

Texas Christian Advocate

EDITOR'S NOTICES.

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

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

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

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

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

(Communicated.)

Popular Infidelity Considered. No. 5.

BY A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS BAR.

I propose now to consider an objection to the truth as it is in Jesus, which has its greatest prevalence among the more thoughtful of the industrious classes. It takes about this form: If Christianity be true, how comes it that there are so many different opinions about it among its professed friends? If God ever did speak to men, why did he not do so in a way to preclude any chance for misunderstanding as to what he meant? In other words—where there are so many sects having little in common save hatred for each other, who is to decide which is right and which is wrong. What working man can read an hundredth part of what has been written about baptism, regeneration, original sin, free will, final perseverance, atonement, episcopacy, popery, apostolical succession, Presbyterianism, Congregationalism, and all the rest of the isms? about candles, sacerdotal millinery, etc., etc? Who can understand this fearful scramble for pre-eminence—this deafening clatter about trifles? Can any sensible man believe that people are in earnest to save souls who exhaust their time, substance and their passions in the veriest child's play? Would divinely commissioned messengers be ever quarreling about their credentials? Where is malice and hatred as implacable and odious as rampant as in the churches, their periodicals and newspapers? Let the churches, the preachers, and propagandists generally, agree among themselves first. Till then we can afford to bide our time.

Such is the substance of what we have all heard, probably, a thousand times. It seems to strike at a vulnerable point. And yet we need not attach much importance to the fact of their being diversities of opinion. Men will differ in opinion as long as their minds are differently constituted. In all ages, philosophers have differed, and there have been many schools of them, but surely no one would undertake to say that, on that account, there is no such thing as philosophy. See how medical men differ in the treatment of disease, notwithstanding all the aids derived from chemistry and physiology. But will any one undertake to say that, therefore, there is no science in medicine? How often do lawyers differ in their constructions of the plainest statutes; but will any one contend that that is any reason why the law should not be obeyed? Politicians differ widely—differ fiercely. But what sane man, on that account, say that there is not a sound principle of political economy somewhere? In the face of these examples who dare say that theology is false because the theologians differ? Would a man see his wife sink into the grave for the want of medical attention because the doctors differ? Would a man see himself exiled and his wife and children turned out of doors homeless and homeless for the want of a defense to an action of ejection, the defendant refusing to employ counsel because lawyers often construe statutes differently? Such men would everywhere be denounced for their folly. They would be considered imbeciles, and justly so. But when some men refuse to admit the divinity and authority of Christianity because some of its friends differ in opinion about things of minor importance, they think themselves entitled to the gratitude of mankind, and expect to be looked up to as having superior sagacity and judgment. To my mind this variety of opinion is a very strong presumption in favor of religion. It excludes the hypothesis collusion. Hostility and conspiracy are never found together. I admit that many religionists appear to feel deeper interest in mere circumstantial varieties than in the central truths to which they relate. A great truth about God may be enunciated which were enough to thrill the heart of an angel, but it will often be received like an ordinary platitude. But a sword thrust at some unlucky ism will flash new life into the speaker and call down thundering applause. They say the doctrines of redemption do well enough to doze over, but commend me to the ministerial small talk, denominational inuendoes and personalities. I like a

good cudgeller in the pulpit; nothing like it for genuine sympathy. Now while I do not for a moment pretend to defend all this, yet at the same time much of it may be explained without resorting to indiscriminate charges of hypocrisy. Having answered the question of my skeptical friends, and shown that if a man was to make a practical application of their principles to the affairs of common life, they themselves would declare him insane, I will now ask them a question: If Christianity be false, how comes it that, notwithstanding the discussion and divisions to which it has given rise, it has never undergone any substantial change in theory, and has commanded in every age an amount of self-denying moral heroism to which history furnishes no parallel? Every student of history knows that numerous as are the sects which agitate Christendom, and new as may be their names, there is not one which may not be detected, seminally within a few years of the days of the Apostles, and which has not in some form or other existed from that day to this. If a thousand men were to shoot at a mark and every one miss, mathematicians tell us it would be easy to find the point at which they aimed by carefully noticing the distribution of the balls; for, while no shot was a perfect success, no one was an absolute failure, and the difference between the shots only marked the degree of approximation. So the heresies of the church show the precise limits of dogmatic flexion. The identity of the heresies throughout so many ages carries with it the identity of their ideal counterpart. It turns out, then, that so far from divisions and discussions being in derogation of the evidence of Christianity, they become monuments of its truth. Our enemies admit their existence in all ages, thereby unwittingly admitting the existence of the antecedent ideal counterpart. The apostle said to the church: "All things are yours." It is a glorious truth.

While we admit that hypocrites have intruded themselves into the church, no one will deny that she has her genuine believers. And although that fact does not prove her to be true, it does prove that there is more in religion than the trumpety jealousy of polemical gladiators contending for the upper hand. Say what you will, you blatant sectaries, it takes a multitude of odd things to make up a world, and even ecclesiastical bull-dogs may be useful. The best thought in the church is seldom heard from. They are too earnest to brawl. They are too deep to be noisy. Deep waters flow in silent majesty. Heathenism can boast of many a voluntary victim, and Mahometanism can point to numerous missionaries and martyrs; but in pure spiritual wealth they will not stand a moment's comparison with what Christian records are crowded, to say nothing of the fact that much of the best—the richest part of ecclesiastical events—has never been written, is a terra incognita. In the catacombs may be seen upon many a martyr's tomb the simple outline of a fish, without a solitary letter or mark beside. To make the figure of a fish with ancient people of God was equivalent to writing the words, "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Our Saviour." The Greek word for fish supplied the initials to the equivalent of these words in Greek. In life they were forbidden to own Him. What could be more decisive of sincerity than this quiet and singularly touching love emblem on their graves. It was a mystical enigmata and enshrining of their faith and hope when all else failed them. And they being dead, yet speak. It appears, then, the argument from the differences between Christians serves our skeptical friends no good purpose. It brings us into the presence of a unanimity of sentiment and feeling of such transcendent importance that we lose sight of the differences; and from the north and from the south, from the east and from the west, from the rising to the setting of the sun, from every section and division of the church, on every Lord's day may be heard the words which the church has embodied in her ancient service, "I believe in the Holy Catholic Church."

(Communicated.)
A Woman's Thoughts About Tobacco.
I am glad to see some one so deeply interested about the rising generation as to introduce the tobacco question. How many can use tobacco to the glory of God? I never heard of any one being converted with a chew of tobacco or a dip of snuff in his or her mouth. It is a filthy habit, and yet we are commanded to do all things decently and in order. It is an extravagant habit, and yet we hear the cry of hard times. I think our Heavenly father would love us more if we would take the money spent in such a way and give it to the poor, or send the gospel to the heathen.

(Communicated.)
It would be much better to give it to our preacher; but then he uses the "weed" himself. How many parents pay for tobacco ten or twenty dollars a year, and then stay from church, and say the reason is they have nothing to wear. They keep their children from the Sabbath-school on the same account. Young men say they have nothing to give to any good cause, and yet smoke and chew as though that was all they had to live for. I have seen young ladies who looked so nice and pretty that one would have thought they were perfect, yet they dip. Let us strive in future to raise our children for the Lord. Little children, let me beg you, as a friend, not to use tobacco. It can do you no good; it may do you harm. E. F. R.

(Communicated.)
Collection for Mexican Border Churches.
While raising means for the purpose of building churches on the Rio Grande, I announced that a full statement would be made in the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE of all money received, giving the names of contributors, but so many earnestly requested that their names be not published that I have judged it best to make the report as follows:
Galveston, St. Johns, \$2 56; St. James, \$41 75; Shaw & Blaylock, \$69, conditional contribution, Shearn Church, Houston \$11 33; Chappell Hill, \$28 50; Bryan, \$74 65; Corsicana, \$1 50; Sherman, \$40; St. Louis; St. Johns, \$59; Centenary, \$30 25; Memphis; Wesley, \$27; Central, 25 cents; Aberdeen, \$18 50.
Promissory collections at Galveston, Houston and elsewhere \$23 50. Total, \$467 88.
I cannot report the amount raised on the Rio Grande, as the greater part of it is in subscriptions, which I still hope to collect.
JOSEPH NORWOOD,
Asst. Sup't of M. S. M.

(Communicated.)
A Good Beginning.
I have reached my new work; feel, in the providence of God, I have the right work. I found the ever welcome ADVOCATE awaiting me at the office. After reading it, I began the work of the new year by sending you two new subscribers, and shall try to increase the number each week until conference. God bless you.—W. R. ROBINSON.

(Communicated.)
Remembrance.
A fine old Highlander told me last year, how the year before he had gone back to the glen he had left a half century ago, where no man knew him or remembered him. "But," said he, "I heard of one woman alive, up the glen, whom I had thought well of as a lassie, and she of me, in a shy way; still, you see, we had no truth between us to make things sure, and so the strain of time and distance broke the thread. I settled down here; and the memory of it was all but dead, until I heard her name. Then I said, 'I will go up the glen and see her.' I wondered whether she had also lost all track of me; for it was rather sad, ye see, to be left out in the cold in this way. She came to the door, a white-haired old woman, so altered it was hard to mind her at all. She looked at me in a wondering way, gave one sharp cry, and said, 'John, is that you, after all?' I asked her, after a while, how she knew me; and she answered, 'The heart never forgets, John; don't you mind what good friends we were? I saw the laddie and heard him speak when I saw your face and heard your voice.' Memory flashing on into remembrance, had made old things for her, as she sat in the near neighborhood of that inheritance in life, where there is no marrying or giving in marriage, but where men and women shall be as the angels of God.—Robert Collyer.

(Communicated.)
The Ninety and Nine.
On the Aletsch glacier I saw a strange, beautiful sight—the parable of the "Ninety and Nine," reacted to the letter. One day we were making our way with ice axe and alpenstock down the glacier, when we observed a flock of sheep following their shepherds over the intricate windings, between crevasses, and so passing from the pastures on this side of the glacier to the pastures on the other. The flock had numbered two hundred, all told. But on the way one sheep had got lost. One of the shepherds, in his German patois, appealed to us if he had seen it. Fortunately, one of the party had a field glass. With its aid we discovered the lost sheep far up amid a tangle of brushwood, on the rocky mountain side. It was beautiful to see how the shepherd, without a word, left his hundred and ninety-nine sheep out on the glacier waste (knowing they would stand there perfectly still and safe), and went clambering back after the lost sheep until he found it; and he actually put it on his shoulder and "returned rejoicing." Here was our Lord's parable enacted before our eyes, though the shepherd was all unconscious of it. And it brought our Lord's teaching home to us with a vividness which none can realize but those who saw the incident.—Presbyterian.

(Communicated.)
Elois, Jan. 14, 1878.—We think it due the good people of McDade, Bastrop county, to say through the ADVOCATE, that they have recently built a good, neat, respectable and roomy Church for the Lord. There is now an organization of the M. E. C., South, at McDade. We would ask all interested in Christianity to pray for Zion's peace in this part of Bastrop county. D. MORGAN.

(Communicated.)
He is but half prepared for the conflict of life who takes not that Friend who will forsake him in no emergency, who will divide his sorrows, increase his joys, lift the veil from his heart, and throw sunshine around the darkest scenes.

(Communicated.)
Marvin College Memorial.
We are decidedly in earnest on the subject of a memorial offering to the memory of the devout, the noble, Bishop Marvin. There is no State, Missouri excepted, which is his own State, more entitled to and upon which rests a greater obligation to erect an enduring monument than Texas. I am sure that those who love the Bishop's memory will feel proud in connecting themselves with a work so noble, so praiseworthy. Nor yet is there a work that would confer so much of honor, so much of glory, upon Texas.
A Washington, a Clay, a Lee, as well as many other modern worthies, played their respective parts well. Their suns went down amid the calm of their admirers, with a nation's prayers, a nation's blessings, upon their heads. Nor would we be slow to render the meed of praise to their noble lives; and yet in a more tangible form, monuments to their memory have sprung up as by magic to reflect back the splendor of that devotion that patriotism so deeply impressed (by deeds of daring and of chivalry) upon the American heart. But we have before us the life and labors of a Christian hero, eminently pious; and as a minister of the cross, though war-worn and battle-scarred, he never suffered his banner to trail; but, thrown to the breeze, his watchword was: on to victory! His sermons were as the pure gold—richly set with sparkling diamonds. O has there a man lived whose memory should be indelibly embalmed in every Christian heart, that man was Bishop E. M. Marvin. Then, brethren, lend the helping hand. 'T would be a blot upon Southern Methodism—yes, upon Texas Methodism—for this enterprise to fail. We must pay an installment by the third of February. Will you not send us help at once? Our work is moving forward, and we believe success will surely come. A. D. GASKILL,
Financial Agent,
Waxahatchie, Texas, Jan. 15th, 1878.

(Communicated.)
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J. B. GENTLEMAN, your Patent Eye Cups are, in my judgment, the most splendid triumph which optical science has ever achieved, but any other great and important truths, in this or any other branch of science and philosophy, have much to contend 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 hand 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,
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ALEX. R. WYETH, M. D., Atchison, Pa., writes: "After total blindness of my left eye for four years, by the use of the optic nerve, I was miraculously restored by your Patent Eye Cups restored my eyesight permanently in three minutes."
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HORACE B. DEWANE, M. D., says: "I sold and collected future sales liberally. The Patent Eye Cups, they make me see, and make me see to see small catch-penny affairs, but a superior number one, top-top business, promises, as far as I can see, to be the long-run."
NAYOR E. C. ELLIS writes us, Nov. 16, 1870: "I have used the Patent Eye Cups, and am satisfied they are good. I am pleased with them, they are certainly the greatest invention of the age."
HON. HORACE GIBBLEY, late editor of the New York Tribune, writes: "Dr. J. Ball, of our city, says that your Patent Eye Cups are the only means of restoring the vision to any individual if they are properly applied."
Prof. W. MERRICK writes: "Truly, an gratefully to your noble invention. My sight is restored by your Patent Eye Cups. May Heaven bless and preserve you. I have been using spectacles many years. I am seventy-one years of age, and all my writing without glasses, and I bless the inventor of the Patent Eye Cups every time I take up my old spectacles."
NAPOLION, writes, after having his sight restored by your Patent Eye Cups: "With gratitude to God, and thankfulness 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 an impaired vision, believing, as I do, that since the experiment with this wonderful discovery has proved successful on me, at my advanced period of life—50 years of age—I believe they will restore the vision to any individual if they are properly applied."
ADOLPH HOERNBERG, M. D., Commissioner of Massachusetts, Essex, ss.
June 5, 1873, personally appeared Adolph Hoernberg, made oath to the following certificate, and by him subscribed and sworn before me.
WM. STEVENS, J. P.

