

W. A. Dunklin & Co.,
COTTON FACTORS
 AND
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
 Strand, Galveston.
 Liberal Cash Advances made on Consignments. Bagging and Ties furnished customers at lowest prices.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK,
STATE PRINTERS.
 Furnish estimates for Printing Newspapers, Books, and all kinds of Job Printing; and for the Manufacture of Blank Books.

Christian Advocate

PUBLISHED BY THE TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCES OF THE M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

VOLUME XXIV.

GALVESTON, SATURDAY, DEC. 16, 1876.

NUMBER 25.

CHAS. H. LEE, Fayette county.
 J. J. M'BRIDE, Leon county.
Lee, McBride & Co.
COTTON & WOOL FACTORS
 AND
General Commission Merchants
 214 Strand, (Hendley Building.)
 GALVESTON, TEXAS.

Laws and Journals.
 SHAW & BLAYLOCK,
 Now have ready the—
 General Laws, per copy.....\$2 10
 Special Laws, per copy..... 3 10
 School Law,..... 50
 —Will soon issue—
 Journals, per copy.....\$3 10
 Department Reports, per copy..... 50

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS DEC. 16 1876

THE LORD OUR HELPER.

We are told on every hand that the country is in danger. There is reason enough. When two hundred thousand men, to state it mildly, are fighting for office there is no doubt an alarming abundance of explosive material. There is no telling what a spark might do in such a case.

There is real alarm in all sections of the Union. The papers are all a-quiver with excitement. Indeed, they are altogether too much excited to give good advice. No doubt the Republic is in a real crisis. We are testing our Constitution to the fullest. The strain is terrific. The anchor holds, but the cable is so taut that it threatens to snap.

To our view one of the saddest and most ominous signs of the times is the mad clamor of the people after men, men, men. "Give us Tilden, or the Republic is lost." "Give us Hayes, or the Republic is lost." Many are running to and fro, with what increase of knowledge or wisdom we do not know. The telegrams and the editorials are full of this great one's "views," this other great one's "opinions." We see and feel our danger and call upon men; cry to men; trust in men. We have never known as much calling upon men as now. We have hardly seen in any paper or heard from any man a word about calling upon God. It is Senator this, General that, and Governor, or ex-Governor, the other. Woe be unto us, if the great and the wise and the good God, should leave us to such as these. Israel's golden calves were not, after all "the gods that brought them out of Egypt."

This is a time when good men should recall the words of the Lord. "I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt; open thy mouth wide and I will fill it. But my people would not hearken to my voice, and Israel would none of me. So I gave them up unto their own lusts, and they walked in their own counsels."

And Israel walked into destruction following their own lusts walking in their own counsels, and calling upon men to save them. There are several millions of people in the United States who profess to be Christians. Do they not know that "it is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in men; to put trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes;" than in Tilden, or Hayes, or in all the great ones of the earth?

The Christmas Story, by L'Eclair, the first chapter of which appears this week, will be read with interest. We trust this accomplished lady will ere long become one of our regular contributors.

The work of lay evangelists promises to be very active this winter. Messrs. Whittle and Bliss are in the Northwest; Messrs. Graves and Leland are in Pittsburgh, and Mr. E. P. Hammond in Philadelphia. As soon as Messrs. Moody and Sankey close at Chicago, they will proceed to Boston. Extensive preparations have been made for them. An executive committee of five supervise all arrangements. An "inquiry room committee" of seven has also been appointed, with power to select all the assistants required. A chief usher will organize the ushers, and a musical director will organize the choir. The building will be of brick, with walls thirty feet high, and will seat from 5,000 to 6,000 persons.

THE BROOKLYN HORROR.

Never in the history of this country has a more appalling calamity been more unexpectedly visited upon any community than that occasioned by the burning of the theatre in the city of Brooklyn. The shrieks of agony that mingled themselves with the roar of the great conflagration, as pillar and pier and pilastre gave themselves to feed the fury of the flames, may be fancied by a fertile brain, but can never be described, however facile and gifted may be the pen that undertakes a task so fruitful of horror. The charred bodies of men, women and boys, piled up in one great mass of smoking ruin, may be contemplated profitably by those who undertake to study the absolute uncertainty of life, but they can never be portrayed in all the fullness of the silent anguish, however powerful may be the mental lens that may be brought to bear upon them. The empty hearts and desolate homes, over which grief has cast its gloom and sorrow thrown its sombre shadows of despair, are left to the living, teaching in terms that are bolder than all the words of our language the great lesson that admonishes us all to "watch and pray." The bright rooms that fairly glistened with all the dazzling splendors that wealth can give, and from which "fair women and brave men" walked forth to enjoy the representation of a pitiless scene in "real life," are dark and gloomy now as are the silent tombs to which these heedless and thoughtless heirs of fortune and joint heirs of worldly delights were unconsciously advancing, when they went forth to see the "Two Orphans;" to laugh at the comicalities of "low life" and to shed shining tears over the wayward tracks of homeless waifs, as they wandered from one trial to another, in battling their ways through misfortune no less dire than difficult. The happy mothers who stood and watched the matchless beauty of their daughters, and feasted upon the proud delights of their motherhood, have cast off their smiles and now sit weeping over the remorseless reminders that death, with pitiless hand, has visited upon them. The "Two Orphans" called many fond fathers and loving mothers from bright fires and happy hearths, before which their own offspring were playing in all the innocence and delight of childish glee. These children are now, alas! playing in a new role, and are orphans indeed. How is it possible to paint the grief, the desolation of hearts that are black with hopeless despair, the untold anguish that feeds its sobs and sighs to the ceaseless winds that roar and rush along in heedless disregard of the burdens of sorrow that are riding upon them, and all occasioned by this visitation of an angry God, who has seen just and proper to give this expression of His divine displeasure? How is it possible to do more than ponder upon the mercy that shows itself, even in the height of this great disaster, to those who sought not the pleasures of a vicious practice and the delights of a most questionable species of amusement? To those who have escaped; to thousands who were kept away by some trivial, but regretted circumstance from that place in that eventful night, memory will call up the deep gratitude that must fill their hearts and that will never be told except in prayer, as the silent thanks are directed

heavenward to the ear of the Great Jehovah. Let the world take warning, and instead of learned counsels of eminent architects, with their lengthy and elaborate calculations upon the proper principle of constructing theatrical temples, let us have more associations where prayer is recognized as the governing rule by which we should live and the stay and staff by which we may be safely conducted through the dangers that too often follow from the defective comprehension of finite intelligence. We cannot restore the dead to life; we cannot give back to the orphans, freshly made by the great Brooklyn fire, the mothers and fathers they lost in that catastrophe; we cannot restore to the empty arms of grief-stricken mothers and fathers the sons and daughters that perished in those mighty flames, but we can pray God's blessing upon the sorrowing survivors; and that calamity, and praying, we can thank Him that He has not been more liberal in visiting His justice upon the sins of the world.

The following figures show the steady augmentation of the State debt of Texas: In 1867, the Auditorial Board estimated our debt at \$243,920; in 1870, \$338,969. At the close of 1873, \$1,787,884; August, 1875, \$4,721,914; August 31, 1876, \$5,210,074.

In the present House of Representatives, the Democrats have 73 majority. In the Congress, after the 4th of March, next, they will have about 16 majority, with a number of contested seats. The Republicans have a small majority in the Senate.

Fifteen teachers are employed in the public free schools of San Antonio, all females but one. During the month of November, 788 scholars were enrolled, and the average aggregate attendance was 655. The highest average number in one class was 80; the lowest, 27 pupils. The superintendent reports the schools in a satisfactory condition.

The grounds occupied by Wm. M. Tweed in New York for a club house and a stable were purchased by Rev. C. Blinn, and a few days before Tweed arrived in America, a German Methodist Church, which had been erected upon the ground, was dedicated to the worship of God.

Rev. Dr. Atticus G. Haygood is announced as one of the special contributors of the New York Methodist.

CENTENNIAL.—We notice the substantial firm of Lane, Bodley & Co., Cincinnati, have received a number of premiums on their engines, saw mills and other machinery at the Centennial, and we are satisfied that no juster awards were made to any exhibitor. Our manufacturers, planters and others needing machinery made by this well known firm will advance their own interest by corresponding with them. See their card in our present issue.

ON TRAIN AT WILLIS, December 10, 1876.—The passenger train that left Galveston yesterday morning is detained here on account of a fearful wreck of a South bound freight, at Murray's saw mill, two miles below Phelps's junction. The North bound passenger arrived there about 5 o'clock p. m. yesterday, a few minutes before the occurrence. The engine and tender were lying to the left of the track badly damaged and five cars jumbled in a mass of ruins to the right. None killed. Three were wounded; brakeman's leg broken; engineer severely scalded. The cause alleged: switch in bad order; but, from appearances, the train was under a good headway over a dangerous part of the road.—Z. T. Ross.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Presidential election is the absorbing topic with all circles. At no period in the history of our nation have issues more important held the public mind in suspense. That the Returning Boards from Louisiana, South Carolina and Florida would return their respective States for Hayes, was the universal expectation, and their action excited no surprise. The thoughts of all have been turned to Washington, as the stage where the closing scene of this drama will be enacted. Tilden has 184 votes, and the vote of these three Southern States must be secured to elect his opponent. The *Christian Union*, a politico-religious paper, thus defined the policy of the Republican party:

"As to the future, the policy of the Republican party is clearly outlined by its organs and leading men. When Congress meets and the electoral votes are opened, we will insist that Congress should simply to count the votes, and that the question whether the electors truly represent the State is one to be decided by each State for itself. If the result is a majority for Tilden, the Republicans will acquiesce, and trust to time and future elections to correct the violence and intimidation in the Gulf States. If the result is a majority for Mr. Hayes, he will be inaugurated, and the Democrats must trust to the future to punish and prevent frauds in the Returning Boards of the States, if fraud there has been. If the Democratic House undertakes to withdraw from joint session, the Republicans may be expected to remain, and the count will go on. The Democrats either have no definite policy, or prefer to keep it to the public."

"Man proposes," but things do not turn out in every case according to the programme. Congress met, and the electoral vote, covered by the broad seal of the States, reveal 185 votes for Tilden and 184 for Hayes. In Oregon, one of the Republican electors held an office under the Federal Government, and by the Constitution was disqualified to act as an elector. The Governor of that State accordingly gave the certificate of election to E. A. Cronin, one of the Democratic electors, who cast his vote for Tilden. The Republican party declines to abide by its programme, and the question is as far, apparently, from settlement, as ever. In the Senate, the Committee on Privileges and Elections, was instructed to investigate the facts attending the appointment of the electors from that State. The *New York Herald* says, respecting the result of the vote of the Oregon elector:

"By this astute manoeuvre, the supporters of Mr. Tilden have captured the stronghold of the enemy, and can turn his own batteries against him. If one House can not revise the certificates which bear the signature of the Governor and the seal of the State, the Democrats are strongly entrenched on the ground selected by their adversaries. The rage of the Republicans at thus being hoisted by their own petard, is as amusing as it is natural."

The *World* says: the certificate granted by the Governor of Oregon to the Democratic elector Cronin, establishes, on principles laid down by the Radicals, the majority of Governor Tilden, and puts the position of the presidential contest in a new and interesting light. While Oregon will be investigated by one party, the other will exhibit equal industry in the examination of the action of the Returning Board in South Carolina, Louisiana and Florida. The Senate, on the 10th, resolved to send sub-committees to Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina. Committee for Louisiana—Howe, Wadleigh, McCullam, Boatwell, Salisbury, McDonald. For Florida—Mitchell, Teller, Hooper. For South Carolina—Cameron of Wisconsin, Christiancy and Merriman. The Committee on Elections and Privileges of the Senate have agreed to take up the Oregon investigation, as proposed in Senator Mitchell's resolution. The investigation has been referred to a sub-

committee, consisting of the Secretary of State of Oregon, Senators Morton, Logan and Kernan. Gov. Grover, of Oregon, will be summoned.

In an interview with leading Democrats, Governor Tilden counseled moderation, and, in warm terms, approved the position taken by leading Southern men, respecting a peaceful solution of the present difficulties. Referring to the Oregon case, he said he would disdain to accept the presidency under a vote cast by any elector who did not have a majority of the votes of his State at his back; yet he believed Governor Grover of Oregon had acted in accordance with the law in issuing the certificate to Cronin. He is satisfied that the vote of Louisiana belonged to him, and that the Congressional investigation would show this beyond question. It is supposed, at the proper time, the leaders of the Democratic party will make an appeal to the people arraigning the administration and calling them to hold mass-meetings, and protest against the inauguration of a President who has not been elected. Governor Hayes remains silent. The dispatches contain the following:

CINCINNATI, Dec. 12.—Governor Hayes, responding to a serenade, after expressing thanks, said: "You could not expect me to say much more. You could not expect me to speak of political matters on this occasion, and certainly not of the position which affairs have assumed at the present time."

Whatever may be the issue of these important questions, the position of Gov. Tilden will go down to history as one of those acts which commends itself to the admiration of all right thinking men. Unwilling to accept the office by the aid of a vote which, though legal, does not represent the will of the voters of the State for which it is cast, he will, at the same time, demand that the vote of all other States shall represent the wishes and action of the people. There is the majesty of moral power in the position he assumes. No event in the exciting conflict has given us more encouragement than this. It reveals the presence of unswerving principle in the midst of party strife. The true statesman always rises above the tricks of the mere politician. We shall look with interest for a like magnanimous utterance from his competitor.

The Revolution in Mexico. from last accounts, has ended in the overthrow of the Lerdo government and the complete triumph of the revolutionary party. On the 16th of November Alatorre was defeated at Tecamachaleco, eighteen miles from Puebla, in which 4000 men were placed *hors du combat*. Alatorre reached Mexico alone. Lerdo and his ministers fled from the capital on the 21st. He was captured at Taseco, State of Guerrero, and Gens. Escobedo and Abram Diaz shot. The policy of the party in power will be of much interest. If it reveals the control of the priestly party, the liberal policy of the past few years will be arrested, and the missionary work may suffer.

The Eastern Question seems to be approaching a peaceful solution. A special from St. Petersburg to the *London News* says hopes of a peaceful settlement are strong in the highest quarters. An improved peaceful feeling is manifest in Turkey. An informal meeting of the plenipotentiaries of the foreign embassies at Constantinople on the 12th inst. brought out an interchange of views pointing to peaceful results.

TEXAS ITEMS.

The bridge across the Colorado, at Austin, is progressing. Fort Worth will be lighted with gas in January. The *Echo* says Jack county is filling up with an enterprising population. The *Times* expects the Texas and Pacific Railroad to reach Weatherford by July next. The Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad is soon to be extended to Sherman. Twenty miles of the East Line Railroad is completed. A cave has been found in Llano county a mile in length with a

stream of water running through it.

Falls county purposes trying local option. Keep the ball in motion.

Weatherford has organized a Board of Trade.

The *Patron* speaks cheerfully of the enterprise of the citizens of Crockett and of the future of that place.

The International is reaching Austin with its iron rails.

Laborers on the Austin and Henderson Railroad are wanted. The work is being pushed on with energy.

Denison public free schools have 461 scholars. They are looking for \$980 from the Peabody fund.

Tramps are becoming a nuisance in Houston. They beg without blushing, and when the citizens give them of their best, they abuse the cook.

Mr. Farrel passed through San Saba recently with 2,300 hogs raised in that region. They are to be fattened on the Brazos, and then will fatten the people.

On the 9th, there were seventy-six vessels in the port of Galveston, without including the small bay and coast schooners and sloops, which do a very important local business. These facts indicate, in some degree, the extent and importance of the trade of Galveston.

Austin county is out of debt, and its warrants are worth one hundred cents on the dollar.

Indians have put in an appearance on the Frio, of late, more frequently than the comfort of the people demands.

San Antonio boasts of forty inhabitants at the poor-house.

Contract for the iron bridge over the Brazos, at Courtney, has been closed.

The *Viadette* tells of a lady by the name of Mrs. Johns being seriously burned while attending to her household duties, her clothing catching fire from the fireplace. The ladies in the household tried to extinguish the flames, but in her fright she threw them off, and ran out of the house to her husband, who succeeded in extinguishing the fire, but not until his wife was dangerously burned.

The young men of Crockett have raised \$100 towards the organization of a reading club.

The people of Crockett are talking seriously about local option.

An election on local option has been ordered in Wise county.

A building association has been organized in Weatherford.

The *Plain Dealer* says, health, hope, hog and hominy abound in Madison county.

The mining operations of Plano county are attracting much attention. The waste lands are likely to prove valuable.

Wheat is up and looking well in Johnson county.

The vote on local option comes off in Lamar two days after Christmas. If every man who has the headache and a weak stomach votes according to his sensations, local option will be carried in Lamar.

Efforts are being made by citizens of Harrison, Rusk, Panola and Shelby counties to attract first-class immigrants by presenting claims of that section.

The *Tablet* says Navasota is covered with wagons, and business is thriving accordingly.

The Friends of Temperance in Franklin county are sanguine that local option will prevail.

The *Farm and Fireside* reports immigrants coming into Fannin county rapidly, the streets of Bonham being often so covered with wagons that it is difficult to pass.

A hunting party in Cooke county, recently, killed in one big hunt, one bear, fifty-five deer and eighty turkeys. Did you ever eat wild turkey steak that had been fried in a skillet on a camp-fire?

Brown county will ship this year 10,000 bushels of pecans.

Notwithstanding the ravages of the worms, the *Courier* of Hempstead reports the farmers in good spirits, as they finish their corn and cotton crops.

