterly impossible and begin to do what has been our long neglected duty. The negro in America must be made a man worthy of our Christian civilization or our failure will be a reflection on the religion we profess.

We can not expect an answer to the prayers we offer for help, when we are unwilling to do our own part. Effective prayers must have the co-operation of the one who prays, in bringing about the result. If we ask God to help us bear the cross of service or self denial, we must try to lift it ourselves. To ask for help, means to ask for assistance in that which we are already trying to do. To refuse to do our part, is to refuse to be helped. We ask that the Holy Spirit may dwell in us. A reasonable prayer? Yes, but it will be imposible for the Holy Spirit to come in if the heart is already filled with the things that pertain to the world, the flesh and the devil.

THE GOSPEL PLEA

A Weeky Religious News paper

Issued every Wednesday

from the Press of

THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE.

Published in the interests of the cause of Primitive Christianity and the general interests of the Negro Race.

PRICE PER ANNUM, $1.00.

Send all Communications to

THE GOSPEL PLEA,

EDWARDS, MISSISSIPPI.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Edwgrds, Miss.

The years of plenty can be made a great blessing or a great curse. Those who look upon the ready money of to-day as a means to live easy and fast will find when the hard times come again that they have lost their money and their ability to do work and are possessed with desires that cannot be gratified.

—o—

The wise man will invest his extra money in some real estate so that if hard times come again he will be fixed. Those men who took the first opportunity after the war to buy property are now well-to-do. Those who did not do so nearly starved during the hard times from 93 to 96. Many will be as foolish this time and in five or ten years they will be starving too.

—o—

Wherever there is sin there is misery and woe. The tempter often makes a man believe that if he can conceal his sins it will be alright. But it is a lie. Sin concealed brings more misery and woe than sin found out. A thief suffers irreparable danger to himself because of his stolen goods. The only hope for him is to get found out and reform.

—o—

The only thing that can bring pleasure to a man is consciousness of having done a good work well. Riches and honor thrust upon a man can never bring pleasure to him. It is only when with his own hands he has hewed out riches and honor that real pleasure can come. If he has inherited these he must work them over till they are his own,

Personals and News Items.

— There is still a large number who are behind on their subscription and hence owe us. Look at the pink slip. It will tell you for how long you are paid.

— The PLEA has been late for the past three issues. This is due to the fact that we are short in help. The father of the young man who was acting as foreman thought he could not possibly do without him for three months during crop season.

— Sam Flowers of Hermanville has sent in one dollar on his subscription for the PLEA.

— J. E. Anderson has moved to Hamlie, Ky.

— Mrs. Kearse has sent in a three month subscription for Eld. L. M. Waten of Varnsville, S C.

College Items.

A. C. Chichou is here this week aiding the young men to lay up the wall for the new boys' hall. We hope to have the frame up ere school closes. The scarcety of help throughout the country makes it hard for us to get enough work boys. Parents should remember that there is only one time in which to give a boy an education and if the time is permitted to slip by for any reason, it will be a great injustice to the boy,

— Mitchel Hill, one of our last year's students, writes from Jackson "I am working for the Empire Lumber & Manufacturing Co. I work every day except one and that is Sunday. If there is no hindrance, my wife and I will be down there commencement week. I am working for my school. I have the promise of three boys. I know every one is busy at school getting ready for commencement."

The Auxiliary of the S. C. I, meets every second Lord's day in Chapel Hall. The young men take nearly as much interest in the meeing as the girls and regularly pay their dues. They are genuinely sincere about missions.

Parents are already writing about entering their children in school next fall. This is as it should be. They should be greatly in earnest about giving their children an education. Their actions now will determine as to whether their sons shall be useful citizens or men with no character.

A Little Boy's Wish.

When winter comes the people say,
"Oh, shut the door!" and when
As something happens, I forget.
They call me back again.

I takes till summer time to lear;
And then things change about.
And "Leave it open!" is the cry
When going in or out.
I try to be a pleasant boy,
And to do just as I ought.

But when things are so hard to learn.
I wish they might stay taught!
—From Buds of Hope.

ARKANSAS LETTER.

Little Rock Ark.
April 18, 1904.

I am now in the above named city busily engaged in trying to get the scattered members of the church together. A diligent search developed the fact, that we have here about 26 members. A very respectable place has been secured on 14 and Ringo streets which we will use until we can do better. I feel safe in saying that from now on there will always be a Christian Church in Little Rock. I will be here perhaps one week longer.

M. MARTIN Evangelist.

PUNCTUALITY

An address delivered at the district convention at Galloway station.

Mr. Supt., school and friends:

I am indeed glad to be permited to stand before this august audience this most delightful day to speak a few words on punctuality.

This subject is one that needs very close consideration and is an article much needed by each and every one, that does not readily possess it.

If we all had that portion of punctuality which we should have we would very soon find that our Sunday Schools, our churches, our day school, and lastly our country would be better. Careless Sunday School teachers will certainly make the scholars carless. If we fail to find our Sunday School teachers punctual, we will not be successful in finding punctual scholars. So I will say Teachers be punctual to the duty you owe your scholars; and scholars be to the duty you owe your teacher.

Pastor be punctual to the duty you owe to your congregation and likewise congregation be punctual to the duty you owe your pastor. In whatever engage ment we may be engaged in, if we would be successful in it we should surely be punctual. In some way or other we all must strive for a living. Labor is the lot of man and the law of his being. All men have to earn their living by the sweat of the brow, or the toil of the brain and why not be punctual to it. All must labor. The school boy at his books, the carpenter at his bench and the Author in his steady, leads us to know that all must work either with hand or with head, and certainly attain punciality there of. Dear friends I have sesumed that the irksme of all task, is the task of doing nothing. Some may ask are we to be always at work, and never rectoration? I will say no; recreation within due limits is as nessacary to health and happiness as labor most especially to the young ones.

Then I will say to my co labores in the Sunday School let us take more zeal and more courage and say, by the help of God this 1904th. year we will be more punctual to our Sunday School and church duties than we've been before, all for the aduancement of our Farther's kingdom. Now let us with all of our heart, mind and strength do all the good that can posibly be done by being punctual to all church and Sunday School duties.

We must exercise our memory and judgement if we wish these powers to be of use. When we are busy with our task and have a bit of perseverance and punctuality with us until endeed it seems that times passes away so swiftly away all sarrows are forgotton and our feelings are all agreeable. We feel pleased in the very act of work and being punctual in it. It is God's mercy still with us when we have the zeal and punctuality about us to do the task willingly. So let us as Sunday School workers do all the good we can to all the churches in every way we can, just as long as we possibly can.

A Scholar.

NO EXAMINATIONS,
NO NAUSEOUS DRUGS,
NO HOSPITAL.

Less of Heroic Measures and Surgery and more of Common Sense, are being constantly used in the treatment of disease, especially

FEMALE DISEASES.

Invalid women now use MOUNTAIN ROSE, the Great Vegetable Home Treatment, as formulated and prescribed by Dr. Wallace S. Springsteen for Hysteria, Spasms, Pain in the Stomach, Leucorrhœa or Whites, Backache, Headache, Dorsal Neuralgia, and other functional and organic ailments of the female sexual system.

Send for Symptom Sheet and Treatise, free

SPRINGSTEEN MEDICINE CO.,
Central Ave., Cleveland O.

Home Treatment, Rapid Relief, Sure Cure,
BY USING
MOUNTAIN ROSE.

Reports from the Field.

SOUTH CAROLINA LETTER.

Sycamore, S. C.
Apr. 8--1904.

Dear Editor:

Please allow space in your most worthy paper for the following. To every church and Sunday School I wish to say that the district quarterly meeting will convene at Fairfax, S. C., May 28, 29, and let every church and school make good report, let us show to the world that we are trying to do for Christ and the church. How can we show them what we are? First by attending and with good church and school and, secondly, by our liberal gifts for the cause which we are trying to represent. It is our desire some day to make that town a plant bed for the Christian Church of South Carolina. So let us come praying and our minds well composed and our hearts energetic to do a great work in Christ's name. For the cause let all the near churches join in by attending each day and night. We must consider that we have any Christian Church in that time but have hope for the future and therefore we must hold up our light that others may see our good work and be constrained to follow. Let us fear no evil; for God and Christ are our refuge and strength, in him do we trust and for this cause let us give up our lives and go as brave soldiers to a mighty battle.

Every church and Sunday School are earnestly asked to come and bring their report. Also, every preacher is earnestly asked to come and ask his members to come and bring with them their friends, and what will hinder us from being successful. We are expecting some of our best ladies and gentlemen, who we are sure have something that will be interesting to tell and I am sure will be of great interest to you. Some will speak on religion and its need, and some on finance and its need, and some education and its need, and other interesting subjects and you will hear how each church and Sunday School is progressing spiritually and financially.

Again I wish to say that so far as religious training, we have some that are well trained. What we need more is better financial training. Then we can move along more nicely. A wheel can not run well without some grease. So it is with this gospel wheel. If you want it to keep rolling you must keep your nickles, dimes and dollars rolling. If you give sparingly, you will reap sparingly says the Bible. We have several who have pledged this year not less than $5.00. Some have already given. Some gave a portion and some have not given any thing but we hope will in this about coming meeting. The Lord loveth a cheerful giver. Now friend keep in view these facts and fail not in meeting on the 28 and 29 of May at Fairfax S. C. at the appointed hour.

Yours for the cause.
Mrs. J. C. COUNTS.

TEXAS LETTER.

What Constitutes Good Order?

The subject which I am to discuss, is based upon two fundamental principles: the one being the knowing how to and the other the applying of this knowledge derived. The first or rather the one general topic under which is classed all other necessary rudiments leading to it would be that of School Government. Every great or grand river has a rivulet. Some of the chief aims that are necessary in the constitution of good order may be mentioned as follows:— the attractiveness or ornamentation of the schoolroom, the encouraging of pupils, the pleasant, cheerful and polite disposition of the teacher and the preserving of eternal vigilance. The last one mentioned implies a wide awake teacher. Another great aim that should be devised in constituting order is that of requiring and seeing to it that pupils are kept busy. Idlers find more opportunities to be disorderly. Busy children rarely have time to devote to mischief. The secret of success in managing small as well as larger children lies in giving them plenty to do. Again the teacher should show his pupils that he has confidence in them. He should never for a moment show that he suspects them of any inclination to do wrong. He will rarely find his confidence misplaced. For it is a rare thing that a child will betray the trust confided to him. Thus we see that the constitution of good order de-

pends largely upon the teacher. He then has a duty to perform which no one else can fulfill. We, therefore, in order to reap sucess, should add greatly to our list of school duties. Then let each of us strive to secure a superb place of intelligence in our methods of teaching. And by noticing each day on and on we are enabled to make ample improvements in them. We will thus attain, as our reward, a mark of greatness and as Longfellow says "Our to-days and yesterdays are the blocks will which we build."

Mrs. L. A. Hurdle.

PREACH AND PREACHER.

Preacher means one that discourses on religious subjects. Then if they are to teach men to live religiously they must live so themselves, because the Word says, "Why teach thy brother to not steal and thou steal". The great trouble with some preachers of to day is they don't practice what they teach. Some of us preach one thing and practice another, just giving sinners stones to throw at us. Some preachers make times hard for others by the way they conduct themselves. They go into the pulpit and preach morality in its highest degree and come out and sneek off home with some immoral woman. Such men can never advance the kingdom of Christ. Preachers should be complete gentlemen, walk right, and talk right, and act right, for we are instruments in God's hands to bring the world to Christ. Paul said, "Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the Devil" I Tim. 3: 7. If some preachers have a good report within, they don't call a good report what I call such, I don't mean to speak of others to clear myself. If I am in that class the people will know it anyway. The guilty must be chastised. The idea is, he that allows himself to be a worm has no right to complain. A preacher indeed holds the highest office on earth and his office does not confer any honor upon him; for an office confers no honor upon the man that is worthy of it. But it disgraces everyone that is not worthy of it. If you are a preacher be one indeed. Be careful how you walk before men. We can't fool the people here on earth and we never have fooled the God of Heaven.

W. H. Isom.

Taylor, Texas,
April 12, 1904.

Dear Editor of the PLEA: please allow space in your Christian paper for a few words concerning the work in Texas. Our board meeting at Waco was a success. Report from the Field in the past two months was as follows: sermons preached thirty; additions ten; collections by Evangelist from the field to date Eighty-one dollars; miles traveled by evangelist 819; and at present I am holding a meeting for Elder I. White and we are having a good attendance each night. We are expecting a grand result from this meeting. The Lord has blessed our work with three additions in the past eight days, one from the Baptist, one from the Methodist and one made the good confession. Points visited by the Evangelist, Shermant, Denison, Greenville, Boyse City, Dallas and Van Alstyne. I am very glad to state to the brother hood that I find all of the points named in very good working order. I am also very thankful to the Lord that Rev. Wm. Alphine has put things in order at Waco. I preached for them last Sunday at 11 a.m. and we ordained three deacons for Clay St. Christian Church. I preached at night to a nice audience. Collection for the day $25.00. May God bless those good people, and I call on every C. W B. M., Sunday School, Y. P. S.C. E and church to please send in your state missionary money to the state treasurer, A. Mitchell, 126 Williams St. Dallas, Texas. For we dont want to owe anything when we meet the state convention in Paris, Texas Aug. 1904.

Yours in Christ.

H. S. GARRON.

MISSISSIPPI LETTER.

Esther Miss, 1904.

Dear Editor.— Please allow space for the reports of the S. S. work of district No. 2.

The meeting was held at Galloway, Miss. April 2, 3.

The house was called to order by Bro. A. G. Sneed. Remarks by Bro. W. A. Scott. Committees were appointed. The schools report as follows:— Bethlehem $2 05; Union Hill $1, 30; Center Church $2 30; Publication $4. 60; total amount of money raised was $10 25. Pledge list for the July convention, amount $14. 40. Sermon by Bro. W. A. Scott.

Every eye should be turned toward the July convention. May God grant that every Sunday School worker may awake to his duty and rally around the flag of Christ.

J. M. Baker.

C. W. B. M. DEPARTMENT.

All C. W. B. M. dues; that is, the ten cents a month paid by each member should be sent to Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Send the money at the close of each quarter.

A Plea For The Children.

We plead for the little children
Who have opened their baby eyes
In the far-off lands of darkness,
Where the shadow of death yet lies;
But not to be nurtured for heaven,
Nor to be taught in the way,
Not to be watched over and guided,
Lest their tiny feet should stray.

Ah, no! It is idol worship
Their stammering lips are taught;
To cruel, false gods only
Are their gifts and offerings brought.
And what can we children offer,
Who dwell in this Christian land?
Is there no work for the Master
In reach of each little hand?

When America was thought of as a refuge for the poor and oppressed, it was being planned better than the forefathers knew, for He who works out all things was planning that this might be a land where righteousness should dwell.

Religious persecutions in England, the prison cell the rock the stake were the conflicts that tossed the forefathers to and fro till the choicest seed were left and from so small, yet so precious a seed behold what God, the Maker of the land hath wrought.

America has passed on from its first stages until now she is called the fairest and greatest in the sisterhood of nations. Not only did God prepare a nation but he prepared a church; for there had to be tossings to and fro and conflicts of spirit. Out of Roman superstition, and out of the traditions of an effete school, came great and precious truths. The land was prepared the souls were waiting; a church wherein the Holy Spirit might rule through the "God-possessed, God-tenanted membersship. This land was free that she might be a lesson in liberty to king and serf, a free world redeemed by Jesus: The land was free that she might be a refuge to all oppressed people. The church is to be free that she may guide the people into the glorious liberiy of the children of God.

As soon as this free land was ready there came an unrest upon human life in the old world. From western and then from eastern Europe they come, they crowd the holds of our ships and at first sight of land they sing in broken English, My country, 'tis of thee". Is it not theirs, did not God prepare and give it that these people might find refuge? Our hope as a nation and as a church is in opening, evangelizing and educating. To hope to shut in all good to ourselves is a delusion of the devil. We are apt to forget those who are in need but Jesus never did, He always remembered the poor and unfortunate.

Think of the negro, when the ship brought him to this country he was brought into slavery 'tis true, but he was also brought among a civilized people where he received a civilization which he never would have sought The result of him being brought over here as a slave is, that to day Africa is working out her own salavation through her sons.

People from the eastern countries have and are still coming to our free America. Last year twenty thousand Japanese came five thousand more than any preceding year. But the government has shut and barred the gates against China, and Japan now is fighting what is to be either her death struggle or a new birth. Out of the civilization of America must be born a new East and the church must do her part. The Chinaman came to us, calmly taking the best we gave him till we rose in our wrath and shut him out. If he is Christianized at all it must be done through the influence of America's civilization. To shut him out is keeping him away from that good which God would have him enjoy. Such an effort will be the death of our civilization. The hope of America is the church and its schools; the hope of the church is missionary zeal and effort. We have no weapon save the sword of the Spirit to fight against ignorance, selfishness and gross materialism. If we look to the Master, He answers as calmly as of old, "Give ye them to eat."

Since America is to be a great mission field, it is high time our churches should leave their struggle after material advantages spend less time and means in getting finer buildings, better furnishing, and spend more time in prayer and Bible study and more means in giving our evangelist. In almost every town on the western coast a mission for Mongolians is possible and a chain of such missions should extend from church to church. The workers should be consecrated, earnest, able men and women of God, and each mission should be visited from time to time by an evangelist-a man of sympathy with an experience among these people. If the church does her part, God will take care of the government. A civilized nation of America can never hope to shut in all good to herself.

CURRENT EVENTS.

658 disputes have arisen out of the recent elections in Cuba.

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The Census Bureau estimates the population of the United States for 1903 at 79,900 389.

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The gunboat Nashville and torpedo boat Lawrence of the U.S. navy are now making their way up the Mississippi to St Louis to be at the opening of the great exposition on May 1st.

A severe earth-quake occurred recently in Macedonia, killing 25 persons, injuring 40 and tearing down 1500 houses, besides doing a great amount of other damages.

Sen. Burton, of Kansas convicted on the charge of receiving a bribe for using his influence at the post-office department in behalf of a grain company was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment and to pay a fine of $2500. He is also disqualified from holding any Federal office.

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While the new U. S. ship "Missouri" was at target practice off Pensacola and after three shots had been fired from a 12 in. gun a charge of powder was ignited by the gas as it was being rammed into the gun. A terrific explosion occurred. Fire dropped down into the amunition room and 1600 pounds more explored. 34 men in the gun crew are dead and the ship badly damaged as the result.

———o———

On April 7th. a treaty was signed between England and France, by which all the points of difference between the two nations in regard to their colonial interests have been settled by purely compromise and without an arbiter.

———o———

Closely following the loss of Admiral Makaroff and his flagship, as announced last week, the Russiaus lost a torpedo boat destroyer, sunk by a Japanese topedo, and a battleship damaged by bstriking a mysterious mine.

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An official report fram Admiral Togo the Japanese commander says that a part of his fleet set the mines on the Russian vessels.

A part of his fleet then lured the Russians 15 miles out of the harbor. As they were returning the mines were encountered

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It appears now that the Democrats will nominate Judge Parker for president. The hope of the Bryan wing of the party is to get control of a third of the delegates and possibly to prevent a nomination or dictate the nominee.

The prohibition party is thinking seriously of nominating Gen. Miles. He would probably poll a large vote

The war between Russia and Japan is progressing slowly. Russia's last disaster, the loss of their ship and admiral, seems to have alarmed the nation. There is every reason to believe that the Czar is sorry he permitted his ministers to embark the nation in the conquest of China. There is some reason to believe that he would be willing to reverse this policy yet and give Manchuria back to China. At the rate matters are going now, Russia will be compelled to take this step ere fall.

England and France have just ratified an arbitration treaty by which all their differences are to be settled. This is very gratifying as it eliminates the greatest danger of a general war.

