The Fairfield News and Herald

VOL. XLVI. WINNSBORO, S. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1890. NO. 38.

GLORY OF LEBANON.

DR. TALMAGE PREACHES ON "SCIENCE AND RELIGION."

How Christ Taught on Earth and why His Teachings are so Fascinating to Mankind—Discovery and Research and Their Effect on Religion.

Dr. Talmage on Sunday announced as his text Isaiah lx. 13: "The glory of Lebannon shall come unto thee, the fir-tree, the pine-tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary." Following is his sermon in full:

On our way from Damascus we saw the mountains of Lebanon white with snow, and the places from which the cedars were hewn, and then drawn by ox-teams down to the Mediterranean sea, and then floated in great rafts to Joppa, and then again drawn by ox-teams up to Jerusalem to build Solomon's temple. Those mighty trees in my text are called the "Glory of Lebanon." Inanimate nature felt the effects of the first transgression. When Eve touched the forbidden tree, it seems as if the sinful contact had smitten not only that tree, but as if the air had caught the pollution from the leaves, and as if the sap had carried the virus down into the very soil until the entire earth reeked with leprosy. Under that sinful touch nature withered. The inanimate creation, as if aware of the damage done it, sent up the thorn and brier and nettle to wound, and fiercely oppose, the human race. Now as the physical earth felt the effects of the first transgressions, so it shall also feel the effect of the Savior's mission. As from that one tree in Paradise a blight went forth through the entire earth, so from one tree to Calvary another force shall speed out to interpenetrate and check, subdue and override, the evil. In the end it shall be found that the tree of Calvary has more potency than the tree of Paradise. As the nations are evangelized, I think a corresponding change will be effected in the natural world. I verily believe that the trees, and the birds, and the rivers, and the skies will have their millennium. If man's sin affected the ground, and the vegetation, and the atmosphere, shall Christ's work be less powerful or less extensive?

Doubtless God will take the irregularity and fierceness from the elements so as to make them congenial to the race, which will then be symmetrical and evangelized. The ground shall not be so lavish of weeds and so grudgeful of grain. Soils which now have pecular proclivities toward certain forms of evil production will be delivered from their besetting sins. Steep mountains, ploughed down into more gradual ascent, shall be girdled with flocks of sheep and shocks of corn. The wet marsh shall become the deep-grassed meadow. Cattle shall eat unharmed by caverns once haunted of wild beasts. Children will build play-houses in what was once a cave of serpents: and, as the Scripture saith, "The weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den."

Oh, what harvests shall be reaped when neither drouth, nor excessive rain, nor mildew, nor infesting insects shall arrest the growth, and the utmost capacity of the fields for production shall be tested by an intelligent and athletic yeomanry. Thrift and competency characterizing the world's inhabitants, their dwelling places shall be graceful and healthy and adorned. Tree and arbor and grove around about will look as if Adam and Eve had got back to Paradise. Great cities, now neglected and unwashed, shall be orderly, adorned with architectural symmetry and connected with far distant seaports by present modes of transportation carried to their greatest perfection, or by new inventions yet to spring up out of the water or drop from the air at the beck of a Morse or a Robert Fulton belonging to future generations. Isaiah in my text seems to look forward to the future condition of the physical earth as a condition of great beauty and excellence, and then prophesies that as the strongest and most ornamental timber in Lebanon was brought down to Jerusalem and constructed into the ancient temple, so all that is beautiful and excellent in the physical earth shall yet contribute to the church now being built in the world. "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee; the fir-tree, the pine-tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary."

Much of this prophecy has already al eady been fulfilled, and I proceed to some practical remarks upon the contributions which the natural world is making to the kingdom of God, and draw some inferences. The first contribution that Nature gives to the Church is her testimony in behalf of the truth of Christianity. This is an age of profound research. Nature cannot evade men's inquires as once. In chemist's laboratory she is put to torture and compelled to give up her mysteries. Hidden laws have come out of their hiding place. The earth and the heavens, since they have been ransacked by geologist and botanist and astronomer, appear so different from what they once were that they may be called "the new heavens and the new earth."

