

## Miscellaneous.

[BY REQUEST.]

EXTRACTS from the Minutes of the Edgefield Baptist Association, convened at Gilgal Church, Edgefield District, S. C., on the 11th, September, 1841.

"The Delegates of the Churches assembled in the Meeting House, at 10 o'clock, A. M., on Saturday, and were called to order by the Moderator.

"Elected the brethren W. B. Johnson, Moderator; John Huiet, Clerk; and R. G. Mays, Treasurer.

"On motion of brother M. M. Abney; Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due, to Almighty God, for the blessings which he has conferred on most of the Churches, that compose this body, during the past year; that, the state of those Churches, which have not been partakers in these blessings, be a subject of special prayer; and that the Moderator lead in these exercises of thanksgiving and prayer. Whereupon, the Moderator immediately engaged in these duties.

"Brother J. Culpepper, Agent of the Furman Institution, addressed the Association at some length on the objects of his Mission; to which the Moderator added some remarks, explanatory on the same subject. Whereupon, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas brother J. Culpepper, Agent of the Board of Trustees of the Furman Institution, has made to this body some important statements, in reference to the Institution and his agency; Resolved, That we are much gratified with the prospects of the Institution and recommend that brother C. be affectionately received by our brethren and others, friendly to benevolent exertions, and liberally sustained in his efforts for collections, in aid of 'This School of the Prophets.'

"The Committee on Suggestions and Queries, from the Churches, Report: That they have had under consideration the respective subjects, embraced in the Letters from the Churches, and now offer their Report: 1. That they cordially approve of the suggestion from the Edgefield Village Baptist Church, in which it is proposed, that eight Missionaries be employed by the Domestic Mission Board, for 2 months in the year, to travel and preach through the Churches of this body, and recommend its adoption by the Association. 2. That they have duly considered the subject of imparting Religious instruction to the colored people within our bounds, as suggested by the Church of Little Stephens Creek; and recommend, that the Churches and Ministers of the Association, be requested to take measures for giving oral instruction, from the Scriptures of truth, on the Lord's Day, on which they assemble for Religious service, to the coloured population. They further recommend, that where conveniences may not now be provided for the accommodation of these people, in the Meeting Houses of the Churches, that such conveniences may be supplied with all convenient despatch: They recommend also, that it be recommended to the owners of servants, that they also impart Religious instruction to them at home, at stated and convenient seasons. 3. That on the Query from the Salem Church; 'Is it consistent with Gospel order, for a Church to hold in its Fellowship, a member, who is in the habitual practice of engaging in the common party plays of the day?' They recommend the answer to be in the negative.

W. B. JOHNSON, Chairman.

"The whole report was concurred in; and that portion of it which relates to the subject of the query from the Salem Church, was ordered to be embodied in a circular, to be published with the minutes of the present year, and the Moderator requested to prepare the letter.

"The Domestic Missionary Board made the following Report: That finding their means inadequate to the payment of a Missionary for a year's service, they adopted the plan of appointing four Missionaries for two months, at \$25 00 each, per month. The working of this plan has been most happily blessed. In their Missionary tour, these brethren have gone two and two, in conformity with our Lord's example. With several of the Churches they have preached a week, and in some places have been detained for a greater length of time. The reports of the letters from the Churches will furnish proof of the wisdom of the plan, and the blessing of God upon it. The Board recommend, therefore, the continuance and enlargement of this plan, by the appointment of eight Missionaries instead of four, for two months in the year; as, by this arrangement, all the Churches can be visited, and enjoy the labors of the brethren for several days together; and at a season of the year too, at which leisure is afforded to the citizens generally, to attend Protracted Meetings.

"The Moderator, as the Delegate of this body to the Triennial Missionary Convention, and other General Institutions of the Baptist Denomination, that assembled in Baltimore, in April last, gave a full statement of the proceedings of those bodies, in relation to the difficulties growing out of the doings of Abolitionists of our order: Whereupon, on motion of brother J. M. Chiles, the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, fit hath pleased Almighty God, to incline the hearts of the members of the Triennial Missionary Convention, and the other General Institutions of the Baptist Denomination at their meeting in April last, so to adjust the difficulty, growing out of the conduct of some Abolitionists, members of that body, as to remove the danger of a separation of the Northern and Southern Churches, embraced in the Convention, and the other General Institutions of our order: Resolved,

"1. That, our thanks are due and hereby expressed, to Almighty God, for his gracious interposition in bringing about the adjustment of the difficulty in the Scriptural brotherly manner adopted.

