

[For the Messenger.]
DOTS ON THE WAY.

MR. EDITOR: A recent trip to Jocassee, afforded an opportunity for many items by the way, which may be of some interest to your numerous readers. We were right on your track, Mr. Editor, and dined the next day with Mr. Fisher, where you had spent the night previous. We dubbed this portion of the country the *egypt* of the Piedmont belt, as, ordinarily, the people raise an abundance of corn, and other grain, and the mountain range affords them an inexhaustible supply of beef and mutton, at no expense but salting and marketing. These fine valley lands have been in cultivation three-quarters of a century, or more, and still are as prolific as ever. They are level and free of stumps or rocks, and the improved agricultural machinery could be used profitably here. The beautiful White Water river flows through the valley, rushing over its rocky bed and affording a congenial home for the finny tribe. Fruits especially, and vegetables of all kinds flourish in these valley lands. The hospitality of the people is only equalled by the profusion of the products. To render these lands as valuable as any in the State, it is only necessary for the Legislature to exempt this portion of the State from the operation of the stock law. In justice to those people and to encourage a proper development of the stock interests of the State, this should be promptly done. As we returned from the valley we spent a night with Mr. Iverson, near Walhalla. He is a very intelligent, and prosperous farmer, and we doubt if the people of Oconee county, could do better than send him to the Legislature, as their representative, in some future election. The drift of public sentiment in Oconee as elsewhere, is to inject into all our legislative bodies, more of the agricultural and business classes, and less of the legal fraternity. This is perfectly legitimate, for the agricultural interest is the greatest of any other in the government, and upon which is based, to a large degree, all national prosperity. Hence, in all our legislative bodies, this great interest should have a preponderating representation. The legal fraternity have had their way long enough, and, certainly judged by their legislative acts, they have been weighed in the balances and found wanting. The voice of the people of the State is raised everywhere for a reduction of expenses, and the representative who dare to disregard the demand, will very soon meet his reward, in the condemnation of a betrayed constituency. So far as the people of this State is concerned this is the only living present issue, and it must be conformed to.

As we returned from Jocassee, we spent a day or two, in attending the sessions of the District Conference of the M. E. Church, at Walhalla. To say that we enjoyed the occasion does not express the feeling; we were delighted. Never before have we so fully realized the inherent power of that great body of Christians, in the work of evangelizing the world. So far as the mental and material composition of the body is involved, no deliberative body of men, with whom we ever met,

of equal size, could surpass it. The Presiding officer himself was a fine specimen of manhood, and in the discharge of his official duties, bore off the palm, for Christian urbanity, frankness, and firmness. The debates were at times quite animated, but at no time was any personalities indulged in, nor would they have been tolerated a single moment. The presiding officer holds his responsible and high position, by virtue of appointment, hence is less likely to be influenced by the caprices or whims of his constituents. Sometimes in the heat of debate, even the action of the presiding officer was sharply criticized, but never did Mr. Herbert show the least excess of temper, and always parried every assault, in the most becoming manner.

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

Are our Climates Changing.

It is scarcely accurate to speak of "the climate of the United States;" there are so many of them that the plural is required. In many parts of the country, in fact, the changes are so sudden and so great that it may almost be said that there are two or three climates in a single day. Even in our "glorious climate of New England," people who are at all sensitive to the weather wore an overcoat or a shawl on June 19th, and slept with all the windows open and under a single sheet at night. There have been two or three June frosts already this year, and some of the hottest weather ever known outside the regions of the dogstar. There are droughts in one State and floods in the next. Cyclones turn up in the most unheard-of places, and 'clouds-burst' ravage a New England town at about the same time they are submerging southwestern valleys. Nature never seemed so capricious and unaccountable in her freaks as she has been since the 'gray day' two years ago when Garfield was borne from the Capitol to the seashore to die.

The increase of cyclonic visitation in the Mississippi region is accompanied with an equally noticeable diminution of summer heat.

Trusting to memory rather than to statistics—most unsafe dependence in matters relating to the weather—the average heat of the summer in some regions is not nearly as great as it was 20 or 30 years ago. St. Louis example, once considered almost an oven from the first of June to the first of September, is now comparative ly cool; so cool that those who left the city the last two seasons in search of cooler places found they had better have stayed at home.

So cool was the summer of 1882 that weather experts prophesied an unusual hot one for 1883; but the summer of 1883 was even cooler than its predecessor, and from the present indications that of 1884 will be the coolest of the three. When, on the 10th of June, the thermometer in some latitudes marked 52 degrees, making fires and overcoats comfortable, while frost is reported in northern Missouri and Illinois, it looks much as if we were entering upon a new phase of climate.

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