THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

BY M'CLANAHAN, TROUSDALE & DILL. MEMPHIS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1859. VOLUME X.—NUMBER 5.

Daily Appeal.

MEMPHIS, TENN., December 20, 1858.

DR. J. D. LINDSAY—*Dear Sir*: In view of what has been said concerning the difficulty which occurred in the First Presbyterian Church of this city on the evening of the 28th of November 1858, between Elder J. J. Sledge, of Miss., and Rev. J. O. Steadman, pastor of said Church, and a part of his congregation, we think in justice to the Baptist Denomination at large, that the facts of the case, as they were elicited before the investigating committee, should be given to the public. We, therefore, ask you, as chairman of said committee, to publish in our city papers all the facts, including the cases with such remarks as you may think important to a proper understanding of the whole matter. Yours, truly,

JNO. BATEMAN, J. R. HUNTER,
R. J. ALCORN, J. G. FLOURNOY,
T. J. DEAGE, A. HATCHETT.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with your request as expressed in the foregoing card, I proceed to lay before the public the facts as I understand them and as they were elicited before the investigating committee, of which I was chairman, in regard to the conduct of Rev. J. J. Sledge, at the First Presbyterian Church of this city on the evening of November 28, 1858. I will remark, that I would have complied with your request at a much earlier day, but some of the papers necessary to a fair and truthful understanding of the matter were in the hands of Brother Buchanan, of Nashville, and Brother Borum, of Bolivar, and I was, therefore, compelled to wait the tardy moving of the mail.

In order that all may understand the nature and extent of the offence committed by Elder Sledge, and the position occupied by all the Memphis Baptists in relation to this affair, I thought it advisable to procure and to publish herewith, the original papers—including the statement of Elder Porter—which was considered at the time by all those who witnessed the transaction and who were examined before the committee, to be a fair and candid statement of the facts. I will take occasion here to remark that Elder Porter's great desire seemed to be to give all of the important facts without a shade of coloring in favor of either side. The great caution which he evinced, lest he should inadvertently do Elder Sledge injustice, was remarked by every one present. I was satisfied, at the time, that the statement made by him was true in matter—if not in phraseology, and that it embraced all of the objectionable remarks made by Elder Sledge. Hence, no research was made among the members of the committee were quite as far as the Memphis Baptists were willing to go in expressing their condemnation of the conduct of Elder Sledge, and as, I think, quite as far as the statement of Elder Porter required that they should go. And I do not think that up to the present time there has been any change of sentiment among them in relation to the matter.

The following is a literal copy of all papers which were before the Convention touching the matter. The statement of Elder Porter is in his own hand writing as it was given by him in form to the committee, at the instance of Elder Miller and other members of the Presbyterian Church;

WHEREAS, We learn with deep regret that a difficulty, unpleasant in its character, occurred on Sabbath evening last, at the First Presbyterian Church of this city, between our brethren Elder Jas. J. Sledge, of Mississippi, and the pastor and members of said Church, which, we fear is calculated, in its nature, to produce feelings of bitterness against us as a body of Christians. Therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to investigate the nature of the difficulty, and report to this convention as soon as practicable.

The above preamble and resolution were adopted by the Convention, and a committee appointed, who proceeded to investigate the particulars of the case, and subsequently submitted the following report:

The committee, to whom was referred the difficulty which occurred between the pastor and members of the first Presbyterian Church of this city, and Rev. J. J. Sledge, of Mississippi, would respectfully report, that they have had the same under advisement, and would beleave to submit the following statement of facts, viz:

Statement of Elder Porter, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in regard to the transaction of said Church on Sabbath evening, November 28th, 1858, before the investigating committee.

On Sabbath evening, of November 28th, 1858, I arrived at the First Presbyterian Church at half past six o'clock. Some fifteen minutes afterwards, Dr. Steadman, the pastor of the church, arrived, and was introduced to Rev. Mr. Sledge, a Baptist clergyman, who was to preach in his place by appointment of the Baptist Convention, then sitting in this city.