"2. That our thanks are hereby given to our Delegate to the Convention and General Institutions of our Denomination, for his efforts in bringing about the adjustment.

"3. That we are encouraged to continue our prayers and contributions in the cause of sending the Gospel to the destitute in our own country, and to the distant heathen, and recommend to our Churches not to be weary in well doing in so noble a cause.

"The Committee on the State of Religion, Report:—That the Spiritual condition of the Churches is much improved. The labors of the Domestic Missionaries have been much blessed in reviving professors, so that a much more healthy action pervades the body of the Lord's people, than did last year. The net gain to the Association is 325, but the amount of contributions for benevolent objects has much declined. This may be owing to the pecuniary pressure of the country. Seven Temperance Societies are yet laboring for the reclaiming of sinful men from the pernicious influence of the intoxicating draught. Their energies, however, are not a little weakened, by the continued practice of some members of Churches, and it is to be feared of some Preachers of the Gospel, who dilute their fruit into brandy, by which the thirst for alcohol continues to be gratified, and the eternal salvation of their souls end angered. Eight Benevolent Societies continue their course of beneficent exertion, whilst eighteen Ordained and nine Licensed Preachers, are engaged in proclaiming the glad tidings of salvation to perishing men.

W. B. JOHNSON, Chairman.

### CIRCULAR.

The Edgefield Baptist Association to the Churches within her limits:—Sendeth Christian Salutation.

#### BELOVED BRETHREN:

By a resolution in our Minutes, you will see, that we have determined to resume our former practice of addressing you in Circular Letters; and, in the present one, request your attention to the grounds, on which our answer to the following Query from the Salem Church is predicated.

Query:—Is it consistent with Gospel order, that a Church shall hold in her fellowship, a member, who is in the habitual practice of engaging in the party plays of the day?

It is to be understood, that, by these plays, are meant, Cards, Dice, Billiards, Ninepins, Draughts, Chess, Back Gammon, Horse Racing, Pava playing, in its various forms, Dancing parties, costly entertainments for carnal pleasure, the Theatre, Circus, vain shows and such like amusements.

It must be admitted, that the Scripture does not, in so many words, condemn these amusements. Their prohibition, if they are prohibited at all, must be learnt from the general principles and precepts of the word of God. To these must the ever varying, ever multiplying inventions of men be brought for approval or rejection. "To the law and the testimony! If they do not speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." For, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." It must, therefore, be a complete code of laws for the man of God, to which these plays may be safely brought, for ascertaining their true character.

The first general principle to which we direct your attention on this subject, is this: "Ye are not your own. For ye are bought with a price." The conclusion, deducible from this principle, is wrought into the following general precepts. "Therefore, Glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." "Whether, therefore, ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the Church of God." That is, throw no stumbling block in the way of the Jews, or Gentiles, or the members of the Church, by which they may fall. According to the general principle just laid down, believers are recognized, as the absolute property of God—a property purchased at the incalculable price of the blood of God's own Son. The bodies and souls of these believers are deemed, by this price, from the degradation of sin and the miseries of hell. They are therefore bound to conform themselves in thought, in word, and in action, not only to the letter of the Divine requirement, but also to its spirit. Let us, now, bring these plays or amusements, in these respects, "to the law and the testimony."

