

NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS TO BE ON THIS SIDE.

Rev. E. W. BEDINGER,

Anchorage,

Ky.

RECEIVED from E. W. BEDINGER, Treasurer
of the Evangelistic Fund of the Synod of Ken-
tucky *Forty five & ——— $\frac{83}{100}$* Dollars.

Amount of appropriation for *the month of*
June ending *June 30- 1888*
July. 4 1888
W. O. Stephen.



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Amount of appropriation for *the*

month ending *April 30th 1888*

May 1st 1888

W. C. Stephens

RUSSELLVILLE KY.

NOV. 14, 1888.

REV. E. W. BEDINGER, D. D.

DEAR BROTHER—

I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER INFORMING THE CHURCHES OF MY FIELD OF THEIR ASSESSMENT BY THE COMM., & I SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE CIRCULARS, & INFORM THE CHURCHES OF THE AMOUNTS THAT ARE DUE.

I PUT THIS MATTER BEFORE MY CHURCHES SOME TIME BEFORE THE SYNOD MET, & THE RESPONSE WAS NOT AGENT. I MAY BE NO MORE SUCCESSFUL THIS YEAR, BUT I WILL MAKE AN EFFORT.

SALEM CHURCH HAS PAID ME ONLY \$19 OUT OF \$50 PROMISED. ELKTON & RUSSELLVILLE HAVE PAID UP ALL THAT THEY HAVE PROMISED TO THIS TIME, BUT R. WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DO AS MUCH AS SHE HAS DONE, FOR THE COMING YEAR, ON ACCOUNT OF THE REMOVAL OF TWO OF HER MAIN STAYS.

I AM SORRY TO MAKE SUCH A DISCOURAGING REPORT AS THIS IS TO ME.

WHEN PRESBYTERY MET HERE OUR ORGANIZATION WAS REVISED, & THREE MEMBERS WERE ADDED ON CERTIFICATE, & A RULING ELDER WAS ELECTED, ORDAINED, & INSTALLED, WHICH MAKES ABOUT 8 MEMBERS ON THE ROLL.

SOME OF THESE HAVE MOVED ELSE WHERE, & ABOUT THREE OF THE REMAINING ARE SUPERANUATED SO THEY ARE NO HELP TO US.

I ENDEAVORED TO START A S. S., BUT FOR WANT OF MATERIAL FAILED. I HAVE ALSO TRIED TO INSTITUTE A BIBLE CLASS OR A PRAYER MEETING, BUT HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THE MEMBERS TO TAKE HOLD OF THAT. I WANTED TO HAVE IT ONE NIGHT IN EACH WEEK, BUT AM DOUBTFUL ABOUT SUCCEEDING.

AT ELKTON THERE SEEMS TO BE A LITTLE MORE HOPE. LAST MONTH WE RECEIVED TWO BY LETTER, THEY HAVE BEEN PAYING THE PROMISED SALARY PROMPTLY, ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN A LITTLE HARD FOR THEM TO RAISE IT. WE HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS THERE TOWARDS BUILDING A CHURCH. THE FARM THAT WAS DONATED FOR THAT PURPOSE HAS BEEN SOLD, & THE MEANS ARE IN SUCH A SHAPE THAT THEY ARE NOW AVAILABLE, & IN THE SPRING THE BUILDING WILL BE PUT UP, PROVIDENCE PERMITTING.

AT OLD SALEM WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY YET BUT I AM EXPECTING TO RECEIVE ONE FROM THE BAPTIST CHURCH BY LETTER, & IF SHE DOES COME SHE WILL ASK TO BE BAPTISED BY SPRINKLING, SHE IS THE WIFE OF ONE OF OUR DEACONS ELECT.

I THINK IF THE EVANGELISTS COULD ONLY COME AND HOLD A MEETING THERE WE MIGHT HAVE A NUMBER ADDED.

ARE
THERE ABOUT 22 MEMBERS AT OLD S, & ABOUT 13
AT ELKTON.

