

TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

GALVESTON, TEXAS.

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1899.

THE GALVESTON NEWS.

Ever since we had occasion to lecture our neighbor of the News, upon his Sunday hunting excursion in Louisiana, he has exhibited a desire to growl and quarrel with us, rarely met with except in that journal. Our few remarks on the burning of the steamer Grapeshot, affords him an opportunity to be more than usually sarcastic and ungenerous. He calls our notice of the unfortunate occurrence, "heartless!" And why? Because we expressed an honest, heartfelt belief, that had the owners and officers of the boat been Sabbath-observing people, the accident would not have happened! We say so still. We are not so unkindful of the will of Providence as to forget that the Opelousas, the Louisiana and the Grapeshot, were lost on a Sunday.

We rejoice not in the misfortunes of our neighbors; on the contrary, we are always willing to lend a helping hand. No one deplores the accident more than we do; but when we look back to the many casualties that have taken place in our own waters, we cannot believe otherwise than that the hand of God is distinctly visible.

The News willfully misrepresents us relative to the printing of the Advocate on the Sabbath. We never did any such thing, and never shall. Our neighbor is well aware that the Christian does our press work, and if they have seen fit, at any time, to print our paper on Sunday, it was a matter entirely beyond our control—as much so as the sailing of a steamer from our Bay on the Lord's Day. We are compelled to have the press work of the Advocate done there, or at the News; and we have been so long disheartened with the latter's uncharitableness towards us, that we could not think of it for a moment. Whatever Sunday printing has been done by the Christian, on our account, it has always met with our entire disapprobation; it was far from being our wish.

Again, we were correct in our remark that we "omitted to notice the burning of the Grapeshot in our last issue." Our neighbor is well aware that we only print a few hundred copies of our paper on Saturday, for town circulation, and that the mass of our edition is struck off on Monday. Was there anything to hinder us from inserting a notice of the catastrophe on Monday morning? Certainly not. We regret to notice such littleness in the News, and we are pained to see such a bad feeling as has been exhibited in that sheet towards the Advocate. There has been lately, a fast, flashy tone throughout the columns of that journal, that ill accords with its former courteous, able and dignified conduct. He seems to have taken up the business of a huckstering penny-liner. For a consideration he publishes continuously, from Madame Cora Anna Weekes, down to the lowest monkey show that travels. No matter whether the object be one that will debauch our youth, and ruin their souls, provided it pays, that's all he cares.

LETTER FROM FERDINALE CIRCUIT.

The following letter from the preacher in charge of Ferdinale Circuit, which is on our extreme frontier, is well worthy the attention of all the friends of the Church. There was but one preacher placed on this Circuit, but a second has since been employed, and these two have received for their five months' labor, \$8 45! Think of this you who are supplied with all that heart can wish, and think of these faithful evangelists teaching on our frontier, with no bread to eat, and then determine that from your abundance you will contribute liberally to their relief. We think it a duty our frontier preachers owe to the Church, to let us know their situation.

"Hard times are down upon us truly. Money is very scarce. The preachers have received up to this present writing, on my circuit, \$8 45. The locusts or grasshoppers are emigrating northward, and in their flight visit the farms on their route, destroying much vegetation. We have sat down at the family board without a vestige of bread, and have been forcibly reminded of the noble and magnanimous Apostle's contentment under similar circumstances, feeling thankful that it was so well with us. We have had to lay under the spreading foliage, to shield us from Heaven's dew. Here we have no confining city. But Jesus went to prepare a place for us. Thank God, there is a mansion of rest, and when we cease from troubling, through God's grace, we will enjoy it."

MARRIAGE AND OBITUARY NOTICES.

Some of our friends have taken exception to our editorial in the last issue of the Advocate, on Marriages and Obituaries. We will amend, so as to remove some of these objections. In future, we will publish the marriage of any of our paying subscribers, gratuitously, or of those who will subscribe for the paper at the time of their marriage, and pay for one year in advance. Otherwise, they must remit us One Dollar, or we cannot publish their notice. We will also publish the obituary of any of our friends who was a paying subscriber to the Advocate, but we cannot continue to publish the resolutions of lodges, etc., without charge, or obituaries of those who have not our patrons.