The mormons seem to have over done their case by sending Reed Swoot to the Senat. In the investigation the leaders have been compelled to reveal some of their inner history that is very damaging to them. Their leaders have confessed to their living in poligamy contrary to the law of their church and contrary to the law of God. This investigation will greatly hinder their evangelistic propagyanda.

BALD HEADS

NO CURE. NO MUSTACHE.
NO PAY. NO PAY.
DANDRUFF CURED.

I will take Contracts to grow hair on the head or face with those who can call at my office or at the office of my agents, provided the head is not glossy, or the pores of the scalp not closed. Where the head is shiny or the pores closed, there is no cure. Call and be examined free of charge. If you cannot call, write to me. State the exact condition of the scalp and your occupation.

PROF. G. BIRKHOLZ,
Room 1011 Masonic Temple, CHICAGO
Ask your Druggist for my cure.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

May 1, 1904

Prayer and promise Luke 11:1-13.

Golden Text:—Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find Luke 1:9.

The incident of this lesson occurred soon after those of the last. According to Matthew the place of this lesson was the Horns of Hattim. But Luke reports it as having taken place somewhere in Perea.

IN A CERTIAN PLACE:- The place is unknown. No doubt it was a place where he would not be molested by anyone. He was communicating with his Heavenly Father.

WHEN HE CEASED:—His disciples saw him; but they would not interfere with him until after he had finished praying.

TEACH US TO PRAY:-- He had taught them to pray in the sermon on the Mount; but it seems that it was necessary to teach them again. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray like John taught his disciples. Probably some of them had been John's disciples and had learned to pray while they were with him; but they wanted to be instructed by Christ.

WHEN YE PRAY, SAY:—"The prayer may be divided into three parts: 1 The Introduction; 2 The Petition; 3 The Conclusion. The petitions are six in number, and may be divided into two classes of three each: (1) Those relating to God, his kingdom and his will; (2) Those relating to ourselves—our daily wants and dependency; our sins and need of pardon, and our danger and need of protection.

OUR FATHER:-- God is our Father, and we should always pray to him. He is in heaven on the throne of glory. THY KINGDOM COME:- The Kingdom of Christ had not yet been established. So they had a right to pray it to come. This is an expression that does not need to be used now because the kingdom has already come. We should pray for it to spread until the nations of the earth are brought into it.

THY WILL BE DONE, AS IN HEAVEN, SO IN EARTH:-- If we would always pray for the will of God to be done it would show that we are not selfish in our prayers. God knows what we need, better than we know what we want.

GIVE US DAY BY DAY OUR DAILY BEAD: The disciples were not laying up any thing to live on like most of us are trying to do. So they were to depend on God to care for them. We should thank God for all the blessing of life, because it is through His goodness that we are able to get our food and raiment.

AND, FOR GIVE US OUR SINS:—We never get so perfect that we cannot sin. We are apt to do wrong and think we are doing right. If we sin we should ask God to forgive us.

DELIVER US FROM EVIL:—The disciples were in danger of being tempted; so they needed the help of their Heavenly Father. If we could always be kept away from evil influences we would not likely fall into sin.

B. O. HURDLE.

STATEMENT

Grand Court of Calant' e,

GREENVILLE, MISS.

Condition December 31, 1903, as Shown by Statement Filed.

Amt of net ledger assets, Dec 31 of previous year.....	$ 666 00
Income, from policy holders, $2,885 43; miscellaneous, $655.29..	3540 72
Disbursements, to policy holders, $1,050; miscellaneous, $2952.15..	4002 15
Business in force, number of policies, 1324; amount	$132400 00
Written during year, number of polices, 180; amount.....	18000 00
Losses, at beginning of year, $300; incurred, $750; paid.....	1050 00

Assets.

Cash in home offiice and deposited in banks.....	205 17
All other assets, detailed in statement, furniture, etc.....	426 00
Total, $631.17 less assets not admitted, $426.00; total admitted assets,	$205 17

Liabilities—None.

Balance on hand to protect contract in addition to right of assessm't.	205 17

Does Business Only in Mississippi,

Total amt. premiums or assessments collected or secured,.....	$2225 28

W. A. Scott, President. Mrs. C. M. Goodwin, Secretary.

Home Office—Edwards, Miss.

State of Mississippi, Insurance Department.

Jackson, Miss. March 18, 1904.

I, W. Q. Cole, Insurance Commissioner, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the Grand Court of Calanthe, a fraternal order of Greenville, Miss., filed with this department, showing the condition of said Company on the 31st day of December, 1903.

Witness my hand and official seal, the day and date above written.

W. Q. Cole. Insurance Commissioner.

GOSPEL PLEA.

"PREACH THE WORD."

VOL. IX. Edwards, Mississippi, Wednesday, September 28th., 1904 No. 37

HELPFUL TO ALL.

THE OPENING OF DARKEST AFRICA TO THE GOSPEL.

Entered in Vicksburg Herald.

It is refreshing, in the midst of race conflicts and race prejudices, to read of the negro as one of them has been described in the letter written by a Southern lady, which, by request, we copy below from The Christian Observer. A few words about him, reflecting as it does the old race relationship may make the letter more interesting to the Southern reader, as it might be read with profit by innovators and levelers of the Roosevelt type.

Rev. Wm. Sheppard's mother was a slave of Judge Lapsley, of Alabama, who had a son, Samuel Lapsley, about the same age of Sheppard, and the two boys, as so frequently occurred on the Southern plantations, played together in childhood, and Mrs. Lapsley instructed the little colored boy along with her son in the doctrines of the Christian religion, teaching him to write and read.

As the two boys grew into manhood they both developed a strong desire to become missionaries to the heathen. Samuel Laysley took his college course and then his seminary coures and Sheppard was sent to the Theological school, which the Southern Presbyterian church has established for colored candidates for the ministry, at Tuscaloosa, Ala.

When the education of the two boys was completed, they both offered themselves to the committee of foreign missions of the Southern Presbyterian church, at Nashville, and were sent together to the Congo, Africa, where they labored together for a time, when Samuel Lapsley was stricken with the African fever and died, attended by his co-laborer, Sheppard, with great love and care, who buried his body on the banks of the Congo and then wrote a beautiful letter to his mother, describing his life in Africa and his untimely death. Sheppard was then left alone, but prosecuted his labors for the cause of Christ among the heathen, traveling over a large portion of the territory and acquiring a great deal of knowledge; to such an extent, indeed, that after delivering a lecture on Africa before the Royal Geographical Society of London, he was elected a Fellow of that society, which position he still holds.

A young negro from Vicksburg, H. O. Hawkins, who was at one time a waiter in the dining room of the old Pacafic House now the Hotel Piazza, at a later date joined Sheppard in Africa, after having been educated by the Southern Presbyterian church at its Theological school, at Tuscaloosa, where he is now laboring with great success and great satisfaction to the committee on foreign missions. The letter reads as follows:

The lecture given Sunday evening at Warm Springs by the Rev. William Sheppard, F. R. G. S., missionary to Africa, was voted by the habitues to have been the most pleasant Sunday evening spent at this interesting resort for many a season. Mr. Sheppard is the son of Fannie Sheppard, who has been bath maid at Warm Springs for over thirty years, and is beloved by all; she brought her now noted son with her when he was twelve years old, and he served four years in the dining room and as attendant at the men's bath. Mrs. Eubank with her usual tact for management, had the ball room so divided that the guests occupied one-half and the colored servants the other. Aunt Fannie and Mrs. Sheppard sitting at the right of the speaker; the entire arrangement took one back to the old happy days of the South.

Mr. Sheppard was introduced to the audience by Rev Beverly Tucker, of Norfolk, in a few well chosen words. The frank simplicity and dignity of the lecturer, together with his unaffected manner of speech and extreme sense of humor, drew his listeners in closest sympathy. He first went to Africa in 1890, landed at Matadi on the western coast, walked two hundred and sixty miles to Stanley Pool, proceeded from there by a small river boat eight hundred miles to the interior, to Luebo; there he made friends and treaties with the natives and learned the language: it was here he heard of

(Continued on 3d. page.)

THE GOSPEL PLEA.

A Weekly Religious News paper

Issued every Wednesday

from the Press of

THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE.

Published in the interests of the cause of Primitive Christianity and the general interests of the Negro Race.

PRICE PER ANNUM $1.00.

Send all Communications to

THE GOSPEL PLEA

EDWARDS, MISSISSIPPI.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Edwards, Miss.

There are some people who never think of giving a cup of cold water to the weary, but are ready enough to throw buckets of it upon those who are enthusiastic over some undertaking.

———

The Christian is one who speaks the truth regardless of surroundings. God's cause may not be popular where you are located, but if you will be upright you must be willing to stand up right where you are, and defend the truth.

———

When Elijah undertook to prove that Jehovah was God, he first repaired the altars from which the fires had died out. So before the church can hope to convict the world of sin, it must see that the altar fires are burning.

—THE LOOK OUT.

Personals and News Items

—L. L. Morres of Daryl, Texas sends in $1.25 on his subscription.

—M. Knight, state evangelist of Texas, sends in the subscriptions of Mrs. O. V. Rowe and Mrs. Angaline Arrant.

—The great majority of our readers are past due. Now that the cotton season is on again all should remember the PLEA. Do not neglect it. The PLEA has come to you regularly every week, now reciprocate the kindness by sending the dollar.

—We reproduce an editorial from the Vicksburg Herald for our first and third pages this week. There is only one disappointment in it and that is that the editor could in any remote way find how he could connect this to Roosevelt. It is a missionary story that will do much good.

We ask our readers to carefully read M. Knight's letter on the state work in Texas.

His idea that the first thing to be done is to organize auxiliaries is the correct one. The best thing that can be done as a foundation work is to prepare for proper co-operation.

—Mrs. Nancy Brown who was Miss Nancy Hurlle when she was at school writes:

"I hope you and family are well, and also the students.

Will you please send me the GOSPEL PLEA. I am married and living at Rockwall now. Please send it to me at Rockwall, Texas for six months."

College Items.

The Louisville Christian Bible School has opened up with an increased attendance. One young man came all the way from Australia to attend.

In a few days more school will open at the S. C. I. We are hoping for a most prosperous year.

Last Monday the young men moved into their new hall. It is even more beautiful than the other one was.

Daily we are receiving letters from worthy girls asking to be admitted to earn their way in school. We have already arranged with as many as we can take to earn their way, and we have to refuse them. However there is yet room for a large number of boys who want to earn their way. Everywhere the call is "Men are wanted." The schools must supply these. Every teacher, every preacher, every father who loves his people should interest himself in getting suitable young men to prepare themselves for usefulness.

"Have you the grace to give the work over to some one else when you see that it would prosper better if you would do so? Sometimes the greatest service you can render is to surrender."

Continued from 1st. page.

Lukenga, the king of a superior tribe; in his capitol no foreigner had ever been permitted to enter; wishing to get to this place, he dispatched an attendant to a village for eggs; when the attendant returned he was able to conduct the missionary home. and in this way he proceeded from village king's capitol. It was then the king heard his country had been invaded by foreigners. and sent an army who arrested Sheppard and all the villagers for allowing him to enter, but when they discovered he spoke in their tongue, they marveled and left him and his party prisoners to report the strange thing to the king. The king called his fetish (doctors) and put the question to them; after due deliberation they informed him that they knew who this foreigner was, he was Bopamacaba, son of the king who had died many years before and was now returned. Soldiers were hastily dispatched to fetch the prisoner to the king's presence where he was most cordially welcomed, and has never been able to convince the king or the people that he is not the dead son come to life, and he has the distinction of being the first foreigner in that part of Africa. He found these people lighter in color than most tribes in Africa, tall, erect and moral; they individualized the king who offered a burnt sacrifice to a supreme being once a month; this was the extent of their religion, while now there is a Presbyterian church membership of two thousand, and many native evangelists and school teachers and they have readily learned the numerous trades which this unusual man has taught them.

At the close of the lecture Mrs. Sheppard sang several familiar hymns which her husband had translated in the language of these people and a most entertaining and instructive evening closed by the missionaries' repeating the Lord's Prayer in the same language.

A RULE FOR HAPPINESS.

Make a rule, and pray to God to help you to keep it, never if possible, to lie down at night without being able to say: "I have made one human being at least a little wiser or a little happier or a little better this day." You will find it easier than you think, and pleasanter: easier, because if you wish to do God's work God will surely find you work to do; and pleasanter, because in return for the little trouble it may cost you, or the little choking of foolish, vulgar pride it may cost you, you will have a peace of mind, a quiet of temper, a cheerfulness and hopefulness about yourself and all around you such as you never felt before; and, over and above that, if you look for a reward in the life to come, recollect this: What we have to hope for in the life to come is to enter into the joy of our Lord. And how did he fulfill that joy but by humbling himself, and taking the form of a slave, and coming, not to be ministered to, but to minister and to give his whole life, even unto the death upon the cross, a ransom for many! Be sure that unless you take up his cross you will never share his crown; be sure that unless you follow in his footsteps you will never reach the place where he is. If you wish to enter into the joy of your Lord, be sure that his joy is now, as it was in the Judea of old, over every sinner that repenteth, every mourner that is comforted, every hungry mouth that is fed, every poor soul, sick or in prison, who is visited.

AS A LITTLE CHILD.

While parents watch, and their hands feed
The tender form with hourly need
And passions mild,
Guard me, Father in heaven,
Thy little child.

When clouds forlorn shall drift and blend,
And darkness, cold and storm descend
In tempest wild,
Shield me, Father in heaven,
Thy little child.

When justice, love and honor wane
Through men's fierce strife in hope of gain,
By lusts beguiled,
Guide me, Father in heaven,
Thy little child.

—*Selected.*

Reports from the Field.

Dixon, Texas,
Sept. 12th 1904.

Editor of GOSPEL PLEA;

Please find space for my letter to the general brotherhood of Texas as I have been silent for quite a while, and perhaps you would like to know why:

Well, I will give the reason. Since we have purchased the college site and an option to the balance of the land, and some seem to think that we are in competition with each other, I thought I would remain silent until after the Paris convention.

Now the August meeting is over, our meeting in Longview, Texas, is the coming convention for North east Texas, at which time we hope to have a large delegation with the Christ-like spirit and willing mind to push the great work we now have on foot for Texas. Come self-denying with a sacrifying will. Don't come just for pleasure, but rather for the purpose of helping in the negro interprise at Palistine, Tex. Let our work be a credit to the disciples of Texas. Neither come expecting to build a college before Christmas.

We may be able to go right to work after we shall have met.

But let every one come with the expectation of giving money to liquidate the debt of five hundred dollars, and have enough left to pay off all legal expenses and build a good tenant house on the place that we may get a good tenant to cultivate the land and attend the orchard. Of course we want a man competent to care for our fruit and trees, and cultivate the land well. If we should conclude to build a school mansion on it, we can borrow forty per cent. of the actual value of the land at a very small interest. So don't be in a hurry to build before you buy. We can get the money for as long as we would need it. I hope every one of the members and all interested, will give in this enterpise.

Dear brethren, please open up your hearts and minds and let Christ come in, and you will see what you ought to do. We have a very small force at Longview, to take care of the convention, but we agreed to give twenty-five dollars to help them so that we may be cared for.

Now preachers and elders don't forget to bring your dollar to pay at roll call. Delegates and visitors twenty-five cts. We ask this of you that you might prepare before leaving home, and because I will get rates over all lines of rail roads.

Yes our white brethren when they have their large assemblies usually care for themselves. The most of them only request a sleeping place and breakfast. So we ought to do with bed and two meals a day for four days.

Now a few words to preachers. The money raised by special calls for college purposes is no part of the fifty cents per capita of membership. Urge your church to do all they can in this conventional year, and if we should get two thousand dollars, all the better.

Any one might think I doubt the five hundred dollars, but I have no doubt of that amount. I called our little band at Center Point, and our Sunday School was represented at Paris, so I did not call the Sunday School only but the whole church. Only a very small crowd were out, but our collection for college was seventeen dollars to-day. The women raised three dollars and fifteen cents. The Sunday School one dollar and two cents, total at Center Point twenty-one dollars and seventeen cents. I hope all the rest of our churches have done as well if not better. I have also sent tellers asking the state churches to give one dollar per capita but I have not heard from any of them yet, but I believe some of them will respond to my call.

Now to the churches. The various board meetings will meet for the last time this year the fifth Sunday in October. We hope all the chairmen will work up their meeting and try to have the evangelist paid off when we meet. I had Bro. J. S. Sherril (white) to examine our abstract finding a few defects in it. I have sent it to the secretary to attend to. Not hearing from him I had to attend to it myself. I have the deed to the property

and will record it as soon as I hear from the secretary. Hoping our executive officers will be more attentive to their work.

A. J. HURDLE.
Pres. of N. E. Texas Convention.

When I last wrote I had just begun the Browning meeting which continued six days. It was a good meeting and the attendance large from first to last. There were twelve additions, five from the Baptist, six by primary obedience, and one restored. Elder W. L. Moreland was with us and preached two splendid sermons. The meeting closed when the interest was high. At this writing I am in the Browning community preaching the Word. We tried to get the public building for use during the meeting but being refused a large brush arbor was built, and a white gentleman furnished us lumber to make seats. This meeting is one day old. Both white and colored attending. The prospect is good. The choir from Little Chapel is furnishing music and it is well done. The meeting will continue through this week. We hope to plant the cause in this large community of colored people.

Once more I remind the brethren of the near approach of the annual convention. The churches should have good representation at the convention. Every church should try to make this the greatest and most sucessful convention in our history. To carry into effect the object of the North-east Texas Missionary Convention, we need money and must have it. There will be much for all to do. Let us begin now and have every thing in order by the setting of the convention. Don't for get that Tuesday before the second Sunday in Nov is the time, and Longview, Texas is the place.

H. M JOHNSON.
Evangelist.

Paris, Texas,
Sept. 13th 1904.

Dear Editor you will please find space for the following:

Dear brethren, as I was made choice of as your Evangelist I have begun work. My first work was in Paris where is still much to be done notwithstanding I did all I could under the circumstances. The auxiliary had run down, I reorganized the work and started them off again, with Mrs. O. V. Rowe as president under who's efficient management I think will continue its work. I then left for Roxton, a little town about fourteen miles south of Paris. Elder B. B. Hurindan. the pastor, and I began a week's meeting where much good was done aside from the twelve additions. I organized an auxiliary with Mrs. Martha Crook as president under who's management I am satisfied will do well.

I then left Roxton for Mc.-Grew's Hill and Shelton's Hill, as they are called. These are in the vicinity of Paris. However I did not get to preach at Mc.-Grew's Hill. So I went to Shelton's Hill where I preached four nights with one addition. I also organized another auxiliary with Mrs. Ida Shelton as president who is a faithful and energetic worker.

Now let me say there are two disadvantages in evangelistic work in this part of Texas at this time of the year. That is, it is a busy time, and as a result you can't meet as many of the members as you otherwise could. This is one. I suppose you know the other one. If not, I will tell you. It is small collections.

Now to faciliate matters, let every disciple, when state mission day comes give as much as he can for state missions. Then I can continue to give as much or more of my time to small congregations who feel themselves neglected.

And beside this the large cities must be reached with our plea, to which I will give my entire time, when I have succeeded in working up a more thorough co-operation among our churches.

Now in conclusion let me say, every pastor, Elder, and deacon encourage the circulation of the PLEA.

I am yours in the work
M. KNIGHT.
Evangelist.

Kerr Ark.
Sept. 12th 1904.

The Arkansas Christian Missionary Convention has taken its place with the events of the past, and in many respects, it was better than ever before. The spirit of mission and a greater sacrifice without which greater work could not be expected., were made the chief topic of the convention.

(Continued on 7th. page.)

C. W. B. M. DEPARTMENT.

All C. W. B. M. dues; that is the ten cents a month, paid by each member should be sent to Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Send the money at the close of each quarter.

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414 Edison St.,
Argenta, Ark.