LAWRENCE CITY, MASS., June 9, 1873.
We, the undersigned, having personally known Dr. Adolph Hoernberg for years, believe him to be an honest, moral man, trustworthy, and in truth and veracity unspotted. His character is without reproach.
S. W. R. DAVIS, ex-Mayor.
GEORGE S. MERRILL, J. P. M.
ROBERT H. TEWKSBURY, City Treas.
Rev. W. D. JORDAN, M. D., of Chillsiehe, Mo., who has used, and seen other parties use, our Eye Cups, writes: "To those who ask my advice, I say, use your Patent Eye Cups. I am happy to state that I believe them to be of great advantage in many cases, and should be tried by all and neglected by none. This is my honest conviction."
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Texas Christian Advocate Church News and Views.

The drift of Scotch opinion toward disestablishment of the Scotch Kirk is very perceptible. The Earl of Minto, in a letter to the London Times, says: "The fact is, that the Church of Scotland is pretty nearly disestablished already. And reflecting men must surely admit that the more complete has been her success in cleansing herself from all extraneous influences, from beyond her pale, and in assimilating her position to that of the self-supporting dissenting bodies, the more completely must her claims to an exclusive monopoly in the National endowments be discredited."

The following are the statistics of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the past year: Conferences, 91; itinerant preachers, 11,256, an increase of 184; local preachers, 12,583; members, 1,475,006, an increase of 48,012, the largest increase since 1874; probationers, 200,281, a decrease of 26,237; baptisms, 133,832, of which 76,540 were of children; church edifices, 16,000, an increase of 283; value of church edifices, \$70,133,673, a decrease of \$1,627,088; Sunday-schools, 19,775, an increase of 84; Sunday-school scholars, 1,490,283, an increase of 37,200. During the year 119 preachers and 19,724 members died.

A chapel for the use of the boys of Girard College has recently been built; it will seat 200 persons. The new buildings erected will enable the college to receive 320 more scholars. Although by the will of Mr. Girard, ministers are wholly excluded from this institution, it is nevertheless Christian in its character. The President, Dr. W. H. Allen, is an accomplished and successful lay-preacher; Mr. Welsh, the Minister to England, has frequently occupied the desk. Although most of the graduates of the college have entered secular callings, some have entered the Christian ministry.

The will of Henry Gordon of Philadelphia has been admitted to probate. He gave to Wilberforce University \$2,000; and in all to various charities of the African Methodist Church \$12,500. The rest of his estate, after the death of his wife, is to be divided into equal parts for the benefit of the Home for Aged and Infirm Colored Persons of Philadelphia and the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church for the relief of the poor. Gordon was a colored man.

The statistics of the United Presbyterian Church, as presented to the General Assembly at its late meeting in Sparta, Ill., are as follows: Synods, 8; presbyteries, 57; ministers, 640; congregations, 783; parsonages, 87; members received for the year, 7,686; number of Sabbath-schools, 701; number of scholars reported, 58,000; contributions of the Sabbath-schools, \$22,400; total contributions of the church, \$8,469,900; average per member, \$1.10; average salary of pastors, \$951.

The legal recognition of the Old Catholics in Austria, by the Government, was granted on the filing of the following declaration: "Our religious doctrine is the Catholic, as it was before the dogma created by Pius IX., on July 18, 1870, which dogma, with all its consequences, we reject. Our divine service is the Catholic, our organization is the Catholic, with its priests and bishops." The legal recognition was conceded October 18, 1877. The result of this act will be that the Old Catholics can now elect their parish clergy, hear divine service in the mother tongue, hold church councils, etc., etc. They have in Austria a periodical organ, the *Alocher*, of Wamsdorf.

The case of Father Stack against Bishop O'Hara, at Williamsport, Pa., which has been in litigation over six years, has been decided finally in favor of the priest. The decree of the court declares that the removal of Father Stack by Bishop O'Hara as punishment for a supposed offence was unlawful, and that the prohibition directed to Father Stack forbidding him to exercise any priestly functions in Williamsport was also unlawful. But a decree of restoration was not granted, as asked for, on the ground that it might be injudicious to disturb the present state of affairs in the congregation. The decision asserts the superiority of the civil law over ecclesiastical law, and expressly says that such a power as is claimed for the Bishop is contrary to public policy.

The *Central Christian Advocate*, St. Louis, says truly:

Newspapers of the better class are the cheapest benefit and luxury of the age. One makes no other expenditure that produces so large a return of corresponding value. Each copy of a newspaper represents labor that has cost hundreds of dollars. Each subscriber or reader receives the full product of the editorial and composing-rooms as

certainly as if it were all his own, and had been prepared for him alone. He does not receive an iota less, nor is his possession of less value because others share with him. And he enjoys this so inconsiderable a sum as *five cents a week*. Nothing else that can be purchased for the price furnishes so much and so permanent enjoyment. The bound volume does compare with it for cheapness, nor offer so great a variety of information. It is cheaper than the cheapest school, for every member of the family that can read is served and instructed. The only greater wonder is that any family can consent to deprive itself of all these advantages.

Rev. Samuel Cutler, for a number of years the devoted rector of the Episcopal church in Hanover, Mass., has withdrawn from the denomination, because of its continued progress towards extreme High Church and Ritualistic views and practices. The last General Convention has convinced him that there is no longer any place in that Church for the Low Church party. He says in his letter to Bishop Paddock: "If, as seems to be true, the *Churchman* is correct in announcing the death of the Evangelical party, and as I cannot consistently and honestly labor for the promotion of priestly and sacramental message measures, some other place may be found whither God will lead me, where, for a brief period, I can fulfill my ministry in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, with greater zeal and satisfaction than I have been able to do for the last six years."

The Methodist Almanac for 1878 gives a complete list of Methodist organizations in the United States, with the number of members belonging to each. They are as follows: Methodist Episcopal Church, 1,073,287 members; Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 722,342 members; Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, 80,000; African M. E. Church, 214,806; African M. E. Zion Church, 200,000; Evangelical Association (A. B. C. F. M.), 105,013; United Brethren in Christ, 143,841; Union American M. E. Church, (Colored) 2,550; Methodist Protestant Church, 113,405; American Wesleyans, 25,000; Free Methodists, 19,232; Primitive Methodists, 3,320; Independent Methodists, 12,500. The total number of members in the United States is over 3,315,000; in Canada the Methodists number 161,172; in Great Britain and her colonies, 907,404. The aggregate of Methodist church members in all the world is stated to be 4,383,888. The total net increase of lay members for 1877 throughout the world is given as 211,309.

From *Religious Intelligence*, Nova Scotia: "Talmage, in a recent Friday evening meeting talk, had something to say about newspapers, and gave his opinion about investing money in that direction. As he has had some experience, and was at last retired from all connection with papers, his statements are worth something. Speaking of the death of several papers within a week, and of the expected demise of some others, he said: The most successful way to sink money and keep it sunk is to start a newspaper. The fallacy is abroad that almost any one can publish a newspaper. The world will have to learn that a newspaper is an institution, and that it wants infinite brains and almost infinite capital to establish one. If you have agricultural, or scientific, or educational, or religious ideas to present to the public, you had better charge upon the world through columns already established. It is folly for one who can't succeed in anything else to try newspaperdom. To publish a newspaper requires the skill, precision, boldness, vigilance, and strategy of a commander-in-chief; and to edit one requires that one be a statesman, essayist, geographer, statistician, and encyclopaedist. To govern and propel a newspaper until it shall be a fixed institution and a national fact demands more qualities than any business on earth."

Who ever did a real kindness for another without feeling a warm glow of satisfaction creep into some shady corner of the heart and fill it with sweetness and peace? It is like the tying of a knot of violet and mignonette into the button-hole, just where their perfume may rise deliciously to our sense all day. And what a pleasure it will be when the present trouble is over, to remember even in the darkest days we found time and inclination to give to others some portion of that tenderness or practical helpfulness which was the overflow of that generous spirit which finally bore us through it all to a happy and peaceful ending. "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."—*Golden Rule*.

To correspondents: If you have anything to say, say it clearly and concisely. If you have nothing to say, don't say anything.

The Precious Metals.

Wells, Fargo & Co.'s statement of the production of the precious metals in the States and Territories west of the Missouri river, including British Columbia and the west coast of Mexico, during 1877, shows an aggregate yield of ninety-eight and a half millions, being an excess of seven and a half millions over 1876, the greatest previous annual yield. California gives fifteen and a quarter millions of gold and a million and a quarter of silver. Nevada, \$460,000 gold and \$14,320,000 silver bullion. This so-called silver bullion, however, is about 45 per cent gold. California, also, gives a million and three-quarters base bullion, and Nevada six and three-quarters millions of the same, which contains about 28 per cent gold. Arizona gives for the year \$2,390,000, of which \$123,000 is gold and half a million in silver bullion, and the balance base ores and base bullion. The exports of silver from San Francisco to India, China and the Straits are given approximately at \$19,000,000.

Do to a Goose.

Ben Johnson—"rare old Ben," his friends called him—an English dramatist, contemporary with Shakespeare, used to dress shabbily. Being informed that Lord Craven would be pleased to see him, Ben went to his lordship's mansion. The porter, not liking his looks or dress, refused to admit him. Rough language and much noise attracted the nobleman to the door. "I understood," said Ben, "that your lordship wished to see me." "You, friend! Why, who may you be?" "I am Ben Johnson." "No, no, you cannot be the great author who wrote 'The Silent Woman'! You look like as if you could not 'do to a goose'." The dramatist, looking straight in the nobleman's face with a comical air, cried, "Bo!" "I am now convinced," said his lordship, "you are Ben Johnson."

"It has cost the country," said Joseph Cook, "\$12,000,000 per year for forty years to take care of the Indians; the most of it to kill them. Would it not cost less to evangelize them?"

Church Notices.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.

JEFFERSON DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Mount Pleasant, 1st Sunday in February. Colwellville, 2d Sunday in February. Gilmer, 3d Sunday in February. Longview, 4th Sunday in February. L. B. ELLIS, P. E.

SHERMAN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Savoy circuit, 1st Sunday in February. Pilot Grove circuit, 2d Sunday in February. J. M. BINKLEY, P. E.

PALLAS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Flato and Caruth, 1st Sunday and Sunday in February. Honey Creek circuit, 2d Sunday and Sunday in February. Grapevine circuit, 3d Sunday and Sunday in February. Grapevine Springs mission, 4th Sunday and Sunday in February. Bethel circuit, 1st Sunday and Sunday in March. W. H. HIGGINS, P. E.

ST. LOUIS SPRINGS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

White Rock circuit, 1st Sunday in February. Sulphur Springs circuit, 2d Sunday in February. Lone Oak circuit, 3d Sunday in February. Pottsburg circuit, 4th Sunday in February. THIS, M. SMITH, P. E.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

San Antonio City mission, at Seina, 1st Sunday in February. Loswell, 2d Sunday in Feb. Hamlet, 3d Sunday in Feb. JAS. G. WALKER, P. E.

CORPUS CHRISTI DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Beeville circuit, at Beeville, February 2, 3. Rockport circuit, at Rockport, February 9, 10. Corpus Christi station, February 16, 17. Lagarto circuit, at Lagarto, February 23, 24. Oakville circuit, at Oakville, February 30, 1. The district stewards will please meet at Beeville February 2. R. H. BELVIN, P. E.

SAN MARCOS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Mountain City, Elm Grove, Feb 2 and 3. South Marico circuit, Feb 9 and 10. Gonzales circuit, Gonzales, Feb 16 and 17. Lockhart circuit, Lockhart, Feb 23 and 24. The District Stewards—W. A. Blackwell, J. H. Conley, J. C. Wiley, S. Winston, T. D. James, W. H. H. Carpenter and Hugh E. Clark—will meet at San Marcos, in the Methodist Church, at 2 o'clock P. M., January 12, to estimate the pending clerical salaries and make the general appointments to the several pastoral charges. O. A. FISHER, P. E.

VICTORIA DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Texana, Feb 2 and 3. Haltersville circuit, Feb 9 and 10. Clinton circuit, Feb 23 and 24. Noulton circuit, March 2 and 3. Eagle Lake mission, March 9 and 10. Lavaca River mission, March 16 and 17. The district stewards will please meet at Mossey Grove, January 26. A. A. KILGORE, P. E.

VALDE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Bandera circuit, February 2, 3. Kerrville circuit, February 16, 17. Monterey circuit, February 23, 24. Brady City circuit, March 2, 3. W. J. THONNBERY, P. E.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.

CHAPEL HILL DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Chappel Hill, February 2, 3. Indep. Independence and Burton, Feb 9, 10. Travis at Travis, February 16, 17. Brenham, February 23, 24. Goldings and Lexington mission, March 2, 3. Caldwell and Ely mission, March 9, 10. Bryan circuit, March 16, 17. The District Stewards will please meet at Brenham, Saturday, the 23d of February, 1878, at 3 o'clock P. M. R. ALEXANDER, P. E.

