The Charleston Advocate.

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All communications relating to Religion and Literature, Notices of Meetings, Marriages, Obituaries, etc., [illegible] cents each insertion.

No publication reflecting upon private character will be allowed in our columns, unless [illegible] or otherwise. No communication made without the proper name.

All letters should be addressed to the CHARLESTON ADVOCATE, Box 107, Post Office, Charleston, S. C.

The Postage on the Advocate is FIFTEEN CENTS [illegible] in advance. If any more than [illegible] be demanded, it will be [illegible] the above [illegible].

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1868.

TO OUR READERS.

Those who subscribe now for the Advocate, paying Two Dollars in advance, will be entitled to the paper to January, 1870. Many of our Northern subscribers commenced taking the paper in September and October—if any of these should not wish to continue the paper beyond the close of this volume, let them send us Fifty Cents, which will square their accounts to January, 1869, at which time their subscriptions will expire if not renewed. All who are in debt for the paper, should lose no time in settling their accounts to January, 1869. No one need wait for further notice.

A NEW METHODIST PAPER IN THE SOUTH.

"At the late General Conference at Chicago, the Book Agents at Cincinnati were authorized to establish and publish, on or before the 1st day of January, A. D. 1869, a weekly religious journal at Knoxville, Atlanta, or Nashville, which course in their judgment may be deemed most desirable; the Editor to be appointed by the Bishops, with the concurrence of the Book Agents aforesaid; but the Agents are at liberty to discontinue said paper in the event that its continued publication shall involve a greater loss to the Concern than $2,000 per annum.

"During their stay in this city last week, Drs. Hitchcock and Wheeler, in consultation with the Book Agents here, and with the Bishops, completed the arrangements for this paper. It is to be issued at Atlanta, Ga., under the supervision of Rev. E. E. Faller, formerly Assistant Editor of the *Nashville Advocate*, and recently transferred to the Georgia Conference, and appointed Presiding Elder of the Atlanta District. The new paper is to bear the name of *The Methodist Herald*. It will be of the size of *The Christian Advocate*, and will be furnished to subscribers at two dollars per year. The first number is to be ready by the first of January. We believe the arrangements for its publication are the best that could be made, and we shall look for its early and successful issue.

"It is understood here that the *Christian Advocate* will no longer publish, and that the type, fixtures, and subscription lists will be transferred to the office at Atlanta. The new paper will, therefore, have a wide field of patronage."

The above is from the *Christian Advocate* of Nov. 28th. Our readers are perhaps aware that the same General Conference that passed the above resolution in regard to the publication of a paper at Atlanta, also passed the following, in reference to Charleston, and a similar one for New Orleans:

"*Resolved*, 5th, That the Book Agents of New York are hereby authorized to establish a paper at Charleston, the Editor to be appointed by the Bishops, with the Book Agents aforesaid; but the Agents are at liberty to discontinue said paper in the event that its continuance shall involve a greater loss to the Concern than $2,000 *per annum*."

This action of the General Conference was had in view of the peculiar wants of our Southern work. It implies an obligation on the part of the Book Agents to start and continue papers at the points named, provided they did not involve the Book Concern in a loss of over $2,000 *per annum*. The Book Agents, under the direction of the General Conference had expended largely to establish papers on the Pacific coast, and at other important points, to vindicate the interests of the Church. The time was when we had our Charleston *Christian Advocate* and other church papers at the South, but they were taken from the Church by the same influences that at a later day took Fort Sumter from the Government, and other important positions and aid for national defence. As these guns were turned on the old Government, so those Church organs were prostituted to the defence of slavery and the advocacy of those principles and measures that have drenched the land in blood. Next to the triumph of running up the old flag, to float again over the war-scathed and battered walls of Sumter, was the re-establishment of a paper in this old nursery of rebellion that should be loyal to the Government and the great principles of liberty and equality advocated by Wesley and honored and cherished by the M. E. Church.

At the General Conference of 1864, arrangements were made by which Conferences could be organized at the South, and the banner of our Church could follow the triumphs of the national arms. Under this arrangement Charleston and other points at the South were visited, and Churches organized. But those who held these points found that the whole artillery of the rebel press was brought to bear upon them. They were assailed with personal slander and abuse, and refused the columns of those papers for any defence at self-defence; and what was more afflicting still, the Church they loved more dearly than their own lives was belied and defamed, and every possible influence was used to prejudice unjustly the Southern people against it. We must have some chance for self-vindication before the public, and especially to be heard in defence of traduced and abused Methodism. As we were made the target for rebel artillery, we could not well stand the bombardment without some means of reply, and we were obliged to start the Charleston *Advocate*, and with limited and private resources we have returned the fire with grape and canister as well as we were able.

