Florida Baptist Witness.

Entered at DeLand P. O. as second class matter.

ASHURST & PROVENCE, Prop's.

A. P. ASHURST, EDITOR.
W. N. CHAUDOIN, EDITOR IN THE FIELD.

Subscription price. $2 00
Advertising rates—Single insertion, 10 cents a line. For three months or more, 25 cents per inch each insertion. Type basis, nonpareil.
Address all letters, money orders and communications to the FLORIDA BAPTIST WITNESS, DeLand, Florida.
Elders A. E. Kitchen and G. W. Hall are authorized agents of this paper.

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DE LAND, FLA.:

THURSDAY. - - - - NOV. 26, 1885.

MEN of Israel, help! help!! help!!! Will not every one help us? We want to increase our subscription list. We want the WITNESS in every Baptist family. We want to collect all subscriptions that are due. We want to get an advance subscription to 1887 from every brother who desires progress in Florida. We are circulating a large number gratuitously, hoping to sow the good seed of the kingdom, and we want help. Florida Baptists have never been slow to respond to other calls when help was needed. Do not let us call in vain for help to make a better and a stronger paper. Two DOLLARS will pay for the paper to first of January 1887.

Baptist Mission Work.

I am gratified to observe the interest that Baptists of Florida seem to feel in mission work—domestic, home and foreign, and educational and Sunday-school work—as is shown in the large and increasing contributions they are making for these objects from year to year, and especially as is shown in the zeal with which the opening in Cuba is being improved. The following letter has just been received from our American Baptist Missionary in Constantinople, Turkey, and reports most gratifying progress in his labors. Believing that the Baptists of Florida will be interested in all that indicates forward movement in the Redeemer's kingdom, I submit the letter for the columns of the WITNESS.

G. J. J.

THE LETTER.

This quarterly letter, although due Sept. 1st, is reluctantly delayed on account of my illness. While I was in a convalescent state, I received a telegram from a Bulgarian young gentleman to go to Roustchek and baptize him and his two friends. I had correspondence with this young man for about a year and a half, but I had never met him personally. He had heard about us and our work from papers, and repeatedly had expressed his desire to be baptized, but I had no opportunity of meeting him, and, if he were found worthy, to baptize him. He had been converted to our Baptist views by simply reading the New Testament and "The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles." A few weeks ago he and a Macedonian brother started, one from Bulgaria and the other from Macedonia, for Constantinople, to be baptized by me. After travelling hundreds of miles, when they reached Philippopolis, the capital of Eastern Roumalia, the present revolution broke out, and they were so entangled on account of the confusion peculiar to such a state, that they could not make their way through to Constantinople, and so were obliged to go in a different direction, and went to Roustchek, a city of Bulgaria about 300 miles from Constantinople. When I received their telegram asking me to go there, my friends, as well as myself, rather hesitated about my going, on account of my weakness, as I was not yet fully recovered, and I would be obliged to wait some time in quarantine on my return, and some even feared that the way might be closed, so as to prevent my return altogether; but, not one of these reasons could hinder my listening to that real "Macedonian cry," and I decided to go. I found a good Baptist Church there, organized by some of our Russian Baptist Missionaries, and left for some years without any pastor or missionary. It has done me good to see these godly brethren and sisters, and also my health was improved by the trip.

The two young brethren mentioned above, and also a brother in Roustchek, being found worthy subjects, were baptized by me, and I afterwards administered the Lord's Supper. After the baptism one brother went to Macedonia, another to Bulgaria, and the third, who is a merchant, remained in Roustchek, his home.

While in Roustchek, I also had the pleasure of marrying a couple.

Although there were many political movements in the place to attract my attention, the spiritual state of the Roustchek Baptist brethren was of more interest to me than their politics. It may be interesting if I mention the case of one of the brethren there. As soon as I reached Roustchek, amongst some other brethren this man was introduced to me, with these words: "This man was a robber." When I inquired the meaning of this strange introduction, I learned that he really had been a robber, and belonged to a band of rebels. Once when he came to Roustchek for the interest of his band he was brought under the influence of the gospel, and was converted. Since his conversion he has given all his time to the conversion of souls, without any pay for his services. One evening he gathered a congregation for me from Mohammedans, and I preached to them—a chance which we cannot easily find in Constantinople.