COLUMBUS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Velasco, February 2, 3. San Bernard mission, February 9, 10. Matagorda, February 16, 17. Richmond, February 23, 24. Eagle Lake mission, March 1, 2. Columbus, March 8, 9. Weimer, March 15, 16. Flatonia, March 22, 23. R. W. KINSON, P. E.

AUSTIN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Colar Creek circuit, at Moss Branch, Feb 2, 3. Live Oak circuit, at Pleasant Hill, Feb 9, 10. Bastrop circuit, at Bastrop, February 23, 24. Travis at Travis, February 30, 1. Austin station and Swede mission, March 9, 10. Elgin circuit, at Elgin, March 16, 17. The district stewards will please meet me at Manor, January 26, 1878, J. W. WELPHE, P. E.

HUNTSVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Madisonville station and circuit, at Madisonville, Feb 2, 3. Anderson circuit, at Anderson, Feb 9, 10. Courtney and Pointersville, at Courtney, Feb 16 and 17. Savannah and Milligan, at Savannah, Feb 23, 24. Zionsville circuit, at Zionsville, Feb 30, 1. Cold Springs, at Johnson's Chapel, March 16, 17. The district stewards will please meet at Huntsville, January 26, at 2 o'clock, P. M. S. C. LITTLEBORN, P. E.

NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

FORT WORTH DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Arlington circuit, at Thon Chapel, Feb 2, 3. Fort Worth circuit, at Forest Hill, Feb 9, 10. Alvarado circuit, at Grand View, Feb 16, 17. Cleburne station, at Cleburne, Feb 23, 24. Fort Worth station, at Fort Worth, March 2, 3. Goodwin circuit, at Goodwin, March 9, 10. Colvington circuit, at Nolan river, March 16, 17. District Stewards' meeting at Marysville, Johnson county, Friday, January 18, 1878, at 11 o'clock, A. M. W. C. YOUSO, P. E.

STEPHENSVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Stephensville mission, at Mt. Pleasant, Feb 2, 3. Stephensville circuit, at Stephensville, Feb 9, 10. Duffau, at Johnson school-house, Feb 16, 17. Jonesboro circuit, at Fort, Feb 23, 24. Goodwin circuit, at New Hope, March 2, 3. Palfrey circuit, at Marvin Chapel, March 9, 10. J. P. MURPHY, P. E.

WEATHERFORD DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Weatherford, at Wade's Chapel, 1st Sab in Feb. Cartersville, at Gooden, 2d Sabbath in February. Belvidere, at Belvidere, 3d Sabbath, February. Acton, 4th Sabbath in February. Jacksonville, at Jacksonville, 1st Sab in March. Springtown, at Springtown, 2d Sab in March. Florida, at Garrett's Creek, 3d Sab in March. Graham, at Graham, 4th Sabbath in March. The district stewards will please meet me in the Methodist Church in the city of Weatherford, at 1 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, after the fourth Sabbath in January, 1878. They are as follows: J. C. Davis, J. W. Dilbeck, C. Lemmons, F. S. R. Williams, Jos. Wain, Wm. Patterson and Bro. Vardy. My postoffice is Weatherford. T. W. HINDS, P. E.

WACO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Waco circuit, at Cotton Wood, February 2. Brenham circuit, at Brenham, February 9. Koss circuit, at Koss, February 16. Mount Vernon, at Mount Vernon, March 2. Wheelock circuit, at Hickory Grove, March 9. The district stewards will meet at Brenham on Saturday, February 9, at 12 o'clock. The following is a list of the stewards: Davis, Gurley, Henry, Wilson, T. H. Harris, Asbury, J. H. Jones, Serger, Thos. Saxton, D. E. Ledbetter, W. B. Morrow, A. L. Tompkins, J. L. Dupuy. W. G. COSSON, P. E.

COLEMAN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Centerville circuit, at Centerville, Feb 2. North Leon circuit, at Liberty, Feb 9. Buffalo circuit, at Buffalo, Feb 16. Fairfield circuit, at Fairfield, Feb 23. Gossans circuit, at Hayswood, March 1. The district stewards will please meet at Coleman on Friday, March 7, at 1 P. M. It is very desirable that every one be present. J. M. CARVER, P. E.

GEORGETOWN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Liberty Hill circuit, 1st Sunday in February. Leonard Hill station, second Sunday in February. Leon circuit, 3rd Sunday in February. Waco circuit, 4th Sunday in February. Cameron circuit, 1st Sunday in March. Rockdale circuit, 2nd Sunday in March. Black Land circuit, 3rd Sunday in March. The present time is the best time for the place of their quarterly meetings. If any change of place should be necessary to suit the Sabbath I have appended a list of places as follows: The quarterly meeting, at Texas, south Bosque, McLennan county. THOS. STANFORD, P. E.

BRECKENRIDGE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Fort Griffin circuit, at Fort Griffin, 1st Sabbath in February. Bell Plains circuit, at Bell Plains, 2d Sabbath in February. Coleman circuit, at Coleman, 3d Sabbath in February. Eastland circuit, at Eastland, 4th Sabbath in February. Salina circuit, at Salina, 1st Sabbath in March. Palo Verde circuit, at Riverbend, 2d Sabbath in March. Belknap circuit, at Belknap, 3d Sabbath in March. The District stewards will please meet me at Breckenridge, Saturday, before the fourth Sabbath in January. My postoffice is Breckenridge. J. G. WARREN, P. E.

COMANCHE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Hamilton mission, at Farmer's Chapel, Feb 2, 3. Hena Creek, at Fairbairn's Cove, Feb 9, 10. Lantana, at at Mountain Church, Feb 16, 17. Burnett circuit, at Burnett Valley, Feb 23, 24. Rockvale circuit, at Rockvale, March 2, 3. Llano mission, at Llano, March 9, 10. The district stewards will please meet at Hamilton on Saturday, March 17, at 11 o'clock. The district stewards will please meet me at the quarterly meetings of the respective churches to discuss the salary and traveling charges of the preceding year. Knowing the expensive travel to any point in the district, and the desirability of getting the board of district stewards together, I have suggested the plan of holding such district second and second and third make up the whole conference. P. W. GIBBS, P. E.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

MARSHALL DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Elysian Fields circuit, at Sater Line, Feb 2, 3. Hollyville circuit, at Hollyville, Feb 9, 10. Harrison circuit, at Union church, Feb 16, 17. Marshall station, February 23, 24. The district stewards will please meet at Hollyville circuit, at Hollyville, Feb 23, 24. Lantana circuit, at Pine Springs, March 2, 3. Belview circuit, at Mt. Meriah, March 9, 10. The district stewards will please meet at Belview, at Belview, March 16, 17. The district stewards will please meet at Belview, at Belview, March 23, 24. P. W. GIBBS, P. E.

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Buena Vista circuit, at Crescent, February 2, 3. Shelby circuit, at Shelbyville, February 9, 10. Miami circuit, February 16, 17. San Antonio circuit, at Union, February 23, 24. The district stewards will please meet at Mt. Enterprise circuit, at Union, March 9, 10. Newby circuit, March 16, 17. Lynn circuit, at Lynn, at Pine Grove, March 23, 24. A full attendance of the Board of Stewards at the first quarterly meeting of each circuit is earnestly requested. The District Stewards will please meet on Friday, the 8th of February, at 11 o'clock, A. M., at Center. C. G. A. HINSON, P. E.

PALESTINE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Cherokee circuit, February 2, 3. Tyler station, February 9, 10. Crooked circuit, February 16, 17. Palestine circuit, February 23, 24. Trinity circuit, March 2, 3. D. P. COLLIN, P. E.

REAL MOUNT DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Homer circuit, at Homer, February 2, 3. Moscow circuit, at Washington mission, at Bell Spring, February 9, 10. Wadleyville circuit, at Wadleyville, Feb 16, 17. Hill mission, at Big Timber, Feb 23, 24. The district stewards will please meet at Beaumont circuit, at Beaumont, March 9, 10. The district stewards will please meet at Woodville, without fail. E. L. ANSTROSS, P. E.

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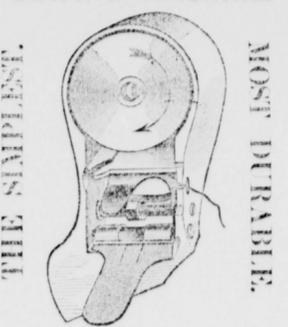
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Texas Christian Advocate

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SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

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We commence this week the publication of a comment on the International Sunday-School Lessons. The gentleman who undertakes this important work is a practical Sunday-school worker, and brings to the task experience as a writer and author. In order to induce Sunday-schools to take the ADVOCATE we make the following offer. We will send the ADVOCATE one year, to one address, as follows:

10 copies.....	\$20
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30 ".....	50
50 ".....	80

The proposition applies exclusively to Sunday-schools.

Important.

Many of our subscribers are under the impression that they are receiving the ADVOCATE beyond the time paid for. There was a lapse of eight numbers after the fire before we resumed publication. The undertaking would be too great to change date on every address. It is our earnest desire that every subscriber receive the full number of papers paid for, and hence when revising mail list we allow each subscriber eight issues beyond the date indicated on the paper.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

In one tenement in New York ninety-nine families, aggregating five hundred souls, are living. The physical evils are not greater than the moral disorders which are engendered by such a manner of life.

THE New York Times has published startling facts respecting the growth of opium eating in the United States. It appears that 2,589,924,839 grains are brought to this country each year. Only a fraction of this is used under the prescription of physicians. It will transmit a terrible legacy to the descendants of the opium eaters of the present generation.

THE sons of Mr. Lord, the eighty-odd years old millionaire who was recently captured by the dashing widow Hicks, have applied for guardianship over his property on the ground that he is an imbecile. About all the use the sons of many rich men have for their fathers is to wait and watch for them to die. Men who work hard to gain wealth for their children are often cultivating an intense selfishness which may one day make the whole family miserable.

A CITIZENS' league in Chicago is prosecuting liquor dealers for selling liquor to minors. Were a man caught in the act of selling spurious vaccine matter, which if introduced into the arm of a child would engender a loathsome disease and wreck its health for life, he would not be safe in any civilized community. Every mother would declare open war against him, and if the fathers failed to take the matter in hand, their wives would make things uncomfortable at home. But men sell liquor to boys and an appetite is engendered which makes them drunken sots. Yet men, with boys whom sinners may entice to ruin, give their influence to retain these sinks of moral pollution in their midst.

UNSAFE GUIDES.

Some years ago a strange book was published, styled the "Conflict of Ages." It was written by Edward Beecher. It recorded the struggle of the human mind in every age over the question, "How can the presence of moral evil in the world be reconciled with the justice and goodness of God?" At every step of the investigation the influence of the Calvinistic training of the author is visible. Failing to find the boundary where Divine agency in human affairs ends, and where the agency of man with his consequent accountability begins, he attributes to the Creator the presence of that moral condition which results from the acts of the creature. Viewing the question from this standpoint, he found himself confronted by difficulties which must ever leave the question unsolved. After sweeping the entire circle of human thought from Fatalism to Universalism, he abandoned all as failures, and adopted a solution of the question so peculiarly his own that the world had never heard of it before, and has heard but very little of it since. He suggested the pre-existence of every human soul. He assumed that in some former state, moral agents fell into sin; and this world was provided as a sort of moral lazaret-house into which these fallen spirits were introduced that an opportunity might be afforded them of restoration to their lost estates. The work was a theological failure, though full of learning and intellectual power.

The solution of this problem seems to have been left a legacy by Lyman Beecher to his sons. During his long life he wrestled mightily with it, ever seeking to reconcile the Calvinistic theory with the Divine perfections. The reaction of the human mind from extreme Calvinism tends towards Universalism. The efforts of the elder Beecher to hold a safe position between these conflicting forces are repeated with more unfortunate results by his sons.

Every now and then, Henry Ward Beecher creates a sensation by some eccentric utterance which apparently sunder the links that bind him to his father's creed; and these departures are usually followed by efforts to regain the ground he had forsaken. He has lingered so long on debatable land that the public remains in doubt respecting his real position. His recent sermon on the "Background of Mystery" apparently decided the question, and was accepted by the mass of readers as a distinct enunciation of the doctrine of the final salvation of the entire race. We have not seen his explanation; but the papers report that he complains he has been misunderstood, and declines to be classed with the teachers of Universalism. We are not surprised at his sermon, and we are fully prepared to witness an effort to readjust himself to the faith of his father. Many regard these eccentric movements as the role of the sensationalist. We do not so regard them. We rather see in them the struggles of a great intellect, fettered, as was his brother Edward, by a philosophy which attributes to the Creator and Governor of this world responsibilities respecting man's moral condition which belong to the creature and subject. He recognizes himself the hold that system has upon his mind, and confesses the doubts and conflicts with which he is oppressed. He says in the sermon:

"Do you think because I preach positively that I have no doubts? Oh! what nights I have gone through! What uncertainties! What jeopardies! I understand what Paul meant when he said: 'If in this life only we have hope, we are of all men the most miserable.' My head has reeled. And yet I am put here of God not to blench. Wherever men think, there I am bound to think. Wherever men forge weapons to destroy the faith of man in God and virtue, I am bound to know of what material those weapons are made, and whether they have celestial or infernal temper.

To part with many cherished associations of youth; to see the truth as the blind man saw men, as trees walking; to perceive a thing to be true and not to know,

if you teach it, what will become of the morality of the generation; to feel the responsibility that lies on a man who loves his kind and his God—this is a preparation which perhaps no man would covet, but it is a preparation which few who are going to teach the way of God to men can avoid."

The man who uttered these words was conscious he was groping in the dark, and trembled at the possibility of leading others into the same shadow of doubt. With him it was the shadow of that system of theology under which he had been trained.