The last General Conference admitted delegates from the newly-organized Conference, and appeared disposed to give sympathy and aid to our work, struggling under peculiar difficulties here, and there is no room to question the design of their action in reference to aiding the publication of papers at the South; and if this action is now rendered a nullity for want of hearty approval and co-operation, it is because the noble and generous spirit that inspired the action has not been appreciated by those who have been intrusted to carry out the measures so wisely authorized.

The papers started at the South prior to the last General Conference must of necessity be started as private enterprises, but they were started solely in the interests of our cause here involving private sacrifices, and with the expectation that the next General Conference would make the needful arrangement of having papers here sanctioned and sustained by the Church. With this expectation the Charleston *Advocate* has now been published for nearly two years, neither its editors nor publishers, during this entire period, having received one dime in payment for editorial or other services. One of the editors has been assassinated, another has paid out several hundred dollars from his private resources to meet the expense of running the paper, amid the extreme poverty and financial pressure on all the interests of this portion of the country; and now, after struggling for two years to meet this obvious want of the Church here, we are refused any aid from the Church in publishing a paper at this place, notwithstanding our wants and the favorable action of the last General Conference. We have offered to make over our list, with its good will, to be the property of the Church, and at the control of the Book Concern at New York, the Editor of the paper to be appointed by the Bishops, and then to give a bond, with ample security, to publish said paper at Charleston, to the satisfaction of the Bishops and Book Agents, on receipt of [illegible] per year, until the next session of the General Conference, provided we be allowed to receive and control its finances. But, even on this condition, we are refused a Church paper *at this place*, and some other locality, of less importance and strength, must be experimented upon, where no such financial pledges can be given. If the men laboring here in the interests of our cause had funds of their own, they would not hesitate to devote their private means to sustain a Methodist paper here, relying in good faith upon the recent action of the General Conference finally to aid them in these sacrifices for the interests of our common cause, amid the trials and perils of this Southern field. Our peculiar wants, difficulties, and embarrassments, we are sure, are not fully known and appreciated by a portion of our Church officials. It is an easy matter to take a map of certain sections of the country—for instance, one of Chicago, and the railroad communications that centre at that point—and show how readily St. Louis and Cincinnati can be supplied by a paper published at Chicago: but if St. Louis and Cincinnati were to be consulted, in regard to their local wants and those of the country that centres around them, a paper at each of these places might be deemed of essential service in meeting the demands of our work. We have a membership in South Carolina alone of not less than sixteen thousand, and a paper with us, as the means of information, education, and defence of our rights, is of far greater importance than among the same membership in any Northern portion of the Church. We are persuaded that the Church have never had an opportunity to invest $2,000 *per annum* in any enterprise that promised greater results in permanent good to the cause of Christ, Methodism, and the Government, than the present opportunity of sustaining a paper at this place. We ought to have at this point a Charleston Christian Advocate, to more than make good to our cause the one stolen by the hands of slavery into the interests of the M. E. Church South. The pulpit and the press of the South have long been manacled by the fetters of slavery, and, as the result, the country has been well nigh ruined. These must be free, and true to God and humanity, in order to secure the redemption and elevation of the South.

As the representatives of the Church differ from us in regard to the necessity of a paper here, and refuse us the required aid, we are left without the means of starting or perpetuating here an organ of our Church. As we have done what we could, and *the best we could* under the circumstances, to secure a paper, we may soon be relieved of all personal responsibilities, anxieties, and labors for this object. The Church has made a mistake in the men sent to this portion of the work, or they make a mistake in not sustaining them in those vital measures that are regarded here as indispensible to our success. Our soldiers in reoccupying the South did not need artillery more to aid them in their operations, than our Church the press to assist in our Southward movements: but the Government never demanded that Fort Sumter should be bombarded as a private enterprise. [illegible] Church interests should, from [illegible] resources, plant and supply the well worked battery of the loyal press. It was the idea that the Government was doing this work that gave it prestige and power: so the Church should be known and felt in giving power and permanency to these efforts to plant Methodism on these historic battlefields of the once disloyal South.

