

So far as the transaction of business is concerned, no parliamentary rules are necessary; but whatever the brethren of the congregation agree upon as necessary to be done, and in accordance with the divine law, they can agree to carry out as they think most for the glory of God and the good of all concerned. It is better where proper material can be had to have regularly ordained officers, but better have none than poor ones, who know not their duty, and will only be a clog on the church.

2. It is the church, and not its officers alone, which is to receive members or give letters to those about to leave. Where there are regular officers, the congregation instances them to grant letters of commendation &c. but where there are not the proper officers in the church, some brother may be properly instructed to do the work, whatever it may be.

3. We do not desire to enter upon the discussion of that question just now, as Bros. Dunton and Waller are handling it at length, and refer our brother to their articles on the subject.

Reports from the Field.

Bro. Porter organized a church of twenty-nine members at Sycamore, Cal., on the 12th of May.

Bro. H. D. Connell has just closed and interesting and successful meeting at Elmira, Cal., resulting in ten addition; nine by faith and baptism.

SARATOGA, CAL., May 13, 1878.

Bro. Stanley:

There were two additions to the church yesterday and one the Sunday before. Since April 28th, nine have been added. Interest still good. May the Lord bless you in your good work.

W. D. POLLARD.

WESTON, OR., May 21, 1878.

Bro. Stanley:

On last Lord's day (May 19th), our Sunday school and social meetings began, anew, their work. Sickness was the cause of their discontinuation. Their prospects are now favorable. Brethren, pray for us.

On May 19th, also, Bro. I. N. Richardson spoke twice in Pendleton, Umatilla county. He was kindly allowed to occupy the M. E. church house, and addressed large and attentive audiences. I think the harvest of souls is fast ripening there. The prayers of the righteous availeth much. Pray, pray, pray.

Your brother,

C. M. ELY.

Benton County Annual Meeting.

MONROE, OR., May 24, 1878.

The ground for our meeting is in readiness. A more favorable spot could not well be found. The services of Bro. Whitney are secured, and we are negotiating for Bro. J. M. Harris. Free pastorage is offered by Bro. Davis to all, especially the brotherhood. We say come, we need your prayers, we need your presence, we need a united effort, not only by those of our county, but adjoining counties also. So come and labor with us at Beaver creek school house.

J. L. WIGLE.

Polk County Annual Meeting.

In the absence of a committee of arrangements for Polk county, the trustees of the grounds have assumed the responsibility of making the following announcement for this county. The meeting will commence on Friday before the third Lord's day in June, at 11 o'clock A. M., at the Dallas campground. The brethren at Dallas will see that the grounds are in proper order for meeting.

The brotherhood of the State are cordially invited. Come up to the old campground and enjoy another reunion. The preaching brethren are all especially invited to attend. The

first part of the meeting Bros. Campbell and Stanley are expected to be present. Bro. R. H. Moss and others will be expected during the week after the first Lord's day. There will be no collections taken up except to remunerate preachers laboring at said meeting. Brethren and sisters coming to the meeting are requested to bring an extra dollar for that purpose.

Brethren, the success of the meeting depends upon your own individual interest and effort. The preachers can not succeed in a meeting with no manifest interest on the part of the brotherhood.

A. W. LUCAS,
Chairman Trustees.

Linn County Meeting.

We clip the following announcements from the Harrisburg Nucleus:

The annual meeting of the Christian brethren, of the church of Christ, for Linn and Lane counties, will be held near the bridge, south of Harrisburg, commencing on Friday June 21st, and will continue over two sabbaths. Sealed proposals will be received by A. Humphrey, of Harrisburg up to the 12th, of June for the keeping of a meat stand, hay stand variety stand. These stands will be let to the highest responsible bidders, and they will be protected from all competition by other parties.

The O. & C. R. R. have kindly consented to give half fare rates over the road, to people attending the annual Camp meeting of the Christian brethren, at Harrisburg bridge, commencing June 21st. The half fare limit extends to Salem, north, and Creswell, south.

Home Missionary Society.

PERRYDALE, OR., May 20, 1878.

Ladies of the Home Missionary Society:

Bro. H. M. Waller met with us according to previous arrangement, at the Enterprise school house, three miles west of Perrydale, last Lord's day and Saturday evening before, and did some excellent preaching for us to an unusually large and attentive audience for this place.

