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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST.

J. M. BARFIELD, Manager,
E. T. Phillips, Office Editor.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1900.

PUBLISHER'S ANNOUNCEMENT.

All communications should be addressed to the Free Will Baptist Publishing Co., Wyden, N. C.

In case the paper is not received regularly, please notify us at this office.

When ordering a change of address, it is necessary to state the place to which the paper is now sent, as well as the one to which it is to be sent.

In accordance with the general custom and wishes of almost all subscribers, subscriptions are understood to be continuous, unless otherwise stated. The paper will be stopped at any time, if the subscriber so requests and remits the amount due for the time it has been received.

The following statement of the legal requirements may properly be noted in this connection: (1) Any person who takes a paper regularly from the postoffice, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the payment. (2) If a subscriber dies, his estate, or the executor, administrator, or assignee of his estate, is responsible for the payment of the paper taken from the office or not.

EDITORIAL NOTES:

Remember, brethren, that now is the dry season of the year with us. A little help just now will do us very much good. So brother if you can help us at this season of the year, it will be highly appreciated. You might send us your job work and help the good cause in that way. We do our work as cheap as any and as good. Why patronize strangers when we guarantee good work as low as any. Do not err in this remember the great work we are doing for our people.

Art. 5 of the constitution of the Union Conference is as follows: The delegate from each church, shall bear to the Conference, a letter certifying his appointment showing the amount of contribution raised for benevolent purposes during the year, total number of members and not ing more. This gives every church right to one delegate. But it does not debar a union meeting from representing or sending a contribution if it so elects. We want all the ministers who can to attend. We ask all the churches to represent. We need a state organization. We must unite our forces.

We hope our people will not lose sight of the Union Conference, which meets at Kenly, N. C. on Thursday after the 4th Sunday in Sept. As there will be five Sundays in September this year. We trust all the unions will call in their meetings and attend the Union Conference at Kenly. By doing this the way will be opened for a full attendance. Kenly is a beautiful little town on the Wilson and Florence railroad, 14 miles above Wilson and 10 miles below Selma. The people of Kenly are generous and we insure all who attend a pleasant time.

We ask our brethren and sisters to read the minutes of their various Conferences and see if they are trying to comply with the requests of the Conferences. Take the Central for example: The General Conference asks the various churches to raise a church extension fund, an educational fund, a mission fund, a retired minister's fund. As a Bro. suggested sometime ago we think it better to work all through the year to get up this than to wait until the last pinch and then not be prepared. Raise some all along through the year and the church will show up better. So we think.

We feel that above all other books we should read the Bible. But mere repetition of words is not reading it we are rightly informed. Reading is getting the thoughts from the printed page into the mind. One might go over the words of the Bible fifty times and yet one chapter well learned might be worth more than all this. The great Evangelist Moody says study the Bible by topics. That is take up one thing at a time like repentance or baptism and get all you can out of it from the Bible. A Cruden's concordance is almost indispensable. Let us get down to studying the Bible in a way to get the most out of it.

The union meeting of the 2nd Dist. of the Central Conference will convene with Bethany church near Bro. Luke McLawhon's on Friday before the 5th Sunday in July. This church seems to be a central point and we look for a full delegation. No church with 30 or more members ought to send less than \$1.00 contribution. We have the cause at heart if we know ourselves and we see a great work for the union meeting. Now, let every church represent at Bethany that is in this union. Come one, come all let us reason together. This union has done well by the Seminary. It will rest from that now and work in other fields awhile.

We hope to see a greater awakening among our people on the subject of education the coming year than many of our people ever dreamed of. Why not have at least 300 pupils in the Seminary next year. Let them come from every quarter of the land. We have one pupil from the S. C. Conference. We think they will bless the day when he started to the Seminary, especially will this be the cause if he continues. So it is with the 1st union meeting Dist. of Western Conference. They have one here that bids fair to be of much service to our cause. So has the 2nd union of the Central Conference one representative. But where we can count them on the fingers of one hand, we ought to have 50.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

The Faculty and students of the Seminary attended the "C. C." Commencement. A large crowd was present and enjoyed the exercises very much.

