

The Texas Christian Advocate.

OFFICE, STRAND, GALVESTON.

TERMS--Two Dollars Per Annum, in Advance, two Dollars and fifty cents if paid within six months, and three dollars if paid after six months.

JAMES W. SHIPMAN, Publishing Agent.

To whom all Business Letters must be addressed.

All Communications must be directed to the Editor.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Advertisements of ten lines, or less, \$1 for the first insertion, and 50 cents for each subsequent insertion.

Advertisements of greater length than ten lines, 10 cents per line for the first insertion, and 5 cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

No deduction made upon advertisements inserted for a less period than three months.

Advertisements inserted for a longer period than three months, a discount of 25 per cent will be made on time inserted, and a further discount of 10 per cent on the inserted time, 50 per cent.

Advertisements in School and College under extra contract, two-thirds the above rates.

The cash must be in full, accompanying the order for advertising; the amount of which can readily be ascertained by consulting the simple rules here set down.

For the Texas Christian Advocate.

MR. EDITOR--At your indulgence I will give a few "notes by the way," and speculations of the same, pencilled down on my travel from San Antonio to San Saba.

I left the former on Saturday, the 12th inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M., and arrived within the bounds of my mission on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at 2 o'clock, P. M. I tarried ten days in the city, which was to me a veritable furlough to a regular office.

It was a veritable furlough, not to say a pleasant visit. Of old San Antonio much could be said, both of the city itself and its many inhabitants; but I forbear, as she has all the facilities for the impartation of knowledge, and every incident of interest which the public ought to be advised.

In general, however, a stranger is most likely to be favorably impressed; at least I was. The "diversity of tongues" and the unique construction of the streets give to it the appearance of a foreign city; yet, one finds himself beneath the goody shadows of "the stars and stripes," which our forefathers bore, in the peaceful enjoyment of "civil and religious liberties" for which "heroes fought, and freedom died."

A distance of twenty-six miles northward brought me to a small town on the Cibola, in Blanco county, called Berne, mostly settled by Germans. The settlements are quite sparse on the road to this place; yet the country is beautiful and fertile.

"Mine host" was a German, and was so everybody about the house. I was seated at the table alone, and left to help myself to "such things as were set before me, asking no questions," for there was nobody to question. So I could do as I pleased; and it is pleasant sometimes to be left in "such a case," especially where there is plenty to eat, (as there was in this instance,) and when one is in a proper mood for eating it.

A hard day's ride on the day following, over a mountainous country for the most of the way, brought me to Fredericksburg. About sixteen miles from Berne, on the north side of the Guadalupe river, I came to Siederfelds Post-office. This is a strong settlement of industrious and prosperous Germans. It has the appearance of having been settled for a considerable time. The country around is very fertile; just after crossing the river, on the right of the road is a rough ledge of cliffs running parallel with the road for nearly half a mile, varying in height from ten to fifty feet. About half the distance, just under the bluff, I noticed a grave, with a large stone set up to designate the resting place of the lonely sleeper. It was told that a young man was interred there, just upon the spot where he fell, a few years since, when in close proximity to Berlin, who had preceded him the unfortunate young man was not aware of his danger until it was too late to take up his horse, and he was dashed over in a frightful manner, and taken up a corpse.