That system was not only bound to him by cherished associations, but has left its impress on his modes of thought. He surveys the moral history and present condition of the race, sinful and degraded as it has been for ages in the darkness of paganism; and his soul revolts against that system, though it "belongs to the cherished associations of his childhood," which taught him that "back of Christ there is a God creating men and sweeping them by myriads into hell," without the "light and knowledge of the Divine love" to warn them of their danger or to guide them to the mercy seat. Had he paused in his revolt against the teachings of that system, in which he had been trained from his childhood, and out of which he had so long been accustomed to look upon the ways of God with man, at this point, he might have found secure footing on Armenian ground, which teaches that man is responsible only for the light he has; and that condemnation is the consequence of the deliberate rejection of the salvation freely offered to all. The force with which he wrenches his mind from that system which sees in man's moral state a part of the predestined plan which holds every life and destiny in its inexorable grasp, bore him beyond that point and landed him on perilous ground. He says:

"Take away the doctrine of the finality of things at death, conceive a final end to be accomplished by all this misery in the universe, and that it will be so transcendent that when you come to see the outcome of it all, the foregoing suffering will be seen to have been insignificant, not worthy to be compared with the eternal weight of glory produced by it, and the trouble ceases."

Still, holding God as the author of all the mysteries that cover the dark background of physical and moral evil in the world, he can only find solution in a final end of all moral evil, and the restoration and redemption of all our race. His brother, by his singular scheme of metempsychosis, sought to transfer the questions involved in man's moral relations to God into a pre-existent state; but Henry Ward finds relief from the same perplexities in a purgatorial scheme which in the future state supplements, in some form, the provisions of the Gospel in the present world. Neither of these theories root in the Word of God. The Gospel offers to all salvation now; but at the grave its invitations end. No preacher has authority from the Bible to lift the veil and announce that beyond the tomb additional provision has been made for the salvation of those who reject the Gospel here.

Men often speak of these adventurous speculations as the advanced thought of the nineteenth century. This question is as old as the cavaliers who came with their questions to Christ. One said to Him: "Are there few that be saved?" Beecher formulates it in modern phraseology; but the question he discusses is the same. He essays an answer. Christ did not. He confronted the questioner with a startling statement of his own personal responsibility and peril: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate; for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in and shall not be able." No intimation is given whether many or few will be saved; but the possibility that the man who asked that question might be shut out from the Kingdom of God is stated with a distinctness that admits of no debate.

Men as restless and unsettled as Beecher, are unsafe guides. His brilliancy may dazzle, but his doubts unfit him to lead. His effort to explain away the meaning of his latest departure and find a niche in orthodox theology where he may rest, indicates the conflict still going on in his mind. Where he will land, no one can tell. St. Paul is a safer guide. With him the question was not: "How can the impenitent be lost?" but "How can we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?"

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METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCES.

SECOND PAPER.

Louisville Convention.—The Southern Conferences, with unparalleled unanimity, approved the course of their delegates in the General Conference of 1844, and in accordance with the plan of separation adopted by that body on the 8th of June, a convention of delegates elected by fifteen annual Conferences met in Louisville, Kentucky, May 1, 1845. Of the 98 members, Texas sent three: Littleton Fowler, Robert Alexander and Francis Wilson. Bishops Soule and Andrew presided. It was resolved with only three dissenting votes "to form a distinct ecclesiastical body under the name and style of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South." The ratio of representation in the General Conference was fixed at one for every fourteen members of an Annual Conference.

I. The first General Conference of the Church South met in Petersburg, Virginia, May, 1846. 87 delegates represented 1474 preachers, 16 Annual Conferences and 458,499 church members. R. Alexander and Chauncey Richardson represented the Texas Conference, and Francis Wilson East Texas; William Capers and Robert Paine were elected Bishops; John Early, Book Agent; Edward Stevenson, Missionary Secretary; H. B. Bascom, editor of the Quarterly Review; John B. McFerrin and Moses M. Henkle, editors of the Nashville Advocate; Wm. M. Wightman and Thomas O. Summers, of the Charleston Advocate, and Leroy M. Lee, of the Richmond paper. H. H. Kavanaugh and Jefferson Hamilton were constituted the Book Committee. The Book Agent was authorized to receive our proportion of the property of the book concerns in the North. A committee was appointed to prepare a new hymn book, and Lovick Pierce was sent as a fraternal messenger to the M. E. Church.

H. The second Conference met in St. Louis, May 1, 1850. 101 delegates represented 19 Conferences, 1642 preachers, 504,540 members. The Texas Conference was represented by Robert Alexander and Chauncey Richardson; East Texas, by Robert Crawford and Wm. C. Lewis. Henry B. Bascom was elected Bishop. John Early was continued Book Agent; Thomas O. Summers, editor of Books; David S. Doggett, of the Quarterly Review; assistant editor of the weekly papers was dispensed with. Mr. Lee was continued editor at Richmond; McFerrin, at Nashville; Schon, Missionary Secretary; Ed. Stevenson, Assistant Book Agent at Nashville; C. Richardson, editor Texas Wesleyan Banner; M. M. Henkle, of the Ladies' Companion; and S. Patton, of the Methodist Episcopalian.

III. Met at Columbus, Ga., May 1, 1854. It was composed of one hundred and nineteen delegates, representing twenty-one Conferences; one thousand nine hundred and forty-five preachers and five hundred and sixty-three thousand two hundred and fifty-two members. The delegates from the Texas Conference were R. Alexander, H. S. Thrall, J. M. Wesson and J. W. Whipple; from East Texas, S. A. Williams, O. Fisher and Jeff. Shook; Geo. F. Pierce, John Early and H. H. Kavanaugh were elected bishops. The claim of our church to a pro rata share of the old Book Concern having been decided in our favor by the Supreme Court, the Commissioners reported that, including the proceeds from the chartered fund and Book Concern, they had received available assets, amounting to \$292,052. With this capital a Book Concern or Publishing House was located

at Nashville, and E. Stevenson and F. A. Owen appointed agents. Summers was continued editor of books; Schon was re-elected Missionary Secretary; L. D. Huston was elected editor of the Ladies' Companion; Doggett was re-elected editor of the Quarterly; McFerrin, of Nashville Advocate; Lee, of that at Richmond; Patton, of the Holston Christian Advocate; D. R. McAnally, of that at St. Louis; James E. Cobb, of the one at Memphis; H. N. McTyeire, of that at New Orleans; Clayton C. Gillespie, of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE; and Jesse Boring, of the Christian Observer, San Francisco.

IV. The fourth session was held in Nashville, Tenn., May 1, 1858. Twenty-two Conferences were represented by one hundred and fifty-one delegates. There were then in our church two thousand four hundred and thirty-four traveling preachers and six hundred and fifty-five thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven members. The delegates from Texas were R. Alexander, J. W. Phillips, J. W. Whipple, W. H. Seat, R. W. Kennon, M. Yell, W. C. Lewis; from East Texas, C. C. Gillespie, J. W. Fields, S. A. Williams, J. B. Tullis and N. W. Burks. Instead of electing two book agents, one was elected, and a Financial Secretary. J. B. McFerrin was elected Book Agent, and R. Abbey, Financial Secretary. Summers was re-elected editor of books; Huston, of the Home Circle; H. N. McTyeire, of the Nashville Advocate; Leo Rosser, of the Richmond; E. H. Myers, of the Southern; D. R. McAnally, of the St. Louis; S. Watson, of the Memphis; C. C. Gillespie, of the New Orleans; James E. Carnes, of the TEXAS ADVOCATE; O. P. Fitzgerald, of the Pacific Methodist; and P. A. Moelling, of the German paper at Galveston. R. T. Hellin was elected editor of the North Carolina Advocate; E. W. Schon was continued as Missionary Secretary.

V. No conference was held in 1862 in consequence of the war; and the fifth session was held in New Orleans, April 4, 1866. 153 delegates represented 25 conferences, 2485 preachers and 505,101 members. There had been, since the last conference, a large falling off in colored members; hence, an apparent decrease. In this body the delegates from the Texas Conference were: R. Alexander, Wm. M'K. Lambden, Thos. Stanford, Wm. G. Veal, Asbury Davidson, I. G. John, Josiah W. Whipple, Wm. H. Seat; East Texas, Wm. H. Hughes, John K. Tullis, Levi R. Dennis, Jacob M. Binkley, J. W. P. McKenzie; from the Rio Grande Conference, Jesse Boring, John W. DeVilbiss. A good many changes were introduced by this conference. Provision was made for district and for church conferences; and for lay representation in the annual and general conferences. Probationary church membership was dispensed with; the pastoral term was extended to four years; provision was made for the organization of the colored people into a separate church, and the ratio of representation in the general conference changed to one clerical delegate for every 28 members of an annual conference, and an equal number of laymen. Wm. M. Wightman, Enoch M. Marvin, David S. Doggett and Holland N. McTyeire were elected bishops. Two mission boards were created; and Mr. Schon was elected secretary of the foreign board, and J. B. McFerrin of the domestic board. A. H. Redford was elected book agent; Summers was re-elected book editor; I. G. John, editor of the TEXAS ADVOCATE; W. C. Johnson, of the paper at Memphis; McAnally of the one at St. Louis; J. E. Cobb, of the Arkansas Advocate; E. H. Myers, of the Southern; and O. P. Fitzgerald, of the San Francisco paper.

VI. Met in Memphis, May 4, 1870; 120 clerical and 106 lay delegates represented 29 conferences, 2833 preachers, and 571,241 members. The delegates from the Texas Conference were: Clerical—R. Alexander, I. G. John, J. W. Whipple; Lay—J. D. Giddings, J. S. Taliaferro, and W. W. Browning. East Texas: Clerical—L. P. Live-

ly and Jeff. Shook; Lay—J. F. Taylor and M. H. Bonner. West Texas: Clerical—R. H. Belvin and O. A. Fisher; Lay—W. Headon and D. A. T. Woods. Northwest Texas: Clerical—Thomas Stanford and L. B. Whipple; Lay—J. R. Henry and R. Q. Mills. Trinity: Clerical—J. M. Binkley and R. Lane; Lay—Asa Holt and W. J. Clark. John C. Keener was elected Bishop. The two mission boards were consolidated and McFerrin elected Secretary. Redford was continued book agent, and most of the editors re-elected. A. G. Haygood was elected Sunday-school secretary.

VII. Met in Louisville, Kentucky, May 1, 1874; 137 clerical and 118 lay delegates represented 35 conferences, 3371 preachers and 676,600 members. The delegates from the Texas Conference were: Clerical—R. Alexander, I. G. John and H. V. Philpott; Lay—J. D. Thomas and L. W. Moore. West Texas: Clerical—Buckner Harris and J. G. Walker. East Texas: Clerical—D. Morse and John Adams; Lay—L. V. Grear and W. M. Shumette. Northwest Texas: Clerical—Thomas Stanford, Wm. G. Veal, Wm. P. Price, W. G. Connor; Lay—W. A. Fort, E. A. Martin, B. A. Philpott and J. H. Bishop. Trinity: Clerical—John H. McLean, J. M. Binkley and M. H. Neely; Lay—W. J. Clark and Wm. Howth. The most notable event of this conference was the reception and speeches of the fraternal delegates from the M. E. Church, and the discussion on the subject of "Fraternity." By order of the conference, the bishops appointed three delegates to visit the General Conference of the M. E. Church which met in Brooklyn in 1876. The book editor, book agent, missionary secretary, and most of the editors of church papers were re-elected. r.

MISSIONARY COLLECTIONS.

The quarterly conferences are required to adopt "efficient and well defined modes and plans for raising missionary funds, both for the General Board and also for the Conference Mission Board."

One of the plans usually relied upon is an annual public collection in every congregation. That a collection may be taken up at an improper time (for instance on a funeral or sacramental occasion), or in an improper manner, is no reason why collections should not be raised at a proper time and in a suitable manner. The preacher in charge usually takes up the collection, and his success depends as much, perhaps, on his zeal and tact as on the ability and previous training of the congregation. To succeed in raising a collection, it is indispensable necessary not only to be, but also to appear, in earnest. Next to this, it is important to have a certain and the right amount in view, which may or may not be stated to the congregation. This amount should have no margin, at least on the minus side.

One who raises a public collection should have entire self-control, ready wit, and especially good common sense. A very small proportion of the amounts raised are contributed by women and children. Indeed, nearly the whole is given by men and boys verging on manhood. Possibly it might be otherwise if sufficient care were taken, but it is not.

Juvenile missionary societies should be formed in all our congregations, usually in connection with the Sunday-school. Meetings of these societies can be held monthly without detriment to the Sunday-school. These meetings may be made profitable in many ways, particularly in collecting funds, in diffusing missionary intelligence, and in training the rising generation for future usefulness. The ladies can and ought to form societies of their own for promoting the cause of God in heathen lands.

Besides all that can be accomplished by public and associated effort, private contributions should be solicited, and, indeed, should be made without solicitation.

The cause is a good one, and should never lack advocate, altar or sacrifice.

Texas Christian Advocate

ADVERTISING RATES: One-half inch one insertion... Each consecutive insertion... One inch one insertion... Each consecutive insertion...

Rates on Standing Advertisements: To find price of an advertisement for a given time and price of an advertisement for a given time...

A REMINISCENCE.—The Ohio Annual Conference met at Hamilton, in that State, in September, 1842. It was presided over by Bishop Morris, who had visited Texas the year previously. Rev. Littleton Fowler was present, to enlist volunteer missionaries for the Lone Star Republic.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23, 1878. Congress has had little to disturb its ordinary quiet during the past week. On Thursday the Senate remained in session long enough only to hear eulogies delivered upon Senator Morton by a number of Senators, among whom were several Democrats.

Yesterday there was an interesting passage-at-arms in the Senate, between Mr. Blaine and Messrs. Hoar and Dawes. Mr. Blaine made some disparaging allusion to Massachusetts in his remarks upon the reception of the monument of Wm. King by Congress, which, of course, put the Senators from that State upon the defensive, and we had an exciting debate as a consequence.

power, under the Ashburton treaty of 1842, which was assented to at that time by Maine under a moral compulsion that would have to be physical if tried again. It does one good to have such scenes occasionally in the Senate, for without them the Dombeyan dignities of the frigid Senators would give the hearer an everlasting chill.