1. In reference to the thoughts. "Every thought is to be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." Let us now ask; Are any of these plays or amusements fitted to promote this end? Can there be one spiritual thought cherished in their enjoyment? Can there be one holy affection nourished there? Can the love of God be increased by them? Do not these amusements serve, on the contrary, to render the thoughts and affections carnal, and to weaken the force of divine love in the soul? And in proportion as they are indulged in; Are not the Scriptures neglected? Is not secret prayer restrained, and ejaculatory prayer abandoned? Can the Christian, in these amusements, lift up his heart with gratitude to God for the pardon of his sins, and for grace to overcome them? Can he pray, "Lead us not into temptation, deliver us from all evil, and from its appearance?" No! This is impossible. Hence then are these plays condemned and prohibited by the law and the testimony, for they promote not the subjection of every thought to the obedience of Christ, but the carnality and debasement of them all. They bring no glory to God, but tend to throw a stumbling block in the way of the Jews, the Gentiles, and the Church of God.

2. Not only is "every thought to be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ;" But "our speech is to be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that we may know how we are to answer every man." For, "no corrupt communication" is allowed. "to proceed out of our mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers." All "filthiness, foolish talking and jesting are forbidden." Let us ask again: Are any of these amusements calculated to assist believers in attaining to such purity of speech as is hereby enjoined? Can they be improved by the conversation at such plays in the best modes of speech to edify souls? Are they in these places schooled in the best language for ministering grace to their hearers? Suppose that, at the close of one of those amusements, a professor should attempt to admonish the company of their sins, and exhort them to repent and turn from the error of their ways? Would not the terms falter upon his lips, and the unavailing effort extort the taunting reproof; "Physician, heal thyself." Suppose the same professor, retiring from his unsuccessful effort upon sinners, should attempt to repeat it upon his brethren, would not the consciousness of his own defection close his lips, and forbid the utterance of the words that he had meditated? Let him repair to his habitation and engage in the duties of the family altar, could he read God's word with delight, could he lift up his voice in prayer with satisfaction? Could he retire to his closet and thank God for the opportunity of improving his speech in a spiritual manner, which he had diligently employed? Ah! No. This would be impossible. If in these amusements, then, the Christian's speech cannot be always with grace, seasoned with salt, but on the contrary debased by sin; then are these plays or amusements prohibited by Almighty God, because they give not glory to Him, and tend to throw stumbling blocks, in the way of the Jews, and the Gentiles, and the Church of God, that they may fall.

3. Believers "are created in Christ Jesus unto good works." Therefore, the Savior saith, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in Heaven." Actions are the true exponents of principles. Therefore saith Christ: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Good works have the word of God for their rule, the love of God for their motive, and the glory of God for their end. Can any man find in the whole word of God, a rule for any of these plays? Can he discover that the love of God moves those who make, and those who engage in them, or that, in attending upon them, the love of God, glows in the heart, or leaves a sweet savor upon the spirit, when they are over? Can he perceive that the glory of God is in any degree promoted by them? To test this, let us ask: Can these plays be introduced or closed with reading the Scriptures, prayer or praise to God's holy name? Is Jehovah's name mentioned by those in attendance with respect or affection? Can they, in preparing for these plays, retire to their closets, and solemnly appeal to the searcher of hearts for the purity of their desire in going to them? Can they tell Him, that it is for his glory, and pray to Him to enable them to act their parts well in the game, or at the amusement? This cannot be done. Then are these plays, when brought to the law and the testimony, contrary both to the letter and spirit of God's Holy Word, and therefore are they prohibited, because they give not glory to God, but tend to throw stumbling blocks in the way of the Jews, and the Gentiles, and the Church of God, that they may fall.

In conclusion, we observe, Dear Brethren, that from the view of the subject, presented above, the plays mentioned at the head of this letter are inconsistent with Christian Character. That if a member of the Church shall engage in them, or attend upon them, he ought to be affectionately admonished of his inconsistency, and if after due labors maintained, he shall persevere in such a course of conduct, he should be expelled from the fellowship of the Church.

Our meeting has been delightfully harmonious, and deeply interesting.

Affectionately, Yours,

W. B. JOHNSON, Moderator.

JOHN HUIET, Clerk.

From the Kingston (U. C.) Chronicle. Attempt to destroy our War Steamers on Lake Erie.—We mentioned briefly in a recent number of this paper, a desperate attempt which was made on the morning of the 17th ult., to destroy H. M. steam vessels Toronto and Mines, then lying at anchor at Chippewa. The following particulars may be relied on as strictly correct.

