Atlanta Constitution - January 30th, 1886.

THE ARMSTRONG TRIAL.

The end of this memorable event looked for in few days.

There were three sessions of the ecclesiastical court yesterday organized for the trial of Dr. J. G. Armstrong.

At the morning session a statement was made that the reason of Mr. E. E. Mann's leaving Atlanta so suddenly and returning home was that he had received a telegram from Cincinnati announcing that his wife was quite ill. With reference to this statement Mr. Stephens, Manager of the Western Union office, was called into court and examined. He stated that no such telegram had passed through the office. Other evidence for the defense was introduced. The defense then announced that it would close with the statement of Dr. Armstrong which would be made to the court in the afternoon. The morning session was then adjourned. At the afternoon session Dr. Armstrong made a statement which was presented to the court in manuscript, which he read. In his statement he reviewed his life for twenty years. His statement, it is said, was very clear and forcibly, and created a favorable impression. Last night's session was taken up with a cross examination of Dr. Armstrong. He was examined for fully three hours and the questions asked by the prosecution were very searching. His statement stood the test of the cross examination without any material change. Today the prosecution will introduce testimony in rebuttal. It is thgouth that the time of the court will be taken up in this way until twelve o'clock. When this testimony is all in the court will adjourn until Monday, so as to allow the ministers in attendance to return home and fill their respective pulpits on Sunday. A decision in the case is looked for about the middle of next week.
