

The Texas Christian Advocate.

PUBLISHED FOR THE TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCES OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH—BY SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

VOL. XXV.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, OCTOBER 6, 1877.

NO. 5.

Texas Christian Advocate

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(For the ADVOCATE.)
CLOUDS.
By L. R. G.
Out above the forest olden,
Over the blue skies soft and fair,
Come the cloud rifts fleet and golden,
Floating through the summer air.
See their purple banners trailing,
Over the sunset's crimson glow,
Through ethereal spaces velvety,
White again as Alpine snow.
Through their shining portals thronging,
Myriads marching—onward move;
Rich to fancy's lens prolonging,
Fashioned—as our fancies rove.
Goods may teach us all a lesson,
If we'll look with wisdom's eyes:
Life is but one long procession,
Battling for its bright emprise.
Bois D'ARK, TEXAS, September 20, 1877.
(Communicated.)
Work for the General Conference.

BY H. S. THRALL.
I propose to offer some suggestions for the consideration of our approaching General Conference; and as I represent no one but myself, I shall write in the first person, singular, using the *ego* instead of the *re-vo*. I will premise that the changes which I would propose are not very important; not of sufficient moment to demand any considerable discussion.
I. IN THE RITUAL.—At our general conference in 1854, in the creed, as professed in the baptismal service the phrase, "In the Holy Catholic Church," was changed to, "In the Church of God." Dr. Summers at the time expressed his dissent from the change, and the catechism still has the original form. The two ought to harmonize; and as the "Holy Catholic Church" is patristic, and has been hallowed by the use of the faithful for many centuries, I propose that it be replaced in the baptismal service. Surely our people are sufficiently informed to know that the term "Holy Catholic Church" is not restricted to the church of Rome.
NUMBER OF BISHOPS.—It is perhaps, too soon to agitate the question of strengthening the episcopacy. Our present bishops are good men and true; and when others are needed, no doubt, suitable men will be found to fill up the Episcopal ranks. As far as I am concerned, I do not want any local or localized bishops. I think we have bishops enough to do the work essential for the church, and that we ought not to place any superfluous men upon the church for support. If they are needed, and when their labors become a matter of necessity, the church will support them. I will say, however, that if the Episcopal committee at the general conference, after a full investigation of the health and working capacity of our present Episcopal force, and the prospective enlargement of the work, should advise the election of another bishop, he ought to be elected.
THE ELDERSHIP.—I am opposed to any change in the presiding eldership, either as to the mode of appointment, or any material modification of their duties. To rural appointments, and the most of our

work is rural, the presiding eldership is a necessity. Let the bishops continue to man the districts with live men; aggressive men; men of preaching and executive ability; men like Stephen, full of Faith and the Holy Ghost, and our church will be supplied with a corps of evangelical laborers vastly superior to any erratic and irregular male or female evangelists.
RECEIVING PREACHERS.—In the provision for receiving ministers from other churches—(Discipline, page 97)—they may be received by the Quarterly Conference, "but they shall not exercise the peculiar functions of deacons or elders until their orders are recognized by the Annual Conference; provided that the bishop may, at his discretion, allow ministers thus received to exercise their functions as deacons or elders until the session of the Annual Conference." Instead of the bishop, I would substitute the words, "Quarterly Conference may at its discretion allow," etc. At extreme points in the connection it is impracticable to consult a bishop, and if the minister is in good standing, he ought not even for a short period to be deprived of his ministerial character.
Again, I would have a special provision incorporated, that ministers coming to us from the M. E. Church should be received upon presenting their licenses, or certificates of ordination, the same as though they came from some other section of the M. E. Church, South. This accords with the provisions of the plan of separation, and also of the plan of fraternity. Usage in our church is not uniform on this point, and the law ought to be specific.
SUPPORT OF MISSIONS.—Our mission work is to be expanded. No calling home of missionaries; no contraction—expansion north, south, east and west; in Christian and in heathen lands. That is the true law of Christian development; but I would respectfully suggest one amendment to article third on the support of missions—(see Discipline, page 165). I would eliminate the following sentences: "To print books for the Indian, German and foreign missions; to build houses for worship, for schools and for missionaries." This opens a very wide door for expending money—a door which it will be difficult to keep closed. Of course it is proper to do all these necessary things; but special collections ought to be made for these objects. The money collected "for missions" ought to be sacredly appropriated to the support of active missionaries in the field. The Methodist plan—the Christian plan—is, we believe, for the missionary to collect a congregation, and let that congregation prepare a place of worship. If we build first, we are liable to build unadvisedly. If it becomes absolutely necessary in any place to build a house, or a college, or print a book, let a special appeal be made to the church for funds. Relieve the board from such importunate appeals as this provision invites.
LAY REPRESENTATION.—Our conferences ought to be permanent bodies. They are so as far as the clerical members are concerned; but the laymen are liable to be changed annually. It has frequently happened that the bishop in appointing the board of finance to act during the ensuing year puts upon it a layman who is not a member of the ensuing conference. Our British brethren have set us an example. Their laymen hold their membership for a series of years. Would it not be an improvement for our lay delegates to hold their places, for say four years; so that one of the delegates from each presiding elder's district would go out of office, unless he were re-elected, every year. In four years our laymen would become familiar with the routine of conference business; and thoroughly identified with our education, financial and missionary enterprises.
CHURCH RECORDS.—Confessedly in many places, our church records are carelessly kept. How would it work to incorporate a provision requiring the quarterly conference to inspect the minutes of the church conference and the church register; the district conference to inspect the journal of the quarterly conference; and the annual conference to inspect the journal of the district conference. Already the general conference inspects the journals of the annual

conferences. Perhaps some such provision as the above would insure a little more system and care in keeping our church records.
DISTRICT CONFERENCES.—As at present constituted, the district conference has but little to do; indeed, absolutely and finally, it transacts but one solitary item—that of electing lay delegates to the annual conference; and in that act the itinerant minister, who has left his work, and traveled for many miles, has no part. As to the other subjects, such as missions, Sunday-schools and church finances, they are definitely committed for final action to other bodies. The district conference can only recommend. Perhaps, only perhaps, it would be advisable to empower the district conference to license local preachers, renew their license, prescribe a course of study and examine their proficiency, and recommend suitable persons for ordination and for admission into the traveling connection. It is evident that the present provision in the discipline, for district conferences, was intended to be only tentative and temporary. It does not prescribe the number of laymen in such body, nor their mode of appointment; an omission that the next general conference must supply. Methodism works upon fixed and uniform rules. This whole section must be revised and remodelled.
THE PUBLISHING HOUSE.—When the general conference of 1854 met, a majority of the members looked favorably upon the plan which had been pursued by Dr. Early, the book agent, of having our books published by contract, without establishing a mammoth publishing house. But after a long discussion it was finally determined to establish such a house, and it was located at Nashville, Tennessee. It was understood, at the time, that the citizens of that city, through their representatives in the general conference, proffered to donate the grounds, and furnish the means to erect the buildings necessary to carry on the business. Well, the house commenced operations, and we know the result. It is now too late to change our plans of publishing. We must keep up our own printing and binding establishment; and it must remain at Nashville. These are not open questions. The house is involved in embarrassments from which it must be relieved, and its work must go on with increased vigor. But some changes must be effected: First, the agent ought to be relieved from his double responsibility—that of writing as well as publishing books. I want an agent who will give more attention to the figures of the cash book and the ledger than to the figures of rhetoric. If the proper man can be found, he ought to be a layman who will, in addition to the general agent, also perform those of the chief clerk, and thus save expense. Second, let the management be decentralized. Under the present law, five out of the nine members of the book committee must be residents of Nashville. No one impugns the honesty or integrity of any member of that committee, but the result shows that they were not infallible. 1. They, if a published statement in the *St. Louis Advocate* is to be relied upon, for many years, allowed the agent a salary four times as much as the better class of Methodist pastors, and thirty-three per cent. more than is allowed our bishops or any other general conference officer. This proves that they are not good economists. 2. They have allowed the erection of buildings in Nashville very much larger and more expensive than was necessary for carrying on the business. This proves that they are not good financiers. The building may be "very attractive," "an ornament to the city," etc., etc., but is it the mission of Methodism to erect costly buildings to ornament cities? Let the phrase, "five out of the nine shall be residents of Nashville," be eliminated, and let the best men in the whole church, wherever found, be put on the book committee. No more important or more embarrassing subject will come before our next General Conference than that of the proper management of our publishing house.
The Russian Synod has completed the translation of the Bible into the vernacular; this work of twenty years has been accepted by the authorities, and the Czar has thanked the Synod for its labors.

Passing Events.

Professor Tice tells the Southern States to look out for frost about the 12th of October.
The famine-stricken provinces in Northern China are afflicted with the plague of locusts.
Griffin, Georgia, has shipped this season \$20,800 worth of dried fruit.
Wendell Phillips, the workingmen's candidate for Governor of Massachusetts, is worth a quarter of a million. It is said he never earned a dollar by the labor of his hands.
In the vestibule of the courthouse in Wilkesbarre, Pa., is a tree which is turned into coal. Its shape is preserved.
A letter in the *London Times* confirms the short grain crops of Great Britain, and says they must look to America to meet their wants.
The mines of the Auckland gold fields, Australia, it is said, are returning large dividends.
The great Corliss engine, exhibited at the Centennial, is on its way back to Providence, requiring sixty cars to transport it.
The *Charleston News and Courier* published a letter from a Virginian, stating he wanted to purchase a desirable farm in South Carolina, and in ten days received two hundred answers.
Henry Meigs, the engineer of the Great Oroya railroad, over the Andes, in Peru, is said to be lying at the point of death. All Peruvians are mourning over the loss of their benefactor, for they so regard him.
The potato rot has appeared in Nova Scotia.
Every paper in Georgia supports the new constitution.
Gen. McClellan accepts the Democratic nomination for Governor of New Jersey.
Thomas Carlyle lives in a small, plain-looking house in an old dingy street, in Chelsea, England.
The *Omaha Bee* says that Crazy Horse was plotting to assassinate Gen. Crooks when he himself was taken off.
The natural bridge, in Elliott county, Ky., broke down a few days ago in the centre of its arch, and is now a mass of ruins.
The famous Eddystone light-house is to be pulled down. It was completed 118 years ago, and the structure is as firm as when the builders left it, but the action of the waves have cut away the reef on which it stands, so as to render its foundation unsafe.
The fire which broke out Sept. 21st, in Keyport, N. J., and destroyed thirty stores and houses, valued with their contents at \$500,000, was caused by the explosion of a lamp.
In moving Cleopatra's needle into the vessel which is to float it to England, two inscriptions, one in Latin and one in Greek were found which fix its creation at Alexandria, by Barbanes, prefect of Egypt, the eighth year of the reign of Augustus Cæsar, or about 32 years before the birth of Christ.
It is asserted that Sitting Bull is a graduate of St. John's College, Fort Garry, is familiar with English and French, and several Indian languages. He converses well and freely on every subject except his plans for the future. He is about forty-three years old, of medium size and strongly built.
On the 1st, Hon. Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky, whose life had been threatened by a colored man by the name of White, because the mother of White had been discharged from service in Gen. Clay's family for stealing, encountered said White who made threatening demonstrations, when Clay shot and killed him. As Gen. Clay is well-known as an anti-slavery man, this will not be set down as a Southern outrage.
A railroad strike on the Kansas Central Narrow Gauge R. R. has resulted already in the death of the leader of the strikers. The leader of the posse has been arrested and released under bail.
On the 27th ult., Senior Castello and son, prominent insurgents, surrendered to the Spanish authorities. Rumors of peace follow this action.
Rockwall, who has been regarded a chief of the Danites and a leading Mormon murderer, was arrested and sent to prison at Salt Lake City, by the U. S. Marshal, Sept. 30.

Texas Items.