At about 10 minutes before 3, A. M., the sentry on the fore-castle of the Toronto saw a light approaching the vessel, apparently two or three hundred yards ahead. He hailed it twice, but received no answer; he was in the act of calling the attention of the sergeant of the watch, when it exploded with a tremendous noise, shaking the ship to her centre—and as it afterwards appeared, breaking the windows in several houses on shore. As the smoke cleared away a boat was seen pulling with great swiftness toward Grand Island. She was immediately pursued by a boat from the Toronto, but without success.

The next morning a cask was seen sticking in the mud close to the bank near the spot where the explosion took place. On examination it was found to be full of powder, ingeniously fitted into a kind of platform to make it float steadily, and with a fuse half burnt, fixed in the bung-hole.—To the cask were attached several fathoms of whale line, by which it must evidently have been connected with the one that exploded—and the use of which was no doubt to take across the bows of the vessel, so as to bring a cask on either side of her as they floated down with the stream.

On the arrival of Commodore Sandom, on the 23d ult., an inquiry by a board of magistrates took place, and several depositions of parties were taken; the only circumstance of importance that was elicited, was, that on the same morning a farmer on Grand Island, in going round his fields, found four men lying asleep in a shanty, and a boat hauled up on the beach close by; the men were armed, and one of them he knew to be from Buffalo, and an accomplice of the notorious Lett—who has since openly expressed his regret at the failure of the attempt. The barrel bore the mark of a brewery in Buffalo, and contained upward of 100 pounds of gunpowder. A musket shot was fired from the upper end of Navy Island, at the Toronto's boat, as she passed in pursuit.

The Cash System.—The Editors of the Augusta Chronicle & Sentinel have determined hereafter, to pursue a cash system, so far as relates to subscriptions to that paper. This, after all, is the only way in which the business of publishing newspapers can be carried on successfully, unless it is with those who print for glory and the good of their country and not for their bread and butter. Being among the latter class, we adopted the cash system some months since with subscribers out of the city, and have yet had no cause to regret it. To be sure, when we commenced, we were obliged to erase many names from our books, among whom, no doubt, there were several who were perfectly able to pay but as we did not know them, we could make no distinction, and therefore served the good and bad alike.

We are sorry thus to have offended unintentionally many good subscribers who were able and willing to pay, but as they did not do so, we had to infer they did not want to continue their subscription and we pursued a uniform course. Our number has since been more than made up, and our subscription list is constantly on the increase. We know now who our subscribers are, and can therefore depend upon receiving a quid pro quo for our labor.

We also ceased sending the paper gratuitously to any one, being determined to make our paper worth the subscription price asked for it. Those, therefore, who want it, have to pay for it, and those who do not, do not put us to a needless expense. Besides, the man who takes a paper without paying for it, gives no proof that he appreciates it and therefore pays its editor a very poor compliment.

Our experience teaches us that the cash system will have to be adopted by the corps generally, throughout the State, and the sooner they make up their minds to go into it, the better for all concerned.—Savannah Republican.

From the N. Y. Herald. Progress of the Great Current Revolution.—More Votes.—The great current revolution which commenced on the accession of "Captain Tyler" to the Presidency, has been going on with prodigious force and momentum among the people.

In addition to the great changes which have marked, with huge paws, the recent elections in Vermont, Maine, and other States, we have to record a complete revolution in the politics of Maryland. The State contest just held there, has resulted in the election of Thomas by a majority of nearly 1000—and this astonishing result has been effected in the face of the late revolutionary address, backed by Mr. Clay's proposal to mutilate the Constitution, and concurred in by the rump of the Whig party in Congress. At this election the bank question, with its several affiliated measures of spoliation and plunder, were distinctly made the issue—and they have been vetoed by the people of Maryland by a large and thumping majority. According, therefore, to the choice logic of the revolutionary Whig rump, about 25,000 voters in Maryland have become "traitors" and "renegades" to the agents of the London stockjobbers, who expected to get \$10,000,000 annually, out of the people of America in the shape of usurious interest.

This singular—this curious—this remarkable revolution is still in progress.—This week the election takes place in Pennsylvania, and next month in New York.