The Benefit of Advertising.

The following explains itself. We wish all our readers would mention the ADVOCATE, when answering advertisements: Messrs. Shaw & Blaylock—Gentlemen: We wish to thank you for your courtesy in transferring our advertisement—the good effects of which were at once apparent in letters which we received quoting the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

Married.

HELYBOWER—HAY—In the Methodist Episcopal Church, 8th, in Austin, January 9, 1878, by Rev. Dr. W. Shapard, Mr. Geo. S. Helybower and Miss Kate Hay.

Unanswered Letters.

January 21.—Harris—subscriber.—W. J. Joyce—subscriber.—O Fisher—list of subscribers.—Horace Bishop—subscriber.—C. M. McCarver—subscriber.—W. Shapard—now all this comes of your inexperience as an agent; but your apology is accepted. Didn't you get a notice last week that biographical sketches were not acceptable?

noble thing in resolving to support the Rev. W. R. Lambuth, M. D., our last missionary to China. I have a long way to go, to say the least. The Mission is the youngest of our Missions. We are just struggling into existence. Will not the church send a man to the States, to the Sunday-schools, to the churches for 1878. I appeal to the Sunday-schools, to every man, woman and child who is interested, and to all in our work in Brazil. Let this be separate and apart, over and above the regular missionary collections, let it be a free-will offering!

Commercial.

At New York, the market for spots opened quiet; closed quiet. Sales today 715 bales. Quotations for all grades are as follows: Ordinary No. 1, 13-16; Good Ordinary No. 1, 15-16; Low Middling No. 1, 11-16; Middling No. 1, 15-16; Good Middling No. 1, 15-16.

Exchange—Gold and Silver.

Buying. Selling. Sterling, 60 days, 48 1/2. New York Sight, par. New Orleans Sight, par. Gold, 100, 100. Silver, 100, 100.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JAN. 28, 1878. [Reported for the ADVOCATE by Johnson Foster, livestock commission merchant, Stockyards Galveston.]

PREMIUM QUOTATIONS.

Beaves and cows—good to 7 1/2 to 8 1/2. Beaves and cows, common and ordinary, 2 to 2 1/2. Two year old, choice, 1/2 head, \$10 to \$12.00.

THE GENERAL MARKET.

[Quotations are not applicable to small orders but represent cash prices for large lots.] Bacon, short clear, 7 1/2 to 8. Clear ribs, 10 1/2 to 11. Shoulders, 6 to 7. Breakfast bacon, 10 to 10 1/2.

DRY GOODS.

Standard prints, 6 to 6 1/2. Medium prints, 5 to 5 1/2. Brown domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Brown domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Bleached domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Bleached domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Lowels, 10 to 12. Brown drills, 7 to 8. Sea Island domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Ticking, 2 1/2 to 3. Plaids, 10 to 12. Cheviots, 7 to 8. Kentucky jeans, 2 to 3. Flannels, red, 11 to 12. Flannels, white, 12 to 14.

GRAIN.

Wheat, No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4. Wheat, No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2. Corn, No. 1, 50 to 55. Corn, No. 2, 45 to 50. Oats, No. 1, 30 to 35. Oats, No. 2, 25 to 30. Hay, No. 1, 10 to 12. Hay, No. 2, 8 to 10. Clover, No. 1, 15 to 20. Clover, No. 2, 10 to 15. Alfalfa, 10 to 12.

PRODUCE.

Butter, No. 1, 15 to 20. Butter, No. 2, 10 to 15. Eggs, No. 1, 10 to 12. Eggs, No. 2, 8 to 10. Lard, No. 1, 10 to 12. Lard, No. 2, 8 to 10. Tallow, No. 1, 5 to 6. Tallow, No. 2, 4 to 5. Suet, No. 1, 10 to 12. Suet, No. 2, 8 to 10. Pork, No. 1, 10 to 12. Pork, No. 2, 8 to 10. Bacon, No. 1, 10 to 12. Bacon, No. 2, 8 to 10.

MARKETS.

At New York, the market for spots opened quiet; closed quiet. Sales today 715 bales. Quotations for all grades are as follows: Ordinary No. 1, 13-16; Good Ordinary No. 1, 15-16; Low Middling No. 1, 11-16; Middling No. 1, 15-16; Good Middling No. 1, 15-16.

The essentials for wide popularity are fully met in Colgate & Co.'s Cashmere Bonquet Soap. It is universally esteemed by the tasteful and refined as the most delicate and recherche of perfumes, and the name and trade-mark of Colgate & Co. on each package are a guarantee of superior and uniform quality.

Commercial.

TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE OFFICE, Galveston, Texas, Feb. 2, 1878.

COTTON.

At New York, the market for spots opened quiet; closed quiet. Sales today 715 bales. Quotations for all grades are as follows: Ordinary No. 1, 13-16; Good Ordinary No. 1, 15-16; Low Middling No. 1, 11-16; Middling No. 1, 15-16; Good Middling No. 1, 15-16.

Exchange—Gold and Silver.

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THE GENERAL MARKET.

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DRY GOODS.

Standard prints, 6 to 6 1/2. Medium prints, 5 to 5 1/2. Brown domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Brown domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Bleached domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Bleached domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Lowels, 10 to 12. Brown drills, 7 to 8. Sea Island domestic, 3 1/2 to 4. Ticking, 2 1/2 to 3. Plaids, 10 to 12. Cheviots, 7 to 8. Kentucky jeans, 2 to 3. Flannels, red, 11 to 12. Flannels, white, 12 to 14.

GRAIN.

Wheat, No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4. Wheat, No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2. Corn, No. 1, 50 to 55. Corn, No. 2, 45 to 50. Oats, No. 1, 30 to 35. Oats, No. 2, 25 to 30. Hay, No. 1, 10 to 12. Hay, No. 2, 8 to 10. Clover, No. 1, 15 to 20. Clover, No. 2, 10 to 15. Alfalfa, 10 to 12.

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Western prime, 20 00 to 24 00. Western choice, 21 00 to 25 00. Choice sugar cured, 9 1/2 to 9 3/4. 2d quality, 8 1/2 to 9 1/2.

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Butter, No. 1, 15 to 20. Butter, No. 2, 10 to 15. Eggs, No. 1, 10 to 12. Eggs, No. 2, 8 to 10. Lard, No. 1, 10 to 12. Lard, No. 2, 8 to 10. Tallow, No. 1, 5 to 6. Tallow, No. 2, 4 to 5. Suet, No. 1, 10 to 12. Suet, No. 2, 8 to 10. Pork, No. 1, 10 to 12. Pork, No. 2, 8 to 10. Bacon, No. 1, 10 to 12. Bacon, No. 2, 8 to 10.

MARKETS.

At New York, the market for spots opened quiet; closed quiet. Sales today 715 bales. Quotations for all grades are as follows: Ordinary No. 1, 13-16; Good Ordinary No. 1, 15-16; Low Middling No. 1, 11-16; Middling No. 1, 15-16; Good Middling No. 1, 15-16.

\$250

New Square Grand Rosewood Pianos for \$250.

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WEBER & EMERSON PIANOS

AND

MASON & HAMLIN ORGANS

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PIANO AND MUSIC DEALERS,

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PHILIP WERLEIN,

LEADING SOUTHERN PIANO HOUSE

30 CANAL STREET (TOURO BUILDING)

NEW ORLEANS.

Having constantly on hand an assortment of

THE HOUSE OF WEBER & EMERSON, established in 1818,

is favored by known all over Texas. Send for

catalogues, price list, or further information, as

above.

CHICKERING PIANO.

Manufactured by any Piano made.

THE DUN

HAM Pianos

the H. A. R. D.

MAN Pianos,

J. P. HALE

Pianos, Each

Piano sold by

his house is

warranted for

5 years, and

is guaranteed

to give satis-

faction

Wholesale Agent for the Celebrated

Estey & Co. Organs and Mason & Ham-

lin Cabinet Organs.

which are acknowledged to be the best organs

made. Organists and others wishing to act as

agents, let the friends of organs and pianos and

organists, who are desirous of procuring the

best instruments, our information. Also, sheet music,

and music books, at wholesale and retail.

The House of Webster & Emerson, established in 1818,

is favored by known all over Texas. Send for

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WEBSTER'S PATENT

Button-Hole Worker.

Patented June 27, '74, and Feb. 3, '74.

Awarded first premium at the American Insti-

tute toward Maryland Institute Fairs, 1871.

It is the most important

and useful invention of the

age. It is a simple and

perfectly reliable

machine, which will

make a button-hole

in any fabric, and

will save the labor of

the needle and thread.

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the needle and thread.

It is a simple and

VEGETINE

Purifies the Blood, Renovates and Invigorates the Whole System.

ITS MEDICAL PROPERTIES ARE ALTERATIVE, TONIC, SOLVENT AND DIURETIC.

Vegetine Reliable Evidence

Dear Sir—I will most cheerfully add my testimony to the great number you have already received...

Mr. H. R. STEVENS: Dear Sir—I will most cheerfully add my testimony to the great number you have already received...

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Texas Christian Advocate

LONDON LETTER.

BURTON STATION, LONDON, N. W., 1 January, 1878.

This great metropolis presents to the writer so many objects of interest worthy of mention, that it is with some hesitation that your correspondent presumes to commence his series of letters, by treating upon a subject familiar to many of your readers.

The Tower of London is a favorite resort for the stranger, chiefly on account of the many objects of curiosity for which it serves as a repository. Stow, the English historian, in referring to London Tower, said: "The Tower is a citadel to defend or command the city of London; a royal palace for assemblies or treaties; a prison of State for the most dangerous offenders; the armory for warlike provisions; the treasury of the ornaments and jewels of the Crown," etc., etc.

The Tower of London is not confined to one large building with a net-work of walls, moats and "embattlements," as many are led to believe from its name, but consists of sixteen commodious and strongly constructed buildings, separated one from the other by high walls or deep, wide moats, and all cover an area of about twelve acres.

Most conspicuous among the Tower buildings, and indeed most familiar to readers of history, is the White Tower, erected in the year 1078, during the reign of "William the Conqueror." It derives its name from the fact that it was usual to whitewash it every now and then, as appears from a very curious document in Latin, bearing the date A. D. 1241 (on exhibition in the lower department), which gives directions for repairs and whitewashing the place. Adjoining this building is the Bloody Tower, the traditional scene of the murder of Edward V., and his brother, Richard, by the order of their uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, in 1483; the dungeons beneath this and the White Tower have been the dismal places of imprisonment of many of England's proudest nobles, fairest women and bravest men, who never went forth from these fortresses till they left for the scaffold.

After the visitor has followed the guide or warden through the different buildings, viewed dried-moats, "time-eaten" walls, or investigated the mysteries of the numerous dungeons and inquisition-rooms, he finds that two hours have passed, and cheerfully accepts a proffered chair for a few minutes rest before visiting the armories and jewel-room.

A stroll through the armories affords one much pleasure, and is a slight compensation for the annoyance and weariness one experiences tramping after a poorly fed and still more poorly paid guide. The building used for the armories was erected in 1826; it has three handsome galleries, one above the other, and each one hundred and fifty long by thirty-three feet wide; the first containing groups of equestrian figures of the ancient Kings of England, clothed in magnificent armour, with lance, sword, battle-axe or mace in hand; facing the mounted warriors are effigies of men-at-arms in suits of mail, bearing spears and other ancient weapons; the ceiling and walls of this and the other galleries are constructed entirely of weapons of every known kind, arranged in ingenious devices and forming a picture very pleasing to the eye. The second and third galleries are used as a repository of military weapons, relics of ancient naval architecture and ordnance; here also will be found instruments of torture used in the dark ages—most noticeable: heading-block and ax, the bilboes, the thumbkin, the collar of torment.

Passing from the armories to the Jewel House the visitor is ushered into a small apartment in the center, being a strongly constructed case framed with large squares of plate-glass, containing the gorgeous treasures constituting the "Regalia" with which the sovereigns of England are invested at their coronation. The estimated value of the "Regalia" is upwards of six millions sterling.

Forming a part of the "Regalia" is "the Koh-i-Noor, or Mountain of Light, which was formerly the property of Runjeet Singh. This jewel is one of the largest in the world, and is valued at £2,000,000 sterling.

"This precious gem has seen a variety of fortunes. Its early history is mythical; but it is believed to be the great diamond mentioned by Tavernier as being in the possession of the Great Mogul, in 1665, and which he described as being rose-cut, of the shape of an egg cut in two, of good water, and weighing 319 1/2 ratis, which, he says, is equal to 280 of our carats. From the Great Mogul this diamond

passed into the possession of the reigning family of Cabul. When Shah Sujah was driven from Cabul he became the nominal guest and actual prisoner of Runjeet Singh, who spared no means to obtain possession of the precious gem. In this he succeeded in 1813. After the death of Runjeet the diamond was preserved for awhile by his successors. It was occasionally worn by Khuruk Sing and Shire Sing. After the murder of the latter it remained in the Lahore treasury until the suppression of Dupleep Sing and the annexation of the Punjab by the British government, when the civil authorities took possession of the Lahore treasury, under the stipulation previously made that all the property of the East India Company in part payment of the debt due by the Lahore government and of the expenses of the war. It was at the same time stipulated that the Koh-i-Noor should be surrendered to the Queen of England. It arrived in this country on the 30th of June, 1850, and on the 3d of July was presented to her Majesty. It formed one of the leading attractions of the Great Exhibition of 1851, and has since been subjected to the process of cutting which has much enhanced its beauty and value.

"The weight and value of diamonds are estimated in carats of which 150 are equal to 480 grains, or one ounce troy.

"The difference between the exchangeable value of two diamonds of equal merit is generally estimated in the ratio of the square of the weights; so that the value of three diamonds weighing respectively one, two, and three carats, will be as one, four and nine. The average price of rough diamonds is estimated at £2 per carat; and consequently, when cut, the cost of the first carat, exclusive of workmanship, will be £8, which is the price of uncut diamonds of two carats.