Dear editor:—It is again that I am glad to say that we had one among the best state conventions that we have ever held. We had better reports, and better thoughts were put forth by Bro. R. L. Brock and others, which will give much aid to the cause. I was indeed glad to see the missionary hearts in our Christian brethren.

Mr. L. Bright was aroused to the work.

In the work this year we raised $64.45 with the $13 state funds. We did not reach the $100.00 on the account of so much sickness among our workers. Every sister played her part well; there was no discord among us All the good thinking brethren were delighted with the work, I felt that the work will move upward and onward. In the state some of my faithful auxiliary women pledged more on the work this year beside the $1.20. Some pledge $2 00, some $1.50, some 50 cts. and some 25 cts. more. I feel safe in saying that all left with a new determination to do more for the cause. Just after the closing of our work I reorganized the work at Blackton with eleven members and $1.07. We had quite a large delegation and everybody there was made welcome to everything. There were many expecting Bro. Lehman, of the S. C. I. to be with us.

Now may the Father smile on us in doing His work.

SARAH L. BOSTICK.

(Continued from last issue.)

Sowing and Reaping.—"One soweth and another reapeth." Our work is two fold—sowing and reaping—and immediate results are no criterion to go by. The work is ours; results are God's. All of us can sow. To some may come the glory of the harvest. Yet, oftentimes, the harvest is of another's sowing.

Let us comfort ourselves with this:—The word of the Lord shall not return unto him void;" He that goeth forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless return again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

* * *

Some can go, most can give, all can pray.

* * *

You may always measure the value to yourselves of Christ's cross by your interest in missions.

Since Japan's conflict with Russia, the Island nation has come into unusual prominence, and everybody from school boys up, has become acquainted with her history and ambitions. She is bravely fighting for what she believes to be the right and we all admire her courage and ability. But especially do we appreciate this when we realize how quickly she has risen to her present commanding position and that this is almost wholly due to Christian America and her consecrated missionaries there. Japan and Korea are no longer sleeping nations, but awake to every good work and progressive step. They are escaping idolatry and stepping out into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. —*Our Young Folks.*

Our life mission is to gain a crown of life for ourselves, and to do all the good we can for others. If we in one point fail, we fail in all. By helping others we help ourselves, and by saving others we save ourselves. We can not gain a crown of rejoicing beyond this life and live here only for ourselves, only for our own comfort and gratification. God has placed us in the world and so related us to our brother man that our interests are wrapped up in his happiness and good. So if we would dwell among the angels and the pure and good in heaven we must try to save sinful men and women here in this world. It may not always seem pleasant to us to seek after the lost, but the way to eternal bliss lies along this line of duty.

Get near to Christ by faith in him, meditation on his truth, and by holy fellowship in prayer and works of righteousness. These things will give you a clearer insight into the will of God concerning you; a higher conception of life's duties, and a realization of the purpose of God's giving his life's blood to save a lost world.

MRS. LIZZIE W. ROSS.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The state of Alabama undertook at great expense to prosecute the lynchers at Huntsville. The sentiment was so strong that the militia was there to prevent a rescue. The first man tried was Higgins, a hotel keeper, but the jury acquited him on ground of insufficient evidence. Twenty more are to be tried.

—o—

Governor Terrell has warned his people against lynching on the ground that the federal authority may interfere and take away some of the state's rights.

—o—

Mississippi and Louisiana have been in a very costly lawsuit in the federal court over a disputed oyster reef near the boundary line of the two states. The case will not be finally decided until next winter.

Pine Bluff, Ark.
Sept. 20th, 1904.

Dear Editor:—Please allow space in your paper for the following. I desire to report a seven night's meeting. Four were added to the church. Three for baptism, one made the acknowledgement. Our pastor was not able to carry on the meeting any longer on the account of his illness, though he preached a grand sermon on the water side. I was not able to attend the meeting, but my heart was with them every night. On the Lord's day I went to the baptizing and enjoyed the sermon so much. I am so glad to hear of any one making the good confession.

I am still in the faith.

MRS. MARY LAMB.

Daingerfield, Tex.
Sept. 16th 1904.

Dear Editor: please allow me space in your paper for a few words.

I have been silent quite a while, though I am yet zealous in the work. All of my meetings have been successful. During the summer season I have baptized thirty-three souls into the church of Christ.

The churches in the territory in which I have labored the present year are preparing for the November convention which will be held at Longview, Texas.

We are striving to do all we can for the interest of a Christian College in Texas at that time.

The Pittsburg sub board will convene at Macadonia Christian Church, Pittsburg Camp Co, Tex. Octobertwenty-eighth, ninth, and thirtieth. We want to make it a success.

God help the work of the colored disciples in Texas.

Yours in Christ,

W. M. HENRY.

(Continued from 5th. page.

The Work of Faith, by Wm. Martin, and Our Various Missionary Enterprises, by M. M. Bostick and the many good things said by the brethren which space forbids us mentioning, were indeed grand.

The sisters took possession of Friday evening and carried out an interesting program, presided over by Sister Sarah L. Bostick. At this convention the Auxiliary work was brought more squarely before the churches than ever before. This was participated in, and many grand things said and read by the following sisters: Mrs. Ellen Brock, Miss Cally Webb, Mrs. Alice Mitchel, Miss Estell, Mrs. Anderson Davis, Mrs. Lucy Outlaw, and others. The meeting closed with a lengthy talk by the state organizer on missionary work in general, including especially the school at Edwards. The auxiliary at this place was set on foot again.

The Sunday School work was taken up Saturday evening and was fairly represented considering its infantile state. For this work R. J. Ross of Petus was made state evangelist.

The amount of money raised at this convention will approximate fifty dollars.

The next convention is to be held with the Pea Ridge brethren beginning Wednesday evening before the fourth Lord's day in August, 1904.

H. MARTIN.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

Lesson II. October 9th.

THE WIDOW'S OIL INCREASED.

II Kings iv:1-7.

MEMORY VERSES.—verses 5-7.

TIME.—Probably about 892

PLACE.—Samaria.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Trust Jehovah, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on his faithfulness.

INTRODUCTION.

Now for a few lessons, we are to study some of the works of Elisha after he became the chief prophet in the land. We shall see how quietly and how successfully he did his work. There is quite a difference between him and his predecessor. We saw that Elijah by trying to do his reform work in a bold way, was forced to spend a portion of his life in seclusion, while Elisha, by his patient and gentle dealings, was able to dwell among his people.

In this lesson we shall see how Elisha helped the widow in her duty so far as he knew how, and he received the blessings of God. We should always put our trust in God and do what is right: and we too will be blessed. God will not forsake the righteous, who put their trust in Him.

NOW THERE CRIED.—That is, asked for help. The cry was made by a woman who had been a wife of one of the sons of the prophets. She was speaking unto Elisha. No doubt she thought it best to go to him, as he was called the father of the prophets. He was the chief one among all of them: so it was natural for her to go to him.

THY SERVANT, MY HUSBAND.—Not literally a servant, as one who is in bondage, but it is only a polite form of speech common among the people in the East.

IS DEAD.—*Jamieson* says "her husband, not enjoying the lucrative profits of business, had nothing but a professional income, which, in that irreligious age, would be precious and very scanty, so that he was not in a condition to provide for his family." From this statement we infer that the word 'dead' is here used in a figurative sense. He was dead to a certain correspondence. She said that her husband feared Jehovah. So it is supposed that his poverty came because he would not submit some of the evils of idolatry.

AND THE CREDITOR IS COME.—He came to take away her two sons into bondage for the debt.

ELISHA SAID UNTO HER.—He at once responded to her cry. He knew her condition, and so he asked her what she wanted him to do. He asks whether she has anything that will do to sell to get the money.

A POT OF OIL.—This oil was used for bathing purposes. No doubt it was very costly.

GO BORROW THEE VESSELS ABROAD.—Elisha told her to get many vessels. Perhaps he wanted to test her faith. When she had secured the vessels, she was commanded to go into a room and shut the door upon herself and her two sons. The miracle was to be performed secretly.

AND POUR OUT.—She was to pour it out of her own pot. Thus we see that the oil in her pot would have to increase as she filled the other vessels. When she had done all that she was commanded to do, the vessels were filled.

BRING ME YET A VESSEL.—The vessels were filled sooner than she expected them to be, so she calls for another one.

THERE IS NOT A VESSEL MORE.—They had all been filled with oil: and now the oil ceases to flow. God does not waste anything. When our capacity for receiving God's blessings is full, he ceases to send them. When all the vessels were filled, the oil stopped flowing. If the oil had kept on flowing, it would have run out on the floor, where it would not have been of any service to anyone.

THEN SHE CAME AND TOLD THE MAN OF GOD.—"She asked for counsel in the strange and unexpected emergency. She needed assurance of the reality and permanence of this marvelous good fortune. The oil might have vanished as mysteriously as it came."

PAY THY DEBT.—We do not know how much it was; but she was to pay the debt first. When we receive blessings of God, we should pay our debts, if we have any. *Pool* says, "First do justice to others and then take care of thyself and children."

"Sweet is thy mercy, Lord;
Before thy mercy seat
My soul adoring, pleads thy word,
And owns thy mercy sweet.
My need and thy desires
Are all in Christ complete;
Thou hast the justice truth requires,
And I thy mercy sweet."

B. O. HURDLE.

1904

GOSPEL PLEA.

"PREACH THE WORD."

VOL. IX. Edwards, Mississippi, Wednesday, July 27th., 1904 No. 29.

Helpful To All.

When we dig in the mines of the ancient cities of Chaldea or Egypt we are surprised to discover that those people knew many of the fine arts and some of the mechanical processes by which many of our modern machines are made. When we look on some of the work done by people living a few thousand years before Christ we wonder how it was possible for the world to so completely forget these things and make it necessary for us to rediscover them. And then we ask ourselves the question whether it is possible that we too will forget our mechanical knowledge and make it necessary for some nation in the future, in a new civilization, to rediscover it.

To this we can answer, No, it will not be necessary for another age to rediscover the things we have learned for we will not forget them. Times have changed. Ancient civilizations were organized on the principle of classes. Ancient knowledge was known by a small upper class while the great mass in the lower class were slaves. When the upper class became effeminate because of a life of luxury, their knowledge passed away with the decay of their nation. The ideal of modern civilization is the uplifting of the masses. Go to the schools of the land, view their work; look at their exhibits at the world's fair; go to the teachers' national meeting; take down the statute books and read the school laws of the land and you will find that we are actuated with an impulse, almost amounting to a religious duty which says, that we have no right to permit a single child to grow up to citizenship in ignorance. Seventy-five years ago there was a reaction against this policy and the colleges and even the common schools suffered greatly. People thought it wrong to be taxed for the education of other people's children, but the impulse, that the state has no right to permit a child to grow up in ignorance, swept triumphantly over all opposition. Recently this reaction has reappeared in the form of opposition to the negro public-schools. The governors of two southern states swept into power on the crest of a reactionary wave which they themselves created, but when they got into power they found their little wave itself was being swept along by the deeper wave which is the mighty impulse in our civilization, that the state has no right to let a child grow up in ignorance. The futile attempt of these two politicians to stay the noble impulse of our civilization will be recorded on a par with the futile attempt of the Indian when he thought to stop the flight of the locomotive with a grass rope. It was this impulse that swept slavery out of our civilization. Every sentence in the Declaration of Independence breathed it.

The founders of New England and the North West Territory were actuated by it. The impulse came in conflict with Southern slavery and it was a struggle to the death. The impulse swept over state-rights and the American constitution and slavery was no more. Perhaps nine out of ten of the white citizens of America would not care to urge now that the mass of the southern negroes be brought into politics, but when our Mississippi election last fall demonstrated that we were in opposition to this impulse, new things began to happen. Before the American educators will permit this impulse to be assassinated by our verdict on the common schools last fall, they will sweep over everything, even to the extent of doing impolitic things. Much of the horror of carpet-bag rule was due to the fact that this higher impulse of our civilization figured in reconstruction. If we do not now listen to the cries of our Bishop Galloway, we will later wring our hands in our own humiliation. This modern impulse is irresistable, eternal, divine, and we but invite destruction when we place ourselves in the way of it. The permanence of our knowledge and our civilization depends on it and the American nation, North and South, East and West will march through many Gettysburgs and reconstructions to preserve the honor of this impulse.

"Whene'er the angry passions rise,
And tempt our thoughts or tongues to strife,
On Jesus let us fix our eyes.
Bright pattern of the Christian life.

"O how benevolent and kind!
How mild! how ready [illegible]e!
Be His the temper of our mind,
And His the rules by which we live!"

THE GOSPEL PLEA

A Weekly Religious News paper

Issued every Wednesday

from the Press of

THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE.

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THE GOSPEL PLEA

EDWARDS, MISSISSIPPI.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Edwards, Miss.

Education, that educates, removes every defect of an illiterate people. When the wiser men of the state once discover that a proper education removes every object of complaint in the character of the negro youth, they will not only cease to challenge the wisdom of the public schools, but they will establish a compulsory school system.

—o—

The truth of the matter is, when the ship owners of New England conspired with the Planters of the South to bring barbarian Africans here as slaves, they involuntarily offered American civilization on the altar of humanity. This was a scriptural act; for of Christ it was said "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him: and with his stripes we are healed." When Christ came he said, "Whosoever would come after me, let him take up his cross and follow me." The real cross bearing of the Bible is suffering for the depravity of others. Every complaint we make because of the negro problem is a complaint against Providence that our cross is heavier than we desire to bear.

—o—

We should be prepared for our task in cross bearing. When we send missionaries into Japan, China, India and Africa we may rest assured that they will come into the kingdom with all their depravity and with stripes, on our ivilization, they must be healed. If our backs can not stand the stripes that are coming, then we are not the Christian nation God needs to give the world a Christian civilization.

Personals and News Items.

—We need more field reports. Not enough churches and Sunday Schools report their work. Let us hear from more of them.

—Mrs. Sarah L. Bostick sent in the subscriptions of Thomas Aberuathy and Carry Webb of Jewell, Ark.

—If you do not get the PLEA regularly, write us. If it is our fault we will remedy it. If it is the postmaster's fault we can possibly straighten him out.

—The PLEA has tried to be a faithful servant to the missionary enterprises. It has visited you regularly. We have welcomed everything to its columns that was worthy of publication. Now reciprocate by bringing your subscription to the convention. Some of you are considerably behind. However, you always come up in the end.

MAN.

Man is the one responsible being of God's creation. He is the great central figure around which all else rotates. God made him in his own likeness and gave him dominion over all things which he had created. He can subdue the wild beasts of the forest and convert them into animals fit for his use.

He digs from the bowels of mother earth, the treasure hidden there, and appropriates them for the use and comfort of himself. He is ever on the lookout for new discoveries. He grapples with the mystries of nature, captures the lightning and makes of it a means of transport. He stoops and picks the delicate flowers and produces from their petals a remedy for his ills. He extracts the healing properties from the growing herbs, and presents them to an awaiting world.

Man, what a wonderful being! What honor God hath bestowed upon him! What power he possesses, what knowledge he displays! He counts the stars and gives them their names. He looks beyond the sun and moon to the inhabited planets, and estimates their distance from our earth. All these things can man do, yet there are many smaller things in hands reach many do not understand. They cannot account for the crimes that are committed around them. They are shocked when told, most of the crimes committed by the negroes comes from not having been taught the true principles of life. They cannot believe education helps him to reform, but that it makes him morally worse. And why?

Look upon them with the same eager desire for the discovery of that, which is useful for man, as you do at the twinkling stars in the firmament and likewise the good in him will be discovered.

FANNIE L. HAY.

ORIGIONAL CONTRIBUTION.

Dig With That Shovel You Are Leaning On.

There is a cry heard almost every day from the complaining lips of thousands of would be heroes, who imagine they could startle the world with their great and wonderful deeds, if they only had the means and opportunity.

Great stalwart young men are sitting with folded hands, lamenting and pining their lives away because they have nothing to do, because they can not find some high office vacant, that they can fill! It reminds me of a story I once heard:

An old man lived in a low roofed hut in a back alley where, when it rained, the water stood before his door like a little lake. Every time the clouds would hang low and look like rain the old gentleman was heard grumbling and complaining about how he could dig a drain along side the fence, if his neighbor were not too stingy to lend him his shovel.

At last one day after a very hard rain he walked to the door to see what damage the water had done. Leaning far out the door on a large sized fire shovel for surpport, he espied his neighbor's little six year old boy padling and splashing in the water in high glee.

"What! are you taking my yard for a pond," he yelled at the little fellow, who, surveying the distance between himself and home, coolly replied, "Dig with that shovel you are leaning on," and crawled through the fence.

The old man's face grew red with anger. He walked slowly back to his chair, but soon rose and, grasping his fire shovel, picked his way to the water's edge and began to dig. Soon the water was rushing down a deep drainage. He had owned the shovel several years but had never before thought it fit to dig with.

So it is with the complaining element of any race to day.

They fail to see the opportunities that surround them, or the means they already possess.

If that young man who sits complaining and fretting would only open his eyes to the fact that his duty is to do the little things around him well, the fence would not be all broken and torn down around the farm, the grass would not be so conspicuous in the crop; or perhaps he lives in town where he could earn at least $1.00 per day if he would only cease complaining and use the hands now so limply folded to grasp the opportunity to earn that $1 00 per day. He might soon be numbered with the host who are climbing to the plane of true greatness by the stepping stones in small and lowly occupations.

There has never been a great man but who attained his greatness by first doing well the little things that came his way.

Take for example, Abraham Lincoln, Benjamine Franklin, Pres. McKinley and Booker T. Washington who are numbered with the greatest men that ever lived. They were once common laborers like other men, with the exception that they mastered every thing that came before them. When they farmed or did any other work they put their heart into the work and felt that they must do their best because that was their part to play at present.

Ye sons and daughters of the negro race, walk with Booker T. Washington from his journey to Hampton College until he has grown into the man he is to day, and learn a lesson of self reliance, perseverence and implicit faith in God!

Stop grumbling about not having opportunities. Why depend upon the white man to lend you his shovel when you will not use your own?

It is impossible to become a great people while we are wasting our time grumbling and splashing in the muddy water of indolence.

Young man, young woman, dig with that shovel you are leaning on!

Dig, though you have but a small fire shovel with which to dig. Drain the filthy waters of sin and evil from your midsts. Let every man, woman and child shoulder his shovel and march with a firm and determined step in search of the sin-cursed places of the world. There dig the necessary drainages, emptying the towns, cities and countries of their degrading sins; and when these small shovels are gone our neighbor will lend us his larger one.

FANNIE L. HAY.

Reports from the Field.

TEXAS LETTER.

Van Alstyne, Texas.
July 18th, 1904.

Dear Editor of the PLEA; Please allow space in your much loved paper for a short statement to the Brother-hood at large.

Four additions in the past week, had baptizing on yesterday, and preached to quite a nice crowd at the waterside, both white and colored. I am glad to say that the Lord has blessed us at this place.

On last Sunday night I had the pleasure of taking the confession of one of the best members of the Baptist Church, and I pray God that others may follow soon.

We are very busy at present working on the Church building. We have $250 worth of improvements on our building, when finished it will be the neatest church building in the town. We hope to have it completed by the first of this week.

I just returned on the 10th, Inst. from visiting my wife, spent eight days at home after which I began work again

The Brother-hood of Texas will please remember the convention is near, get ready and let us try, God helping us to put Texas on better ground and a surer foundation.

Yours in Christ,
H.S. GEARRON.

Cedar Lake,
Matagorda Co. Texas.
July 5, 1904.

Dear Editor: — Please find space for my letter, as we desire to do something and let us be known.

We held a revival for two weeks and had a glorious time.

Eld. M. Knight was with us and labored as a minister through the power of the Gospel.

Fourteen sinners confessed Jesus the Christ and were baptised for the remission of sins. Also five from the Baptists Church joined the Church of Christ. Six disclaimed members were reclaimed, making a total of twenty-five soldiers for battle against sin, the flesh and the devil. Eld. M. Knight stayed with us until Monday after the 1st. Lord's day Inst, after which he returned to his church in Beaumont.