In this quarter, which embraced the hot months of summer, we had not the same opportunity to work as we have in cooler weather, still it did not pass without some work being accomplished. In our last quarterly letter we reported to you the organization of the First Baptist Church of Constantinople and the First Bithynian Baptist Church. In the the present quarter there were three added to the First Bithynian Baptist Church and one to the First Baptist Church of Constantinople, besides the three brethren whom we baptized in Roustchek. The Sunday School and the congregation of the Bithynian Church were considerably enlarged. There are some persons of high standing who are desirous of being baptized in the future.

During this quarter we had the pleasure of receiving visits from Mr. and Mrs. Sakellarios, the Missionaries of the Baptist Missionary Union to Athens, and from our dear brother, Mr. Mardros Sirigamian, who visited our churches and field, and encouraged our brethren and sisters by their preaching and personal conversations. In learning that the great Baptist movement in the field of our brother Sirigamian was greatly due to the circulation of our tracts, we were encouraged to circulate a larger number of them.

The work of this quarter we state as follows: Miles traveled, 1060; pages of tracts distributed, 47,930; sermons preached, 63; prayer-meetings, 33; families and individuals visited, 1,519; persons baptized, 5; received on profession of faith, 1; Sunday-schools held, 30; letters written, 255; persons receiving free medical advice, 153.

As your special prayer, I remain,
Your fellow-worker,
JOHN B. HAYGOOXI.

Constantinople, Oct. 24, 1885.

Dr. S. L. Helm, of Kentucky.

He is dead and gone from earth. He was a man of stalwart frame and intellect and heart—great by nature, and by grace, and in usefulness. For more than fifty years of the nearly seventy that he lived, he followed his Saviour as his disciple. He was a Baptist preacher of great power among the common people, and most intensely loved his work. When consulting a physician concerning the infirmity which occasioned his death, and was informed that it was incurable, and that he could preach no more, he was greatly moved, and said: "Tell me, doctor, that I have a cancer, I can bear that; tell me that I must have great suffering, I can bear that; tell me that I must die, I can bear that; but I cannot bear the thought that I can no longer be useful in the Master's cause." Hence, though sorely afflicted and gradually dying, he did not at once cease preaching, but as long as it was possible he continued to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love. "His last efforts in the pulpit," says the *Western Recorder*, "were made under great difficulties and in great pain, but not without thrilling impressions on the minds of his hearers."

The writer's first acquaintance with this sainted brother was formed in 1870, down in the heart of the Indian Territory, where we met in attendance upon a camp-meeting of the Creek and Seminole brethen, holding their annual Associational gathering. Oh, how we enjoyed that meeting! and how from that time I venerated this brother! It was then and there that the movement was inaugurated for building a new dwelling house for the consecrated Missionary, Dr. H. F. Buckner, now, too, sainted. He was, at the time, living in a poor, uncomfortable log hut. Dr. Helm, believing that the Missionary deserved a better home, threw his whole soul into this movement to secure it, and himself raised the larger part of the $2600, which the house finally cost. Such was the gratitude and admiration of Dr. Buckner for his benefactor and friend that he gave to a son that was born to him soon after entering the new home, the name of Helm. Another son, born later, he named Sumner, in honor of the Secretary of the Home Board of Missions, under whom he had so long served. But the Drs. Helm, and Sumner, and Buckner, too, are now all dead, and have already met above, where they will die no more.

G. J. J.

The Great Contest in Atlanta.

The whole country is, to a degree, enlisted and in sympathy with the mighty contest just now being waged in the capital city of Georgia—a contest over the question of prohibition of the sale of intoxicating beverages there. No single community in all our broad land has, perhaps, ever before been so thoroughly excited and aroused and organized to a life and death grapple with the foe of intemperance as is the city of Atlanta at this time. The day of decision is, however, just at hand. On Wednesday, the 25th inst, the question is to be decided at the polls. The highest number of votes ever cast heretofore in that city has been about 5,000, but the present canvass has already secured a registration of very nearly 9,000 voters. It is most devoutly hoped that the side of prohibition will win. The whole country looks on with the deepest interest, waiting and watching for the issue.

It may be added that this excited contest is the culmination of a ten years' struggle that has been going on over Georgia, under the workings of the Local Option law. So vigorously and persistently have the friends of temperance pressed the campaign that of 137 counties in Georgia all but 15 have adopted prohibition, and to a large and successful degree are maintaining it. But now the war has entered the chief city of the State and here the final victory for this Empire State of the South, it is hoped, will be won.