"The rapidly increasing value of diamonds in proportion to their weight in carats, will be readily discovered: A wrought diamond of three carats is worth 72£; of four carats, is worth 126£; of five carats, is worth 200£; of ten carats, is worth 800£; of twenty carats, is worth 3200£; of thirty carats, is worth 7200£; of forty carats, is worth 12,800£; of fifty carats, is worth 20,000£; of sixty carats, is worth 28,000£; of one hundred carats, is worth 80,000£.

"Beyond this weight such a method of calculation is not, however, applicable, in consequence of the difficulty of finding purchasers for the more valuable gems."

Among the other costly productions in the Regalia will be found: The Queen's diadem; coronation bracelets, Prince of Wales' crown, old imperial crown, Queen's crown, sceptres of all shapes and sizes, swords of justice, royal spurs, etc., etc., all of which are made principally of gold, richly set with diamonds and other valuable jewels.

W. L. B.

Omnibus.

Time will teach him who has no teacher.

Make yourself necessary to somebody.

Felicity, not fluency of language, is a merit.

If an ass goes traveling he will not come home a horse.

Our pleasant vices make instruments to scourge us.

Remember, that whenever you are sincerely pleased, you are nourished.

Sinning makes us leave off praying, and praying makes us leave off sinning.

The flowers of youth never looks so lovely as when it bends to the Sun of Righteousness.

Some mourn more for the shame which sin brings, than the sin which brings the shame.

Hope puts us in a working mood, whilst despair untunes the active powers.

Where can a standing army be most economically and safely kept? On the farm.

The more difficulty there is in creating good men, the more they are used when they come.

Ingratitude is a kind of mental weakness—able men are never ungrateful.

One sin is too much; but a thou sand acts of reverence done to God are not enough to render Him the honor which is His due.

The highest obedience in the spiritual life is to be able always and in all things to say, "Thy will be done."

There is a gift that is almost a blow, and there is a kind word that is munificence; so much is there in the way of doing things.

It is beauty that doth oft make women proud; it is virtue that doth make them most admired; it is modesty that makes them seem divine.—Shakespeare.

He that has tasted the bitterness of sin will fear to commit it; and he that hath felt the sweetness of mercy will fear to offend it.

Thou shalt not be found out, is not one of God's commandments, and no man can be saved by trying to keep it, says Dr. Leonard Bacon.

What God effects through the powers with which He has endowed man is no less His work than the heavens and earth are.

A SINGLE word may disquiet an entire family for a whole day. One surely glances a gloom over the household; while a smile, like a gleam of sunshine, may light up the darkest and weariest hour.

What is there that we could desire should be in a Savior that is not in Christ? What excellence is there wanting? What is there that is great or good, what is there that is venerable or winning, what is there that is adorable or endearing, or what could you think of that would be encouraging, that is not to be found in Christ?—J. Edwards.

The mind is heaven-born, and comes immediately out of the hands of God; so that, to speak properly, we are nearer related to the Supreme Being than to father or mother.—Collier.

A man may talk virtuously, but if he lives in secret an impure life his unconscious influence for evil will destroy the effect of his words. Character influences independently of its professions, and this influence of character is the heaviest weight in the scale of life.

A good inclination is but the first draught of virtue; but the finishing strokes are from the will, which, if well disposed, will by degrees perfect; if ill disposed, will by the superinduction of ill habits quickly deface it.—South.

The chief properties of wisdom are to be mindful of things past, careful of things present, and provident of things to come.

Be thou of such courage and so patient in hope that, when inward comfort is without, thou mayest prepare thy heart to suffer even greater things; and do not justify thyself, as though thou oughtest not to suffer these afflictions or any so great, but justify me in whatsoever I appoint, and still praise my holy name.—Thomas a Kempis.

Waste Basket.

How to make a catfish: leave her alone in a room with an aquarium.

"No, ma'am," said a grocer to an applicant for credit. "I wouldn't even trust my own feelings."

"The Marvel" has named his new book "Old Story Tellers." But it is no reference whatever to church sewing societies, says a New York paper.

Slippers should be felt, not heard—in the sick-room. But naughty little boys prefer that they should be heard rather than felt—in the nursery.

The dying sinner, glancing back over a life of misdeeds and carelessness, has one consolation—his administrators will make all right on his tombstone.

A woman may not be able to sharpen a pencil or hold an umbrella; but she can pack more articles into a trunk than a man can in a one-horse wagon.

"I have expressed no contempt of the court," said the Hoosier lawyer, when so charged. "On the contrary, I have carefully concealed my feelings."

A Western man has invented something that beats the telephone. He proposes to station a line of women fifty steps apart, and commit the news to the first as a secret.

"The Danbury News remarks: "Lightning never strikes twice in the same place, it generally happening that there is nothing there the second time to hit."

Little Robbie went to a show for the first time in his life. When he came home, his mother asked him what he had seen. "An elephant, mamma, that gobbled hay with his front tail."

"We all know," said the school committee-man to the new teacher he was examining for her position, "that A, B and C, is vowels, but wot we wants to know is, wy they is so."

Saw a sign in a barber's window, the other day, "Boots Blacked Inside." Couldn't for the life of us think why anybody wants the inside of his boots blacked. Should think it would ruin a fellow's stockings.

"I do not think, madam, that any man of the least sense would approve of your conduct," said an indignant husband. "Sir," retorted his better half, "how can you judge what any man of the least sense would do?"

A tramp called at a house in the suburbs, the other day, and asked for something to eat. He was so thin, he said, that when he had a pain he couldn't tell whether it was a touch of the colic or the backache

MEDICAL OFFICE.

DR. CARL MURRAY HAS OPENED ROOMS FOR THE TREATMENT OF ALL CHRONIC AND NERVOUS DISEASES, AND FOR GENERAL PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

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FEMALE DISEASES made a special study. The successful treatment of cases of Indigo in Dallas and vicinity is sufficient to commend others afflicted to the same treatment. The baritone treatment with caustics utterly discarded. Hemorrhoids cured in all cases without the use of knife, ligature, caustic or clamp. TAPE WORMS REMOVED IN A FEW HOURS.

NERVOUS DISEASES—Epilepsy, Chorea, Neuritis, Caricoid, Vertigo, resulting in curvature of spine and nervous derangement. Incipient Paralysis cured in a majority of cases. Diseases of the Eye and Eyelids, of the Ear and Throat. Especial attention called to NASAL CATARRH and its accompanying maladies.

Constitutional diseases, such as scrofula, Rheumatism, Glandular swellings, Skin diseases and all the diseases for which men and women go to Hot Springs, cured promptly on the principle of no cure no pay.

Diseases of Liver and Spleen Cured in Every Case. Those at a distance can consult by letter, and receive prompt attention by enclosing postage stamp.

OFFICE CONSULTATION FREE. Address: Lock Box 1106, Dallas, Texas, or call personally at 629 Elm Street.

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SIMMONS' LIVER REGULATOR

Ask the recovered dyspeptic, Bilious, victims of Fever and Ague, the moribund, diseased patient, how they recovered health, cheerful spirits and good appetite; they will tell you by taking SIMMONS' LIVER REGULATOR.

The Cheapest, Purest and Best Family Medicine in the World. For Dyspepsia, Constipation, Jaundice, Bilious attacks, Sick Headache, Colic, Depression of Spirits, Sour Stomach, Heart Burn, etc., etc.

This unrivaled remedy is warranted not to contain a single particle of Mercury, or any injurious mineral substance, but is

PURELY VEGETABLE.

IT HAS NO EQUAL.

CAUTION:

As there are a number of imitations offered to the public, we would exhort the community to buy no Powders or Prepared SIMMONS' LIVER REGULATOR, unless in our original wrapper, with the trade mark, stamp and signature unbroken. None other is genuine.

J. H. ZELIN & CO., Mason, Ga., and Philadelphia.

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Just published in pamphlet form, P. H. BOOKS, Practical observations on the CAUSE, PREVENTION, and PROPER TREATMENT of AFFECTIONS OF THE THROAT, LUNGS, AND HEART, BY ROBERT HUNTER, M. D., CHICAGO, ILL. For sale by all booksellers, and sent by mail, prepaid, on receipt of the price, 12-13.

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There are Fourteen Schools covering a full course for young men in English Language and Literature, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry and Geology, Mathematics, Ancient and Modern Languages, Metaphysics, History, Book-keeping, Theology, Physiology and Hygiene. A preparatory school conducted by capable tutors prepares students for the schools of the university.

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Tuition per session of ten months, payable in advance, \$50.00. Tuition per term of five months, \$25.00. Contingent Fee per annum, \$10.00. Fee in Chemical Laboratory per annum, \$3.00. Diploma, \$10.00. Board in families, covering all items, per scholastic month, \$12.00 to \$15.00. Two hundred dollars deposited with the Treasurer will cover all items of Tuition and Board for the entire scholastic year. Books may be obtained at any hour for the short drive between Round Rock, on the International Railroad, and Georgetown.

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Texas Christian Advocate

(Communicated.) American Finance.

It is well known by every active and faithful church member, that in order to push forward the various enterprises of the church and build up and sustain its institutions, we must have money. This being so, it is right and proper that Christian men and ministers of the Gospel should study American Finance. If the subject be beneath our dignity, then we should cease asking for and receiving money. We admit, it is right to ask and receive it. Then let us give a plain talk on the subject of American Finance. The details of the subject—like Enneas' narrative to Queen Diocle, of the siege and destruction of Troy—are long and by no means creditable to the ability and honesty of the statesmen who have palmed off on us our present financial system. I do not purpose, in this article, to go into these details. I am too nervous. I might say some harsh things.

The masses of American citizens, East, North, South and West, have been betrayed—yea worse than that—victimized. Why? To enrich Eastern and London capitalists to the almost total ruin of our varied industries. All done under this plea: "To strengthen our national credit."

Various cases have been assigned for the present universal financial distress. Most of the expressions I have seen are wide of the mark. "But," say some, "we read the leading journals of the day; they say thus and so." The leading journals of the day, forsooth! Know you not that most of what you call the leading journals of the day (and especially is this so of the great Northern and Eastern cities, both Republican and Democratic) are subsidized; that is in the pay of Eastern and foreign capitalists? The present tramping nuisance is all attributable to our worse than imbecile finance. To talk of specie resumption now, and that specie to be gold, is worse than the ravings of a maniac. Silver coin is not good enough for the pampered and petted bondholder. Our present national banking system is a huge fraud—a most infamous swindle. Every national bank note costs the American citizen at least fifteen per cent annual interest. No business man, no people, can pay more than 8 per cent, and prosper long. It is apparent to every thinking man, whether he be a farmer, stockraiser, manufacturer, or merchant, that we will be compelled for years yet to supplement even silver coin with paper money. Why not, then, the government itself issue its own legal tender paper currency, pay off its bonds in this currency, and thus do away with this miserable middle power, known as bondholders—to whom virtually, the industries of more than 40,000,000 of American people are bondmen! By having a sufficient legal tender currency, direct from the government, the American people can and will develop the untold mineral riches lying hidden in the bosom of our tens of millions of acres of virgin soil, and the timber in our vast forests, to a useful purpose. By means, then, of this paper currency, the American people will soon accumulate wealth; our annual exports will go on increasing year after year, and far exceed our imports. Thus the balance of trade will be in our favor. This implies an accumulation of silver and gold coin. Then those pampered gentry can convert their paper money into coin if they wish. In the meantime they, having been paid in legal tender currency for their bonds, can invest the same in various enterprises, or loan it out at a living rate of interest to those who will judiciously use it. This plan puts all the people to work—at both brain work and muscle work. But our present system will keep us oppressed, and impoverished for generations. About all that we will be able to do, will be to pay the gold interest on our national bonds.

I have written this letter for a purpose: That the people generally who read the Advocate may bestir themselves, read, investigate, think, and come to sound conclusions. I am not a politician. I have no ambition in that direction. I don't often write for any of our papers. I am not writing now to get up a controversy. I despise controversy—and especially in a religious journal. I have written this, mainly because I look upon a knowledge of finances as absolutely necessary to the success and spread of the Gospel. A. R. BENNICK, SHOVEL MOUNT, Burnett Co., Jan. 8, 1878.

The Arab Horse.

Mr. William Palgrave, in his notice of the Arab horse, furnishes a very interesting statement regarding this animal. We give the subjoined extract.

Reared under an open shed, and early accustomed to the sight

of man, to the sound and glitter of weapons, and to all the accessories of human life, the colt grows up free from vice or timidity; and even acquires a degree of intelligence that surprises a stranger. Barley and dates are the chief stall provender; but the grass of the pasture grounds in the selection of which much care is taken, is the ordinary nourishment of an Arab horse. Of water the allowance is always kept purposely scant. A good Nejd will canter four-and-twenty hours in summer time and eight-and-forty hours in winter without once requiring a drink. Raw meat—dried—is occasionally given in small quantities when extra exertion is required; lucerne grass is employed for lowering the tone. Geldings are very rare. The color that most frequently occurs is gray; then comes chestnut; then white and sorrel; mottled gray and black are now and then to be found; dark bay, never.

Colts are ridden early—too early indeed—in their third or even second year, and are soon broken into a steady walk or canter, and to the ambling pace which is a special favorite with Arab riders; racing, an Arab amusement from time immemorial, and the game of "jerzed," a kind of tournament, or mock fight with blunt palm sticks, highly popular throughout the peninsula, complete the training as to wind and pace. Saddles are seldom used in Nejd, and stirrups never, but both are occasionally employed in Hijaz and Yemen. So also with bits, the place of which is taken in Nejd by halter ropes, the real guidance of the animal being almost wholly effected by the rider's leg and knee. Shoes, too, are of rare occurrence, nor are they needed in the light sand-mixed soil of the central provinces; on the other hand, the hoofs are often rubbed with grease, to counteract the drying effects of the heated ground.