Yours Respectfully
J. B. STRATTON.

ARKANSAS LETTER.

Pine Bluff, Ark.
July 11th. 1904.

Dear Editor:

We observed Sunday July 10th for children's day. We had a grand time, there were twenty pieces spoken by the children and others.

Sister Sarah L. Bostick and husband were with us. Brother Bostick preached a good sermon at 11 o'clock A.M. and also at 8. P.M. One was added to the Church. Every body seemed to enjoy the day. We called for a collection for Sister Bostick. $1.80. Total for the day was $9.00. I will send my subscription in soon.

MARY E. LAMB.

"LIVING TO SELF OR TO CHRIST."

II Cor. 5: 14-16.

The thought uppermost in my mind in reading these verses is just as simple as it is of all importance; and that is, for what are we living? A weighty question, I need not say, and it is of moment to our souls that we should not shrink from answering in the fear of God. Verse 15 is peculiarly before me, "He for all, that they which live;" that is, the believin , etc. All were dead, believers and unbelievers alike, all were ruined men before God, and the death of Christ is the proof of the condition of every soul naturally; that is, all are lost—all lifeless toward God; that even the Son of God who is everlasting life, should need to suffer—should find no portion but death in this world, is the proof that there was no life in it. Everything lay so irretrievably in death, that for Him for to die is the only door of deliverance out of it. And "He died for all." It is not said that all should live, though undoubtedly there was life in Him adequate for every soul, life everlasting in Christ; but then, in fact, no soul did, none would,

recieve Him, not one. Grace therefore has wrought, and given some, not all, to recieve Him. And therefore it is added "He died for all, that they which live;" that is, they who do believe in Him and have life therefore—"that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them and rose again." Now, there is never a question day by day that arises, but what brings out one of these two things, that is, whether we are living to ourselves or to Him "who died and rose again." And have I not to own the sad truth how constantly we have to rebuke our souls? How often, not to say in general, the first impulse of the heart is to take that view of everything which would minister to our own pleasure or gratification, or importance? What is this but living to ourselves? When any question comes before us, when anything either of an evil to be avoided, a loss to be shunned, or something to be gained, some object that comes before us, is it not our tendency to look how it will bear upon us, and to give it that turn which will be for our profit or advantage in some way or another? I do not say always personally; it may be for our family, for our children, looking onward to the future or at the present. Now, we are always wrong when we do it. God would not have us to neglect the real good of those dear to us and dependent on us, but the question is whether we trust ourselves to Christ? Are we adequate judges of what is best for our children? Are we the least biassed and the wisest to decide on that which would be for, not the passing profit but for the good which would be forever? It comes to a very simple issue. We have two natures—one which is always grasping for something that will always please and exalt itself and another which, by the Grace of God, is willing to suffer for Christ, and clings to what is, of Christ. But, as the apostle says elsewhere, "not that which is spiritual was first, but the natural, and afterwards the spiritual." So it is precisely in our practical experience. The thought that is apt promptly to arise when there is trial and difficulty, is the simply, natural one, how to get out of it — not, how am I to glorify God in, and turn it to the praise of Christ? Then again, if there is any prospect of improving circumstances, that is the first thought—that which is natural. Ought we not upon our watch-tower with respect to this? Should we not have it as a settle thing for our hearts, this is my danger? We may not all be tried the same way; for that which would be a gratification to one might not be so to another. But there is one sad thing in which we all agree; we have a nature that likes itself, and seeks to gratify it, and we have hence a tendency to indulge that nature as the first thought of the heart. But let Christ only come before our souls—let us think of Him, when either truble or pleasure comes before us, and what then? That which is natural fades away; we judge it. We say, that is a thing which brings no glory to Christ—and what are we here for? Let us remember that God has done all to fit us for His presence; He has made us "meek to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light." There is no doubt of that, it remains untouched. But the practical question for our souls is, whether our hearts, knowing the perfect goodness of our God and Father towards us, enter in to this great thought—that He now sets Christ, dead and risen, before us, in order that in the presence of angels as well as of men, yea, in His own presence, there may be wonderful spectacle of beings who once live for nothing but self, here, by the very image of Christ before their souls, lifted aboveself altogether.

May we bring this to bear upon whatever may be the circumstances through which we may pass day by day! It is the main thing for the walk of every saint. No person can ever make amends for the habitual thought of the heart. May we search and see whether we are living to ourselves, or to Him, who died for us and rose again!

We pray, "Thy kingdom come." The kingdom has come—but not in the fullest sense. It is therefore proper still to pray, "Thy kingdom come." But the Lord has decreed that the kingdom shall come in the measure of our co-operation with the divine plans.

Southern Evanglist.

C. W. B. M. DEPARTMENT.

All C. W. B. M. dues; that is the ten cents a month, paid by each member should be sent to Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market Street Indianapolis, Indiana. Send the money at the close of each quarter.

THE SECRET OF HAPPINESS.

Are you almost disgusted with life, little man?
I will tell you a wonderful trick
That will bring you contentment, if anything can—
Do something for somebody quick!

Are you awfully tired with play, little girl,
Weary, discouraged, and sick?
I'll tell you the lovliest game in the world—
Do something for somebody quick!

Though it rains like the rain of the flood, little man,
And the clouds are forbidding and thick,
You can make the sun shine in your soul, little man—
Do something for somebody quick!

Though the skies are like brass over head, little girl,
And the road like a well-heated brick,
And all earthly affairs in a terrible whirl,
Do something for somebody quick!

—New York News.

The Christian Woman's Board of Missions was organized in 1874 for world wide Missionary Education and Evangelization. Beginning with its Auxiliary Societies, organized in the churches for the cultivation of a missionary spirit, the dissemination of missionary intelligence and for regular and systematic giving to missions, it reaches out through the home land and into foreign fields for the preaching of the Gospel, the teaching of the Bible, the Christian education of childhood and youth, the healing of the sick, and the relief of the oppressed and distressed.

This organization works in 38 of the United States, in Mexico, Porto Rico, Jamaica and India. It has 500 children in its orphanages, 3,000 pupils in its schools, treats hundreds of sick in its hospitals and preaches the Gospel to thousands who else would not hear the Words of Life.

Nearly 40,000 women are members of it Auxiliaries. It aims through these to reach the more than 600,000 women of the church and to enlist them in definite work for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. It plans to extend its work in every land it has entered and to go into other lands in obedience to the King's command.

It desires this year to invest $15,000 in a building in Monterrey, Mex., and add one to its corps of teachers in its school in that city; to send at least 6 more missionaries to India; to add two to its force of workers in Jamaica; to build a boys orphanage and industrial school in Porto Rico, to enlarge its work in the United States and to open a mission in South America. Which one of these projects will you assist in supporting? Any questions will be cheerfully answered. Address your communications to the corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market St., Indianapolis, Ind.

SERVICE.

Nothing brings such good cheer as some worthy service well rendered. Are you discouraged? and is it hard to drive your own troubles from your mind? do something for somebody else and see how soon the clouds which hang o'er you will begin to lift. Smooth the bed of that sick woman and tell her something that will cause her to forget her pain, kindly bind up the sore finger of your own or your neighbor's little child and wipe his tears away. If there is nothing more to do, just speak kind words to those about you. You do not feel like speakly kindly? Well, do it anyway and see how much better you will feel. If the first attempt is not successful, try again. Keep on trying. You will surely feel better before long.

We all know just what is meant by this in our home life. The same is true in church life. Does every one seem asleep, are the meetings uninteresting, and is it a hard task to raise the minister's salary and enough besides for the current expenses of the church? Do something for missions. Try to send the gospel to those who have never known the blessings that come through obeying it. Do this and see how soon the church will take on new life. Giving is very largely a matter of habit. Give to missions and the money for the preacher's salary will be found as readily as it was before and probably much more readily. The minister who opposes C. W. B. M. auxiliaries and other mission bands for fear that his own pocket will suffer does not understand human nature nor the ways of Him from whom all blessings flow. Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, and running over

Let none of our good women fear to organize an auxiliary because of the opposition of the pastor or other men of the congregation. Organize and help on the great work of our National Board. In time, the brethren will be convinced that it was wise to do so.

THE BEST MAGAZINE YET PUBLISHED BY NEGROES.

"THE VOICE OF THE NEGRO", Atlanta, Georgia, and the best number of that magazine is before us. This July number is a broadside by the Negro woman in her own defense. She is the most maligned woman to-day in the world; but, strange to say, not before has she been called in court to answer the charges against her. She answers here in a womanly way. She does not make angels of her sex, but shows by statement of fact, argument and illustration that she is just like women of other races under similar circumstances no better, no worse.

Right cleverly does Mrs. Williams, of New Orleans, draw a parallel between the English women of the lower type and the colored women of the same grade. Under the title, "The Negro Women Defended." Mrs. Addie Hunton writes a very discriminating article. Other writers, like Mrs. Yates, tell of the work colored women are doing in club life. Mrs. Booker T. Washington has a very interesting article on her work for colored women on the farm. "Color Not Character" is the name of an article that penetrates to the heart of the situation by Miss Nannie Burroughs. Not the least interesting and instructive are the photographs of the writers of these articles; no one can look into the bright, intelligent and thoughtful faces of those writers without being more deeply impressed with their message, and inspired with hope as to the future of the race of which they are a part. In this symposium the "Voice" makes a distinct contribution to the discussion of the race question.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Russia signed a treaty at the close of the Crimean war that she would not attempt to take war vessels through the strait of Dardanells. This has proven a great embarassement to her in the present war. To evade this provision Russia disarmed some war vessels and sent them through as merchant ships then armed them and started them out as privateers in the Red Sea. One German vessel was seized and her mail sacks taken out. Three British ships were seized because they were supposed to carry war material for the Japanese. This action has greatly aroused both the German and English nations. England is especially aroused and it may bring on a clash. This would be unfortunate as it would soon involve one after another of the nations.

Not much progress has been made by the war in the East since our last report but, from the reports, the Japanese have won in most of the small skirmishes and are about ready to occupy new Chwang which will give them a new naval base. They are also about ready to assault Port Arthur.

The Democrats of Missouri have nominated the brave young prosicuting attorney, Joseph W. Folk for governor but he was compelled to accept as running mates on the ticket some of the men he has exposed in fraud. Perhaps political reformation in Missouri is not as near at hand as was supposed

Swallow and Carrol, the Prohibition candidates were notified at Indianoplis last week. Roosevelt and Fairbanks are to be notified this week at the summer home of the president. Judge Parker the Democratic candidate is to be notified some time in August at his home. Ex-Senator Davis is to be notified at his home in West Virginia at the same time. The campaign will probably open in earnest about September 1st.

The marine hospital service is exerting great energy to exterminate the mosquitos in the Gulf coast district. The plan is to have the city pass an ordinance that every man owning a residence must see that screens are put over rain barrels and cisterns and that the street commissioners must have all the gutters flushed. The Marine Hospital Corps will then see that it is property enforced. It was this plan that converted Havana from one of the most pestilential cities in the world to a safe and clean summer resort, and it will no doubt do the same for our coast cities.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

Aug. 14, 1904.

OBADIAH AND ELIJAH.

I Kings 18:1-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.—I thy servant fear the Lord from my youth.

I Kings 18:12.

CONNECTION WITH LAST LESSON.—The household of the widow of Zarephath were led by constant miracle from the hands of Elijah. But at last, a sad calamity befell the woman, for her son sickened and died. In her distress she applies to Elijah, and he took the dead boy to his room and prayed to God to restore him, and the boy was raised again to life. This is the first recorded instance of a dead person being brought back to life. Elijah remained at the house of this woman till the Lord called him to go and show himself to the king. We have an account of this in the present lesson. (Read I Kings 17:17-24.)

TIME.—About B. C. 907.

PLACE.—Near the base of Mount Carmel.

IT CAME TO PASS AFTER MANY DAYS.—These words were spoken to Elijah by the Lord. There had been a great famine, which was caused by disobedience. The Lord told him to "Go shew thyself unto Ahab." This enjoined him to leave a comfortable and secure home where he had rested for two years, but delighting in activity, and emboldened by hazard, he hastens to the front with the courageous zeal of an eager warrior.

ELIJAH WENT.—His going is a proof of his courage and faith in the Lord.

THERE WAS A SORE FAMINE IN SAMARIA.—As a fact, there had been no rain or dew upon the land for three years, a sore famine prevailed. Nothing could grow. No cattle or horses could live, the grass of the pasture died, nothing was left but the hard hot crust of the earth; even the multitude of people in the city perished for the want of food and water.

NOW OBADIAH FEARED THE LORD GREATLY.—Obadiah was a true servant of Jehovah. We know nothing of him except what is here told. He was a steward—or something more—of the house of Ahab; that is to say that he had charge of the royal household and its affairs. He was a devout worshiper of the true God, and therefore not such a man as we should expect to find in Ahab's family. True he had not seen his way clear to abandon Israel as had others, going over to Judah and Jerusalem. He could in no wise have been called a time-server, even at the hazard of his life he took the prophets and hid and fed them.

AND AHAB SAID . . . . GO INTO THE LAND, UNTO ALL FOUNTAINS OF WATER.—Ahab thought that it might be possible that by going into these places, which were so noted for streams of water, there could be enough grass and water found to save, at least, a few of the mules and horses.

AHAB WENT ONE WAY, ETC.—When the king had told Obadiah what he thought best, they divided the land between them, one went one way and the other one went another.

ELIJAH MET HIM.—As it was that Obadiah was on his journey, he was met by Elijah. Knowing him, he fell on his face and said, Art thou that my lord Elijah?

GO TELL THY LORD.—At the very first, Elijah went to Ahab unheralded; but now he asks to be announced.

TO SLAY ME.—The real cause of this fear very plainly given in verse 12, is well grounded, and should be carefully studied:

SHALL CARRY THEE.—Obadiah had great fear that Elijah might disappear, just as he did after foretelling the drought. His persistent search for Elijah shows that he considered the prophet the cause of the drought. He said: I thy servant fear the Lord from my youth.

AS THE LORD OF HOSTS LIVETH.—This was a solemn oath that he would surely confront Ahab, given to quiet the fears of Obadiah. Elijah served the living God; Ahab and his kingdom were followers of Baal, a dead and powerless deity.

ART THOU HE.—Rather, "Art thou here, O troubler of Israel? In this we see that Ahab meant to say that Elijah had caused trouble in Israel. He assumes a bold defiant tone, to frighten the prophets. Elijah answered: I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim."

Remember that a true troubler is not he who brings *grief*, but he who brings *sin* upon any land or soul.

When young, and full of sanguine hope,
And warm in my first love,
My spirit's loins I girded up,
And sought the things above;
Swift on the wings of active zeal,
With Jesus' message flew,
O'erjoyed with all my heart and will
My Master's work to do.

CYNTHIA T. YARBER.

GOSPEL PLEA.

"PREACH THE WORD."

VOL.IX. Edwards, Mississippi, Wednesday, Oct 12th., 1904 No. 39

'Tis the golden glean of an
autumn day,
With the soft rain falling as if
in play;
And a tender touch upon
everything,
As if autumn remembered the
days of spring.
In the listening woods there
is not a breath

To shake their gold to the
sward beneath;
And a glow as of sunshine on
them lies,
Though the sun is hid in the
shadowed skies.

No sorrow upon the landscape
weighs,
No grief for the vanished sum-
mer days;
But a sense of peaceful and
calm repose
Like that which age in
autumn knows.

—*Selected.*

HELPFUL TO ALL.

There is no lesson more impressive than the inspiration from a good life. Such a life was the late Cap. R. H. Smith, who died October the 3d.

Cap. R. H. Smith was for a long time a trustee of this institution and always took a deep interest in its work, visiting every commencement and taking great pleasure in the work, the young people who were trained here, were able to do. However, the interest he took in our work was only a part of his religious and benevolent activities. The war left him without means so he could not do much in afinanicial way, but all that he could do he always cheerfully did. He was a man who anxiously desired to make the world better.

Perhaps in nothing did he show his firm faith more than in his unfortunate suffering. For over a year he has been suffering from a nervous trouble which was much in the nature of soitening of the brain. He struggled earnestly to endure it manfully. The last time he was at the institution, last May he asked me to pray for him that he might be able to show true Christian fortitude in his suffering. He said he wanted me to pray that he may be manly. It was not then known to me how he was struggling against the results of a nervous disease, which finally conquered his will power and in the hour of depression he took carbolic acid ending his life.

Why our Heavenly Father did not answer this earnest petition for fortitude we can not know. It has certainly been answered in the great beyond where his rugged faith ever directed him. There are some things we can not know in this life, but with the poet whittier we can say in simple faith.

I know not where His islands
lift

There frounded palms in air;

I only know I cannot drift

Beyond His love and care.

We caution our readers again to take good care of the extra money they get from cotton this fall. It is very manifest in many localities that good use of the money is not being made. In some sections drinking and carousing is going on and crime is greatly on the increase. It remains for the Christian people to teach the world how to spend this extra money that a kind Providence has given them. This money can be made to do much good in the way building up things that will be useful to our children. Such an age of money making comes only a few times in a century and those who make good use of it are the ones that will control matters for the next hard times. Back in the seventies many took advantage of the plenty money and they are well fixed now. Many of those who are the poorest now are the ones that had a good chance then and did not use it. God blesses those who ars faithful with the money he gives them.

THE GOSPEL PLEA

A Weekly Religious News paper

Issued every Wednesday

from the Press of

THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE

Published in the interests of the cause of Primitive Christianity and the general interests of the Negro Race.

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THE GOSPEL PLEA

EDWARDS, MISSISSIPPI.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Edwards, Miss.

The agitators of race animosities should remember that such things soon go far beyond their intentions and control. Before the war with Spain we saw only the suffering of Cuba. Our hearts went out for them and we benevolently promised them freedom. But when war was declared our ships sailed for Manilla and a new question —An American Colonial System— was before the people. It soon went beyond their control. The agitators should know what they are beginning may continue through two or three hundred years of our history. The white people and the negroes of the South can make their choice. They can make their living together as being chained to a body of death or they can become the most wealthy and most conservative people in the union. To do the better, the negroes will need to be very patient and forebearing, ever ready to suffer indignity; and the Christian white people will need to give themselves unreservedly to lifting up this people. The agitator must be cast out.

—o—

Can you see any valid reason why you should not take up the educational collection on the Sunday before Thanksgiving? You failed last year by letting it go by unnoticed. Is it best for you to do so again? Suppose we could raise this collection to $1000, we could employ a good man as general evangelist. This man could go throughout the south, and everywhere the white church and the negro church would co-operate to make his efforts a success. It is not a big thing to raise $1000. If every preacher will do his duty it can easily be done. If the churches in Claiborne County together with half a dozen churches in Texas would give one dollar each the work would be accomplished.

—o—

A word to the North-east Texas Convention. Without hindering the work you are trying to do in the least you can join in this collection on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The work of the general collection is one in which you are all interested. Your people have made a good start and those who lead them must become as broad as their people or else the work must fail. To successfully run a school in Texas to compete with the large schools in Sherman, Austin and Terrell it will require $10000 a year. Your people are not made of the martyrs spirit that they will send their sons and daughters when you are not able to equip. It is an absolute certainty that you will have to have something behind you besides the North-east district or you will fail. What you have already done is excellent, but it must fail unless you broaden out. Why not urge your people to observe the Sunday before Thanksgiving as a general collection day, while not slacking in the least of your effort for your college at Palestine? Your work is already drifting dangerously near to a contest with the state work. This must end in disaster. The North-east district has an opportunity in this matter to save its posterity a long waste of energy in fruitless contest It is not often that men have a chance to do so much good by one single act. Will the leaders rise to the occasion?

—o—

—L. C. Williams writes:—"There will be a Ministerial Meeting held at St. Luke Christian Church, Martin, Miss. on the 5th. Saturday and Sunday in Oct. All elders and deacon are expected to be prsent especially the Christians in No. 1 and 2 districts. We will elect our Dist. Evangelist in this meeting.