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 16, 1876

- List of Postoffices of the Preachers of the Northwest Texas Conference, M. E. Church, South. McLENNAN COUNTY.—W. G. Connor, Waco. M. H. Wells, Waco. W. T. Melugin, Waco. W. R. D. Stockton, Waco. Thos. Stanford, Waco. Sam. P. Wright, Waco. W. F. Compton, Bosqueville. C. S. McCarver, Mastersville. FALLS COUNTY.—Cyrus H. Ellis, Marlin. Hiram M. Glass, Bremond. Thomas G. Gilmore, Gena. E. Walkup, Gena. LIMESTONE COUNTY.—James M. Truitt, Kosse. Benj. M. Gassaway, Kosse. John S. McCarver, Mexia. James D. Shaw, Mexia. Gaston W. Swafford, Mexia. John R. White, Groesbeck. George R. Bryce, Mount Calm. ROBERTSON COUNTY.—R. H. H. Burnett, Calvert. H. H. Sullivan, Whelock. Sam. J. Franks, Owensville. BELL COUNTY.—H. S. P. Ashby, Belton. George W. Graves, Salado. W. J. King, Salado. R. W. Flournoy, Belton. John Carpenter, Belton. MILAM COUNTY.—Jas. A. Walker, Cameron. C. N. McGuire, Bryant Station. J. P. Stanfield, Bryant Station. WILLIAMSON COUNTY.—James S. Lane, Rockdale. J. B. Womack, Taylor. Oreneth Fisher, Georgetown. J. T. Peep, Georgetown. Hugh Griffin, Georgetown. J. K. Lane, Liberty Hill. Horace Bishop, Georgetown. NAVARRO COUNTY.—Jas. Mackey, Corsicana. James J. Davis, Dresden. C. S. Vaughn, Birdtown. Andrew Davis, Corsicana. LEON COUNTY.—W. K. Turner, Jewett. W. A. Sampey, Centreville. FREESTONE COUNTY.—R. H. Adair, Butler. ELLIS COUNTY.—W. G. Veal, Waxahachie. Chas. E. Brown, Waxahachie. H. B. Henry, Waxahachie. F. P. Ray, Waxahachie. S. S. Scott, Waxahachie. W. D. Robinson, Red Oak. T. G. A. Tharp, Ennis. R. C. Armstrong, Milford. John C. S. Baird, Ennis. S. S. Yarbrough, Waxahachie. DALLAS COUNTY.—John S. Davis, Lancaster. Samuel Morris, Lancaster. W. C. Young, Dallas. HILL COUNTY.—J. Fred. Cox, Hillsboro. Wm. Vaughn, Peoria. H. C. McQuown, Peoria. TARRANT COUNTY.—M. D. Fly, Fort Worth. J. J. Canafax, Fort Worth. JOHNSON COUNTY.—Wm. Price, Alvarado. James P. Hulse, Cleburne. Wilds L. Andrews, Alvarado. Isaac N. Reeves, Caddo Grove. John Powell, Alvarado. James Campbell, Cleburne. James D. Whitehead, Cleburne. HOOD COUNTY.—John G. Warren, Acton. James Hiner, Acton. J. P. Mursett, Granbury. E. W. Simmons, Poluxy. O. M. Addison, Glen Rose. R. C. Hendrick, Granbury. J. J. Shirley, Granbury. PARKER COUNTY.—T. W. Hines, Weatherford. A. D. Gaskill, Weatherford. James W. Kizzar, Weatherford. John E. Akin, Springtown. S. Martin, Springtown. James M. Jones, Cartersville. James Grant, Eldorado. JACK COUNTY.—Wiley V. Jones, Jacksboro. Samuel D. Akin, Cartersville. A. K. Miller, Graham City. A. B. Blue, Fort Griffin. COMANCHE COUNTY.—P. W. Graves, Comanche. Benj. H. Johnson, Comanche. Jas. H. Tucker, Comanche. HAMILTON COUNTY.—E. A. Bailey, Hamilton. CORYELL COUNTY.—W. G. Daventport, Gatesville. E. R. Barcus, Gatesville. Osgood A. Shook, Gatesville. LAMPASAS COUNTY.—Willis F. Graves, Lampasas. BURNETT COUNTY.—R. V. Galloway, Burnett. BLANCO COUNTY.—Joseph Parker, Round Mountain. LLANO COUNTY.—Daniel C. Kelly, Llano. A. R. Benick, Double Mountain. McCULLOCH COUNTY.—Levi F. Collins, Brady City. SAN SABA COUNTY.—Napoleon F. Law, San Saba. BROWN COUNTY.—H. J. McQuary, Brownwood. J. W. B. Allen, Brownwood. Lewis S. Chamberlain, Camp Colorado.

PALO PINTO.—W. D. Robinson, Palo Pinto. EASTLAND COUNTY.—Melville B. Johnston, Eastland City. ERATH COUNTY.—J. R. Randle, Stephenville. BOSQUE COUNTY.—Jos. F. Hines, Meridian. John Graham, Iredell. W. S. Harris, Clifton. Marion Mills, Jonesboro. ROBERTSON COUNTY.—J. P. Sneed, Calvert. R. Crawford, Calvert. LEON COUNTY.—Drury Womack, Centreville. LIMESTONE COUNTY.—Mordocai Yell, Groesbeck. The foregoing is a complete list of the preachers of the Conference, with their post offices, as near as I have been able to ascertain them. If you will publish in the Advocate, the brethren can very easily correct any little inaccuracies into which I may have fallen, for, in some instances, I have been left to conjecture, though you will find it, in the main, correct. Very respectfully yours, F. P. RAY.

FUTURE GREATNESS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.—Viewed commercially, the site of Constantinople is scarcely less than perfect. Even before the Christian era her commerce was considerable. During the days of the great Roman emperors her commercial prosperity was unrivalled. Under the sultans, all Asia Minor, Syria, Arabia, and even India, as well as Southern Europe, have fed her commerce. And, to-day, while her waters are always white with sails and her harbor lined on every side with the smaller vessels of commerce, the spacious harbor itself is filled with steamers bearing every European flag, which come and go almost every hour of the day, bringing the products of European industry, and carrying grain, wool, mohair, fruits, and various products of Turkish manufacture to European ports. It may be said that the commerce of several European cities and of more than one American city is greater than that of Constantinople. But it must be remembered—and here is a long list of counts most important of all to come into our reckoning—that Turkey is without roads; that the Turks themselves have not the least commercial enterprise; that the commerce and trade of Turkey are nearly all in the hands of foreigners and of her own Christian population; and we can see reason why Constantinople is actually behind many Western cities naturally far less favored than herself. Turkey has almost unrivalled resources which still remain but very partially developed to commerce. Give her a strong, wise government, a government which shall exist and be administered in the interest of the people, honestly and economically; give her roads which shall facilitate the bringing of her produce of every sort to the sea; encourage her agriculture, work her mines, develop her manufactures, and there would not be a city in the world where commerce would embrace so many articles and keep alive a trade so vast and various. Look at any map of the Eastern continent, and it will be seen that the natural commercial centre not only of almost all Turkey, but of Persia, and of a vast region bordering on the Caspian Sea, also is Constantinople. But with matchless commercial facilities and large undeveloped resources, Turkey has been, till this day, so woefully misgoverned; her resources, instead of being developed, have been so remorselessly drained; her rulers, instead of living and governing for the people, have so uniformly grown fat on their hard-earned gains; the cost and expenses of imperial palaces, harems, ironclads, etc., have been so enormous, even while the people in some of the finest and not distant provinces have been actually dying of starvation, that in place of assuming the commercial position which rightly belongs to her, Constantinople is, as regards her Moslem population, like Rome in the later years of her decaying empire, the centre of an empire in which are conspicuous effeminacy and luxury on one hand, and misery, degradation, and despair on the other. The heart beats fast with fevered heat, the extremities are cold or paralyzed, and the government itself seems on the very verge of bankruptcy. Of Constantinople as a commercial centre, one sadly thinks of "what might have been." But her commercial possibilities still remain, and she may have a future as brilliant in the twentieth century as her matchless situation and natural fitness deserve. Should God's Providence grant to Turkey a worthy government, the commercial prosperity of Constantinople will develop as naturally as her golden waters flow on to the sea.—The Galaxy for December.

Nobody is allowed to speak at the Empress Victoria's table except in reply to her.

Drowning the Baby. As a missionary was walking by the River Ganges in India one day he noticed a Brahmin woman and her two sons, a beautiful boy of twelve years and a little baby a few months old with two female servants, going towards the river. By their appearance he knew the child was to be drowned to please the goddess Gunga. When they reached the principal bathing-place, four priests came up to them; and, when the mother saw them, she gave a loud cry, and fell senseless to the ground. She was carried to the water's edge, where there was a great crowd of people. The chief priest then took the lovely babe from his brother's arms, covered its little body with oil, vermilion, and saffron, dressed it in a red and yellow muslin, and began to repeat charms over its head. The priests tried to arouse the mother; and at last she opened her eyes. When she remembered what was going on, she sank back saying— "Is there nothing that will save my child?" "No," said the priest, who expected a largess of money for performing the ceremony; "no; you have vowed to give him up, and you must do it. But the god wants you to be willing to do it. Are you willing? Say so, and let the goddess take her own." "No, no!" cried the mother; "I am not willing. If I break my vow, I can only be cursed. Let the curse come. I would rather die than do it." "Yes," said the angry priest, "the curse shall come, but not on you. It shall come on that lad there," pointing to the elder boy, "the darling of your heart. You shall go home to-morrow, taking your worthless babe with you, it is true; but leaving your noble boy, the hope of your house. Do you still refuse?" The poor mother could not speak; and the priest added, "Then waive your hand as a sign that I may throw your babe into the river." The sign was given; the child was thrown. "One little splash was heard; but the next moment the mother wild with grief, she had plunged in, and saved it." "No, no; Gunga shall not have him!" she cried. "I was mad, quite mad when I made that vow. If it were a daughter, perhaps I could give it up; but I can not see my baby-boy drowned before my eyes." The priest threatened her with still more dreadful things. She was made to say she was willing; and the priest was just ready to throw the child into the water, when his arm was drawn back by the missionary, and he was thrown down by a soldier who was close behind. You know that Queen Victoria is Empress of India as well as Queen of England; and Englishmen have made a law that children shall not be drowned in this way. When the missionary found what was going on, he went in great haste for some soldiers to stop it, and arrived just in time to save the baby's life. The frightened priest got away as well as he could, the crowd fled after him, and the missionary, the soldiers, and the now happy family were left alone. The mother fell at the feet of the missionary, crying— "Thank you, thank you a thousand times, sir! You have saved my darling. You have made my mother's heart rejoice. Oh how could I have lived without my babe! I can do nothing for you, sir, but God of the universe will reward you. I will always pray to our gods to send you their blessings." Relieved and happy, the mother said to her servants— "Come, Dasee and Tara, let us go to our boats and leave this dreadful place. The gods grant I may never see it again!" Since the gospel has been carried to India, these dreadful things very seldom happen; and, if all Christian people would do what they could to send missionaries there, the time would soon come when they would never happen. What can you do? The English Polar Expedition. The return of the English polar expedition is not an ordinary failure of an ordinary enterprise. It means that the very utmost resources of men cannot ensure him a passage to the north pole. Other explorers had pushed their sledges to within five hundred miles of the earth's axis of revolution, and the English authorities bent themselves, with extraordinary diligence and determination, to the one task of overcoming this apparently short distance. We have detailed in this miscellany some of the provisions made for sustaining the men in this supreme effort, and they were chosen with rare tact. But they were in vain. The loss of four lives seems to prove that the strenuous exertions expected were made; but in spite of the elaborate system of carrier sledges which enables one party to be out seventy days, if the telegraph

is right, it did not get further, or much further, than Hall and other explorers. Only one mile a day could be compassed, and that only by the severest exertions. The greatest cold known, 102 deg., was felt; the ice was found to be very much broken and rough; there was no sign of land, or of any open sea, and the attempt was completely a failure. It was even more than this for it has demonstrated that other projects of the kind must also be failures. We are now thrown back upon Payer and Weyprecht's suggestion to establish a ring of permanent stations within the Arctic circle for scientific observation. The knowledge thus gained, combined with the ability to seize with certainty upon favorable years, may yet carry the navigator to the pole. The English Wheat Crop. Before the harvesting, Mr. James Caird, an English writer on agriculture, commented on England's position in regard to her wheat crop. He estimated that the crop would be 10,600,000 quarters. Deducting 800,000 quarters for seeds, leaves 9,800,000 for consumption, this is about three-fourths the amount required. Thirteen million quarters, he estimated, would be needed for consumption, and if America could not supply the deficiency of 3,200,000 quarters, he thought it would be impossible to find the wheat elsewhere. The land under wheat in Great Britain, in 1876, shows a decline of more than twenty per cent. on the average growth of the seven preceding years. The decline from last year is 378,000 acres, but that will be more than compensated by the increased yield per acre and the higher quality. M. W. Shaw & Bro. The elegant Jewelry Emporium of Messrs. M. W. Shaw & Bro. is on the north-west corner of Tremont and Market streets Galveston. The stocks that are always found in this establishment consist of every class and variety of the most choice goods in this line. These gentlemen have been actively engaged in the jewelry business in this city for thirty years. They exhibit superior taste and fine judgment, in the selection of their stocks of rich and elegant styles and pattern of watches, jewelry and silver ware. They certainly deserve the attention and patronage of the public. This firm are the State agents for the celebrated Waltham watches, a watch well known for its fine finish, durability and cheapness. This watch can be bought as low as \$16 50, and is guaranteed to be a perfect and reliable time piece, and suitable for farmers, railroad men and travelers. This watch differs from the higher priced time-piece only in point of finish, thickness of case and the jewels which adorn the works. Chronometers rated by transit. Messrs. Shaw & Bro. purchase their large stock of silverware from the best manufacturers in European cities and New York, which includes all the latest styles. Their display of mathematical and nautical instruments is superb, and will interest visitors to this establishment. Our readers desiring clocks of any kind should write to this house for a catalogue and price list; they have on hand clocks made from marble, bronze and alabaster, all of the finest French manufacture. They have on hand a splendid line of Ithaca Calendar Clocks; also the celebrated Seth Thomas Clock; also the house of M. W. Shaw and Bro. is one of the most reliable Jewellery establishments in the South; those who have traded with them have always found them courteous, precise and upright. MILLINERY. The cheapest and best assortment of straw, felt, and velvet hats, trimmed or untrimmed; flowers, feathers, wings, silks, ornaments, velvets, ribbons, ruchings, hair, and fancy goods, in Galveston. Having secured the services of a first-class French milliner, who is an artist in trimming, I can offer to the ladies of Galveston as handsomely trimmed hats as can be found in any city. Bridal outfits and mourning hats always on hand. Goods sent to the interior C. O. D. F. JOHNSON, 6m. Corner of F. O. and Centre streets. M'NE. J. L. PAUL KNOLL, importer and manufacturer of human hair, flowers and perfumery, has lately returned from New York, where she purchased a large and elaborate stock of millinery, fancy goods, perfumery, soaps, kid-gloves, etc., which will be sold at very low figures. Dress-making made a specialty. A large stock of Junvin's kid-gloves have just arrived. A LADIES' CASH STORE, Goepinger's Building, Twenty-second street, between Market and Postoffice. Millinery and hair sold for cash at unprecedentedly low prices. No old stock, but hats, bonnets and millinery of the freshest and newest styles. Ladies wishing to examine the stock and prices will be cordially welcomed. Address country orders to box 368. 3t DR. A. A. WHITE'S BLOOD AND LIVER PILLS. They are purely vegetable; and positively will cure all diseases arising from the impure state of blood, liver, kidneys and stomach. Such as ague, jaundice, yellow fever, biliary fever, bilious fever, vertigo, lumbago, dyspepsia, pimples or blotches on the skin, cold on the bowels, etc. Also a superior pill for females; or persons suffering with piles or constipation, will find them excellent to regulate nature. They can be taken in any season or climate, and any condition of the system, as they contain no mercury or mineral substance. Every family should have them and take a few in the Fall and Spring to prevent disease. Sold by dealers at 25 cents per box. JACOB WALTZ, Gen'l. Agt. Baltimore, Md. T. C. THOMPSON, Agt. for Texas. Sold by J. J. SCHOTT & CO., Dist. Gen'ts., Galveston.

E. S. WOOD & SON, DEALERS IN Foreign and Domestic Hardware, IRON, NAILS, CASTINGS, BUILDERS' & PLANTATION HARDWARE. The Oldest, Largest and Cheapest Establishment of the kind in Texas. 121, 122 & 123 STRAND, GALVESTON. Agent for Fairbanks' Standard Scales, Diston's Circular Saw, Collin's Axes, HALL & SPEAR'S PLOWS, and JOHN MOORE'S PLOWS.

WAS HINGTON HOTEL. JOHN SUMMERS, Proprietor. Corner of TREMONT and MECHANIC Streets, Galveston. This house is Centrally Located, Convenient to Business, and but two squares from Morgan's Line of Steamers, and one block from Union Depot. There is an annex-ator in the office communicating with every room. Table unsurpassed by any House in the city.

J. C. CORHAM, MANUFACTURER OF Saddles and Harness. —And Dealer in— BUGGIES, CARRIAGES, WHIPS, LEATHER, PLANTATION and SPRING WAGONS. Orders from the interior promptly and carefully filled. W. KOERNER, 180 MARKET STREET, ISO —Dealer in and Importer of— Staple and Fancy Groceries, FOREIGN and DOMESTIC CHEESE, and other delicacies in season. BLESSING & BRO., Photographers —AND— PORTRAIT PAINTERS. 174 Tremont Street, GALVESTON, TEXAS. Make a specialty of Copying, Enlarging and Finishing from Small Pictures. All Work Guaranteed First-class. Send for descriptive Catalogue and Price List.

GIRARDIN HOUSE, ROMANEY & GIRARDIN, Proprietors. MARKET STREET, COR. 24TH. GALVESTON, TEXAS. Suitable sample rooms for Commercial Travelers. First-class restaurant in connection with the house. MOODY & JEMISON, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, COTTON FACTORS, 120 Strand, Galveston. BANKERS, 123 Pearl St., NEW YORK. P. O. Box 5283.

THE WILSON Received the highest award at the CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION. "A MEDAL AND DIPLOMA," FOR THE BEST FAMILY SEWING MACHINE adapted to all kinds of work. Also, remember received the GRAND PRIZE OF MERIT at Vienna in 1873. Send for Illustrated Price List. BLESSING & BRO., State Agents, 174 Tremont Street, GALVESTON, TEXAS. NEEDLES for all Machines by mail at 60 Cents per Dozen.

R. B. GARNETT, Manufacturer of the best seasoned all heart CYPRESS CISTERNS! Every Cistern sold under a strict guarantee. P. O. Box 197, GALVESTON. DR. GREENSVILLE DOWELL, Office & Residence: Washington Hotel (Cor. Mechanic & Tremont Streets) GALVESTON, TEXAS. HERNIA, its radical cure. LITHOTOMY, By Greenville Dowell, M. D. Price \$2.00. Sent by mail on receipt of Postoffice order.