THE TEXAS BAPTIST.

The editor of the above paper will confer a favor on us by informing his readers, that the proceedings of which he speaks, in his issue of May 13, under the caption of "Light will increase," were held by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and that at the North, have no control over each other. If our Texas editor, when they copy from the papers North, would make the above distinction, their readers would not attribute the acts and doings of the Northern Church to the acts and doings of the Southern Church in the South.

We thank the San Antonio Herald for its flattering notice of the Advocate. Coming from such a source, it is the more highly appreciated.

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

In our brief account of the proceedings of the General Conference, in our last paper, we omitted the following:

- Resolved, That the following standing committee be appointed: viz: On Episcopacy, on Itinerancy, on Boundaries, on Books and Periodicals, on Missions, on Education, on Revisals, on Sabbath Schools, on Tracts, on the Claims of the American Bible Society, and on Temperance; the last two to be appointed by the Bishops. The following committees, ordered on Saturday, were filled up with a delegate from each Annual Conference. ON EPISCOPACY. W. M. Wightman, Chairman. ON ITINERANCY. L. M. Drake, Chairman. ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS. J. B. McFerrin, Chairman. ON BOUNDARIES. Levi Pearce, Chairman. ON MISSIONS. J. Boring, Chairman. ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS. Lovick Pierce, Chairman. ON EDUCATION. R. M. Drake, Chairman. ON TRACTS. A. H. Mitchell, Chairman. ON REVISALS. A. L. P. Green, Chairman.

Petitions, memorials and appeals were called for, when W. W. Bennett, from the Virginia delegation, presented a memorial from the church in Washington City, asking for an agent to raise funds for building a new church in the National Metropolis. This memorial was referred to a special committee of three.

A. H. Mitchell, of the Atlantic Conference, presented a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Prattville, Alabama, proposing an alteration of the Discipline on the subject of Temperance; which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Revisals.

The same delegate presented another memorial from the same parties, setting forth that the discussion of the subject of Lay delegation in some of our Church papers, was injurious to the peace and prosperity of the Church, and praying the General Conference to take no action in this matter. It was moved to refer this memorial also to the Committee on Revisals.

J. W. Fields, of the East Texas Conference, presented a memorial concerning certain property bequeathed to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by Peyton S. Wyatt, deceased, and praying that said property might be appropriated to the benefit of the Boston Circuit, Clarksville District, East Texas Conference. This memorial was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Missions.

W. G. Carter, of the Virginia Conference, presented the following, which was seconded by Leo Rosser: Resolved, That a committee of—be appointed to prepare a course of study for the candidates for ordination in the Travelling Connection, and report the same to this General Conference for its approval.

After some discussion, the resolution was laid on the table for the present. I. M. Drake, of the Mississippi Conference, prodominated himself upon theological schools, but advocated the appointment of the proposed committee.

L. D. Dossor offered the following as a substitute, which was adopted: Resolved, That the Committee on Education be instructed to consider especially the subject of Ministerial Education, and report thereon.

L. M. Lee presented a paper from two Quarterly Conferences in Virginia, proposing certain alterations in the Discipline, which was referred to the Committee on Revisals. On motion of J. B. McFerrin, it was— Resolved, That the pastors and ministers of the several evangelized churches in this city be, and hereby are, cordially invited to occupy seats within the bar, at their pleasure, during the session of this General Conference.

Also that Dr. Selon, our Missionary Secretary, be especially invited to occupy a seat in the General Conference as shall suit his convenience. W. W. Bennett, of the Virginia Conference, in behalf of Wm. T. Smithson, Esq., of Washington City, made a communication, proposing an engraving of the General Conference, whereupon, it was moved by E. Wadsworth.