—We are preparing to send the PLEA to many additional addresses for the next four weeks. We expect to give up much of our space to the educational collection. Those to whom the paper comes who have not heretofore read it, are invited to become regular subscribers. You need the PLEA. The PLEA needs your help and you are invited to come into the family.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION.

WHO CALLS.

By Fannie L. Hay.

As I sat in the large comfortable settee on the beautiful campus at Mt Beulah, one afternoon, looking at the tall trees, with outstretched limbs covered with sleek green leaves and gray moses, measuring from one to two yards in length, swaying gently to and fro in the playful breeze, my mind whispered, "This grand display of nature, is a call." Then I questioned myself, to whom? and I whispered, "to man." Then the wind rustled among the leaves, the moss waved, a little mocking bird sang its melody as if it picked up my words to sing to the nations, "to man! to man! a call to man!" I was lost in thought.

How many would answer that call, how many would accept the beauties of nature as a call to man, to the noble work of making every creature better and more worthy of its beauties? Ah, how many?

Then I fell to thinking of the many kinds of calls, the many positions of life that must go empty, because so few will answer.

I could see in those grand old trees a welcome to the negro girls and boys. In the sighing, sobbing breeze, I recoganized a tender pleading to the parent. The little leaves seemed to whisper entreaties. The long grey moss, I whispered, is the honored aged who are waving encouragement back to the young, I knew who called. It was God, the aged and the schools.

Dear girls and boys, the beautiful woods, the stretched prairies, all bedecked with flowers and pretty grasses, that nod in the winds, are a call to you, a call from God, to make yourself and all around you better, happier, and more anxious to be beautiful, to possess that beauty of soul, that the world is sorely in need of, the beauty that pleases God.

Listen! The call is sounded from every school in the country, "Come! young man, come! young woman, prepare yourself to do life's work." Thousands are answering, but still, that number who have not answered is so great that they jostle each other, as they move on in their downward way. They can not hear nature calling. The din of infamy drowns its soft voice, nor yet the voice of our schools. Then let after them, entreat them, to listen and obey the call.

All nature, literture and art, is but a call from God to man, to accept the best gifts of life.

The little dirty children we see at play in the allies of the cities, are an appeal to the sublime nature of man, to reach down and lift them from the gutters of shame to the uplands of truth and purity. who will answer this call?

God is watching from his throne in glory, the Christians of to day. He sees our every movement. He knows our hearts' desire. Let us be careful that they are pleasing.

If we want to make the world better God will help us, many possess a powful influence. It is easy for them to lead one to his salvation or destruction. These are the ones who are under great responsibilities to them. The call is uttered in thundering tones. What if they should fail to heed it? Their doom is fixed.

There is not a place in all the world so secluded, as to be destitute of a reminder to man, should he penetrate to it, of the great call, for which man should live.

Man was once so wrapped up in sin that he was cut off from all that was good and pure. When a great call was made in the heavens, some one must needs make a great sacrifice, that man might be reconciled to God, Christ answered. He made the sacrifice. He gave his life that man might live, that the Bible might be given as a guide to his divine abode.

Many are the lives that are being spent in heathen lands in answer to the call from over the seas. Every Christian is duty bound to answer the pitiful cry, "come over and help us." Some may say, "I can not go to the heathen lands therefore the call is not to me.' Yes, the call is to you, to me, all who wear the name Christian.

If you cannot cross the ocean,
And the heathen lands explore;
You can find the heathens nearer.
You can help them at your door.

Reports from the Field.

TEXAS LETTERS.

Dixon, Tex.,
Sep. 26, 1904.

Dear Editor of Gospel PLEA: Please find space in your paper for my letter to the Texas brethren.

I have just returned from Mt. Vernon, Tex., my old home, where I made the good confession of Christ as God's son and was baptized by Bro. Wilks (white.) Myself and five sisters held fellowship with the white brethren four years and then they prepared us a place of worship and helped us to get a preacher. It was old Bro. Warren Mitchel who is no more.

The church at Mt. Vernon is moving along nicely under the management of Elder Rodgers as pastor. He has just closed a meeting on the first Sunday in this month, with nine additions.

I was a surprise to the church and pastor, as they had no notice of my coming, but they received me gladly. Bro Rodgers insisted on me to preach for him at noon but I told him that my work was not to preach where a church had a preacher, but my business was to find out about the spirit of his church and him respecting our college movement in N. E. Tex. They say that they will stand back no longer, but would be in our Nov. meeting, hand, head, heart and pocket-book.

Now as I am traveling in that work I urge all the people to take an active part in the work and after I lay our plans before them, I hope they are ready to come in and help. Now let us not fear, for the Lord is on our side. The convention is about at hand and there is much to do. It has occured to my mind that we will pay the $500 option and have money enough to build a substantial tenant house. Now, if there is any brother having children who wants to rent our college farm, it would be well to put in your application at the Nov. convention.

The land will produce most anything raised in this country. We don't want any one who can not be represented as being a reliable farmer, nor do we want any one who uses intoxicating drinks. We want a man who believes in the Negro interprise. So we want one who can be represented as a trust-worthy worker and will manage the farm and fruit trees to an advantage to the college work. Such men, we hope, will have their application in the Nov. convention. Now I have just received a letter from the General ticket agent for reduced rates for one and a third fare round trip. Tickets will be on sale from eighth to ninth. Be sure to call for your tickets on the said date for sale. They will last until Monday Nov. 14th.

Yours in Christ,
A. J. HURDLE.

Monroe, Texas.
Sept. 27, 1904.

Editor of PLEA:—Please allow space for a few words to the Brethren of the Longview Sub-District. Now Dear Brethren, we are near our last board meeting before the convention.

We ask every convention to be represented in the October board. The next board will meet with Harris Chapel Christian church. Come one, come all and help us. We are going to raise more money this year, than any other of the three districts. Please find 25 cts. in stamps, for the PLEA Send the PLEA to A. E. Venters, Glade-Water, Texas for three months.

Our sub- board meeting will convene at Harris Chapel Christian church. Friday before the 5th. Lord's day in October, at 1 p. m. We ask all and expect all preachers, elders and deacons to meet us.

Please come brethren, come sisters. You all must come and help your President to raise some money. You all are doing much this year. This is your last chance before the convention.

So come one, come all.

W. L. MORELAND.

EDUCATIONAL COLLECTION.

Sunday before Thanksgiving is educational day. This day, as I know, is the only day the colored churches attempt to observe in a general way. Each pastor, preacher and congregation from ocean to ocean and from lakes to gulf, are asked to observe this day.

The reasons why we should observe this day are so many and so very plausible in themselves, that a mere reference to them brings conviction as to the wisdom and great necessity of observing the day in an appropriate way. As a church we must educate and train ourselves to pay more attention to appeals for the general good of the church. It is right for congregations and states to look well to their own affairs, but we can't do this and ignore the appeals for the good of the entire church. Our Educational work is our work. Not mine, or yours, or theirs, it is our work. The usefulness of a religious people is very largely determined by their efforts in educating and evangelizing mankind. We, as much as those around us, on the account of the position we occupy in churchdom, ought to expect great efforts on our part along these lines. In view of our position, claims and appeal, we can less afford to fail along these lines than any other religious people on earth. The failure will affect us, in the sight of all the thinking people, more than any others. The real need of our Educational work is so great. We are so far behind in this work, upon which our future depends. The apathy along this line is more destructive to our progress and success than any other one thing. Do not the enthusiasm and zeal of the denominations and their accomplishments along these lines cause us to hang our heads in shame? What a task it is to show the people that denominationalism is wrong when they are excelling us so far in such a good work. How can our preachers and evangelists meet the argument without pleading guilty before man and God? Is it right to hinder the great plea of the Gospel by this apathy? Is the Methodist brother any more guilty by hindering it by false teaching and good actions than we with true teaching and false or no actions at all? If you were a non-churchman and had to make a choice of one of the evils which would you choose? We can't be right and inactive. If we are right our activity and work is the best proof on earth. much better than a "big" doctrinal sermon that "knocked the other fellows out." Why "knock him out" we haven't something better for him to do to keep out. Is it not better to let him alone doing something than it is to "knock him out" and he do nothing? The A. M. E. church of Texas raised more money in the opening service of "Paul Quinn College" here yesterday than the entire Christian brotherhood raised on our last Educational Day. This was not any special financial effort either, simply preaching and a collection. Now how do you suppose I felt sitting there beholding the proceedings? Well, perhaps you think I ought not have been there. Yes, I ought, and was there and said words of highest praise of their actions and wished more of the Christian people had been there to see how willingly and liberally they gave. However I am sure most of us have seen it. With eighteen "Presiding Elders" (I think it was) the report showed that only one had failed to raise his apportionment on their Educational Day. The Bishop plainly stated, this one had to do better if he expected work under him.

Now brethren I feel deep down in my soul that we are going to do better this year and make onr Educational Day what it ought and must be.

I am going to do better myself. It is my duty to God and my church. Don't you feel the same way? Texas is the largest state in the union. She ought to lead on this Educational Day. So as your servant I ask each preacher and church to observe the day and send something to the National Board. It is right to do it. It is wrong not to do it. Indeed we should make this a great day and larger Thanksgiving to increase the great wealth of mind and soul. How glad we should be to make this Thanksgiving. Write about it, pray for it talk it up (not down) in your church. Preach about it and when the day comes, observe it. as becometh a Christian church and we will make a record pleasing to God, and one, that He will bless: and we can look back to it with pride and thankfulness and not with shame.

(Continued on 7th. page.

C. W. B. M. DEPARTMENT.

All C. W. B. M. dues; that is the ten cents a month, paid by each member should be sent to. Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Send the money at the close of each quarter.

Sept. 25th. 1904.
414 Edison St. Argenta Ark.

Dear Editor:—

Please report our Sept. quarterly, ending as follows:—

Kerr sent to General Funds $1.50, and to State fund $1.00, Pine Bluff State fund $.50, and General Funds $1.00, Blackton sent to State fund $1.50, and General Fund $1.00, North Argenta sent to State fund $.50, and General Fund $2.60, Sherrell sent to State fund $.50, and General Fund $1.00, Washington sent to State fund $.25, and General Fund $1.00. The total sent off $12.35.

I have not as yet heard from Wrightville and Toltec. I pray that they will all rally to the front in this work and not get too far behind.

MRS. SARAH L. BOSTICK.

The above letter from Sister Bostick of Ark. is encouraging indeed. This faithful woman is able to do so much for the C. W. B. M. just because she is faithful to the work that comes to her hand I wish that some sister in each auxiliary would write regularly to the PLEA; telling of the meetings; every such report would be helpful to others. I will be glad to write personally to any society or woman who wants help in getting out programs, arrange for public gatherings or on any matter that will promote the interest of the work. Let us make this C. W. B. M. Column in the GOSPEL PLEA a means of communicating with each other on this missionary effort which means so much in the evangelization of the world. Do we not deem it a high and holy privilege to be co-workers together with the Lord in bringing back a lost world to the Redeemer? In the midst of all the busy cares that come to us as home-keepers, wives and mothers, we yet can find time to pray for missions; to read of the triumphs of the gospel in this and other lands, to speak the earnest word to friend and neighbor; so shall our lives be broadened, and our sympathy quickened toward those who are not so happily situated as we are, and we should be able by our zeal and interest to enlist others in the great work.

There is nothing more contagious than enthusiasm. If you go to your auxiliary meeting with your hearts aglow and your faces beaming with love for the work, then have an earnest message to give, you can not but awaken a desire in those who see and hear you to become a memter of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions.

* * *

Some one has said "If you would have a mansion in heaven you must lay the corner stone upon earth."

* * *

In the sermon on the feeding of the five thousand by our Lord, a minister lately spoke of the lad who brought the barley loaves and the woman who made them. Little did she think, as she pounded the grain and mixed the dough and tempered the heat of the oven, that her loaves were to feed the gathered companies, who sat in orderly ranks on the green grass, and were refreshed by a meal presided over by Christ. As little do we know where unto one small act of ours may grow. The obscure agents in this world are often stronger than those who are seen.

—*Intelligencer.*

* * *

Souls are not saved in bundles. The Spirit asks of every man, how is it with thee?

In Africa 438 languages and 153 dialects are found. Into only about 70 of these has any portion of the Bible been translated. Five hundred of them have not even been reduced to writing. The Soudan, with its 60,000,000 people, is still without a single Protestant missionary who can speak the language, though three societies are now endeavoring to begin work there.—Missionary Review of the World.

"Mount up the heights of wisdom
And crush each error low;
Keep back no word of knowledge
That human heart should know.
Be faithful to thy mission
In service of the Lord,
And then a golden chaplet
Shall be thy just reward."

CURRENT EVENTS.

Senator George F. Hoar of Massachusetts died last week. Senator Hoar was a statesman of extraordinary ability and while he was not on the winning side of many of the great questions before the country, he made a profound impression on the life of the nation. Massachusetts has given the country three great Senators. They were Daniel Webster, Charles Sumner and George F. Hoar.

—o—

A great prosperity has overtaken the state. The bank deposits and number of banks have been doubled in the past four years. And this prosperity means more than these figures would indicate. The bank deposits previous to four years ago were all made by a few moneyed men, whereas the deposits now are largely made by the common people. This prosperity will mean good or evil to our people as they choose to make it. The unreasonable agitation of the race question on the part of white politicians and profligacy on the part of the negroes can easily convert this prosperity into a disaster. We need statesmen who can see far enough ahead to lead our people aright in this matter.

———o———

The Japanese have failed to take Port Arthur by assault and are settled down to a regular siege. It is reported that they lost ten thousand men in the last assault.

———o———

President Roosevelt has been earnestly requested to appoint a commission to investigate the condition of affairs in the Congo Free State. Our readers will remember that we have at numerous times referred to the atrocities that are committed on the natives of the Congo Free State. All the missionaries of the region are appealing to their boards to do something to stop the miserable work. President Roosevelt, however, has announced that he will not interfere. He fears that this would be regarded as an unnecessary interfeanance in old world affairs. This is probably true, but it is significant that all the world is begining to look to the U. S. for all radical steps in reform.

Continued from 5th. page.

EDUCATIONAL COLLECTION.

The time is here in which we must cease to make excuses, finding fault and setting up selfish objections and take care of our Educational work and save the reputation of the Christian brotherhood. Brethren let us observe the Day as one man this year and Oh! what blessings will come to the work and to our souls.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM ALPHIN,
Waco, Texas

Elderville. Texas.
Sept. 27th 1905.

Dear Editor of the GOSPLE PLEA:
Allow me space in the PLEA to say a few words to the sisters about the C. B. A. of the Longview Sub-District.

Now dear sisters when we were at the convention last year we talked much about what we were going to do this year. This year is nearly gone and we have not done much. Remember talk is cheap but it will not build school houses nor colleges. Our time is nearly all spent. Our last meeting is almost here at our door .Friday before the 5th Sunday in Oct. brings the last board.

Now come and be with us and help us to raise $25.00 in the board. All of the C. B. A.'s are expected to pay up all their back dues. Remember the dues are only $1.00 per quarter. Each one can tell just how far he is behind. Come now and let us all take a part in this grand work for it is ours. Unless we strive hard to meet more often our great motto "A College for Texas" will be a failure. Let us meet the next and last board before the convention meets in Longview and help to raise the above amount. I know you all have got some money now. Cotton is a good price and I am most as sure we can do some thing now.

May God help us that we may do more this year than we have in the past.

Yours in the work,
A.E. Colbert, President.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

LESSON IV. OCT. 23.

ELISHA AND NAAMAN.

II. Kings v. 1 — 14.

MEMORY VERSES.— Verses 10-14.

PLACES.— Damascus, Samaria and River Jordan.

TIME.— About B. C. 884.

GOLDEN TEXT.— Heal me, O Jehovah, and I shall be healed; save me and I shall be saved. — Jer. xvii.

INTRODUCTION.

The city of Damascus was the capital of the Syrian kingdom. It was more than a hundred miles from Jerusalem, the capital of the kingdom of Israel.

The journey which Naaman made must have taken about three days to make it. His disease was one that caused him much trouble and he was willing to give all he possesed to be healed of it.

NAAMAN.— He was what we call a commander-in-cheif. He was very rich and was a great friend of Benhadad II., the king of Syria. He was a great warrior; and he had been very useful in war against the king's enemies.

A LEAPER.— This is a disease of the skin, and one that causes its victom much suffering.

THE SYRIAN.— The Syrian kingdom was northeast of the kingdom of Israel.

A LITTLE MAIDEN.— Her name is not given. She had been taken captive by the Syrians and was made to wait upon Naaman's wife. It is probable that this maid had been carried into Syria for some providential reason. It caused those heathen people to know that Jehovah the God of Israel is the only true God.

SHE SAID UNTO HER MISTRESS.— She knew that Elisha could perform maricles and she wished that Naaman, her master could be where Elisha was, that he might be healed.

AND ONE WENT IN.— It was Naaman or one of his messengers that heard her speak.

AND TOLD HIS LORD.— "That is, Naaman's lord, or the king of Syria."

THE KING... .. SAID.— The king of Syria was very anxious for Naaman to be healed, because he was a very useful man to him. He made preparation and sent Naaman to the king of Israel to be healed.

TEN TALENTS.— This amount in our currency is estimated to be about eighteen thousand dollars.

SIX THOUSAND PIECES OF GOLD.— "Supposed to be sheckels. The amount in our money is variously estimated from thirty six to sixty thousand dollars" (GILBERT).

TEN CHANGES OF RAIMENT.— "Costly clothes constituted a favored species of wealth, in those days. Rich people were accustomed to invest their wealth, to a considerable extent, in costly fabrics and lay them up" (TODD). All of these things were sent to the king of Israel that he might heal Naaman.

HE RENT HIS CLOTHES.— This was a custom among the people in the East. It was a custom to express grief, sorrow, and sometimes anger.

AM I GOD?— This was what Jehoram, king of Israel asked. He thought that the king of Syria was trying to raise a quarrel with him, because he asked him to do something he could not do. The leprosy was a very contagious disease, to cure it, was equal to raising the dead.

WHEN ELISHA . ... HEARD.— We do not know how he heard of it: but it is probable that the actions of the king caused much excitement, and caused the news to spread rapidly through the city.

After the king could not help the afflicted man, Elisha desires to see him.

SO NAAMAN CAME.— The gifts which he had brought for the king were now ready to be given to Elisha if he would cure him. Naaman did not go into Elisha's house; but stayed in his chariot and sent for him. Elisha refused to come out to him; but he sent him word to go and wash in Jordan seven times.

ABANAH AND PHARPER.— These were important rivers of Damascus and he reasoned that the waters of those streams were as good or even better than the waters of the Jordan. He expected that Elisha would come out and go through some performances and heal him in a mysterious way. Naaman being deceived in the way that he expected to be healed, drove away very much displeased. His servants told him that if Elisha had asked him to do some great thing, he would have done it: and finally they persuaded him to obey. When he had gone and dipped seven times in the Jordan, he was made whole. It was not the water that cured him: but he was healed because he obeyed the word of God through his servant, Elisha. "To obey, is better than sacrifise."

B. O. HURDLE.

GOSPEL PLEA.

"PREACH THE WORD."

VOL.IX, Edwards, Mississippi, Wednesday, Oct 19th., 1904 No. 40

HELPFUL TO ALL.

REASONS WHY THE NEGRO DISCIPLES SHOULD GLADLY COME INTO CO-OPERATION WITH THE WORK BEING DONE BY THE GENERAL BOARD—C. W. B. M.

First, The work among the negroes in the United States is placed in the hands of the Christian Woman's Board of Mission. It almost seems a needless thing to ask negro Disciples to co-operate with the Board which grants the only aid given to their race in the United States, by their church.