Some four miles further on, I came to the last settlement in the valley--Dr. Runge's--a very clever family, judging from the cordial manner in which I was invited to dine, both on my way down and returning, which I declined for want of time. Coming up through the field, out to the right, not far from the residence, I saw a lone tree, and a grave beneath its shade. I learned that there the family had buried a young man, who was drowned in it, and found dead about four miles above the last settlement. He was buried about a mile off to the left, at the foot of "Thunder Mountain." I was struck with that name--Thunder Mountain--and surveyed it carefully to determine, if possible, what there was in its attitude or form, by which the propriety of such a name could have been given. To my mind there was a majesty and terror in its appearance. It is about a mile in length, lying north and south, and more elevated than the hills at the right, or east of the valley, or those above or below it, which seemed to rest quietly beneath its guardian care. I imagined that its position and altitude, in times past, when storms had risen in the west, and swept with furious might across the land; or that the "red hot thunderbolts of the tempestuous Jove" had been attracted by its haggard brow, and received into its rocky bosom, thereby securing the little ones from the direful thunders. Hence its awful name! A short distance further up a multitude of mountains appeared in full view, which appeared to be the grand rendezvous for all the hills. They looked like "things of life." A little distance, in this case, lent enchantment to the view. The scene appeared military-like, and the hills looked as if they were under the command of some general officer, which I could easily distinguish from the rest. Just north of one mountain, some fifty feet higher than the rest, stood a hill, which seemed to form the pivot about it, was a position in rank. It forms a regular, and the position commanding. I readily drew a some realization of marshaled hosts--and saw

"Gathered clouds in battle train, Where struggling columns meet." They seemed to be Nature's armed force, set for the defense of the valley and the plains, to prevent inundations by the stormy Gulf. Once upon a time these elements met, with tremendous power; but the waters long since receded from the strife, and are still retreating onward to the great deep. The divisions on my right and left seemed to be returning from the scene, moving at the blast of martial music, while ascending hills, looking coast-wise, quietly marked the recess of the vanquished foe. Gathering myself up from these reveries, I asked my guide the name of that mountain. He said it had a name he did not know it. "What no name?" said I, for I supposed my General had one, of course, and a big one, too, at that, as nearly all the mountains in this country are honored in this respect. This changed the direction of my thoughts, and reminded me of the fact that there were men, too, who had occupied important positions in the world, and did much good in life, without names. After riding a little further, I detected the secret of its obscurity; for, as I came near, my "great mountain" was soon appeared, and I saw the common hills, and as one neared no larger than the others around; and, therefore, was not entitled to any distinction. This reminded me of another fact, frequently overlooked, viz.: some great men's glory appears to the best advantage at a distance; for, on a near approach, they "grow smaller by degrees, and beautifully less." I journeyed onward, musing on mountains, and I forbear, as she has all the facilities for the impartation of knowledge, and every incident of interest which the public ought to be advised.

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postpone until conference the cash is needed all the time. I also believe we should exert ourselves to sell all the books we can, and I would suggest to all the brethren, that when they send for books they can apply themselves with the best quality of gold pens, and I believe in our good terms they can be purchased in this country. Yours truly, A. B. DWYAL, Chappell Hill, Texas, May 9, 1860.

THE SLANDERS OF THE WICKED.

One reason why the golly bear the slanders and reproaches of wicked men patiently, is because they are false, and do not belong to them. Socrates, being railed upon, and called by one all that was bad, took no notice of it; and being asked the reason of his patience, said: "It does not concern me, I am no such man." Diogenes used to say, when the people mocked him: "They deride me, yet I am not derided. I am not the man they take me for." So with the slandered Christian. If a beggar be called poor, he is vexed; but if a rich man be so called, he smiles--he knows it to be false. If a cheat be called a hypocrite, he is in a rage, because he feels truth of the charge; but if a sound and honest Christian be called a hypocrite, it makes little impression on him--he is conscious of his slanderer's mistake. As sores and ulcers shrink, not only on the slightest touch, but even with the fear of being touched, so it with the hollow-hearted man; and he, who is distant allusion to them frightens them, and they fancy we are slandering them when we are not so much as thinking of them. Their guilty conscience interposes every thing to a charge; but where conscience is clear, the case is otherwise. The genuine Christian fears no report that may go abroad. If it be true, he knows it will be to his honor; and if it be false, his life and conversation will furnish its refutation. The guilty may attempt to clear himself by a "further paper, and take warning. If this "further" paper, and take warning. If this "further" paper, and take warning. If this "further" paper, and take warning.