The same general result may be expected in both States. The question of bank or no bank is now made distinctly one of the most prominent issues, and the people are very rapidly and decisively returning their verdict and veto in the same breath.

Democratic Heresy.—The New York Express, a leading Whig paper, in an article in which they try to prove that the judiciary ought to be the President's conscience in the exercise of the veto power, say with reference to Gen. Jackson's vetoing the United States Bank:

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"This heresy was considered as characteristic of the arbitrary and despotic disposition of General Jackson; but it did not originate with him. Like most all other unsound and heretical doctrines in this country, it came from Mr. Jefferson."

So the Whigs attribute to Mr. Jefferson "all the unsound and heretical political doctrines in this country." What staunch Democrats the Whigs are! It is a pity they should so far forget themselves in their pretensions to Democracy. They should be more careful not to show the cloven foot of Federalism, if they would pass for Democrats.—Erie (Pa.) Observer.

## The Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD C. H.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1841.

Texas Loan.—The N. Y. Evening Post says: That General Hamilton intends leaving Europe for this country during this month, bringing with him the proceeds of the Texas loan in gold. This must be glorious news to the holders of Texas Bonds and Treasury Notes, and a speedy advance in their prices may be anticipated.

Rail Roads at Auction.—It is announced in the N. Y. papers, that the Comptroller of that State has advertised to sell at Auction, on the third Monday in April next, the Ithaca and Owego, and the Catskill and Canajoharie Rail Roads, and their appurtenances; default having been made in payment of the interest on the stock loaned by the State, to aid in their construction.

### ELECTIONS.

Pennsylvania.—The Democratic papers claim a majority for their candidate for Governor, of 22,000. It is not yet ascertained the exact complexion of the Legislature, but it is probable that it is Democratic. The Whigs acknowledge themselves badly beaten in this old Democratic State.

Ohio.—By accounts from this State, which we publish in another column, the Democrats have acted nobly.

The Charleston Mercury says: "In Wisconsin, Dodge, (Dem.) is elected Delegate to Congress, by a large majority."

"In the town elections in Connecticut the Democrats have gained a great ascendancy, having carried as far as returns have been received, about two thirds of the towns."

"In New Jersey, the Democrats have gained 13 members of the Council and House of Representatives, and parties will be nearly balanced. Last year the Whigs had about three-fourths of the whole."

Independent Treasury.—The Independent Treasury Law was in operation more than a year, and never was there a system that worked so well. Even the Whigs could not point to a single instance of mismanagement or loss under it. At its repeal, the Receivers General were prepared in a single day to settle and transfer accounts. Such promptitude could not be found under any other system.

A Long Negotiation.—John Ross, the famous Cherokee Chief, and his suite, are now on their way home from Washington. They have been resident in that city two years, engaged in negotiations with the United States Government, relative to the removal of the tribe.

Rumored Bank Robbery.—A rumor comes from Springfield, Ill., that a Teller in the State Bank has absconded, leaving the institution minus about \$12,000; no names or particulars given.

Another.—The Cashier of the N. Y. Commercial Bank, R. W. Redfield, has swartwounded, leaving that institution minus about \$50,000. We should say, that the facilities offered by the lines of steamers, between this country and Europe, are becoming an *erud.*

Good Currency.—Forty-four per cent. is the rate of discount on the notes of the late Philadelphia United States Bank.

War Movement.—Orders have been received at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, for the construction of two war steamers of the medium size.

The Camden Journal of the 20th inst., states that the dwelling house of Mrs. Dicey Cason at Taxahaw, Lancaster District, was entirely destroyed by fire, on Tuesday morning the 5th instant, about 9 o'clock. The building with its contents is a total loss. The loss of Mrs. Cason in money, papers and other property is said to be very considerable.

The Hartford Times, contains the following, as the remark of an old Democratic veteran, on his reading the last veto:

"Well if this ain't the last squeeze of the cider barrel, I'm mistaken. At any rate the bung hole's stopped."

Labor Saving Machine.—The Bangor Whig says:—"A Yankee, in Boston, has set up a one horse Threshing Machine for the convenience of parents and guardians having unruly boys. He'll lick an urchin like thunder for four pence. Small tickings done for two cents only, and the most entire satisfaction warranted."