I will state three, perhaps, special reasons why the negro Disciples should come into co-operation with the C. W. B. M. It has been said to me by officers of the C. W. B M. "Look at our books and see how few of the negro churches and Disciples give to the C. W. B. M—the Christian Woman's Board of Missions. They give to the other societies of our church, but they do not give to this Board, and it is this Board which renders them aid. And very few of the churches have auxiliaries to the C. W. B. M. In short, they do not co-operate with us." It is time for the negro churches to remember the Board which is giving to their race in the United States great help year by year.

Another reason why you should co-operate with the C. W. B. M., is as an expression of gratitude for the great work it is doing for your people. Last year the C. W. B. M. gave over fifteen thousand dollars from its treaury for educational and evangelistic work among the negroes in the United States. This amount does not include the income from real estate which went into the work, nor the income from schools, but this was simply a direct gift out of their treasury, in one year, for the elevation of your people. Surely you will not for your own sakes, allow an opportunity to pass without expressing your gratitude for this great gift to your people.

Third, if you are Disciples of Christ you will wish to give for others. The spirit of Christ is the spirit of sacrifice. Most of you to whom this appeal comes have had opportunities not known to your race in other parts. You should be glad to have a part in bringing them aid. I have no faith in the prosperity of any Church of Christ which is not glad of an opportunity to help in giving salvation to others. Any church which says we can not help others will become so small that it soon can not help itself. Any preacher who will not urge a contribution for the Educational Rally Day in his church because he is afraid of sending away money which might come to him will soon have his church so small that it will starve him also. Any preacher who will urge sacrifice for larger, more unselfish things will so enlarge his church that it will take care of him also.

How are you asked to co-operate with the general Board—Christian Woman's Board of Missions? The negro churches are asked to co-operate through Educational Rally Day. The time of this Day is Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 20th. 1904. The negro churches are asked to observe this day with special and appropriate service that they may learn of the great work being done and then to give such an offering as they may be prompted to give in appreciation of the work being done.

It is expected that this will be a grand day this year; that the Day will be generally observed. All offerings from this day will be published in the GOSPEL PLEA and also will be published on the Rally Day Bulletin of next year. You will want your church in this list, and you will want your state to stand higher than it did last year.

Get ready for this Day and see that it is observed in your church.

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THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE

Published in the interests of the cause of Primitive Christianity and the general interests of the Negro Race.

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THE GOSPEL PLEA

EDWARDS, MISSISSIPPI.

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Personals and News Items

—Eld. A. J. Hurdle writes to correct a statement in the PLEA concerning the aim of the brethren in the North-east District. We are sorry we do not have space for his letter He says:- The writer says we can do our work alone. We hope no such impression may be made on the minds of the people as we are aware that the work we are planning requires the sympathy of all who wish our success in the work of a colored school in Texas and we want to assure all that this is a statement of our motive. Therefore we ask that these resolutions may be printed in this letter.

I. BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Northeast Texas Christian Convention (colored) do desire to establish and operate a Theological and Industrial College in Texas.

II. WHEREAS, The educational institution will be alike beneficial to the State, County and City in which it is located, we do humbly beg the privilege of locating said institution at our purchase choice.

III. We do hereby solicit your good will, your endorsement, your protection as law-abiding citizens against intruders and trespassers upon our rights, privileges, liberty and possessions.

IV. We do further humbly and heartly solicit your liberal donation in establishing this grand educational movement to help better the ignorant condition of the colored race, and to improve their moral status.

V We do therefore authorize and appoint a committee of men on location of said Industrial School. The committee on location, and whomsoever may be appointed by the Executive Board, shall act as soliciting agents for the same.

VI. Much care and pains shall be taken by the Committee on Solicitation to secure the approval and signatures of the County and City officers of each county canvassed.

VII. The Soliciting Committee shall be furnished with soliciting papers in printed form, and signed by the Executive Board of the Northeast Texas Convention. It shall first be presented to the County Judge, County Attorney, Mayor of the City and City Attorney; then to the Governor of Texas

T. E. CAMPBELL, Sec'y. Longview, Texas. REV. A. J. HURDLE, Pres. Dixon, Texas.

S. R. Daniels, Treasurer, Dixon, Texas.

G. W. Taylor, Corresponding Sec'y, Palestine, Texas.

Rev. H. M. Johnson, District Evangelist, Tyler, Tex.

Noah Johnson, Chairman of Sub-Board, Rockwall, Tex

Houston Euller, Omaha, Tex.

B. Hays, Palastine, Tex.

W. L. Moreland, Monroe, Tex.

—We are glad to publish the following from Dallas Texas.

We the Young St. Christian Church are getting a long fairly well.

To our surprise Bro. Jacob Kenoly came to us recently from Bentonville, Arkansas and formerly a student of the Southern Christian Institute.

He gave us three exellent sermons. I find Bro. Kenoly an exellent young man and well equipped for the Master's work. I am of the opinion that any church would do well who will be fortunate enough to secure his services. Bro Kenoly shows the work of Bro. Lehman. God grant that Brother Lehman will be spared to prepare more such men. We are sorry that we can not retain Bro. Kenoly in Dallas.

Fraternally yours

T. H. ROUTH

—The church at Center Point, Texas gave a box supper to raise money to build a new church. With that and their rally day they raised $109.68.

—Tickets for the Longview convention will be on sale, Nov. 8th. and 9th, good to return until the 14th.

—Toby Barks of England Arkansas sends in $1 for subscription to the PLEA.

See the the ↓

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Per. member.
Daingerfield, Roxton and Shelton Hill follow suit.
Beaumont, also and we feel satisfied about Taylor, Waco, and others that we have not mentined. We hope to raise one thousand dollars on that day, and can do so easy. Now let every pastor, elder and deacon work to make this rally a success.

I will leave on the 8th. inst. for Carey, Tex, where I will present our plea to the people. Rember brethren, that all of our plans and methods are nothing except they are steeped in prayer.

God must be in our efforts first, middle, last and all the time, without him we can do nothing so I ask an Interest in your prayers.

To every Preacher Elder and and Decan let me say, that the work is asking for your immediate response. Don't wait. This is no time to wait but to work I am your for my part.

M. Knight,

State Evangelist.

MISSISSIPPI LETTER.

To the readers of the GOSPEL PLEA:

We have read with eagerness the reports from the Texas work. The school question seems to be one of importance, indeed it should be. It would be a noble thing should the disciples of Texas unite upon this school question. If their forces are united they can build quite a college which is so much needed. I fear should they commence in a divided way to build two colleges at once for a while their aspiration will run high, but when the noblest efforts and greatest sacriffice are required to accomplish the desired end, it may be that aspiration to outdo the other party will have weakened and the spirit to give will have lost its vitality.

Then the work must stop for awhile if not for all time to come. Therefore those most concerned should come together and consider the great undertaking considerng the strength of the disciples in ambitious determination and the ability to stick to a thing that will be an output of money for years to come before they can see the results for good. Our race, our plea, in short, the Master's cause needs educated men and women. To have them we must have schools and schools of our own that the aspiation of students may be lifted up so qualifying themselves for teaching.

To build a college requires push energy, benevolence and thousands of dollars. At the head of any great concern there must be a financier whose ambition is to succeed and not only to succeed but a determination to make the Institution one that will give credit to a race, state, and country.

In every state there should be a college. It would be well if high schools were established a sufficent distance from the college that they may become feeders to the college. By that means we would be able to build up a great school that would be known and felt throughout ages. May we enter upon these great undertakings prayerfully.

Bro. J. N. Turner, the district worker for the Northern part of the state will endeavor to hold his district meeting some time in November. No doubt the meeting will be held with the Lyon congregation. He is in hopes to be able to have the following congregation to represent in the meeting.

We had a letter from Bro. Turner stating that they had added to the Mound Bayou membership since the convention ten members. Bro. Johnson. the clerk of the Christian Rest congregation in La., sent in seven dollars but it was too late to be reported in the convention.

The writer had arranged to go to Leeville La. to hold a meeting by the request of Eld. F. Laneheart a white preacher. Just as we were about to leave for Leeville we received a telegram not to come since the arrangement for a place to hold a meeting was not as secure as thought. We hope to be able to hold a meeting some time later the Lord knows the best time.

St. Clair, one of the Port Gibson, members. and Miss Katie Blackburn, the daughter of Bro. Wm. Blackburn were joined in holy wedlock on the 14th of Sept. at the home of the bride. The first Lord's day in November there will be a rally at Christian Chapel. We hope to raise a good collection. May the Lord bless an perserve our lives. — K R. Brown.

C. W. B. M. DEPARTMENT.

All C. W. B. M. dues; that is, the ten cents a month paid by each member should be sent to Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Send the money at the close of each quarter.

Sherrill, Ark.
Sept. 25, 1904.

The auxiliary at this place was organized on the fifth Lord's day in May. We have six members.

We have sent off $1, 50 to General Funds We have not sent anything to the state treasurer, that is, for state fund, but will send some soon. I intend to send some money on my subscription next month. I hope you will send my paper regularly. I trust we will grow in the grace and in the knowledge of the truth, also that we may learn our duty better.

Yours in the work,
R. B. Ivy.

Parhamo, La.
Sept. 28, 04.

Dear Editor, please allow space in the PLEA:—

I wish to say something about the woman's work at Christian Rest. We met on the fourth Lord's Day in this month and held a rally. The church was called to order by the president. Hymn sung from Gospel Call part one Hymn No. 24, "I Want to be More Like Jesus."

Scripture lesson read from the twenty-eight chapter of Matthew, prayer by one of our brethren. Hymn by the President.

After which the house was given in charge of Bro. Z. W. Harper who proceeded to call off the program. Brother Z. E. Hooper attended to the finances. We had the Baptist preacher with us who spoke well on our part and two of our own preachers spoke. After preaching we proceeded to call the roll as our usual form. Invitation Song was sung, and had two joiners, then dis-missed with prayer by Elder A. Watkins. All went on lovely and all went home rejoicing.

Yours for the work,
S. A. HOOPER.

good women were organized into a C.W.B.M Auxiliary a little over a yerr ago, by Sister Sarah Bostick, but were persuaded to withdraw from the National C W. B. M. We do sincerely hope that they may reconsider this and again become identified with the great host of women who publish the good tidings. In unity there is strength.—Editor.]

CHRISTLESS WOMEN.

There are five hundred million Christless women in the world! This fact should stir the souls of the women who claim Christ as Lord of all.

America spends annually one hundred and fifty million of dollars for candy—more than enough to evangelize these millions. These Christless women are not allowed to claim immortality or to call their souls their own.

Except as the mothers of sons, they are despised. They are either toys or beasts of burden. In China the water buffalo is more highly regarded than the wife, because as a native said: "It is easier to get a wife than a buffalo."

These women have dwarfed intellects. The fruits of heathenism, as seen in women, are; envy, jealousy, sensuality, greed and malignity. What else could be expected, the physical condition of women in heathendom is too awful to describe. Their sufferings, and heartaches, their hopelessness can not be fully appreciated by the readers. One would think that their eloquent plea on the grounds of their helplessness would touch every womanly heart.

Twenty years ago there were twenty million women in Canton, China, and not one woman physician. That means that they died without medical attention. The men of the east can not be raised without the moral uplift of womanhood; together they rise or fall. The estimation in which man holds woman is the index of the state of the nation. The girl baby is usually unwelcome. When she grows to girlhood she is too often uncherished. When she marries she is commonly unloved, and when death seals the last sad chapter of her history she is unmourned.

The work of our women medical missionaries forms one of the brightest chapters in our history. Woman has never undertaken a more heavenly mission, and no work has been more blessed. Like Christ, they are not only going about doing good, but they are healing the sick and gathering into homes the orphans and outcasts. They are literally bringing in the year of our Lord.

Mrs. LIZZIE W. ROSS.

Daingerfield, Texas.
Oct. 4th 1904.

Dear Editor of GOSPEL PLEA. Please find space in your paper for the following:

Being elected as a member of the State Board at Greenville, I found much success in carrying out my work. The first quarterly meeting was held at Dallas, the second at Daingerfield, the third at Waco, and the fourth at Paris. Having done the work required, I was made choice by them at Paris to serve in the same office for another year. I will have things in better condition for business this year than the past. I expect to have a rally the fourth Sunday in Oct. It is requested of every member in the state to pay a fee of one dollar on that date. I want every pastor to know that it is his duty to see to his church members and Sunday School. We want to raise one thousand dollars that day. This collection is to be sent to A. Mitchell, Dallas Tex. and then forwarded to C. C. Smith of Cincinati, O.

We met Bro. C. C. Smith and Sister Bertha Mason in the Convention. They gave us quite an inducement toward our college. We hope that every disciple of Texas will do all he can to help us. Our convention at Paris was a success. A great deal of money was raised and there was a large delegation. All four departments, the church, the Sunday School, C. W. B. M., and Christian Endeavor were well represented both financially and spiritually. Bro. M. Knight the evangelist came and ran a week's revival. There were seven additions and a collection of twelve dollars, six dollars of which was paid to Bro. Knight. He having organiz d an auxiliary, Sister Anna Wallick was made president, Sister Carrie Easley Sec.

After this Bro. Knight made a trip over to the Oason Church where he thinks the people are dead to the work of the state, but thinks there is some hopes of reviving them. Preaching two nights there, he left for Beaumont.

At the Paris convention I was made one of the committee on the location of the college. Now I have looked out some of the places of our land, since Sister Mason says we need five hundred acres of land. I find that land in our country will cost ten dollars an acre. Dear disciples of Texas, let us be like Paul, "Let us all work together and let there be no division among us. Oh! I would with profound faith in God and a divine passion for humanity that every Christian would sacrifice his time, talent and money for the Christian College in Texas.

H. W. WALLICK.

PROGRAME OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY MEETING

Oct. 22-23, 1904.

1st. day. (1) Prayer services at 10 o'clock lead by Bro. R. J. Walker, of Tillman, Miss. (2). Welcome address by A. J. Edwards, of Martin, Miss. (3). Response Bro. S. P. Winn, of Tillman, Miss. (4). Arrangement for committees. (5). Collection by Bro. Jas. Owens, Tillman, Miss. Adjournment for dinner at 12 o'clock.

After noon: Prayer service led by Bro. Isom Franklin. Martin, Miss.

(2) Reports of schools.

(3) Plans on future work, by different members.

(4) Collection by Bro. J. Crawford, Port Gibson, Miss.

Adjournment.

Second day.

(1) 10: a.m. Prayer services, by Bro. L. R. Garrison, Fayette Miss.

(2) Sunday School conducted by Bro. Robert Brown, Esther, Miss. Song. Never to leave me alone.

(3) Collection, by Bro. N. R. Trevilhon, Port Gibson Miss.

(4) Papers from various schools.

(5) Collection by Bro. Ike Lawson, Esther, Miss.

Let every delegate be on time. Let each one decide before leaving home, that sectarianism must not creep into our ranks.

The watchword is, Come over and help us.

A. J. EDWARDS.

Esther, Miss.
Oct. 6th. 1904.

Dear Editor of the GOSPEL PLEA: Please allow space for these few words.

The Sunday School district to be held beginning Saturday before the first Lord's day in November at C[illegible] Christian Church.

(Continued on 7th. page.)

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Reports from the Field.

ARKANSAS LETTER.

PineBluff, Ark.
Sept. 18th.

Dear Editor.— Please allow me space in your paper for the following:

G.W. Ivry is pastor of Conier Chapel. We had a nice time in our meeting last week, gaining three converts. One was received into the church. We have had a grand time the past year, but we have not raised as much as we should. However I hope that we will do more for Christ in the future than in the past. God help the brotherhood all over the land.

Yours in Christ,
James Conier.

SOUTH CAROLINA LETTER.

Sumter. S. C. Sept. 19th. 1904.

Dear Editor:

You will please publish this in the PLEA for me. I organized a church with 12 members, and a little church with a nice Sunday school. You will please send to them, some Sunday school supplies as they have just started. Send also five copies of the GOSPEL PLEA.

I got them a preacher: but I will be with them next week.

C. G. Jackson is Sup't of the Sunday school of Tinleol, South Carolina.

Yours in Christ, J. Maynard. Evangelist Bamberg, S. C.

KENTUCKY LETTER.

Nicholasville, Ky.
Oct. 7th 1904.

The GOSPEL PLEA:

Dear Editor:—It has been some time since you have heard from the writer, but I am still engaged in the work of the Master. The writer made a recent visit to Circleville, Ky., and received into the church an old man about sixty. He made the good confession and was baptized. Our work here is progressing very well.

The writer preached the funeral of David Lewis, an old honored member of our Church Sept. 16 1904, and also the funeral of Phebia Graves, one of our mothers in the church and also a wife of one of our Elders, on the twenty fifth of Sept.

Loved one long lost, gone before thee,
To the regions of the blest,
Smiling now are whispering o'er thee;
Soon thou'lt find thy looked for rest.
Whispering o'er thee, gone before thee!
Bravely toil, in heaven thou'lt rest,
Loved ones, yes we hope to meet you
After life's last work is o'er
Hope in peace and joy to greet you,
Where peace and joy reign ever more;
Hope to greet you, joyfully meet you,
And in heaven, rest evermore.

Wm. P. RICHARDS.

TEXAS LETTER.

Beaumont, Texas,
Oct. 4th 1904.

Dear Editor:— You will please find space for the following:

I have just returned home after being away about sixty days, being chosen evangelist in the convention at Paris. I began work about Sept., the first. I am glad to say that I have met with fairly good success. Our people are getting their eyes open to facts. They see their present opportunity. They are laying aside division and selfishness and are taking a hold of our plea as fast as I present it.

The first month's, work ha been encouraging. Four auxiliaries were organized, nineteen addition These are good indications. If the work continues this way, and I think it will, there will be a great change in the conditions among the colored Disciples in Texas.

I have tried to visit the churches where I was much needed, before state mission rally day, and as far. as I have been, t e churches have made very liberal pledges. Greenville lead the way with one dollar

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CURRENT EVENTS.

Another great battle has been fought between Mukden and Laio Yang which has been a disasterous defaet for the russians. The losses on both sides will be about seventy thousand. It seems to us that honor and everything else has been satisfied and that Russia could do nothing more honorable than to ask for terms All she can lose is Manchuria now and it certainly would raise her in the estimation of the world.

A representative of the king of Belgium has answered the memorial made to President Rosevelt on the atrocities in the Congo Free State.

In this general denial is made of the changes. For two years the king has strenuously denied that cruelty is practical, while the missionaries are unanimous in testfying that they are committed and offer photographs in evidence.

Esther, Miss.

Continued from 3rd. page.

Meeting open at 10 o'clock a. m. Devotional exercises conducted by Bro. Isaac Lawson of Center Church. Remarks by the district worker. Open discussion, collection and adjournment.

After Noon:—Service open at 2 o'clock p. m. Devotional service conducted by Bro. S. L. Yarber of Union Hill.

Reports of schools, Supt. and teachers. Address by Bro. S. Flowers. Subj. Our Duty to the Sunday School. Adjournment.

Second Day Session:—Lord's Day School open 9 o'clock a. m. conducted by Bro. A. Smith and reviewed by Bro. L. C. Williams of Engleside. Devotional service will be conducted by Bro. W. M. Hutchion at 10 o'clock a. m.

Unfinished business.

Collection and Adjournment.

Committee,

A. G. Sneed.

R. B. Brown.

FROM TEXAS.

Oct. 9th 1904

My second meeting this season with the Browning Church is one day old with two aditions, both, from the Baptists. The interest is good. I will, the Lord being willing, continue the meeting until Friday night, then I go to other fields. Now there is a mighty stir among the preachers and churches in northeast Texas. It is just one month until the Longview convention. They are going to attend in large numbers. The delegation is sure to be large. they are coming from the east and from the west the north and south. We want you to meat us there. We assure you of our charity. You shall feast upon our hospitality. Every thing possible will be done fo the comfort of all who attend Don't come late. You cannot afford to miss it. You should be there and meet those whose face you have never seen, and once more shake glad hands with old time friends. Come in the spirit of weekness and prayer, praying and working for peace. Let it be said of the Longview convention. "See how these people love each other". Keep cool and see how sweet you can be. Act nice and be nice. All of this we belive you will do. We don't want any hair pulling nor mud slinging. If any feel like quarreling and wish to show up the ugly side, do that before you leave home, and come to the convention as a Christian gentlemen. We have promised to do our best and thus far every thing bespeaks a glorious convention with a double delegation; and it is quite certain to be a financial record breaker for our brethern in Texas.