When Sophocles was charged by his own children with being a dotard, and with spending their fortunes idly, and was summoned before the magistrates, he refused to appear before them personally, but sent one of his new works for them to read. When they had read the work, they at once confessed, "This is not the work of a man in his dotage;" so, against all the clamors and false charges that are raised against the man of truth and piety, he has but to let his life and works be seen, and he need do no more.

T. W.

Correspondence of T. C. Advocate.

GENERAL CONFERENCE, M. E. CHURCH.

First Day--Large Attendance--Conference Statistics--Opening Proceedings--Election of Officers--The German Work--The Committee--Cold Weather.

BUFFALO, May 1, 1860.

MORNING SESSION.

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, opened at 10 o'clock this morning. The attendance of delegates--about 220--was unusually large for the first day, and the spacious hall of the Convention Hotel was filled with delegates from all over the South.

The Hall is admirably adapted for the use of this numerous body, being well lighted and ventilated, and capable of seating comfortably 1,000 persons. The first session was presided over by Bishop Morris, of Cincinnati; Bishop Ames, of New York; Bishop Ames, of Indianapolis; Bishop Scott, of Wilmington, Delaware; and a committee of three, viz: Rev. Cook, of Wisconsin, President; Rev. M. F. Moore, of Maryland, and one in Kentucky, one in Missouri, and one in Arkansas. These Conferences were held in the Convention Hotel, in this city, at 9 o'clock this morning. The attendance of delegates--about 220--was unusually large for the first day, and the spacious hall of the Convention Hotel was filled with delegates from all over the South.

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The Christian Advocate. GALVESTON, TEXAS. THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1860.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

OHIO RIVER, May 2, 1860. At this moment we are steaming up the beautiful river on the Jacob Strader, a regular packet between Louisville and Cincinnati...

The curiosity of Louisville is the Artesian well. The waters are highly medicinal, and they play very beautiful. Our notice was called to both these facts by Charlie, a venerable negro, who seems to be the superintendent of the premises...

BOOKS—BOOKS—BOOKS.

We are now in receipt of a large lot of Books, in addition to the large stock now on hand. Lists will appear next week. We are, also, in receipt of a large and varied assortment of School Books...

REV. JAS. A. LIGHT—BOOK DEPOSITORY.

The Travelling Agents for the Texas Conference, Rev. G. W. Cottingham, finding it impossible to travel through the entire bounds of his Conference, nominates, as his assistant, Rev. James A. Light...

On Tuesday night I preached at Eighth Street, my old charge, which now enjoys the able pastorate of Rev. Thos. Bottony...

We call the especial attention of our people and preachers to the communication of Dr. Schen, Gen. Miss. Secretary. Let the Secretary's earnest appeal be heeded...

PEAS, AGAIN.—Last week we wrote with one of the best of pens. Since then we have received a great number of letters from W. Fairchild, New York, for the Depository...

The "Book Committee" will please meet at the Book Room, to-morrow evening, at half past seven o'clock.

"THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH,"—a book dealing in facts and figures for sale at the Texas Book Depository, price \$1.

Our friends and correspondents will please to take notice that the editor is absent. Many communications must lie over until his return.

SEE.—We would direct attention to the communication of Dr. Duval in this paper. There are some valuable suggestions therein.

NORTHERN GENERAL CONFERENCE.—The proceedings of the third day are the latest we find in any of the papers which have reached us, and contain nothing which would interest our readers.

DEAR BROTHER CAREY.—Our Annual Meeting and Anniversary have been held. The Bishops and Board went into a close examination of all our missionary work.

The number of our missions, as you will have seen by my statement already published, has been increased; while those already existing have been strengthened, and liberal provisions made for their support.