There were but two depositors of the Bank of England whose deposits exceeded those of Brigham Young.
Yellow fever is reported at Port Royal. Savannah has sent a physician and three nurses.
Six deaths were reported in a dispatch of Oct. 2d, at Fernandina, Florida.
The U. S. Consul at St. John, Newfoundland, has purchased one of the crew of a whaler wrecked in Hudson Bay, a silver spoon marked J. G., F. and another having engraved upon it the head of a fish, with a laurel wreath, and on the back the English crown and stamp. They are supposed to be relics of Franklin's expedition. The sailor said he had received them from Esquimaux in Repulse Bay who had received them from a chief at whose camp the white man who owned them had died of scurvy.
Coal has been found in Atascosa county.
A writer from Archer county reports large bodies of fine land, a well watered region, with fine grass, but lacking timber, waiting the immigrant.
Deer and antelope are still plenty in Clay county.
Lands in the wheat region are being prepared for the seed.
Sheep raisers are bringing blooded Merino sheep from Vermont into Erath county. It has been tested as a sheep country and its superior advantages recognized.
The *Marlin Bull* says that fifteen business men of that place have been arrested for violating the Sunday law in keeping open doors and selling goods on Sunday.
The Haven colony have bought a tract of 24,000 acres of land in Guadalupe county for \$80,000. The purchasers represent the best class of men in New York and Pennsylvania. The land is about 12 miles from Seguin, and is reported to be very fertile.
The *Gazette* says a young lady in Hood county picked 202 pounds of cotton on her 18th birthday.
Corn is in demand in Hood county, at 65 cents per bushel.
The *Register* says Dr. Bayard of Kendall county planted some cucumbers in his garden. Failing to bear fruit he pulled them up and found to his surprise clusters of cucumbers grown to the roots like potatoes. They have the flavor of a cucumber but the outside resembles a yam. What is it?
The *Corsicana Observer* admits a short crop of cotton, but says with everything else plenty, they can stand this.
The *Weatherford Epitome* considers the extension of the Texas Pacific road to that point certain. The \$20,000 required has been subscribed and the work will go on whether the company help or not.
The *Review* says many of the farmers of Polk county saved their crops from the worms by the use of destroyers.
Three to five car loads of immigrants come into Texas, via Texarkana daily.
It is a matter of complaint that it should cost \$3 to transport 100 pounds of freight from Houston to San Antonio, while the same freight is delivered in Houston from St. Louis for 50 cents.
Bryan is to have a merchant exchange.
A flouring mill in Comanche grinds 500 bushels of wheat per day.
Limestone is securing a heavy immigration.
Irish potatoes sell for 75 cents per bushel in Washington county.
State warrants now sell for 90 cents on the dollar.
The wool clip of Mason county sold for \$100,000.
The *Journal* claims that several Clay county hunters, the past season, killed over 100 buffaloes successively without missing a shot, and one man, the past season, killed sixty-eight deer and antelope in as many shots in a single day.
A Mr. Waddell tells the *Luling Reporter* that his acre of ivory wheat yielded 100 bushels and weighed 65 pounds per bushel. It makes excellent bread, though not as white as some varieties.
The *Palatine Advocate* says ribbon cane is doing well in Anderson county.
The *Herald* promises immigrants to Hamilton county cheap provisions, good land, plenty of water and a generous people.
Judge Turner instructs Williamson county juries to enforce the Local Option law. Right. If we have laws, enforce them.
Stockmen in Atascosa were satisfied with the result of their sales in Kansas this year, and are gathering herds to drive in the Spring.
The waters of San Domingo springs, Atascosa county, have been analyzed by a skillful chemist and their medicinal value established.
Corn, pork and home-made molasses are so abundant in Cass county that the farmers are comforted on short cotton crops.
Houston county is noted for its fine timber, its abundant water and good land. Its soil is black waxy, chocolate, black sandy and the red land. Fruit does finely, and vegetables can be procured in abundance.
The report that Lieut. Bullis had been attacked and defeated by Mexicans while in search of a camp of thieving Lipan Indians, proves untrue. From the report of Col. Shafter, Bullis crossed the Rio Grande Sept. 26th, in search of the Lipan camp. The guide betrayed his movements, and the camp was found deserted. Four squaws, a boy, twelve horses and two mules were captured. Col. Shafter crossed over to support Bullis, if attacked; but there was no serious interruption, though they were followed by a body of fifty or seventy-five Mexican cavalry.
The following patents were issued to citizens of Texas for the week ending Sept. 28, 1877, furnished for the *Advocate*, from the office of J. McC. Perkins & Co., Solicitors for Patents, 513 Seventh street, Washington, D. C.:
195,096. Washing-machines. Jas. K. Cummings, Ladonia. Filed June 5, 1877.
195,096. Neck-yokes. Frank Hannig, Lockhart. Filed July 23, 1877.
195,052. Fire-escapes. George N. Shishmanian, Galveston. Filed June 30, 1877.
The British Wesleyan Conference has finally agreed to admit laymen to its membership. At the recent session there was no long debate, the ground having been all gone over before, and the only important amendment made was that suggested by Dr. Punshon, that one-eighth of the lay representatives, including the general treasurers of the twelve connective funds, be elected annually by the mixed Conference; and that of the eighteen lay representatives other than the general treasurers, six shall retire annually and not be eligible for immediate re-election—thus confining it to a three years' honor. The scheme goes into operation next year.
BONHAM, TEXAS, Oct. 1st, 1877.—The Presiding Elders of the North Texas Annual Conference will please send me the names of delegates and all others who expect to attend our conference.
The preachers who are coming by private conveyance will please inform me.—W. D. SHEA.
(Communicated.)
PEORIA CIRCUIT, Sept. 11.—The Lord has again revived his work on this circuit. At a sixteen days' meeting at Peoria, there were a great many conversions and thirty-nine accessions to the M. E. Church, South.—W. VAUGHAN.
We have received from the Kearney Chemical Works, 66 Courtlandt st., N. Y., specimens of the "Magic Tints." It is claimed that by use of these, at a very small cost, colors may be perfectly renewed on old, faded and rusty goods. They will be useful to housewives. Send for circulars.
Having spent our loan of capacity, we fall back into God's arms, to be refitted by Him. We sleep on His bosom, even as a child on the bosom of its mother. The gulf is deep, but we go trustfully, and there we rest, forgetting ourselves; and this we do every day, coming back as often new creatures for the Almighty's purposes.—*Bushnell*.
Dr. McCosh, of Princeton College, is said to have discovered that there are in the United States at least thirty-eight independent Presbyterian organizations, and in Scotland ten more were found, between whom no bond of union exists.

Texas Christian Advocate

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The United States in Prophecy.
 No. III.

THE MAN CHILD.

Divine prophecy is peculiar to Christianity. No other system of religion pretends to present revelations from God in this form. Prophecy is a perpetual miracle, operating upon time. In the nature of its design it is obliged to be obscure; but this obscurity is no evidence against its reality. It clothes itself in mysterious figures of speech and symbols so dark that no literal interpretation can reveal its true design, and yet it is so clear and distinct that in its fulfillment it bears its own testimony of its divine inspiration. As these fulfillments are constantly transpiring, it becomes a perpetual miracle.

The prophecies which point out the rise and character of the United States as a country and government are so clear and distinct that in the light of their fulfillment every unprejudiced mind may easily perceive them, when brought to notice, and when that is seen they cannot fail to produce the conviction that the Bible is really the word of God, and that a wise and gracious Providence holds control over the destinies of our country and the whole world around us.

In a former article furnished you on this subject, I attempted to show from Dr. Baldwin's interpretations of prophecy that the ancient Israelitic nation was typical of a Christian nation, which should arise in "the latter days," in a new country and at a specific time named by many of the prophets; and that this country is the place, and the 4th of July, 1776, was the time when it should arise—"when a nation should be born in a day." In my other article, I showed from history as well as from prophecy that a divine Providence had held a control over the early settlements of this country favorable to the character and destiny assigned it in prophecy.

I now propose to present a third view of the same subject taken from the prophecies of the Apocalypse, or Revelations, by St. John the divine, showing that both the Old and New Testaments harmonize in the prophetic views taken on this subject.

REVELATIONS, CHAP. XII.—THE MAN CHILD—THE UNITED STATES.

Let the reader keep this chapter before him, as it is to long to quote: "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars, etc. The symbolic 'heaven' here spoken of is simply the civil and religious world as seen in the Church and State in Europe at that time. 'A woman is always a symbol of the church, or a spiritual body. The sun is a civil power or government, by which she was surrounded. The moon represents the church 'under her feet'—in a depressed condition. The crown of twelve stars symbolize forth the twelve tribes of Israel, composing the ancient church, and the twelve princes or States to rise in the future-spiritual Israel that was to characterize the country over which the 'Man Child' was to be born of her should rule.

Verse 3. The "great red dragon" here spoken of appears in the same symbolic heaven; and from his "seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads," he is readily recognized as the civil power in a monarchical form. The dragon is jealous of the power and influence of the woman—the true church—now so depressed and persecuted that she is said to have fled into the wilderness, where she gives birth to a male child.

The Church of Rome (Rev. xvii, 3-4) represented by the woman on the scarlet breast, is not here alluded to; but such as the Waldenses and other Protestants, who were driven into obscurity. The final and last flight of the woman—the true Protestant Church—was to the wilderness of America, where she gave birth to a "man child," who was to "rule all nations with a rod of iron." This iron rod indicates the great strength of his scepter more than a tyrannical rule.

A man, as a symbol, always represents civil government. Having an iron scepter in his hand proves this.

This "Man child" is the offspring of the Protestant Church in the wilderness. In a former article I showed that by persecution and oppression, Protestants were driven to this country by "many nations" in great numbers, and hence, we find them here in greater force than in any other country.

He is here called a "child," because at the birth of our nation we were in our infancy as such. That civil liberty is a result of our love of religious liberty, is manifest to every one acquainted with our Colonial history.

The Virginia colony was planted in 1608. That at Plymouth Rock 1620. From these dates to 1776, we have some 150 years. It is safe to say four or five generations had grown up to manhood here, free from ecclesiastic and civil despotism, and the spirit of civil liberty was but the legitimate fruit of the religious liberty so long enjoyed. These generations of our fathers had been schooled and educated by the Church. Protestant Church schools were all that could be had by the mass of our people. The pulpit, too, had uttered its strong teachings and testimony against priestcraft and political oppression, until the whole embryo nation was well indoctrinated in the principles of civil liberty.

"The Dragon"—British monarchy—had seen all this, and hence "he stood before the woman ready to devour her child as soon as it was born." The child was born on the 4th day of July, 1776, and the British dragon had his armies already in the country, and the revolutionary struggle familiar to all shows the efforts he made to destroy the infant nation.

"There was war in heaven." This revolutionary war, on our side, is represented to be under the guidance and aid of Michael, the Archangel. His angels, aids and messengers were our armies. Michael is spoken of by Daniel as the guardian angel of ancient Israel. So he holds that relation to Israel restored to nationality still. But the dragon prevailed not; but was cast out of heaven—the place of the church—where there was great rejoicing, saying: "Now is come salvation and strength, and the Kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ."

THE ACCUSER.

In Europe, under the union of Church and State, a cessation was made by the church against Protestants to the State; and the civil power punished. The accuser was now gone with the power to punish, and our nation was free, and hence the rejoicing.

Verse 6. "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and three score days"—1260 years—a day for a year.

The length of time that the church was to suffer from a union of church and State was 1260 years secular time; 1451 years with Sabalath time added. This period began on the 19th of June, 325, when the decrees of the council of Nice were by agreement to be enforced by the Emperor Constantine; which was a union of church and State power. From June 19, 325, to July 4, 1776, is just 549,981 days or 1451 years to a day; and on that day the union of church and State ceased; here at least, when a nation was born in a day, "and the man child"—called by Cobbet of England, "Brother Jonathan," took his existence and position as a free and independent nation.

Verse 14. There is a repetition in part from this verse, and some important additions made to the general vision. The flight of the woman to the wilderness was before the birth of her man child. The period first given of her depression and persecution was 1260 years. Here it is repeated and given as a time, times and a half time—time, times and a half—and you have 1260. As both are mentioned in reference to the same period, they must be the same.

"The serpent (dragon) cast out of his mouth waters as a flood, and the earth helped the woman." A flood of waters represents an army. The earth is Europe, or some European power, which was to help the woman. Now it so happened during the revolutionary war that out of hatred to Britain, France and Spain acknowledged the independence of our country, and their forces being engaged in the war, called the British armies to attend to them as well as to the forces of the colonies; and it was by their conjoint aid that the Yorktown victory was obtained. Denmark, Sweden, Holland and Russia also joined in the famous league of the

armed neutrality, and stood opposed to Britain in this war, so that Britain had those at home who rejoiced in her losing war with her colonies and commenced war with her. Thus, "the earth helped the woman"—relieved her.