This research and discovery will have powerful effects upon the religious world. They must either advance or arrest Christianity, make men better or make them worse, be the church's honor or the church's overthrow. Christians, aware of this in the early ages of discovery, were nervous and fearful as to the progress of science. They feared that some natural law, before unknown, would suddenly spring into harsh collision with Christianity. Gunpowder and the gleam of swords would not so much have been feared by religionists as electric batteries, volcanic piles and astronomical apparatus. It was feared that Moses and the prophets would be run over by sceptical chemmists and philosophers. Some of the followers of Aristotle, after the invention of the telescope, refused to look through that instrument, lest what they saw would overthrow the teachings of that great philosopher. But the Christian religion has no such apprehension now. Bring on your telescopes and microscopes and spectroscopes—and the more the better. The God of nature is the God of the Bible, and in all the universe, and in all the eternities. He has never once contradicted Himself. Christian merchants endow universities, and in them Christian professors instruct the children of Christian communities. The warmest and most enthusiastic friends of Christ are the bravest and most enthusiastic friends of science. The church rejoices as much over every discovery as the world rejoices. Good men have found that there is no war between science and religion. That which at first has seemed to be the weapon of the infidel has turned out to be the weapon of the Christian.

Scientific discussions may be divided into those which are concluded, and those which are still in progress, depending for decision upon future investigation. Those which are concluded have invariably rendered their verdict for Christianity, and we have faith to believe that those which are still in prosecution will come to us favorable a conclusion. The great systems of error are falling before these discoveries, which have only demonstrated the truth of the Bible, and so reinforced Christianity. Mohammedanism and paganism in their 10,000 forms have been proved false, and by great natural laws shown to be impostors. Buried cities have been exhumed, and the truth of God found written on their coffin-lids. Bartlett, Robison and Layard have been not more the apostles of science than the apostles of religion. The dumb lips of the pyramids have opened to preach the gospel. Expeditions have been fitted out for Palestine, and explorers have come back to say that they have found among mountains, and among ruins, and on the shore of waters, living and undying evidences of our glorious Christianity.

At Hawarden, England, Mr. Gladstone, while showing me his trees during a prolonged walk through his magnificent park, pointed out a sycamore, and with a wave of his hand said, "In your visit to the Holy Land did you see any sycamore more impressive than that?" I confessed that I had not. It was to such a tree as that Jesus pointed when He would illustrate the power of faith. "Ye might say unto the sycamore tree, Be thou plucked up by the root and be thou cast into the sea,, and it would obey you." One reason why Christ has fascinated the world as no other teacher, is because instead of using severe argument He was always telling how something in the spiritual world was like unto something in the natural world. Oh these wonderful "likes" of our Lord! Like a grain of mustard seed. Like a treasure hid in a field. Like a merchant seeking goodly pearls. Like unto a net that was cast into the sea. Like unto a house-holder.

Would Christ teach the precision with which He looks after you, He says He counts the hairs on your head. Well, that is a long and tedious count if the head have the average endowment. It has been found that if the hairs of the head be black there are about 120,000, or if they be flaxen there are about 140,000. But God knows the exact number; "The hairs of your head are all numbered." Would Christ impress us with the divine watchfullness and care, He speaks of the sparrows that were a nuisance in those times. They were caught by the thousands in the net. They were thin and scrawny, and comparatively no meat on their bones. They seemed almost valteless, whether living or dead. Now, argues Christ, if my father takes care of them will He not take care of you? Christ would have the Christian despondent over his slowness of religious development go to his corn-field for a lesson. He watches first the green shoot pressing up through the clods, gradually strengthening into a stalk, and last of all the husk swelling out with the pressure of the corn. "First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear."

Would David set forth the freshness and beauty of genuine Christian character—he sees an eagle starting from its nest just after the moulting season, its old feathers shed and its wings and breast decked with new down and plumes, its body as finely feathered as that of her young ones just beginning to try the speed of their wings Thus rejuvenated and replumed is the Christian's faith and hope, by every season of communion with God. "Thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." Would Solomon represent the annoyance of a contentious woman's tongue, he points to a leakage in the top of his house or tent where throughout the stormy day, the water comes through, falling upon the floor—drip! drip! drip! And he says: "A continual dripping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike." Would Christ set forth the character of those who make great profession of piety, but have no fruit, He compares them to barren figt-rees, which have very large and snowy leaves, and nothing but leaves. Would Job illustrate deceitful friendships, he speaks of brooks in those climes, that wind about in different directions, and dry up when you want to drink out of them: "My brethren have dealt deceitfully as a brook, and as the stream of brooks they pass away." David when he would impress us with the despondency into which he had sunk, compares it to a quagmire of those regions through which he had doubtless sometimes tried to walk, but sunk in up to his neck, and he cried: "I sink in deep mire where there is no standing." Would Habakkuk set forth the capacity which God gives the good man to walk safely amid the wildest perils, he points to the wild animal called the hind walking over slippery rocks, and leaping from wild crag to wild crag, by the peculiar make of its hoofs, able calmly to sustain itself in the most dangerous places: The Lord God is my strength, and He will my feet like hind's feet."