A little before the hour of preaching, which was seven o'clock, Mr. Sledge left Dr. Steadman, and went into the pulpit, and commenced the services with singing, prayer, and reading the first chapter of James, and took a text; but, before beginning his discourse, he observed that he would first make an explanation.

He then proceeded to say, substantially, that it might seem strange to the congregation, that he did not invite the pastor of the church into the pulpit with him, but in that he was governed by a principle which he considered fundamental. There could be no church fellowship without the initiatory rite of immersion; with church fellowship there could be no ministerial fellowship; therefore, he could not admit him, Dr. Steadman, into the pulpit with him. He knew this was an unpopular measure, or rather was an hen years ago, when he first began to preach, but some of his brethren had begun to treat on the platform he occupied. That pulpit had been tendered to the Baptist Convention, and he presumed that it was expected the preacher should use it as he saw proper, without any restriction; and he then tendered thanks for the same, lest he should, afterward, forget it. With this, Mr. Sledge, a member of the church, and Dr. Steadman, very quietly withdrew by different ways, and others also left the house.

Mr. Sledge said if all had remained and heard his explanation through, they would have been better satisfied.

He said that, although we might be personally attached to each other, there was a high duty to perform, when we considered ourselves as immortal beings, and although we might think lightly of these views now, we would desire to meet them at the bar of God.

Mr. Sledge then began his sermon from the words "Pure Religion." Before he had proceeded very far, some of the members of the church withdrew as quietly as was possible. He then remarked, "he liked to preach morning sermons sometimes."

About ten minutes afterwards the gas was turned off, by direction of Mr. Miller, with the consent and aid of a member of the Baptist Church, as I am informed, when the remaining few also withdrew, myself and family among them—Mr. Sledge observing that "if they liked darkness better than light, let them have it."

Your committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the conduct of Rev. J. J. Sledge in relation to the treatment of Rev. Dr. Steadman and a portion of the members of his charge, on the evening of Sabbath, Nov. 28th, 1858, was conducted in a manner of such a nature as to demand the disapprobation of this convention.

Resolved, That we referred only to what we deem to be his discourteous treatment of Dr. Steadman in his explanatory remarks, and not to any statement of doctrine made by him, (Sledge.)

It will be seen by comparing the aforementioned of Elder Porter with that of Dr Steadman, in the *Christian Advocate*, of Dec. 16th, that there is no more material difference, for if Dr. Steadman is correct, then Elder Porter must have left out of his statement the most objectionable remarks; while, if Elder Porter is correct, and I think it but fair to presume that he is, (for he did not leave the house until after the gas had been turned off, and must, therefore, have heard every word which was uttered by Elder Sledge,) then Dr. Steadman must have been misinformed, as it appears from the statement of Elder Porter that he left the Church at too early a period to hear anything except the explanatory remarks of Elder Sledge.

I wrote Elder Sledge concerning this matter, and requested him to furnish us the precise words, as near as possible, used by him on the occasion—which he did, and which I had upon examination to correspond, in the main, the statement made by Elder Porter.

Mr. W. E. Will and G. W. Joyce, both of whom, as I understand, are members of Dr. Steadman's Church, corroborate the statement of Elder Porter, as also did W. G. Hatchett, G. W. Rose, E. Lee, J. E. Richards and J. C. Ferguson, all of whom are members of the Baptist Church, and who were present at the time—from first to last—when the whole affair transpired. Mr. S. R. Whitten, who sat next to Dr. Steadman and elder Sledge, says that Dr. Steadman remarked to Elder S., "Will one or two of your brethren get into the pulpit with you?" and that nothing more was said in relation to going into the pulpit before Elder Sledge left Dr. S., and went across the house. Elder Charles Miller, a member of Dr. Steadman's Church, also concurred in the statement of Mr Porter, and most emphatically and unreservedly assumed the responsibility of shutting off the gas. Mr. Miller stated that he had left the church and gone to his home, but, after thinking the matter over, he returned to the Church for the express purpose of shutting off the gas, and whether he did it with his own hand or by the hand of a servant of immaterial. He was individually and directly accountable for the act. And I know that he does not wish that any one else should shoulder the responsibility for him.