The dragon was cast out of the place prepared for the woman and her son—the United States—and was very wroth; so much so that he came a second time, in 1812, and was again whipped off badly on the 8th of January, 1815. But all of monarchy in Europe are mad and conspire to put down Christian democracy in the old world. The so called Holy Alliance was formed in 1816, in which Russia took the lead. Hungary, Poland and others were made to sufer. The revolution in France in 1792 received its inspirations from the results of the revolution in our country, which cost monarchy many millions of lives and countless millions of money to subdue.

The twelve stars upon the crown of the woman, united in one crown, was to typify the original colonies being united in one national government, which was done when the Constitution of the United States was adopted. The "Man Child," according to Daniel's prophecy, under the Symbol of "Stone cut out of the mountain," and the "Ancient of Days," was to have one hundred and two years in which to mature his manhood, and put on his giant strength, when, with his iron scepter, he will be prepared to sway a power that will tend to revolutionize and "rule all nations."

Thus we find that so far as events have transpired, as pointed out by prophecy in regard to the United States, there has been a wonderful fulfillment. As to what is to be its future destiny, I will not undertake to say. Mr. Baldwin has given his opinion, as stated in my former article, and claims that prophecy justifies his conclusions. We leave that for the future to decide; but from what is known we have a very fine basis upon which to rest sanguine hopes for the future.

One thing is most certain, the moral and political influence of our country with its free institutions is felt—most powerfully—over every civilized nation on earth. The love of civil and religious liberty is so deeply implanted in the human heart that it can not be eradicated. It forms the center and soul of his being. God created him with this vital element in his nature to be gratified, and seeks so to elevate his moral nature as to place him in the full possession of it, with the power to use and enjoy it without abusing it.

The education and training of the American people for a fitness for self-government has been the steady aim of the Protestant Church in our country through its entire existence, and is so still. We have now between four or five hundred colleges and high schools in the United States; and of the whole, ninety-tenths of them have been built and sustained by the church at her own expense. The States have done but a very small share in this work; and are very illy prepared to do any. State institutions are so fearful of denominational influence that they exclude the religious element almost entirely from their educational system; whereas, an education without a religious element as its basis, in a government like ours is really a dangerous thing. All sound and substantial systems of morality depend, for their force and vitality, upon a deep and well grounded basis of religious principle. There can be no safety to a republic where the moral basis is destitute of this divine principle.

Many foreigners who come to our country, tinged with infidelity, seek to disregard the very principles upon which our institutions are founded. Ours is a Christian country; our government is based upon Christian principles for its safety. Red republicanism is based upon Atheism, and the seeds of its own destruction are concealed within it. God has honored and promoted our country and people for the reason that they recognize and honor His authority and righteous government over us.

The State in this country is the offspring and "child" of the church. She has nourished and brought it up to its present elevated position by her parental regard for its welfare. She has carried it upon her bosom; educated and trained it upon pure Christian principles; she has impressed upon its heart the doctrine that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of his wisdom." The church is the spiritual soul of the State, and she exerts herself to erect churches, her pulpits and her altars everywhere that the peace, purity and moral health of the State may be preserved. She unitedly presents her prayers to Almighty God for her welfare and night. The true American citizen knows how to appreciate and honor the church, and thereby

honors God. Our salvation as a country depends upon the goodness and mercy of our God. K. Houston, Texas, September, 1877.

(Communicated.)
A Sunset Scene.
 BY LACY BOONE.

I was riding westward, descending an inclined plain, which gave me a full and unobstructed view of the radiant glories of the scene. The sun cast back his golden rays upon the few thin and scattering clouds that lay aloft upon the western sky, and tinged them with the most delicate hues. There was one larger bank of clouds that looked as some vast rocky landscape, stretching far back in brilliant perspective, with a broad river whirling and dashing over and among the rocks, sending up its silver spray into castles of the most delicate outlines, as if composed of mist and sunbeams. I gazed with admiration. The short-lived beauties soon began to fade away and to assume a more sombre and solid appearance. In a short while nothing was left of the gilded scene but a few murky clouds hanging just above the horizon, their beauty all gone—sunk away with the light that gave them birth.

My mind was forcibly impressed with this scene, as a picture of human life. In youth, imagination gilds with roseate hues every future prospect. Brilliant castles are built upon airy heights, over which a radiant bow stretches its gilded arch. Bright anticipations of future joy, and lofty aspirations of coming greatness, never to be realized, form the talisman, or wandering image, to hide from view a desert waste of burning sand. But soon in sturdy manhood, solid realities reveal the fact that too freely were interpreted the language of hope and love. Aim after aim has passed away unattained. Now there is no longer a gilded object in life. The future is looked to with mere soberness; its coming awaited with more patience. Weighty responsibilities must not be anticipated—sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. Human life is soon gone, like the golden glories of the sunset sky, and man flies away, away, away.

This completes the picture of human life, as I saw it portrayed in the short-lived beauties of a radiant sunset scene.

Dr. Cuyler, writing from Colorado, where he has been sojourning, says: "The most remarkable pioneer of missionary work here is that heroic 'Kit Carson' of Presbyterianism, Sheldon Jackson. I met him at Denver, just in from a trip over the Rocky Mountains, exploring for preaching stations and for sites on which to organize new churches. He told me that in crossing the snow-ranges on foot he was obliged to rise at two o'clock in the morning and travel before the sun had softened the snow-crust. He slept out of doors, wrapped in his blanket. Mr. Jackson is worth more to Colorado than any one of its richest silver or gold mines. He has already gathered a Presbytery of thirty ministers, with as many more thriving churches."

Prof. Tyndall's Warning.
 In concluding an address to the students of University College, London, Prof. Tyndall, who is unquestionably one of the most intelligent brain workers of our century, said: "Take care of your health. Imagine Hercules as our hero in a rotten boat: what can he do there but by the very force of his stroke expedite the ruin of his craft 'Take care of the timbers of your boat.' The distinguished scientist's advice is equally valuable to all workers. We are apt to devote all our energies to welding the oars, our strokes fall firm and fast, but few of us examine or even think of the condition of our boats until the broken or rotten timbers give way and we find ourselves the victims of a calamity which could have been easily avoided by a little forethought. What began with a slight fracture, or perhaps even a needless exposure to disorganizing influences, ends in the complete wreck of the life-boat. The disease which began with a slight headache or an undue exposure to cold climates, and the disease received. The first symptoms, the heralds of disease, give no indication of the strength of the on-coming foe, and the victim trusts that his old ally, Nature, will exterminate the invader. But Disease is an old general and accomplishes his most important movements in the night-time, and some bright morning finds him in possession of one of the strongest fortifications; and when he has once gained a stronghold in the system Nature ignominiously turns traitor and secretly delivers up the whole physical army to the invader. Like the wily politician, Nature is always on the strongest side, and the only way to insure her support is to keep your vital powers in the ascendant. Keep your strongest forts—the stomach and liver—well guarded. Do not let the foe enter the arterial highways, for he will steal or destroy your richest merchandise and impoverish your kingdom. To repulse the attacks of the foe you can find no better ammunition than Dr. Pierce's Family Medicines. (Full directions accompany each package.) His Pleasant Purgative Pills are especially effective in defending the stomach and liver. His Golden Medical Discovery for purifying the blood and arresting colds and coughs. If you wish to become familiar with the most approved system of defense in this warfare, and the history of the foe's method of invasion, together with complete instructions for keeping your forces in martial order in time of peace, you can find no better manual of these tactics than 'The People's Common sense Medical Adviser,' by R. V. Pierce, M. D., of the World's Dispensary, Buffalo, N. Y. Sent to any address on receipt of \$1.50. It contains over nine hundred pages, illustrated by two hundred and eighty-two engravings and colored plates, and elegantly bound in cloth and gilt.

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 Guaranteed to be the best paying business offered to agents by any house. An easy and pleasant employment.
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 The Patent Eye Cups are a scientific and philosophical discovery, and are ALEX. WYETH, M. D., and WM. BEATLEY, M. D., write, they are certainly the greatest invention of the age.
 Read the following certificates:
 FARMINGTON, STA., LOGAN CO., KY., June 6, 77.
 DR. J. BALL & CO., Oculists.
 GENTLEMEN—Your Patent Eye Cups are, in my judgment, the most splendid triumph which optical science has ever achieved, but like all great and important truths, in this or any other branch of science and philosophy, have met with content with the ignorance and prejudice of a too skeptical public; but truth is mighty and will prevail, and it is only a question of time as regards their general acceptance and endorsement by all. I have in my hands certificates of persons testifying in unequivocal terms to their merits. The most prominent physicians of my county recommend your Eye Cups. I am, respectfully,
 J. A. L. BOYER.
 BEATLEY, M. D., Salvisa, Ky., writes:
 "Thanks to you for the presence of my sight. My sight is fully restored by the use of your Patent Eye Cups, after being almost entirely blind for twenty-six years."

ALEX. R. WYETH, M. D., Atchison, Pa., writes:
 "After total blindness of my left eye for four years, by paralysis of the optic nerve, to my utter astonishment your Patent Eye Cups restored my eyesight permanently in three minutes."
 REV. S. B. FALKENBERG, minister of M. E. Church, writes: "Your Patent Eye Cups have restored my sight, for which I am most thankful to the Father of Mercies. By your advertisement, I saw at a glance that your invaluable Eye Cups performed their work perfectly in accordance with physiological law; that they literally fed the eyes that were starving for nutrition. May God greatly bless you, and may your name be cherished by the millions of numbers of multiplied thousands as one of the benefactors of your kind."

BONAVILLE, R. D. EWART, M. D., says: "I sold and effected future sales liberally. The Patent Eye Cups they will make money, and make fast, too; no small catch-penny affair, but a superb, number one, first-class business, precisely as far as I can see, to be life-long."
 MAYOR E. C. ELLIS, Waco, Tex., Nov. 16, 1869: "I have tested the Patent Eye Cups, and I am satisfied they are good. I am pleased with them. They are certainly the greatest invention of the age."
 DR. HORACE GREELY, late editor of the New York Tribune, writes to Dr. J. Ball & Co. "I am a conscientious and responsible man, who is incapable of intentional deception or imposition."
 Prof. W. MERRICK writes: "Truly, an gratifying to your Patent Eye Cups. My sight is restored by your Patent Eye Cups. May Heaven bless and preserve you. I have been under the treatment twenty years. I am seventy-one years old. I do all my writing without glasses, and I bless the inventor of the Patent Eye Cups every time I take up my old steel pen."
 Absolut BOEHNIGG, M. D., physician to Emperor Napoleon, wrote, after having his sight restored by your Patent Eye Cups: "With gratitude to God, and thanks to the inventors, Dr. J. Ball & Co., I hereby recommend the trial of the Eye Cups in full faith to all and every one that has any impaired eyesight, whether of long standing or the result of an accident. I have already tried the experiment with this wonderful discovery has proved successful on me, at my advanced period of life—years of age—because they will restore to the vision to any individual if they are properly applied."
 ALFRED BOHNBERG, M. D., physician to Emperor Napoleon, writes, after having his sight restored by your Patent Eye Cups: "With gratitude to God, and thanks to the inventors, Dr. J. Ball & Co., I hereby recommend the trial of the Eye Cups in full faith to all and every one that has any impaired eyesight, whether of long standing or the result of an accident. I have already tried the experiment with this wonderful discovery has proved successful on me, at my advanced period of life—years of age—because they will restore to the vision to any individual if they are properly applied."
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June 6, 1877, personally appeared Adolph Boerner, made oath to the following certificate, and by him subscribed and sworn before me, I, JOHN W. STEVENS, J. P.
 LAWRENCE CITY, MASS., June 6, 1877.
 We, the undersigned, having personally known Adolph Boerner for years, believe him to be an honest, moral man, trustworthy, and in truth and veracity unspotted. His character is well known, and he is of good repute. He is a resident of Lawrence City, Mass., and has been so for many years, and he is a native-born citizen of the United States of America.

