

# THE TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

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VOL. IV.—NO. 37.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1858.

WHOLE NO. 454.

## WELSH METHODISM.

### CHAPTER I.

#### The Religious Condition of Wales previous to Methodism—The Origin of Methodism in the Principality.

Mr. Editor.—In the forthcoming writings I will omit dates and places, as being not of general interest, and because I am deprived of any books to enable me to give perfect and accurate dates. Before the rise of Methodism in the Principality of Wales, religion was at a very low ebb, there was but very little vitality, and but very few evangelical and pious ministers of the Gospel. The Established Church of Britain had her ministers in every Parish, who lived far on the tithes of the land; but of these very few understood the religion of the Bible, and fewer practiced it.

Between then there were a few Puritan churches to be found here and there, who with their faithful but uneducated pastors, could do little else than bewail the state of the community, and pray God to revive his work. Those few faithful followers of the Lamb—who meet in the obscure places of wild Cambria, as the woman in Revelation, who had fled from the dragon, outlived the fury of persecuting Rome, and the bigotry of persecuting England—hailed as God-sent the Methodist revival—hailed it as an answer to their prayers, and it proved as life from the dead to them.

About the time our venerable Wesley, (peace be to his ashes) was commencing to arouse down England, a young man of the name of Howell Harris, of the County of Brecon, Wales, went to Oxford, to prepare himself to become a minister of the Established Church. This young man was an utter stranger to the power of godliness, as he had been baptized and confirmed by the clergy, and had learned the catechism, he thought he had a sure and a clear title to heaven; but soon after his admittance to Oxford, he made the acquaintance of the Wesley's, and especially their colleague the celebrated Whitfield, and by attending their meetings, found out to his dismay that he was an heir of perdition, and that all his external religion was vain; he felt that he was lost and ruined, and, as such, sought and found peace in crucified Saviour.

Soon after he had obtained the pardon of his sins and acceptance with God, the condition of his countrymen pressed like a mountain of lead upon his mind, so much so that his very soul was stirred on their behalf, and he, under their convictions, determined at all hazards to preach Christ crucified to all, wherever he could find a congregation. Hence he went to the highways, fairs, markets, and places of amusement, and lifted up his voice as a trumpet, proclaiming to the multitudes their sins, their lost and ruined estate, their pending danger, and salvation through Christ alone. The power and presence of God was with him, crowds were awakened, convicted and shrieked with very anguish, "what shall we do to be saved?" when Harris, under the Divine influence, would direct them to the Lamb of God, and thousands found peace in believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Not long however, Satan could rest, seeing his territory invaded, and his ranks thinned, and thronging enlisted under the banner of the Cross, without making powerful exertions to retain his hold, and rallying all his forces to withhold his remaining corps from deserting; and strange as it may appear, he excited and enlisted the clergy almost en masse to become his captains to put down this glorious revival. With what furious zeal they did preach against this wild fire, fanaticism and heresy, as they pleased to call it! They closed the doors of the churches against him, denounced him, and arraigned him before the civil authorities, as the enemy of "the baser sort," by liberally giving to them alcoholic spirits, to acts of violence upon his person. Once or twice he was left for dead by the furious mob, but he, nothing daunted, continued to preach everywhere the unsearchable riches of Christ, with moral heroism, amidst showers of stones, bricks, dirt, rotten eggs, or whatever they could get hold of. But many of those that came cursing, returned praying, because God was with him.

Before long God called others to this arduous campaign, and we find a few of the Established Church, bravely defending the man of God but most of them had to suffer like persecution. Soon after we find a goodly number of lay preachers burning with zeal and holy fervor, carrying the holy flame with them across the length and breadth of the Principality, like Sampson's foxes, burning the Philistines corn-sin and iniquity, wherever they went.

But still under all this persecution the founders of Welsh Methodism, like the founders of Wesleyan Methodism, adhered with religious veneration to the Established Church; they only had proposed to reform the time honored Church of the realm; but by its continued hostilities they were forced to seek shelter under "The act of toleration."

Long did those venerable fathers of blessed memory, hesitate to ordain ministers to administer the holy sacraments to the young converts, often they were refused, and the few ordained ministers among the Methodists, could not answer the growing demands of the societies. Often their hearts would wax warm by commemorating the passion of Christ, they would be driven from the Church. Once, in South Wales, at the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the Lord measured to them "a good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over," until they burst in shouts of Hosanna to the Lamb, and jumped for very joy, in ecstasy of bliss, to the horror and dismay of the Rev. clergy, so that he with sanctimonious horror, called to his clerk and sexton, "Drive the Methodist out, drive the devils out, they will tear the church to pieces." These continued outrages finally forced them to organize into a separate body under the denomination "The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists."