That we approve of the proposal of William T. Smithson, Esq., and that we request Rev. W. W. Bennett to call each member of the Conference for an ambrotype likeness of himself and for subscriptions. The following, being offered as a substitute by D. S. Doggett, was adopted: Resolved, That we approve of the proposal of W. T. Smithson, Esq., of Washington City, to execute an engraving of the present General Conference.

Conference now adjourned. The following, signed by A. Mours, and Wm. G. Caples, was referred to the Committee on Boundaries: Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be, and are hereby instructed to consider the propriety of preparing, for insertion in the Discipline, a form of question to be asked by the President of each Annual Conference, at the examination of each preacher's character; embracing his ministerial character and conduct, the administration of Discipline, etc.

Resolved, That they be instructed to prepare a form of question for the examination of candidates for membership in the Church embracing: 1. A knowledge of our doctrines and discipline. 2. A hearty approval of the same. 3. A covenant to keep the rules and sustain our economy. 4. A pledge to meet habitually in class. Resolved, That the Discipline also enjoin it as a special duty on preachers in charge, to remind and instruct candidates for membership, in accordance with the preceding resolution.

MAY THE SIXTH. Report from committees were called for. W. M. Wightman presented Report Number One from the Committee on the Episcopacy, relating to— BISHOP CAPERS.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave respectfully to submit the following preamble and resolutions, as suitable to be entered on the Journal of the General Conference: Whereas, It has pleased God to remove by death, on the 26th of January, 1899, WILLIAM CAPERS, one of the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a man who for nearly half a century was identified with the itinerant ministry, served his generation faithfully, and will be honored by posterity as the founder of missions to the blacks in his native State; therefore,

Resolved, That in recording on the Journal this mournful event, we desire to magnify the riches of the Divine grace manifested in him, and which led to a full consecration of his

abilities, from early manhood, to the work of the Methodist Ministry. Eloquent, courteous, and influential, he filled with dignity and usefulness the varied spheres of service intrusted to him; and in the office of Episcopal oversight maintained such a position, in the respect and affection of his brethren, as warranted the universal confidence of the Church. Although declining health in the latter part of his life diminished the vigor and extent of his activities, yet his motto to the last was, "As much as in me lies." He died in the faith of that Jesus whom he had known and preached for forty-six years as an Almighty Saviour, and in the sure and certain hope of eternal life through the merits of His atoning sacrifice.

Resolved, furthermore, That the Secretary of the General Conference, be and he is hereby, instructed to convey to the family of the deceased, the foregoing resolution, accompanied with an expression of the sympathy of this body, on the occasion of their late and severe bereavement. Respectfully submitted. W. W. WIGHTMAN, Chairman.

J. B. McFerrin presented Report Number One, of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, recommending the publication of the Hymn Book, Discipline, and Catechism in the German language.

After some remarks from J. B. McFerrin and J. Hamilton, it was, on motion of E. Wadsworth, laid on the table for the present. The Chair now called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

W. C. Johnson presented a resolution, being a copy from the records of the Tennessee Conference, instructing the delegates of said Conference to use their influence to have the action of the last General Conference, on page 200 of their Journal, appended to the General Rule on Slavery, as explanatory of its nature. It was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Revisals.

C. K. Marshall presented a printed memorial on the subject of a great central paper. The memorial contemplates the publication of a Church paper, on the principle of a weekly tract, for general distribution, without subscription or fixed price; every Church to establish an agency for its circulation, and every member and family to be supplied at their own price. The memorialist thinks that the Church will come up manfully to the support of such a publication; that one page devoted to high-priced advertisements will pay well; and that the Church ought to raise two or three hundred thousand dollars, the interest of which should be devoted to this enterprise. Thousands of dollars have been already pledged to the object by worthy and liberal Christian gentlemen, and any necessary amount may be procured by proper effort.