The aggregate amount received for missions, during the past year, was \$384,443. We will require, the present year, including money to be received from the U. S. Government, \$395,000. This amount will meet the demands upon our Treasury for the Drafts outstanding, and

cover all Drafts which shall be issued for the present year. We ought, as a Church, to raise \$300,000 the present year. All that is necessary, in order to that desirable end, is the prompt and united action of all our preachers.

If, according to the requirement of the Discipline, every preacher would in time commence the work of collections, and present the subject in each congregation to every member of the Church, the work would soon be accomplished.

Can it not be done? will it not be? Please, continue your appeals through your valuable paper on this subject. Call upon all in the Conference where your paper circulates to commence and continue this work.

To raise the amount required the present year, the Board divided it, and assessed the Conference according to their contributions for the past year.

To Texas is appropriated, \$4,500 00, Amount to be raised last year, 10,000 00, 9,677 70, East Texas, appropriated, \$1,000 00, Amount to be raised last year, 7,000 00, 6,999 50, Rio Grande, appropriated, \$5,000 00, Amount required, 4,000 00, raised last year, 3,615 00, To the German paper we also give, \$1,000 00.

INSURANCE.

Mr. EYRON.—Permit me, through your columns, to say a word about the "Republic Fire Insurance Company, of New York, E. P. Hunt, Agent at Galveston." About the last day of March, I had the misfortune to have my dwelling house and nearly all of my furniture consumed by fire.

PROCEEDINGS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

In accordance with the appointment of the Texas Conference, and in compliance with the invitation of the Houston Sunday School, the following named members of the Texas Conference and delegates from the Quarterly Conferences assembled in the Methodist Church in the city of Houston, at 8 o'clock P. M., May the 1st, 1860, viz: James M. Wesson, J. W. Shipman, B. L. Peel, T. H. McMahon, Wm. Mc. Lambdin, James F. Dumble, James F. Compton, Thos. F. Windsor, James Rice, James E. Ferguson, Gilbert Brooks, H. W. Kennon, B. F. Perry, W. W. Browning, A. B. Duval, F. G. Wilkes, T. J. Smith, Wm. R. Jones, J. H. Thomson, Geo. D. Parker, James A. Light, Wm. H. Seat, J. W. Phillips, I. G. John, Wm. H. Porter, Thos. F. Cook, H. D. Hubert, Rufus V. King, John Carpenter, J. W. Baldrige, James A. Graves, and H. D. Marchbanks.

KENTUCKY CORRESPONDENCE.

After a very long silence, I have at last found a moment which I may appropriate to the Advocate.

The state of religion, we trust, is steadily, though it may be very slowly, progressing. We are not among the number of those who clamor up on old rotten logs to gaze at every clunk and stick that lies around and before us, as if it were a dragon ready to devour, while nothing bright appears amidst the scene of horrors; and then, turning to gaze into the distance of the long past, see nothing dark, while every old snaggy root is wrought into the decaying of a magnificent flowering tree, or of some fruit of golden hue and nectarine flavor—mounted there to croak the cheerfulness of the note of every more modest and hopeful denizen of the lacustrine world around.

LETTER OF GOV. HORTON.

My DEAR SIR.—Your letter of the 18th inst. has just reached me, and I seize a moment to reply. It will not be in my power to absent myself from my official duties, or I would be happy to comply with the wishes of the Convention, as well as to gratify you, sir, individually.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. I.—This shall be called the Sunday School of the M. E. Church, South, and connected with the Quarterly Conference.

ART. II.—The officers of the Sunday School shall consist of a Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary, Librarian, and Treasurer, to be elected on the Sunday in the month.

ART. III.—The officers of this Society shall be its Board of Managers, to perform its business in the interim of its meetings.

ART. IV.—Any person contributing to the funds of this society not less than one cent shall be a member for one year, and the payment of one dollar at one time shall constitute life membership.

ART. V.—Regular meetings of the society shall be held on —, when business pertaining to the society may be transacted; the preacher in charge, superintendent, or assistant superintendent presiding, or in the absence of these, a chairman shall be selected from the board of managers: — shall constitute a quorum for business.

