

Rev. C. C. BROWN, Editor. THE WORN WEDDING-RING. Your wedding ring wears this dear wife; ah, summers not a few, have passed since you put on your finger first, have passed since you met me and I was young...

declared the Association adjourned. About one hour was spent in supplying the physical wants of the congregation. At 2 o'clock the people began to go in the Church, and were all settled comfortably in their places by preaching time. Dr. J. C. Furman said that it would be impossible to give a complete history of Bethel from its organization, 100 years ago, up to the present time, as he had to depend on the minutes of the Charleston Association, and they were broken.

Not being always present, we do not pretend to be a full and exhaustive report of the Association; but will try to give some idea of the subjects touched upon while we were present.

His text was: 'Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God,' from which he preached a short sermon; and continued by reading the minutes as far as they related to Bethel, occasionally telling an incident of its history not on the minutes, but either known to him or related by friends. Dr. Furman said that at a meeting of the Association held at Bethel fifty-five years ago, a young man who had just come up from Charleston, was to preach his trial sermon. 'Those of you whose heads are gray probably remember the faltering boy who tried to preach to you, and he now stands before you somewhat faltering old man.'

Association met at 10 o'clock on Thursday, Nov. 1st, in Bethel Church. Rev. D. W. Key, preached the opening sermon. The usual preliminary business was transacted until 2 o'clock. Preaching at night by Rev. S. M. Richardson.

The hymns, in both the morning and evening services, were those grand old melodies that are familiar to all. The congregation was dismissed at 4 o'clock; and again we are in the old routine of every day life. God grant that we may better perform the humble duties of our lives; and may His blessing rest upon all who were present at any time during those sacred hours.

Association met at 10 o'clock on Saturday. Dr. J. C. Furman spoke in behalf of Furman University, after which subscriptions were received, amounting to about \$400. During the taking of subscriptions, speeches were made on the importance of education, by Rev. E. H. Griffith, Rev. C. A. Stakely, Rev. H. T. H. Smith and others.

The real wealth of a man is the number of things which he loves and blesses, and by which he is loved and blessed. The surest way to make ourselves agreeable to others is by making them feel that they are so to us.

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Rev. R. H. Griffith, in a humorous way, then reported the work done by the State Mission Board. He urged upon them the necessity of sustaining the work, and asked for \$150. He has the reputation of being able to get whatever sum he asks for, but this time only got about half of the amount wanted. Rev. A. J. S. Thomas preached Saturday night at 7 o'clock. After the sermon the Association was called to order, and Col. Hoyt was heard in the interests of the Baptist Courier. The congregation here was large and attentive.

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Rev. C. A. Stakely preached from the text: 'Who are God's witnesses?' He prefaced his discourse by saying that: 'No one will deny the existence of God. The Heavens declare the glory of God; the firmament sheweth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech; and night unto night sheweth knowledge.' 'Heaven, Earth, Nature, and Revelation are God's witnesses.' 'But there is another witness: Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God, in taking upon himself the form of sinful man, with all of our infirmities, yet without sin; and in His death on Calvary bore testimony to the unbounded love of God. His death is the only basis upon which a dying soul can meet an angry God.' 'There is yet another witness: The Holy Spirit working in the hearts of men and reconciling them to God.' 'And Christians are God's witnesses.' There are four conditions which a good witness must fulfill: 1st. He must know something about the case. To put up one who knows nothing about the case is extreme folly. 2nd. How much does he know? His testimony is important in proportion to his knowledge. 3rd. Where did he get his information? It must not be heard say or from a third party, he must be an eye-witness, and 4th. Is he reliable? Does his testimony bear cross-examination? It will agree with his life out of the witness box? If he, in the witness box, testifies for God, and outside, joins hands with the devil, he is doing God injury. 'There are three ways of testifying: 1st. By speaking; 2nd. By writing; 3rd. By acting. But all cannot preach, then possibly they can write. John Bunyan was shut up in Bedford jail for 12 years, he was not permitted to preach; but he dreamed, and the result was that he wrote the Pilgrim's Progress, a book that has become second only to the Bible in the promotion of Christ's cause, and that will continue to do good until the end of time. 'But there are those who can neither preach nor write; such can live for Christ; and be daily witnesses for God.'

At the close, the Pastor announced that a table would be spread on the grounds, to which the public were invited. The congregation was then dismissed, and the Association called to order. While the ladies were loading the tables with all sorts of nice things, the Association was closing its business. After a very fervent prayer by Dr. J. C. Furman, the Association adjourned.

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