Yellow Fever and Malarial Diseases— Embracing a History of the Epidemics of Yellow Fever in Texas. NEW VIEWS ON ITS DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, PROPAGATION AND CONTROL. Descriptions of DENGUE, MALARIAL FEVERS, JAUNDICE, the SPLEEN and its Diseases and DIARRHEA HEMORRHAGICA, with practical remarks on their successful treatment, etc., etc. With Maps and Chromos. By PROF. GREENSVILLE DOWELL, M. D. Prof. of Surgery in Texas Medical College, etc. Price \$2 50. Forwarded by mail on receipt of Postoffice order. Philadelphia Medical Publishing Office.

LAWS and JOURNALS For Sale Pamphlet Bound, per copy.....\$2 19 Bound in Law Sheep..... 3 1 ADDRESS SHAW & BLAYLOCK, GALVESTON.

HOUSTON Cotton Press Co., Proposes to do a RECEIVING, FORWARDING and STORAGE BUSINESS. Consignments of Cotton respectfully solicited. T. W. HOUSE, President. A. J. BURKE, Secretary. N. A. SZABO, Supt. All Cotton consigned to our care by the Houston and Texas Central Railway will be received free of drayage. Shipments to any foreign or domestic port via Houston direct, or any other line, according to instructions, will be forwarded free of charge. Forwarding bills of lading to shippers and consignees. All we desire is to obtain the compressing, which is paid by the vessel. The business will be conducted on the principles of strict economy and honesty, with a view to facilitate the forwarding of the crops with the smallest possible expense. Shippers sending us consignments are requested to be explicit in their instructions, giving marks and weights of their cotton, and to receive prompt attention. Consign to HOUSTON COTTON PRESS COMPANY. Planters desiring to sell their own cotton will pay freight to our care, free of charge; will insure the cotton if instructed to do so; all charges will be only for storage and public weighing, which is sixty cents, and whatever the insurance may be, say about eighty-five cents per bale; and, if ordered, will make sales for planters at the usual commission. Consign to HOUSTON COTTON PRESS COMPANY.

S. L. ALLEN, COTTON FACTOR —AND— COMMISSION MERCHANT, Houston, Texas. Liberal cash advancements made on consignments of COTTON, WOOL and HIDES. No drayage on consignments by rail.

WM. PENNY, M.D., SURGEON —AND— PHYSICIAN. Office No. 179 Market Street. Residence Central Hotel. BURKE & CO., Galveston, Texas. General Commission Merchants —AND— INSURANCE AGENTS. Liberal cash advances made on consignments. MRS. S. M. SCHAEFFER. MRS. M. E. DOWSE. SHAEFFER & DOWSE, MILLINERS AND DRESS-MAKERS, 217 Postoffice Street, GALVESTON, TEXAS. All orders from the interior will be promptly and carefully attended to. F. HITCHCOCK. A. WAKELEE. F. HITCHCOCK'S SONS, SHIP CHANDLERS. Canvas and Duck for Sails, Tents and Tarpaulins, Naval Stores, Paints and Oils, Boats, Guns and Spars, Manila, Hemp and Wire Rope, all sizes; Blocks and Sheaves for terries, etc., etc. STRAND, GALVESTON. A. M. CAMPBELL. J. P. CLOUGH. Campbell & Clough, FACTORS For the sale of COTTON, WOOL & HIDES, —AND— General Commission Merchants, 63 Strand, Galveston. WINTER WALKER. JAR. P. EVANS. WINTER WALKER & CO., COMMISSION MERCHANTS. For the Sale of all kinds of Texas and Western Products. Correspondence solicited. DAVIDSON HOUSE, —BY— MRS. J. H. DAVIDSON, No 12 Postoffice Street, (Between 24th and Bath Avenue.) GALVESTON, TEXAS. Board by the Day, Week or Month. JOSEPH W. RICE. VICTOR J. BAULARD. RICE & BAULARD, PAINTS, OILS, GLASS, WALL PAPER, WINDOW SHADES, ARTISTS' MATERIALS, ETC., AT THEIR OLD STAND 77 Tremont St., Galveston. H. HIRSCH & CO., GALVESTON, TEXAS, AGENTS FOR Baxter and Hoadley Steam Engine, Payne & Son's, and the Godwin Engines and Safety Boilers. Taught's Patent Iron Segment. Gin Gearing. Hall's Self-Feeding Cotton Ginn. Balanced Screw Cotton Press. Schofield's Iron Frame Cotton Press. Rice's Steam Injector. Blake's Patent Steam Pumps. Corn and Cob Crushers. Bell's Sugar Mills. —and all kinds of— Machinery & Farming Implements Write for Catalogues. July 1-6m. MRS. S. DIXON & CO., MILLINERS AND DRESSMAKERS, 168 Market Street. Old Ladies' Caps and Bonnets made to order. Finking, Stamping and Embroidery done. Materials for fancy work of all kinds.

Christian Advocate

944 WESTON, TEXAS DEC 10 1876

Written for the Advocate. THE KEY.

BY ANNIE NORLAND.

Locked up! Encircled by solid walls; closed in with massive doors; imprisoned with unyielding locks; how terrible it is. There is no egress. With restless feet and wringing hands we can only pace the narrow floor in agony. The dread reality of imprisonment presses smotheringly, crushingly, upon us. We were pursuing our journey with hope and gladness, but a wrong step led us astray, and now we are captive, bound, enchained. How joyfully would we seek again our road, remembering never by carelessness and indifference to be turned aside. How delightful now seem those days when we passed onward, free and unfettered, moving on with hope and joy our companions. But now, how dark the prison walls; how narrow the cell; how ponderous the locks. Only despair is with us now, looming up a dark figure ever at our side. He reaches forth steely fingers to clutch us and bind us forever to his side. How torturing the touch of those cold steely fingers on the shrinking flesh. Tremblingly, crouchingly, we totter, the victim of grim despair. But suddenly light breaks in upon us. Hope strengthens the fainting form; we can escape; a key is found, unused, forgotten, it has lain all this time within our reach. How quick the bolts fly back; how soon the doors are open; how soon the imprisoned free. The key that wrought this great deliverance, is it not precious? Is it not treasured up and prized beyond all else?

"The Prince of Dreamers" wrote an allegory more beautiful or striking than that of Doubting Castle and the wonderful key hidden away in Christian's bosom. These castles are all along the Christian's pathway, and all sometimes stumble into them. Unthinkingly we step aside, and find ourselves within the solid walls, locked up, bolted in by the giant's hands. We can not progress, because God's spirit, which led us so gently on, has left us, grieved at our unbelief. Sometimes we remain days, months and years imprisoned, enduring the stripes of Giant Despair, while our souls are tortured, for,

"Mid the throng of hurrying dross, That trample over the dead to seize their spoil, Lark's vengeance, footless, irresistible." Conscience punishes with a thousand vengeful lashings of reproach. We forget all this while that there is in our possession a key which can set us free. Worldly thoughts conceal it, anxieties and cares are like so much rubbish piled upon it, and weak faith forbids even the remembrance of it. But how beautiful the thought that it is there. It is always within the Christian's keeping, and is so constructed that it can turn any bolt in the locks which Satan's ingenuity has devised.

I have often thought of John Bunyan in connection with this, his own beautiful allegory. For twelve long years he was imprisoned in Bedford jail. This seemed a great affliction. It was a great affliction, for besides the fact that the strong and active body, the stalwart limbs, used from childhood to healthful, invigorating labor, must lay for years in the damp prison cell, the little blind one was at home, on whom his tender love could not bear for even the wind to blow. The loving wife and helpless little ones were left in poverty and want, from whom he said the parting was to him "like pulling the flesh from the bones."

What torture bodily and mentally he must have undergone. Did he not remember and apply that key of promise which was lying in his own bosom? Did not that precious promise from our Saviour's lips, "ask and ye shall receive," often occur to him? It must have been the case. And how did he apply this promise; what petition must have been the burden of the prisoners prayer? Liberty it must have been. Was he liberated? most signally. Not with the jarring earthquake which shook open the prison doors of Paul and Silas when they prayed at the midnight hour, but he was liberated in a way none the less certain and miraculous. The great Apostles of our Lord which lay in the Phillipian jail, must be about their work. They must in person disseminate the gospel truth. For John Bunyan there was other work to do. Literature must become a mighty lever in lifting darkness from human minds.

The laborer at Bedford was a chosen instrument, and in God's own way prepared for his great work. At the little shops in which he earned his daily bread, his mind was fettered by toil and care. In prison his genius was inspired and given wings, and on these wings where has he not been borne? Cowper beautifully expresses the idea:

"The oppressor holds His body bound; but knows not what a range His spirit takes among the joys of a chain."

It is impossible to conjecture the number of editions through which his best work, *The Pilgrim's Progress*, has passed. It has been translated into almost every language. Was he conscious of this answer to prayer? Most assuredly, and with eagerness entered upon his allotted work. That he entered this new sphere zealously, we have abundant evidence in the numerous books which he wrote. Commencing when the sands of life were half run out, he penned as many books as he lived to be years old. How remarkable! Ah! how miraculous that the humble tinker, barely able to read and write, and whose brawny hand was all unpracticed to the pen, should suddenly become an author, who at times caught the spirit of the loftiest muse. The writings of John Bunyan enchain alike the interest of king and peasant, of the learned and the ignorant, of the christian and the skeptic. Two centuries have passed since Bunyan assumed the pen, but his fame is undying, and brightens with the rolling centuries. The present year witnessed the erection of a monument to his memory. But he needs no monumental pile, his works furnish a monument more brilliant and lasting than marble quarry can supply; more gloriously beautiful than the hand of genius can create.

How prone are christians, when within the frowning walls of the Castle of Doubt, to forget the beautiful Key of Promise. It is a precious legacy. It should be the Christians richest treasure, rounded and filed and shaped by a living faith, smoothed and polished by love for God, and kept from rust by the lubricating oil of gratitude to Him who in His mercy grants so rich a boon. Happy Pilgrim who garners up the promises of the sacred word, and pondering them in his heart, applies them with a living faith. Can we doubt them? They can not be annulled, for they are appendages to that code of which Christ said, "till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law 'till all be fulfilled."

Among the promises that shine out from the sacred pages, methinks there is one pre-eminently radiant, implied in the Divine words, "who are my mother or my brethren? Whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother." The blessed face of Jesus must have beamed with a loving smile, the eyes with a holy light, as he extended his hand to them which sat about him and spoke these consoling words. When storms beat about us, and our hearts are darkened with sorrow, Jesus is standing by, strong, able, willing as a brother to defend. Gentle, winning, loving as a sister; tender, devoted as a mother. That his heart had sounded the depths of these holy affections, we have only to think a moment of the love which even the agonies of the cross could not dispel, for the voice quivering with agony, but sweet with tender emotion, rang out "woman, behold thy son; son behold thy mother!"

This promise of our blessed Saviour will alone furnish a key which will unlock untold riches of love and comfort and strength to the Christian's heart. CENTREVILLE, Dec., 1, 1876.

Annual Meeting of the China Mission. REV. D. C. KELLEY, D. D., ASS. SEC. BOARD OF MISSIONS.—My Dear Brother:—Our annual meeting has just closed, and I feel sure it has proved to be a time of refreshing to us all. It is the first regular annual meeting we have ever had where the exercises have continued for an entire week. Our native preachers have returned to their fields of labor to-day, feeling that they have more thoroughly consecrated themselves to the service of God, and are better prepared and feel more bold to point their dying fellow-men to Jesus the Saviour. Our meeting has not only been productive of good to us all in a spiritual point of view, but the exercises from day to day have been of a most pleasant nature. Our Sabbath-school anniversary was held on Sabbath afternoon, and all present seemed to enter heartily into the spirit of the meeting. We had some

fifty children present, and all passed off most pleasantly.

On Monday afternoon we had the meeting in reference to the Bible and tracts. It was a very pleasant meeting, and notwithstanding the newness of such meetings, the speakers on the occasion did remarkably well for the natives. They have never witnessed such meetings before, and I am sure our native preachers have gone away with a greater determination to carry the word of God with them wherever they go. We have sold, the past nine months, of Bibles and tracts, \$16 30, and have given away to the amount of \$6 50. We have now two book-stores in Shanghai, and one in Soochow. Brother Parker, who has just left us, took with him books to supply our book store in that city.

The Bible Society, the past year, has given us a grant of \$500, and of this amount we have already received about four hundred in books. There is still one hundred due us when we require the books.

Our missionary anniversary was held on Tuesday afternoon, and was a most interesting occasion. It was all new to the preachers and native Christians, but they all entered most heartily into the exercises, and it would have given you great joy to have heard the earnest speeches made and the excellent singing. After the speeches were made, a report was given of missionary money collected the past year. It amounted to \$38 40. We hope to double that the next year. The amount collected for the poor was \$23. These sums are small, compared to what is given by Christian people in England and America, but this is only the beginning of such work for the Church in China.

Our temperance meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon, and I am sure any of our Christian people would have been delighted if they could have been here and heard and understood the speeches made on the occasion. Some of them were as much to the point as any speeches on that subject to which I have ever listened. It was entirely new to them, and a strange subject for Chinamen to discuss, but all seemed to enter so heartily into it, and it was indeed one of our most interesting meetings during the week. I am sure they will not soon forget the occasion. Twenty-two came forward and signed the pledge not to drink wine. But few of them ever take any wine, except at some of their wedding-feasts, and it is this we want to discourage. One man signing the pledge says, very emphatically, "put me down that I certainly will not drink." He remembered the sad end of his poor father, who, it is said, died a drunkard in the street. Last evening, Thursday, was the close of the exercises. After preaching, by Brother Fong, all were asked to reconsecrate themselves to the service of God. All knelt in silent prayer, and we felt it was a solemn time.

The audience of natives present, who were not Church-members, were exceedingly quiet, and possibly were at a loss to understand the nature of the services. After a time the silence was broken by prayer for the Holy Spirit to guide us all, and to fit us for the great work of saving souls. Upon the whole, it has been one of the most pleasant meetings we have ever had. An account of it will appear in our next China Visitor. And now let me ask the prayers of all Christians for us who are engaged in this work in one of the most difficult fields of missionary labor in the world. Especially let me ask them to remember our native preachers in prayer that the Spirit of God may rest upon them and guide them into all truth, and make them abundantly useful in bringing souls to Christ the Lord. Pray for us all; and I pray the blessing of God may rest upon all your efforts to promote the cause of Christ. With love to all, I remain yours in Christ.

J. W. LAMBUTH. SHANGHAI, CHINA, October 3, 1876. (Communicated.) The Bible.

The Bible is not only a book, but it is the book of books, and the oldest of all other books in the world; yea, it is the sacred words of God's divine truths, given to the human family through the divinely inspired prophets and apostles after the shameful fall of the aborigines, who entailed sin, sorrow and sufferings upon all of their posterity of all succeeding ages, even until the end of time. Under the providence of God the human family has been divided into three separate and distinct dispensations; the first in order of which

was the Patriarchal dispensation, which comprised those who lived before the flood, or in other words, the Antediluvian world. This dispensation was destitute of this written volume of sacred truths, for it pleased God to communicate his will and good pleasure, and a knowledge of what was best for them, through personal messages, given to his chosen servants to deliver to this division of the human family; and finally when it pleased God to send the flood to destroy this part of the human family, because of the almost universal corruption which then overspread the earth. He spared only eight souls, which were the only righteous that existed of all the Antediluvians, that the world as a Postdiluvian might be replenished. This, God did not do unmercifully, but was prompted by his infinite knowledge of the fact that it was good for the successors in the future. So expired the first, and Patriarchal dispensation. Then ushered in the second and Jewish dispensation, in the bounds of which God was pleased to begin the now existing written Bible, through the instrumentality of Moses, whom he chose to write the Pentateuch, or the first five books of the Old Testament, including the ten commandments. Subsequently he inspired prophets in succession to foretell the advent of his only begotten and beloved Son, Jesus Christ, whom he would in the future, sacrifice to suffer, bleed and shamefully die the ignominious death of the cross; to purchase salvation for all who would repent of their sins, and pray to God for pardon, and believe without a doubt that He made this sacrifice a propitiation for the sins of the whole world, and that He will for Christ's sake hear and answer their cries for pardon with mercy, even unto life eternal. At the expiration of the Prophetic age, second and Jewish dispensation; then all of this long succession of prophecies were most beautifully—in the four thousand and fourth year of the world, and eighteen hundred and seventy-six years ago—fulfilled in Bethlehem of Judea, at which time and place ushered in the Christian dispensation, through the birth of Jesus Christ the Son of God, of whom was so long prophesied. So this was the third dispensation, which now and will exist, until the stars of heaven shall fall; yea, it will close the scenes of time; when the moon shall be as blood, and the sun darkened; when the heavens shall melt with fervent heat, and the earth and all the works therein shall be burned up. God made instruments of apostles then to complete the history of Christ's life, suffering, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension, and the Bible was thus completed with that perfection and wisdom, that no earthly power, even the most gigantic intellect can attain its height, nor ever fathom its boundless depths, nor even comprehend all of the great mysteries. Its contents are supremely grand, for they proceeded from heaven, the fountain of light and wisdom. It is the way-bill to eternal life; it is man's best friend and counsellor. In it advice can be found in all cases, at all times, and under all circumstances. It has for hundreds of years, yea, and for thousands, been out upon the rough sea of time, victoriously over-riding all of the multiformed oppositions, and prospered by that power that enabled the morning stars to sing together; it will stand the storm, crowned with victory, until that trumpet shall sound, that will awake the pale nations of the dead. Every family should be in possession of this prize, and search it with care. Amen!

JAMES B. GREGORY. ROCKDALE, NOV 13, 1876.

Missionary Report of Texas Conference. The Mission Board of the Texas Annual Conference would present its annual report:

Destitute portions of the regular work present important fields for missionary effort by our church. Wherever men and women are found, we recognize a field to which the messengers from Christ must go. The question whether the people can support the preacher is not heard, while we listen to the report that souls among them are perishing for the bread of life. It is the duty of the preacher to answer this call, and it is the duty of the church to send and support the messenger.