ART. VI.—Special meetings may be called by the superintendent or by three of the board of managers.

ART. VII.—The duties of the Superintendent shall be: 1. To see that the School be opened with singing, reading the Scriptures, (one verse by the Superintendent and the next by the children, or in the use of the Sunday-School Manual) and prayer, and that it be closed appropriately.

2. To arrange, number, divide, and seat the School, as may be most expedient.

3. To encourage prompt and regular attendance, good recitations, and good conduct, by a judicious distribution of prize tickets, commendation, and reproof, and, in the case of incorrigibility in bad conduct, suspension, or expulsion, by the Board of Managers.

ART. VIII.—The Secretary shall keep an account of the proceedings of the Society, call for the roll, keep the minute books, and furnish the preacher in charge with the statistics of the School quarterly.

ART. IX.—The Treasurer shall receive and pay out the funds of the Society as it may direct, and give a written account of the same to the Society annually.

ART. X.—The Librarian shall take charge of all the books and periodicals of the School, subject to such regulations as the Society may adopt.

ART. XI.—All Teachers shall be elected by the Society. New Teachers may be introduced by the Superintendent, but shall not be considered members of the Society until admitted by vote.

ART. XII.—DUTIES OF TEACHERS.—1. To be punctual in attendance at every session of the School; and in case of necessary absence, to inform the Superintendent, and, if possible, recommend to him a substitute.

used, with such aids as lead directly to its explanation and enforcement, your Committee feel that while the course of study is concise, it nevertheless comprehends the entire range of instruction needed to meet the end of the Sabbath school. They therefore recommend the following curriculum, and submit the appended resolutions. That there be five distinct departments recognized in every school, and that these departments adopt the books proposed in this plan.

There may be as many classes in each department as circumstances render necessary, but all should be advanced in the same manner, so as to be passed through all the departments.

First Department.—Spelling and Reading.—Books.—Southern Methodist Primer, Speller and Reader, with such oral catechisms as the teacher deems proper.

Second Department.—Reading the Testament.—Books.—Capers' or the Wesleyan Catechisms, commencing with 1st volume of each, and completing the series.

Third Department.—The Bible generally.—Books.—The Child's Scripture Question Book and Cove's Dictionary.

Fourth Department.—The Bible generally.—Books.—Sumner's Catechism on the Old and New Testament, Biblical Geography and Wesley's Notes.

Fifth Department.—The four Gospels.—Books.—Longing's Questions with corresponding Notes, vol. 1, 2, 3, and 4, McCannally's Sunday school Manual.

In respect to the general interest of the schools, Resolved:—1. That we recommend the use of our Hymn Book in the Sabbath schools, in reference to our Tune Book.

2. That we recommend each school to have a teacher of vocal music.

3. That we recommend the Superintendents of schools to conform their schools to this plan.

4. That the Book Agent, Rev. J. W. Shipman, be requested to keep a full supply of the books included in this plan.

5. That the Sunday School Visitor is an almost indispensable ally to our institution, and that every school ought to take as many copies as it has members.

R. F. PERRY, H. D. HUBERT, Wm. Mc. LAMBDIN, Com. JAMES E. FERGUSON, J. F. DUMBLE.

The body of the report was adopted, and the resolutions were taken up one at a time. After a considerable discussion upon the first resolution, J. M. Wesson offered the following substitute, which was adopted, viz: That we recommend the use of the Sunday School Hymns published by the Southern Methodist Publishing House, for that purpose.

The other resolutions were adopted in order, and then the report as a whole.

I. G. John moved that the rules ordinarily observed by deliberative bodies be adopted by the convention, and the motion prevailed.

F. C. Wilkes offered the following resolution, supplementary to the report of the Convention on Text Books, viz: That we highly disapprove the practice of teaching in our Sabbath schools such studies as belong properly to our literary institutions. Such as works on Moral Science, Natural Religion, Evidences of Christianity, etc., and that our Superintendents be requested to enforce the resolution as far as possible.