The Brother Johnathan says:—"Somebody will be starting a penny opposition, and 'lick' all creation."

One or two of these machines would be well patronized, no doubt, in these diggings, for a short time, as there are any quantity of unruly boys, who want correction.

ROCHESTER, Oct. 17th. } Destructive Fire.

Between 7 and 8 o'clock this morning the large flour mill in this city, owned by your neighbors, Messrs. William and John James, of South street, was discovered on fire, and although every exertion was made by the well organized fire department of this city, ten thousand bushels of wheat, valued at more than \$10,000, were destroyed, besides a considerable quantity of flour, the exact amount of which I could not learn. The occupant, Messrs. Sage and Kennedy, who were only insured for \$6,000. It is believed that the building and machinery were insured by the owners in New York.—Com. Advertiser.

Fire.—The following extracts from letters received in Charleston, bring the sad tidings that one of the most flourishing towns in our State has been nearly destroyed by this devouring element, and that destruction, no doubt, accomplished by the villainous hand of incendiarism.

Observer Office.

GEORGETOWN, Oct. 19, 1841.

The business part of our town is destroyed by Fire, and by an incendiary. The work was commenced at 6 o'clock last evening at the residence of Mr. C. A. Magill on the north side of Bay-st. At about 11 o'clock this morning the fire put his torch to the rear of Mr. Magill's Shop on the opposite side of the street and the consequence is awful. The prominent business part of the town is in ashes.

GEORGETOWN, (S. C.) Oct. 19.

Gentlemen:—Our town was visited with a dreadful fire last night, supposed, and I have no doubt correctly, the work of an incendiary. The fire commenced near Mr. Benjamin King's wharf. All the buildings from the market to J. G. Hennings & Co's wharf, are destroyed on the water side of the street. The principal sufferers are Est. W. Chapman, B. King, R. Frisbie, J. C. Porter, John Ralston, S. Kirtan, Caldwell & Lathers, G. C. & W. J. Munro, Jacob Wayne, J. Farrow & Son, C. A. Magill, B. J. Cuttino, McKenzie.

It is impossible to say who are and who are not insured, nor what amount of loss, as all is confusion to-day.

You will be pleased to learn that the Bank is in no way implicated. Yours, &c.

Another extract of a letter, enumerates the following as the owners and occupants of the houses burnt:

Estate of Allston, occupied by W. Chapman; B. King, occupied by Cuttino; King, occupied by Frisbie; McNulty, occupied by Kirtan; Estate of Lathrop, two stores, occupied by Caldwell & Lathers; Estate of Traper, two stores, occupied by K. C. Porter, and J. Ralston; store owned and occupied by W. J. Munro; Estate of Traper, occupied by Rupert & Dickerson; store owned by Farrow, unoccupied; store owned and occupied by S. Farrow; two stores owned by estate of Shackelford; one occupied by McKenzie, saddler. The tailor shop, where the fire commenced, owned by McNulty and occupied by C. A. McGill.

The Bible Cause in Richland.—We are gratified to learn that the distribution of the Sacred Volume in this District, has been as thorough and complete as its most ardent friends could reasonably hope. Every family has been visited, and every destitute one supplied, either by sale or gift, except two, in which either was refused. The agent for the country, was every where else most favorably received. He found 50 families entirely destitute, and most sad and painful to relate—most disgraceful and mischievous, in a country like this—250 persons over 21 years of age, who could not read a word in that volume, or any other! Is not this enough to rouse both the Christian and patriot—the friends alike of religion, of education, of public intelligence, and of a free, and unperverted exercise of the right of suffrage—to a common, united, and vigorous effort to remedy this great public evil!—South Carolinian.

From the Hamburg Journal.

President Tyler's Instructions.—We look upon the late instruction of the President to the Hon. S. R. Hobbie, Acting Post Master General, respecting Political Editors of newspapers holding offices of Postmasters, as a candid and business like letter. It speaks facts, which are of daily occurrence. We do not view these instructions at all as touching upon usurpation. The Post Office Department should be a thorough reform in