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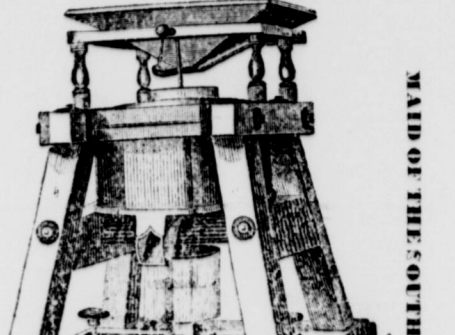
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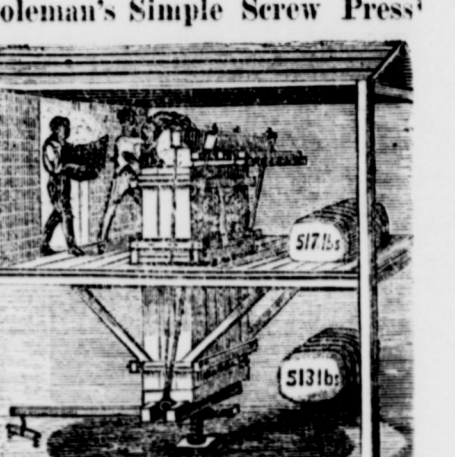
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Leeville circuit, October 13th. Moulton circuit, October 20th. Hallettsville circuit, Nov. 5th.

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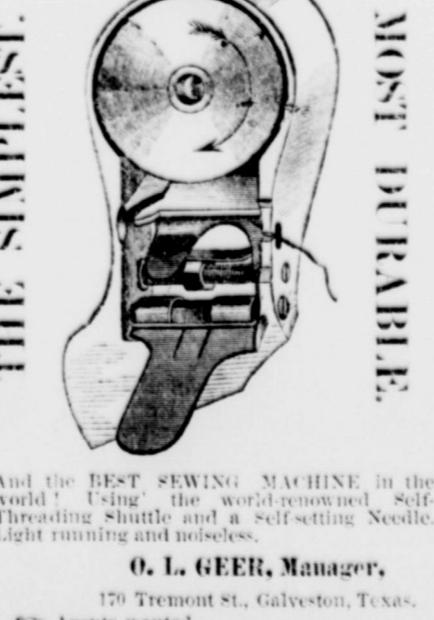
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THE SIMPLEST AND MOST DURABLE. The best sewing machine in the world...



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We have on hand a full and complete stock of Hardware, Metals, Etc., etc.

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Texas Christian Advocate

I. G. JOHN, D. D., Editor. Associate Editors.

By action of the Joint Board of Publication the following able corps of Associate Editors were elected. Each will write over the last initial of his name. The dagger (†) distinguishes the articles by which it is appointed from those of either the Editor or his Associate:

- H. S. Finley, East Texas Conference; H. S. Thrall, West Texas Conference; W. G. Connor, D. D., N.W. Texas Conference; W. C. Habbip, North Texas Conference; R. T. Nabors, Texas Conference

PERNICIOUS LITERATURE.

Damaging assaults on the Christian faith are frequently made from quarters whence no danger is expected. An open enemy is less to be apprehended than a hidden foe. We meet the one with visor down, with shield presented and with lance at rest; the other strikes when we are unharmed for the fight. Christianity has but little to fear from open infidelity. It has but to look well to its defences. Divine in their origin, no weapon against them can prevail. It is more difficult to guard against the assaults of pretended friends. They find the portals open, the sentinels off their guard, and make many a breach in the undefended walls. The polished arguments of Gibbon and Hume, or the coarser assault of Paine, are not more dangerous than the sly innuendoes or the false representations of religious character or truth, which often interlard the pages of the most popular productions of modern literature. They do not deny the truth of the Bible; they are often profusely eloquent in their laudations of its sublime instructions; but they present religion or its professors in a false or ludicrous light, and by exciting disgust for the characters they portray, fasten contempt on the religion which these characters so ostentatiously profess. How many have risen from the perusal of the Bleak House by Dickens with a deep impression respecting the folly of missionary and benevolent zeal. They have beheld an indifferent wife, a slovenly housekeeper, undutiful and possibly unloving mother, sitting complacently amid the discomforts of a neglected home, yet intensely absorbed in absurd plans for the accomplishment of impossible benevolent movements. They accept that woman as a type of all other women who are interested in the spread of the gospel or the relief of suffering humanity, and listen to the "Macedonian cry" as echo of those follies which the pen of the novelist has so graphically portrayed. The pencil of the caricaturist becomes with them more potent than the command of Him who said, "Go preach my gospel to the nations."

How many who have laughed through the "Posthumous papers of the Pickwick Club" have closed the volume, believing that the red-nosed hypocrite who soaked his pious exhortations in the toddy so liberally supplied by the elder Weller's impressive wife, was a truthful representation of the Methodist preachers who were devoting their lives to the work of spreading scriptural holiness over the British isles?

How many who have followed the mysterious fortunes of the "Moonstone," as recorded by Wilkie Collins, have accepted the oily piety of Godfrey Ablewhite as a faithful exhibition of active evangelical zeal? They see a smooth-tongued hypocrite, who makes eloquent speeches before benevolent associations, and presides over the deliberations of charitable societies, while acting the part of a consummate scoundrel—until he ends his part in the plot as a miserable thief. In this man they suppose they see a picture true to the life of the majority of those who are engaged in the great humanitarian movements of the day. The disgust excited by the sanctimonious selfishness of Miss Clacke, another character by Collins, as she hovers around the couch of her dying relative, and thinly covers her nervous greed for a legacy by her officious zeal for the salvation of a departing soul, is very easily transferred by readers of moderate imaginations to all pious persons who

manifest special anxiety for the salvation of their friends.

It is claimed that these writers do not assail true religion, but endeavor to lift the mask from the face of its false professors. If their motives are pure, their work is unfortunately performed. While painting the false, they fail to picture the true. They place pious sentiments on the lips of hypocrites, or absurdly pious deeds in the persons of brainless fanatics; they write on them the brand of religion, and are careful never to expose the frauds. They fasten their impostures not on the hypocrite, but on the gospel, and leave the impression that their abortions are the legitimate offspring of Christianity. They coin the counterfeit, and it passes current with the multitude. They may exhibit but one false character amid all who throng their plot, they may infuse the poison into only one chapter of an entire volume, but that single character or chapter will do its work effectually. It will linger in the minds of many, when all that is good and noble in that work has faded from the memory of the reader. The silvery radiance with which the virtues are arrayed, disappear with the coming years and cares of the reader, but the evil impression too often becomes a part of an entire life.

These specious assailants of Christian character and effort have a numerous following. The traces of their insidious assaults on Christianity are visible in other departments of literature. It appears in the novellette, and crops out in the pages of our most widely circulated magazine. It darkens the tragedy, and paints the wit of the popular comedy; the newspapers, from the mammoth weekly or daily sent out by the metropolitan press to the modest village sheet, catch the mocking spirit let loose in the pages of the powerfully written novel and send it forth on its mission of unbelief. It taints the studies of the ministry, and erects for the pulpit a standard which is not the simplicity and fervor of the Gospel of Christ. It may not drive the members of the church into actual unbelief, but it modifies their conceptions of religious life and obligations, and neutralizes their zeal and efforts for the spread of the gospel or the relief of human suffering. It furnishes the parent with imperfect models on which to mould the minds of their children; while the youthful of both sexes, charmed by the piquant scenes portrayed by the novelist, form false ideals of life, until the teachings of the word of God, sublime in their simplicity, faithful and true in their admonitions, and eternal in their solemn significance, are laid aside as antiquated and commonplace.

STANLEY'S GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERY.

In pursuance of our promise in our last number, we propose to consider somewhat more fully the facts involved in Stanley's march across Southern Africa, and the value of the discoveries made.

With a singular unanimity, the cotemporary press are loud and hearty in praise of this extraordinary feat. How much is due to the impulsive recognition of a really heroic action, and how much to scientific importance we will not now investigate. It should be enough, on general principles, to understand that the German, French, English and American newspapers publish the verification of the Congo as a feat almost unparalleled as to personal conduct, and superior in geographical value to the discoveries of Livingstone and Cameron.

It is also worthy of note that the means of prosecuting this noble scientific adventure was furnished by two prominent journals, viz: the New York Herald and the London Telegraph. The directors of these papers deserve the thanks and admiration of the entire civilized world for the generous and high-spirited animus that has actuated them in the premises. What kings and governments failed to do they have taken in hand and bravely and successfully accomplished.

They are also to be congratulated upon their perspicacity in choosing the proper man for the arduous and terrible labor. Mr. Stanley has surely, by his admirable lead of this difficult adventure, put himself on a par with Park, Baker and Livingstone. In prudence and pluck he has developed qualities which remind us of the robust feats of Sir Francis Drake and the great Portuguese Magellan. He has penetrated the heart of an unknown continent, met and overcome its dangers, traced a path from ocean to ocean across its fatal arcania, even as the naval heroes of the sixteenth century drove their bows across unknown seas and circumnavigated the earth.

Some metallic heads, no doubt, will say: what is the use of all this ado about the navigation of an African river and the accession of a few more black lines to the map, for the edification of schoolboys and the snarling of learned societies. They say the same concerning the effort to find the North-west passage, the discovery of the last planet, and the late expenditures for observing the transit of Venus. To some souls it is useless to show the sparkle of truth as truth. They have their eyes fixed on the worldly dunghill, and the value of everything is graded by its ability to ring sonorously on the counter!

There are thousands, however, who regard such magnificent successes in scientific affairs in the same light as they applaud a brave round in the prize ring, or a dashing raid across the border. It shows nerve, gallantry, manliness, and they hurrah for Stanley as they lately hurrahed for Mace, or the Harvard crew!

We are very far from underrating this spontaneous homage to a special and commanding manhood; but surely Stanley has done something even better than showing men how to be manly, high-spirited and triumphant. Mr. Stanley has added substantially and notably to our geographical and ethnological knowledge. The centre of Africa has been from time immemorial a reproach to science and an insurmountable barrier to the foot of geographical exploration. Illustrious men have spent the flower of their fortunes and their lives in the attempt to solve the mystery of which the desert Sphinx is the appropriate symbol. Baker, Speke and Livingstone, within the limits of this generation, gloriously opened the door of accurate and scientific exploration of these grand continental mysteries. Mr. Stanley enlisted the sympathy of the world by rescuing the heroic old Scotch explorer at almost his last gasp; and now, since that grand soul has carried his explorations far beyond the walls of sense, his young and enthusiastic friend, who, it seems, has caught his free and noble spirit, has positively prosecuted his researches from the last point made, and has rounded up the discoveries of Speke, Grant and Livingstone in the basin of the Upper Nile by the unexpected, nay, long-resisted fact, that it is the headwaters of the Western Congo, and not the Nile, that so nearly approaches the grand expanse of Lake Tanganyka. It is superfluous to insist upon the scientific and commercial value of this discovery. When that wonderful region shall have become as well known and frequented as Nubia and Abyssinia, the magnitude of such a feat as Stanley's descent of the Lualaba and the Congo will be allowed. Again—and here we are more specially interested—Stanley's explorations have thrown a light upon the ethnology of Middle Africa—a light of so practical a character that both the commercial world, benevolent societies and the church are all vitally interested. Let us bear in memory Mr. Stanley's intercourse with the great Lake Chieflain, M'tsa, whom he found so ingenuous in his religious characteristics. Says Mr. Stanley: "Let our churches take note and send out their missionaries to gather in an abundant harvest." On the other side, let

us not forget the wonderful and depressing account Mr. Stanley gives of the intense savagery and even cannibalism of many of the tribes encountered in the voyage down the river. If the weak and unenterprising Portuguese are able to affect this savage mass at a very considerable distance from the coast by the introduction of modern arms and ideas, why should not England and America pursue this benevolent plan, and in time reclaim the millions of Central Africa to civilization and Christianity? This thought has a singular pertinence to us of the Southern States and church, who have amongst us thousands of colored people capable of being converted into the most effective missionaries to these benighted congeners of theirs in Central Africa. †

DALLAS FEMALE COLLEGE.

We call attention to the Dallas Female College, advertised in these columns.

Prof. W. K. Jones, late President of Martin College, Pulaski College, Tenn., has been elected to succeed the Rev. W. H. Scales, deceased, in the presidency of the above institution.

This school opens under its new organization on the 24th of Sept., in an elegant new building—a three story brick, Mansard roof. The college is supplied with new furniture of the best quality and style. A spacious study hall, 75x60 feet, awaits the ingathering of its pupils, with dormitories to receive 120 boarding pupils. The building occupies an eligible lot of three acres, without the business portion of the city, at an elevation of 70 feet above the level of the same. The aggregate length of its 12x15 feet halls is 350 feet, while 98 windows afford ample light and ventilation. Dallas is an enterprising, growing city of twenty thousand souls, and is accessible, by railroad, from all points of the compass.