AFTER HAVING BEEN IN THE FIELD SINCE LAST
FEB, THIS IS ALL THAT I HAVE TO REPORT, AND
AFTER REFLECTING ON THE MATTER FOR SOME TIME, I
HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT I HAD BETTER
TRY ANOTHER FIELD WHERE I MAY BE ABLE TO ACCOM-
PLISH MORE, I HAVE TALKED TO DR, WITHERSPOON
ON THE SUBJECT BEFORE THE SYNOD MET & HE AGREED
WITH ME, HE SAID, THEN, IF MR, M, LEFT THE
PORTLAND CHURCH HE WOULD PUT MY NAME BEFORE IT,
BUT I HAVE NOT HEARD ANY THING FROM HIM SINCE,

IF THAT WAS NOT AVAILABLE HE WOULD PUT MY
NAME BEFORE SOME OTHER CHURCH, I DO NOT KNOW
WHAT HE HAS DONE, I SUPPOSE HE HAS BEEN VERY
BUSY WITH HIS LARGE WORK,

IT IS MY DESIRE & MY WIFES DESIRE ALSO THAT
WE REMAIN IN KY, & I AM SOME WHAT OF A STRANGER
IN THIS STATE, SO WE WOULD BE VERY GREATFUL ^{IF} YOU
WOULD ASSIST US IN FINDING ANOTHER PLACE OF LA-
BOR WHERE WE MAY BE MORE USEFUL, & WHERE OUR SALA-
RY WILL BE A LITTLE BETTER, UP TO THIS TIME I
HAVE BEEN SUPPORTING MYSELF & WIFE ON A SALARY
OF ABOUT \$700 PER YEAR,

A SINGLE MAN CAN GET ALONG IN THIS FIELD ON

A SALARY OF \$650 VERY COMFORTABLY & SAVE A LITTLE IF HE IS ECONOMICAL, & I THINK WOULD BE BETTER SUITED FOR THE PLACE AS HE COULD TRAVEL AROUND OVER THE FIELD MORE,

I HAVE THOUGHT THAT THE COMM, MAY BE DISAPPOINTED IN ME & THIS FIELD, I WOULD NOT BLAME THEM IF THEY WERE, FOR I AM DISAPPOINTED MYSELF, BUT I HOPE YOU WILL BE SO KIND AS TO HELP ME SECURE ANOTHER PLACE, WHERE I MAY BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH MORE FOR THE MASTER,

WE ARE THOROUGHLY CONVINCED THAT IT IS TIME FOR US TO MAKE A CHANGE, & ANY ASSISTANCE RENDERED WILL BE LONG REMEMBERED WITH THANKFUL HEARTS,

CAN YOU INFORM US WHEN THE NEXT PAYMENT WILL BE MADE?