Job makes all natural objects pay tribute to the royalty of his book. As you go through some chapters in Job you feel as if it were a bright spring morning, and, as you see the glittering drops from the grass under your feet, you say with that patriarch, "Who hath begotten the drops of dew?" And now as you read on, you seem in the silent midnight to behold the waving of a great light upon your path, and you look up to find it the aurora borealis, which Job described so long ago as "the bright light in the clouds and the splendor that cometh out of the north." As you read on, there is darkness hurling in the heavens, and the showers break loose till the birds fly for hiding-place and the mountain torrents in red fury foam over the rocky shelving: and with the same poet, exclaim, "Who can number the clouds in wisdom, or who san stay the bottles of heaven?" As you read on, you feel yourself coming in frosty climes, and, in fancy, wading through the snow, you say with that same inspired writer, "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?" And while the sharp sleet drives into your face, and the hail stings your cheek, you quote him again: "Hast thou seen the treasures of the hail?" In the Psalmist's writings I hear the voice of the sea: "Deep calleth unto deep; and the roar of forests: The Lord shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh;" and the loud peal of the black tempest: "The God of glory thundereth;" and the rustle of the long silk on the well filled husks: "The valleys are covered with corn;" and the cry of the wild beasts: "The young lions roar after their prey;" the hum of palm trees and cedars: "The righteous shall flourish like the palm-tree, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon;" the sough of wings and the swirl of fins: "Dominion over the fowl of the air and the fish of the sea."

The truth of the gospel might have been presented in technical terms, and by means of dry definitions, but under these worlds would not have listenened or felt.

We walk forth in the spring time, and everything breathes of the Resurrection. Bright blossoms and springing grass speak to us of the coming up of those whom we have loved, when in the white robes of their joy and coronation they shall appear. And when in the autumn of the year Nature preaches thousands of funeral sermons from the text, "We all do fade as a leaf," and scatters her elegies in our path, we cannot help but think of sickness and the tomb. Even winter, "being dead," yet speaketh." The world will not be argued into the right. It will be tenderly illustrated into the right. Tell them what religion is like. When the mother tried to tell her dying child what heaven was, she compared it to light. "But that hurts my eyes," said the dying girl. Then the mother compared heaven to music. "But any sound hurts me; I am so weak," said the dying child. Then she was told that heaven was like a mother's arms. "Oh take me there!" she said. "If it is like a mother's arms take me there!" The appropriate simile had been found at last.

Another contribution which the natural world is making to the kingdom of Christ is the defense and aid which the elements are compelled to give to the Christian personally. There is no law in nature but is sworn for the Christian's defense. In Job this thought is presented as a bargain made between the inanimate creation and the righteous man; "Thou shalt be in league with the stones of the field." What a grand thought that the lightnings, and the tempests, and the hail, and the frosts, which are the enemies of unrighteousness, are all marshalled as the Christian's body-guard. They fight for him. They strike with an arm of fire, or clutch with their fingers of ice. Everlasting peace is declared between the fiercest elements of nature and the good man. They may in their fury seem to be indiscriminate, smiting down the righteous with the wicked, yet they cannot damage the Christian's soul, although they may shrivel the body. The wintry blast that howls about your dwelling, you may call your brother, and the south wind coming up on a June day by way of a flower garden, you call your sister Though so mighty in circumference and diameter, the sun and the moon have a special charge concerning you. "The sun shall not smite the by day, nor the moon by night." Elements and forces hidden in the earth are now harnessed and and at work in paoducing for you food and clothing. Some grain field that you never saw is presenting you this day with your morning meal. The great earth and the heavens are the busy loom at work for you.

Now I infer from this that the study of natural objects will increase our religious knowledge. If David and Job and John Paul could not afford to let go without observation one passing cloud, or rift of snow, or spring blossom, you cannot afford to let them go without study. Men of God most eminent in all ages for faith and zeal, indulged in such observations—Payson and Baxter and Dodridge and Hannah Moore. That man is not worthy the name of Christian who saunters listlessly among these magnificent disclosures of divine power around, beneath and above us, stupid and uninstructed. They are not worthy to live in a desert, for that has its fountains and palm-trees; nor in regions of everlasting ice, for there the stars kindle their lights, and auroras flash, and the huge icebergs shiver in the morning light, and God's power sits upon them as upon a great white throne. Yet there are Christians in the church who look upon all such tendencies of mind and heart as soft sentimentalities, and because they believe this printed Revelation of God are content to be infidels in regard to all that was written in this great Book of the universe, written in letters of stars, in paragraphs of constellations, and illustrated with sunset and thunder-cloud and spring morning.