Dr. Steadman must have written his second article with a full knowledge of the above facts before him, and it is a little singular that he does not correct his statement in his first article, by simply saying, "Some one turned off the gas," when he certainly must have known who did it.

In view of all these facts, it must be evident to every one, that the statement of Mr. Porter embraces everything of an objectionable character against Elder Sledge. The Investigating Committee so understood it, and so do we have every reason to believe did all who were before the committee. The "head and front," then of his offending, consisted in his ill timed and uncalled-for apology for not inviting Dr. Steadman into the pulpit with him, which was certainly a most egregious indiscretion. It is well known that nearly all who took part in the discussion pending the consideration of the report of the committee, disapprove of the course of Elder Sledge; but they were apprehensive that the adoption of the report of the committee by the convention would injure the standing of Elder Sledge, more than the offence committed would justify. Hence, it was thought that simple justice might be done to all parties, without the direct official interference of the convention.

The appointment of the committee, though not the official act of the convention, was concurred in by a large majority of the members, and I know that the brethren who composed that committee ardently desired that the affair should be amicably adjusted. And the interview which was proffered by the committee, through Elder Deane, to Dr. Steadman, was tendered, I have no doubt, from the purest and best of Christian motives, hoping and believing that such an explanation would be made by Elder Sledge as would be entirely satisfactory to Dr. Steadman. How far he was justified in refusing, as a Christian minister, to meet the committee, is a question for the consideration of all those who are willing to be governed by the teachings and precepts of the Bible, in adjusting all matters of difference between brethren.

Dr. Steadman says that "the appointment of a committee to ascertain the facts, was expunged from the records of the convention. Then we are led to infer that the convention of Southern Baptists, entertain the belief that their can be no fellowship with ministers of other denominations on the ground of a common faith and hope in Christ, and that the only fellowship that they can extend to such as these, is that of a common street acquaintance to be gone all of the important facts without a shade of coloring in favor of either side. The great caution which he evinced, lest he should inadvertently do Elder Sledge injustice, was remarked by every one present. I was satisfied, at the time, that the statement made by him was true in matter—if not in phraseology, and that it embraced all of the objectionable remarks made by Elder Sledge. Hence, no research to the committee to the Convention. Now it does not appear from the statement of Elder Porter that Elder Sledge ever uttered such a sentiment as the above; and Elder Sledge, in a letter to me touching the subject, most emphatically denies saying anything of the kind. But admitting that he did, in the Doctor's logic sufficient to fasten such a belief upon the convention? I think not. If it were, the same process of reasoning would convict the Presbyterians of worse than heathenism, inasmuch as they, in connection with the committee were quite as far as the Memphis Baptists were willing to go in expressing their condemnation of the conduct of Elder Sledge, and as, I think, quite as far as the statement of Elder Porter required that they should go. And I do not think that up to the present time there has been any change of sentiment among them in relation to the matter.

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TEXAS INTELLIGENCE.

Our exchanges speak of the unusual severity of the cold in nearly all parts of the State. From the Galveston *News* of Tuesday last, we extract the following:

Wet, drizzly, cold, dark, cloudy weather is usually expected about this time, but we have no recollection of any Christmas that has been attended with so many days in succession without a single gleam of sunshine to break through the dense clouds and murky atmosphere. Our streets have been running with water for the last week or ten days, and whether it rains or not, the air is so loaded with mist and fog, that everything around is completely saturated with water. If there has been one-half of the rain in the upper country, the rivers must soon be boating; but we have no certain information of any rise as yet, though navigation is anxiously looked for.

We have had a dull market with a very limited demand this week. On all yesterday, where several buyers entered the market with more hundred bales changed hands at 11 to 11½c. for Middling. To-day there has been a good inquiry. Sales as above, the market closing at our quotations.

The *News* of Monday has a different rise in the Trinity and for the passage of navigation.

The San Antonio *Ledger* of the 22d says:

We learn that an express messenger to Gen. Twiggs arrived in this city yesterday morning, asking for protection against the Indians, and stating that yesterday at day, 20th inst., a band of Camanches, seven or eight in number, came down to within fourteen miles of San Antonio, at Trueby's Ranch, on the Camp Verde road, and drove off and killed several horses and cattle. Among the horses killed were the "bell mare" of Philip Dorsey, and one belonging to Mr. Hopefle. It is feared that the horses of Mr. Bracken, Mr. Tynan and others, have also been taken.