The memorialist sustained the paper by a characteristic and eloquent speech, and desired its reference to a special committee. He said: "Many look upon the plan as visionary. To us it is plain, clear, and practical. If not approved, I can wait a century to see it done, and look down from heaven with satisfaction to see it in operation. My scheme may fail, but I would rather be the author of a valuable enterprise that failed, because it was in advance of the times, than to raise a crop of Jonah's gourd that would shade the torrid zone for a century."

It was, on motion, referred to a special committee of nine. B. M. Drake presented a resolution from the Quarterly Conference of Clinton Circuit, Mississippi, recommending the plan for publishing papers given some time since in the New Orleans Christian Advocate; which was, on motion, referred to the same committee.

N. F. Reid presented a memorial calling for a Book Depository in Raleigh, North Carolina; which was referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A. H. Mitchell presented a memorial from R. Abbey, suggesting a plan for conducting our publishing operations, which was referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals. It is as follows: Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Periodicals, and that on Tracts, be, and they are hereby, each instructed to inquire into the expediency of so changing the Discipline that there shall be one section on "Books and Tracts," and another on "Periodicals;" and that on the former be made to read as follows, viz.: SECTION.— On the Publication of Books and Tracts.

1. The Publishing House in the City of Nashville, shall be continued as heretofore, for the purpose of manufacturing and publishing books and tracts. It shall be under the control of two Book Agents and a Book Committee, consisting of five—two laymen and three ministers; three of whom shall be residents of Nashville and vicinity, and all of whom shall be elected by the General Conference.

2. The Book Agents shall have charge of all the general funds of the Church connected with that department, and shall be responsible to the General Conference for the faithful management of the same, under the general direction of the General Conference and Book Committee.

3. The object of the Publishing House is not to make money for the Church. The prices of books will, therefore, be arranged, from time to time, so as to keep the House in a safe, self-sustaining condition, and so as to put into circulation the largest possible amount of books and tracts.

4. The Book Committee shall be consulted on all matters of superior importance by the Book Agents; and no large investment shall be made, nor any general line of policy be pursued by the Agents which may be disapproved by the Committee. They shall fix the salaries of the Book Agents and all other General Conference officers resident in Nashville, which shall be paid by the Book Agents.

5. The Book Agents shall lay before the Annual Conference, such information touching our publishing business, as may be of general or special interest, and shall report fully the condition of the business in their hands to the General Conference.

6. There shall be also elected by the General Conference, a Book and Tract Secretary, and a Book and Tract Editor. It shall be the duty of the former to co-operate with the Agents in getting our books and tracts into a wider and more thorough circulation. To this end, he will visit the Annual Conferences, as far as practicable, and give encouragement and assistance in the formation of Conference Book and Tract Societies, attend generally to the publishing interests at a distance, and encourage the formation of Tract Societies throughout the entire Church.

7. The several Annual Conferences are advised and requested that, as soon as practicable, they each organize a Book and Tract Society; or, when it may be deemed advisable, let two Conferences join in one Society, upon the following general plan, viz.: First, The Society will be for the more thorough sale and distribution of our books, tracts, and periodicals, and to be composed of those who contribute to its funds, under such regulations as may be prescribed, and be under the

control of a Board of Managers, and Book and Tract Agent, appointed to that work from the Conference. Second, It will raise and possess a permanent fund in cash, or bills receivable, of such amount as may be judged proper, say from ten thousand to fifty thousand dollars, to supply its depository with books, tracts, etc. It will employ as many colporteurs as may be needed, and form small local Tract Societies whenever it may be practicable, for the gratuitous distribution of tracts. Third, They will co-operate with the Publishing House, as far as practicable, by making purchases for cash, or on short time, based upon bills receivable in hand, and by pushing our books into circulation, and by giving a wider distribution to our periodicals.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE—BOUNDARY NAME. J. W. Fields, from the East Texas Conference, submitted, in behalf of said Conference, a resolution instructing the Committee on Boundaries to inquire into the expediency of changing the boundary-line between the East Texas and Texas Conferences. Before the resolution was read, he remarked that it was sent up here after unavailing efforts to settle amongst themselves the question of boundary between the two Conferences of this State.