I infer, also, the transcendent importance of Christ's religion. Nothing is so far down, and nothing is so high up, and nothing is so far out, but God makes it pay tax to the Christian religion. If snow and tempest and dragon are expected to praise God, suppose you He expects no homage from your soul? When God has written his truth upon everything around you, suppose you He did not mean you to open your eyes and read it?

Finally, I learn from this subject what an honorable position the Christian occupies when nothing is so great and glorious in nature but it is made to edify, defend and instruct him. Hold up your heads, sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty, that I may see how you bear your honors. Though now you may think yourself unbefriended, this spring's soft wind, and next summer's harvest of barley, and next autumn's glowing fruits, and next winter's storms, all seasons, all elements, zephyr and euroclydon, rose's breath and thunder-cloud, gleaming light and thick darkness, are sworn to defend you, and cohorts of angels would fly to deliver you from the peril, and the great God would unsheathe His sword and arm the universe in your cause rather than that harm should touch you with one of its lightest fingers. "As the mountains around about Jerusalem, so the Lord is around about His people from this time forth forevermore."

Oh for more sympathy with the natural world, and then we should always have a Bible open before us, and we could take a lesson from the most fleeting circumstances as when a storm came down upon England Charles Wesley sat in a room watching it though an open window, and frightened by the lightning and thunder a little bird flew in and nestled in the bosom of the sacred poet, and as he gently stroked it and felt the wild beating of its heart, he turned to his desk and wrote that hymn which will be sung while the world lasts:

Jesus, Lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the billows near me roll
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life be past,
Safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last.

THE OKRA PLANT.

It is Likely to Take a Prominent Place in the Future.

There seems to be a strong probability that the plant known as okra (Abelmoschus esculentus) will be made to furnish a valuable fiber. The plant grows wild all through the Southern States, and has been known for years to farmers and stockmen as capable of producing a very strong fiber, which in Texas and other localities is now used for making lariats.

Ten years ago the Department of Agriculture had samples of the plant grown in in its green-houses, and a report was made on the quality of the fiber, but nothing seems to have come of it. Recently, however, the subject has been revived, and the Commissioner of Agriculture of South Carolina, Col. A. P. Butler, seems to be very confident that a new industry with vast possibilities is about to be opened up. A specimen of the fiber which has been received from Mr. Butler through the department at Washington shows a long, strong and glossy thread somewhat resembling hemp, though darker in color. The fruit which this okra plant produces is prized as a vegetable, the mucilaginous pods being used for thickening soup and to form a peculiar Southern dish called gumbo. The Southern soil is especially adapted to growing the plant, as the abandoned rice fields and undrained lands generally could be utilized for raising vast quantities of it. Okra is also a native of the West Indies, notably Cuba, where it grows in almost all soils, and is indigenous to Africa, where it grows wild. It is abundant on the White Nile and near the Victoria Nyanza, and has long been naturalized in India, where it is cultivated for its edible pods. The fiber which has been produced abroad is described as long and silky and generally strong and pliant, its breaking strain according to Roxburg being seventy-nine pounds dry and ninety-five pounds wet. When well prepared, as in the Southern Presidency of India, it is adapted for manufacture of rope, twine, sacking and paper. It is used to adulterate jute in Decca and Mymensing. In France the manufacture of paper from the fiber is patented, and here it receives only mechanical treatment and produces a paper called banda, which is said to be equal to that made from pure rags.

It is claimed for the okra fiber, that, inasmuch as the wood surrounds the fiber instead of being mixed with it, as in jute, and also that the work of preparation can be done by machinery, the cost of production can be reduced to one cent per pound. Jute can only be profitably produced in countries where manual labor is very cheap, as in India and China, because no machine has been devised for separating the wood from the fiber. Vast quantities of jute are imported by the United States, and it is used in making gunny cloth, cordage, shirting, coat linings, and it is extensively employed in mixing with silk, cotton and woolen fabrics, and in paper making. It is believed that okra fiber can be substituted for jute in the coarser of these lines of manufacture, and some even claim that it will be found available wherever jute is new employed.

It is easily to be seen from this that if the okra fiber stands the test of further experiment, a new and most important industry will spring into being. The Agricultural Department at Washington states it has not yet been determined how the plant will bear cultivation and propagation, and the department is now gathering the seeds and roots to experiment with next year. As the okra now grows luxuriantly in all parts of the South, the production of it even in the large quantities which would be required in case the fiber comes into general use will not probably prove a serious barrier to progress in this direction, while the well-known inventive genius of Americans can be depended upon to devise machinery for preparing the fiber, and to make constant improvements upon it.—St. Louis Home Journal.