We never asked or desired an appointment to this Southern work, and we now humbly ask to be transfered to some other field of labor, where we shall not be strangely divorced from the sympathies of the Church, and where, if we should fall a martyr to our fidelity to the great principles of an impartial Christianity, debased and fanatical political partisans would not confine to protect and honor those stained with our blood, and even to rob us of our good name, which is the only coveted inheritance we fondly anticipate leaving to our children after a life spent as a Methodist itinerant.

We notify the Bishop who will attend the next session of the South Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church, to bring with him to this aid some new recruits from the cooling and refreshing shadows of New York and Cincinnati—men who have heard little, and experienced less of the stern realities of life in this section of our work, who have ample financial resources that they can devote to the interests of the Church here, struggling amid poverty and deadly hostility from ecclesiastical and political foes, for some who are now here will expect to be relieved.

THE SESSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

The next session of this Conference will be held at Camden, Feb. 11th, 1869, Bishop Ames presiding. Let every preacher, to be examined at this session, be carefully prepared on the course of study assigned. All reports of statistics and other matters for the Conference should be in readiness, and the missionary money collected in due season. The preacher in charge should see that all Church registers are well made out, in a condition to be intelligible for the next preacher. Let every preacher consult his Discipline in reference to the duties of those in charge of circuits.

THE NEW ORLEANS AND CHARLESTON ADVOCATES.

"No braver defenders of liberty are there in all the South than in the Charleston and the New Orleans Christian Advocates. For their boldness several of their Northern Advocates have attempted to cut them off from the support of General Conference. Alas! alas! what kind of *Christian* advocate is it that has been lukewarm in such a time as this? Out upon such Methodism! John Wesley would have spewed it out."

The *Western Advocate* rather tartly takes the *Church Union* in hand for so grave a mistake as it made in the above paragraph, in thus calling our humble sheet and the one issued at New Orleans *Christian Advocates*. This is a mistake, however, which other wise and good men beside the editor of the *Union* have frequently made. The truth is, we are rather too modest in this section of our work to take upon ourselves a title which not only indicates an official organ but implies a degree of elevated moral excellence which by far too few of the journals of this age can justly claim. In addition to this, it seems in this section unfortunate for the name of *Christian Advocate* that all the former papers of the South, bearing this title, became the advocates of slavery and secession in Church and State, and lent their influence to that state of affairs that has involved the land in the horrors of war, and brought the South to the very verge of ruin. We think, without stopping to discuss "what is in a name," neither the Charleston nor New Orleans *Advocate* have shunned to contend for liberty and Methodism on the line marked out by Wesley. In regard to being cut off from the support of the General Conference, we are much in the condition of Jack, who could not lose his supper for the reason that he never had it. In regard to this subject, we ask special attention to our leader in the present issue.

DISTINCTION ON ACCOUNT OF COLOR.

WHATEVER may be the theory or practice of party politicians in making distinction on account of the complexion, we think the time has come, when the Christian Church should set its face against caste in all its forms. The colored and white were made by the same [illegible] of the same Saviour, and are hoping through grace to dwell finally in the same heaven, and why not unite together in the service of the *same God on earth?*

We notice by an *exchange* that caste, as yet, has not been fully eradicated from our churches at Washington. We believe that the First Congregational Church of that city was built by contributions from the North; and now that it is able to sustain itself, many of its members are opposed to the admission of colored persons. Gen. Howard, at the head of the minority, has succeeded in having a council called to investigate charges against Rev. Dr. Boynton, the pastor. The majority claim that the council is *ex parte*, and illegal, and that if it is not, they would prefer a rupture to admitting colored people to fellowship. The Christianity that, under the walls of the Capitol, cannot admit all worthy people to its communion, needs enlightenment, if nothing more. The last accounts indicate that Dr. Boynton has been sustained by the council, and congratulated by his wing of the Church.

THE CAUSE OF MISSIONS.