The president is a layman from the Tennessee Conference, fresh from the management of some of the best institutions of that State; and with his long experience as a professional teacher, we predict for Dallas Female College a vigorous career in the growing West. The faculty numbers nine teachers. He has followed teaching as a profession since 1850, with eminent success, in establishing and maintaining female schools in the Memphis and Tennessee Conferences. He comes to Texas under the endorsement of Drs. McFerrin, Redford, Kelly, and Bishop McTyeire and others of the Tennessee Conference, as also of Dr. Johnson, of the Western Methodist.

LEVERIER.—In the death of Leverier, the great French astronomer, the world has lost a scientific power scarcely less vital in his day and generation than Galileo was in his. It would seem that the creative geniuses who preceded Herschell, Leverrier and Secchi, left but little for them to discover in the way of first principles and of stars of the first magnitude. But under the circumstances, Leverrier certainly performed a surprising part in enlightening the still dense ignorance of man concerning the cosmos.

Since discovering the planet known by his name, he went on through a series of minor discoveries, all proving the possession of the highest astronomical ability, and the most unflinching industry. Leverrier was born in 1811, and was therefore but sixty-six at the time of his death. †

TURCO-RUSSIAN WAR.—Last week we were in receipt of reports of another attempt on the part of the Russians to storm the intrenchments of Plevna and its repulse. This report is not confirmed by the last cables, and, as we have affirmed before, it is difficult to ascertain who are the greatest liars—the Russians or Turks.

But the Russians have not taken Plevna; and now both sides are anxiously making arrangements for the cantonment of their troops during the winter, which is already upon them. It is impossible that

any important strategic movement will be inaugurated after this date, and it is probable that both parties will retire, after some minor clashes, to the respective lines marked out for them by the summer campaign.

The summary so far is in favor of the Turk as to the immediate issue; but should an improved idea possess the Russian, he surely must have the better of the next struggle, since his resources are triple those of his antagonist. †

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—This is emphatically an age of Periodical Literature. A copious and constant stream of periodicals is sent forth. They come daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually, and in various sub-divisions of time; and they discuss every subject of human inquiry. The periodical mentioned at the head of this article is published weekly by Little & Gay, No. 17 Broomfield Street, Boston. Each number contains sixty-four pages of excellent reading. It combines the freshness of the newspaper with the more solid reading of the more pretentious quarterly review, and will, in itself, in a series of years, constitute a pretty complete encyclopedia of literature, history, biography, and science and art. It is literally a Living Age; combining pictures of the past with a panorama of passing events. We commend it to our readers. †

TRAVIS, AUSTIN COUNTY, TEXAS.

Allow me to congratulate your publishers, Messrs. Shaw & Blaylock, not only upon their being enabled to so early a day to resume business, but upon the very neat appearance and tasty dress in which they again present the Advocate to its numerous readers, and to wish them, and it, a hearty God speed in the future years to come. I have been asked by several ministers and lay members of the church why I do not resume the series of letters interrupted by the late fire. I reply that the concluding manuscript of the series was destroyed at that time, and as it brought me down to where I have been for the past three years, at this place, I will merely continue letter No. 4, and briefly state that after receiving letters from Gov. Throckmorton, Gen. M., and Col. H., that would have secured for me a splendid position on either the Texas Pacific or International Railroad, had I not again yielded to the tempter, and destroyer of my happiness, alcohol. I determined to withdraw altogether from railroading or anything else that would throw me into temptation, and try what effect the pure atmosphere the country would have upon a heart diseased, and mind troubled with a deep sorrow, that no one can know—or will ever know—save God and myself; to a very great extent the change had proven of great benefit to me even before I felt it my duty to join the Methodist Church at this place, in February last; and although I have at times felt how very weak and unworthy I am, and how greatly I stood in need of help and guidance from on high, and it has only been within the past two or three months, after earnest prayer, a closer reading of God's holy word, as well as attending the preaching of that word, upon every occasion that I possibly could, that I began to see differently from what I ever saw or felt before, and I now know and feel that God, in His infinite mercy, has pardoned my sins, and forever blotted them out of the book of His remembrance; and I do trust and hope that the past is numbered with the eternal past; that I will in all the future years to come walk in a newness of life, and endeavor to redeem the wasted years that have gone forever, and do all in my power to honor Jehovah, and promote the interest of the church of Christ on earth; and so live that that life will prove an honor to my friends, and in death I will be able to join my sainted parents in the bright realm where the beautiful stars never fade, and where sin and sorrow enter not. Just one month ago, and my only remaining parent, a beloved mother, eighty years of age, calmly breathed her last, at the city of Frankfort, Ky., and I, her youngest son, faraway in the Lone Star State, a stranger in a strange land. That dear mother, who, for more than half a century had been a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, has crossed over the dark river of Death, and there, with my father, who had gone years before, stands now—who can doubt it—around the great white throne, meekly pleading for mercy for the children left behind, and I, the last of ten children to withdraw from the world, feel from my in-

most heart that that prayer will be granted, and we will be a united family in that bright abode beyond the skies. Pardon this digression. I started in not to write of myself—but was carried away by the intensity of my feelings. Rev. T. B. Buckingham, in charge of this circuit, has been holding a series of special meetings for the past two months, commencing in the bend of the Brazos river, the last Sunday in July and continuing almost without intermission up to the present time, with an addition of forty odd members to the church, divided about as follows: one in the bend, thirteen at Buckhorn, ten at Nelsonville, sixteen in the neighborhood of Bellville, (where we have no organized church), and one at this place (Travis), where the meetings will probably close to-night. Brother Buckingham has had but little ministerial assistance in his labors, and with the exception of Revs. Stone, Campbell, Carr and Rogers, has had pretty much all the work to do alone. He, however, appears to stand up well under the pressure, and apparently willing to preach on day in and day out, if by doing so he could gain one soul to his Master's cause. Bro. B. is a powerful persuader and exhorter, a deep and earnest worker, and one who by his example is well calculated to stir a congregation and community, and set them to pondering deeply over their sins, and the blessed hope held out to them by the great Book of Books; and as conference will soon meet and redistrict its servants, I believe I but re-echo the general sentiments of the entire circuit, in hoping that it will be proper to continue Bro. B. in his present field, if it does not think proper to transfer him to a higher and more extended one, which his eminent fitness would so justly entitle him to occupy. I do not expect to remain in this county but a few weeks longer, but wherever I go, or wherever I may finally locate, I shall always think kindly of the people of Travis, and give thanks to God for having brought me here, and made certain parties here the instrument, through Christ, in bringing the wanderer into his everlasting fold. Amen! KENTUCKY.

THE GOSPEL LINE TO MEXICO.—Under the above title we see various articles in the secular press, though we believe it was one of our Methodist contemporaries that first suggested the idea that a railroad would be the best practical means of evangelizing our sister republic, and giving it a staple republican form of government. It is a capital idea. A railway from San Antonio to the Rio Grande, and thence into the heart of the mining region of Mexico, would do much to secure peace upon the border, and prosperity to the whole country. Formerly the Gospel, as understood by us, was transported on the backs of Spanish ponies, carrying an itinerant with well-filled saddle-bags. Now, it goes from here westward in a two-horse ambulance, conveying Brother Sutherland and some of his Mexican helpers in the mission work. It would greatly facilitate his work and our work and every other good work, if General Barnes' narrow-gauge road could be pushed through from San Antonio to the Rio Grande, and thence across the Sierra Madre to Guaymas.

"Faith without works is dead," and Texas preachers show their sincerity by their physical as well as spiritual labors. The News-Item says that on Wednesday the Rev. C. H. Botkin, the enterprising pastor of the Methodist Church in Mason, had his coat off and was working with a vim on the new church building. The Episcopal preacher at Luling was the principal architect and mechanic on the church building at that place, which is a monument to his taste as well as his industry and perseverance. The first church building ever erected at Austin was the Methodist, and Rev. H. S. Thrall, now of San Antonio, labored upon it from the time the timber was cut in the forest and ratted down the Colorado until the dedication of the finished edifice. This was thirty years ago, and the old building has been superseded by finer structures, but none more worthy of admiration. —Galveston News.

PHILIP WERLEIN.—This gentleman has been before the Texas public many years. He has sold hundreds of pianos to readers of the Advocate, and we have yet to learn of the first case of dissatisfaction. There has been within the recent past what may be termed in commercial parlance a great "tumble" in the price of musical instruments. Mr. Werlein has not been behind any of his competitors in this reduction. He offers special inducements which may be ascertained by communicating with him. His address is 135 Canal Street, "Touro Block," New Orleans.

Texas Christian Advocate

ADVERTISING RATES:

Table listing advertising rates for one-half inch, one inch, and two inch columns, with sub-rates for different durations and positions.

Rules on Standing Advertisements:

To find price of an advertisement for a given time over three months, multiply the price of an advertisement for one month by the number of months; then deduct.

For six months, 20 Per Cent. For nine months, 30 Per Cent. For twelve months, 40 Per Cent. CHANGES.—Each advertisement may be changed quarterly free of charge.

Church News and Views.

The Old Catholic Congress of Germany was to be held at Metz, Sept. 28th.

A Pan-Methodist Conference is talked of in Great Britain.

George Muller, the noted English evangelist and Plymouth brother of Bristol, is now in Brooklyn, New York.

There are eleven Danish Baptist Churches in Wisconsin, with twelve pastors and one State missionary.

The American Bible Society distributed 60,348 copies of the Scriptures in June. Receipts for the month \$26,488.

There are four Protestant Sunday-Schools in so Catholic a city as Lisbon, Portugal. Outside the city are two schools supported by a merchant.

In the Turkish empire there are on an average forty-seven Christians to every one hundred Mohammedans.

The Presbyterian Board of Home Missions has established a mission in Alaska, at Fort Wrangel. This is the first American Protestant mission in that territory.

Exhibitors are generally withdrawing their goods from the Exhibition in Philadelphia. A good move. The exhibitors have appealed to the anti-Sabbatical sentiment; now let that sentiment support it.

A writer from Sweden says that there is a general outpouring of the Spirit, and that hundreds and thousands of souls are being converted. In the First Baptist Church of Stockholm, 100 have been received by baptism since the beginning of the year.

The missionary party of the London Missionary Society at last advises were gathering at Zanzibar, preparatory to beginning the journey to Lake Tanganyika, where a mission is to be established. The journey from the coast will be by wagons for the first time.

Mr. Spurgeon, of the well-known Tabernacle, London, has been cruising, for the good of his health, along the coast of Scotland, and preaching occasionally, when, as it would be known that he would do so, vast crowds of from 3000 to 7000 Highlanders would gather together and listen most attentively to his discourse.

Paul, the devoted and useful Bishop of Kamtschatka and Blagovaischensky, in the Greek church, died on the 6th of June, in the 65th year of his age, and while away from home in labors on the Amoor river. He was born in Siberia, and studied theology in the Seminary of Irkutsk. He was made a bishop in 1870.

Bishop Gilmour of the Roman Catholic Church of Cleveland, has issued a pastoral, prohibiting public appeals except for public charities; also, round-dancing or night dancing for public charities or church purposes; the selling of wine or beer and moonlight excursions, or picnics continued after nightfall.

In ten States is comprised nearly the whole strength of Universalism in this country. There are 514 churches and 26,764 members. Universalism is the strongest in Massachusetts, which embraces more than one-fifth of its strength. New York furnishes nearly one-fifth. It never flourished in the South.

Profiting by the example of other churches, the Reformed Episcopal Church proposes to "pay its way," and not allow its property to be owned by insurance companies and banks. It has some eighty churches, all free from debt, and a university will soon loom up in the West. Its Appeal is to be issued hereafter bi-monthly instead of monthly.

One of the largest churches in the country is the Bealstreet Baptist Church, of Memphis. It has 3,800 members; and has been built up by its present pastor, Rev. Morris Henderson, who is "wholly uneducated, being barely able to read." He held a revival in 1866, and as the result, baptized 900 persons.

The Antonelli scandal continues to create great excitement at Rome. Some important evidence has been given by two former servants of the deceased Cardinal, and it stated that the Pope, in an autograph letter, has entreated King Victor Emmanuel to suppress further proceedings in the Antonelli lawsuit. The King replied, however, that he had no control over the course of the law.

The Catholics claim to have a missionary force in Hindoostan of 1700, and they report 10,304 conversions for 1875. Of these 2062 were in Pondicherry, 1514 in Eastern Bengal, and 1269 in Quilon. In Eastern Tong King, China, the Catholics have forty-five missionaries and native priests, with 332 Christian communities and about 1000 scholars. The Catholic population of the territory is 52,000.