Burned to Death.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 30.—Miss Fannie Walker, a young lady residing on Fair Street, was burned to death this afternoon. She was cooking dinner and her dress caught fire from the stove. She rushed into the open air, and nearly all her clothing was burned from her body. It was a horrible spectacle. The fire department turned out. She lingered in great agony till 10:30, when she died. She was only 17, and the daughter of a widow lady.

A BIG SHAKE OUT WEST.

A SEVERE EARTHQUAKE SHOCK IN CALIFORNIA RECENTLY.

It Comes at Early Morn and Does a Little Damage—A Railroad Bridge Settles.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 30.—One of the most severe shocks of earthquake experienced here for a long time, was felt in this city and neighboring localities a little after 3:30 o'clock Friday morning.

Buildings were shaken perceptibly, and persons aroused from their sleep. Plastering fell from the walls in places, but no serious damage is reported yet.

A BRIDGE DAMAGED.

A dispatch from Mayfield says that the shock was very severe there.

The railroad bridge was rendered impassable, as the piers, sixty feet high, settled a few inches and the rails spread about a foot.

The ground in places settled six to twelve inches. Railroad travel will be delayed a few hours.

THE SHOCK WAS GENERAL.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—The earthquake which was felt here early this morning was general in this section of the State. The shock was very sharp in this city, but no serious damage was done.

The walls of a few houses, including the United States appraisers building, in which Federal courts are held, were cracked, and there was considerable alarm felt by persons who were

AROUSED FROM SLEEP.

The most severe damage is reported from Petaluma, where a railroad bridge was thrown two feet out of line and the approaches to it damaged.

Gas mains were disjointed at Gilroy and many chimneys thrown down in the neighborhood of Watsonville.

In some localities as many as a dozen distinct shocks were felt.

RESCUED AT THE ALTAR.

A Maryland Girl Saved From Wedding a Married Man.

BALTIMORE, April 30.—Miss Victoria Wright, a handsome eighteen-year-old brunette, of Worcestor county, was saved at the altar from a would-be bigamist a few days ago, through a letter from his wife. The discovery was so great a shock that she has been ill with nervous prostration ever since, and it is feared she will lose her reason.

About six years ago Henry C. Lercatelle, of Salisbury, went to Mappsburg, Accomac county, Va., and married an estimable lady of that place They lived happy together until several months ago, when his wife began to suspect him of being too attentive to a young woman in Worcester county. Recently he told his wife he was going to Salisbury to visit relatives. During his absence she found a love letter to him from Miss Wright. The wife wrote to her husband's aunt at Salisbury, who soon learned that Lercatelle and Miss Wright were about to be married.

The girl had not the slightest idea her affianced was a married man. The aunt hurried to the little church back in the country, where the ceremony was to take place. When she arrived there the minister had nearly finished the ceremony.

"Stop! stop!" cried the old lady as she bustled up to the altar. "Read this!" she exclaimed, thrusting the wife's letter into the hands of the astonished preacher.

Before he had finished reading the tell tale message Lercatelle was hurrying out of the church and Miss Wright had fallen at the feet of the minister in a dead faint. At last accounts the wife and three children were still looking for the missing husband.

The New Rival for Jute.

Farmers everywhere are interested in the reported invention by an Augusta man of a machine for utilizing the fibre of the cotton stalk in the manufacture of a covering for cotton bales, said to be equal in all respects to jute. The discovery, if it proves practicable, will settle the fight between the jute trust and the farmer in favor of the farmer, and will make the cotton grower th most independent agriculturist in the world. A gentleman in this city who visited Augusta a few days ago brought back with him a specimen of the strands of bagging woven from the cotton stalk fibre which had first been decorticated by the machine just invented for that purpose. The strands resemble jute very much, but are a trifle darker. The fibre seems to be fully as strong as jute if not stronger, much superior to either the cotton or pine straw substitutes for jute.—Greenville News.

The Charleston Sun to be a Tillman Organ.

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 25.—It is rumored that the Charleston Daily Sun is to be purchased by John D. Murphy & Co., the farmers who represented Charleston in the Shell convention in March last, with the intention of publishing it in the interest of the Tillman movement.

The Southern Teachers' Exposition.

The Southern Educational Exposition, to be held at Morehead City, N. C., in connection with the Teachers' Assembly, this summer, promises to be a great success. Nearly all the available space in the Assembly building has been engaged for exhibits by prominent manufacturers, publishers and schools. The art exhibits from some of the seminaries and colleges of the State will be unusually interesting.

—Edwin Booth says in his letter to the New York Tribune, that there is no truth in the report of Lawrence Barrett's failing health. He will return to the United States in June and resume his dramatic season in September.

MILLIONS OF METHODISTS.

Quadrennial Conference of the Southern Branch of the Great Wesleyan Church.