The subject on which Eld. J. N. Booth will speak next Friday at 10:30, is Christian Education. Come and hear him. He will present this old theme in a new and vivid light.

As the scent of tobacco smoke, is very disagreeable to nearly all persons who do not use it, we courteously request every body to refrain from smoking, on the Campus and in the Seminary.

We have had the privilege of examining "The Thirteenth Annual report of the Bureau of Labor and Printing of the State of North Carolina for the year 1899" and find much evidence of advancement in agriculture, manufacturing, mining and of progress in nearly every desirable direction. The letters from the people indicate that a large majority favor Compulsory Education.

There will be original papers read at the Anniversary of the Advocates of Christ in Fidelity, next Thursday night from four different States. It will pay any one to be present and hear them.

North Carolina has thirty-six per cent of illiteracy, that is thirty-six persons out of every hundred who cannot read and write. No wonder we are having a great educational revival. It is greatly needed.

A letter from Eld. John M. Emanuel, of Summertown, Georgia, gives us reason to expect several students from that state the Fall term of school. Let them come from every state. They need us and we need them.

We are very much pleased with the advancement made by the students the past year. We do not believe they have been excelled by any school in the world. Some have learned more than others, but we have had no "dead heads" at all.

There are two hundred and ninety-three newspapers published in N. C. Some of them are ably edited and are a credit to the Commonwealth; while many, especially, of the political papers, are edited by men who are unacquainted with English Grammar, and failed to construct the most ordinary sentences in accordance with the laws of syntax. These men under the pressure of public opinion, will soon give way to educated talent and competent writers.

The name Free Will Baptist was given to the churches organized by Eld. Paul Palmer, in North Carolina about fifty years before it was used in other states, and it is the only name under which there is any reasonable hope of uniting all Baptists who believe in free will, free grace, free salvation and free communion. The little squads working under other names, have the choice of coming in under this glorious banner and aid in building up this large and growing denomination, or of staying out under the leadership of some selfish, conceited, carnal old fogey, until they die, or are swallowed by some branch of the mystery of iniquity that is still at work in the world.

TENDERNESS.

Tenderness does not mean weakness, softness, effeminateness. It is consistent with strength, manliness, truth and bravery. It does not show itself alone in the touch, but in unselfishness, thoughtfulness, consideration, forbearance, patience, long-suffering. But however it shows itself, it is as the bloom on the peach, as spring showers on the earth, as the music of the angels stealing down on the plains of Bethlehem. You may not have much of this world's wealth to distribute, but you may give something better and spend a useful and beneficent life if you will practice this lesson of shedding around you the grace of human tenderness, in word and act and by the spirit of your life.—F. B. Meyer.

BEST FOR THE BOWELS.

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CAUSES AND REMEDY FOR OUR DYING CHURCHES.

There are some churches which are dying from natural and legitimate causes, for which there is no remedy.

Divine Providence has fixed their surroundings and numbered their days. They have accomplished the end and purpose for which they were brought into being; and they should be willing and prepared to die—and do it gracefully, submitting to the inevitable. They are coming to their natural end of life, not because they abused their opportunities and lost their spiritual life, but like the man who has legitimately used up the natural forces of life in the service of God and is now ripe for glory. None but an ignorant fanatic or quack doctor will prescribe remedies to prolong the life of such a man, and so hold out a false hope to him that he can never be young or vigorous again. But he will frankly say to him, "You have in a legitimate way exhausted your forces, and are simply coming to the close of life, as God, by his providence, designed you should. You do not need medicine, but quiet, rest, waiting patiently your appointed time." So there are churches that are dying in the same way. They have done a grand work for God and the world, and are divinely appointed to die, only to come to some new and better life. Their environments are so changed as to make it a necessity.