We have in this conference the following fields in this department: BAY MISSION.—J. S. CLOVER, missionary. Report—Local Preachers 1; members 102; Sunday-school 1; officers and teachers 8; scholars 40. SWINE MISSION.—Charles Chan-

quist, missionary. Report—members 81; Sunday-school 1; officers and teachers 2; scholars 9.

BRENHAM MISSION.—A. G. Beaumont, missionary. Report—local preachers 2; members 163; Sunday-school 1; officers and teachers 17; scholars 122.

RINCH CREEK MISSION.—T. A. Garrison, missionary. Report—local preachers 3; members 124; Sunday-schools 1; officers and teachers 3; scholars 25.

RICHMOND AND EAGLE LAKE MISSION.—Thos. Whitworth, missionary. Report—members 90; Sunday-schools 2; officers and teachers 16; scholars 150. MATAGORDA MISSION.—S. H. Brown, missionary. Report—local preachers 2; members 135; Sunday-school 1; officers and teachers 5; scholars 30.

Wharton Mission was left to be supplied from Matagorda and Richmond missions. We have from it no report.

Our German Mission Conference is still prospering. The men who in other days answered the same roll call with us, are faithfully meeting their trust, and the blessing of God is upon them. No work has stronger claims than this on the evangelical christian. Coming from lands under Papal sway or with heart chilled by rationalism, the influence of this tide, pouring upon our shores is visible in the Sabbath desecration of our cities and the growing skepticism of portions of our people. We can only meet this influence with the words of men who speak under the authority and guidance of the Spirit of God. They should have the sympathy and aid of all christian people.

On our Western border, a work is opening among the Mexican population which has but few parallels in the history of modern missions. A few years ago a converted Mexican was unknown in the operations of the church. Last year four converted Mexicans were introduced to the West Texas Conference as applicants for admission into its ranks. This year the number has been increased to ten, two of whom were ordained deacons by Bishop Doggett. In the language of Bro. Sutherland, the Superintendent of the Mission, the work among our Mexican population is spreading like "fire in dry stubble." When a man is converted among them, his consecration is complete. Sundering the ties which bound him to a corrupt faith, encountering the hostility of an intolerant priesthood, his espousal of Protestant christianity demands a heroism which recalls apostolic days. Each one of these converts becomes at once a worker for Christ. With Bible in hand, they visit the Rancho and tell the story of redeeming love to their astonished country men. Before the Superintendent of this work had fairly mastered the language so that he might tell his message to the people in their native tongue, half a score of men with the love of Christ in their hearts took their place by his side and shared with him the work of spreading the news of salvation among the people. At the same rate of increase, in a few years, a Mexican Mission Conference will assume its place in our growing family of conferences, and enter on the work in this nation just opened to the gospel under auspices brighter than those which cheer on the labors of any of our sister churches. We most earnestly commend this mission to an interest in the prayers and labors of the church.

By this time Bishop Marzin, followed by the prayers of the church is bearing to our laborers on the shores of Asia the assurance that at distant outposts they are remembered by the church at home. If our people measure up to the demands God has made upon it, the little company in that field must be enlarged by new recruits, until the Southern Methodist church takes that position in the work of the world's evangelization to whom the wealth and numbers by which we are endowed spirit wake up among our people. I. G. JOHN, Sec.

(Communicated.) Letter from the Bible Agent.

I began my Bible work at Mexia on the 28th ult., in connection with Rev. W. B. Rankin, Superintendent for the State. We had a meeting at night which owing to want of previous notice was but thinly attended; yet out of the fifteen persons in attendance, we raised in cash, thirty-two dollars and twenty-five cents, (\$32.25). Thirty dollars of this sum was to constitute Rev. John S. McCarver, the retiring Agent, a life member of the American Bible Society, and the balance to frame his certificate of membership. This worthy Brother has

most faithfully served the Society for the past five years, and this handsome little compliment was a deserving need for abundant labors in a noble cause.

I am now fairly in the field, and expect to visit every pastoral charge within my bounds. As the brethren of my conference stand pledged to assist in the objects of the American Bible Society, I shall fully rely on their co-operation; to other pastors and people having a common sympathy with this noble cause, I shall look confidently for all useful help.

OSCAR M. ADDISON, CALVERT, Dec., 4th, 1876.

LANE & BODLEY, John & Water Sts., Cincinnati, MANUFACTURERS OF—

Plantation Machinery, SAW MILLS, GRIST MILLS, COTTON GINS, STAMP MILLS, ETC. Send for illustrated catalogue.

JNO. A. MILLER, CHAS. H. HURSEY, JOHN HILLIPS, L. HOSKINS, BROTHER, F. W. EDELL, BENNETT, POSBY,

Miller, Billups & Co., MANUFACTURERS OF THE CELEBRATED John Billups Cotton Gin.

22" Old Gins repaired on short notice at the lowest cash prices. 23" All orders for Gins promptly filled.

COPY MILLS MADE TO ORDER. Satisfaction Guaranteed. May 27-90. NICHESVILLE, TEXAS

JUL MEYER, WHOLESALE PAPER, PAPER-BA AND—

TWINE WAREHOUSE, 71 Camp Street, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

Printers' Material of all description constantly on hand.

Song Herald. Song Herald.

The newest and best for Singing Schools, etc. By H. H. Palmer, author of Song King. Price \$2.50 per dozen; 5 cents each by mail.

GOSPEL HYMNS AND SACRED SONGS! The "Moody and Sankey Song Book," containing all the songs and many others sung by these celebrated revivalists. Price, bound \$2.00 per hundred; 25 cts. each by mail. Words only, 50 per hundred; 6 cts. each by mail.

PALMER'S THEORY OF MUSIC! The Vade Mecum of Musical Knowledge. Covers the whole ground. Every teacher and student should have it. Bound in cloth, price \$1 by mail.

Any book sent post-paid upon receipt of retail price. Published by JOHN CHURCH & CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.

HOME Smoothing, Glazing, Fluting and Crimping Iron.



LATELY IMPROVED

Every iron and its attachments heavily Nickel Plated and highly polished. The cheapest, handsomest, and best glazing, fluting and crimping iron in the world.

Its low price places it within the reach of every family, while its beautiful appearance, evident practicality and manifest superiority over all others, ensures its sale in every house.

The cut above shows the iron resting with its handle behind the fluting block, showing its Rounded Point for ironing gathers, its Smoothing Face and glazing heel. On the board are the Fluting and Crimping Plates, the former to be used in conjunction with the coarse board, and the fine or crimping plate with the finer board standing behind the iron. The fine plate shows the mode of attachment to the iron, which is so simple that a child can adjust them properly.

We want agents in every county in the Union, for this beautiful, useful and saleable article, to whom exclusive agencies will be given on the most liberal terms, affording an unsurpassed opportunity to make money.

Our limited space does not permit of an explanation of the merits of the iron, nor an outline of the advantageous terms upon which we grant agencies; therefore we give you an opportunity to explain more fully the iron and our terms, we ask all who read this to send their address on a postal card, on receipt of which we will send circulars, giving full terms and particulars.

In order that those who desire an agency, or those ordering where we have no agent may have the iron to see and handle, a sample complete, with all attachments, directions, starch receipts, order book, circulars and large posters will be sent on receipt of \$2.50. Don't fail to get one; we guarantee you will be delighted with it.

Address all orders and letters to HOME IRON CO., Box 900, Pittsburgh, Pa. Please say what paper you saw this in.

\$15 SHOT GUN! A double barrel gun, bar or front action lock; warranted genuine twist barrels, and a good shooter, or no sale; with Flask, Pouch and Wad cutter, for \$15. Can be sent C. O. D., with privilege to examine before paying bill. Send stamp for circular to P. POWELL & SON, 238 Main street, Cincinnati, Ohio. Aug 25-90.

Potter's American Monthly. 50,000. Illustrations, price \$25, given to the person sending this club. For sale by all news stands, at 25 cts. a number. Special terms to J. E. POTTER & Co., Phila. Pa. agents.

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 16, 1876

VERY FEEBLE BITTERNESS.

Very Bitter Feebleness.

Under the head of "Pharisees and Hypocrites," a writer in the *Texas Catholic* devotes over two columns to the *ADVOCATE* and its editor. The article is so shallow in thought and so coarse in style that we should have declined giving it even a casual notice, but we are informed that its author is a priest of some prominence, and whatever may be an estimate of his mental capacity or his weakness of temper, we will respect the office assigned him by his church and give his effusion some attention.

The first complaint is respecting a remark we appended to an item of telegraphic news to the effect that a bill "securing freedom of meeting for regular worship" had passed to its second reading in the French Assembly. We said:

This is another indication of the change which is going on in Catholic nations. The human mind, long repressed by priestly domination, is asserting rights which God everywhere recognizes in His Word.

Our friend rushes to the conclusion that we were under the impression "that liberty of worship was just established in that benighted country," and informs us that it has "existed in France for the last seventy years." It may surprise him to learn that the people in America are so well posted respecting the history of the country he has very recently left, that the editor does not think it necessary to explain, while getting out items of intelligence, that this bill was not the initiatory act securing to the people of France, for the first time in their history, liberty of worship, but was a bill for the better securing and defining this sacred right. The fact that the French Assembly gave it respectful attention, and passed it to a second reading, indicates that there existed, in the judgment of that body, a demand for legislation on this subject; and we shall insist that this fact is an indication of the change passing over the mind of Catholic nations. It reveals the deep current of thought and conviction in Catholic nations, which is sweeping away those barriers to human freedom which a proud and dominant hierarchy has planted in its path. Within the past few years Pius IX has been relieved of his secular scepter, and the church, once potential in the council of kings, has been relegated to that moral and spiritual vocation assigned by the words of Christ. The Bible—God's message to man—which for ages has been a sealed book in Papal lands, is now opened in the streets of the "seven hilled city," and Protestant churches and congregations are established almost under the shadow of the Vatican itself. It was not the church of Rome which, seventy years ago, secured to France religious liberty, for it has ever been the stern and unrelenting foe to the freedom of the human conscience.

No fact in history is susceptible of clearer proof than the statement that wherever the papal power has controlled the secular arm, freedom of worship has been denied the people. In the slaughter of the Huguenots of France, and the persecution of the Jews of Spain, her spirit has been recorded. Her past history cannot be repudiated without invalidating her claim to infallibility. But we need not go to the past to find proof that the "human mind long repressed against priestly domination is revolting in Catholic nations against its bonds." Spain, with her best statesmen, pleading in vain for freedom of religious worship; the Pope protesting against any concession to Protestants; and the bishops clamoring against the right of a Protestant congregation in Spain worshipping God with open doors, are facts which proclaim the pres-

ent attitude of the Vatican respecting religious liberty.

We also copied from the telegrams an item respecting the conflict between the Bishop of Cusco and the government of Peru, and mentioned it is another evidence that "in nearly all the Catholic countries of South America these collisions between the civil and religious powers are going on." Our friend in the *Catholic* defends the Bishop of Cusco, and thinks the policy of that government oppressive to the church. Were we to admit that the Peruvian Government, in resisting the aggressions of the Church of Rome, had been betrayed into a spirit of retaliation, we should have simply recognized in their acts a human frailty; but would have found in them no justification of the priesthood, who have invited this revolt against their authority by their arrogant and persistent interference in secular affairs. Nor does it weaken the significance of the fact to which we adverted, viz: that nearly every country in South America is resisting the control the church has assumed over the civil power. These facts, taken in connection with the loss of the secular power in Italy by the Pope, and disturbed relations between all the Catholic powers of Europe and the Vatican, have in them a significance which may be beyond the intelligence of our friend of the *Catholic*, but which satisfy thoughtful men that the day is not far distant when the Church of Rome in every land will be relieved of secular support, and must rely, as do the Protestant churches—not on State aid, or the terrors of the civil power to enforce its mandates—but on the moral and spiritual forces it can command. Does this allusion to this contest for the supremacy of the church over the civil power justify the following assertions:

For him (the editor of the *ADVOCATE*) liberty of worship means liberty for all the sects, but not for the Catholic Church. According to him the Catholic Church has no right; she must be the submissive slave of the State, be it represented by Gambetta, Bismarck or Garibaldi.

Need we state that no words ever written or uttered by us justify such an inference. We claim for the Catholic, the Jew, the Pagan, the Infidel, the same freedom of conscience we claim for the Protestant. God does not coerce the human conscience, and we pronounce the act of church or party which brings the terrors of the secular arm to bear on the freedom of the human conscience in all questions of religious faith and practice, an unwarranted interference with the plans of him who leaves the will of man unfettered that He may secure the voluntary surrender of heart and life to his services.

It is evident that this man has never learned the first principles of Protestantism. It demands for the Catholic of all lands the same rights it claims for its brethren in Spain; and, though Protestantism is there crushed under the heel of despotism, it seeks no retaliation, but would as promptly protect the rights of Catholic, Jew or infidel as it would sternly vindicate its own. So far from saying that the "Church must be the submissive slave of the State," we affirm that the State has no right to interfere with religious questions only to guarantee freedom of conscience to all. If the State, represented by Bismarck, or any one else, has placed on the church of Rome the pressure of secular authority, we enter no defence of the act, but would remind our friend of the *Catholic* that his church, in such a strait, is only realizing the consequences of a policy it has not hesitated to adopt where the secular has been at its command.

Will our friend tell us, in this connection, what he thinks of religious liberty now denied to the Protestants of Spain.

LOSES HIS TEMPER.

Our friend finds in our columns another cause of complaint, and it is singular that this also is

in connection with an item of intelligence which came to us through the usual channel. We mentioned the fact that in England a memorial to which were appended 80,000 names, "signed by women only," asked for the inspection and registration of the nunneries of that country.

Of the memorial, this writer in the *Catholic*, says:

We almost wonder that, in the whole united kingdom, only 80,000 bigoted or degraded women were found to wage war against the liberty of conscience of persons living within the walls of a convent. Houses of ill-fame alone should have furnished a greater number of combatants; but let us wait, and new recruits will perhaps be found.

It was to secure the inmates of these institutions liberty of conscience that this movement was projected by the women of England. If they are mistaken respecting the rules of the convents and the control exercised over their inmates, an inspection would certainly be the best vindication of these institutions. It is well known that the Catholic Church welcomes to its priesthood the sons of Protestant parentage, who become converts to its faith, and will open its convents to their daughters should they renounce the religion of their parents; and he may be assured that the parents of sons and daughters who are liable to be converted to another faith, will not surrender their right to enquire into the management of institutions in which their children may possibly spend their lives. There are other rights in this world than those vested in the Catholic Church; and relations as sacred as those which bind any individual to any human ecclesiasticism he may espouse. Truth and purity need not fear the light; and we would suggest to our irate friend that with thinking men the furious temper he displays is better calculated to awaken than to allay suspicion respecting the institutions he defends. The signatures of that memorial may be mistaken in their opinions, but that does not justify this man in pronouncing them "bigoted and degraded women." No man is justified in using such language respecting a large body of respectable women without better reason than a mere difference in religious opinion. He said enough when he used those terms to reveal the intolerance of his spirit and the texture of his religion; but when with no other evidence of their moral character than this expression of opinion respecting the conventional system of his church, he deliberately classes 80,000 Protestant women of England with the occupants of "houses of ill-fame," he descends to a depth of coarseness and indecency which we do not propose to measure with him. In our comments on the memorial we merely insisted that the inmates of nunneries should be protected in the right to abandon their walls whenever their convictions led them in that direction. We cast no imputation on their purity. We have a profound respect for the opinions of others, even while we differ with them in doctrine or question the wisdom of their institutions; but we say deliberately, if this Catholic priest, or any of the representatives of his church, has no better defense of their convent system than this foul fling cast on these 80,000 English women, that silence would be their best defence. We suggest further to the publishers of the *Catholic*, if they wish to retain for their sheet the odor of respectability, they will act wisely if in future they purge their columns of all such uncleanness.

But the *ADVOCATE* is not the only offender. In the conclusion of the article, our friend in the *Catholic* mentions "another so-called minister of the gospel, who has made himself notorious of late, by exhibiting in the columns of a vile sheet, dated Galveston, but published in St. Louis, the obscene effusions of his polished mind."

He also tells us: "There is also in our good city of Galveston a notorious pedagogue (notorious, if nothing else, for his ignorance and bigotry in religious matters)."

If the latter individual is the one we suppose is meant, we have but to say that he has the reputation of being an accomplished scholar and a polished Christian gentleman; while all who know, either by person or reputation, the editor of the *Texas Presbyterian*, will hold him incapable of any "obscene effusions." A little experience will convince the writer that low and insulting epithets are very feeble arguments, and that the Church he so ardently represents will be the only sufferer when the man who champions her cause can handle no other weapons.

He closes with the proposition that these two gentlemen, with the editor of the *ADVOCATE* as chairman, be constituted a committee to circulate a memorial, "to be signed by women, only," respecting the inspection of nunneries in our city, and appends to it the following indelicate suggestion:

If signatures are not appended fast enough to the pious document, the Chief of Police will take them to more patriotic quarters; and when they shall have thousands of followers, they will proceed to pay a visit to those unhappy creatures within the walls.

This is designed to be excruciatingly severe, but succeeds only in being coarse and vulgar. His unmanly reference to houses of questionable character in connection with the mothers and daughters of Protestant England, leaves no doubt as to his meaning when he proposes, under the guidance of the chief of police, to conduct the gentleman he has indicated to "patriotic quarters." It is strange how the mind of this man runs in this direction. His bigotry is pitiable. He seems incapable of speaking of those who differ with him without attributing to them, both men and women, the absence of every virtue. Does he represent the Catholic church? We hope not.

Very respectfully we suggest to his ecclesiastical superiors, that not only the Catholic Church, but Christianity itself, must be lowered in the estimation of all thinking men, when one of its accredited representatives assails, through its organ, the professors of another faith with epithets and suggestions so offensive to the common decencies of life.

CREDENTIALS OF METHODISM.