One of the greatest religious bodies in the world will meet in St. Louis May 10. The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, meets quadrennially. Such has been the growth of the church during the past decade that it now stands second among the great Protestant religious assemblies of the world. The General Conference of the Methodist Church alone excels it in the number of communicants represented and the value of property owned by Protestant Church authorities. The Methodists in this country, white and black and of all kinds, number more than five millions (actual communicants.) The Methodist Episcopal Church has nearly three million and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has about one million eight hundred thousand.

Prior to 1844 there was no division among the American Methodists. One General Conference represented the whole Church. At the quadrennial session of that conference in New York in May, 1844, a division occurred, caused by the slavery agitation, ending in the withdrawal of all the delegates from the slaveholding States and Territories. After a very animated and long-protracted debate, the final separation was arranged, and the Methodists of the Southern States were no longer under the same jurisdiction as those of the North and East. The seceding delegates called a convention at Louisville, which was held in May, 1845, which permanently organized the "Methodist Episcopal Church in the South," adopted a book of discipline similar to that of the old General Conference and containing exactly the same doctrinal teachings and the same forms and ceremonies; in fact, no other difference than that of jurisdiction then existed between the two branches of Methodism.

The Conference will be called to order at noon on the 10th day of May, when the senior bishop of the church, the venerable J. C. Keener, will read a Scripture lesson and offer prayer, and then formally open the proceedings. He is ex-officio president of the Conference, though all the bishops will preside in the order of seniority. There are eight bishops. They hold office during lifetime and receive an annual salary of $3,000 and traveling expenses. Bishop J. C. Granberry will rank next to Bishop Keener. He is a Virginian, but has made St. Louis his home for several years.

The secretary will doubtless be the Rev. John S. Martin, D. D., of Baltimore, who succeeded Dr. Summers, and was elected at Richmond.

Bishop E. R. Hendrix of Kansas City is the junior bishop of the Church. He has taken the place of the lamented Bishop Marvin in the estimation of Missouri Methodists. He will be a conspicuous figure both in the chair and among the delegates. He was president of the Central College at Fayette when elected bishop four years ago.

The denomination has churches in foreign lands as well as in the United States. It carries on an extensive publishing business at Nashville, Tenn., and has missionaries in China, Japan, Mexico, Brazil and several countries. The missionary operations are all directed from Nashville.

Winnie Davis to be Married.

Inquiry among the relatives of the lady fully confirms the report of the approaching marriage of Miss Winnie Davis to Mr. Wilkinson of Syracuse She had been engaged to Mr. Wilkinson for some time, but would not marry during the lifetime of her father, Jefferson Davis, to whom she was so devoted, although the prospective marriage met with his full approval. Miss Davis will leave Paris for home on the 10th inst.

A Respite for Kemmler.

The lawyers for Kemmler the New York murderer condemned to die by electricity, have procured a writ of habeas corpus from the Judge of the United State Court, staying the execution. The ground taken is that the proposed manner of execution is contrary to the provisions of the Constitution of the United States. The prisoner will go before the United States Judge on the third Tuesday in June. Meantime the execution is stayed.

Escaped Burning to Drown.

The steam engine and saw-mill of Charles Lawrence, situated in Sparkly county, three miles from Rolling Fork, Miss., was burned Saturday night. The loss is small. Fifty or sixty of Lawrence's tenants were quartered in the gin and in their efforts to escape from the flames seven were drowned. The building was surrounded by water seven feet deep. They had taken refuge there from the overflow and is is stated that their carelessness caused the fire. The report that several lives had been lost in the vicinity of Gobdel has been confirmed. A family named Watson, numbering five persons, were drowned.

States Can't Shut out Liquor.

The United States Supreme Court, through Chief Justice Fuller, has rendered an opinion adverse to the constitutionality of State laws providing for the seizure of liquor brought into a State in original packages. Such laws, the court holds, are interferences with inter State commerce. After liquor becomes the property of the importer the State may, under its police powers, regulate or prohibit its sale, but it has no power in the absence of express congressional authority to prohibit the transportation of an article from another State and its delivery to the importer. The case in which the decision was made was that of Gus Leidy & Co., plaintiff in error, vs. A. J. Hardin, brought here on appeal from the Supreme Court of Iowa, and this court reverses the decision of the State court. Justices Gray, Harlan and Brewer dissented. The case is one of great importance to prohibitionists and liquor dealers.

—Chauncey. M. Depew was 58 years old on April 23.

THE WAITER STOOD AGHAST.

A Comedy of Errors Enacted in a Washington Restaurant.