MY WIFE SENDS HER KINDEST REGARDS,

I AM FRATERNALLY YOURS IN CHRIST,

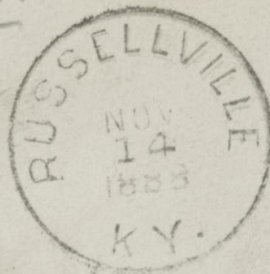
W. O. Stephen,

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

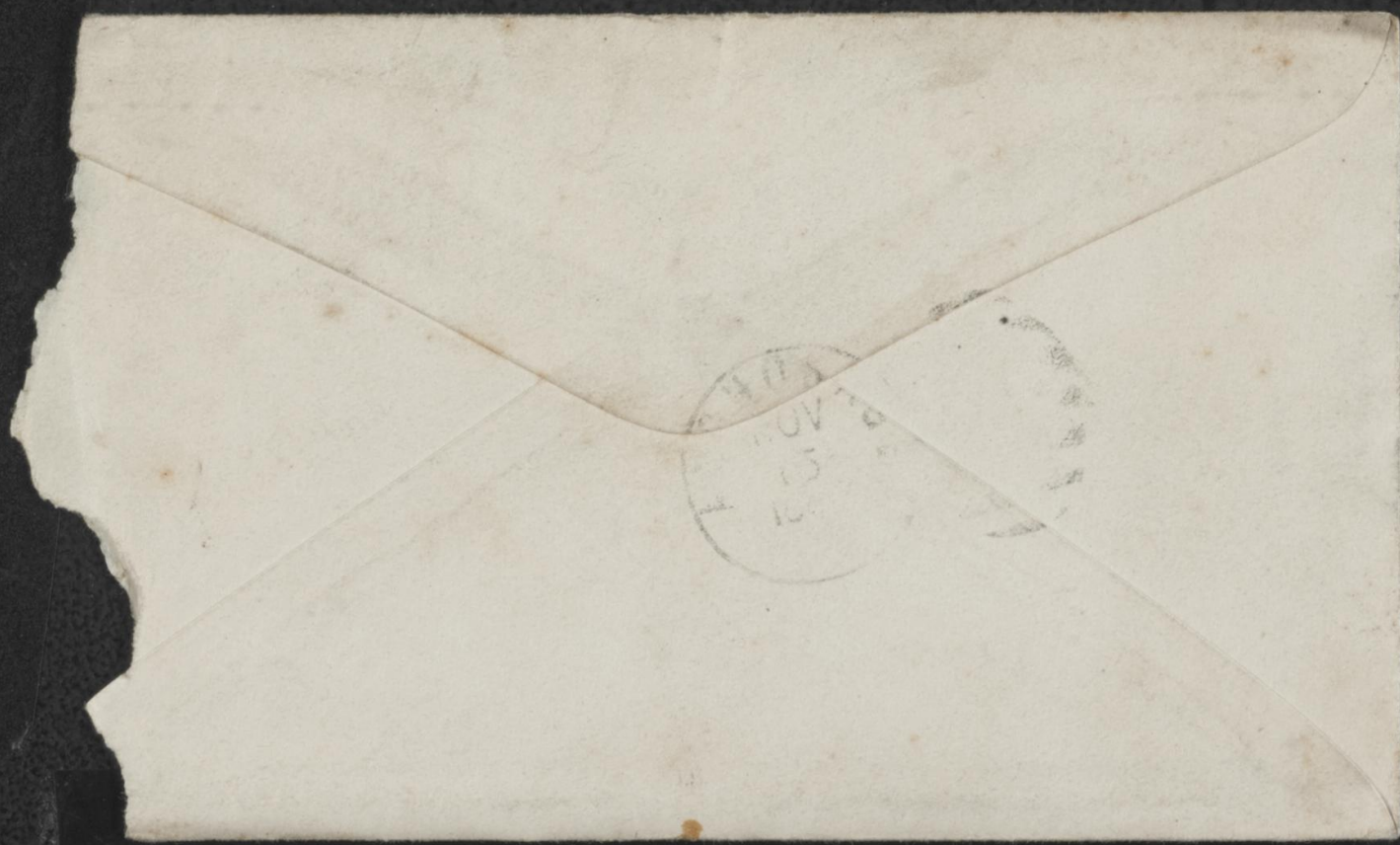
Ans. Nov 24-88

W O Stephens

Nov. 14, 1888



*Rev. C. W. Bedinger, D. D.
Anchorage,
Ky.*



RUSSELLVILLE KY,

NOV, 26, 1888,

DR, E. W, BEDINGER,

DEAR BROTHER—

YOUR EXCEEDINGLY KIND

LETTER CAME DULY TO HAND & ITS
CONTENTS WERE CAREFULLY NOTED, & WILL SAY IN
REPLY, THAT WE APPRECIATE YOUR DESIRE TO KEEP
THIS FIELD SUPPLIED AT PRESENT, & WE THANK YOU
MOST SINCERELY FOR YOUR KIND WORDS OF ENCOURAGE-
MENT, & WE WISH THAT WE COULD SEE THINGS AS YOU
DESIRE US TO, BUT IT IS OUR CONVICTION THAT WE
OUGHT TO MAKE A CHANGE, & THAT AS SOON AS POSSI-
BLE, THIS IS A FIELD SUITED TO A SINGLE MAN
BETTER THAN A MARRIED MAN IN MY JUDGMENT, & I
HAVE BEEN IN FIELDS SOMEWHAT SIMILAR BEFORE,

IF WE MAKE THIS CHANGE SOON THEN THERE MAY
BE SOME CHANCE OF SUPPLYING THE FIELD FROM THE
SEMINARY, WE RECEIVED THREE MEMBERS ON PRO-
FESSION OF THEIR FAITH LAST SUNDAY AT OLD SALEM
BUT THE OUT LOOK IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY
US IN EXPECTING THIS FIELD TO BECOME SELF SUS-
TAINING IN FIFTEEN YEARS, IF THERE WERE 500
MEMBERS AT OLD SALEM THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO
PAY A MINISTER HALF OF HIS SALARY, IF THEY WERE
IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES AS MOST OF THEM ARE NOW IN.
I THINK THAT IF THE EVANGELISTS COULD COME THERE

THEY MIGHT TAKE IN A NUMBER.

I HOPE THEY MAY COME, & IF I AM AWAY THE NEED OF THEIR COMING WILL BE THAT MUCH THE MORE,

I THINK THAT MR EVANS MIGHT DO A GOOD WORK THERE, NOW PRIVATELY BETWEEN YOU & MYSELF, I HAVE MY DOUBTS ABOUT MR EVANS BEING ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH MUCH AT ELKTON, HE WAS AT THIS PLACE SOME TIME IN THE PAST, & EACH ONE TO WHOM I HAVE SAID ANY THING CONCERNING HIM HAVE EXPRESSED THEMSELVES UNFAVORABLY TOWARDS HIS COMING AGAIN.