Born of Methodist parentage, and reared in a town that had been captured by Methodism before we had any idea of conscious existence, we have always entertained a high opinion of the Methodist Church. But, until we listened to the masterly address of Bishop Doggett, on "The Progress of Methodism in the Nineteenth Century," we had but faint conceptions of its surpassing grandeur, exhaustless vitality, and irresistible aggressiveness. One hundred and fifty years ago Methodism as an organization could not claim even a human conception. To-day it outnumbered any denomination in the United States. Not only so, but with the life of the Son of God throbbing and pulsating through its whole organism, it is pushing its conquests into the remotest regions beyond. As far northward toward the arctic iceberg under the sheet of aurora as human life is found, the genius of Methodism wends its way. Amid the tropics of the extreme South its benedictions fall. The songs of Methodism commingle with the roar of the Atlantic, and resound along the coast of the far West, where the bosom of the Pacific receives into its watery depths the fiery sun. Looking out through the historic glass, from our present vantage ground we see the flag of Methodism floating in every breeze, and its light and glory girdling the entire globe.

Its success is unparalleled in the history of evangelical movements. The world's conquest by it is simply a matter of time. If the millennium ever comes, and all the sections of the Church of Christ are merged into one organic body, we have no hesitancy in saying it will assume the Methodist form. What Methodism has done, what it is doing, what it proposes to do, are its highest credentials.

"By their fruits ye shall know them," is the the universal test of Christian ministers and Christian churches. Methodism does not flinch from the application. When John the Baptist sent a committee of his disciples to Jesus to ascertain whether or not he was the Messiah, the only answer Jesus gave was: "Go tell John all that ye have heard and seen."

The works of Jesus were His credentials. So Methodism challenges the world. Look at the number and splendor of its triumphs, and in these behold the credentials of our church. Let those who will, prate about apostolic succession. Let them raise a "hue and cry" over other denominations as usurpers of authority. Let them draw the line of exclusiveness sharp and narrow. All their noise and twaddle only recoil upon their own heads. God and the world demand fruits, not leaves. Apostolic succession is a very sorry pretext for credentials, if that be the only claim. And yet that is the main reliance of some so-called Christian organizations. Methodism lays no claims to a tactual succession, but by the grace of God it can show 3,000,000 adherents in the United States, while the Episcopal Church that lays so much stress upon a tactual succession as their only credentials of divine authority have only 240,000. It seems to us it is about time they cease to raise such a dust on this subject, or the world—the Christian world at that—may be tempted to pronounce their dogma of succession one of the foulest impositions ever palmed off upon mankind.

Methodism is just getting under headway. Heaven has stamped it with its seal of approbation. It is subsidizing all the active agencies of civilization into chariots of progress. Methodism, today, clasps hands with education. It has always done so, notwithstanding the statements of its adversaries to the contrary. It finds a work for all conditions of mental development. It is as much at home in the Indian wigwag as in the highest culture of aesthetics. And thus its adaptability to the varied wants of humanity, shows its identity with the gospel of Christ, and, of course, success. It will always be able to point to the quantity and quality of its converts as the credentials which stamp it with the authority of heaven.

RELIGION AND SCIENCE.

All the happiness that we can wish for here, or hope to enjoy hereafter, is associated with the two words, religion and science; yet the ideas suggested by them are very different. Still, despite the efforts of medieval ecclesiasticism on the one hand and modern pantheism on the other, to pervert their meaning, they are not antagonistic. Nor is it necessary for the full development of either in its proper sphere of action to attempt to correlate them in order to prevent collision. Poetic license may indulge the phantasy of looking through "nature up to nature's God," but the sobriety of prose compels a recognition of the fact that man, by searching the volume of nature, cannot find out God.

The domain of science, though it affords an inexhaustible source of intellectual improvement and delight, is widely separate and totally diverse from that of religion. In exploring the secrets of the one, as far as finite intelligence is capable of comprehending them, accurate observation and correct reasoning alone are necessary: to

apprehend the divine mysteries of the other, faith is indispensable and sufficient. It is true that the mind which investigates and comprehends the laws of nature and anticipates her phenomena, may accept also the truths of religion and yield implicit belief to its dogmas; but the conditions under which it acts in the one case and in the other are entirely different. Scientifically, it must include, *certum est, quia demonstratum est*; dogmatically, with Tertullian, it may affirm, *certum est, quia impossibile est*.

Science is simply an ever increasing appreciation of man's relation to the universe of which he forms, apparently, so insignificant a portion; while religion has to do with his relation to

"The undiscovered country, from whose
No traveler returns."
Shakespeare

As the highest duty of man is to know God, and to love Him supremely, so next in importance is the duty of acquainting himself with the varied phenomena with which he is surrounded, exciting his wonder and challenging his reverent investigation; so that while he constantly draws nearer to his Creator he at the same time finds himself in closer rapport with his surroundings. But as the kinds of knowledge here indicated, although both necessary to the acquisition of "a sound mind in a healthy body," are different, so are the instrumentalities by which they are or ought to be provided. For the one, religion relies upon the Church—its mission being to prepare souls for heaven; for the other, science appeals to the State as chiefly interested in the development and training of man's intellect on earth. As Dr. Johnson truly says: "To be of no church is dangerous. Religion, of which the rewards are distant, and which is animated only by faith and hope, will glide by degrees out of the mind, unless it be invigorated and reimpressed by external ordinances, by stated calls to worship, and the salutary influence of example." But devotion is an attribute of the soul—knowledge an endowment of the intellect. It is a fallacy to believe that it is necessary to keep man ignorant here, in order to secure his well-fare hereafter.

Ignorance, now as in the past, is doubtless the parent of superstition, but she can never be the mother of devotion. On the contrary, she is ever the prolific source of misery and crime, and, therefore, dangerous to the well-being of the State. Under no pretext ought this nation to permit the general diffusion of scientific knowledge to be restricted to further the aims of ecclesiastical bigotry and a foreign church.

"We must be free or die, who speak the
tongue
That Shakespeare spoke; the faith and
morals hold
Which Milton held."

The permanency of republican government depends upon the general morality and intelligence of the people, the joint product of unsectarian public education, and "pure religion breathing household laws." Religion and science, standing each in its appropriate place, are the main pillars of every free commonwealth. It is only on these conditions that its citizens can assure the world,

"Here shall the press the people's right
maintain,
Unawed by influence and unbribed by gain;
Here patriot Truth her glorious precepts
draw,
Pledged to Religion, Liberty and Law."

REV. J. T. GILLET and R. T. Nabors called at the *ADVOCATE* office the past week.

HANFORD'S State Register and Texas Almanac is a valuable publication. Its cheap price puts it within reach of all, and everybody should certainly have it.

No doubt our readers will join us in a request to "Annie Norland" to favor the *ADVOCATE* oftener with her contributions. "The Key," in this issue, unlocks more of her merits as a writer than anything we could say. Read the article under that head. †

Dallas with characteristic enterprise is pushing on its water-works.

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 16, 1876.

MACHINERY WIGGIN & SIMPSON—Engines 12 to 80 horse power; Boilers, Saw Mills, Cotton Presses, Horse Powers and all kinds of Machinery built and repaired.

DECHAUMES & DUNN, Houston, Texas, are dealers in hardware and stoves, manufactured at the most popular establishments in Europe and the United States.

A VALUABLE GIFT.—By an arrangement which J. L. Pate & Co., of 102, William St., New York, have made with us, they announce that they will send to every one of our readers, who will send them a three-cent stamp for postage, a sample package of Decolomane pictures free.

TO THE LADIES. Butterick's celebrated patterns have reached a pre-eminent position in this and foreign countries. A few years ago it was difficult for ladies to get reliable patterns by which to make their own or their children's clothing.

MARRIED.—By Rev. G. W. Lantz, at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. E. R. Fleming, Mr. H. D. Hill and Miss N. E. Fleming; all of Panola county, Texas.

Among the exhibitors at the Centennial Exhibition may be mentioned the well-known organ manufacturers of Brattleboro, Vt., Messrs. J. Estey & Co. The "prominent absence" of such a firm from the "list of awards" has doubtless occasioned many questions as to the reason.

Enquiry elicits the fact that Estey & Co. are the largest manufacturers and the heaviest exporters of their class, one-half of the entire amount of organs shipped to European markets being from this house.

RICHARD WAGNER, of whose ability to judge there can be no doubt, writes, "The tone of the Estey Organ is very beautiful and noble and gives me the greatest pleasure. My great friend Franz Liszt, is also charmed and delighted with them."

MME. ESSHOFF says, "I can play with exquisite enjoyment for hours on these beautiful instruments."

OLE BULL, "Excel in fine, powerful tone."

MEX. LUCCA, "I am surprised at their full, noble and organ-like tone."

RUBENSTEIN, "Tone full, noble and exceedingly animating."

There is no doubt about the meaning of such expressions as these from the leading musicians of the age, and Estey & Co. may well claim to lead the world.—Ad.

N. H. RICKER, commission merchant for the sale of corn, oats, hay, bran, butter, apples, onions and potatoes. Consignments respectfully solicited. No. 14 Strand, between 24th and 25th streets, Galveston, Texas.

COMANCHE DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Coleman mis, Dec 16, 17 Brownwood mis, at Brownwood, Dec 23, 24

San Saba cir, at San Saba, Jan 6, 7 Fort Mason mis, at Camp San Saba, Jan 13, 14

Llano mis, at Llano, Jan 20, 21 Rockdale cir, at Round Mountain, Jan 27, 28

Barnet cir, at Barnet, Feb 3, 4 Lampasas cir, at Bethlehem, Feb 10, 11

Plum Creek mis, at Williamson's, Feb 17, 18 Hamilton mis, at Evergreen, Feb 24, 25

Comanche cir, at Indian Creek, March 3, 4 Comanche sta, March 10, 11

A Serious Mistake Corrected.

Much mischief is done in treatment of constipation. The common opinion is that all the indications are fulfilled if some medicine merely forces unloading of the bowels. A great error. Medicines, simply cathartic, correct no morbid condition, consequently their use is followed by even greater costiveness. A remedy to be effectual and permanent, must be composed of tonic, alternative, corrective and cathartic properties. These are admirably combined in DR. TOTT'S LIVER PILLS. They will in a short time eradicate what is termed chronic constipation and will cure, as sure as the sun shines upon us, all the sufferings that result from inactive bowels. They give tone to the intestinal mucus membrane, stimulate the secretions and correct imperfect functional action of the stomach, liver and pancreas, and are exclusively vegetable.

The Only Asthma Remedy Found.

Noticing the general gratitude which finds expression by those who use Langell's Asthma Remedy, those sufferers requested to refer to any one whose certificates are published from time to time. It is beyond question that thousands have been cured by Langell's Asthma Remedy when all others have failed. See the following from Miamiaville, Ohio, of date Feb. 24, 1876:

Please send me another box of your Asthma Remedy. I find it a great comfort. It is the only thing I ever found that gives the required relief.

E. S. CRANE, Miamiaville, Ohio. Sent by mail for \$1.00 per box. Address, D. Langell, Apple Creek, Ohio.

Commercial.

WEEKLY REVIEW.

OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, Friday Evening, Dec. 15, 1876. Monetary. EXCHANGE, GOLD AND SILVER.

Table with columns for Sterling, New York sight, New Orleans sight, Gold, Silver, Closing gold rate, Closing gold rate in N.Y., Com'l sterling in N.Y., Gold, Silver, Closing gold rate in N.Y., Com'l sterling in N.O.

Market dull, sales this day 993 bales. Quotations are not applicable to small orders, but represent cash prices for large lots.

Bacon.—Market weak at prices quoted. We quote clear sides 10 1/4; clear ribs, 10 1/4 to 10 3/4; breakfast bacon, 14 1/4 to 15 1/4; hams 2 1/2 to 3.

Bagging.—Quiet and steady. Extra heavy, 13 1/2 to 14 1/2, per yard. Light weight 12 1/2 to 13 1/2. Hauling twine 1 1/2 to 1 3/4. Fair demand; from store per 100 pounds, 80 to 90; by the car load 42 to 45.

Beans.—Prices are steady at 25 to 27 for prime yellow, with light receipts and not much inquiry.

Belted Rubber.—Sold according to list with 30 per cent off.

Butter.—Stock light and prices higher for all grades; We quote Goshen, 34 to 35; western, 25 to 27; Texas, 15 to 16.

Brooms.—\$2 50 to 3 50 per dozen. Candles.—Quiet but steady; favorite brands 16 to 18.

Cheese.—Western cream, 15 to 16; English Dairy, nominal.

Corn.—Light supply; prices firm; selling from store, 35 to 37, per bushel in car lots and selling from 57 to 58.

Corn Meal.—Firm. Selling at \$3 00 to 3 25 in round lots; jobbing from store, \$3 25 to 3 35.

Candy.—Good demand; assorted stick 14 to 15; fancy 18 to 20; rock 22 to 25; cream 18 to 20; gum-drops 25 to 26; maple sugar 28 to 30.

Coffee.—Stock in importer's hands 4150 bags. Quotations are firm, prices higher for all grades. Fair 19; Good 19 1/2 to 20; Prime 20 1/2; Choice none; Dealers are selling from store at about 1c advance.

Crackers.—In fair demand; Soda 5 1/2 to 5 3/4; cream and ginger 9 to 10.

Castings.—Hollow ware etc., 5c and irons 5 1/2.

Coffee Mills.—Per dozen: Parke's No. 50, \$5; No. 60, \$6; No. 7, \$7 50, with 10 per cent discount.

WACO DIST.—FIRST ROUND. East Waco cir, at East Waco, Dec 2, 3 Waco cir, at Golinda, Dec 16, 17

Bosqueville, at Evergreen, Dec 23, 24 Waco sta, Dec 30, 31

Kosse cir, at Kosse, Jan 6, 7 Reagan cir, at Reagan, Jan 13, 14

Insurance Oil.

THE NEW YORK BOARD OF UNDERWRITERS

after repeated and careful tests of the INSURANCE OIL, whose specific certificate of approval in these words: "The sample of Insurance Oil stands the highest test of flash and burning point of any oil ever tested for the committee."

THE NEW ORLEANS BOARD OF UNDERWRITERS SAY:

"Our special attention has been directed to the superior merits of the Insurance Oil, and the tests made in the presence of the Fire Committee of the New Orleans Board of Underwriters, together with the evidence of scientific men who have made careful examinations and experiments with the oil, lead us to hope that your endeavors to supply consumers with an oil that chemists and experts pronounce 'perfectly safe for family use, may meet with the success they so well deserve.'"

WHAT THE GALVESTON UNDERWRITERS SAY:

"Having witnessed scientific as well as practical tests, with Insurance Oil, we feel fully satisfied that it is a production of great care, and that it can be used with absolute safety in any Kerosene or Coal Oil Lamp, without CHANGE OF BURNER, we, therefore, take pleasure in recommending Insurance Oil to all who desire a safe artificial light."

"We would, however, caution consumers to look well to the 'Trade Mark' and see that they get the genuine article, believing that if they do, it will be the means of great increase of the number of lamp fires, and the saving of many lives from Kerosene or Coal Oil Explosions."

THE NEW ORLEANS BOARD OF HEALTH

sum up, as the result of various scientific and practical experiments, by declaring that "for illuminating purposes the Insurance Oil is perfectly safe."

Fathers and mothers who desire the safety of their children and homes should use the INSURANCE OIL.

JERVEY, PETTIT & CO., Wholesale and Retail dealers in all kinds of OILS, LAMPS, LANTERNS, CHANDELIERS, LAMP-BURNERS, CHIMNEYS, SHADES, ETC.

No. 176 Twenty-second Street, GALVESTON. No. 121, Main Street, Houston.

GAINEVILLE DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Gaineville Sta, Dec 16

Marville cir, Dec 23 Gaineville cir, Jan 6

Decatur cir, Jan 13 Elizabethtown cir, Jan 21

Denton cir, Jan 28 Cambridge cir, Feb 4

Henrietta mis, Feb 18 District stewards meeting at Gaineville Sat Dec 16

CORNICANA DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Cornicana station, December 9, 10

Dresden circuit at White's chapel, Dec 16, 17

Mt. Calum circuit at Pin Oak, December 20, 21

Groesbeck at Central Institute December 20, 21

Centerville at Centerville January 1-7, 6 and 7

Jewett at Center Hill, Jan 13, 14

Summit circuit at Harrison chapel, Jan 20, 21

Fairfield circuit at Fairfield, Jan 27, 28

Byrdston mission at Pisgah Feb 3, 4

Mexia circuit at Bethel, Feb 17, 18

The district stewards, G. B. Jester, W. R. Metton, S. B. Jetton, G. W. Owen, J. T. Clower, A. J. Wynn, J. J. Long, J. K. Boykin, and J. D. Clark, will please meet me at Cotton Gin on Saturday, February 10, 1877, at one o'clock P. M., to adjust assessments for the conference year.

JOHN S. MCCARVER, P. E.

SOULE UNIVERSITY, CHAPPEL HILL, Texas. The Twenty-first Collegiate Year of this Institution opens

September 4, 1876. The First Term Closes December 31, 1876.

The Second Term Opens January 1, 1877. AND CLOSES July 15, 1877. Fiscal Session, Forty Weeks.

Insurance Oil.

THE NEW YORK BOARD OF UNDERWRITERS

after repeated and careful tests of the INSURANCE OIL, whose specific certificate of approval in these words: "The sample of Insurance Oil stands the highest test of flash and burning point of any oil ever tested for the committee."

THE NEW ORLEANS BOARD OF UNDERWRITERS SAY:

"Our special attention has been directed to the superior merits of the Insurance Oil, and the tests made in the presence of the Fire Committee of the New Orleans Board of Underwriters, together with the evidence of scientific men who have made careful examinations and experiments with the oil, lead us to hope that your endeavors to supply consumers with an oil that chemists and experts pronounce 'perfectly safe for family use, may meet with the success they so well deserve.'"

WHAT THE GALVESTON UNDERWRITERS SAY:

"Having witnessed scientific as well as practical tests, with Insurance Oil, we feel fully satisfied that it is a production of great care, and that it can be used with absolute safety in any Kerosene or Coal Oil Lamp, without CHANGE OF BURNER, we, therefore, take pleasure in recommending Insurance Oil to all who desire a safe artificial light."

"We would, however, caution consumers to look well to the 'Trade Mark' and see that they get the genuine article, believing that if they do, it will be the means of great increase of the number of lamp fires, and the saving of many lives from Kerosene or Coal Oil Explosions."