Of all niceties of grooming, docking and clipping excepted, the Arabs are masters, and their natural kindness to animals—a quality which they share with most Orientals, together with the care every reasonable man bestows on a valuable article of property—insures to an Arab horse good treatment at the hands of its owner. But Arab horses do not commonly enter tents, nor play with women and children; nor, in a general way, do they share the family meals, nor are they habitually kissed and cried over, as the imagination of some narrator has suggested. An Arab riding for life has, indeed, been known to give his only morsel of bread to his horse rather than eat it himself—an act in which self-preservation had as large a share as affection.

Perhaps we cannot practice a better discipline than by bridling or gaining control over our tongues. If any one has a doubt as to the importance of this discipline, let him read what St. James says about it in the third chapter of his Epistle. It is a terrible description of a most deadly evil, and yet every word of it is true. Nor is this all. The evil thing set forth is widespread, almost universal. Some are more thoughtful than others, but none among us are sufficiently careful as to what we say or when we say it. The apostle tells us: "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." This is strong language, but it is true. Self-control is one of the highest attainments we can ever reach. The man who can so control his impulses, his passions, his feelings, his emotions, as that they shall never find untimely or improper expression in word, is as Christ-like or perfect as he can ever be in this world. Sometimes the excuse is made for evil speaking that the person is thoughtless, that he does not mean what he says. But is thoughtlessness really any excuse? Does it not add to the offence? But however this may be, Christians ought not so to offend. They are as lights and witnesses in the world. They are the Saviour's representatives, and as such they should seek to be as much like Him as possible. Never should they forget that by their inconsistencies they inflict upon the cause of Christ the deepest wound it ever receives. How awful the thought that by our words and acts we may become the stumbling blocks on which others may fall and be lost forever! God forbid! To guard against this, we shall do well to improve by trying to gain control over ourselves and particularly over our tongues.

Reducing the Tongue.

Perhaps we cannot practice a better discipline than by bridling or gaining control over our tongues. If any one has a doubt as to the importance of this discipline, let him read what St. James says about it in the third chapter of his Epistle. It is a terrible description of a most deadly evil, and yet every word of it is true. Nor is this all. The evil thing set forth is widespread, almost universal. Some are more thoughtful than others, but none among us are sufficiently careful as to what we say or when we say it. The apostle tells us: "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." This is strong language, but it is true. Self-control is one of the highest attainments we can ever reach. The man who can so control his impulses, his passions, his feelings, his emotions, as that they shall never find untimely or improper expression in word, is as Christ-like or perfect as he can ever be in this world. Sometimes the excuse is made for evil speaking that the person is thoughtless, that he does not mean what he says. But is thoughtlessness really any excuse? Does it not add to the offence? But however this may be, Christians ought not so to offend. They are as lights and witnesses in the world. They are the Saviour's representatives, and as such they should seek to be as much like Him as possible. Never should they forget that by their inconsistencies they inflict upon the cause of Christ the deepest wound it ever receives. How awful the thought that by our words and acts we may become the stumbling blocks on which others may fall and be lost forever! God forbid! To guard against this, we shall do well to improve by trying to gain control over ourselves and particularly over our tongues.

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The Child-Teacher.

Backward and forward in her little rocking-chair went Alice Lee, now clasping her beautiful waxen-doll to her bosom, and singing low, sweet lullabies; then smoothing its flaxen curls, patting its rosy cheeks, and whispering softly, "I love you, pretty dolly;" and anon casting wistful glances towards her mother, who sat in a bay window, busily writing. After what seemed to be a very long time to the little daughter, Mrs. Lee pushed aside the papers, and looking up, said pleasantly: "I am through for to-day, Alice; you may now make all the noise you choose."

Scarcely were the words uttered ere the little one had flown to her, and nestled her head on her loving heart, saying earnestly: "I am so glad! I wanted to love you so much, mamma."

"Did you, darling?" And she clasped her tenderly. "I am glad my Alice loves me so; but I fancy you were not very lonely while I wrote this; you and Dolly seemed to be having a happy time together."

"Yes, we had, mamma; but I got tired after awhile of loving her."

"And why?"

"O, because she never loves me back!"

"And that is why you love me?"

"That is one why, mamma; but not the first one or the best."

"And what is the first and the best?"

"Why, mamma, don't you guess?" and the blue eyes grew very bright and earnest. "It's because you love me when I was too little to love you back; that's why I love you so."

"We love him because he first loved us," whispered the mother; and fervently she thanked God for the little child-teacher.

Obituaries.

BURNEY.—Mrs. Irene Burney was born in Rapides Parish, Louisiana, in November, 1819; removed to Brazoria county, Texas, in the year 1852, and died at Galveston, in Brazoria county, Texas, on the 15th day of January, 1878. Sister Burney was for many years and exemplary member of the M. E. Church, South; both in respect to piety and industry, she manifested her faith in lively exercise, residing in a modest and quiet spirit and unobtrusive life. In her last illness she displayed the characteristics of the religion of the Bible, she was not afraid to die. She partook of the holy sacrament, and expressed a lively hope of heaven, immortality through Christ our Lord.—J. H. S.

CRANE.—George W. Crane was born Sept. 21, 1820, in Boone county, Tennessee, and died March 2, 1878, at Galveston, Texas, at the age of 57 years, 3 months and 11 days. He was a member of the M. E. Church, South, in 1852; removed to Tarrant county, Texas, in 1856; moved thence to Tarrant county, Texas, in 1860. He was a member of the M. E. Church, South, in 1860, and of the M. E. Church, South, in 1864. He was a consistent member of said church until called home, which occurred on the 29th of October, 1877. He remained to leave one shoe, pass over the river and rest under the shade of the trees, he exclaimed his sons only a short time before his exit, "I am going to my faithful while here. Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord! you, with the spirit; for they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."—J. M. LAWRENCE.

BROWN.—John W. Brown, son of Samuel P. and Mary Brown, was born in Searcy county, Arkansas, July 12, 1848. He was a member of Abelia A. Matthews, February 25, 1871. His disease was typhoid fever. On the 24th day of November, 1877, he fell peacefully in the arms of his wife. As a youth he was a member of the M. E. Church, South, in 1864. He was a good neighbor, a warm, genial friend, and beloved by his acquaintances. He leaves a devoted Christian wife and many relatives to mourn their loss. May they all meet where weeping is no more.—D. J. MARTIN.

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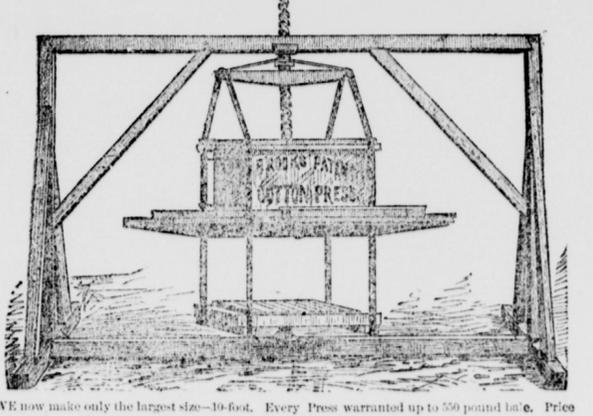
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Texas Christian Advocate

News of the Week.

Washington.

On the 23d, a large number of petitions were presented in the Senate from workmen against the reduction of duties on certain goods and the restoration of duty on tea and coffee.

Mr. Blaine introduced a bill to make the silver dollar a legal tender in common with gold for all sums up to five dollars. For larger sums the debtor may tender and the creditor demand one-half in gold and one-half in silver.

Eulogies were delivered in the Senate on the late Senator Bogoy, of Illinois.

Gen. Sherman's letter to Indian Commissioner Smith, pronouncing that officer's administration satisfactory to the army officers, including himself.

Secretary of War McCrary gives his views to the Military Committee of the Senate adversely to reimbursement of Texas for expenses incurred in expelling Indians and Mexicans. He claims that reimbursement shall be made only for troops received and actually employed in United States service and not for pay of troops called out by a State or other local authorities unless at the request of the President or Secretary of War.

On the 24th, a large number of petitions were presented in the Senate, favoring a commission of inquiry concerning alcoholic liquor traffic.

Lamar, of Mississippi, spoke against the Matthews resolution to pay the bonds in silver and the amendment of Edmunds to pay them in gold.

The House Judiciary Committee reported that his privileges as a member of the House do not shield Smalls, of South Carolina, from the custody of his State under charge of felony.

Arrangements are pending for the payment of the second installment, \$300,000, from Mexico, for awards. The importance of receiving these moneys through an official source may hasten the recognition of Diaz.

At a joint meeting of the Senate and House Committees on Post-offices and Postroads, the importance of direct mail service between New Orleans and South America was urged. The importance and magnitude of the trade made direct communication with the Mississippi Valley and South America of great commercial importance.

On the 25th, Matthew's silver resolution passed the Senate by a vote of 43 to 22. Gordon, who favored bill, opposed the resolution in remarks.

The sub-committee of the House have agreed to report favorably on bill to pay over to Texas the balance of the fund withheld by the government to meet the public debt of the State at the time Texas ceded land beyond the present boundaries to the United States. It is thought the committee will adopt the report.

The bill extending the term for the withdrawal of distilled spirits from bond until July 1, 1878, was warmly debated in the House.

Captain F. D. Stewart, ex-Grand Sire of the Odd Fellows, died in Washington the 25th.

On the 26th, arguments were heard before the House Committee on Pacific roads from Col. John C. Brown and Col. Tom Scott. Latter said under the aid proposed the road would be completed by 1882.

In the House, Mr. Bright made a strong speech in favor of the re-monetization of silver. Said its demonetization was a fraud on the people and a violation of the constitution.

The Military and Foreign Affairs Committee had before it Major Price, of the Eighth Cavalry, and J. G. Tucker, whose evidence indicates turbulence on the Texas side and alarm on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande.

Mr. Baker, of Indiana, moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution declaring that in the judgment of the House no subsidies in money, bonds, public lands, endowments or by pledge of public credit should be granted or renewed by Congress to associations or corporations engaged in, or proposing to engage in, public or private enterprise, but that all appropriations ought to be limited to such amount and purposes only as shall be imperatively demanded by the public service. Adopted by a two-thirds vote.

The commissioners to investigate the El Paso troubles are Col. John H. King, Ninth Infantry; Lieut-Col. W. H. Lewis, Nineteenth Infantry. Board will meet at Fort Bliss, and at such places in El Paso as may be deemed necessary to procure full information.

In the House, on motion of Mr. Ewing, of Ohio, the Matthews silver coin current resolution was taken up by a two-thirds vote.

Tom. Scott is said to have shown that the Southern Pacific which Huntington wants to make the great Southern line, is a mere banding of the Central Pacific, which he owns.

The House Judiciary Committee, on the 29th, accepted the report of the sub-committee, presented by Culberson, ordering a return to the State of Texas of \$101,000, balance of Texas indemnity fund.

Eastern War.

A London dispatch of the 25th, from Constantinople announced the acceptance by the Porte of the Russian conditions. They are not officially announced.

The London Telegraph prints the following from Constantinople: "The Turkish delegates have been ordered to sign peace preliminaries. An armistice will probably be concluded to-day. The peace conditions are stated on excellent authority to include the following: Serbia to be independent without compensation; Montenegro to receive Antivari, Niesies and Spuz and a portion of the territory bordering on Lake Scutari; Russia to hold Batoum, Kars and Erzeroum until a war indemnity of twenty million pounds is paid; the Dardanelles to be open to Russian men-of-war; Bulgarian autonomy to be conceded rather on the principles of the Lebanon than on the plan of the Constantinople conference, and Turkey to nominate a Christian government for a long term of years, subject to ratification by the Powers. Bulgaria is not understood to include Thrace, but only to extend to the line of the Balkans. Part of the Russian army to embark at Constantinople for their return home, and the final treaty of peace to be signed at Constantinople by the Grand Duke Nicholas. This arrangement will satisfy Russian military honor, without involving the occupation of Constantinople."

The Reuter's Athens dispatch says the news of peace caused great consternation in that city. A large crowd paraded the streets making demonstration in favor of war. It was dispersed by troops.

A special from Vienna of the 29th says Austria considers the peace conditions require great modifications as regards the aggrandizement of Serbia and Montenegro and the retrocession of Bessarabia. Russia's demand for indemnity was considered inadmissible, because tending to perpetuate the occupation of Bulgaria.

The Times correspondent says typhus was raging in Erzeroum. 250 have died and 10,000 are in the hospitals.

The concentration of Russians at Adrianople continue. Scouts had arrived at Chartu, seventy miles west of Constantinople.

The Porte is having trouble maintaining order in Constantinople. Many armed Circassians are arriving, and tens of thousands of Roumelian refugees who have plundered towns and fled to the capital laden with booty.

From the Bosphorus to the Gulf of Salonica the coast is crowded with terrified Mohammedans seeking transportation across the Straits. Hundreds are perishing from cold, hunger and exhaustion, and no succor can be provided until the panic in the capital abates.

A special from Belgrade states that on the 28th, after four days' fighting near Kulscharnik, the Turks were defeated by 40,000 Servians.

On the 28th the London Post published the following as an official version of the conditions of peace: 1. Autonomy for Bulgaria, boundaries not defined, under a Governor, to be appointed according to the stipulations of the Constantinople Conference, the Turkish military forces to be withdrawn to certain localities to be determined upon. 2. The independence of Roumania, with compensation for territory near the mouth of the Danube, which she will make over to Russia. 3. Local autonomy for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and independence for Serbia with territorial ratification. 4. Aggrandizement for Montenegro. Finally, the Sultan to undertake to consider how to protect Russian interests in the passage of the Dardanelles.

The Times authoritatively avers that part of the Russian army will traverse to Constantinople, and embark at that place for home.

The delay in the armistice causes apprehensions that it may be accompanied by onerous conditions. The Porte having accepted terms of peace without knowing on what conditions an armistice will be granted, has made Russia master of the situation.