It should also be added, what of course is to be expected in such a campaign, that the religious forces of the city have been marshalled in a common line as never before. Senator Colquitt, a noble Methodist, has been a leader among the Christian laymen and Dr. J. B. Hawthorne, pastor of the First Baptist church, foremost among the ministry. Rev. Sam Jones and Col. Sam Small too have given days of efficient service in the good cause. We have been pained however, to see among the leaders of the opposition—the anti-prohibitionists—the name of Julius Brown, the son of our Baptist layman, Senator Joseph E. Brown. But the religious element of the city is as it should be—by a large majority marshalled upon the prohibition side.

It should also be noted that just such a contest as is agitating Atlanta, is yet to excite and arouse every city, large and small, on this continent. The rum-demon is destined to be exorcised and yet it is not to be done except by all the violent contortions, and the "wallowing and foaming" that afflicted the young man of New Testament days when our Savior expelled the devil from him. And let it come. Painful as is the process, it is the only hope and its end is glorious deliverance.

The present effort in Atlanta may fail—for the rum-party will secure all the votes that money will purchase—still the failure will be only for the time. The struggle will be early renewed again, and go on, though oft defeated, until the complete and final triumph is won. And so will it be everywhere.

G. J. J.

All True.

What a comfort it is that the best news we ever heard is certainly true! This news is that there is a free pardon and salvation for us, sinners that we are. Who says so? God says so. He who knows all things says so. He who never deceives says so. Nay, more, he who provided this salvation, he who gives this pardon, the very God whom we have offended, and whose forgiveness we want, he says so. He says it in his word; he says it, not once only, but many times. He says it in different ways. He not only says it, but sends us messages, begging us to believe it: "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." "We, then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye recieve not the grace of God in vain." Will you not believe this news? Will you not believe, and be saved?—*Buds and Blossoms.*

WE have received from the John Church Co., Cincinnati, O., a copy of their Christmas Selection for 1885. It is a sixteen page pamphlet containing in addition to nine beautiful carols by eminent writers, a fine Responsive Service especially prepared by R. S. Thain. The typographical appearance is in keeping with the excellent contents, the pamphlet being printed in colors on fine tinted paper. The price is 5 cts. per copy, or 50 cts. a doz., post paid; $4 per hundred, by express, not prepaid. Address The John Church Co., Cincinnati, O.

What Shall We Have for Dessert?

"What shall we have for dessert?" is a question daily asked in thousands of homes by troubled house-keepers, as often calling forth only the same ever-repeated answer. It is this perpetually recurring query that has suggested the publication of the "Household Receipts" book, as an attempt to furnish a ready answer of a more satisfactory nature.

The volume is published with the hope that it may, by suggesting a pleasing variety of simple, palatable desserts, be the means of lifting a burden from many a housewife's heart, and increasing in some degree the general peace and comfort of many a household.

The "Household Receipts" book, containing seventy-two pages of choice receipts will be mailed to you on receipt of your address and five two cent stamps, to pay the postage. J. BURNETT & Co.,
27 Central st., Boston, Mass.

What Jesus is Able to Do.

Able to make all grace abound toward us; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

Able to succor them that are tempted.

Able to keep you from falling, and present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.

Able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him.

What he has promised, able also to perform.

Able to make you stand.

Able to keep that which I have committed unto him.

Able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

Able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we may ask or think.

Able to subdue all things unto himself.

THE sentence on Mr. Stead, the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, was pronounced on November 10. He was condemned to three months' imprisonment; his sub-editor, Mr. Jacques, to one month; Mrs. Jarrett, the woman who assisted in the investigation, to six months; and Louise Mourey, the French mid-wife, to six months, with hard labor. It was a refinement of cruelty which shows the malignant nature of the judge to punish Mr. Stead's agents more severely than Mr. Stead himself. The judge doubtless calculated that an honorable man, such as Mr. Stead has proved himself, could be made to suffer more acutely through the sufferings of others than through his own person. The prisoners were ushered off to the penitentiary. Meanwhile the wealthy and aristocratic sinners whose villianies Mr. Stead exposed are at liberty. Whether the English people will tamely witness the scandal and make no protest remains to be seen. The American people, however, must be on their guard against being deceived by the statement that the sentence is approved by the English public, which is made by some prominent journals, of which the the New York *Herald* is the leader. The statement is not true. The proprietor of the *Herald* has probably been misled by his friends in England, who might be expected to approve of the sentence; but if the editor of the *Herald* would inquire of his brother clergymen in England he would learn that a very different opinion prevails in religious circles.—*Christian Herald.*

A Chance.