The Scotch Livingstonia Mission suffers this time in the departure of one of its chief laborers. Doctor William Black died of fever at the Mission at Lake Nyassa, in the midst of his labors. He was a medical missionary of wonderful zeal, and a fine adaptation to his position and to the duties which he had assumed. He died at an early age, being only thirty, and left a work which has been just begun for other hands to carry on and complete.

The Friends support a mission in Mexico, conducted by the Rev. A. S. Purdie, assisted by four native helpers. Mr. Purdie's headquarters are at Matamoros, whence trips are made to San Fernando and other places. A great deal is done in the distribution of tracts.

The First Baptist chapel in Rome is in the Piazz Lucina. On the site where it is believed once stood the palace of the Roman Senator Pudens, whom Paul visited, and of whom he speaks with much affection, a freehold has been purchased, and a chapel, a minister's residence, and two school-rooms are in course of erection at a cost of about \$3000.

PASTORS, PLEASE READ THIS.—A writer in the Princeton Review of 1830, says: "Ministers have devoted an undue proportion of their labor to those who are grown up; while the young, by far the most hopeful part of their congregations, have been almost entirely neglected."

Rev. Dr. Ashbel Green, shortly before his death, said: "If I had my ministry to go over again, I would give far more attention to the children."

Rev. Dr. Samuel Miller, in his seventy-ninth year, said: "After the observation and experience of a long life, I have come decisively to the conclusion that if I had my life to live over again I would pay ten times as much attention to the children of my charge as I ever did when I had a charge. If I were now about to undertake the care of a new or feeble church, I would consider special attention to the children and young people of the neighborhood as one of the most certain and effectual methods of collecting and strengthening a flock that could possibly be employed."

Dr. Tyng says: "I have gone over this again and again in the fifty-three years of a pastor's life, and my deliberate conviction is, that the whole hope of the Christian church is the simple, plain, practical, intelligible preaching of a Saviour to the young, the feeble, and the ignorant of the flock."

THE TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Chappel Hill College the First Patron.

The following letter explains itself. The minutes ought to contain the advertisement of every school in Texas. Let us hear from others in the same liberal spirit manifested by Dr. Pitts.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

CHAPPELL HILL FEMALE COLLEGE.

CHAPPELL HILL, TEXAS, SEPT. 28, 1877.

Shaw & Blaylock:

You propose to publish in one volume the Minutes of the Five Conferences in Texas. It will be quite an experiment. But the world moves forward by experiment. Enterprise implies risk. The "live men," the "wise ones," in every field of labor are constantly striving to get farther on and higher up. To do this they assume responsibilities and take chances. You are going to make your adventure in a good cause. Such a little book is needed. There is a place, or ought to be, in each Methodist house that it exactly fills. Each family should have it.

Chappel Hill Female College gives her sanction to your purpose. She will help you, too. You will please reserve a choice page for her advertisement and send her 100 copies of the book. Get it up in the best style. Spare not taste or labor, or money. Make it handsome, attractive, readable. It will win its way into the homes of the people. Yours truly, E. D. PITTS.

Letters Received.

Sept. 27.—Nat Goerrin—published last week. B T Kavanaugh—handed editor. J W Whipple—J C Baird—both changed. J F Fuller—J F Frost Co.—H B Solley. Sept. 28.—W Hall—G W Foster—\$1 25.—Mrs N Laferty—J J Canafax—\$6 25.—J W Johnson—O M Addison. Sept. 29.—L M Allen—\$2 50, for account of D F Fuller.—J M Harper.—M H Wells (2). T H Yarbrough—the editor alone passes judgment on articles.—J W Hunton—\$2 50.—W H Moss. Oct. 1.—G W Eiler—\$2 50.—W C Lewis—It is thought best not to discuss the matter.—A G Nolen.—John S Gillett—\$5.—O M Addison—handed editor.—J F Bahler.—W K Turner—all right. Oct. 2.—J S Clower.—E D Pitts.—W D Shea.—F P Ray—Sept 19—received postage money order, No. 3760, from Waxahachie, for \$5.—W M Meacham—\$2 50. Oct. 3.—E S Smith—paper discontinued by order from Huntsville; sent with pleasure.—J W DeVillibus—the board will meet in Galveston, as per its action at last meeting.—Jno F Cook—\$10 00.—J L Lemmons—\$3.—J P Skinner.

Veterinary Surgeons all over the country are recommending Sheridan's Ovary Condition Powders for the following troubles in horses: Loss of appetite, roughness of the hair, stoppage of bowels or water, thick water, coughs and colds, swelling of the glands, worms, horse all, thick wind, and heaves.

A friend of ours who is chief clerk in the Government Dispensary, says that no medicine chest is now complete without Johnson's Anodyne Liniment. We always supposed it was prescribed by law; if it is not, it ought to be, for certainly there is nothing in the whole materia medica of so much importance to the soldier and the sailor as Johnson's Anodyne Liniment.

AUSTIN DISTRICT—FOURTH ROUND. Winchester flour, (camp-meeting) near Win. Chester, October 11, 16. Baptist, October 23, 24. Caldwell, November 3, 4. Austin circuit, November 10, 11. Austin circuit, at Elgin, November 17, 18. Birch creek mission, November 21, 22. Austin station and Swede mission Dec 1, 2. J. W. WHITTLE, P. E.

Commercial.

TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE OFFICE, Galveston, Texas, Oct. 6, 1877.

COTTON.—At New York, the market for spots opened firm; closed easy. Sales this day 699 bales. Low Middling 10c. Middling Uplands 11c. Futures opened steady and closed firmer.

At New Orleans, the market opened steady and closed firm. Good Ordinary, 10c. Low Middling, 10c. Middling, 11c. Sales 1200 bales.

At Liverpool, the market for spots opened active and with good demand, and quotations advanced; arrivals steady. Middling Uplands 65c. Orleans 61c. The market here is steady. Sales 2810 bales. Receipts 1300 bales.

Low Ordinary, 9 1/2. Ordinary, 9 1/2. Good Ordinary, 9 1/2. Low Middling, 10. Middling, 10 1/2. Good Middling, 10 1/2.

GALVESTON RECEIPTS.

Table with columns: This, Last Season, Net Receipts, Stock on hand. Includes items like Sugar, Coffee, etc.

Exchange—Gold and Silver.

Table with columns: Buying, Selling, Sterling, 90 days, New York sight, etc.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING OCT. 1, 1877.

(Reported for the ADVOCATE by Johnson Foster Live-stock commission merchant, Stock-yards Galveston.)

Stock of all kinds in large supply. Heavy receipts since the resumption of business by the railroads, and the great scarcity of fresh water since the over-draw, has caused a decline in prices. Some demand for small hogs.

RECEIPTS: Beaves and cows, 386. Hogs, 25. Sheep, 109. Cattle, 208.

SALES: Beaves and cows, 352. Hogs, 19. Sheep, 108. Cattle, 19.

ON HAND: Beaves and cows, 129. Hogs, 131. Sheep, 419.

TOTAL RECEIPTS SINCE JAN. 1: Beaves and cows, 10656. Hogs, 5602. Sheep, 5602.

PRESENT QUOTATIONS.

Beaves and cows—good to choice, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2. Beaves and cows, common and ordinary, 3 to 3 1/2.

Two year old, choice to head, 2 1/2 to 3. Two year old, common and head, 2 to 2 1/2.

Yearlings, choice to head, 2 to 2 1/2. Yearlings, common to head, 1 1/2 to 2.

Beaves and cows, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2. Beaves and cows, common and ordinary, 3 to 3 1/2.

Corn-fed beaves and cows, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2. Corn-fed beaves and cows, common and ordinary, 3 to 3 1/2.

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Table listing prices for various goods like Flannels, Blankets, Hats, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Axes, Collars, Knives, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Planters, No. 1, No. 2, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Common bar, per pound, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Galvanized, Russia, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Laths, Nails, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Ties, per pound, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Kerosene, per gal, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Soap, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Standard A, B, C, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Flour, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Coffee, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Tea, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Sugar, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Lard, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Butter, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Eggs, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Corn, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Wheat, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Oats, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Hay, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Straw, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Timber, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Stone, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Brick, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Lumber, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Glass, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Paper, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Ink, per doz, etc.

Table listing prices for various goods like Stationery, per doz, etc.

\$250 New Square Grand Rosewood Pianos for \$250.

WEBER & EMERSON PIANOS

MAISON & HAMLIN ORGANS

PIANO AND MUSIC DEALERS.

THOS. GOGGAN & BROS.

VEGETINE

Purifies the Blood, Renovates and Invigorates the Whole System.

Alterative, Tonic, Solvent and Diuretic.

VEGETINE is made exclusively from the infuse of carefully selected roots and herbs, and so strongly concentrated, that it will effectually eradicate from the system every taint of Scrophulous Humors, Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Catarrhs, Pimples, Eruptions, Salt Rheum, Cancer, Faintness at the Stomach, and all diseases that arise from impure blood. For Ulcers and Eruptions of the Skin, Psoriasis, Pimples, Boils, Tetter, Scald-Head and Ringworm, VEGETINE has never failed to effect a permanent cure. For Pains in the Back, Rheumatic Complaints, Dropsy, Female weakness, Leucorrhoea, from internal obstructions and General Debility, VEGETINE acts directly upon the cause of these complaints. It invigorates and strengthens the whole system, acts upon the secretory organs, allays inflammation, cures ulceration and regulates the bowels.

What is Vegetine? It is a compound extracted from roots, roots and herbs. It is the best medicine yet discovered for the above diseases, and is the only reliable BLOOD PURIFIER yet placed before the public.

Can Not be Exceeded.

My daughter has received great benefit from the use of the Vegetine. Her condition was a source of great anxiety to all of her friends. A few bottles of the VEGETINE restored her health, strength and appetite.

Prepared by H. R. Stevens, Boston.

VEGETINE IS SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

The Florence Oil Stove

CHICKERING PIANO.



Will do cooking and laundry work at an expense of THIRTY CENTS A WEEK, and without discomfort from heat. It can be used either as a cook or heater, by simply changing the drum. As a heater, it is superior to any other heater, and can be regulated to any degree of temperature. The air in a room heated by the FLORENCE is always pure and moist.

Aiken Bros. & Wheeler.

Gold.

Great chance to make money. If you can't get gold you can get greenbacks. We need a person in every town to take subscriptions for the largest, cheapest and best Illustrated family publication in the world. Any one can become a successful agent. The most elegant works of art given free to subscribers. The price is so low that almost everybody subscribes. One agent reports making over \$150 in a week. A lady agent reports taking over 400 subscribers in ten days. All who engage make money fast. You can devote all your time to the business, or only your spare time. You need not be away from home at night. You can do it all as well as others. Full particulars, directions and terms free. Elegant and expensive outfit free. If you want profitable work send your address at once. It costs nothing to try the business. No one who engages fails to make great pay. Address "The People's Journal," Portland, Maine.

Texas Christian Advocate

JOINT BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

The ADVOCATE having been returned to the direct control of the Five Annual Conferences...

- WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—John W. DeWitt, O. A. Fisher and J. G. Walker. NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—S. J. Hawkins, W. C. Halsey, W. F. Eastorling...

Subscription Rates table with columns for annual, six months, and three months rates for individuals and clubs.

From the Richmond Christian Advocate. A Recent Tour in Texas.

Our return from Columbia to Houston was sufficiently expeditious. At one of the lagoons where the train stopped for water, is an alligator, of which the conductor makes a pet, by feeding him.

Here we held the District Conference for the San Marcos District, West Texas Conference, Rev. O. A. Fisher, P. E. The attendance was very full. All the preachers, except one, were present and nearly every lay delegate.

After a brief and refreshing sojourn with Bro. McAshan, I started on the Galveston and San Antonio Railroad for the San Marcos District Conference in West Texas.

After a succession of animating scenes unfolded by this natural panorama, night dropped her curtain, and we found ourselves at Luling, one of those magic towns which the march of events can only create, in such a country as this, within the space of twelve months.

physician was summoned and confirmed the truth of my suggestion. The anxious mother was relieved. The night passed quietly, and, after early breakfast, under the charge of my clerical escort, I diverged from the railroad on a drive across the country...

MEXIA, Texas, Sept. 11, 1877.—I am just in from the fourth quarterly conference at Corsicana Station and Dresden Circuit; resulting in the station in thirty-nine accessions and more professions. On the circuit, at Pugh's Tank, up to Sunday night, twenty-one accessions, twenty-seven professions, and the service continued.