I AM VERY SORRY THAT THIS IS THE CASE, BUT I THOUGHT THAT I OUGHT TO INFORM YOU ON THIS MATTER, WERE HE TO COME AGAIN HE MIGHT OVERCOME THOSE FEELINGS & DO A GOOD WORK, I THINK IT MIGHT BE BEST TO WAIT FOR A MEETING THERE UNTIL THE CHURCH IS BUILT & THEN START OFF WITH A MEETING, WE ARE SORRY TO HAVE TO ASK FOR A CHANGE, BUT ^{YOU} WOULD OBLIGE US VERY MUCH TO ASSIST IN FINDING ANOTHER FIELD, WE WOULD NOT OBJECT SERIOUSLY TO A GROUP OF TWO OR EVEN THREE CHURCHES IF THEY WERE NOT TOO FAR A PART, IN THIS WE TRUST THAT WE ARE NOT ACTING AGAINST THE LORD'S WILL,

MY WIFE SENDS HER KINDEST REGARDS, AND I AM FRATERNALLY YOURS IN CHRIST,

W. C. Stephen.

Russellville, Ky.

Aug. 8. 1888.

Rev. E. W. Bedinger

Dear Brother -

As I have not recd. my check
yet for the month of July I thought
I had better write to let you
know, fearing that it might
be lost in the mail.

I suppose you do not remember
me, I saw you while at the
seminary and I knew three of
your son, B. T. graduated with
me.

I am fraternally yours

W. O. Stephen.

Aug. 16. 1888.

Russellville Ky.
Rev. E. W. Bedinger D. D.

Dear Brother -

Yours of Aug. 10. to hand, and I am sorry to hear the unfavorable report about the Evang. Fund.

Not receiving monthly remittance will put me to some inconvenience, as people expect to receive their board money at the end of each month, and ^{do} not like to wait on boarders to pay up, and you know of all people in the world, if a minister falls in debt, or is slow about paying board bills, it is thought to be a terrible thing. As you know, I have a wife to support, as well as myself, and up to this time we have just about made "both ends meet," and I have no other resources for a support than the salary I get for preaching, and further, my ~~three~~ three churches here, are so weak, and poor, that they cannot pay over \$200. per year.

We can manage to get on in money matter until the time you mentioned, if the full salary is then remitted.

We are pleased with the people and place

and as far as we can judge they seem to like us, but I don't think a large church can ever be built up here at Russellville, for the Baptists and Methodists both have large churches here, and each of them have a college here, and there are four other denominations who have churches at this place.

Possibly, in the course of time, a small church might be gathered here. The town is not building up. Any other churches have but little better prospects, but I think if the funds would only hold out, some thing more than they now are could be made of them.

Can you give me any assurance of the funds holding out after Oct? If not, will you be so kind as to assist me in finding another field that is self supporting, just as soon as possible, for, as you see from above, a little more than five sevenths of my living comes from the Evang. Fund and if that fails and I remain here you can very readily see the predicament I will be in.

And again I am a stranger to the churches of this state.

Your assistance in this matter, I shall take as a great kindness.

I fear very much that I shall not be able to attend ^{Supposed} ~~for~~ the reason intimated above.

I am sincerely, and fraternally yours,
W. C. Stephens.

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

And Aug 18- '88

*Rev. E. W. Bedinger,
Anchorage
Ky.*





Russellville Ky.

Dec. 7 - 89.

Rev. E. W. Bedinger D. D.

Dear Bro.

I have received a unanimous call to Geary Ind. and I have accepted. He will leave Russellville next Wednesday, Dec 11, for my new field of labor.

I visited Mr. Henry and preached last Sunday & Sunday night & had fine congregations, especially at night.