A good story in which two distinguished Louisianians, and a no less distinguished Georgian, figured somewhat conspicuously in a restaurant in Washington, D. C., a short time ago, was related to a newspaper man. The Louisianians were Hon. Thomas J. Semmes and Mr. James Legendre of this city, and the Georgian was Hon. Ben Hill, son of the late senator, and himself a prominent Georgia politician. The party were en route to New York city to attend the centennial of the Supreme Court of the United States.

On the arrival of the train at Washington, D. C., the usual time for breakfast was announced, and Messrs. Semmes and party, taking advantage of the opportunity thus offered, hastened to the nearest restaurant. Each ordered as his taste and inclination prompted, and settled his own account. Messrs. Semmes and Hill attacked the bill of fare to the extent of $1, and Mr. Legendre contented himself with a 75-cent meal.

Breakfast ended, the three gentlemen each handed the waiter a silver dollar—the exact amount of money due by Messrs. Semmes and Hill. Twenty-five cents were due Legendre, however, and this amount the waiter returned to him on his tray. Mr. Legendre had enjoyed his breakfast and, being in a good humor, he replaced the quarter on the tray to "tip" the waiter.

The waiter, placing the money in glass on his tray, passed in to Mr. Semmes as a gentle reminder of what was expected of him. Mr. Semmes was, however, busily conversing with his friend, Mr. Hill, at the time, and in an absentminded sort of way quietly appropriated the tip money under the impression, no doubt, that it was his change. The waiter was dumbfounded, and Mr. Legendre, somewhat embarrassed, beckoned to him and dropped an additional quarter on the tray to soothe his feelings. This the waiter passed to Mr. Hill with the hope that he at least, had "caught on," and that Mr. Semmes might finally be brought to a knowledge of his mistake. But he again made a serious error. Mr. Hill dealt with the tip money just as Mr. Semmes had done in the first instance' and the conversation proceeded in the ordinary way.

Mr. Legendre was already out 50 cents in the scheme, and was consequently not further inclined in that direction, and before the waiter could recover sufficiently to explain the mistake the three strangers left the restaurant and were on their way to New York.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

MURDER WILL OUT.

The Assassin of Clayton of Arkansas Tells the Tale of the Murder—The Crime the Results of a Feud.

A dispatch from Los Angeles, California, says: Regarding the report that Thomas Hooper, the rancher, who died at Ranchito, near here last winter, was implicated in the murder of John M. Clayton of Arkansas, the following facts are learned: Last June, Charles Lewis called on Sheriff Aguirre and said that in the latter part of 1888 he had made the acquaintance of Thomas Hooper and cared for him when he was sick. Hooper was often moody, and Lewis asked him the reason. Hooper replied, intimating that in 1868 he killed two men in Conway County, Arkansas, whose names Lewis caught as Thomas and May. Little by little he told Lewis that several years before his father had been killed in Arkansas by a body of men, who took him from jail and lynched him. He swore vengeance upon the lynchers and told Lewis the men whom he had killed were two of the ringleaders in the party, while Clayton was the third. "If you ever hear of Clayton dying with his boots on," Hooper remarked to Lewis, "you will know who killed him." During December, Hooper disappeared and soon after Lewis read of the assassination of Clayton, and Lewis called at Hooper's house and Hooper's son said he did not know where his father was. Later, Lewis learned that Hooper had reappeared and bought a ranch at Ranchito. During the investigation by sheriff letters were received from Governor Eagle of Arkansas stating that Tom Hooper was brought up in Conway County, Arkansas, and went through the war in the Confederate army; that he was in Eagle's regiment when quite a boy. He left the State in 1868 or 1868, and has not been there since to live. The Governor's description is said to fit Ranchito Hooper. He also said Hooper's father was murdered about the time stated. The sheriff was about to arrest Hooper last winter, when the floods came and cut off connection with Ranchito for several days. During that time Hooper was taken down with pneumonia and died.

Governor Eagle, in replying under date of March 31, 1890, to a communication from Sheriff Aguirre of Los Angeles County, requests specimens of Hooper's writing. He concludes by saying: "The circumstances that have come to light point to Hooper as the probable person who committed this crime. If he did, and is now dead, he cannot be convicted in the courts, but I hope you will immediately take this up and help us rush it to a conclusion."

Is Aiken's Treasurer Short.

AIKEN, S. C., April 29.—It has been known for a week or two that Treasurer Murray, of Aiken county, was short in cash. The grand jury found two weeks ago that something was wrong. The county auditor was put upon the case and to-day it is developed that the treasurer is at least $17,000 short after all deductions for salary and other things have been made. Mr. Murray has turned over every thing to his bondsmen, who will make the loss good. It is not known what became of the money in the treasury.