There are other churches that are dying because of their abuse of their God-given powers and neglect to make use of their opportunities. They have not properly used their talents. God is taking them away and giving them to others who are willing and ready to use them. The only remedy for such a church is to return to their "first love" before their candlestick is removed out of its place, unless they have, by their own free and deliberate choice, like Esau, sold their "birth-right," and so no amount of weeping and repentance can ever regain it. Such churches must of necessity die, and that without remedy.

Then there are other churches that are dying from covetousness, indolence, wilful disobedience, and known neglect of duty. They fail to make use of their abilities and opportunities. The only remedy for such is to turn from their covetousness which is a species of idolatry, to the worship of the true God, shake themselves from their lethargy and indolence, disobedience and neglect, consecrate themselves anew to the service of God, arouse to earnest, aggressive Christian work.

In order to do this, they need to seek a new and fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. God will not and cannot bless any church while living in neglect of known duty and a wasted use of its talents. The remedy for new and continued life to such a church is the unwrapping of its talents from their folded napkins and putting the Lord's money to service, that when the Master comes he shall find his own with usury. No church ever died from giving or overwork.

"Awake, thou that sleepest and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee life." "Go ye into my vineyard and labor and whatsoever is

the Master will give thee. I have proved myself worthy of continued life, and thou shalt receive it.—J. B. Davis.

WORLDLINESS.

"And be not conformed to this world. Rom. 12:2. This is a plain and direct prohibition against conformity to the world. It is addressed to the people of God, and stands connected with an affectionate exhortation to be devoted to him. "I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Thus are the doctrines of grace sweetly connected with gracious walk and conversation. They are connected in the Bible, and they are connected in all those who are taught of God. In order to this complete devotedness to God, the apostle here advises believers "not to be conformed to this world"—not to comply with their temper and spirit—not to imitate their depraved customs and manners; but on the contrary to be transformed, by the renewing of their minds; to be changed into a better, more glorious, and abiding form. Everywhere God's people are represented as differing from the world.

In Eccl. 7: 29 we will find that "God made man upright;" but they have sought out many inventions. What are the numberless inventions of men but weak and wicked attempts to procure happiness without God, and contrary to his will. The loads of novels that burden the world, are inventions to please the imagination, and are read and relished far better with some than the word of truth. Plays, shows, and all the vanity of dress are inventions to delight the eye. There are various amusements, especially playing at cards, invented on purpose to kill time. Alas! our time is short enough and it will die of itself. We need not hasten its exit. We complain of the shortness of life and yet labor to reduce its narrow span. Card playing is really a childish business. It is a poor employment, for rational and mortal beings to spend many hours in, throwing about bits of paper. The conversation that accompanies it is generally frivolous and foolish, and the consequences of gaining are so opposite to the Christian character, that they will regret the amusement altogether.

Dancing is another invention highly pleasing to the world, but extremely dangerous to good morals. The gaiety it inspires, the company into which it leads, and the various evils connected with it, render it every way unbefitting to the Christian. Where is the person who would wish when summoned to the bar of God, to be found so employed. Ah, says one, I know it is wrong to partake with the world of its amusements, and wear so much unnecessary apparel, (see Finny's article on dress,) but you know I—I have to do so to be popular. "They that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh." The carnal man is all for the world, his cares, his hopes, his pleasures, his conversation, are all about the world. His fleshly mind is crowded with worldly thoughts. No room for Christ, popularity

must reign supreme. Whoever lives in wilful disobedience to God, is assuredly on the road to destruction. Let none deceive themselves with vain words and idle excuses. He that committeth sin is of the devil." John 3:8. Some will plead very strongly that there is no harm in their amusements, for lots of the good people take part with them. But they are worldly lusts, and must be denied, unless we are willing to be damned with the world; for the end of these things is death. These are the things that chain us to the world, and cause us to forget God and neglect the Salvation of our souls; and this is that self-denial, which our Lord insists upon, and without which we cannot be his disciples.