THE NEW ORLEANS BOARD OF HEALTH

sum up, as the result of various scientific and practical experiments, by declaring that "for illuminating purposes the Insurance Oil is perfectly safe."

Fathers and mothers who desire the safety of their children and homes should use the INSURANCE OIL.

JERVEY, PETTIT & CO., Wholesale and Retail dealers in all kinds of OILS, LAMPS, LANTERNS, CHANDELIERS, LAMP-BURNERS, CHIMNEYS, SHADES, ETC.

No. 176 Twenty-second Street, GALVESTON. No. 121, Main Street, Houston.

GAINEVILLE DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Gaineville Sta, Dec 16

Marville cir, Dec 23 Gaineville cir, Jan 6

Decatur cir, Jan 13 Elizabethtown cir, Jan 21

Denton cir, Jan 28 Cambridge cir, Feb 4

Henrietta mis, Feb 18 District stewards meeting at Gaineville Sat Dec 16

CORNICANA DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Cornicana station, December 9, 10

Dresden circuit at White's chapel, Dec 16, 17

Mt. Calum circuit at Pin Oak, December 20, 21

Groesbeck at Central Institute December 20, 21

Centerville at Centerville January 1-7, 6 and 7

Jewett at Center Hill, Jan 13, 14

Summit circuit at Harrison chapel, Jan 20, 21

Fairfield circuit at Fairfield, Jan 27, 28

Byrdston mission at Pisgah Feb 3, 4

Mexia circuit at Bethel, Feb 17, 18

The district stewards, G. B. Jester, W. R. Metton, S. B. Jetton, G. W. Owen, J. T. Clower, A. J. Wynn, J. J. Long, J. K. Boykin, and J. D. Clark, will please meet me at Cotton Gin on Saturday, February 10, 1877, at one o'clock P. M., to adjust assessments for the conference year.

JOHN S. MCCARVER, P. E.

SOULE UNIVERSITY, CHAPPEL HILL, Texas. The Twenty-first Collegiate Year of this Institution opens

September 4, 1876. The First Term Closes December 31, 1876.

The Second Term Opens January 1, 1877. AND CLOSES July 15, 1877. Fiscal Session, Forty Weeks.

THE WELL KNOWN & OLD ESTABLISHED CRESCENT RESTAURANT.

(Opposite the Tremont Opera House), Is offered for sale at reasonable terms, the proprietor, Mr. S. PENA, being about to retire from business. Apply by letter or in person to S. A. GRANT & CO., 2, 4, 6 & 8 Home St., Cincinnati Ohio.

THE NURSERY.

A Monthly Magazine for Youngest Readers. SUPERBLY ILLUSTRATED. Send ten cents for a Sample Number and Premium-List. JOHN L. SHOREY, 36 Bromfield Street, Boston.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

MEN WANTED to travel and sell our Old and Staple MANUFACTURES to Dealers; no peddling. \$15 PER MONTH, Hotel and Travelling Expenses paid. Apply by letter or in person to S. A. GRANT & CO., 2, 4, 6 & 8 Home St., Cincinnati Ohio.

Rose-Buds in Winter.

Strong Hot Roses, specially prepared for Fall planting and quick bloom, sent safely by mail post-paid. Price splendid varieties, all labeled for \$1; 12 do \$2; 19 do \$3; 26 do \$4; 35 do \$5. For 10 cents each additional, every dollar's worth ordered. Send for our new GUIDE TO ROSE-CULTURE, and choose from over 300 finest sorts. Address THE DINGEE & CONARD CO., Rose-Growers, West Grove, Chester Co., Pa.

DR. WARNER'S HEALTH CORSET.

With Skirt Supporter and Self-Adjusting Pads. Secures HEALTH and COMFORT of Body, with GRACE and BEAUTY of form. Three Garments in one. Approved by all physicians.

AGENTS WANTED. Samples by mail, in Court. \$2; full size, \$1.50. To Agents at 25 cents less. Order size 18 inches smaller than waist measure over the dress. WARNER BROS., 763 Broadway, N. Y.

Hanford's State Register

AND TEXAS ALMANAC! FOR 1877.

Astronomical calculations expressly for Texas. Contains a full list of postoffices, postmasters and money order offices in Texas. Also, description of Counties, Laws of Texas, etc. Price 25 cents. New Map of Texas, 7 cents. Sold by Robinson & Co., Galveston; E. H. Cushing, Houston and other dealers. ALBION A. NEWBOLD, Proprietor, Galveston, Dec. 11, 1876.

HOLIDAY MUSIC BOOKS.

Two Splendid Volumes for Presents. THE WORLD OF SONG! Price in Boards \$2.50; Cloth, \$3.00; Gift, \$4.00.

Rarely has issued a book of songs including such a variety of really first-class and popular Vocal Music. 250 pages, full sheet Music size, Songs by nearly sixty different composers, and among the composers all are many such gems as "Come to me quickly," "Golden Locks are Silver," "My Heart's best Love," "She's a Rose," "She's a Poet," and "Milkmaid's Whistle."

OLIVER DITSON & CO., BOSTON. C. H. Ditson & Co., J. E. Ditson & Co., 111 Broadway, Successors, New York.

GEMS OF THE DANCE!

A Companion to the famous "Gems of Straws." Price in Boards \$2.50; Cloth \$3.00; Gift \$4.00.

The "GEMS OF STRAWS" had a wonderful success, and this new work is fully its equal, and contains the recent "straws" pieces, and many others by Gungl, Lannas, Faust, Cooke, Zlotoff, and other eminent composers. 232 pages, full sheet Music size, well filled with Waltzes, Galops, Polkas, Quadrilles, etc. Either book mailed, post-free, for retail price.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., BOSTON. C. H. Ditson & Co., J. E. Ditson & Co., 111 Broadway, Successors, New York.

WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY

THE STUDENT'S BEST HELPER. CHILDREN'S FRIEND.

A MAGAZINE WITHIN THE REACH OF ALL. An illustrated monthly, now entering its twelfth year, devoted to the best interests of the youth of all ages. Terms, \$1.50 per year, postage paid. Specimen numbers 10 cents. Address, M. Y. HOUGHTON, Editor and Publisher, Box 2019, 706 Arch St., Philadelphia.

BURGESS' Business College,

112 STRAND, GALVESTON. BETWEEN TWENTY-SECOND AND TREMONT STREETS.

This is a Regularly Organized and Practically Conducted BUSINESS or Commercial COLLEGE. Its course of instruction is unsurpassed, and includes Every Branch relating to a Complete Business Education, being thorough and exhaustive.

All the facilities known to Business Colleges are used at this Institution to promote the proficiency of its students. Night Sessions for those unable to attend during the day.

STUDENTS CAN ENTER AT ANY TIME. CALL OR WRITE FOR CIRCULAR.

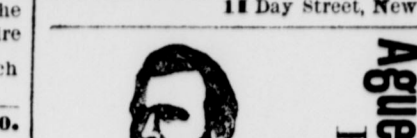
OFFICE GEORGE S. HENDER & CO., Corner Strand and Center Streets, Galveston.

OFFICE STEELE, WOOD & CO., 68 and 70 Tremont Street, Galveston.

OFFICE LEON & H. BLUM, 68 and 70 Tremont Street, Galveston.

WASHINGTON HOTEL, 112 Strand, Galveston.

\$40 to \$60 a week and Expenses or \$100 forfeited. All the new and standard Novelties, Chromos, etc. Valuable sample free with circulars. 11 Day Street, New York.



Ague and Liver P. A. D.

A Curious Good Thing

That courts investigation! That defies opposition! That conquers prejudice.

IT CURES ALL. Fever and Ague, Dyspepsia, Torpid Liver, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Headache, Liver, Cough, Heart Disease, Pain in Side, Back and Stomach, etc.

These, and many more proceed from Torpid Liver and Indigestion.

Stop Dosing and be Convinced. Is medicated with effective compounds. Cures by absorption, acting on the liver and stomach immediately, taking from the system every particle of Malaria and Billious poison. Is equally efficacious and a sure preventive in all diseases growing out of a disordered liver. Those who try them are well with delight over their speedy release from suffering.

It affords the great pleasure to add my testimony for the benefit I have received from Holman's Ague and Liver Pills. For over twenty years I have endured the horrors growing out of a torpid liver and dyspepsia, accompanied with violent headache, etc. Within a few weeks after using the Pills all these long endured ills left me and AFFRIETE AS STORED. I have gained twenty-three pounds in 2 months, and feel fully restored to health. For witness, feel indebted to Holman's invaluable Pills. CALVIN PELLE, Of Thompson's Goodrich & Co., Hat House, Cincinnati.

Price \$2 and \$3. Will send by mail when druggists do not keep them. Send for book containing much valuable information about this wonderful curative.

Dr. D. W. FAIROCHILD, Proprietor, Cincinnati, Ohio.

LIVINGSTON & Co's CORN Shellers

Guaranteed to shell the best quality of corn. Price \$2.50 and \$3.50.

OVER 10,000 NOW IN USE. Agents Wanted. Write to D. LOTHROP & Co., Boston, Mass.

The Wide Awake Magazine.

The Golden Time for Agents! Liberal cash commissions paid. Boys and girls all at work for the Wide Awake Magazine. Fair and satisfactory terms. Little girls who will act as agents receive in addition a full set of Doll Dress, Oct. and Nov. Wide Awake contains rules in full concerning the Doll's Fair. Write to D. LOTHROP & Co., Boston, Mass. Illustrated Catalogue of 500 choice books published by Messrs D. L. & Co., free.

SEEDS Gardening for Profit!

If you wish to become a Commercial Florist, read Practical Floriculture! If you wish to Garden for Home use only, read Gardening for Pleasure!

All by PETER HENDERSON! Price \$1.50 each, post paid by mail.

Our Catalogue of SEEDS or EVERYTHING FOR THE GARDEN

Numbering 175 pages, with colored plate sent FREE! to all our customers past years, or to those who have purchased any of the above books; to others on receipt of 25 cents.

Fine Print or Seed Catalogues without plate, free to all applicants. Peter Henderson's Seedmen, Market Gardeners & Florists, 35 Cortlandt St., New York.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 16 1876

I. G. JOHN, D. D., Editor.

Associate Editors.

By action of the Joint Board of Publication...

R. S. Finley, D. D., East Texas Conf.

H. S. Thrall, West Texas Conf.

W. C. Connor, D. D., N. W. Texas Conf.

W. C. Haislip, North Texas Conf.

R. T. Nabors, Texas Conference.

JOINT BOARD OF PUBLICATION

The ADVOCATE having been returned to...

West Texas Conference—John W. DeVill...

North Texas Conference—S. J. Hawkins...

Northwest Texas Conference—Thomas...

East Texas Conference—E. S. Finley, D...

Texas Conference—J. W. Whipple, B. D...

ADVERTISING RATES:

Table with columns for ad size (One-half inch, One inch, Two inches, etc.) and duration (1 mo., 2 mo., 3 mo., etc.) with corresponding rates.

Reasons for Standing Advertisements

To find price of an advertisement for a given...

For six months, 20 per cent. For nine months, 30 per cent.

For twelve months, 40 per cent.

CHANGES—Each advertisement may be...

For double column advertisements 25 per...

For triple column advertisements 33 1/3 per...

SPECIAL NOTICES—Reading matter quoted...

No advertisement counted less than one-half...

Eight words make one line of an advertisement...

For further information address SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

Subscription Rates.

Per annum (in advance) \$2.50

Six months " " 1.50

Three months " " 1.00

5 subscribers (cash to accompany order) \$12.50

No discount allowed for getting up club.

Notice.

All members of the East Texas Conference...

J. S. MATHIS, P. C.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

When articles are rejected, we must decline...

Agents sending us new subscribers or renewals...

We desire to send the Advocate to every preacher...

As preparing articles for publication, write on...

We keep open accounts with agents only.

Articles refused publication, will, in no instance...

Obituaries should not be over twenty lines.

Remedy by Postoffice Money Order, Draft or Registered Letter.

We do not keep back numbers of the Advocate.

Parties desiring to make contracts for advertising...

Private letters to the editor should be marked "Personal."

Business letters and communications should be addressed to SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

Quarterly Meeting Appointments

SAN MARCOS DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

Lockhart cir, at Lockhart, Dec 9, 10

San Marcos cir, at Pleasant Ridge, Dec 23, 24

Conales cir, at Conales, Dec 29, 31

Thompsonville cir, at Zion, Jan 6, 7

Mt. City, Jan 20, 21

The District Stewards—J. P. Kellam, P. Hixon, W. A. Blackwell, Hugh E. Clarke, W. H. Carpenter, W. L. Thompson, T. Rees, J. G. Wiley, and D. W. Fly will meet at Lockhart, Dec 2 at 3 o'clock P. M.

G. A. FISHER, P. E.

VICTORIA DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

Hallettsville cir, at Shilo, Dec 9, 10

Clinton cir, at Colletta, Dec 16, 17

Leesville cir, at Leesville, Dec 23, 24

Concrete cir, at Concrete, Dec 30, 31

Moundton cir, at Big Hill, Jan 6, 7

Sandies cir, at Nicholls' School-house, Jan 13, 14

Victoria, Jan 20, 21

District stewards will please meet at Concrete, Dec. 30.

A. A. KILLOUGH, P. E.

HOUSTON DISTRICT GERMAN CONFERENCE, FIRST ROUND.

Houston station and the Galveston German mission combined in the German church at Houston, at 7 o'clock P. M., December 18.

Houston mission, December 23—24.

Lake Charles, " 30—31.

Grassy Fork and Giddings Jan. 12-14.

Long Prairie, January 20—21.

Industry, " 27—28.

Belleville, February 3—4.

FR. VORDBAUMEN, P. E.

WEATHERFORD DIST.—FIRST ROUND

Weatherford cir, at Dixon, Dec 23 Sunday

Weatherford sta, Dec 4th Sunday

Black Springs, at Black Springs, Jan 1st Sunday

Springtown cir, at Slover's, Jan. 2d Sunday

Eldorado mis, at Eldorado, Jan. 3d Sunday

Chilam, at Chilam, Jan. 4th Sunday

Cartersville, at Veal Station, Feb 1st Sunday

Fort Griffin, at Fort Griffin, Feb. 2d Sunday

Jacksboro, at Jacksboro, Feb. 3d Sunday

The district stewards will please meet me at the Methodist church in Weatherford on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 1 o'clock.

Written will please be prompt; my address from this date will be at Weatherford.

T. W. HESKES, P. E.

CORPUS CHRISTI DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

Oakville and Beoville, Dec 25, 26

Helena cir, Dec 2, 3

Rancho Dec 9, 10

Goliad, Dec 16, 17

St. Mary's Mission, Dec 30, 31

Corpus Christi sta, Jan 6, 7

Legarto cir, Jan 13, 14

ALEX. F. COX, P. E.

OUR CLUBBING LIST, 1877.

We will send the ADVOCATE one year, price \$2.50, to any new subscriber...

Each consecutive insertion, 75 cents

One inch one insertion, 2.00

Each consecutive insertion, 1.50

Space, 1 mo. 2 mo. 3 mo.

One-half inch, 25.00 26.00 27.00

One inch, 50.00 51.00 52.00

Two inches, 100.00 101.00 102.00

Three inches, 150.00 151.00 152.00

Four inches, 200.00 201.00 202.00

Six inches, 300.00 301.00 302.00

One-half column, 50.00 50.00 50.00

One column, 100.00 100.00 100.00

Advertisements—Each advertisement may be changed quarterly free of charge.

For double column advertisements 25 per cent. added to the regular rates.

For triple column advertisements 33 1/3 per cent. added to regular rates.

SPECIAL NOTICES—Reading matter quoted, and editorial notices, add 25 per cent. to regular rates.

No advertisement counted less than one-half inch.

Eight words make one line of an advertisement. 12 lines one inch; 7 average words make one line spectral or local notice; 10 lines one inch.

No improper or objectionable matter inserted on any terms.

For further information address SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

Subscription Rates.

Per annum (in advance) \$2.50

Six months " " 1.50

Three months " " 1.00

5 subscribers (cash to accompany order) \$12.50

No discount allowed for getting up club.

Paper free to sender of club of ten.

Notice.

All members of the East Texas Conference and visiting brethren, who propose bringing their wives to conference, December 15, will confer a favor on us by notifying us at once, as homes may be provided for them.

J. S. MATHIS, P. C.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

When articles are rejected, we must decline to give reasons therefor.

Agents sending us new subscribers or renewals, will please affix to their signatures the word "Agent."

We desire to send the Advocate to every preacher in Texas, but we expect all who do not forward us five subscribers, to pay \$1.25 as subscription.

As preparing articles for publication, write on but one side of the paper; otherwise your communications may be thrown into the waste-basket.

We keep open accounts with agents only, subscription orders from others must, in every instance, be accompanied by the cash.

Articles refused publication, will, in no instance, be returned to writers.

Obituaries should not be over twenty lines; eight words make a line.

Remedy by Postoffice Money Order, Draft or Registered Letter.

We do not keep back numbers of the Advocate.

Parties desiring to make contracts for advertising, should write for card rates.

Private letters to the editor should be marked "Personal."

Business letters and communications should be addressed to SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

Quarterly Meeting Appointments

SAN MARCOS DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

Lockhart cir, at Lockhart, Dec 9, 10

San Marcos cir, at Pleasant Ridge, Dec 23, 24

Conales cir, at Conales, Dec 29, 31

Thompsonville cir, at Zion, Jan 6, 7

Mt. City, Jan 20, 21

The District Stewards—J. P. Kellam, P. Hixon, W. A. Blackwell, Hugh E. Clarke, W. H. Carpenter, W. L. Thompson, T. Rees, J. G. Wiley, and D. W. Fly will meet at Lockhart, Dec 2 at 3 o'clock P. M.

G. A. FISHER, P. E.

VICTORIA DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

Hallettsville cir, at Shilo, Dec 9, 10

Clinton cir, at Colletta, Dec 16, 17

Leesville cir, at Leesville, Dec 23, 24

Concrete cir, at Concrete, Dec 30, 31

Moundton cir, at Big Hill, Jan 6, 7

Sandies cir, at Nicholls' School-house, Jan 13, 14

Victoria, Jan 20, 21

District stewards will please meet at Concrete, Dec. 30.