On his further motion, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Boundaries. J. W. Fields also submitted a resolution with reference to a change of name of these two Conferences, which was read by the Secretary.

W. H. Scott, of Texas, remarked, that if the brother desired a change of name for the East Texas Conference, he hoped the General Conference would hear him; but he would say for the west of Texas, that they were entirely satisfied with their Conference name. On motion of J. W. Fields, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE. L. P. Lively, from the Indian Mission Conference, submitted a resolution, with two endorsements, directing the Committee on Boundaries to inquire into the expediency of dividing said Conference, so as to attach the Choctaw District to the East Texas Conference, and add the remainder of said Conference to the Arkansas Conference. He moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Boundaries. It was so referred.

THE PACIFIC FIELD. Bishop Kavanagh (the President) now laid before the Conference a memorial from the Pacific Conference, presenting the necessities of that field of labor, and urging the necessity of the supply of laborers, signed by W. R. Gober and others; which was read. He suggested (though it was not his province to make a motion) that so much of the memorial as refers to the Episcopal Visitation, should be referred to the Committee on the Episcopacy.

J. Boring—I do not desire, Mr. President, to contravene your judgment, or your instructions, as to the particular direction to be given to the memorial. Bishop Kavanagh—I have no instructions. Bishop—I have heard—The memorial, sir, with a great deal of interest, an interest which, in the very nature of things, no other member of this body can feel. The memorial sets forth what I know to be most true. It occurs to me, that if the paper were to be divided and referred to a part of it to the Committee on Episcopacy, and a part to the Committee on Books and Periodicals, and if we should be called to act upon separate interests in that important field of labor—I fear that by such an arrangement this General Conference will again adjourn without anything like an adequate effort at that vast work, its importance and its necessities.

Four years ago, I desired an opportunity of presenting these same facts, from my place in the General Conference; but it was denied me by the force of circumstances. Bishop Soole also sought an opportunity to do the same thing, but, as things came up, it could not be done. And now, sir, whilst I would not bring my judgment against yours, I would say to the body that, from personal knowledge derived from my connection with that work for four years from its beginning, my decided opinion is, that the whole interest ought to come before this General Conference, with its connections as a whole, and at the same time. It occurs to me, that this object cannot be reached so well and so fully by any other method, as by the appointment of a special committee to take charge of this memorial. Brother Kelly is here, formerly our missionary in that field; I am here; Bishop Soole and Bishop Andrew are here, and Bishop Kavanagh, who is now in charge of that work, is also here present; and it occurs to me that this is the time for the elicitation of full information upon this subject, and that, at last, this great work on the Pacific coast should, for once, be brought before the General Conference. I will add, that there are a number of very peculiar and important facts connected with the history and prosperity of that work, which are not and which could not be contained in that memorial, and which ought to be brought before the Conference. I will move that the whole subject be referred to a special committee, with a request that they report at as early a day as practicable. I do so in the belief that this course will elicit all the desired information in the case. Upon this subject, sir, I stand to-day just where I stood in 1849, when I was assigned to that work; where I stood in 1854, when I left it, and where I stand when the last vestige of a private property went for it. I am for this work, and I will stand for it, under all proper circumstances.

A. L. P. Green suggested that there be referred from the reference, that part of the paper having relation to the Episcopal visitations. According to the uniform practice of this body, that part must go to the Committee on the Episcopacy. J. Boring—I was apprised of that, and I am a stickler for law. I know that subject must go before the Episcopal Committee, but still I apprehend that that need not prevent the reference of the whole of that California paper to a select committee.

W. McMahon—The paper ought to be referred to two committees. It was too long for one. J. Boring—I accept Dr. Green's amendment. Bishop Kavanagh—I am glad of the interest Dr. Boring has manifested in this matter. The motion for a select committee was adopted.

By motion of A. L. P. Green, it was ordered that so much of said paper as refers to the Episcopal visitations, be referred to the Episcopal Committee.

J. Boring suggested that said Select Committee consist of nine members, to be appointed by the Chair; and it was so ordered.