—The Hamburger Nachrichten again asserts that Prince Bismarck will appear in Parliament, but with the sole object of sending his vote to the Council of State.

"THE FORT PILLOW MASSACRE."

A Story of the War Again Proved False.

Myths die hard, but the alleged "Fort Pillow massacre" received a blow in the Nashville Round Table of March 8 that must prove absolutely fatal—in the minds, at least, of persons not wholly impervious to facts.

Politicians during the war, and Republican partisans since have persistently charged General Forrest and General Chalmers, his subordinate, with having massacred the garrison of Fort Pillow after the surrender and while prisoners of war. Mr. Charles W. Anderson, formerly adjutant and inspector-general of General Forrest's cavalry corps, the only staff officer present with Forrest at the storming of the fort, shows in the Round Table that there was no massacre, that the fort was not surrendered, though its surrender was thrice demanded and refused, and that the loss of life during the fifteen minutes of the action was due to the total incapacity of the commanding officer.

Fort Pillow was a fortified position on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi river. In its rear was a deep ravine, which could be swept by the guns of the New Era, a vessel which lay abreast to the mouth of the ravine, below the fort. Higher up the stream and near the fort were the empty barges ready to receive the garrison in case of need.

There was an understanding it is shown between Major Bradford, the commandant af the fort, and Captain Marshal, of the New Era, that, if driven from the fort by the Confederates, the garrison should take refuge under the bluff, where it would be effectually protected by the New Era's canister. Ammunition was placed under the bluff in readiness for use by the garrison in case the works above could not be held. A miscalculation as to the grit of the captain of the New Era spoiled this plan of the defense.

General Forrest's first operation was to drive the New Era from its position commanding the Ravine across which the Confederates were to advance. This he effected by placing two pieces of artillery on the bluff below the ravine. The Confederate line was then, under a heavy fire, closed in rapidly around the works. Having sounded a bugle call for a truce and a parley, General Forrest now sent forward a white flag to demand the unconditional surrender of all the troops at Fort Pillow. "He knew," says Adjutant Anderson, "that the place was practically in his possession, as the enemy could not depress their artillery so as to rake the slopes around the fort, and the constant fire of our sharpshooters forced the besieged to keep down behind their parapets." The demand was renewed twice, when rejected, in the belief that the federal commander must see the folly of resisting under the circumstances a force so much larger than his own.

Major Bradford, however, relying upon his arrangements with Captain Marshal for protection under the bluff when the fort was taken, refused all offers. Meanwhile the sight of three steamers ascending the river with reinforcements led General Forrest to place a force of 150 riflemen under Adjutant Anderson in a position on the face of the bluff. This force not only served to prevent the troops on the steamers from effecting a landing, but, being within sixty yards of the south entrance of the fort, it commanded the line of retreat upon which Major Bradford relied.

This was the situation when General Forrest gave the signal to assault the fort. At once the yells all along the line of charging Confederates, followed by a terrible discharge of the batteries and small arms of the garrison, A few moments later a portion of the garrison rushed down towards the river and were met with a destructive fire from a detachment under Adjutant Anderson. The triumphant yells of the Confederates as they mounted the enemy's parapets were heard again, and followed this time in a moment by the whole force of the garrison pouring over the slope of the bluff, with arms in hand, seeking the protection of the New Era's guns. Under the fire of Adjutant Anderson's men they fell thick and fast being in utter dismay and confusion at finding the appointed place of refuge in the enemy's hands. Under this fire and that of their pursuers of the assaulting line some 250 were killed within a few minutes. There had been as yet no surrender. Nor was there any.

As soon as General Forrest entered the fort he hauled down the flag, and that was followed immediately by a cessation of the firing. "The moment," says Adjutant Anderson, "the federal colors came down I ordered firing to cease, and it was promptly done."

What has been called a "massacre" was this firing of Anderson's men upon armed force doing battle, such armed force not having surrendered and being without intention of surrendering. It is an obvious abuse of language, of course, to call a specially destructive collision of armed men a massacre.

The assault on the works, the attempted retreat to the river, the woeful disaster consequent upon the failure of the New Era to do its appointed work—all this occupied, Adjutant Anderson tells, not over fifteen minutes.

After the battle every effort was made to treat the wounded and prisoners in the best manner. In support of this story of the battle Adjutant Anderson publishes a number of letters fronm Confedratesand Federals who took part in it. Tneir testimony is wholly to the point that there was no massacre—only a disaster such as every army might expect sometimes to encounter.

The Radicals appear to mean business this year. It is stated that Chairman Brayton has called a State Convention, to meet in Charleston at an early date, to nominate a full State ticket. It is said the entire complement of delegates have aready been elected.