CEDAR CREEK, TEXAS, Sept. 19, 1877.—The Lord hath blessed us again on Cedar Creek Circuit. At Haynie's Chapel camp-meeting, about thirty conversions; eighteen joined the M. E. Church, South.

Aztec Ruins. The ancient ruins which are scattered all over this country are some of the strangest unwritten pages of history. Our fertile valleys have been densely inhabited and highly cultivated by an enlightened race of people centuries ago.

A Methodist Evangelist. The Rev. Mr. Harrison is a Methodist Evangelist of Baltimore. He is not yet twenty-four years of age, but is remarkably successful, some fourteen hundred conversions having been reported at different meetings he has recently held.

At the close of a short exhortation he addressed himself to one particular section of the congregation, and said if any one in this space wishes to be prayed for raise your right hand. He counted them and then took another section, and thus went over the congregation. He announced that ten had held up their hands and then called for them to come to the altar.

time singing and praying was going on, this young man designating the hymn and the person to pray. When a mourner seemed in deep agony he would call for some suitable hymn, as "Oh, pass me not my Saviour."

Some men are good because goodness pays; some are good for nothing. 'Tis a mercy to be wakened from a deep sleep in sin by a fall into deep sorrow.

Children are afraid of being left in the dark; men are afraid of not being left in it.—Londor. If God has chosen your way, depend upon it, it is the best way that could be chosen; it may be tedious, but it is safe.

Intellectual pride is less outraged by the obscurities of faith, than by the authority with which it is clothed.—M. S. S. He that cannot find enough in Christ for a day, how can he expect to find enough in Him for eternity.

A beautiful saying: "When you are insulted, cast the affront into the unfathomable depths of God's love, from which it will have no resurrection."

Every heavy burden of sorrow seems like a stone hung around our neck, yet they are often like the stones used by the pearl divers, which enables them to reach the prize and to rise enriched.

long way, as nothing to compare with it can be found within 20 miles. All the timber used is cedar, and has at least been brought 25 miles. Old ditches and roads are to be seen in every direction.

Omnibus.

Good manners, as has been pithily said, are only the absence of selfishness. They are the doing to others as we would wish to be done unto. A thoughtfulness for the comfort of those about us, a pleasant smile, a kind word—these are the ingredients of which good manners are chiefly composed.

Centaur Liniments.

Wm. H. Hoke, Rector of St. John's P. E. Church, Wakefield, Va., writes: "Many years I have been suffering from a weak back, and from a certain time to years ago, I have not found anything to relieve me until I commenced the use of Centaur Liniment."

The Centaur Liniment, Yellow Wrapper, is adapted to the tough skin, muscles and flesh of the animal creation. Its effects upon severe cases of spavin, swellings, Wind-gall, Big Head and Poll-Evil, are little less than marvellous.

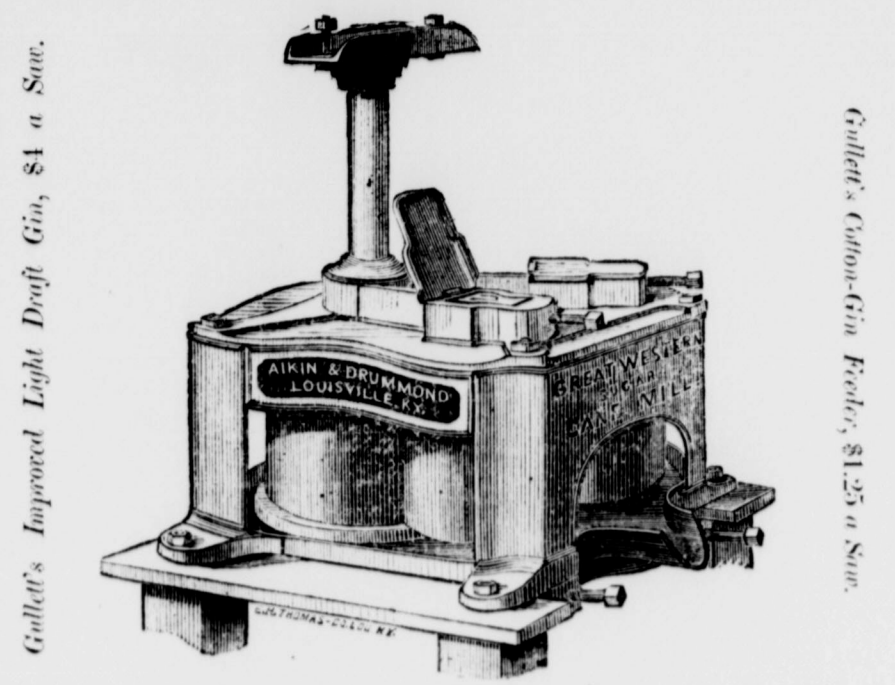
Castoria.

Mothers may have rest and their babies may have health if they use Castoria for wind colic, worms, feverishness, sore mouth, croup, or stomach complaints. It is entirely a vegetable preparation, and contains neither mineral, morphia, or alcohol.

PLANOS AND ORGANS. Magnificent Brand New \$50 Rosewood Pianos, only \$175. Must be sold. Fine Rosewood Upright Piano, little used, cost \$280, only \$125. Parlor Organ, 2 stops, \$15; 9 stops, \$65; 12 stops, only \$75.

School Books! School Books! HEADQUARTERS J. E. MASON, Galveston, Texas.

IMPROVED WROUGHT-IRON REVOLVING SCREW COTTON PRESS.



WE now make only the largest size—10-foot. Every Press warranted up to 500 pound per day. Price for 10-foot set IRONS complete (currency), \$165. With cotton, 1 box (currency), \$200.

JOHN W. WICKS & SON, Agents for Texas, 33 STRAND, GALVESTON.

W. L. CUSHING & MOORE,

Nos. 122 and 124 Strand, Galveston, Texas.

Southern Agents for Sharps' Rifle Company,

DEALERS IN

Machinery,

Ames' Portable Engines, Steadman's Stationary Engines and Boilers; Goddard's Celebrated Taps, Dies, Screw Plates, etc., Straub's Corn and Flouring Mills.

EAGLE COTTON GINS,

Steadman's Improved Newell Screw Cotton Press, Brooks, Reynolds and Ingersoll Cotton Presses, Victor Sugar Mills and Evaporators, Kirby Mowers, Climax Mowers, Saw Mill, Church and School Bells, Belling, Piping, Brass Work, Whistles, Steam and Water Gauges.

C. C. C. THE "Complete Cotton Cleaner."

A valuable money-making machine. Simple, light of draft, and adapted to steam, water or horse power. Saves the gin, increases the yield of lint and...



JO W. ALLISON, GENERAL STATE AGENT, 33 Strand, Galveston, Texas.

TO WATCH SPECULATORS



J. BRIDE & CO., Clinton Place, & No. 11 Eighth Street, New York.

BUY THE PATENTED JULY 4th CENTENNIAL



Cost, including freight, but 22 to 24 cents per bushel cotton. BUYERS CONSIDER COTTON IN THESE TIES WORTH 50 TO 75 CENTS PER BALE MORE THAN IF IN FLA. 4 TIES.

THE "GILPIN." The Most Successful Sulky Plow in the World!

DEERE, MANSUR & CO., Manufacturers and Agents for the West, St. Louis, Mo.

SEALS, STAMPS, CHECKS, Brands and Dies.

C. H. CLARKE, Milwaukee Wis. Complete outfits of Stencil Name Plate Dies for marking clothing, (very cheap). Key Check Tools, Large Stencil Tools. All instructions given. Send for Samples. These can be sent by mail, P. O. Box 114.

\$350 A Month. Agents Wanted, 36 Best Selling Articles in the World. One sample free. Address J. BRONSON, Detroit, Mich.

\$66 a week in your own town. Terms and \$5 outfit free. H. HALLETT & CO., Portland, Maine.

FOR SALE—THE SCHOOL LAW—50 cents. Address SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Strand, Galveston.

\$15 SHOT GUN.

A double-barreled gun, bar or front-action locks, warranted genuine twist barrels, and a good shooter, or NO-SALE; with flask, pouch and a wad cutter, for \$15. Can be sent C. O. D. with privilege to examine before paying bill. Send stamp for circular to P. POWELL & SONS, Gun Dealers, 238 Main Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

GOLD on Harvest for Agents. We send free our new 8-page Illustrated Jeweler's and Watchmaker's Catalogue with instructions how to make money. Address M. CROFT & CO., Philadelphia, or Milwaukee, Wis.

Texas Christian Advocate

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 words "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.

In preparing articles for publication, write on but one side of the paper; otherwise your communications may be thrown into the wastebasket.

ARTICLES for publication will, in no instance, be returned to writers.

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

REMIT by Postoffice Money Order, Draft or Registered Letter.

THE date on the address of your paper indicates the expiration of subscription. Renew at least two weeks in advance to prevent losing a number.

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.

AGENTS' EXHIBIT AND BOOK COMMITTEE'S STATEMENT

Table with columns for Merchandise, Cash account, Book account, Bond account, and various other financial entries. Total assets shown as \$91,820.07.

Table showing LIABILITIES, including Book account, Bond account, and Bills payable. Total liabilities shown as \$91,820.07.

Table showing NET PROFITS, including Advocate, Sunday-school periodicals, Wood cuts, and other items. Total net profit shown as \$7,645.15.

Table showing EXPENSES, including Postage account, New bond account, On manufacturing account, and various other items. Total expenses shown as \$83,174.92.

Net balance, or gain, \$8,645.15

Christian Advocate and the Sunday-school periodicals. We have reported the receipts on account of the Advocate to be \$18,074.44. Of this amount we have received from subscribers \$13,916.39, and from advertisements \$4,158.05, making the sum total of \$18,074.44.

Table listing contributions from various sources: From Sunday-school Magazine (\$13,354.79), From Our Little People (\$455.11), etc.

The present subscription list of the Christian Advocate, and circulation of the Sunday-school periodicals are as follows:

By referring to our exhibit, made to the Church in 1866, immediately after we took charge of the Publishing House, it will be seen that there was a balance in favor of the house of \$87,195.70.

At present the balance is \$830,616.26. After deducting from this balance the amount of balance shown in the exhibit of 1866, it leaves \$213,423.56. Of this amount there was contributed

For building the present house \$40,102.91, For relief \$768.14, From J. T. Colvin's estate \$750.00, etc.

With these exact statements our brethren can judge whether or not the Publishing House, if once free from embarrassment, would be able to show a profitable business.

A meeting of the Book Committee on the 3d of July, the annual exhibit of the Southern Methodist Publishing House was read and received, and, at the request of the agent, a committee of two members of the Book Committee was appointed to examine the exhibit in all its details.

A complete list of both the creditors and debtors of the house, including every note and account, was duly furnished us, showing every dollar the Publishing House owes, and to whom, and every dollar that is due the Publishing House.

The committee had the freest access to all the accounts, and to the business of the house in all its departments, and were gratified to find that the debts due the house are much better than they had imagined.

one year ago has been paid than we supposed, a very large portion of the present indebtedness having been incurred since July 1, 1876, and will, we hope, be paid during the sessions of the conferences soon to be held.

In the annual exhibit of the agent you will see the real estate, together with the engine, presses, fixtures, etc., valued at what they originally cost. While it is highly necessary that these figures be shown in the annual exhibit, we deem it proper to state to the church what we consider at the present time to be a fair valuation of everything that constitutes the assets of the house.

There has been a decline and shrinkage in real estate all over the country, as well as in articles of trade, and of course the Publishing House is not exempt.

We submit the following statement, which, we think, nearly approximates the true value of the assets, at the present time, of the Publishing House as such:

Table listing assets: Merchandise (\$40,408.78), Cash (\$2,235.57), Book account over and above all bills (\$2,900.00), etc.

The shrinkage in the real estate and other property of the Publishing House is not greater than in other departments of business, and for any losses in this direction no one can be blamed, any more than they would deserve praise if the property had advanced in value, instead of declined.

It will be seen, however, that after deducting \$189,066.84 from the original assets, and reducing the assets this much from the original cost, the house has left, over and above all its liabilities, \$141,552.42, showing a net increase of capital under the management of the present agent, since he was placed in charge of the house, of \$54,386.72.