BOOK AGENTS' ADDRESS. J. B. McFerrin—Before the Conference proceeded to the special order of the day, I desire to say that there is an important matter waiting to be presented and read here, and which must be submitted, before one of the standing committees can proceed with their labors. The brethren have been two days waiting to get that paper before them.

J. E. Edwards moved that the special order be dispensed with for that purpose; which was agreed to.

E. Stevenson remarked, that the paper had been prepared amidst the multiplicity of other cares and labors; and whilst it might be found defective in many particulars, he still felt that it contained facts and reflections that might prove to be of some advantage to the Conference in their deliberations. It contains not only matter which we are bound to notice, but suggestions which we have deemed it our duty to submit; and upon the whole we trust that its suggestions will not be regarded as altogether out of place.

The Book Agents then submitted their Address, as an Appendix to their Report presented on Tuesday, setting forth the condition and prospects of the Publishing House.

L. M. Lee moved its reference to the Committee on Books and Periodicals. E. Wadsworth moved, as an amendment, that so much of the document as relates to the Tract cause, be referred to the Committee on Tracts; so much as relates to Sunday schools, to the Committee on Sunday Schools; and the remainder to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

L. M. Lee wished permission to submit to the Committee on Books and Periodicals, in connection with the address of the Agents, an Exhibit of the Richmond Depository for each year since he has had charge of it, with a detailed account of all the facts in connection with it; which was, on motion, granted.

E. H. Myers presented his report as Agent of the Charleston Depository, with a request that it might be added to the address of the Agents; which was, on motion, permitted.

F. E. Pitts thought the whole address ought to go to the Committee on Books and Periodicals. The vote was taken, and the address, with the accompanying papers, was referred to the committees, as named in E. Wadsworth's amendment.

T. O. Summers read a note from the Librarian of the Tennessee Library, presenting to the General Conference, copies of Professor Safford's Geographical Reconnoissance of Tennessee, with Map, his Second Report, and other documents. On motion of T. O. Summers, it was— Resolved, That the thanks of the Conference be tendered to the Librarian for this courtesy.

A communication was presented from the Young Men's Christian Association of Nashville, inviting the Conference to attend their daily prayer meeting at their hall.

The order of the day was now called up, to wit: The appeal of James Maclean from the action of the Mississippi Conference, in locating him without his consent. The appellant desired the assistance of H. H. Montgomery in managing his case; which was, on motion, granted.

The appellant occupied the time till near the hour of adjournment; when, on motion of C. F. Deems, it was— Resolved, That the appellant be allowed to prosecute his appeal to-morrow, at ten o'clock A. M.

A. S. Riggs, from the Committee on Public Worship, now announced the appointments for preaching for to-morrow (Friday) night, as printed in the Daily Advocate.

G. Jones submitted a resolution directing to the Committee on Revisals, instructing them to inquire into the expediency of inserting a new rule in the book, prohibiting dancing and attendance on the theatre by our members—signed also by J. Lusk and R. M. Drake; which was read and referred to the Committee on Revisals.

J. Stay submitted a resolution, (signed also by J. P. Smith,) directing the Committee on Revisals to consider the propriety of amending the Discipline on page one hundred and twelve, etc.; with reference to the trial of ministers; which was read and referred to the Committee on Revisals.

C. K. Marshall submitted a resolution (signed also by H. E. Thwait) with reference to amendments of the Discipline on pages fifty-six and fifty-eight; which was read and referred to the Committee on Revisals.

R. Alexander submitted a resolution, (signed also by I. W. Kennon,) directing to the Committee on Itinerancy, and instructing them to inquire into the expediency of the Bishops' appointing certain travelling agents, to promote the circulation of books in certain Conferences; which was read and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. B. Payne submitted a resolution, signed also by G. J. Pearce, directing the proper committee to inquire into the propriety of shortening the time of qualifying for deacons, and preachers' orders, from two years to one year, and from four years to two years; and to consider the subject with special reference to the existing necessity, in many quarters, for the administration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper; which was read, and referred to the Committee on Revisals.

