







The Sabbath Recorder.

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OUR DENOMINATIONAL PROSPERITY.

Our educational interests enter largely into the question of our denominational prosperity. It is impossible for a people to perform their share of the world's work without that intellectual force that education gives.

But sects are made up of individuals, and as are the individuals composing them so are the sects. The persons composing the Seventh-day Baptist denomination have from the beginning been well endowed by nature.

At this point, one or two of the difficulties attending this advance step should be noticed. As a people, we were few in numbers, widely scattered, and possessed of little wealth.

Our materialistic friends have come to admit that if man altogether ceases to be at death, his identity is gone and can not be restored at the resurrection, although another man may be made like and out of the same matter as before, yet it is not the same, because his identity has not been preserved in any way.

Let all remember, if we do not care for ourselves we shall not be cared for. We ought to know that others will not nourish our interests. They have their own to care for, and they will attend to them.

signs of growth and an abiding life that has not its schools, and that is not pledged to their support, and in proportion to the faithfulness with which this pledge is kept is their prosperity.

Let us for a moment in thought place ourselves back half a century in regard to this question, and see what would be our condition. It would seem as if the shades of night had settled down upon us.

But before we close this article we wish to call attention again to the necessity of honoring these schools by the whole people. They are the common property of our people, and they are also a common blessing.

But when will these institutions become what we wish them to be if we do not stand by them? In union there is strength, but in division there is weakness.

Communications.

COMING SLOWLY, BUT COMING.

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The object of this communication is to see how near we are to each other, rather than to pull apart.

1. They admit that man is a compound being. One writer says, "Man is a compound being; is made up of two parts—matter and organization." Let it be remembered that what he calls organization is, in his view, the soul.

2. They also believe that the soul survives the destruction of the body, so that the existence of the soul does not depend upon the existence of the body.

3. They also hold that the soul is the essential part of man. Not an, but the essential part. The language is unequivocal. It

is in the following words: "We consider the organization [the soul] not only a part of the individual, but the essential part." The author of this language says he has put this doctrine forth "twenty times."

4. Whatever else may change, and however much other portions of man may change, or may be in any of his parts missing, the soul must remain unchanged. "The soul is the basis of human identity," says one author. This is "orthodox" in a diluted form, yet it is an improvement on former materialistic notions.

5. There are still more important advances. They admit that the soul has aspirations. Let me give the language: "The perfect character will be represented in a perfect body, which will no longer be a trammel to the soul in its aspirations after good, but will accord with it in perfect harmony."

Let me define the word "aspirations," and see what a long ways this brings our materialistic friends toward the hated "orthodoxy." We hear so much about Webster says, "It is a breathing after, an ardent wish or desire, the act of aspiring, or ardently desiring what is noble or spiritual." Aspire, "to desire with eagerness; to pant after an object, to aim at something elevating."

The above statement is no dash at elocution, but a sober statement of sound conviction. Indeed, this thought and moral capabilities are repeatedly put forth by these reformers.

The author quoted above says: "We do not pretend to say how a soul, an organization perverted, depraved, dwarfed, and corrupted by the inherent effects of sin, and the results of sins committed, can become elevated." &c. This language is no less far-reaching in the way of ascribing moral capabilities and character to the soul than the above.

I did not sit down to criticize, but simply to notice some of the steps our materialistic friends have taken toward the Bible view of the soul.

In the above statements our friends have admitted in effect the whole doctrine as to the moral character and capabilities of the soul. As to the organizations being preserved after the body is decomposed is the wildest fancy of a moral impossibility; its absurdity defies all criticism.

SABBATH REFORM NOTES.

The Committee, having in charge the tent-work in the North-west have invited Bro. M. S. Gardner to go with the tent next season as preacher, and have received from him a favorable response.

"The Sabbath Chronicle has come out in good style, and has the true ring in it," writes Bro. N. Gardner, under date of Feb. 22d. He also says that other converts to the Sabbath are reported on the Chicago field, and that a live, capable man ought to be stationed there to follow up the interest.

Bro. A. B. Prentice, from Shepherdsville, Ky., Feb. 21st, 1881, reports as follows: "Last night I closed my labors here for the present. The weather and the roads have been very much against meetings. Much rain and some severe cold have rendered the roads nearly impassable.

The remarks on the occasion by his pastor, Rev. L. A. Platts, were so appropriate and just, that we take pleasure in printing them entire, as follows:

ters have the confidence and the ear of the people, as shown by larger throngs and greater interest at our meetings than is seen in any other. Shall we not permanently occupy and work this field? I start to-day for Ohio county. My address will be until further notice, Falls of Rough, Grayson Co., Ky."

Bro. L. C. Rogers has removed the tent from Jacksonville, Fla., to Palatka, seventy-five miles up the St. John's River, a place of two thousand inhabitants. The interest in Jacksonville was well maintained to the close of the meetings, and several persons have openly embraced the Sabbath and can be relied upon.