After considerable discussion, and one or two ineffectual efforts at amendment, the resolution was, upon motion, laid on the table.

On motion the Convention adjourned to meet at 2 1/2 o'clock P. M. on Wednesday, 23<sup>d</sup> of July.

Wednesday Evening, 23<sup>d</sup> of July. The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the chair. Religious services conducted by J. W. Phillips. Minutes of forenoon session read and approved. The following resolution was adopted: Resolved, That Rev. W. H. Seat be requested to furnish a copy of his address for publication.

J. W. SHIPMAN, J. E. FERGUSON, Com. The Committee on the government of Sunday schools presented the following report, which was adopted: CONSTITUTION.

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3. To encourage prompt and regular attendance, good recitations, and good conduct, by a judicious distribution of prize tickets, commendation, and reproof, and, in the case of incorrigibility in bad conduct, suspension, or expulsion, by the Board of Managers.

ART. VIII.—The Secretary shall keep an account of the proceedings of the Society, call for the roll, keep the minute books, and furnish the preacher in charge with the statistics of the School quarterly.

2. To preserve order in their classes, to permit no scholar to go out without sufficient reason, and to report to the Superintendent every violation of the Society's regulations for scholars.

ART. XIII.—1. No one shall be considered a scholar until his or her name is reported to the Superintendent, and duly registered by the Secretary.

2. All scholars are expected to remain in the classes to which they are assigned until the Superintendent shall make or consent to a change.

ART. XIV.—DUTIES OF SCHOLARS. 1. To be regular in attendance, and punctually present at the hour appointed to open School.

2. To rise and stand, during singing, and to kneel and prostrate order during prayer.

3. To pay a strict and respectful attention to whatever the Teacher or Superintendent shall say or require.

4. To avoid all whispering, laughing, and other improper conduct.

5. To remain in their seats until the School is regularly dismissed, unless permission to retire be procured from the Teacher.

6. After dismissal the Scholars are expected to attend worship, or retire home immediately; and in no case ought they stand around the Church doors or windows, during service, or before it begins.

ART. XV.—This Constitution shall not be altered, except by two-thirds of the members of the Society present at a meeting called for that purpose.

R. W. KENNON, T. H. McMAHAN, Com. THOS. F. COOK, Sec.

The Committee on the obligations of the Ministry to the S. School interest presented the following report, which was adopted: The duties of "preachers in charge" with regard to the organization of Sunday-schools, and the "instruction of children," as laid down in our book of Discipline, are so explicit as to render it almost unnecessary for us to say anything more than to indorse and affectionately to urge upon all our preachers the compliance with what is therein required of them. It is there required: 1. To organize Sunday-schools "where there are children to be collected for that purpose."

It is, therefore, their duty to use efforts to collect—not to wait for them to assemble—and then there organize them; but to go through the streets of our towns and cities, and to every house in the various neighborhoods, and endeavor to bring them together. In this way, we doubt not, schools could be established where the children are now left to roam at large, and by such efforts on the part of the pastor, schools in towns and cities night, in many instances, be greatly enlarged. While we would thus point out the duties of pastors, we would not omit in this connection to refer to the almost equal responsibility resting on local preachers.

Many of them have regular appointments where itinerant ministers never preach, and where, with little effort, large schools might be established, and yet are entirely neglected. Where such is the case, we would respectfully ask, are our local brethren involved in a fearful responsibility?

2. A second duty enjoined by the Discipline is, that preachers in charge shall "visit the schools as often as practicable," when they, of course, should lend aid to the school, by lecturing the children, teaching, bearing the Bible classes, and advising with the Superintendent as to what will be most conducive to the prosperity of the school.