To encourage the formation of new Baptist Sunday-schools, a brother has placed with the American Baptist Publication Society, 1420 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Pa., a sum of money with which to supply new, needy schools with libraries. The gentleman has bound the Society by three easy conditions:

1. That donations from this fund shall be made only to new needy schools.

2. That the grant to any one school shall not exceed $10 worth of books.

3. That the school shall indicate its earnestness and hope of permanent success by raising among themselves, or in the neighborhood, ten dollars, with which to buy more books. Any school can do this that has energy enough to live.

The schools can make their own selection of any of the Society's publications. This holds true, both of the grant, and the purchase. The grant is reckoned at catalogue prices; on the purchase a discount of twenty-five per cent is given by the Society.

If it is impossible to organize a new school this fall, preserve this notice and make the attempt early in the spring. We can, from this fund, help fifty new schools every year. B. GRIFFITH, Sec'y.

Systematic Benevolence.

We do not, at least those of us native to our section, properly estimate the importance of littles. We do not know, as we ought, that the gifts of hundreds and thousands so rarely seen and yet which receive so much notice are as nothing by the side of the small contributions which unnoticed flow steadily from almost innumerable sources. The ocean, grand in its majestic beauty, were it not for the little fountains that lie hid in the forests, or concealed in the recesses of the hills and mountains would rapidly disappear. Read over the reports made to associations and conventions and notice especially, that in that of Ladies' Mission Society and children's bands how nickels and cents swell the aggregate amounts, and then daily, weekly or monthly put away something for the Lord's cause. Don't say, because you cannot give but a cent or a nickel regularly that you will not give anything. God looks at the motive and the smallest gift, the weakest effort in prayer, if moved by earnest desire for his glory, is a weapon scriptural that will, armed by his power, pull down some stronghold of sin and Satan. Resolve to give regularly.

S. F. GOVE.

Obituary.

Died, at his residence at Bristol, Liberty county, Fla., of paralysis November 9, 1885, John N. Revell; born September 14, 1820, Darlington District, S. C. Married to Miss P. A. Hudson on September 26, 1848, losing her on February 19, 1872, he again married Mrs. A. C. Roberts of Wakulla county, in April, 1872, whom he now leaves to mourn his loss. He joined the Missionary Baptists in his youth and was a faithful member. In 1873 at Bristol, he felt and expressed himself as being called to preach—was ordained, and has since faithfully performed his duties as minister of the gospel. He lived sixteen days after being struck with his disease, and about the last he was heard to say was that he was prepared to go. He leaves to mourn his loss, a wife, son and grand children with numerous friends. S. J. REVELL.

Bristol, Fla., Nov. 12, 1885.

WAR between Servia and Bulgaria was formally declared on November 14th. As is usual where two armies have been glaring at each other for some time across a frontier, each charges the other with being the aggressor. That question, however, is not important, as the attitude of the two governments is well understood. King Milan placed himself promptly at the head of the Servian army and marched into Bulgarian territory. Three skirmishes took place during the day, in which the Servians were successful. The reports which the cable brings agree in representing the Servian army as in numbers and discipline superior to the Bulgarians. The attention of Europe, however, is mainly occupied with the attitude of the great Powers, which this conflict may draw into armed antagonism. It is believed that Servia would not have moved without the consent, if not at the suggestion of Austria, while Russia, though not disposed to go to the help of the Bulgarians while Alexander is on the throne, would be promptly in the field in their defence if they would get rid of him and accept a king more amenable to Russian influence. The situation is ominous, and every development will be watched with anxious interest.

WE hope all the readers of the WITNESS will read Dr. J. H. Griffith's sermon on first page. All who heard him preach at our late Convention will be glad of another opportunity of enjoying so soon, another sermon from him.

ELDER C. C. HILL left Florida for Texas this week.

THANKSGIVING will be observed in DeLand to-day with a union service at the Presbyterian church conducted by Rev. R. H. Ghelston.

Great excitement prevails in Canada on account of the execution of Louis David Riel, which was done at 8:23 A. M., Monday, the 15th. inst.

Duncan's Wise Decision.

An evangelist related: "One night I spoke to a young man in the meeting, and found him very anxious. I told him of the love of Jesus in dying for him, and put before him some precious promises of God. He was eager and willing to be told of Jesus, and remarked, 'I believe it is my mother's words that have made me so.' He was greatly moved when he spoke of his mother, and I inquired, 'Might I ask what those words were?' Tears sprang to the eyes of the young man as he replied, 'When mother was dying she called me to her and said, 'Duncan, will you follow God?' These were her last words, and they have been ringing in my ears ever since.' 'Duncan,' I said, will you follow Jesus, and then you will follow your mother.' He calmly responded, 'From this night I will follow Jesus, and meet my mother in heaven.'"