E. F. Sevier submitted a resolution, signed also by E. E. Wiley, to this effect: Resolved, by the delegates of the several Annual Conferences, That the present name of the churches we represent be changed, and that they be called and known hereafter by the name and style of the Methodist Church.

CENTRAL BELMONT PAPER. The Bishop presiding, under the order of this day, now announced the special committee to consider the memorial concerning a central religious paper as follows: C. K. Marshall, Chairman; D. S. Doggett, J. Hamilton, W. J. Sannett, Lovick Pierce, J. Boyle, F. E. Pitts, E. Stevenson, and B. Alexander.

C. K. Marshall besought the Conference, ineffectually, to be excused from this service. B. M. Drake, Chairman of the Committee on Education, (by leave) appealed to the several members of said committee, to be prompt in their attendance on their appointment for meeting this afternoon at five o'clock. He was particular in his request to members, that they would come together prepared with written statements of the schools they severally represent. It was especially desirable to know the relation these schools sustain to the Conferences; whether they are the property of the Conference, or simply patronized by the Conference. It was especially desirable to know the number and strength of all our schools, the amount of their several endowments, as well as the religious revivals with which they have severally been blessed, etc.

After the announcement of other committee appointments, the Conference adjourned. Benediction by the Bishop presiding.

MAY THE SEVENTH.

THE GRANDE MISSION CONFERENCE. J. Boring, from the Committee on Missions, to whom the subject of the establishment of a new Conference, to be called the Rio Grande Conference, was referred, reported a recommendation for the establishment of such a Conference, and proposing boundaries, by a line beginning at the mouth of the Guadaloupe river, and then running up said river to San Antonio; thence north to the Colorado river, etc.; thence round to the Rio Grande, down said Rio Grande

to its mouth, and thence along the coast to the beginning. The report lies on the table one day, under the rules of Conference.

WILL OF PEYTON M. WYATT. J. Boring, from the same Committee, to whom had been referred the memorial signed by W. J. Hays, and others, asked the Conference to consider a certain bequest in the will of Peyton M. Wyatt, reported the Committee's concurrence in the opinion that the bequest should be turned over to the Richmond Depository for the use of the Richmond Circuit, East Texas Conference, recommending an alteration in the Discipline—striking out, and inserting to this effect: At each Quarterly Conference the preacher in charge shall read the names of those who are received into this Church, and also the names of those who are excluded therefrom; and shall give a general statement of the condition of his circuit, station, or mission.

2. The Committee do not recommend the striking out of the word "expressly." 3. The Committee recommend that the first resolution from Prattville, Alabama, be transferred to the Committee on Itinerancy. 4. That the second resolution from Prattville be transferred to the Committee on Temperance. 5. That the resolution of C. D. Oliver be transferred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools.

J. B. McFerrin moved to lay the report on the table, but did not press the motion. A. L. P. Green—The first paper from Prattville, marked number four in the report, refers to the subject of Lay delegation; which of course, belongs to the Committee on Itinerancy. The next paper from Prattville, is on the subject of temperance; which, of course, belongs to the committee on that subject. The next is Brother Oliver's, on the creation of a Catechism for Sabbath schools. None of these properly belong to our committee.

A. R. Erwin moved that the report be adopted. C. K. Marshall disliked to see this last subject transferred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools. He understood Brother Oliver to agree with him, that this resolution aims at something beyond a mere Sunday school book; something that shall cover the entire doctrine of the Methodist Church; something that Chief Justice Taney might take into his hand if he wished to study the polity of our Church—a book for the information of the people at large. Such a book is much needed. If I were asked for a book that might give a knowledge of the doctrines, history, and economy of our Church, I confess I should not know exactly what book to indicate. I take that back, sir. In regard to the doctrine and constitution of the Church I should say, certainly, the New Testament. But, outside of that, I could not think of a dozen books, but not one of them would meet my view. I want to see this plan adopted, this book produced and sanctioned by the Bishops; and for this reason I oppose the laying of the report on the table, and ask its reference to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