3. A third duty pointed out, but which, we fear, in many instances, has been neglected, is "to preach on the subject of Sunday-schools and religious instruction, in each congregation, at least once in six months." The people, in many places, are not aware of their duty in this regard; while, in other places, schools have been permitted to languish. This state of things can only be obviated by repeated addresses of ministers, giving the necessary information to those in need, and stimulating to renewed exertion those who have become "weary in well doing." In conclusion, your Committee can say little that can profitably be added to the already heavy duties devolved on the ministry by the "Book of Discipline," and would only exhort one and all to increased diligence in the performance of those duties.

I. G. JONES, J. A. LIGHT, Com. J. W. BALDRIGE, Sec.

The Committee on the obligations of parents and members of the Church to Sabbath-schools, presented the following report, which was adopted: The Committee represent that they find the subject of such importance, that they feel would impress the sentiments of the following preamble and resolutions upon all the friends of the institution: That whereas it is the duty of all parents to furnish, as far as possible, especially on the Sabbath day, religious instruction for their children, and whereas the Sabbath-school furnishes the best facilities for obtaining the moral instruction so indispensable to the proper education of the youth of the land, and whereas none are supposed to feel more interest in the welfare of their children than their parents, or more likely to have the confidence of the children, or more carefully to watch over their morals, than their parents, therefore,

Resolved, That all parents should not only furnish the facilities for Sabbath-schools for their children, but should also go with them, and assist in conducting them.

The Committee would further represent, that whereas there is often a great lack of regular teachers in the Sabbath-school, when there are, indeed, many members of the Church who would make very efficient teachers, and thereby render valuable service to the cause of religion, if their hearty co-operation could be secured, while there are often young members of the Church who stand in need of the instruction given in the Sabbath-school; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the duty of all our Church members to be regularly in the Sabbath-school, as far as possible, either as officers, teachers, or scholars.

G. W. PHILLIPS, Com. W. W. BROWNING, Sec. B. L. PEEL.

The Committee on the duties and qualifications of Teachers, submitted their report, which was adopted. It is as follows: Your Committee are of opinion that the work of the S. school teacher is second only in importance to that of the minister. The design of the Sabbath-school is not to impart instruction in letters, however important, but to impress upon the minds of the young the more important truths of God's holy word. Upon the teacher it devolves to aid the parent in the great work of training the child in the way he should go, or to supply the lack of religious instruction, when from any cause the parent fails to impart it. Such being the important duties of the teacher's office, it is evident that his qualifications should correspond therewith. Hence, it is desirable that every teacher have an experimental knowledge of the truths which he inculcates; or, falling in this, that he be

least of a good moral character, and a firm believer in the truths of Revelation.

To this should be added an ardent love for children, and the faculty of winning their confidence and affection. To fit him for his work, the teacher should feel his need of, and earnestly pray for, that wisdom which cometh down from above.

From what has been submitted, respecting the qualifications of the teacher, it will appear that the obligation resting upon him is to labor for the spiritual well being of the children entrusted to his care. To promote this object every means should be employed, and your Committee would recommend,

1. That a teacher's meeting be held monthly, for the discussion of the interests of the school, and the adoption of such measures as may appear best calculated to promote the conversion of the children.

2. That a Sunday-school Prayer-meeting be held monthly, at which all the School shall be present, and united prayer be offered for the blessing of God upon the labors of the teachers.

J. M. WESSON, Com. G. D. PARKER, Sec. J. A. GRAVES.

The Committee on organizing and giving permanency to the Sabbath-schools, presented their report, which was adopted. It is as follows: Your Committee recommend that in the organization of a school the following officers be appointed, to wit: One Superintendent, an Assistant Superintendent, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Librarian; and that the permanency of the school be secured, these officers shall especially attend to the following items: 1. That the Superintendent be punctual to the time of opening.

2. That they invariably open their Schools with singing and prayer, reading of Scriptures, &c., and that good order is generally observed.