A. A. KILLOUGH, P. E.

For the Texas Christian Advocate.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

BY L'ECLAIR.

CHAPTER I.

Pretty Mabel Gray sat at her window, looking out through her tears as the feathery snow-flakes tossed about on the blast, then fell noiselessly to the earth. It was the week before Christmas, and the great house opposite was full of noise and bustle as the gay Christmas party frolicked about its wide halls and lofty, comfortable rooms.

A few years ago and she too had been a welcome guest in the halls of wealth and fashion, and had reigned Queen of the Christmas feast. Misfortune after misfortune had followed the death of her father, and now she and her invalid mother earned their daily bread by the labor of their hands. Toil and privation had wasted her mother's strength until disease had fastened upon her, and she was fast sinking into a consumptive's grave. Mabel sat in the falling dusk, with the tears silently dropping upon her clasped hands, and her heart full of bitterness within her. She had this evening finished and taken home to that great house an elegant silk dress for one of the young ladies, and when she modestly asked for the amount due, was told that the young lady was at that time engaged with her guests, and she must call again in the morning. Fuel and lights are both nearly exhausted, and she must wait the tardy rising of her employers in the morning before she can procure these necessities for her sick mother.

"It is hard," she says through her shut teeth; "Oh! my God; it is hard;" and she buries her face in her hands to smother the choking sobs.

"Mabel," calls the voice of her mother from her couch in the next room, "I am very cold; can't you put on some more coal?"

"In a moment, mother," she replies, brushing away the tears, and going at once to the scanty stock of fuel.

"Only two more small lumps," she says to herself, "how shall I ever make it last until morning?"

Then she takes her own shawl from her shoulders and folds it over her mother's frail form. She sat down again near the window and wondered in the depths of her aching heart if God had indeed forgotten them, or would He punish them forever. He has not forgotten, little Mabel, but it pleases Him sometimes to purify those whom He loves in the chastening chalice of affliction. Learn on Him and trust Him still, and all will yet be well.

The long, cold night passed away at last, and morning dawned clearly beautiful. Mabel went for her money again, received it and soon had a warm, glowing fire, and a tempting breakfast for her mother. But the invalid had grown worse during the night, and try as she might to please Mabel, she could not eat.

"Take it away, dear," she said at last, "perhaps I can enjoy it later."

But the hours went on and she grew worse instead of better. The woman who lived on the lower floor came up and sat with them awhile, and when she went down stairs again, she said to her husband that Mrs. Gray would not live to see Christmas morning.

"So bad as that?" he asked; "then God help her poor child. You must stay with them all you can, wife."

"I will," she answered, "but I have my own hands pretty full." She took her cowering, dimpled baby from his cradle and sat down in a low rocker by the fire to give him his supper.

Mrs. Gray sank rapidly and Mabel's fears were greatly excited. Her small supply of money was going fast, and she could not possibly leave her mother to earn more. Borrow, she could not; for the poor have few friends. Good Mr. and Mrs. Williams did what they could, but they too were very poor and had three little ones of their own to care for. So the days wore wearily on in the tenement house; and few on fairy pinions in the great house opposite.

CHAPTER II.

Nannie Clayton sat toasting her slipped feet before a warm fire in her luxurious chamber. Two other girls, her guests, were in the room. They were talking merrily of the Christmas-tree, gotten up for the Sunday-school, and the arrival of the new minister, who was said to be both young and handsome.

"O, Girls!" says Nannie, papa has invited the Rev. Arthur Marston to be our guest until he can find a pleasant boarding place, and he will be here to-night. They say he is handsome as a king and has a private fortune of his own; so he is a rare specimen of a Methodist preacher."

"Wonderful!" says the stately Belle Withers, coiling her long black hair at the back of her haughty head, "he must be irresistible."

"He is; so beware, both of you," replies Nannie, laughing.

Rosie Felton, a pretty blue-eyed girl who sat on the hearth rug, with her plump hands clasped over her knees, said nothing. She was thinking of a pale, sweet face, crowned with waving brown hair, she had met hurrying anxiously along, as she took a short run in the bracing wind that afternoon. The owner of the lovely face had entered the tenement house opposite and soon after she had seen a doctor's buggy standing before the door. Rosie's tender little heart drew quite a moving picture of sickness and distress in the home of the poor; and she fell to wondering if she could do them any good, and if it would be anything improper for her to run across the street and offer assistance.

At last she sprang up and hastily putting on her heavy furs and hat, started out of the other door, when Nannie exclaimed,

"Where on earth are you going, Rosie?"

"Only across the street," she said; "there is somebody sick over there; I'll be back directly."

She hurried on out, and Nannie says to Belle, "that little cousin of yours is a queer fish, Bell. What do you suppose possesses her to go over yonder among those people she never saw before in her life?"

"One of her notions," replied Bell. "She was brought up in a country parsonage by her mother's brother, who is a preacher and she is accustomed to visiting the sick."

"I never should have thought of such a thing, I am sure," says Nannie.

"No!" would I," answered Bell. The new minister made his appearance at tea and the young ladies were more than pleased with his handsome face and engaging address.

"Where is Rosie?" asked Col. Clayton, glancing around the table.

"She went across the street to hunt up a patient," replied Nannie; "you know nursing the sick is Rosie's weak point."

"Her strong point, you mean?" mildly suggested Mr. Marston.

Just then Rosie quietly entered the dining-room and took her seat at the table.

"Where has the little Samaritan been?" asks Col. Clayton, after she had been duly presented to the preacher.

"To see a sick lady across the way;" replied Rosie.

"Lady!" says Bell in surprise, "they are nothing but sewing women. One of them made Nannie's new dress."

"This sick woman is a lady, notwithstanding," answers Rosie firmly; "and her daughter is one of the most beautiful girls I ever saw. I cannot think they have always been poor, for I noticed many little relics of better days, scattered about the room."

"Do you know their name?" asked Mr. Marston.

"I do not," Rosie replied, "but as I shall sit up there to-night, I may learn it before morning."

"Sit up to-night!" exclaims Nannie; "why Rosie, it will wear you out; and you know we shall have a houseful of people to-morrow. Can't some one else do it?"

"It will not hurt me in the least," says Rosie; "and they are strangers here and have no friends."

The young minister walked across the street with her after tea, and Mrs. Clayton sent a large basket of delicacies for the invalid.

"If I can be of any service, pray do me the kindness to let me know," said Arthur Marston to Rosie, as he left her at the door.

"I will," she answered, as she ran lightly up the rickety stair-way to Mabel's room. She seemed like a veritable angel of light to the sick woman, as she bent tenderly over her, holding the strengthening wine to the pale quivering lips.

She soon persuaded Mabel to lie down and rest, saying she would call her if she saw the slightest change in her mother.

"My dear child," says Mrs. Gray to Mabel; "I told you God had not forgotten us. My trust in my Redeemer has never wavered for an instant, and I know He will support me through all He sends upon me."

"I try to trust Him too, mother; but sometimes He seems so far away that my prayers cannot reach Him."

"That is never so, my daughter. He both hears and answers all our prayers in the way that is best for us; and, whatever happens my dear

Mabel, always try to remember that anything that our dear Lord permits his children to suffer is, and must ever be, for their good."

Mabel kissed her mother, and after looking anxiously at the tiny pile of coal, went into her own room and threw herself wearily on the bed.

Rosie noticed her anxious look, and after Mabel had fallen into a heavy sleep of exhaustion, she privately dispatched good Mr. Williams for a plentiful supply of fuel, for which she paid out of her own Christmas pocket-money.

When Mabel awoke, the sun was shining brightly, and Rosie was standing beside her with a plentiful breakfast on a tray, for which she had drawn on Mrs. Clayton's ladder.

"How is mother?" asks Mabel, as Rosie set the tray on a little table near her.

"Sleeping very sweetly," answers Rosie; "she rested so comfortably all night, there was no need to disturb you. Now you must eat your breakfast, and get some strength, for you look worn out."

"O, I am rested now," says Mabel, springing up; "you are very, very good to strangers," she adds, looking gratefully into Rosie's eyes, while her own brown orbs fill with unshed tears.

"Not at all," answers Rosie; "don't think of it. You would do the same for any one I am sure. Besides, God sent me; I should never do anything good of myself."

And the humble little Christian turned away to hide the tears in her own eyes.

"And only yesterday," Mabel goes on, "I felt so rebellious and so wicked; doubting God's goodness and mercy, and quite given up to despair. I will try never to feel so again."

"I am so sorry for you," says Rosie simply, and then these two girls, who were strangers yesterday, throw their arms about each other, and cry like little children.

Rosie goes back home after awhile, promising to come again in the afternoon. Mrs. Gray slept heavily for hours, and Mabel watched her tenderly and tirelessly. All the bitterness had gone out of her heart, and little Rosie's Christian charity had brought back peace.

(Continued next week.)

Written for the Advocate.

He Drinks.

BY L'ECLAIR.

Christian Advocate

Galveston, Texas, Dec. 16, 1876.

Waste Basket.

THE ABSURDITY OF IT. It is all very well for poets to tell...

CENTAU LINIMENTS

The Quickest, Surest and Cheapest Remedies. One-Kind for the Human Family...

TAKE NOTICE

We have the largest and best selling Stationery Package in the world...

READY FOR AGENTS, THE CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION

Described and Illustrated. A graphic pen-picture of its history, grand buildings, wonderful exhibits...

ANOTHER NEW BOOK. THE ROMISH CHURCH

Its results in Europe, and its Design upon Institutions of America...

MENELEY & COMPANY. BELL FOUNDERS

West Troy, N. Y. Fifty years established. Church Bells and Chimes...

District Conference HIGH SCHOOL

Sulphur Springs, Texas. Devoted to the co-education of the sexes. Course thorough and practical.

Patents Inventors

American and Foreign obtained for inventors a price as low as that of any reliable agency...

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION

A WEEKLY PAPER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE FAMILY

THE COMPANION aims to be a favorite in every family—looked for eagerly by the young folks...

CAUTION

Holman's Pad, that has stood the test of years, is being counterfeited and imitated...

TEXAS Medical College HOSPITAL

The regular course of lectures will begin Monday, Nov. 15, 1876 and close the 15th of March...

GREENVILLE DOWELL, M. D., Professor Surgery. J. D. LANKIN, M. D., Professor Theory and Practice of Medicine...

VEGETINE! PURIFIES THE BLOOD

Renovates and Invigorates the Whole System. ITS MEDICAL PROPERTIES ARE Alterative, Tonic, Solvent, Duretic.

VEGETINE is made exclusively from the juices of carefully selected herbs, roots and berries...

THE BEST EVIDENCE

The following letter from Rev. E. S. Best, Pastor of the M. E. Church, North, Mass., will be read with interest...

ALL DISEASES OF THE BLOOD

VEGETINE will relieve pain, cleanse, purify and cure such diseases, restore the patient to perfect health...

TROY BELLS

THE JONES & CO., OLD ESTABLISHED TROY BELL FOUNDRY, Troy, N. Y., continue to manufacture those superior bells...

IN PRESS—OUTFIT READY—THE CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION

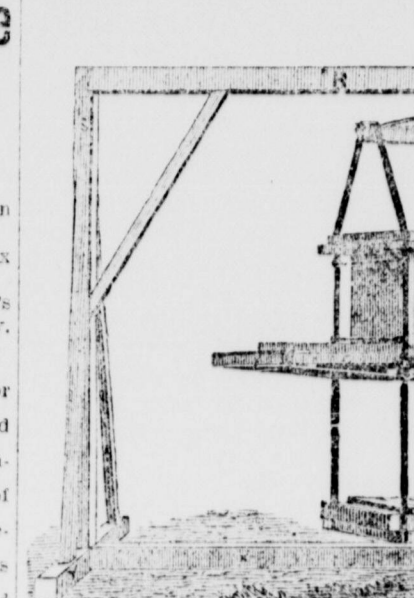
Described and Illustrated. A graphic pen-picture of its history, grand buildings, wonderful exhibits...

PILES

WHAT ARE PILES? READ! Pain, Blood, Itching, Swelling, Discharge, Hemorrhage, Stricture, Proctitis, etc.

MACHINERY

IMPROVED BROUGHT-IRON REVOLVING SHELW COTTON PRESSES



At present we have the largest stock of cotton presses warranted up to date.

W. L. CUSHING & MOORE

122 and 124 Strand, Galveston. The Complete Cotton Cleaner. A New, Valuable and Money-making Machine...

LAND COLLECTING

W. L. CUSHING & MOORE, 122 and 124 Strand, Galveston. GENERAL AGENTS.

Southern Farmer

Published Weekly. Subscription price per annum, post-paid, single copy 25 cents.

ELBOW-ROOM

MAX ADELER'S NEW BOOK. Just published. Will outlast any book in the field.

AGENTS WANTED FOR OUR NEW BOOK

Great Centennial EXHIBITION ILLUSTRATED. Every American visitor or non-visitor wants it in his home...

THE FRUIT RECORDER AND COTTAGE GARDENER

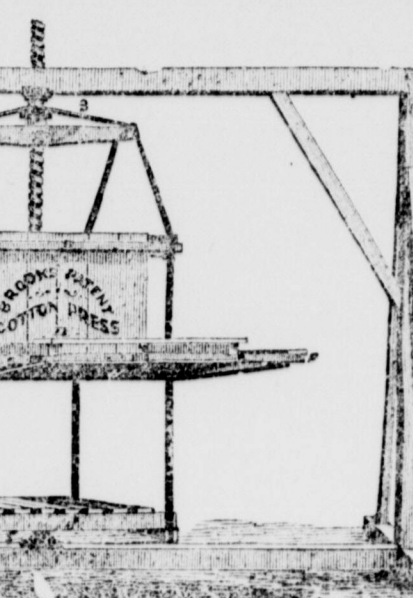
3 Months FREE. We are now publishing a new and valuable work...

THE MASONIC JOURNAL

A Live, Progressive Masonic Newspaper. Published Semi-Monthly.

MACHINERY

IMPROVED BROUGHT-IRON REVOLVING SHELW COTTON PRESSES



At present we have the largest stock of cotton presses warranted up to date.

W. L. CUSHING & MOORE

122 and 124 Strand, Galveston. The Complete Cotton Cleaner. A New, Valuable and Money-making Machine...

LAND COLLECTING

W. L. CUSHING & MOORE, 122 and 124 Strand, Galveston. GENERAL AGENTS.

Southern Farmer

Published Weekly. Subscription price per annum, post-paid, single copy 25 cents.

ELBOW-ROOM

MAX ADELER'S NEW BOOK. Just published. Will outlast any book in the field.

AGENTS WANTED FOR OUR NEW BOOK

Great Centennial EXHIBITION ILLUSTRATED. Every American visitor or non-visitor wants it in his home...

THE FRUIT RECORDER AND COTTAGE GARDENER

3 Months FREE. We are now publishing a new and valuable work...

THE MASONIC JOURNAL

A Live, Progressive Masonic Newspaper. Published Semi-Monthly.

NEW BOOK

Dr. Chase's Family Fly Book is the only new book by Dr. A. W. Chase, author of Dr. Chase's famous Receipts...

CAUTION

Holman's Pad, that has stood the test of years, is being counterfeited and imitated...

SHAW & BLAYLOCK

Are prepared to execute every variety of printing from a visiting card to a mammoth paper...

BOOK WORK A SPECIALTY

SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Cheap Job Printers, STRAND, GALVESTON.

AGENTS

double their money selling "Dr. Chase's Improved" Receipt Book...

BEN CHASE, Publisher

Room No. 1, Masonic Temple. FOR SALE THE SCHOOL LAW—30 cents

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 16 1876

The editorial card of Mr. N. H. Ricker will be found in this issue of the ADVOCATE. This house is engaged in a commission business, and has constantly on hand corn, oats, hay, potatoes, butter, apples, onions, etc. Consignments respectfully solicited. We commend this house to our readers.

J. E. MASON, proprietor of the Parlor Book Store and Big Bonanza Toy House, has among his holiday gifts a magnificent set of Chamber's Encyclopedia, valued at \$100; Shakespeare, valued at \$125; and upwards of 500 volumes of fine books for boys and girls. Remember, all who purchase \$5 worth of goods from the Toy House or Book Store will receive a ticket entitling the holder to a prize.

ATTENTION is called to the advertisement headed "Insurance Oil." This justly celebrated oil has received from the Board of Underwriters at New York, New Orleans, Galveston, emphatic certificates of approval, all of which agree that this popular and cheap oil should have precedence of all other oils, because it has stood the highest test of flash and burning point of any oil ever tested, that it is a production of great care, and it can be used with absolute safety in any kerosene or coal oil lamp without change of burner, and it is superior to other oils for illuminating purposes. Give this oil a trial.

The card of Wallis, Laudes & Co. will be found under head of "New Advertisements." This old and reliable house is known in every section of our broad State. The respective members of the firm have had thorough experience in the grocery business, and are conversant with every want of their long list of patrons. Those who have patronized this house for years are loud in their praise of the promptness and care with which orders are always filled. Merchants will do well to visit this house before purchasing elsewhere.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS—May be found at the popular and heavily stocked establishment of T. E. Thompson, whose advertisement appears in another column. The proprietor of this house stands prominently in the front rank of the most substantial and reliable business men of the Island City. His enterprise and energetic efforts in business affairs, as well as in matters that aided in advancing the prosperity of Galveston, has placed him in an enviable position in society, and made his establishment a favorite resort for those desiring the choicest articles in silver-ware, the best made and most reliable watches, elaborate and charming styles in jewelry, etc., etc. Mr. Thompson is agent for the celebrated "Elgin Watch," which can be purchased as low as \$15. This watch is guaranteed to be equal to any watch in the market, as to regularity, durability and workmanship. He has on hand all other styles of American watches, also, English and Swiss watches of the best manufacture, which will be sold at prices to suit the present hard times. Bargains can be found at this establishment in thousands of elegant little articles suitable for holiday gifts.

HELENA, TEXAS, Dec. 4.—Have just closed our first quarterly meeting. Have had two accessions since Conference. I now realize more fully than ever the absolute necessity for a church paper, and expect to put the ADVOCATE in at least every Methodist family on my work.—WM. C. COCKE.