On the 27th, the Montenegrins, captured, after a violent bombardment, three fortified islands on Lake Scutari, and were preparing to attack the fortress of Scabiale.

No news up to the 29th had been received from the Turkish peace plenipotentiaries.

The North German Gazette, at Berlin, notes the termination of English intervention with satisfaction, as a token of the unshakable understanding of the three Imperial Powers. All the machinations undermining the alliance of the three Emperors, which is the most complete guarantee of European peace, have been foiled.

Foreign.

On the 29th, a telegram from Rome reported an unfavorable change in the Pope's condition.

The London Times Rome dispatch says: The Pope is preparing an allocation against Russia for prosecuting the church in Poland; and against King Humbert on his accession to the throne for the assumption of the title of King of Italy.

The Queen of Portugal, daughter of the late King of Italy, and the Pope's god-daughter, is refused admission to the Pope, because she resides at the Quirinal.

The latest from Athens, up to the 28th, says order has been restored; but the desperation of the people is increasing. They are very warlike.

Captain General Jovilla liberated 47 prisoners from the Havana fortress on the day of Alfonso's marriage.

Miscellaneous.

Col. Grierson reports to headquarters at San Antonio, under date of January 22d, that Lieut. Maxan, with a detachment of 25 men, is in pursuit of Indians who stole stock and murdered three men in Mason and McCulloch counties. The Indians are heading toward the Pecos river. The detachment is well supplied and there is every indication that the raiders will be overtaken.

Information has been received at San Antonio headquarters that raiding is going on freely through Zapata county. During the last four months four herds of cattle have been driven across the Rio Grande near Carizo, about thirty miles from Ringgold Barracks.

On the 26th, Anderson, Kemmer and Casanave, of the Returning Board, were arrested in the Custom-house at New Orleans. The effort to arrest them was resisted by the Deputy Marshal of the United States; but orders from Washington instructed the Marshal not to interfere with writs issued by State courts. Wells can not be found. When brought before the court Anderson asked for a change of venue, alleging that he could not have a fair trial in that parish. After argument the court denied motion for the change. Casanave was released on bond of \$5,000. Anderson and Kinner are in jail awaiting bonds.

On the 29th it was reported at Washington City that an information had been lodged with the grand jury by prosecuting officers of Louisiana against Secretary Sherman and other Republicans who went to New Orleans a year ago to witness the counting of votes, accusing them of influencing the Returning Board, securing affidavits to prove intimidation, procuring false evidence, etc.

The electric light is coming into general use in Paris.

The Italian Parliament has voted ten million francs to erect a handsome mausoleum in Rome in honor of Victor Emanuel.

Vast districts of China have been depopulated by the famine. There is little hope of adequate relief this year.

Mr. Marshall, the discoverer of gold in California, lives in Colma of that State. The fortune made in mining has passed away. He is now cultivating grapes.

Some of the largest charitable institutions in London have been forced to borrow money to meet current obligations, because of the great shrinkage of receipts.

The most successful capitalists and politicians of California are self-made men.

In Charleston, South Carolina, there is a Huguenot Church nearly 200 years old.

A large real estate owner says property in New York is from 33 to 50 per cent. lower than before the war. It is with difficulty that the rents can be made to pay the taxes.

Of the four eclipses of the sun and moon during this year, an eclipse of the moon February 17 and a total eclipse of the sun July 29th will be partially visible in the United States.

A list of the defalcations and frauds perpetrated in the United States the past four years has been published in the New York Sun. It foots up more than \$30,000,000.

James Gordon Bennett, the proprietor of the New York Herald, has purchased the Arctic Yacht Pandora and designs to fit it up for another search for the North Pole.

Printing type are being made of hardened glass in Paris. These are said to be cheaper and more durable than when made of lead.

The cholera is reported to be raging in Mecca, Arabia.

A 200-acre farm in Early county, Georgia, was recently sold by the sheriff for \$60. Georgia must be a good State to emigrate from.

A negro is in Glascock county, Georgia, whose face, hands, feet and part of his body are turning white. He is fifty years of age. If he can get out a patent for the process he will make a fortune out of his colored friends.

The records of the War Department at Washington show the organized militia of the country numbers 90,865, and the unorganized, 2,875,469.

Some of the Mississippi Senators propose to change the time for the meeting of Congress from December to October.

The Supreme Court of the District of Columbia recently had its gravity upset by the persistent efforts of Mrs. Lockwood to have Mrs. Dundee, a woman "unencumbered by a husband," appointed constable.

Texas Items.

A negro child in Brazos county was bitten a few weeks ago by a rabid dog. He has died with all the symptoms of hydrophobia.

A number of immigrants from Mississippi reached Luling last week en route to their new home in Prairie Lea.

The buggy of Lieut. O'Connor at Brownsville was recently stolen from the rear of his quarters. The tracks led to the river. It was no doubt crossed in a boat to the other side.

The Henrietta Journal says Clay county is alive with immigrants seeking homes in that fine section of our State.

One firm in Clay county has 10,000 buffalo hides on the range awaiting transportation.

The Monitor says Denton county is settling rapidly. The prairies are being dotted with farms and the riaz of the ax heard all through the timbered section.

Franklin county has planted a much larger acreage in wheat than last year.

Navasota Tablet announces 8883 bales of cotton shipped up to last week.

A number of Jefferson county farmers will plant sugar cane this year.

Col. Andrews informs the Seguin Times that a committee from Denmark will arrive in a few days looking for lands on which to settle a colony. President Peirce is to pay their expenses while looking at lands in that section.

Paris has organized a joint stock hotel company with a capital of \$25,000, in shares of \$100.

Waco claims a population of 8000.

Coryell county will take another vote on local option February 9. Let temperance men wake up to their work.

The Dallas Council has voted \$5000 in bonds to the Dallas and Wichita Railway.

The First National Bank of Fort Worth has declared a dividend of twelve per cent. on the past year's business.

The population of new Braunfels has increased from 1000 to 5000 since erection of her woollen mills.

The Daily Herald, San Antonio, says the water-works of that city of beautiful springs, will be ready for use during the coming summer.

The Bastrop Advertiser says every vacant house in the town is being occupied.

The San Saba News tells the story of a man by name of Donigan in Shackelford county, who recently, when the snow was about one foot in depth, came across a herd of about 100 grown buffaloes and about 40 calves. Though alone on foot he drove them into a bend in the river which formed a natural corral, and after seven days of hard work succeeded in securing them until he went to town and sold the whole lot to John Swartz of the Planter's Hotel for \$500.

The Cotton Gin Grange are building a commodious Grange hall and schoolhouse.

The Fort Worth Democrat says the soil of Erath county is gray sand, while other portions is broken and admirably adapted to stock-raising. It thus combines excellent agricultural and grazing advantages. Fine building rock abound throughout the county. Stephenville, the county seat, is one of the most thriving business centres on the northwestern border.

The News Boy says the people of Jasper county are hard pressed to pay their taxes. This is the case at many other points.

The Cooper Herald says Delta county wants no more professional men, and offers to dispose of its drunkards at first cost.

Buffalo hunters have returned to Granbury bringing plenty of dried meat. Mr. Scurock informs the Vidette they have killed 900 buffaloes.

The Livingston Banner tells of a man in Polk county who bought the wreck of a mill for \$100. Part of it was half buried by the road, where it had been for years. When he got his machinery on the ground he had not a cent nor credit. He lived for weeks on corn-bread and buttermilk, working on his machinery till he had it in order. This year he ginned nearly 100 bales of cotton and ground for a large section, and will, next year, supply it with fine lumber. Our hat is always ready to come off to that kind of grit.

Three large panthers were killed recently in Clay county.

The Herald says more than seventy-five new buildings are going up in Marshall.

Local option has been a failure in Leon county. Cause: failure of officers to enforce the law.

The Daingerfield Banner says the farmers of Morris county will plant more corn, potatoes, beans and vegetables in general, and set out orchards, and raise less cotton.

A negro boy died of hydrophobia near Bryan a few days since.

Over a thousand head of beef cattle are being fattened in Bastrop county on the surplus corn. When corn can be bought for 25 cents per bushel, the land is a long way from starvation.

Cherokee county has \$3000 on hand and no debts to pay.

The Hempstead Messenger says the farmers of Austin county are well supplied with labor.

Another company of immigrants have settled in Fort Bend county. There is room for more.

The Examiner says that nearly every train brings immigrants from other States. Thirty wagons passed Waco recently with families from Iowa and Missouri, bound for Coryelle and Lampasas counties.

The Statesman reports a shrinkage of 25 per cent. in the value of Austin city property.

The Dallas Herald says that Mr. McPeters, a farmer living near Dallas, felled a tree which fell across a large brush pile. This brought out eight large rattlesnakes, one of which had been caught by the tree, causing it to writhe when the others attacked and killed it, and then attacked Mr. M. He ran to a house and got a gun. On throwing a stick into the brush eleven snakes appeared. He fired and wounded two and while reloading heard a rattle behind him, and on springing out of the way was bitten by another in the left leg. He tied his handkerchief on the bite, and hastened to the house; his leg swelling and giving him great pain. His wife promptly sucked the poison from the wound, and he drank a quart of whisky with but little sign of intoxication. He is doing well.

Church News and Views.

We have been a little surprised to see so careful a periodical as the Texas Presbyterian, reproduce in its columns the apocryphal description of the person of Christ, said to have been written by one Papias. The learned have long since discarded the document as utterly unworthy of credence.

"H." in the Southern Christian Advocate, bewails the meager support of the publications of the Southern Methodist Church, as compared with the M. E. Church. According to his estimate, the New York Advocate alone has a circulation nearly as large as all the newspapers of our church. Let every Southern Methodist preacher rally to the support of our own book concern, and our own newspapers. A copy of one of our Advocates ought to be found in every Methodist family.

The Protestant Episcopal Church has adopted a canon forbidding marriages among their members or by their clergy of those divorced, except for scriptural grounds—a measure that all denominations of Christians ought to adopt.

The Universalist Convention of Massachusetts has adopted a petition praying for an amendment to the Constitution of the United States recognizing God and Jesus Christ in that document.

Those of our readers who are curious to know exactly what Mr. Beecher's views are will find them in his sermon in the Christian Union, New York, of December 26th. It is entitled the "Background of Mystery." The New Orleans Christian Advocate says of it that it is nothing new. "Mr. Beecher is evidently on the threadbare line of the restorationists."

Whose image and superscription is that drawn for the new editor of the new Southern Methodist Quarterly Review, which is to succeed the Southern Review of the lamented Bledsoe, at the close of the present year? The limner is a correspondent of the Nashville Christian Advocate, who signs himself "Virginia."

There are seventy students in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, which was recently removed from South Carolina to Louisville, Ky.

Miss Smiley, the evangelist, after a brief visit to Mount Holyoke Seminary, has sailed for England.

There are 137 Lutheran Churches, 90 ministers, and 12,100 members in the State of Virginia.

More than three-fourths of the missionaries employed by the American Missionary Association, have been women.

Unitarianism and Universalism have no organized existence in Virginia. Up to 1860 there were not six organized bodies of either isms in all the South.

Sweden and Switzerland contribute the largest number of new members to the Mormon Church. England is third on the list.

The native Christians of Healdtown, South Africa, raise \$1,000 a year toward the support of their ministers and \$5000 for missions.

Rev. Joseph Cook is to make a Western tour in the spring, lecturing in May in Cleveland, Erie, Toledo, Detroit, Columbus, Indianapolis, etc.

By order of the Assembly, a sermon on intemperance was to be preached in December in each one of the churches of the Free Church of Scotland.

In 1823 missionary work was commenced in Beirut. Now there are five stations, forty-three out-stations, 573 communicants, 3,398 pupils in the schools.

The Protestant Episcopal church now has three foreign bishops—Bishop Williams, of Japan; Bishop Penick, of Africa; and Bishop Schereschewsky, of China.

The Greenview District Conference, Kentucky Conference, took action to hereafter license no person to preach unless he be free of the habit of using tobacco.

The American Episcopal church at Rome, under the charge of the Rev. Dr. Nevin, is intending to hold Italian services as soon as they have got the prayer-book translated.

The Rev. Dr. Porter argues in Zion's Herald that union religious services, into which the Methodists often unite, are not beneficial to the Methodist Church, but often result to its disadvantage and loss.

Four of the new French ministry are Protestants, viz: Messrs. Waddington, minister of foreign affairs; General Borel, minister of war; Leon Say, of finance; Pothua, of marine.

Rev. Dr. William Newton, of Philadelphia, who has long been a leading "low Church" man, has withdrawn from the Episcopal ministry, and with about three-score of his former parishioners, has organized a Reformed Episcopal Church.

In the opinion of the Freeman's Journal, Father Hewitt cannot accept the degree of D. D. conferred on him by Amherst College without becoming a doctor of divinity of an infidel college.

A writer in the Interior says in one Presbytery (in the State of New York) with which the writer is familiar, there are at least ten Presbyterian houses of worship now standing as monuments of a prosperous past, and the evidence of present decay.

Mr. Muller was recently installed pastor of a Congregational Church in Connecticut, although he had previously declared he believed repentance and salvation after death possible. Dr. Mark Hopkins and President Noah Porter were members of the council which installed Mr. M.

Canon Reardon, to whom Queen Victoria has just sent a congratulatory message on the completion of his one hundredth year, was ordained in 1801, and has held his present living at North Stoneham, Southampton, since 1811. The living is worth about \$4,000.

Mr. G. C. Muller, while in Philadelphia, took occasion to correct a error to the effect that he belongs to the sect known as the "Plymouth Brethren." He is simply an independent pastor and preacher, having no connection with an existing Church.

The death of the venerable Cyril, Patriarch of Jerusalem, is announced. He was made Patriarch in 1845, but was deposed and excommunicated because of his policy in reference to Bulgaria, and had only been restored to his position a few months before his death. He was born in the Island of Samos in 1790.