## LETTER FROM REV. H. S. LAFFERTY.

### TRAVEL-PAGES.

#### Racine, Wisconsin—Underground Railroad—Burlington—The Country—Arrival at the Camp.

Mr. Editor.—The country between Chicago and Milwaukee is beautiful in every respect. Towards your right stretches the Michigan Lake, and to your left several thriving towns along side of the road. Not far from Kenosha, after we had passed a tremendous long and high bridge, under the warmest "coming down" feelings, immingable, we perceived in the distance the stately towers of Racine. We had to stop here, for the night, and were greatly pleased with every thing, except the coffee. The higher you get up here into these regions, the worse you find this beverage, and I suppose near Lake Superior, only the smell of the article is left, if anything at all. Racine is a beautiful city, and overlooks from several hills the smiling waters of the Lake. There are comparatively more Churches in these northern cities, than there are in the South, and the style of building is excellent.

Soon the following morning we took the Mississippi Railroad for East Troy, Wisconsin. After having traveled about twenty miles, we at once stopped, right in the open prairie. Something happened! Why, would you suppose that we had got to the far-famed "Underground Railroad?" After a general jumping out, we hastened to the front of the train, and behold, spikes, rails, embankment and all had really vanished. "And what's the m—m—matter here, inquired a local rigged Yankee." "Why, sir, this is the veritable Underground Railroad, we have got on!" "Rather a slippery place! At any rate I was certain that my ticket was not procured at the wrong end. It often happens in Wisconsin, that the surface of the level earth caves in, and that rivers burst forth, during the night. We waited patiently for the next train from the West, and then strolled about the depot of his infernal majesty, until we reached the other cars, and again we started.

At Burlington we got out. This is a very neat country town, and the manner they build their houses struck me very forcibly. They use a kind of white flint stone, every one is as large as two fists, and round. Layer over layer, and the corners of the houses, are granite. Some houses I noticed where they used all white stone and black stones, they had a very interesting appearance. It is very peculiarly being caused by the overflows of the Fox River. Now, here I missed very much our celebrated Georgia coachman, Mr. Winne. It took me sometime until I procured a horse and buggy. Finally, for nine miles it cost me \$2 50; of course I had to pay it.

The landscape that appeared here before me, I saw scarcely a day before. The hills, old stately oak trees that could tell me the cold tale that was done to them by the whirling shivering winds of the arctic regions. Country of timber. Indeed I do love such a country. But every paradise has its flaming angel. Here stands one; his face is resplendent from the snowy crystal, his wings are large glittering sheets of ice, and his breath is the grand-daddy of all the northers. Of course I mean the winter. My little driver tells me that they have had nine months of winter, and three months of cold, every year for several years past. The farmers are bad off, indeed, it takes all their strength to labor for their cattle, and to raise a crop besides. If our good old brother Josiah W. Whipple was here, he would indeed say, with all the emphasis of a "Down-caster," "Gentlemen this is not Texas!"

I had received a hearty invitation to attend the East Troy Circuit meeting. Our old Papa Plank, the German President, Elder of the Circuit, expected me certain, and had already given out preaching for me. We got to the ground during the 11 o'clock service. A brother, whom I immediately, after the description I had received, took to be the old gentleman, was proclaiming loud and fervent the glad tidings of salvation. I mounted the rostrum, silently, past an old sexton, who seemed to be at the same time the guardian of the trumpet, as this was standing at his side, but not after he had shook silently and with singular warmth my hand, and then I took my seat by the preacher. After the brother was done preaching, I intended to introduce myself forthwith to our venerable Presiding Elder, when at once the old sexton left the trumpet, approached me with the love of God sparkling from his eyes, "Good morning, brother Molling—Papa Plank!" I could hardly breathe. I never saw so stammered in all my life. To save myself from this dilemma I wrote a piece of poetry, describing very luckily this incident, which all our people took very warm, and after I had left Wisconsin, I found the Methodist children were singing it upon the steps of the houses in St. Louis. More from Wisconsin for your next.

P. A. MORLINO.

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MYNHEER WALTER VAN TWILLER (1838) came to this country with 104 soldiers, a schoolmaster, and Rev. Mr. Bogardus, a clergyman. In the course of some conflict of interest between the Dutch settlement, and authorities, and the English, Mynheer Walter, expressed the "hope, that there would be no occasion for the King's Majesty of England, and the Lords, the States General, (of Holland,) to fall into contention about a little part or portion of these heathenish countries." FRUITFUL.

## TRAVEL-PAGES.

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#### LETTER FROM BROWNSVILLE.

Mr. Editor.—After a long silence, I have resumed my pen to inform you of the doings out here on our frontier, and first I must inform you that we are highly gratified to learn that the Conference has at last thought of us and sent us a preacher. Thankful are we that he is such an one as we needed, and one who, I have no doubt, will render a good account of himself at the next Annual Conference. He has already endeavored himself to enter members, and is well liked by every one with whom he has become acquainted.

I hope he may be the means of bringing many souls into the fold of Christ, and truly there is not a better field for a missionary than here on this frontier of Texas and Mexico, where we have a population composed of citizens of almost every nation. There is little news of interest on our side of the river. We have settled down into the quiet of an old settlement and consequently are not easily wrought up to a state of excitement; but our neighbors on the other side of the Rio Grande are not so quiet. They are issuing proclamations, marching and counter-marching, but to what their movements are, no one can tell. All the troops that could be raised on this frontier have been sent to Tampico and other places in the interior, where they expect to meet them soon. Time only will develop the results of the present movement, if anything of interest transpires, Brother Thompson or myself will communicate it forthwith.