GAINESVILLE, Dec. 9.—Bro. Sims, the Presbyterian Evangelist, has just closed a good meeting in this place, forty odd conversions, and twenty odd accessions to their church, seventeen joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.—J. E. CROPPER.

CHAPPELL HILL, Dec. 9.—You have published Travis as a mission, and also LaGrange. This will give offense if it is not corrected—will you please correct in your next issue. Please state also that Bro. A. G. Beaumont is supernumerary at Brenham station.—T. B. BUCKINGHAM.

EUFAULA, CREEK NATION, I. T., Dec. 9, 1876.—A gloom has been thrown over Asbury Manual Labor School by the death of its General Superintendent, Rev. Jno. Harrell, well known to many in Texas Conferences. He preached on last Sunday at Venetta, went home with Mrs. Effort for dinner, was taken sick while there, and breathed his last yesterday at 6 o'clock A. M. None knew him but to love him. A. DIXON.

(Communicated.)

Marvin College

In our last, we disclosed the situation of this institution and the opportunity we now have to work its redemption.

We have prayed earnestly that the Holy Spirit would influence the minds of our brethren to a universal determination to co-operate with us in this work. We have said that "universal and uniform co-operation was necessary to the accomplishment of our hopes" upon the plan of operation we have adopted. We desire to afford the opportunity for every member of our nineteen thousand Methodists in the North West Texas Conference to contribute something towards the accumulation of the \$8000 necessary to make an end of this college debt. We observe that 25 cents per member will create a fund amounting to \$4750. The amount per member is trifling, while the aggregate is considerable; and if it be said of this plan that it has been tried and failed we reply by asking why it failed? simply because the people did not respond to it.

This much may be said of any plan, and that too for any purpose. Upon what ground has any plan ever reached a successful issue? simply a prompt response from the parties appealed to. Why did a firm, conceived and born in iniquity, realize \$10,000 in a few weeks from 25 cent contributions, as once done in a certain region of this country? simply because forty thousand persons promptly responded to their invitation. A postage stamp of far less consideration than a 25 cent bill, and yet we see a vast fund employed in the circulation of these, besides an innumerable number of men and women find constant employment in this business. The United States government creates an immense fund every year by means of the revenue stamps, and why may not we raise the sum of \$4750 in contributions of 25 cents? No one will say that this is impossible; neither will any say it is unreasonable. We believe that a member of the church cannot be found who is unwilling to contribute that amount upon good assurance that by so doing the trouble would be ended, and yet that is just what your contribution is expected to do in connection with a like amount from eighteen thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine others. If it be said by some that all will not respond, we reply by saying that some are not appealed to, to the exclusion of others, but our appeal to all, both rank and file. Let no one feel slighted. Let no one assume an excuse; but without waiting to see what others are going to do, let every one respond at once. That amount of money can be ventured through the mails to our address; or it can be handed to your preacher in charge, who will take pleasure in conveying it to us at once; and to supply all accidental deficiencies, we trust many of our brethren will contribute a larger amount than that designated. It will be asked by some how this proposition is to be known, as every one will not see the ADVOCATE. We are very sorry to admit that every body does not see the ADVOCATE, and we are inclined to believe that this fact exists upon the precise ground as that upon which a failure of our plan would occur. They will not, for every one might see the ADVOCATE. But we hope to meet this difficulty through the various preachers. They all read the ADVOCATE, and we hope they all feel interested in the redemption of the college; besides the shame and humiliation of a failure in its redemption, would possibly be more keenly felt by them than by any one else. We therefore request each and every preacher to carefully represent this matter in the pulpit, and the pastoral work so that none can plead ignorance of our plan. We hope that every preacher will agree to make a special effort to induce his charge to contribute the amount specified. I am willing to head the list of preachers who will pledge themselves to do this. Who will join us in the undertaking. We invite every such one to send us his name for publication, for we are assured that our esteemed and beloved Editor will take pleasure in reporting progress in this eminent work. We may depend upon his co-operation, for we have but to look back a few years and see him struggling for the redemption of our beloved ADVOCATE, while it was almost or quite as far gone as Marvin College. By the grace of God and the co-operation of the church he succeeded, and by the same means we expect to emancipate our Marvin before the assembling of our next annual conference. We are hope-

ful, and thus we venture to write; for indeed if we fail, our disappointment will be a very sore affliction; and Texas Methodism will write under the humiliation of such a failure. May God deliver us from this great calamity. We look for no such disaster as that would be; we believe the time has arrived when our people will come to the rescue.

Doubtless some are anxious to know our plan for securing the \$3250; we will disclose that in our next article. We will say here, however that it is a more feasible one if possible. We are anxious to know who will first respond to this one. Let us gather up the fragments (quarters) that nothing be lost.

MEXIA, DEC. 1876. JAMES D. SHAW.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

The House of Representatives on the opening day—Scenes and Incidents—Appearance of the Hall—Election of a Speaker—Work commenced in earnest—Some of the dignitaries present—Capture of the Governor of Indiana—Etc.—Etc.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4, 1876.

While the opening of a Congressional session is always a most interesting event, and, as such, hailed with delight by the newspaper correspondents as a pleasant and invigorating change from the enervating *dolce far niente* of the dull periods known here by the appropriate, if not very euphonistic term of "between sessions." I doubt if any preceding session has ever commenced its labors under circumstances more exciting, and perhaps less auspicious. It follows, that rather unusual interest attaches to the proceedings of to-day, the hard-pan facts of which will, long ere this reaches the eye of the reader, have been disseminated by telegraph far and wide, over mountains and under seas; yet there are incidents connected with the "opening day" of a Congressional session which often escape the eye of the telegraphic chronicler whose precinct is to "listen" more than "see," and to give a truthful report of what he hears, rather than to depict what he observes; and it is these by-way occurrences which I shall endeavor to mirror; not because they possess any peculiar significance, but because they are essential to the formation of a correct picture of the scene; and form, so to speak, the back-ground of the canvas. One might as well try to portray the charge of the "Six Hundred," and omit the objective Balaklava, with its back-ground of fire and smoke, as engage in the futile attempt of presenting a panorama of an "opening day" without paying some attention to the appearance of the Hall and its occupants; and as the foreground to the picture has been furnished already, your correspondent will, after the manner of the Japanese painters, who paint the foreground first and the background afterwards, proceed to sketch such scenes and sights as came within his observation on this, the great day of the opening of the second session of the 44th Congress.

In the first place then, the Hall was particularly bright; it looked more sombre than usual to-day, with the black draperies surmounting the Speaker's chair in commemoration of the demise of the late Speaker. The dull greyish carpet looked more like a London autumn day than anything else, and the clouds of dust, which as the floor gradually became crowded, rose to the galleries, had not a bad resemblance to a London fog either. As the short hand on the clock opposite the Speaker's desk slowly approached the hour of noon, the galleries became uncomfortably filled, while members, ex-members and members elect indulged on the floor, in cordial greetings and hand-shakings, and gathering into little knots, discussed the political situation. Close to the desk of the Speaker might be seen Hons. Randall, Heister, Clymer, Cox and Morrison; all candidates for the Speakership only a day or two before, engaged in earnest conversation. Not far from them, standing together in the middle aisle, were General Banks, of Massachusetts, and Milton Saylor, of Ohio, talking and laughing; Hon. Fernando Wood, sat quietly at his desk on the democratic side, polishing his eye glasses, while surveying the crowded galleries; and, first inside the door leading to the main entrance, might be seen Sir Edward Thornton, the British Minister, forming the apex of a conversational triangle of which Senator Bayard and Mr. Montgomery Blair, formed the other two corners. Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, was conspicuous by his absence, and Mr. Williams,

the Governor elect of Indiana, was conspicuous by his "blue jean" coat and by always forming the centre of an interested group. Lamar and Ben Hill evidently had a large number of friends, and were here, there and everywhere; Proctor Knott kept his seat, reading a paper and stroking his white mustache; and flitting out and in, shaking hands with Tom, Dick and Harry, was "Sam Ward," the king of the lobbyists, and in a certain sense, one of the most influential men in Washington.

Precisely at twelve fell the gavel on the Speaker's desk, and Clerk Adams called the House to order. As if by magic, the hum of conversation on the floor stopped; everybody in the galleries strained their neck and eyes, and for a moment, at least, thousands of fans of all sizes and colors which had been stirring the dust in these upper regions, ceased their motions. In a deep, sonorous voice the Clerk announced that since the adjournment of the last session, Speaker Kerr had departed this life, and that the first business in order would, therefore, be the election of a Speaker. To this Mr. Banks demurred, holding that the first business in order was the admission of the member, Mr. Belford, from the new State of Colorado. A long and excited debate took place, when it was finally decided that a Speaker must be elected first, which was accordingly done, and, as I predicted in my last letter, Sam Randall carried the palm by a strict party vote.

The ceremony of "swearing in" the Speaker is always impressive, and so it was in this instance. After taking his seat on the dais, to which he was conducted by Messrs. McCrary and Cox, and having made his brief inaugural address, he was requested by Judge Holman of Indiana, to stand up and hold up his hand while the oath of office was being administered. Mr. Holman read, in a clear and distinct voice, the oath, to which Mr. Randall firmly replied, "I do;" and then commenced his functions as Speaker of the 2d session of the 44th Congress.

An amusing incident occurred shortly before the opening of the session, when "blue jean" Williams, as he is facetiously called, was for the time being, captured and placed completely *hors du combat* by an old lady who, somehow or other, had gained admittance to the floor and suddenly, without previous notice of any kind, pounced upon him, forced him into a chair, and then commenced to give him such a lecture as would have done honor to Mrs. Caudle, because he had not passed a certain bill of hers last session. In vain did the friends and sympathizers of the Governor elect endeavor to extricate him from this dilemma; it was no use the old lady held him tightly by the wrists and did not let go of him until she had "bull-dozed" him to her heart's content. Then, just as the clerk's gavel was descending on the desk, she made a final plunge at him with her pointed fore-finger, rose, and left the Hall with a *grandiose* sweep. Such is life!

CARR.

Outlook.

The State of Iowa has fifteen Y. M. C. Associations.

There are not less than 160 different denominations in the United States.

The Lutherans have ordained three colored men to the ministry in North Carolina.

Special services were held by the Methodists in Lucknow, India, during the Dasahra holidays in September last.

The number of ordinations in the Church of England in September were 196, of whom 138 were university men.

The Congregationalist says arrangements are being made for issuing a call for the meeting of the National Congregational Council in 1877.

The Methodist mission in Pachuca, Mexico, has enjoyed an extensive revival. Seventy-three persons were received on probation in one day.

The Y. M. C. A. of Kansas City Mo., is said to have one of the finest assortments of papers, in its reading room, to be found in any Association.

Every Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church that has met so far (eleven in all) has voted in favor of the proposed convention for effecting a union with the Methodist Church.

It is rumored that several United Presbyterian churches in Edinburgh are threatened with secession on account of the use of fermented wine at the communion.

It is said that the "pulpit is a great power in Sweden. The common people go in crowds to hear any earnest preacher, on almost any day of the week."

Mrs. Johnson, of Indiana, called a certain rum-shop a murder mill, and was prosecuted for slander. She was

able to prove the allegation true and won the suit.

The London Recorder says: "It is evident that both Baptists and Congregationalists feel the need of something equivalent to Wesleyan Connexionalism in order to strengthen their general position."

A Scottish convention of Methodist churches was held in Glasgow, October 26th. Appropriate topics were discussed. A plan has been arranged for holding special services in connection with every chapel in Scotland.

Two new Missionary bishoprics are to be established in India, and two clergymen who have already been nominated will be consecrated as soon as the necessary arrangement can be made.

The Unitarians of Hungary have elected the Rev. Joseph Ferencz as their Bishop. They have now 106 churches. At the synod which chose the new Bishop fifteen young men were ordained to the ministry.

The Independent expresses the opinion that "at no time for many years has so strict and severe a Calvinism and Augustinianism been taught to the students for the ministry in Presbyterian Theological Seminaries as now."

The Greek churches of the city of Moscow number three hundred, and the wealth and splendor lavished upon them is inconceivable, containing solid silver by the ton, with untold wealth and magnificence of gems and pearls and gold.

A German correspondent of the *Evangelical Christendom* states that many pastors are separating from the State Church of Prussia, on account of the new marriage ritual. The dissenters obtain the most of their ministers from the United States.

The Cherokee Baptist women have formed a missionary association, pledging themselves to give a dollar each yearly. This is doing better than the white Baptist of Virginia, who give only about 30 cents per member to missions.

The Methodist says: "the attempt to district the Bishops" of that church is "a failure." Bishop Peck, who was assigned to the Pacific Coast, refuses to live there; but keeps his family in Syracuse, where he has spent the most of his life.

The Free Will Baptists report this year 74,657 members. The increase in twenty years has been 25,677, or a little more than fifty per cent. During the year there has been an increase of 118 ministers, 65 churches, and 2,523 members.

The hard times are compelling weak churches to unite. The two Presbyterian churches of Newport, Ky., became one on Oct. 25. The first and second Presbyterian churches of Piqua, Ohio, have also decided upon union. The consolidated churches will have 400 members.

A prayer-meeting is said to be held in connection with the Vermont Legislature every morning, and the members attend in large numbers. The Montpelier Journal says that among those attending and deeply interested in the meeting are some who have never attended prayer-meetings at their homes.

There are estimated to be over 1000 young men's Christian Associations in North America. The average number of members is 110. Four hundred and sixteen expend annually \$750. There are 304 Association reading-rooms and 247 libraries. Unincumbered Association property is held to the amount of \$2,125,416.

The *Jewish Messenger* "wants to see some Moodyism introduced in the Jewish form of service, some enthusiasm, some life." "Camp-meetings," says the Messenger, "may be sensational and ephemeral in their hold on sinners, but we have frequently wished that a little of their warmth were transferred to our synagogues and temples."

Rev. Dr. Cuyler says that he has preached thirty years, and lost only two Sundays by sickness in all that time. He attributes his uniform good health to his observance of three rules: First, take abundant sleep; Second, use no stimulants; Third, never touch a sermon on Saturday night.

The Rev. Dr. Babb, of San Francisco, says: "The results of the mission works among the Chinese on this coast are seen already in the conversion of hundreds, and the converts give as good evidence of piety as the average Anglo-Saxon church members. Some of them are quite intelligent, and earnest laborers for Christ."

George Muller, so widely known as "man of faith," is preaching on the Continent eight or ten times a week, the audiences of two to three thousand. At present he is laboring in Switzerland, and is loudly called in Germany. Past three-score and ten, he preserves to a remarkable degree the zeal and fervor of earlier days.

On the average, Congregational ministers are shown to be a little

the longest-lived class of clergymen, and yet instances of remarkable longevity are recorded in the Methodist ministry. Father Boehm passed his hundredth birthday, and several others, whose deaths are mentioned of late, lived nearly four score and ten years.

The Rev. J. P. Watson, of whom the Independent speaks as one of the prominent ministers of the Campbellite or Christian church, says: "For the last twenty-five years the Christians in the United States have, doubtless, made no progress. Some Conferences have sustained great losses during that time, while very many of our older and stronger conferences have not gained a single per cent."

The Rev. Dr. Blaikie, of Edinburgh has recently visited the Reformed churches of Germany, Bohemia, Hungary, Italy, Switzerland, France, in the interest of the Presbyterian Alliance, which will meet in the capital of Scotland next July. In his report he says: "The Reformed churches have not as yet experienced much of that fresh current of spiritual life which has been pouring itself over the American and British churches. They hope that our Alliance will give them moral strength and courage, and help them to assume a more aggressive attitude toward the sin and error that surround them."

In the collection of Bibles in the Centennial Exhibition was a copy of Cromwell's Bible, so called because he published an edition of such size that each soldier could carry it in his knapsack. The book is five inches long, two and a half wide, and one and three-quarters thick; weighs only eight and a half ounces, and is the property of the American Bible Society. It belonged to John Milton, and was printed in 1656 by John Field, printer to Parliament. There are but three other copies in this country.

A correspondent who has been investigating the statistics of the denomination writes to the Philadelphia Presbyterian that the Presbyterian ministry "is largely itinerant." Here are his facts; "Out of 5,077 churches, 1,074 are marked vacant, and 1,799 have 'stated supplies.' In all more than half of the whole number of our churches are without pastors—2,873 nearly 3,000 out of 5,000! Out of our whole number of ministers (4,744) there are only 1,973 who are pastors or pastors elect."

A very interesting communion service was held at the Chinese church, corner Sacramento and Stockton streets, San Francisco, Cal., on Sunday evening, October 22. Five young men, Chinese, received the ordinance of baptism. Several of the teachers remained to witness the ceremony; with this exception, every seat was filled with Chinese, a good number of whom partook of the communion, and also a few Chinese women.

After giving a list of twelve Protestant churches and six schools, under the control of the city of Rome, the *Voce della Verita* comments sadly on these "painful statistics." They very plainly indicate the fact that the dark days of priestly domination over the consciences of men belong to the past, and free gospel and an intelligent laity will mark the future of Italy.

After all, these "city churches," which are sometimes spoken against as "fashionable," "selfish," "cold," &c., have something good in them. The Baptists of the State of New York have been looking into their statistics, and as a result they say "it appears that one-third of our entire membership is in the city churches, and that these churches contribute three-fourths of the entire sum raised for benevolent purposes by the Baptists of the State."

Canon Liddon gives a glowing description of the splendor in which Bishop Strossmayer, the Catholic Bishop of Bosnia and Sirmia; lives. He has a revenue of \$200,000 a year. His place and picture-galleries and gardens and farms, his open tables, with 75 guests daily, and his stables, with 100 horses, are princely. The Bishop; was among the last of the opponents of papal infallibility to submit to the decree, thinks for himself on the Eastern question and gives his warmest sympathies to the Servians.

The Pope, on the occasion of the visit of four or five thousand pilgrims from Spain, appeared publicly in St. Peter's for the first time since Victor Emanuel entered Rome, six years ago. In his address to the pilgrims he referred to the wrongs he has suffered at the hands of the Italian Government. "Who knows," he said, "that these afflictions of the church are not caused by sins of mine or by your failure to do your duty?" It was noticed that the Holy Father was pale and showed signs of increased feebleness.

Italy has only 550,000 voters in a population of 27,000,000.

The Colorado House of Representatives, has a woman for enrolling clerk.