Items of Interest.

German geologists estimate that the Dead Sea will be a mass of solid salt a thousand years hence.

The White House letter paper is of the finest quality, with beautifully printed heading. Jefferson headed his own foolscap with a quill pen.

A prominent physician of Athens, Ga., who has had many cases of sore throat lately, made an investigation and found nearly every one of them was caused by cigarette smoking.

The "Old Oaken Bucket" was written, says A. P. Bussell in his "Literary Notes," by Woodworth, a journeyman printer, "while under the inspiration of brandy."

The gamblers of Omaha made a proposition to the city that if they are not interfered with for one year they will pay for all street improvements and keep up the water works.

One of the evidences of lunacy offered in a New Orleans contested will case was that the man, while changing his high silk hats twice a year, invariably had them made in the fashionable shape of precisely ten years before.

Barnum is said to have been the angriest in his life when he found that the big man engaged to introduce Tom Thumb to the spectators, had swapped jobs with the small one who had been selected to exhibit Col. Goshen.

Calling a man a big buffoon in Naples is considered the highest honor you can pay him. Buffoonery is a fine art there, requiring unlimited talents; amateurs are classed as the best and take no pay; hence a prince may be a buffoon and often is. Customs differ.

According to a temperance orator at Winthrop, Me., of twenty-seven men who banded themselves together to oppose the Washingtonian temperance movement, eleven died of the abuse of liquor, and four through accidents caused by it; seven were lost at sea, and an eighth sailed and never was heard from; two killed themselves, and two were hanged at the South.

The denial is made for Edwin Booth that he was ever a negro minstrel, save in the sense that he may also have been a circus performer. When a lad in Baltimore he and other boys played circus, minstrelsy, tragedy, and other capers in a cellar. He entered the dramatic profession when he was not more than sixteen, and thereafter traveled with his father almost up to the time of the latter's death. It is a fact, however, that Forrest was once a rider and acrobat in a circus.

The growth of the female population in the large cities is a remarkable feature of the censuses of the time. New York has a surplus of about 25,000 women, Boston of 18,000, Baltimore 17,000, and so on through the whole list of cities in the East. Fifty years ago the women stayed at home while the men came to the city to pursue their careers; now, both in Europe and America, the women are crowding to the business centres.

A Wisconsin woman accuses her husband of trying to persuade her to commit suicide in a manner that would enable him to collect for their children the amount of an insurance policy on her life. He argued the propriety of the project, since she was feeble and likely to require much doctoring during the rest of her natural life, thus using up money needlessly, whereas by dying at once she could leave the family in good circumstances.

The Landwehr is a term applied in Germany and Austria to a military force in some respect resembling our militia. Every German capable of bearing arms and over twenty years of age, must serve three years in the regular army, four in the army of reserve, and five years in the Landwehr. He is then liable to be called upon twice for annual practice, and to be incorporated in the regular army in time of war. Leaving the Landwehr, he is enrolled till the age of fifty in the Landsturm, which body is only called upon for service within the frontiers of the country in case of invasion.

The weight of Daniel Webster's brain was sixty-three ounces. He died, according to Dr. Jeffries, of disease of the liver, the immediate cause of death being hemorrhage from the bowels and stomach, owing to the morbid state of the blood consequent upon the above disease; also dropsy in the abdomen. On making a post mortem examination, it was found that the cerebral organs were of the largest known capacity, exceeding by thirty per cent. the average weight of the human brain, and with only two exceptions (Cuvier and Dupuytren), the largest of which there is any record.

There is a professional master of character in calligraphy at Aix-les-Bains, an abbe, dark-bearded, his priestly costume giving an air of clerical dignity. He is the hero of the hour, and there are interesting seances in the apartments of great ladies. Superstitious Italians have already declared him nearly allied to the evil one. It is said that taking a letter written by a person utterly unknown to him, he will draw an oral portrait of the writer, even to the color of the hair and eyes, and sketch the moral and mental characteristics of the individual with completeness.

Very, Very Little Things.

But very important—your blood corpuscles. They are bright red. They are so small that it takes over 3,000 of them in a line to make an inch. The bright red color comes from the iron in them. When there is not enough iron, the blood is thin and watery and impure. Purity and vigor go together. Brown's Iron Bitters is the only safe iron tonic ever made. It enriches the blood, builds up the system, gives health, strength and enjoyment of life.