Yours, with respect,  
A CITIZEN.

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## DIALOGUE.

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## RESPONSIBILITY OF PROPERTY.

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TEXAS ITEMS.

The Crockett Argus of April 17, says that from present indications this is destined to be a year of plenty...

The Clarksville Messenger of March 26th, speaks of fair weather at last appearing, and a good prospect for the remainder of the season...

The Austin Intelligencer says that six hundred hives crossed the river there last Friday week, en route for Fort Leavenworth...

The San Antonio Herald says that the weather is exceedingly fine for farming operations, and the prospect for crops and for fruits of all kinds could not be better...

The Texas draws a bright picture of the future of San Antonio, and regards it as the home of enterprise and the center of the future of the state...

The Democrat thinks that in that portion of Upchurch county, lying between the Cypresses, is the best land, the best timber, and as good water as can be found in Texas...

The Belton Independent says that about 4,000 head of horses have passed through that town this spring...

The Southern Journal gives us information of notes on the Indian depredations committed on the frontier of Fort Belton...

The Marshall Republican informs us that the total population of the city of Marshall is 2,320, comprised of the following classes...

The Belton Independent says that the wheat harvest will commence this year by the first of May, and be completed by the 20th...

The Quitoan (Wood county) Herald learns that the prospects for an overwhelming wheat crop, in the surrounding counties, are very bright...

The Waco Southern says that the prospects for an overwhelming crop of grain in McLennan county is flattering...

The Standard mentions the excellent prospects for crops in Northern Texas this year. The extensive rains have, however, delayed farming operations...

We copy from the Seguin Mercury of April 20th, the following flattering accounts of the crop...

Prospects are never more flattering than at the present in this county. The grasshoppers may be an injury to the present stand in some cases...

The Standard has accounts from San Saba county of the continued depredations of the Indians there, and of the belief of the people that white men are not guiltless of participating in these robberies...

The San Antonio Herald learns that the confidence felt in the early completion of the railroad to Victoria, is giving life to the towns on the Bay...

Letters have been received at Lavaca from New York, making offers of the necessary iron to get well, and the road will be running in time to Victoria, in time to carry of the next cotton crop...

The State Gazette of April 17, says we are having a most delightful spell of weather, and our country presents a most paradisaical aspect...

The Austin Intelligencer of the 14th says that the grasshoppers are numerous in the neighborhood of that city, upon the prairie, by the roadside, and in fact wherever there is the least particle of vegetation...

The Bastrop Advertiser says that the grasshoppers have been committing their ravages to an alarming extent, on the crops in Bastrop county...

The Victoria Advocate of April 17, says that encouraging accounts of the prospects of abundant crops continue to pour in...

Marriages.

At Cedar Bayou Church, on the 10th inst., by Rev. E. A. Stocking, Mr. WILLIAM S. BAKER to Miss MARGARET E. FOSTER...

Quarterly Meetings.

TEXAS CONFERENCE. PALMER DISTRICT—Third Round. Cherokee Circuit, July 2 and 4...

NOTICES OF ADVERTISEMENTS.

We particularly call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. Adams & Howard, and would recommend all our readers to call at their Marble Establishment...

LATEST NEWS.

Rev. A. Dudley Tyng died on the 20th inst., from injuries received from a threshing machine.

In the Senate, on the 20th inst., Gen. Houston offered the following resolution: Whereas, as all Mexican attempts to maintain a government have proved abortive...

A bill passed the Senate to repay the cost of repairs to the Norwegian bark Ellen, which recurred a portion of the passengers and crew of the ill-fated steamer Central of America...

The United States steamer Fulton has gone to Tampico, to protect American property there.

All the midshipmen recently examined at Annapolis, are ordered into active service.

The Great Eastern is afloat, but entirely uninjured. Advances have been received of the total wreck of the American bark Petrea...

Large trains have started for Utah with supplies.

The following is a statement of the movement in cotton since the first of September, as compared with the previous year...

At the present time, the cotton market is in a state of depression, and the market is generally unfavorable to the planter...

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Commercial.

Just Published, April 16th. I FEEL THOUGH I gathered from the appearance of the Discouraged of Henry Ward Beecher, the Publishers...

Sign of the Cotton Bale.

Importers and Dealers in Fancy and Domestic Goods, Brick Store, Tremont Street, Galveston.

Portable Corn and Flouring Mill Company.

CONE & ELLIOTT, Manufacturers of Corn and Flouring Mills, respectfully inform the citizens of Texas, that they would respectfully inform the citizens of Texas...

Cotton Statement.

Prepared by J. Sorley, Cotton Factor and Commission Merchant. GALVESTON, April 20th, 1858.

Table with columns for Stock on hand, Received at ports, and various cotton grades and prices.

DEAR SIR—Our last issue was under date 23rd inst.

At this date, owing to a continued increase of receipts at the southern ports, and unfavorable news from Europe, our cotton market was very unsettled, and middling declined...

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Business Cards.

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Houston Advertisements.

CABEN & JARMON, At the old stand of Van Alstyne & Taylor, Houston, Texas.

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