So on Monday Nov. seventh be ready with ticket in hand and your bagage checked for the convention town, when the conductor says, "All aboard for Longview". We have made crops this year. Cotton is a good price. We are able to pay debts. and still there are hundreds of dollars amoung our people. We ought to raise one thousand dollars for missions and education this year.

Yours for peace.

H. M. Johnson.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

LESSON V. OCT. 30.

ELISHA AT DOTHAN.

II. Kings vi. 8-23.

MEMORY VERSES.— Verses 15-17.

TIME.— About B. C. 884.

PLACE — Dothan.

GOLDEN TEXT.— The angel of Jehovah encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. —Ps. xxxiv. 7.

INTRODUCTION.

Many interesting incidents occured between this lesson and our last Sunday's lesson. In the latter part of the chapter, where our last lesson is found, is given a story of Gehaza's wicked ness; and in the first part of the chapter in which our present lesson is found, we read about Elisha making an ax swim.

For awhile Israel has been at peace with the Syrians: but Syrians continued to go out in small bands against the Israelites: and war was recommenced between the two nations.

NOW THE KING OF SYRIA.— This king was Benhadad II. He held a counsel with his leading men or generals: and they made preparation to fight the Israelites.

THE MAN OF GOD.— The prophet Elisha. He sent word to the king of Israel how he might avoid passing some of the places that the Syrians were expecting to occupy. The king obeyed Elisha; and thereby saved himself much trouble, perhaps, several times.

THE HEART..... .... TROUBLE.— At first, he might have thought it was an accident that the king of Israel had been able to find out his plans; but when he had been deceived several times, he began to think that some of his own men were revealing their plans to the king of of Israel.

ONE OF HIS SERVANTS SAID.— It is thought by some, that it was Naaman. If it were not Naaman, himself, no doubt it was someone who knew of the cure of Naaman's leprosy by Elisha. When the king of Syria heard this, he sent a great company of men, with horses and chariots to Dothan to capture Elisha. These men went to Dothan by night: and they were expecting to take the city by sup rise.

WHEN THE SERVANT.— Elisha's servant. His name is not mentionep.

WAS RISEN EARLY.— Perhaps he had heard this band of men during the night, and had risen early to see what was going on.

ALAS MY MASTER! HOW SHALL WE DO?—He did not know of the greatness of Elisha's power, when he was under the care of Jehovah. But Elisha did not lose faith in his God. He told the young man that there were more with them than there were with the Syrians.

ELISHA PRAYED.— He prayed for God to open his servant's eyes that he might see how much help they had. God heard Elisha's prayer and opened the eyes of this young man.

HORSES AND CHARIOTS OF FIRE.— "To his vision they took this form, even as they had to Elisha himself when Elijah was taken from him" (ERRETT).

ROUND ABOUT ELISHA.— "They were Elisha's body-guard. So Christ spoke of the twelve legions of angels he could have for a guard, if called for (Matt. ii. 53.). The defenders were there as much before the servant saw them as after. The miracle was, not in their presence, but in the super-natural opening of the vision which enabled the servant to see" (JOHNSON).

WHEN THEY CAME DOWN TO HIM.— That is, when the Syrians had come down to the place where Elisha was, with the intention of taking him by force. He asked God to smite these men with blindness; so that they would be under his influence. His prayer was answered: and he lead them away into Samaria.

AND THEY SAW.— They did not realize their situation until they were entirely under the control of their enemies. This was enough to show them that Elisha was more than an ordinary man; that he was a prophet of God.

MY FATHER.—This was an expression used by Jehoram to Elisha. It was an expression used to show that he had respect for him.

SHALL I SMITE THEM.— It was Jeboram's desire to kill them. Elisha would not consent for him to do that; but on the other hand he told him to set bread and water before them. This was an act of kindness to these men. It was the best way to prevent any more trouble with them. Elisha knew that they would not continue their strife with Israel. Then the king of Israel made a great feast for them: and after this he sent them away.

CAME NO MORE.—"As Dr. Waterland reads it; not until the memory and influence of these examples were gone out of their minds"(BENSON).

B. O. HURDLE.

 Oct or Nov 1904

seems like folly to unletake the establisnmet of a school in which to train them as teachers." George Armstrong had this to say in reply: "Unless we can establish schools and educate of them leaders and teachers of their own people other missionary efforts however earnest and consecrated will prove a failure so far as their permanent elevation." "Yet" said he, "we as christians of the north must do our part but the most telling and lasting work long all lines must be done by leaders of their own people who are properly trained in school like the one I am trying to establish here at Hampton." It is said that the general watched with honest interest the work of his early graduates and was soon convinced that his experiment was a complete success. He lived to introduce Booker T. Washington as the "Moses of his race." This struggle illustrates to me that it is equally true as to support for our institution. While it is the duty of every man to give as God has prospered him for the education and redemption of his weaker brother it is equally true that this work of education and redemption cannot be fruitful of good and lasting results unless those helped can be converted into helpers. For the great teacher has said "Freely ye have received freely give." It is estimated that there are something like a half million Disciples of Christ (colored) in this country.

It is true that we have four schools made possible by the Christian Waman's Board of Missions to which we make small contributions, but the great work of education has not yet begun in our church. We need a lot of trained leaders in the pulpit and in other walks of life from our own schools who can go out and quicken an interest in education and in the fundamental doctrine for which we stand. We need just now some man who can in a large way awaken the people to a sense of their duty and privilege towards our schools. For interest in no work is lasting that does not cement its foundations and corner stone in sacrifice. We need money at Martinville, Va. to carry forward our work and while our brother struggled bravely to arouse the people, our donations have not been as gratifying as we hoped they would be; neither have they been in proportion to our numerical strength. I fear this is true with reference to all of our schools, but I hope not however, I am informsd by our brother C. C. Smith that our educational Rally Day is the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day and the object is that the negro brethren all over the land may learn of the great worw being done in our four schools and through the evangelistic work supported by the C. W. M. and above all that they may catch the spirit of Thanks-giving and may make a thanks-giving for advancement of this work. It may not be generally known, but it is to me most encouraging and greatifying that the C. W. B. M. has done much for our school in Martainsville, Va. They loaned us $600 to buy the present school location. They then donated desks a chapel organ and inclosed the propety with a fence the whole cost including what has been donated on teachers sals ary will probably amount to not less than $300. Now these Christian friends will not stop here. They have said that when we pay back the $600 they will donate a dormitory.

Brethren, can we affiord to lose this God given opportunity to help ourselves and at the same time encourage and prove to our dear friends that their sacrifices are not in vain.

In the name of the little children who need light and in the name of the church we appeal to you to see that every male member of your congregation donate at least fifty cents, every female member twenty-five cents and eveay Sounday School schollar ten ceuts. Brethren; we should do it, we can do it, God givi us hearts to do it.

R. L. PETERS.

Pastor of the 8th. St. Christian Church, Winston-Salem N. C.

Thomas, S. C.
Oct. 55, 1904.

Dear Editor:

You will please give me room in your excellent paper. I am again receiving the PLEA and it seems to me like the lamp lighting the churches. Some of our people have failed to get their paper and they are greatly disappointed.

Eld. E. Brown is very busy. He was called down to River to bury Bro. Pepen's son. We express our sympathy to the family. He was again called on the 22d. to Bro. G. J. Garmont whhse ten year old daughter died. He had scarcely gotten there when he was called to Bro. James Aken whose daughter was very low.

(Continued on 7th dage).

C. W. B. M. DEPARTMENT.

All C. W. B. M. dues; that is, the ten cents a month paid by each member should be sent to Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Send the money at the close of each quarter.

Argenta, Ark.
414 24 St. Oct. 24th 1904.

Dear Editor:—I take pleasure in writing you about my trip to St. Louis and the World's Fair.

This was an enjoyable trip for my husband and me. We saw many wonderful things. The educated horse was a mystey and the City of Jerusalem was quite sad to me, and Oh! so many things that I can not mention just now. After we spent two and a half days at the World's Fair we went out to the Great National Convention which was held on 14th and Olive St. where we met our C. W. B. M. officers from Indianapolis, Ind.

Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Cunningham, Mrs. Moses, Miss Burgess and Miss Pounds are our great leading women workers of the C. W. B. M. also Miss Lyons of Ohio and Miss Lura V Thompson of Ill.

We listened to a splendid report of the work in Mexico by Mrs. McDaniel which aroused every disciple that was present.

On Saturday morning at 10:40 our Bro. C. C. Smith of Ohio gave an address; Subject, "The Training of the Negro." He spoke of the progress of the school at Lum, Ala, also of those in Virginia, Kentucky and the Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss. He told of the great work of Mr. and Mrs. Lehman and the other leaders of these colored schools. I would have been glad to have had every negro of the union to hear him I will say that Bro. Smith is a man for the right place. He is a Christian man, and knows how to treat everybody. He left the thought with us, that Christ died for all nations.

Why don't some of you stingy preachers who oppose every good thing that is uplifting to our race, get out from home, meet these good women and men, who are giving their time and lives for us?

I am glad indeed to see the move of Sister Fannie Hay. May God bless her effort.

Let every body get out to church more often and visit the convention sometimes so we all may have the same understanding in the Master's work.

Yours in the work,

SARAH L. BOSTICK.

I am so glad that Sister Bostick and her husband were privileged to see the World's Fair and to meet in convention with their brethren in the Lord. True to her missionary spirit she writes this interesting letter to pass on to the readers of the PLEA who could not get a glimpse of what she saw and heard.

May her zeal and her exhortations to good works inspire all hearts. [Editor.]

Womanhood—Organization is the watchword, and if the womanhood of the country would do this the salvation of the world is assured. The woman of to-day do not realize that there is a God-given mission, but upon the womanhood and motherhood depend the destinies of the nations.—Rev. W. W. Nevins, Baptist, Washington, D. C.

The Moravian brotherhood leads the missionary force of the world. A humble people, smallest of all in figures, they are a mighty host in the world's redemption. They have one missionary for every fifty-eight members at home, and for every member in the churches at home they have two members gathered from among the heathen. Their missionary battle cry is "To win for the Lamb that was slain the reward of his suffering." The only way we can reward him is by bringing souls to him.

—Our Young Folks.

"Remember that if the opportunity of great deeds should never come, the opportunity for good deeds is renewed for you day by day."

The National Convention of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions was held in St Louis last week. The report of corresponding Sec'y, Mrs. Helen E. Moses, was read by Miss Mattie Burgess. The report was compared with the first year's work when preparatins were made to send two missionaries tn Jamaica and $770 were raised, with the present, the thirtieth year at the close of which there were 15 missionaries in Jamaica: twenty-eight missionaries four assistant missionaries and fifty native helpers in India; nineteen missionaries and assistants in Mexico: four missionaries in Porto Rico; one hundred and thirty-five mission pastors, evangelists and teachers also thirty missionary organizers working in the United States. The board is educating three thousand young people, and has five hundred children in its orphanages. The receips for last year were one hundred and sixty-seven thonsand eighty-four dollars seventy three cents, a gain of almost twenty thousand dollars over the year before.

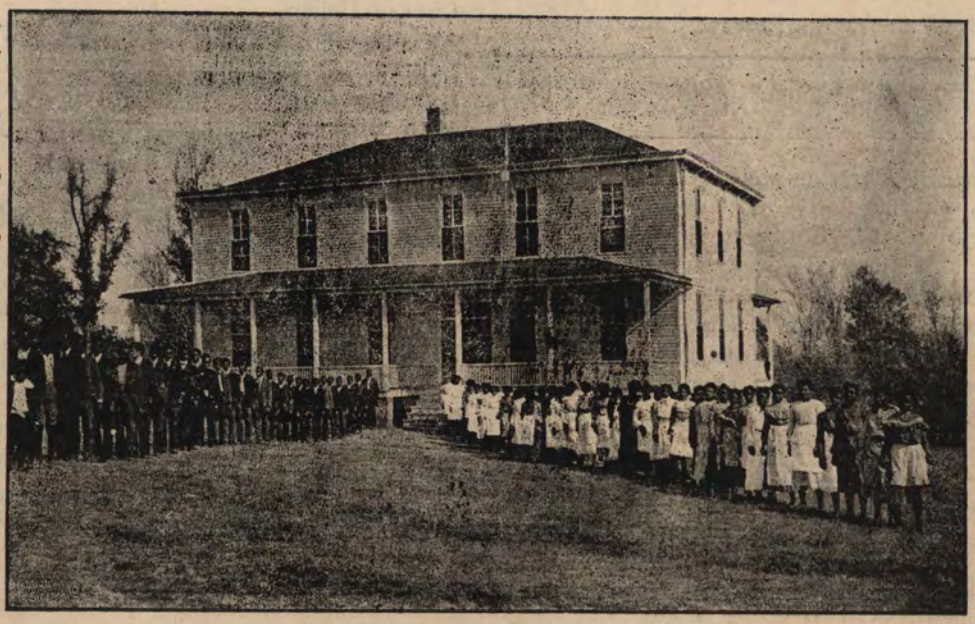
GOSPEL PLEA.

"PREACH THE WORD."

Vol. XI, Edwards, Mississippi, Wednesday, Dec. 21st, 1904 No. 50

BELDING HALL No. 2.

Belding Hall number 2, a cut of which we show you this issue is not as large as number 1, but is even nicer inside and outside than tha building was. It has room for fifty young men. In one end is a large Y. M. C. A. Room where the young men can hold their meetings and can study at night. In the basement is a nice bath room with cement floor. A hot water heating plant is now being installed which will leave all the rooms nice and warm without dirt. In front are four beautiful rooms for the family that looks after the welfare of these young men.



BELDING HALL No. 2.

This building was erected by the young men who are earning their way in school. Many of them knew absolutly nothing of carpentry. They first learned to saw the framing timber and ended with putting on the casing and waniscoting. They are new occupying rooms in the building they have made and are going to school which was earned when they learned to build this building.

In addition to erecting this building they raisd a collection of $40 to purchase seets for the Y. M. C. A. Room. It certainly can be presumed that in doing this work these young men have developed characte suffi- to successfully manage extensive affairs. They are now doing earnest class room work that they may fit themselves intellectually.

A WORD TO THE PARENTS

We have yet room for a few boys who want to work their way through school. If you do not have money enough to send your son to school you should not deprive him of an education so long as he can earn it for himself. He has probably been a good and dutiful boy for you and now ought to give him a chance for himself. Bring him to the S. C. I. January 2nd. bring enough to enter him ($2,50) and to buy his books and a few incidentals ($5,00.) You certainly will want your boy in the row before that building next year. You could get along successfully with out any education but your son can not. If he starts in life with as poor education as you had he will fail. We are using more machinery and in every way we are living more complex than you lived and your son will want to keep up with the advancement of the world. Send him before he takes a notion to leave the old farm and adds one more to the city loafers. This January is the time for you to act.

The result of the election has cleared up the political atmosphere considerably. There seems to be a general desire to relegate the harsher methods to the shades of the past. The feeling is as much felt in the South as in the North. The negro should strive earnestly to show himself modest enought to make good use of the new opportunities.

THE GOSPEL PLEA

A Weekly Religious News paper

Issued every Wednesday
from the Press of

THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE

Published in the interests of the cause of Primitive Christianity and the general interests of the Negro Race.

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THE GOSPEL PLEA

EDWARDS, MISSISSIPPI.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Edwards, Miss.

Last summer the Christian women of Mississippi came very near falling into the error of uniting their work with a secret society. Now the North East District in Texas is falling into the same error. At their late convention they voted to report through the Calanthian, the official organ of a secret order. If you associate the work of the Church with a secret order it will die. An order is a secular society and should never be spoken of in the same place with the work of saving souls.

Personals and News Items.

——State Evangelist, M. Knight, sends one year's subscription for Mrs. Eva Mayweathers. Ida Fuller sends six months for J. R. Spencer.

——Sarah L. Bostick writes that she is having a pleasnt trip in Texas. Six members joined the auxiliary at Greenville, Texas.

—With the beginning of the year we will revise our mailing list. There are about three hundred names on our list which are very far behind and must be droppe}. We are very sorry to do this but we are compelled to do it. If your paper fails to come in the new year, look at the slip and see what the cause is. However in revising the list it might be possible that we would stop some who are not in arrears. If these will write us we will see that they get the paper. To those who are in arrears we wish to say that if they will sit down and send us the arrrears or a part of it, we will gladly carry their names on.

—This issue will be sena to a large number who have been interested in the Educational Collection. We feel that you will want to know how the collection is faring. Many of those to whom the PLEA was sent for two months have subscribed but many have not. We would be glad to have all thoso as permanent subscribers. You need the PLEA and it needs you. It ought to be a natural desire. Wan't you sit down and subscribe for it now?

—Elder M. T. Brown, 2918 State street Flat K. Chicago Illinois, wants to know the address of Evangelist W. A. A. Harris who has been engaged to hold them a meeting. They are well organized for a meeting. Mrs. C. A. Curl is chairman of the tract committee, Mrs. Martha Hubbard chairman of baptising committee, Julia Howell chorister, and R. Matthews and Jas. Conrad Ushers.

—Elder William Alphine writes: "We have had the State Convention chartered, and we now feel that, so faras that goes, we are safe. We are greatly incouraged with Brother Knight's work and have great hopes for the future.,'

College Items.

Our Farmer's Meeting last Thursday was perhaps the most successful we have ever held in all particulars except attendance. The forenoon was exceedingly cold and raw and very threatening, but near noon it cleared off and we had one of the most beautiful afternoons in the fall. However the threatening weather in the morning prevented the comming of all from a distance.

We took advantage of the occasion to make an exhibit. The stage was decorated with products. The pulpit was made of four bales of hay, one of peavine, one of Johnson grass, one of Bermuda and one of cornstalk and peavine. Around these were piled corn, sweet-potatoes, pumpkins, ground feed peanuts etc. It made a beautiful appearance. Just outside of the hall on one side was an exhibit of the carpenter work, consisting of commodes, stands, rolling pins etc. The Broom Factory had a nice display of brooms On the other side was a nice display of the work of the printing office. Grade books, sale books, letter heads and envelopes etc decorated the wall. In the Sewing Room was a full display of the sewing and basket making done by the girls. All who attended enjoyed these display, greatly.

The program was well carried out and was well received by all present. We hope to improve these farmer's meetings until their influence will be greaty enlarged.

HOW TO INCREASE OUR NUMBERS IN SOULS AND DOLLARS.

In my last I spoke of the evangelist in the evangelistic work. In this I desire to speak of the pastor in the evangelistic work.

Our evangelists are too few for the great task. There is much land to be possessed. The appeals for help are too numerous for them to answer, let them be ever so active and devoted. The pastors ought and must help do this work. Knowing the many heavy burdens of the pastor, I hesitated to make this suggestion, but I feel that nearly all, if not all pastors will agree that very few, if any of us, are so burdened that we can't hold one or two meetings during the year and make a few necessary visits in addition to our pastorial work. Perhaps we can't get as much financially for this additional service, but can't we do it? Should we do it? Our congregations ought to support, at least help to support us while we labor a short time for some needy point. I have never as yet pastored a congregation that was not willing to do so, and hope I never will. But as a rule these meetings and visits made by pastors for needy places generally support the efforts if the preacher "hits the right way." As pastors we must look after our county and adjacent counties and towns. Then it is possible and where we have a few members in the county or near by towns we should make arrangements to visit them and spend a few nights during the week with them. By making these visits systematically much good can be done toward building up a congregation. Nearly all of our congregations, especially in the county and small towns began this way. Would it not be helpful if our able ex-pastors and "would be" pastors would take their eyes off of the occupied pulpits and turn them to this needy field?