REVIVAL AT BUMPUS MILLS, TENN.

My delay in preparing this letter for the BAPTIST was because of our rush in work. Bumpus Mills is situated on the bank of a beautiful little stream of water that makes its way to the Cumberland river. It is quite a small town, nestling in a fertile valley, with beautiful hills on every side, which makes it a most magnificent place to spend a week, or to those who are not accustomed to the mountains and valleys. Just over in front of the hotel (Bro. A. J. Bumpus') there was a lofty hill, I might say gigantic and the trees almost formed a beautiful rainbow as the sun would come with his crimson curtain and span a pathway over the hill. It was from this that we could catch a lesson from the book of nature. We could see how much we needed the power of the Lord with us. The deep swales of Stewart county, Tenn., make it of great interest to the curiosity seeker. The rolling country makes it sublime to behold, yet nature having done so much for this country, one would think of the Holy Land. But with all this there are hundreds who are wandering in sin, and on their way to hell.

We held our meeting near a fine spring of cool water. It was almost as clear as crystal.

The meeting was in progress about two weeks, in which time God converted about 35 or 40 precious souls. The wonderful manifestation of the Lord's presence was with us in every service. Though it was a little against us at first changing climates, but soon that became all right and our voices cleared up so we could preach and sing to the glory of God. Shouts of praise rolled across that village and surrounding country.

The pastor of this church, Elder C. H. Pickle, was with me from first to the last. Bro. Pickle is a man of God, just filled with the Master's love, ever ready to do the Master's work. He is a sacrificing man to God's glory. Our church house at that place is nearly completed. It is a fine church and is a great honor to the Free Will Baptist denomination. We will soon preach the Dedication sermon, which will appear in the BAPTIST. Free Wills are making good progress in this part of Tennessee.

The Methodist pastor, Bro. P. D. Freeman was with us near all the while. He surely did a great work in the meet-

ing. Every denomination took a good part in the meeting and the result was a blessing to all God's people.

Our home was at Bro. A. J. Bumpus', who keeps the hotel. They were just as kind to us as mother or father could have been, and when we asked him what our bill was he replied, "come a aim and stay just as long as you will." We have many warm friends around Bumpus Mills. May God bless that people.

By the time or before the people read these lines, the meeting at this place (Indian Mound) will be closed.

I am at the writing of this article in Indian Mounds conducting a meeting. Up to this date (28), the meeting has been in session five nights and about 40 have been converted. This is one of the greatest revivals I was ever in. I am preaching all the while. I must have a few days rest. So I close here the first Sunday in June, after which I will go to Nashville to rest 10 or 12 days. My address will be 1508 Florence St. I will soon have a letter in full about this meeting.

We have not had the time to prepare our letter about the state of the Denomination. Yours in hope.

W. H. FROST.

Ministers' and Laymen's Conference.

The next session of the Ministers' and Laymen's Conference of The Ohio River Yearly Meeting will be held at McArthur Junction, Vinton Co., Ohio, Thursday Aug. 9, at 2 P. M. It is expected that every member will be present with his subject fully prepared.

MELVIN L. PEDEN, Clerk.

Ohio River Yearly Meeting.

The next session of the Ohio River Yearly meeting of Free Will Baptist churches, will be held at McArthur Junction, Vinton county, Ohio, Friday Aug. 10th, 1900 at 2 P. M., and continue over the Sabbath. A full delegation from each of the nine Quarterly Meetings, is earnestly desired. The Elko Free Will Baptist church, Tarr Farm Free Will Baptist church and the Christian church at McArthur Junction will unite in sustaining the session. Railroads extend from the Junction to every part of the Y. M. No excuse for non-attendance.

The Trustees will meet Sat. Aug. 11th at 8 A. M. for the transaction of such business as properly comes before the Incorporated Y. M.

THOMAS E. PEDEN, Clerk.

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