I am fraternally,

E. O. Stephen.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \overline{) 45.83\frac{1}{3}} \\ 15.28 \\ \hline 91.66 \\ \hline 106.94 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} \overline{) 137.50} \\ 30.55 \\ \hline 106.95 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \overline{) 550} \end{array}$$

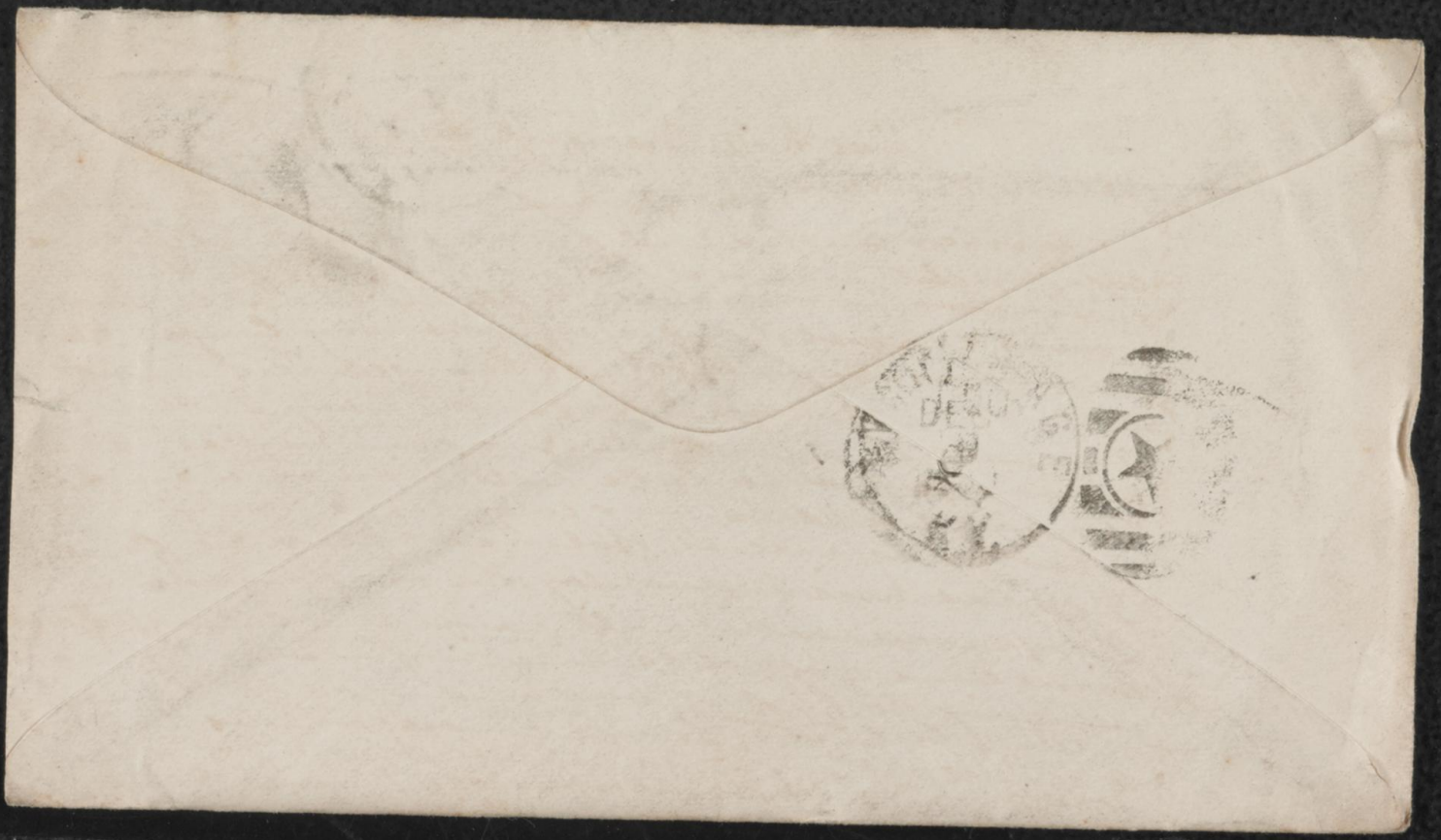
Rev. W. C. Stephen
Amd & ad sent for
\$106 24 in full

Muscle Shoals

DEC 7 1859
KY



Rev. C. W. Bedinger, D. D.
Anchorage
Ky.



Russellville Ky.

Aug. 10 1899

Rev. E. W. Bedinger D. D.

Dear Brother.

I am sorry to have to do so,
but my financial circum-
stances make it necessary.

I have recd. no money from
the Com. for May, June & July,
and I am in debt for ~~part of~~
my board for ~~part of~~ that time
and am in debt for a Dr. bill,
as my wife has been
sick most of the time since
last Feb. The Dr. here charge
ministers, which is a good
indication of the character of
most of the people here.