3. That they use every exertion to secure the co-operation of parents by their attendance and participation as teachers.

4. That the different classes occupy separate seats.

5. That where it is necessary to suspend the school, they have a definite time appointed and announced, both for its adjournment and resumption; but wherever it is possibly practicable to continue them through the winter, they be not suspended at all.

6. That the Secretary keep a list of the members of the school, and of the subscribers to the Visitor.

7. That the Librarian keep a strict account of all the books, and carefully charge these going out, and so notify those returned.

8. That the Treasurer keep an accurate account of all the funds, expenditures, &c., and that to maintain this fund, he take a weekly, monthly, or quarterly collection, as circumstances may require.

J. W. SHIPMAN, Com. T. F. COOK, Sec. B. F. PERRY.

The Committee on Anniversaries submitted their report as follows, which was adopted: Your Committee respectfully suggest the propriety of continuing our annual Sabbath-school Conventions on the first day of May, believing such associations well calculated to promote that noble cause.

Your Committee would also suggest that this Convention appoint the place for their next meeting.

Further, that the preachers within the bounds of the Texas Conference, traveling and local, shall be members, ex-officio, of this Convention; and each Quarterly Conference, and each Sunday-school, shall be entitled to a representative, elected by themselves, by and with the approval of the Texas Conference.

J. H. DUVAL, Com. J. H. THOMSON, Sec. M. H. PORTER.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows: Believing money a great necessity in carrying forward the Sabbath-school cause, we would recommend to the Schools under our charge to take weekly collections, to which all teachers, scholars, and patrons, shall be requested to contribute; and that each School have an annual collection for the endowment of the fund of the Sunday-school Union of the M. E. Church, South. We would recommend that the weekly collections be used for the purchase of books and fixtures of the Schools, when said collections are taken.

J. E. FERGUSON, Com. W. REES, Sec. H. D. MARCHBANKS.

On the eighth inst. there was no report. On motion of J. H. Thomson, the resolution which was laid on the table this forenoon was taken up and read, whereupon Dr. Thomson offered the following as a substitute, which was adopted: Resolved, That we recommend the Superintendents of Sunday-schools to use as text-books such only as are recommended by the S. School Society of the M. E. Church, South, and by this Convention, when they can conveniently procure said books.

The following resolution was then introduced and carried: Resolved, That B. F. Perry be requested to take charge of the Minutes of the Convention, and prepare a report of the same for publication in the Texas Christian Advocate; also, that he be requested to furnish for publication an account of the Celebration on yesterday.

The Convention proceeded to fix the place for its next annual meeting.

Several places were in nomination, and Washington was chosen.

The following resolution was proposed and carried: Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the citizens of Houston for their hospitality to the members of this Convention, and also to the pastors and Superintendents of the several Schools of this city for their generous sympathy on this occasion.

The following resolution was then carried: Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be voted to those Railroads that have extended favors to the members of this Convention, and to the Sabbath-schools participating in this Celebration.

On motion of F. C. Wilkes, the Convention proceeded to appoint Speakers for its next meeting, and the following gentlemen were elected: 1st. Speaker—J. D. McANEO, Esq. 2d. Rev. JAMES C. WILKES. 3d. " For the address at night—Rev. G. W. CARTER, D. D.

On motion, F. C. Wilkes, R. W. Kennon, and B. F. Perry, were appointed a special Committee to prepare a Constitution for the permanent organization of this body.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet at Washington, on the 1st day of May, 1861. Prayer by Rev. A. B. Duval.

After the President had made some appropriate and pertinent remarks, he pronounced the benediction. Wm. H. SEAT, Pres. J. W. SHIPMAN, Sec.

The receipts of all kinds of grain at Chicago have largely increased during the year. Thus, from the 1st of January, 1859, to April 21st, the receipts of corn were 720,845 bushels, while during the same time this year they have been 8,987,137. The amount of flour and grain now in store at Chicago is 1,630,859 bushels, while last year at this time it was 869,788 bushels.

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