When the message arrived, Gen. Twiggs had not at his disposal a single mounted man, but with his accustomed energy and promptitude, he immediately dispatched in pursuit a party of Capt. Hill's company "M," 1st Artillery, stationed at this place, mounted in the best way he could mount them at such short notice.

The Times rightly thinks the idea that the marauders were Indians at all, and of sending artillery in pursuit, if they were. That paper says:

We think something should be done by the people, when eight horse thieves can come into the centre of the most populous county of the State, and within fifteen miles of the largest city in the State, containing 8,000 inhabitants, and steal horses and cattle, and make our public journals believe it done by Indians; we think a high time for the people to act for themselves and our county officers to take the matter into their own hands.

Burning of the Martha Jewett.

The St. *Louis Democrat* of Tuesday last gives the following particulars:

It will be remembered that the steamer *Martha Jewett* left the port very suddenly on a nocturnal expedition, about the middle of last week. Her commander, Capt. J. L. Harbaugh, was quite amazed to find that she had left in such an irregular way, and started down the river on the *Philadelphia* the Friday evening, having surmised that some of the owners, who, it appears, was not satisfied with the success of the boat, had taken her off to Cairo. It seems that the Captain was right in his conjectures as to her destination, but had luck not her there. The following dispatch was received yesterday afternoon:

CAIRO, January 3.

MESSRS. SLATER & JOHNSON: *The Martha Jewett* burned this morning at 2 o'clock, and is total loss.

Shortly after, we received from our attentive correspondent at Cairo, the following communication in regard to the steamer:

CAIRO, Monday, 3 P.M.—*Martha Jewett* took fire and is now burning to the water's edge. The fire originated from the stove in the deck room. A family of deck passengers were staying on the boat at the time.

The *Martha Jewett* was built at this place, in January, 1856, by Captain Jewett, for the Missouri river, and cost $30,000. She was worth, probably, half the sum whenburned. She was a fine boat, and had been running between St. Louis and Paducah, under Capt. Harbaugh, who intended, however, putting a newer boat in that trade, immediately. She was insured against fire only for $7,000 in all of this city, having a risk on her of $2,000 in a Pennsylvania office. It is supposed that A. R. McNair, another insurance agent, had also a risk on her.

HILLMAN BROTHERS,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Boot Channel Relaced Iron, Nails, Spikes, Castings, Sash, Door and Window Weights, Bellows, Chains, &c. No. 56 Front Row, Memphis, Tenn. Also, Agents for the sale of Shot towers, Powder generally, that we have now in store a large assortment of every brand and quality, which we offer at manufacturers' prices, for cash or approved credit. Also a full stock of Nails, Cutlery and Saddlery Hardware.

Also, agents for the sale of Fairbanks' Celebrated Scales, which we have now in store, and will make to order on the shortest notice, any size of platform scales, from 4 to 20 tons capacity.

Also, agents for the sale of Fairbanks' Celebrated Cotton Gins, which we have now in store, and will make to order on the shortest notice, any size of Gins, from 20 to 80 saws.

HILLMAN BROTHERS.

THE GAYOSO HOUSE

WANTS a few more good Servants. Private families who may desire to hire SERVANTS will do well to call at the Gayoso, and see for themselves. We have a large number of servants of every description, which we will hire out by the month, or year, on reasonable terms. Persons desiring servants for a long term, will find it to their interest to call at the Gayoso.

JAMES PHELAN, Proprietor.

Fine Flour.

100 BBLS. Fine Family Flour, for sale by

JOHN C. FLOYD.

Trust Sale.