The preaching was just such as needed, inspiring great hopes of new zeal among the brethren. Bro. Muncy was present also, and delivered a short discourse in the afternoon on Sunday, on the importance of measuring ourselves by the measuring reed which God has given us, which is his Holy Word.

JOHN L. RIGGS.

Pencil and Scissors.

A political convention in Portland a few days ago, adopted the following resolutions; as given by an exchange: "Resolved, That the Democratic party in convention assembled, are in favor of repealing all obnoxious laws standing on our statute books," and especially the so called Sunday law. That our representatives be instructed to use all honorable means to have said laws repealed."

This is one of the boldest demonstrations we have noted. Individual infidelity on this coast is one of its prominent characteristics, and little is to be feared from it as it lacks organization. But when a convention of a political party representing half of the American people, adopt a resolution like this, it is time for all good men in all parties to be alarmed. We do not lay the above to the charge of the whole democratic party for it is probable that the average wake up of all parties is about the same, and that only makes it all the worse. But that political conventions should begin to meddle in such matters, excites our fears for the future of our country.

We suppose all other obnoxious laws are similar to the one named. Such as excepting church property from taxation, the right for ministers to solemnize marriages, etc.

Still we have great confidence in

the good sense of the people of Oregon and of the whole country. Only let any man dare to present a bill in the legislature in accordance with the above resolution, and we predict he will find himself sunk to deep for resurrection.

The following on the Catholic population of America, is from the *Record and Evangelist*:

"Bishop J. L. Spaulding, of the Roman Catholic diocese of Peoria, has of late been discoursing upon the 'Decline of Protestantism.' He says: 'In a population of over 40,000,000, after a hundred years of perfect freedom, some hundred sects, or more, hold, with what power of grasp that may, 7,000,000 of members. If we reckon the Catholics at 7,000,000 there remain some 30,000,000 neither Protestant nor Catholic, but simply indifferent to all forms of religion. No words, it would seem, could add to the significance of this fact, which of itself proves the hopeless failure of Protestantism in the United States.'"

Bishop Spaulding's figures are far from telling the truth. In the first place the figures for the Catholic aggregate are at least 1,000,000 too high. Secondly, every man, woman, child, and infidel born a Catholic is counted. The 7,000,000 Protestant church members do not embrace families, babes, or those not members, but under influence. The same method of counting would make at least 25,000,000 Protestants. The Baptists and Methodists are each as strong as the Catholics in the United States.

From the *Record and Evangelist* we learn that "Mott the 'spirit-materlizer' of Memphis, Missouri, whom thousands have flocked to see, was exposed by J. H. Pattee, of Monmouth, Illinois, who attended a seance and squirted aniline through a ring, which he had prepared for that purpose, into the face of one of the 'spirits' which aperture of the cabinet. The face at once disappeared, lights were brought in, and Mott was found with his face covered with the aniline stains. The affair created excitement in Memphis. The exposure of 'materializing mediums' has taken place almost weekly since the 'Katie King' humbug was revealed, yet there still remain fools ready to be duped and knaves ready to dupe them."

We have known of the history of Mott well, for a long time and have been awaiting an exposure which we were sure would come. He has been one of the most successful humbogs of his kind, and some of his performances which he attributed to spirits seemed most unaccountable, but such can not always live before an enquiring public.

Personal.

From a private note from Bro. R. L. Dashiell, we learn that Bro. Richardson, of Waitsburg, W. T., has been quite sick, but is getting better. It is hoped that he will be able to attend the annual meeting.

Bro. Prof. Durham, of Christian College, Santa Rosa, goes to College City, Cal., to teach the coming year. This is the school which Bro. D. opened four years ago, and he now returns at the urgent solicitations of his former patrons. Bro. J. C. Keith is now president of this growing young institution, and it promises much for the future, but it and Hesperian College, at Woodland, are too near together for the continued prosperity.

Tip for Tat.

Says the *Texas Christian Messenger*: Just as we are ready for wheat harvest here in Texas we pick up the last issue of our namesake of Monmouth Oregon, the *Christian Messenger*, and read that "last Saturday terra-firma in this region was covered with a coat of snow." What a country, what a beeples!

We just turned to the news columns of that paper and read as an item of Texas news the following: Houses were blown down in Wills Point and Corsicana by a recent storm.

Oregon is now having its usual supply of nicer weather than our brother ever saw, and never had a storm hard enough to blow down a "squatter's" cabin. We rejoin "what a country, what a beeples!"

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