Well do I remember how my "Mother Church" began in Haywood County, Tennessee. The second Gospel Sermon I heard was under a chestnut tree. A congregation was organized. Elders Whitelaw, Cotter, Currie, Parker and Howling went out from their preaching "The Word" in school houses, under trees, in dwelling houses, court houses, halls and barns. They did not wait for the people to send for them or to come after them but they went horse back, mule back and often a foot. They read some where Jesus said "Go" and they went.

I feel safe in stating that ninety per cent of the congregations we have now were established by such methods and men. This is not a statement against organized missionary work; but to show that if they succeeded by this method without the organization what ought we to be able to do by the same method with the organization. Perhaps we do, some times, pay more attention to the State Board when it says "go and we will give you ten dollars a week," than when Jesus says "Go and I am with you always." When we act thus, we are not fit to go when the State Board says "Go" and Jesus don't tell such men or women to go. It may be this is the reason so few of us go. State Board don't say go and what Jesus says don't amount to much with us. If so, it is best we don't go. True in many cases circumstances are different with us, from what they were with the pioneers of the work among our people, but I do think Bro. Pastor, we should do more city, county and rural district work after the method of the men. It is the way for us pastors and evangelists to do the work. We must cultivate the ground as we go and not skip over so much and so far at the time. Can't we get a lesson from the "Other Fellows" along this line? I am sure the white brethren are succeeding in this systematic pastoral evangelistic work.

We should not hesitate because we fear our efforts will not be appreciated or rewarded by the people or little visible results will follow, leave that to God and the people and do what we know to be our duty to God and Man. Do our best to have all men hear the plan of salvation given by Christ.

There is an evangelistic part in our pastoral work. We should not neglect this part of the work eleven months in the year waiting for Elder "A" to come and hold us a month's meeting. He must do more than preach our little sermon and extend the invitation. We should do our best

(Continued on 7th page).

250
541
791

Reports from the Field.

AMOUNTS RECEIVED FROM THE EDUCATIONAL RALLY DAY DURING THE SECOND WEEK AFTER THE DAY,--FROM NOV. 22.-- TO DEC., 4,

MISSISSIPPI. The Southern Christian Institute, $16.38.

ARKANSAS. Grand Lake—Roxie C. Sneed, $1.00 and Sarah Sneed, 50cts.

Argenta(Sent by Sarah L. Bostic), $3.91

Total for Arkansas $5.41

NORTH CAROLINA. Middle Fork Sunday-School, (Sent by Fannie Hairs ton) $1.00.

ALABAMA. Macedonia Church, Oxmoor. Sent by, J. Phifer, $4. 12

TEXAS. MARLIN— Jack Armstead. 25cts.

M. A. Armstead, 25cts.

Sallie Armstead, 10cts.,
Jullie Armstead, 25cts.,
Ellen Barnes 25cts.,
J. S. Barnes, 10cts.,-total $1.20-Sent by Jack Armstead. Center Point Church, Texas. (Sent by T. M. White. Sec. , $3.70. Total for Texas $4 90 FLORIDA. Gallee Cnurch, Summerfield: ,Sent by H. Hector, Sec., $4.43. MISSOURI. Fulton Church, ,Henrietta Kibby, 50cts., and E. S. Vanburen, 50cts, Total from FultonChurch, ,sent by J. H. Bell, $5.00 Napton Church, ,Sent by Geo. Falton, $1.00 Total from Missouri $6.00. TENNESEE Franklin Church. ,Sent by A. N. C. Williams, $2. 00

OHIO. John Street Church. Cincinnati, 75 cts. M. F. Frazier, pastor.

GEORGIA. Toomsboro Church, sent by T. H. Johnson, 25cts.

Total received during the second week after the Educational Rally Day— $45.24

Amount previously reported $51. 09. Grand total to date $96.33

The above is good for the second week and we expect to hear from many more next week.

If you have not yet observed the Educational Rally Day—observe it soon. A Christmas service for this would be a good idea.

AMOUNT, (By States), RECEIVED—UP TO DECEMBER 4th. FROM THE EDUCATIONLY RALLY DAY.

Arkansas	$7.91.
Kentucky	7.30.
Georgia	1.25.
Alabama,	8.80.
Virginia,	6.35.
Texas,	26.90.
Kansas,	5.26.
South Carolina,	2.00.
Mississippi,	$16.38.
North Carolina,	1.00.
Florida,	4.43.
Missouri,	6.00.
Tennessee,	2 00.
Ohio,	.75.
Total,	$96.33.

Find your state and see how it stands. Texas leads at this time, but by another week these figures can be changed, and another state may be in the lead as to gifts. The church making the largest gift, up this time is the Clay St. Church, Waco, Texas., Wm. Alphin, pastor.

Already three states have been heard from which were not heard from last year:—namely, South Carolina, Tennessee and Ohio.

This is a fine showing from the Educational Rally Day. There is yet plenty of time to observe the day and send a gift. Yau will want to be on the roll this year.

Observe the day and send the offerings to,

C. C. Smith,
1373 Burdette Ave., W. H.,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

A few weeks previous to the Educational Rally Day the teachers and students at the S. C. I raised $110.20 and sent it in. But they raised it for a specific purpose and so it could not go in this list. At any, rate it would not be a fair showing for Mississippi at large if so much were credited from the S. C. I. So far there is no report from Mississippi except this one. However, they are preparing.

Dixion, Texas.
Dec. 12th 1904.

Editor GOSPLE PLEA.

Please find space for my letter to the brethren. I have just returned from Palestine, Texas, where I have been to finish up our trade on the option of land. We paid the five hundred dollars option and signed up six notes, $320 each, to pay annually at eight per cent interest. We have exclusive control of the land We have appointed to attend to the renting and management of our trees R. B. Jacobs general

manager, N. N. Young and Jessie Lee, assistant managers. Mr, S. T. Howard (white) is advisor to the management.

The probability is that we will get a good income from our land this conventional year. While I was there I walked all over the place and took in all the situations of the land, and I like it much better. I was surprised to see what corn and cotton crops had been grown ou the land this year. Most of the land will be run in truck next year. Now all who have not given anything towards making those two payments should help. Remember we have had a great deal of expenses to pay; and we have since our organization paid nine hundred ($900.) dollars on our land, and I have no doubt we will clear $1500. this conventional year; for we have just reached the sympathy of our people, and also of the whites. We believe if we go a head and praise God and continue to work as we are doing we are sure to succeed. It seems to me that we cannot but succeed since we have such a hearty cooperation of the white people of Palestine. When I look at the progress the negroes have made in 38 years, it appears that no nation would have made such progress under similar circumstances as we have. We were freed without homes or money and no education; but look at us to-day. More than fifty percent of the negroes of the Christian Church have good homes of their own, and what they have accumilated was by common labor and management with many disadvantages. Now they have arrived at the stage where they have a practical knowledge of what money will do. We should have confidence in our people as other races have done in order to have a confidential brother-hood among our people. Yet we must be very cautious in whom we have confidence, for if any man cannot take care of his own dollar so as to accumulate wealth, it is reasonable to suppose, he could not properly take care of the people's money. We have set in to build an institute which adds wealth to the negro diciples of Texas. Yet we are undergoing some heavy criticismn among our own people. However we are going ahead depending on the help of the Lord for his mercies, and on our labor for the dollars. We have been very fortunate, and paid $900. on our college land, and we pray God that 1905 will be the jubilee year for the colored disciples in Texas.

Returning home from the convention I set out with a double determination to do more than I had ever done before, this conventional year. On the 4th. Saturday in Nov. I was at Royse City. Finding that Elder H. M. Johnson was there I went on through to Rock Wall finding the people confused over a late transaction. Having no preaching. Saturday before the first Sunday I went to Terrel, Texas where I found a few scattering disciples. On trying to work them up I found that they had been greatly butchered by the preachers. There had been four preachers who had visited their towns and had deceived them so bad until they had lost confidence in all preachers.

We have no building in Terrell, but the Methodists granted us their house to preach in. We had arranged for preaching at three o'clock, but at halfpas one I received a message over the wire that my wife was seriously sick. At three o'clock I boarded the car for home, but before reaching home I found that God had called a loving wife and an affectionate mother from labor to reward. She had united with the church Oct. 1870, and lived a consistent Christian until death. "Our loss is Heaven's gain."

On last Thursday evening I was called over the wire to meet the committee on college purchase with the money to complete our trade at Palestine, Texas.

Now dear brethren we hope all will go to work anew for the building next summer.

Your in Christ,
A. J. HURDLE.

KENTUCKY LETTER.

Hopkinsville, Ky.
Dec. 8th. 1904.

Dear Editor:—Please allow me space in your paper to report my tour in the central and eastern parts of this state.

I began a meeting at Little Rock, Ky. with Eld. R. E. Hathaway as pastor. I am glad to say that our meeting was a success. We had 46 additions and the church was greatly reviewed. I was there two weeks and clos-

(Continued on 7th page).

C. W. B. M. DEPARTMENT.

All C. W. B. M. dues; that is, the ten cents a month paid by each member should be sent to Helen E. Moses, 152 East Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Send the money at the close of each quarter.

Argenta, Ark.
Nov. 28th. 1904.

Dear Editor of the GOSPEL PLEA: I am glad to say that on yesterday the 27th we tried to observe Educational Day, as we do not have preaching but twice a month.

These are some of the names that give to this work. The writer, $1.00, Eliza Horn, 61cts; Minnie Carson, 50cts; Mary Peyton, 36cts; Nettie Mashy 30cts; Willie Martin 25cts; A. Peyton 20cts; Mrs. Alexander 40cts; friends enough to make it $3.91.

A small collection for Girls' and Boys' Day For American Home Missions, this was $2.00. Total for the day was $5.91. We had a very nice program for the day, after a sermon by M. M. Bostick the program was carried out.

Ater this Miss Mary Fletcher a white sister spoke to our Auxiliary workers. She gave us much strength and encouragement. We were so glad to have her with us.

You could see the spirit of love shining in her countenance; every one seemed to enjoy her visit. She explains the work of the sisters with power and love. Her visit will be long remembered.

I must say that our little church here is doing fairly well. On the 13th we raised $5.35 for another call.

On the second Lord's day in next month we are going to try to raise the rest of the state work, and also observe C. W. B. M. Day. I trust every church will remember the first Lord's Day in December.

The new church at Pearidge is expected to be dedicated. I am glad to say that my good faithful women of the Auxiliary there with some help made the church a present of a nice $22.00 carpet. Their Secretary Miss Carrie Welch was with us to day.

Dear sisters do not forget to send your quarterly report so that we may know all we've done in the 1904

SARAH L. BOSTICK.

We are glad, indeed, to have such a good report from these wide awake women in Arkansas. They are filled with zeal and earnestness and seem ready for every good word and work. The Lord will bless and prosper the work of their hands. (Ed.)

The Christian Woman's Board of Missions commends itself to all by the scope of its successful undertakings. There could scarcely be a better example of the application of the Gospel to all the world. It interprets the commission in its world wide signification. It follows the apostolic program in letter and in spirit. with naue missionary spirit it gives unto all the world.

At home and abroad the workers preach the Gospel, instruct the ignorant, assist the weak, feed and clothe the orphan, train workers for the church of Jesus Christ and plant the loving word of God in the fertile field of human hearts. The Christian Womans Board of Missions maintains orphanages in India and Porto Rico, where almost five hundred boys and girls are provided with necessities of physical life, made acquainted with Christ and led to Christian manhood and womanhood. The English flag floats over the workers and the work in India, the stars and stripes shed their luster over those in Porto Rico, and the God of heaven watches over all.

Educational work is done in India, Porto Rico, Jamaica, Mexico and the United States, The education provided in the various institutions is of the highest order. The primary purpose of Christian Education is the developement of Christian Character.

* * *

"In everything by prayer and supplication." This organization is calculated to deepen the spiritual life of all who engage in its work and catch its spirit. Prayer is taught to them as the source of all power in missionary work. They enter upon all their undertakings in the attitude of time devotion. Through this organization, filled with such aims and purposes, the whole Church would come to a higher spiritual life. Latent forces would be made active. The Bride of Christ would put on her beautiful garments, and while she waits for His command she would be preparing the world to receive Him. Let Christian Women every where awake and be responsive to the call. Let pastors and leaders who would have the churches brought unto more active co operation with God and more geninue consecration to Christ and His work, lay hold of this mighty arm of power. An Auxiliary to the Christian Woman's Board of Missions in every Church, and every woman in the Auxiliary, should be the aim. The accomplishment of this would be the solution of many a problem, and the Church, filled with Divine energy and actuated by a desire to win the world for her Lord would go forth to victory.

Missionary Tidings.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The Japanese have taken 203 Meter Hill, one of the highest around Port Arthur; and have seriously disabled the Russian fleet in the harbor below. Their policy now is to cease attacks, and starve the garrison to a surrender. The food supply is getting low, the soldiers living on coarse meal, while the officers have horse flesh twice a week.

The Sultan of Morocco has practically lost control of his government. Brigandage is constantly increasing. Even the soldiers cannot be trusted. The French goverment had plans for settlement, but the people are opposed to any interference.

At Telluride, Colo; the strike has been called off, the employees being given an eight hour day. However, no union men are being employed. Zeigler, Ill., the site of a mine owned by Joseph Lester, is in almost a state of war. In consequence of a strike, non-union men have been employed. To protect the employees a stockade and block houses, equipped with Gatling guns and a search-light, have been built. One man, a non union man, has been killed.

It is a question whether there will be a tariff revision. The President is unwilling to act without the concurrence of the leaders in Congress, and they seem opposed to action. Congress seems opposed also to reciprocity with Canada.

The agreement between the U. S. and Panama, regarding reciprocity, has been made. The tariff upon Panama goods is to be reduced; the U. S. is to supply postage stamps, and the postal charge will be two cents. The U. S. will have control over the sanitation in colon and Panama, at either end of the proposed canal. There is some talk of using American convicts in the construction.

The Colorado Supreme Court is now trying to clean up the election frauds. Many indictments and arrests have been made According to the returns, Peabody was beaten by about 10.000 votes, but he claims that many were stolen by the Democrat Party,

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HOW TO INCREASE OUR NUMBERS IN SOULS AND DOLLARS.

(Continued from 3rd. page.)

to keep the idea and spirit of soul winning high in all the services of all the departments of the church. Labor for the full cooperation of the entire congregation, in working like beavers in winning souls and dollars for the service of Christ.

Why not each member make the pledge—I will faithfully endeavor to bring one soul to Christ this year? God will help and bless a faithful endeavor of this kind. I learn from the "Missionary Tidings" that all the pupils in the Southern Christian Institute," last year were Christians. Christian influence is too great there to be withstood good example for our congregation and other schools As pastors let us always endeavor to keep our people aroused to the mission of the church in this world, to save a lost world. Our numbers in souls and dollars will be in proportion to our devotion to this great work. It can't be otherwise.

WILLIAM ALPHIN.

KENTUCKY LETTER.

(Continued from 5th. page.)

ed with no standing room. This is one of the best congregations in the state with one of the best pastors in the state. Bro. Hathaway has been with that church about twenty years and they all love him dearly. I am glad to say that he is doing a grand work there.

I closed with Little Rock on the 30th. and went from there to Millersburg, Ky. and began that night. Millersburg has no pastor now. Bro. W. H. Bowen was their last pastor. He resigned last August and accepted a call from Kansas City, Kansas. But he still lives in the hearts of the people at Millersburg. We had a good meeting there with nine added to the saved and the Church took on new zeal. I was with them two weeks, closing on the 14th of November and went to Nicholasville the 15th and began that night with Bro. W. M. P. Richards pastor. I am glad to say that Eld. Richards is doing a good work for Christ at that place. We had a good meeting with 14 added to the saved. I preached there 16 days. My stay was one of pleasure as those who know Bro. Richard know him to be a pleasent man. We left the church looking forward. I came to Louisville where I preached the first Lord's day in December and at night we had two confessions. On Monday the 5th I returned home feeling thankful to the Master for his blessing and for the success he has given us this year. Let us look forward to do more in the future. Brethren, the fields are white. Shall we reap them? May we look forward to our schools and labor to build them up. We must work up and go to work and take this world for Christ. May God Bless our labors and lead his host on to victory.

S. R. COTTER.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

Lesson 13. Dec. 25th.

Subject The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9: 2–7.

GOLDEN TEXT—His name shall be called wonderful counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Isa. 9:6.

TIME.—Isaiah, from whose prophesies this lesson is taken. prophesied between B. C. 808 and 726 Jesus the child of promise, was born B.C. 5.

PLACE.— Jerusalem, the capital city of Judah was the home of Isaiah, and Jesus was born at Bethlehem of Judea, six miles south of Jerusalem.

INTRODUCTION.—The glorious promise recorded in this lesson was like a day-star in night of darkness.

The wickedness of Israel in the days of Isaiah was fast bringing the kingdom of Judah to an end; but the prophet looks over the dark intervening period of more than 700 years, and speaks of wonderful events whose course began with the birth of the child Jesus.

1. The Theme of Lesson.—
The Promised Messiah.
2. The Outline.—1 A light to lighten the world.
2 A wonderful King.

Lesson Analys.

1 A Light to lighten the world (vs 25
1 Light: "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light" v. 2)
2 A Failure: "Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy" (v 3.)
3 Burdens Lifted: "Thou hast broken the yoke of his burden" (v.4)
4 Destruction "This shall be with burning and full of fire" (v.5.
II. A. wonderful King (vs 6, 7.
1. The Child: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." v.6.
2. A Ruler: "The government shall be upon his shoulder." v.6.
3. HIS NAME: Wonderful, Councellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." v. 6.
4. HIS KINGDOM: "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." v.7.

LESSONS.

The Light of the world is Christ. It was a glad morning to the world when the promised child was born. The news was the Gospel; Glad tidings. Even the angels came down to rejoice over the great event. Christ is the wonder of the ages. Even the skeptics wonder at his matchless teaching and life.

He came to make peace, peace between Jew and Gentiles, man and man; between man and God; to establish peace in the human soul. To his people a sweet legacy is bequeathed in these words, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you."

He is our Friend, our Comforter, our Sheild, our Teacher, and our Savior. "Blessed be his holy name forever and ever!"

Compiled by,
M. E. MONAHAN

SICK BENEIT AND BURIAL FUND.

THE PHILANTHROPIST of St Louis is agitating the question of organizing a department in the National Benevolent Association for sick benefits and burial funds. The following is some of the correspondence on the matter.

"We are pleased to present the following views in regard to our contemplated Sick Benefit and Burial Funy. We court corespondence from all our readers pro and con, on this propsed enterprise:"

DEAR BRO. SNIVELY:—I consider your plan for the distribution of sick benefits and burial funds among the Disciples as a most timely and sensible step. Other, worldly, organizations have been doing this, and I commend them for it, but it has serued to take people from the church to the lodge. I hope you will be able to effect the organization, for it will mean a great victory for the Church. May God help us to glorify his name in this work.

Your in Christ,
J. C. LAPPIN.

Dear Bro. Snively:--You invite correspondence on the advisability of establishing a board for the distribution of sick and funeral benifits. The Disciples should be banded together as a brotherhood. They should be "one heart and soul," and have all things in common. While we are at work carrying out the great commission we are prone to exult over the addition of a banker to our ranks, and pay too little attention to the poor and lowly ones.

I would like to see a plan adopted by the churches something on the plan of of the benevolent orders, which would provide:

I. Life insurance, both on the endowment and life plans.

2. Pensions for worn-out preachers, evangelists and missionaries. as well as others, who are totally incapacitated from work.

3. A fund for the payment of weekly benefits to those who are prevented from earning, either through disease or accident, I have in mind several plans on this matter that I will write you fully about later.

F. M. MCHAIP.