J. E. Evans—The motion is now to adopt the report of the Committee on Revisals, recommending the transfer of these papers; and the reason assigned by the Chairman is, that the Committee on Revisals have nothing to do with them, inasmuch as they propose no change in the Discipline. But it strikes me that one of these papers does propose to strike out a very important part of the Discipline. Turn to page thirty-five and thirty-nine, prescribing who shall compose the General and Annual Conferences, and examine them in connection with that paper, and you will find that it materially affects the Discipline. I prefer that it should remain with the Committee on Revisals, because I have confidence in that committee. I want them to meet the question that has been referred to them, and not transfer it to another committee. Let them meet the responsibility. It involves a grave question, and certainly does come legitimately before them.

E. H. Myers read the paper referred to, and alleged that nothing was contemplated to be done by it. It took no action that need disturb anybody's mind.

A. L. P. Green—I said it proposed no change in the Discipline. The said paper was then ordered to be transferred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.

The second paper from Prattville, asking for a rule of prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, except for medicinal purposes, was referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A. L. P. Green—As to the other paper, I am perfectly willing that it should take the direction suggested by Bro. Marshall, and go to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

C. D. Oliver—it was not designed to take the proposed book out of the Sabbath Schools, but it was designed to be incorporated into our Sabbath School Libraries. It was intended to embrace the history, ordinances, and discipline of the Church, touching probationers, class-meetings, etc.

This paper was referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

The Chair—The balance of the report having respect to a change of the Discipline, of course it lies on the table one day.

WASHINGTON CITY STATIOS.

C. D. Oliver, from the special committee appointed to consider the memorial from the Quarterly Meeting of the Washington City Station, Virginia Conference, submitted a favorable report in writing, which was read by the Secretary.

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the Quarterly Conference of Washington City Station, Virginia Conference, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to present the following:

The interest in behalf of which your memorialists plead, is one of the greatest importance to the Southern Church, and to the cause of true religion in the metropolis of the nation. This point needs no elaboration. Every member of this body must feel that so great and influential a denomination as the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, should be represented by a large and flourishing society, at the seat of the General Government.

The little band of Southern Methodists in Washington City have been, for the last eight years, manfully stemming the tide of opposition from the thousands in that city, who hold connection with an avowed abolition Church, and are severed by the members of a Conference, openly declared to be anti-slavery.

They might have expressed their convictions of duty, and remained in the Northern Church, but they could not sacrifice principle. They believed our Church to be right on the great question that severed us from the North, and nobly took their stand in the ranks of Southern Methodism.

Their ruin was predicted by those who make the wish, father to the prophecy. Eight years have passed away; and our Church there not only exists, but grows in numbers and influence.

They represent the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the Federal city; and there, where crowds meet from all parts of the Union, they have unfurled the banner, and proclaimed the principles of Southern Methodism.

While these brethren are fully able to sustain themselves in their present place of worship, as

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON REVISALS. A. L. P. Green, from the Committee on Revisals, submitted a report (No. 1) on the prayer of the Quarterly Conference of King and Queen Circuit, Virginia Conference, recommending an alteration in the Discipline—striking out, and inserting to this effect: At each Quarterly Conference the preacher in charge shall read the names of those who are received into this Church, and also the names of those who are excluded therefrom; and shall give a general statement of the condition of his circuit, station, or mission.

2. The Committee do not recommend the striking out of the word "expressly." 3. The Committee recommend that the first resolution from Prattville, Alabama, be transferred to the Committee on Itinerancy. 4. That the second resolution from Prattville be transferred to the Committee on Temperance. 5. That the resolution of C. D. Oliver be transferred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools.

J. B. McFerrin moved to lay the report on the table, but did not press the motion. A. L. P. Green—The first paper from Prattville, marked number four in the report, refers to the subject of Lay delegation; which of course