Wm. D. Johnson
Dear Sir,
I am extremely
pleas'd to hear
that you are
well, and I am
hoping that you
will be able to
visit us soon.
I am
Yours
Wm. D. Johnson

I have just returned from
Louisville with my wife
whom I took there for medical
treatment, for her eyes, and
otherwise. This I felt com-
pelled to do, for the sake of
her health, and she is now
improving very encouragingly.
Now as to the collection
for the Evangelistic work,
it makes me feel sad to
think about it. I have not
been able to make a collection.
The people are complaining of
hard times in money matters
in this part of the country, &
the consequence is Old Salem,
while we have had additions,
and increase in congregations
until the house did not hold
all, at my last appointment,
there seems to be no money, as

I have just returned from
downsville with my wife
and have taken them for medical
treatment for her eye, and
themselves. I feel com-
pelled to do for the sake of
his health, and also in view
improving my own health,
now in the collection
for the Evangelistic work,
I make one proposal to
think about it. I have not
been able to make a collection
the justice or expediency of
had time in my present
in the part of the country,
the consequence to Old Lebanon,
with me has had addition,
and moves in consequence
until the hour did not hold
all my last afternoon,
there seems to be no more.

I have only recd. from them \$50.
since I have been here

At Elkton our house of wor-
ship is nearing completion,
but they are falling a little
behind with me, and have
been able to raise no collec-
tion for any thing else.
As to Russellville the church
here is about broken up by
removals, and I see no hope
for its salvation. You can
now understand why I am
so anxious to find another
field.

Hoping that I have
made plain my condition,
I am fraternally

Yours,
W. O. Stephens

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



Rev. E. W. Bedinger,
Anchorage,
Ky.

Russellville Ky.

Oct. 23 189

Mr. S. S. Porter

Dear Bro.

I send you a Post Office
Order of two dollars. The
balance of the amount that
was due the Evang. Comm. from
Old Salem Church for yr. cont. Oct.

I send it as I can collect
it, is why it is sent in
small amounts. You could
understand this if you had
had any thing to do with
poor country congregations

Traternally

W. O. Stephens.

Report of W. C. Stephen,
Evangelist of Logan & Todd Co.
to the Evan. Com.

I have been preaching regularly
at three different points.

According to the direction of
the Com. and presbytery, I
have been giving half of my
time to Russellville, but it
seems that the providence of
God has not been favorable
to us in our church work at
this point. I am sorry to report
that I have found it neces-
sary to quit preaching at Rus-
sellville, for the reason that
all but four or five presby-
terians have moved away, and
three of those four are so infirm

that they never are able to attend church. The ground is so occupied that my congregation does not amount to more than half a dozen + some times less. As I have been here over a year I see no use in wasting time in this part of the field.

I have been endeavoring to find in those two vacant Sundays at any place I can.

The field is so taken up by other denominations that some Sunday I am compelled to be idle. I have visited Auburn and Adairville but there is no encouragement at either of these places.

I am happy to say that I have some thing better to

say about Elkton + Old Salem. I do not feel that my work at these places has been entirely in vain, but it is far from what I would like to report.

At Elkton I have been preaching once in each month. The congregations have been tolerably good, but somewhat fluctuating. Four members have been recd. there, three by letter, and one ^{on} profession of his faith in ^{Christ} ^{an} old man, 75 years of age, now. One of our members died, and one was dismissed. Our church has felt so weak that it has not contributed to any of

the success of the church.
 The salary that they promised has been pretty well kept up but they have fallen a little behind in that.
 Taking the church as a whole I think it is in a better condition now than it was some time back, spiritually.
 The Methodist have been very kind in giving us the use of their church for our services. A very beautiful brick building, with seating capacity for 200 is now complete. It is to be dedicated on the 5th. Sunday of Sept. We are now, as you see, about to move into a new home of our own.

Old Salem.

I have been giving one Sunday in each month to this country church. The congregation has increased in numbers until some times the house is too small. We have elected & installed two deacons, the first the church has ever had in its history of at least 75 years. We now have a Sunday School there and services once per month between the preaching appointments, conducted by the members. The S. S. has about 30 scholars.

Not being able to secure the aid of the Synodical evangelists, we undertook a

meeting, and looked up for
Divine help, and it came.

The meeting lasted 8 days
including two Sundays. I
preached 16 sermons, and the
church seemed to be thoroughly
revived, a greater number than
usual taking part in public
prayer. Four have been added
on profession of their faith
in Christ during, and since,
the meeting, which makes
nine who have been received
since the last meeting of
Synod, all on profession
except one. The erection of a
new building is now being
agitated strongly among the
members.

W. O. Stephens

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

Stephens

*Rev. C. W. Bedinger
Anchorage,
Ky.*