The Mission Committee of the M. E. Church held their recent annual meeting in New York. They have carefully considered the wants of the great field we are trying to occupy, and hopefully estimated the amount the Church will be likely to raise during the coming year to meet this demand. The amount appropriated and to be raised amounts to the round sum of ($850,000) eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars. In securing this sum, reliance is placed upon the many contributions of the poor, rather than the few contributions of the rich. We may all have a share in this great and glorious enterprise, and the money paid in here may be safely regarded as upon eternal interest. If the reader will consult the foregoing article, he will see the amount apportioned to be raised in the South Carolina Conference. As our Conference holds its next session at Camden, on the 11th of February, no time should be lost in raising the amount apportioned to each charge. The last Conference year this Conference did nobly for the cause under the circumstances, but this year we must greatly advance upon the amount paid last year. We ought to raise upon an average fifty cents per member.

THE ASSASSINATION OF HON. B. F. RANDOLPH.

WE have previously noticed in our columns Mr. Randolph's death, and the fact that he had previously held an editorial connection with this paper, and was a member of the South Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church. As he was a member of the State Senate, that body, on the 30th ult., took the following action in reference to his death. Hon. J. J. Wright, of Beaufort, offered the subjoined preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The Senate has heard, with the most profound sorrow and regret, of the death of the Hon. Benjamin Franklin Randolph, late a senator from the County of Orangeburg, who in the prime of manhood and full vigor of intellect, fell, pierced by the bullets of an assassin, on Friday, the 16th day of October, 1868.

Resolved, That in his death the Senate has been deprived of one of its most esteemed and valued members; of one who, in his private friendships, was affectionate and steadfast; and who, as a public man, was ever the ardent, bold and outspoken champion of human liberty and human rights; who, while ever maintaining his own dignity and self-respect, never, even in the heat of debate, forgot the courtesy that was due to an opponent; of one who, in his entire career, public and private, was a representative man of his time and the people.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the journal of the Senate, and that a copy thereof, attested by the President and Clerk, and appropriately engrossed, be forwarded to the afflicted relatives of the deceased, with the expression of our sincere sympathy and condolence with them in this terrible bereavement.

Hon. J. J. Wright spoke as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Senate:—The preamble and resolutions which I present to this honorable body are presented for the purpose of showing that respect which is due to our deceased and much lamented member, the Hon. B. F. Randolph. He was a man who merited respect in all his actions, not only in this Senate, but through the whole course of his life. Were it deemed necessary, I might give a brief history of his life; but it is enough for me to say that there is no person of his age who has passed away and left a brighter record than he. It shows that from his boyhood till the time he fell by the hand of a wicked assassin his whole life was spent in striving to further the cause of human progress and liberty. He was a young man, but one who was blessed with superior talents, and, to his honor [illegible] be said, that his talents were always employed in doing good. He seemed always to have one great object in view, and that was to unite all classes of the people, and make them happy. He always met every person pleasantly, and even his bitterest opponents acknowledged that he was a man of warm heart, gentlemanly deportment, a philanthropist and a scholar. The tone of all his speeches was mild and conciliatory. He believed in equal and exact justice to all men, and from that line of policy he never deviated. His career as chaplain in the Union army, as agent of the educational department of the Freedmen's Bureau, as a member of the Constitutional Convention, and as a member of the Senate, commends itself, without any eulogium on my part, to all those who are desirous of seeing peace, tranquility and justice established in our midst, and our common country to be the banner of all nations, desiring human liberty and justice to be meted out to all classes of persons. But he has gone; his labors upon earth have ended. We look around and we miss one from our midst; yes, we behold a vacant chair. No more shall we behold him there and hear his strong and firm voice in defence of those principles which he always so earnestly and ably vindicated.

When we reflect that he has fallen, there is a thrill of sadness that steals over our frames, in memory of him who has died a martyr to our country's cause. But, while he by the hand of the assassin has fallen, we rejoice that the cause for which he died still lives, and will live as long as time shall last. It is a noble thought to cherish, that when martyrs die their cause lives—

> "For freedom's battle once began,
> Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,
> Though often lost is ever won."

It is not a novelty in the history of the world for men like the Hon. B. F. Randolph to be assassinated, for there are always those who are opposed to human progress, equality and freedom, and those who will resort to any measures to arrest the spread of the eternal and immutable principles of right. The world's history shows, that in consequence of persons contending for the right, they have not only been brutally shot down, but burned at the stake, and tortured in every conceivable way by the enemies of the cause in which they were engaged. But we should know that brute force cannot crush out thought as it can life; and that oppression and tyranny cannot cause the true, the loyal and the brave, to turn aside from the path of duty and rectitude. Our worthy senator was a person who was very much beloved by the people, in consequence of his untiring labors for their welfare. He loved the people, and he loved his country.