"The ministers have kept clear of us for the most part. Mr. Dodge, of the Presbyterian church, came in to hear us on the 'Sabbath in Prophecy,' and also Rev. W. W. Hicks, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but neither, though called upon, made any remarks.

Mr. Charles Maxson, a life-long resident of Westerly, who had for nearly forty years carried on business here as a builder and lumber dealer, being the senior member of the firm of C. Maxson & Co., died at his residence on Main street in this village, Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 16th, aged 68 years.

Mr. Charles Maxson, the third son and fourth child of Jonathan and Nancy Maxson, was born near Potter Hill, R. I., September 3d, 1812, and died in Westerly, February 16th, 1881.

Next to this kindness of heart is to be mentioned his unvarying politeness of manner. Politeness is the fruit of kindness. Forms of politeness, rules of etiquette, and the like, may be taken on from without, but when thus taken on they never set gracefully.

And after politeness came patience. Patience implies the existence of trials, pains, or other things difficult to be borne, and then is that virtue by which one is enabled to bear such difficulties with uncomplaining fortitude.

Mr. Charles Maxson had to endure during four and a half years of painful sickness, and how patiently he bore it all, none may ever fully know, and of it none save his most constant attendants, and intimate friends, can even form an approximate idea.

Besides these finer virtues, Mr. Maxson possessed great strength of character. His mind was clear, and his judgments well formed. He seldom failed in the estimate he placed upon other men, in public as well as in private stations, while the value which he assigned to opinions and measures were generally very nearly correct.

Our hearts have been strengthened wanderers have returned. Oh, indeed, to see those at the Lord had neglected it for years; and thank God that now we hear again in the prayer circle, and are re-united to the people of God truly endeavoring to "keep the spirit in the bonds of peace."

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Mr. Maxson was converted to Christ at a very early age, it is believed at a time when Eld. N. V. Hull, then a young man, was the instrument in the promotion of that which is remembered, by the older people of Westerly and Hopkinton, as the most wide-spread and thorough-going revival ever known in these towns.

Mr. Maxson was a man of many-sided and striking characteristics, chief among which, by universal consent, was his kindness of heart. It can, perhaps, be best described in the words of the immortal discourse of the Apostle Paul on charity, in the thirteenth chapter of first Corinthians.

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itive form or substance, is in no way to be tolerant of another's faith. It is men who have strong faith and convictions, and whose faith and convictions counter to those of other men, who charity and respect for the men whose convictions they so widely differ. son was such a man. And for this he was more than respected—he was loved by all who knew him.

The life of such a one has been among us, and ended triumphantly been a blessing to us, and its remembrance may be a rich legacy, if we possess the grace to discover and the grace to instructive lessons.

The great lesson of such a life, is, that manliness consists not only in, but in a many-sided development, may have strong convictions, and may have a heart as tender as a child, and yet not be a good man. The Tribe of Judah was the Lamb. And so he who possesses strength and positiveness of conviction, pure kindness of heart and good manner, and all informed and trained in a simple faith in God, is the man whom God and men delight to honor.

Home News.

Nile, N. Y. MARCH 10, 1881.

Having been confined by sickness than two months, I have known the doings of the outer world. By the mercy of God, and in answer to prayers of dear brethren, I am so far as to walk about and occasionally I am not able yet to resume my hope to be soon. Since my usual interest has been maintained in their meetings and in the school, though they have been so preaching but a few times. Prayer and conference meeting a hour; conducted by one of the beloved by the Sabbath-school, nearly the whole congregation are conducted by L. H. Kenyon.

Yesterday and last evening, Mr. people here met in Brown's Hall a public donation for our mutual This to us was both unexpected thought, undeserved, as we had the church only about one month ago, because of our sickness, nation amounted to \$75, seven money. For this expression of interest in our welfare and the prospect, and their untiring attention my protracted illness, we would them our thankfulness, trusting who loves the cheerful giver, them that they shall not lose their

MR. AND MRS. W. B. C. Shiloh, N. J.

The Church at Shiloh have been by the addition of twenty-one to membership, and by the revival of her grown cold and wandered from the Good Shepherd. The work progressing slowly but surely. Storms have interfered somewhat meetings, and yet the people enough in earnest to not allow their zeal, and have improved faithfully as could be expected in a winter. We enjoyed an pleasant season on Sabbath day when the hand of fellowship was to those happy converts who were day at the Lord's table for the first commemorate with us the suffering death of the Savior who had so healed us, and brought us into his our heavenly Father. To add things, that day was the regular "joint communion" between the Marlboro churches, which alternate the two, and so we had a goodly our brethren and sisters from this sit with us at this "feast of good

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Brother Huffman has now been weeks. During this time he has over fifty sermons. These sermons