Scientific

A fresh discovery of silver chloride has been made on the surface of the Broken Hill claim at Silverton, New South Wales, which is said to run through a lode more than twenty feet wide. The chloride have been found over a distance of nearly ha fa mile.

A new alloy, a combination of manganese and tin, has been introduced as suitable for bearings in which shafting is required to run at a high speed, and for other articles for which a high degree of tenacity and great closeness of grain are required.

Mr. R. F. Friswell in a paper read before the Chemical Society, London, says that the results of his personal experience with toughened glass, during a period of eleven months, has caused him to regard that substance when formed into laboratory utensils as a complete failure.

A permanent commission has been appointed in Austria for investigating the causes of explosions in mines. Among the subjects to be dealt with are safety lamps, coal-dus explosions, meteorological observations, the employment of gunpowder for blasting, and ventilation of mines.

Dr. Albert Rosenberg, of Berlin, has found in a solution of methol a useful substitute for expensive cocaine in cases requiring local anæsthesia of the mucous membrane of the nose, pharynx, larynx, &c. It is said to be more transitory in effect than cocaine, and on repeating the application, to give evidence of cumulative action.

There is a qualitative test for butter so simple that any housewife can put it into successful practice. A clean piece of white paper is smeared with a little of the suspected butter. The paper is then rolled up and set on fire. If the butter is pure the smell of the burning paper is rather pleasent; but the odor is distinctly tallowy if the "butter" is made up wholly or in part of animal fats.

Magnesite has been introduced as a new substance for lining furnaces. Its approximate composition is carbonaceous magnesia 90.30 to 97.32 per cent., carbonaceous limestone 0.05 to 0.61 per cent., argillaceous earth 1.10 per cent., iron oxide 4.49 per cent; insoluble residum 3.73 per cent. Magnesite after having been burned is chiefly employed in the form of magnesia stone for furnace bottoms.

Dr. Bonavia, of the Lucknow Horticultural Gardens, has but little faith in the statement as to the suitability and value of the *Eucalyptus globulus* in swampy and marshy districts. The results of his experiments with the tree confirm the unfavorable results that have also been obtained with it in Italy, and he is surprised that it should ever have been deemed fitted to discharge the efficacious and salutary functions that have been so universally claimed on its behalf.

An appliance for drying and superheating steam has been devised by multitubular boilers by Max Gehre, of Hanover. As superheaters in the fire box act unequally and are liable to great strain, the Gehre apparatus is placed in the smoke box. The apparatus itself is traversed by tubes forming a continuation of those in the boiler, but of rather larger diameter. The steam is thus superheated by contact with the side of the tubes and of the chest, which are continuously heated by the products of combustion.

This is the Bunge system of balloon signaling: An ordinary balloon of very translucent material is employed. In the inside of the balloon electric glow lamps are arranged. The balloon is a captive one, and the rope which attaches it to the earth is utilized for the support of wires to convey the electricity to the lamps. When the balloon is sent up at night the lamps are caused to illuminate the balloon at intervals of longer or shorter duration so as to present signals to the distant observer, in accordance with the Morse alphabet.

A great many "land-locked" salmon were lately placed in the River Thames by the Thames Angling Preservation Association in the presence of several gentlemen who have a deep interest in the development of fresh-water fisheries. This species of salmon is considered to be admirably adapted for a life in the Thames, as it is not a migratory one. Fish that quit the waters of that river for the sea are not likely to return to it ever again, as the lower portion of the Thames is little better than a huge sewer.

THE Mbangi, a large and important tributary of the Congo and probably the lower portion of the River Volle, has been explored by the Rev. G. Grenfell in his little steamer Peace from the Congo in a mean direction of north by east as far as 4° 30 north latitude, or for a distance of between 400 and 450 miles including the turnings of the stream. It is navigable for vessels of considerable size, as its mean depth is stated to be 25 feet. At the second rapids, 4°23 north latitude, the width is 673 yards, and at no point further down is it narrower. The current flows at the rate of from 80 to 100 feet per minute. More precise information regarding this newly discovered remarkable waterway of Africa is expected to be published shortly.

WE congratulate our neighboring town Tavares for having so good a paper as the *Herald*.

THE Bartow *Informant* in its issue of the 21st inst, gives quite an interesting sketch of Polk county, its climate, soil, production etc. We regard Bartow as one of the most promising towns of South Florida, with a population of about 1,500. We do not think there is too much color in the picture.