I feel assured that if it had been plain to him that to go to Abbeville and talk to the people, and instruct them in relation to their duty to themselves and their country, that he was to fall by the assassin's hand, that he would have gone; and I also believe that were he permitted to be in our midst, and to speak of this heartrending and lamentable affair, he would utter, in that classic voice: *Pro patria est mori*.

He was hated by a few, and no doubt was assassinated simply because of his great love of truth and justice, and the energy and zeal manifested in their defence. If he were assassinated on account of his principles and the cause in which he was engaged, this is sufficient to clearly demonstrate the weakness, the unholiness and the falsity of the cause of his opponents, as violence is never required to enforce truth and holiness.

In the person of B. F. Randolph this Senate has lost one of its ablest laborers, and the country an able champion of liberty. He seemed to fully comprehend the fact that our State had been very much broken, the fragments scattered, and to gather them up and properly unite them, master workmen were required. In every sense of the word, he was a master workman. Many attempts were made by his enemies to villify and blast his character, so that they might destroy the wholesome influence which he exerted among the people; but he soared so high above them that their efforts were in vain. He is dead, yet he lives; and the influence he has exerted will be felt by generations yet unknown, and they will revere his name.

Touching and appropriate remarks were also made on the occasion by Senators Corbin, Swails, and Hayne, and, on motion of Senator Maxwell, the Senate then adjourned, out of respect to the memory of Mr. Randolph.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

THE first of the present week Governor Scott laid before the Legislature his Message, which is an able and statesmanlike document. It gives a hopeful view of the finances of the State, and calls the attention of the Legislature to important measures demanding legislation, for the protection, development, and prosperity of the State, which our Governor evidently has a laudible ambition to promote.

Progress is reported in inaugurating the Educational Department of the State as indicated by the report of the Superintendent of Education. With reference to recent assassinations, and the disturbed state of affairs, the Governor says:

"It is my painful duty to bring to your notice a condition of affairs in certain portions of the State which imperatively demand your gravest consideration. Violations of law, and outrages upon persons and property, have been perpetrated by vicious and unprincipled men, with a recklessness and ferocity which, while they have brought affliction and anguish to the bosoms of bereaved families and friends, have cast a shadow upon the fair fame of the Commonwealth, mortifying and painful to all who are jealous of her reputation, and which will require of you the prompt adoption of the most efficient measures for its ample vindication.

"Hon. James Martin, a representative in the General Assembly from the County of Abbeville, was murdered on the fifth day of October last. He was on his way homeward from the courthouse, and was pursued by a gang of ruffians, by whom he was assassinated in the public highway. Mr. Martin was an intelligent and patriotic citizen, singularly inoffensive in language and demeanor, and all the circumstances connected with this outrage mark it as a cold-blooded assassination.

"Hon. B. F. Randolph, a senator from Orangeburg County, was assassinated at Hodges' Station, near Cokesbury, Abbeville County, on the 16th of October. Mr. Randolph was on his way to address a meeting of his fellow-citizens, and upon the stopping of the train, while on the platform of the car, was assassinated by three ruffians, who had evidently been lying in wait for the purpose: and notwithstanding there were a number of persons present, including those connected with the train, the assassins were permitted to leisurely mount their horses and escape. Mr. Randolph was a man of enlarged views, of great force of character, and exercised an extensive influence upon public sentiment. Notwithstanding that he was studiously courteous and liberal in his intercourse with his fellow-men, the additional infamy, as in the case of Mr. Martin, was attempted, by sheer fabrications and falsehoods, to blacken his character and defame his memory, as a palliation, if not justification, of his murder. Other instances of violence and outrages of the most revolting character in portions of Edgefield, Abbeville and Newberry Counties have been reported to this department, but prominence has been given to the assassinations of Messrs. Martin and Randolph because of their official position. Large rewards have been offered for the apprehension of their murderers, some of whom are known to be refugees and outlaws from adjoining States, who availed themselves of the political excitement as a cloak for their schemes of rapine and murder; but such is the condition of society in their immediate neighborhoods that neither the promised rewards nor the strenuous efforts of civil officers have accomplished their arrest. They are fully armed and mounted, and boast of the extent and power of their organization.