The inquiry will naturally suggest itself: Why is it that a house that has a surplus of \$141,552.42, over and above its liabilities, should be so constantly and so severely pressed as is the Publishing House? By reference to the assets it will be seen that its capital consists largely in such property as is necessary to conduct the business, but cannot be used as cash in the payment of debts.

The committee appointed consisted of Dempsey Weaver and Thomas D. Fite.

After a most careful examination, with the assistance of Mr. Hugh Carroll, the book-keeper, the committee were gratified to find, as they expected to do, all the statements, as set forth in the annual exhibit corresponding strictly with the books of the house.

A complete list of both the creditors and debtors of the house, including every note and account, was duly furnished us, showing every dollar the Publishing House owes, and to whom, and every dollar that is due the Publishing House.

The committee had the freest access to all the accounts, and to the business of the house in all its departments, and were gratified to find that the debts due the house are much better than they had imagined.

In addition to the request that we made, that the church contribute \$60,000 toward the relief of the house, we have issued bonds to the amount of \$200,000, as follows: One hundred and eighteen bonds of \$1000 each, bearing eight per cent. interest; fifty bonds of \$500 each, bearing seven per cent. interest; and forty and twenty bonds of \$100 each, bearing interest at seven per cent. All the bonds have coupons attached to be paid semi-annually. Of these bonds the following have been sold: Two of the \$1000, one of the \$500, and twenty-two of the \$100 bonds.

While we request the conferences to devise some plan by which their proportion of the \$60,000 shall be procured, we would respectfully call their attention to the bonds. With proper effort on the part of the preachers, we think one hundred and sixteen persons may be found who will purchase each a \$1000 bond; fifty who will purchase each a \$500 bond; and ninety-eight who will purchase each a \$100 bond; indeed that number of Sunday-schools might be found that would invest \$100 in a bond, and collect the coupons as they fall due in books and periodicals. If this can be done, the interest, including amounts received from rent of the three stores, can be met, and any surplus may be used in payment of bonds, and thus gradually reduce the debt.

If we are asked what assurance can be given that the business will be not only self-sustaining, but that the liabilities may be diminished, we will refer simply to what the house has accomplished. Certainly no business has ever been conducted under greater disadvantages than the business of the Publishing House.

We have already shown the assets and liabilities existing in 1866. While the debt was a large one, only a small portion of the assets were such as could be employed in its liquidation. Since that time the house has encountered heavy losses by fire, the rebuilding of one of the walls at a cost of \$15,000, the financial panic, and the general prostration of trade, and yet shows a net gain of \$54,236.86, after deducting for shrinkage, \$189,066.84.

We submit to your judgment, after an examination of these figures, whether the house can sustain itself if the church shall do what we have asked. The past year especially has been a hard one on all branches of business. Trade has been paralyzed, and if all the mercantile houses were required to make an exhibit of their business for the past twelve months there are few that would show any profits. And, indeed, no business scarcely has been profitable since the panic of 1873.

We take great pleasure in bearing testimony to the industry, energy and fidelity of the agent, the Rev. A. H. Redford, who, in the trying times since the panic of 1873, has labored with untiring assiduity to promote the interests of the house, and thus save this great enterprise to the church and the South.

ROBERT A. YOUNG, THOMPSON ANDERSON, WILLIAM H. MORGAN, DEMPSEY WEAVER, THOMAS D. FITE.

Our brethren on the Pacific Coast are very anxious for a Bishop to reside among them, and have discussed the question, at some length, through their paper, the Pacific Methodist. Some of the Texas brethren second the motion, and put in an amendment that they have a Bishop to reside in the Lone Star State.

Virgil Grabel writes that the Baptists and Methodists have been carrying on a meeting at Ballew Springs, Texas. A number have been converted, among them a Campbellite, who had been baptized for the remission of sins, but failed to receive it. He obtained it by faith in Christ, and was made happy in God.

A dull man is so near a dead man that he is hardly to be ranked in the list of the living; and as he is not to be buried whilst he is half alive, so he is as little to be employed whilst he is half dead.

Charity is a bond which holds the Christian graces in harmonious union, and by keeping them together, secures a permanent completeness and consistency of character.

The Children's Corner.

Dean Stanley's Advice to Children Who Wish to Please their Parents.

Once a year Dean Stanley preaches a sermon to children in Westminster Abbey. Addressing himself directly to children who wished "to please their parents, to please God, and go to heaven," he used these plain and homely words:

"Love honest work, love to get knowledge, never be ashamed of saying your prayers morning and evening. It will help you to be good all through the day. Always keep your promises; do not pick up foolish and dirty stories; never tell a lie; never strike, or hurt, or be rude to a woman or girl, or any one younger or weaker than yourself. Be ready even to risk your own lives to save that of a friend, or a companion, or a brother, or a sister. Be very kind to your dumb animals—never put them to pain; they are God's creatures as well as you, and if you hurt them you will become brutal and base yourselves. Remember always to be gentle and tender to older people; listen and do not interrupt when they are talking."

"If you have an old father or grand-father, or sick uncle or aunt, remember not to disturb them by loud talking or rough play. Be careful and tender to them. You can not think what good it does them, and if it should happen that any of you have a poor father or a poor mother who has to get up early, to go about their business and earn their bread—and your bread—remember what a pleasure it will be to them to find out that their little boy or girl has been out of bed before them on a cold winter's morning, and has lighted a bright, blazing fire, so as to give them a cup of tea. Think what a pleasure it would be to them, if they are sick, if they are deaf or blind, to find a little boy or girl to speak to them, or read to them, or to lead them about. It is not only the comfort they are in having help; it is still a greater comfort in knowing they have a good little son, or a good little daughter who is anxious to help them, and who they feel will surely be a joy, and not a trouble to them, by day and by night. No Christmas present can be so welcome to any father, or mother, as the belief that their children are growing up truthful, manly, courageous, courteous, unselfish and religious; and do not think that any of these things are too much for any of you. I know that many of you may have great temptations; perhaps you may have homes where it is very difficult to be tidy and clean; perhaps, as you go to school along the streets, there may be wicked people who try to lead you astray, and make you steal and swear, and yet I am sure that if you will do your best, you will find such delight in doing your duty and in what is going on, that whoever doeth these good things, saith the Bible, whether he be young or old, boy or girl—shall never fail. Let the good frighten the bad; let the light drive away darkness; let the whole world know that there are little English boys and girls who are determined to do their duty, whatever befalls them."

Remember what a pleasure it will be to them to find out that their little boy or girl has been out of bed before them on a cold winter's morning, and has lighted a bright, blazing fire, so as to give them a cup of tea. Think what a pleasure it would be to them, if they are sick, if they are deaf or blind, to find a little boy or girl to speak to them, or read to them, or to lead them about. It is not only the comfort they are in having help; it is still a greater comfort in knowing they have a good little son, or a good little daughter who is anxious to help them, and who they feel will surely be a joy, and not a trouble to them, by day and by night. No Christmas present can be so welcome to any father, or mother, as the belief that their children are growing up truthful, manly, courageous, courteous, unselfish and religious; and do not think that any of these things are too much for any of you. I know that many of you may have great temptations; perhaps you may have homes where it is very difficult to be tidy and clean; perhaps, as you go to school along the streets, there may be wicked people who try to lead you astray, and make you steal and swear, and yet I am sure that if you will do your best, you will find such delight in doing your duty and in what is going on, that whoever doeth these good things, saith the Bible, whether he be young or old, boy or girl—shall never fail. Let the good frighten the bad; let the light drive away darkness; let the whole world know that there are little English boys and girls who are determined to do their duty, whatever befalls them."

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Scientific and Useful.

SOFTENING FILES.—Cover them with oil and hold them over the fire until the oil blazes; as soon as the flame runs all over the file, plunge it into the water. Or, put them in a moderate hot oven for half an hour, if large; but if small files, the first plan is the best.

HARDENING SPRINGS.—Get a piece of spring steel about the size of spring wanted; when forged and filed to suit, make it warm red, immerse in spring water, dry the spring, then tie a piece of wire fast to the spring in any form, so as to hold it; dip in clean tallow or oil, put it on the fire until all the grease is burned off, and then swing round and round as swift as you can, until cold.

The following method is used in Germany for the preservation of wood: mix 40 parts chalk, 50 resin, 4 linseed oil, melting them together in an iron pot; then add one part of native oxide of copper, and afterwards 1 part of sulphuric acid. Apply with a brush. When dry, this varnish is as hard as stone.

A CONVENIENT MOUTH-GLUE is made by dissolving, with the aid of heat, pure glue, as parchment glue, or gelatine with a quarter or one-third its weight of coarse brown sugar, in as small a quantity of boiling water as possible. This, when perfectly liquid, should be cast into thin cakes on a flat surface, very slightly oiled, and as it cools, cut up into pieces of a convenient size. When required for use moisten one end. A piece kept in the desk or work-box is exceedingly convenient.

House and Farm.

FLOATING ISLAND.—Take the juice of two lemons, the whites of two eggs, three tablespoonfuls of currant jelly and a large cupful of white sugar, and beat all to a stiff froth; put into a glass dish and pour in cream enough to float it.

TINTED FROTH.—Beat to a stiff froth the whites of three or four eggs, add the syrup of damsons or any highly colored jelly or preserves; serve it with custard, whips, floating island, trifles, or any other cold desert.

NICE CORN BREAD.—Thicken one pint and a half of rich buttermilk with commel to the consistency of batter; dissolve one teaspoonful of soda in a cup of new milk, and a little salt, and beat very light, pour this into buttered pans, and bake two hours. Serve hot.

TO PRESERVE MILK.—Bottle the milk tightly, using wine-corks; place them in a kettle of cold water, heat the water gradually until it reaches boiling point, take it off the fire and let it cool, and pack the bottles for use; the milk will keep six months.

THE POTATO BEETLE.—It is a shortsighted business to leave the last broods to breed and increase, because the potatoes are past harm. This is seedling for a crop next year, which will perpetuate the vermin, and make work for another season. If the late arrivals are destroyed, there will be very few another year. If a thorough work were made of this pest for one season by every one who grows potatoes, a very quick end could be made of it.

FALL-FOLLOWING.—As a means of preparing land for spring crops, there is none better than what is known as fall-fallowing. Our dryer season makes this as effective in cleaning the soil, as the English farmer's summer-fallow. Two ploughings may be given, if necessary, before the winter, and final deep ploughing for the last, will leave the soil in fine condition in spring, for root crops or corn. If any fall-fallowing is to be done, it should be begun at once.

Fallen fruit should always be utilized. Swine may be pastured in the orchard, or the fruit picked up daily and carried to their pens; in case neither is done, some other method should be adopted to destroy the larva of the codlin moth that is commonly within it. Vinegar makers grind and press the windfalls daily, to add to the vinegar crop.

Milch cows will need some fresh fodder as soon as the pastures have become dry and hard. Those who have provided some fodder crop, will keep up the supply of milk; those who have not, will now regret their neglect. There are some farmers who make more than others; some make but little, but the best might often do a little better, and at this season this truth comes home.

Waste Basket.

An anachronistic pun: Adam was married on his wedding Eve.

Gold and silver are not brothers. They do not have the same par.

Ladies should always speak low, and yet they should ever try to be high-toned women.

Why ought a lady's home-dress to last a long while? Because she never wears it out.

A metaphysical conundrum: What is that which increases the effect by reducing the cause? A pair of snuffers.

"I think our church will last a good many years yet," said a wag-gish deacon to his minister. "I see the sleepers are very sound."

"What's a fellow to do, Doctor, when he's in company and has nothing to say?" "He should say it quietly," replied the Doctor.

A counsel being questioned by a Judge to know "for whom he was concerned," replied: "I am concerned, my lord, for the plaintiff, but I am employed by the defendant."

Some men never can take a joke. There was an old doctor, who, when asked "what is good for mosquitoes?" wrote back: "How do you suppose I can tell unless I know what ails the mosquito?"

An old rail-splitter in Indiana put the quietus upon a young man who chaffed him upon his bald head in these words: "Young man, when my head gets as soft as yours, I can raise hair to sell."

An impecunious individual was heard to mutter, as he finished reading a railroad handbill headed "Through without change." "That's the road I shall take; no fault to find with them terms."

A postal card was received at the post office in Rochester the other day, with the following address in German: "To my cousin who lives four miles from Rochester on a farm of 40 acres, the cars runs through his land and he has ten red heifers."

*One thousand dollars of Dr. Summers' salary is paid by the Vanderbilt University.

*This does not include any money received from J. T. Colvin's estate since June 7.