BY virtue of a deed of Trust, executed to S. S. Ross, on the 1st day of February, 1856, and duly recorded in the Register's office of Shelby county, Tennessee, I, as Register, will sell on the 20th day of January next, at the southwest corner of Main and Madison streets, all the interest which I have in said deed of trust, for cash, or satisfactory notes, at the time of sale, or otherwise at the option of the trustee, Mr. Ross, to the highest bidder, for cash, the property therein described, viz: Lot No. 4, Square 3, and the following described tract of land, lying in Shelby county, Tennessee, northwardly from the Navy Yard, and about three miles from the city of Memphis, containing fifteen acres, known as the tract of Lucinda Hassell, Hardy Hassell, Mrs. Eppes, Daniel Gregory and Thomas Holmes, and bounded as follows: Beginning at a large pointer, and running thence east 42 chains and 16 links, thence north 3 chains 75 links, thence west 42 chains and 16 links, thence south 3 chains 75 links, to the beginning, containing 15 acres. Also, one lot in Hopson's addition to Memphis, being lot No. 4, in said addition, fronting 50 feet on Poplar street, and extending back 150 feet, thence north 40 chains 30 links, to a stake in the south line of Lot No. 3, in said addition, thence west with Creek with the meanders thereof, to a black tree on the south side of said lot, thence south 71 chains 30 links, to the beginning; containing 40 acres, more or less. All money or obligations to expressly waived in said deed of trust, and the same will be sold for cash, though I shall take money as trustee. Also invested the proceeds of said sale in Memphis.

S. S. ROSS, Trustee.

Sale of Valuable Property.

BY virtue of a deed of trust executed to me by Jas. Dunlap, on the 10th day of November, 1857, which is of record in the Register's office of Shelby county, Tennessee, I will sell on the premises, on the 20th day of January next, at 12 o'clock, M., the following described tract of land, to wit: Lot No. 4, in Square 3, in Hopson's addition to Memphis, and bounded as follows: Beginning at a stake in the south line of said lot, 50 feet west from the south east corner of said lot, thence north 150 feet, thence west 50 feet, thence south 150 feet, thence east 50 feet to the beginning, with the improvements thereon, consisting of a two story brick house, and other out buildings. The sale will be made for cash, or satisfactory notes, at the option of the trustee, Mr. Hopson, who is now in Memphis, and has charge of the property. The purchaser will be required to take the property subject to a deed of trust for $1,000, which is due on the 1st day of November next, and payable at the Bank of Memphis.

T. J. DRANE.

Notice.

HAVING sold my entire stock of Furniture, Mattresses, &c., to Messrs. PLUMER & ELDRIDGE, who will continue the business at the old stand, I respectfully recommend them to my friends and customers.

M. STEVENS.

MESSRS. PLUMER & ELDRIDGE

WOULD call your attention, if you please, for a moment, to the announcement of M. Stevens, and would most respectfully say to the citizens of Memphis and surrounding country, that they are now prepared to attend to any business entrusted to them, wholesale and retail, at the old stand, No. 281 Main street. They will keep at all times a large stock of Furniture, Pianos, Chemosols, Oil, Paints, &c., &c., and will sell them on good terms. Having had some experience in the business, they would also state that they are prepared to attend to Undertaking in all its branches, both at where are will know in this community, and who have no superior to this or any other city, and will warrant satisfaction to those who may favor them with their patronage.

PLUMER & ELDRIDGE.

MEMPHIS, November 28, 1858.

JAMES & M. FLAHERTY,

(Successors to the late firm of Geo. Flaherty & Bro.)

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

FURNITURE,

PIANOS, ETC.,

Memphis, Tenn.

HAVING purchased the new and extensive warehouse formerly occupied by Messrs. Main and Jones, we have been from our old stand and adjoining the Commercial Hotel, to the new stand, where we invite our friends to call and examine our stock of FURNITURE, PIANOS and MELODEONS, which we have in store, in connection with our Cabinet Ware Room, which is the manufacture of Geo. Flaherty, Cabinet Maker, Memphis, Tenn. Our Cabinet Ware Room is now in full operation, and we will make to order any article of furniture, on the shortest notice, and in the most fashionable style, and warranted to give satisfaction. Our stock of Furniture is large and complete, and we will sell at prices to suit the times. Our Pianos and Melodeons are of the best manufacture, and we will sell them on as good terms as any house in the city