

The Texas Christian Advocate.

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Eighth General Conference

M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

Bishop Pierce Presiding.

Drs. Summers and Haygood, Sec'ys.

An Unusually Large Attendance.

Texas has a Full Representation.

[Special Telegram to the TEXAS ADVOCATE.]

ATLANTA, GA., May 1, 1878.

The eighth session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, convened in Atlanta, Georgia, to-day. Bishop Pierce presided. Doctors Summers and Haygood, Secretaries.

All the Bishops are present.

Two hundred and forty-four delegates answered to their names at roll call.

All the clerical and nearly all of the lay delegates from the Texas Conferences are present.

The Conference was welcomed in ornate and eloquent language by Judge Jackson.

He welcomed the Conference in behalf of Atlanta, in the name of Georgia, and in the name of Methodism. Governor Colquitt, who was expected to deliver the address of welcome, was unavoidably absent.

Bishop McTyeire was employed in forming and filling committees, and in drafting rules of order preparatory to the regular business of the Conference.

Bishop Kavanaugh presided over the afternoon session of the first day.

There being a very full attendance, it will strain the courtesies and hospitalities of the friends of Southern Methodism in Atlanta; but this noble people are equal to greater emergencies.

Great and vital interests will come before this august body. Let us pray that the spirit of the Master may so imbue each heart that even in the heat of debate, and amid the conflicting interests that will necessarily be developed, the utmost harmony may prevail.

I. G. J.
[Associated Press dispatch.]

ATLANTA, MAY 1.—At the eight general conference of the M. E. Church South, today, Bishop Pierce presiding, there were present 248 delegates from 37 conferences. All the bishops were present. The conference was welcomed by Judge James Jackson, of the Supreme court, and responses made by Bishop Pierce and Bishop McTyeire. The standing committees were then appointed.

PROFITABLE.—Mr. Geo. Harvey, of Kentucky Ridge, Austin county, bought about twenty head of stock cattle and fattened them on his farm with corn of his own raising. He kept an account of the quantity of corn fed. Some two or three weeks ago, he sold the cattle, and after deducting the cost of the cattle, he finds that his corn has netted him seventy-five cents a bushel at home. This beats cotton at 121 cents a pound.—*Brenham Banner.*

Sunday School.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS.

BY R. M. MOORE.

SECOND QUARTER—FIFTH LESSON, May 12th, 1878.

Dan. 1: 8-17: *The Captives in Babylon; Jehoiakim, King of Judah; Nebuchadnezzar, King of Assyria; Pharaoh Necho, King of Egypt; Prophets Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel and Obadiah.*

(Time, 5:05-9:05, B. C.)

A GOLDEN TEXT.

A good understanding have all they that do His commandments. (Psa. CXL: 10.)

Daniel lived from 620 to 534 B. C., and was captured in the fifth year of Jehoiakim's reign and taken to Babylon with others. Seven years later, in the second capture of Jehoiakim, the prophet Ezekiel was taken prisoner and taken to Babylon with the king. Soon after his capture, Daniel and three other Hebrew youths were selected by the king's chamberlain, Ashpenaz (horse-nose), to be brought up at the king's expense and taught in all the learning of Chaldea. Daniel himself was of a high family, if not of royal stock, and it is likely that the other three were also of good families. The object of these favors was to alienate these young men from the service of the true God to Assyrian idolatry, and then with the influence of them, their people. For this purpose their names were changed; Daniel's (God is my judge), to Belshazzar (Prince of Bel-Chief Assyrian god); Hananiah (God's favor), same as John, to Shadrach (Messenger of the king); Mishael (who is like God?), to Meshach (who is goddess of Babylon); Azariah (whom God helps), to Abednego (servant of fire). That is, each name that in Hebrew had the name of God in it, is changed to one of idolatry; and they are dedicated to Bel, to the sun god, to the Assyrian Venus, and to the god of fire.

V. 8. "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank." Daniel was 12 or fifteen years old when selected for the instruction at the king's expense. He was about the age of Joseph when taken to Egypt. "Purposed," determined. The "meat" had been offered to idols, and besides, it may have been meat forbidden by the Mosaic law. To eat such meat (food) would be to defile himself. "The wine which he drank;" the wine intended for his use. He deemed wine as dangerous, perhaps more dangerous than the king's meat. "Therefore he requested" * * * that he might not defile himself. He did not defile himself and then excuse himself on the ground that he would offend the king. He courageously but modestly meets the issue. He begs to be excused.

V. 9. "Now God had brought Daniel into favor and tender love with the prince of eunuchs." Daniel had already gained the good favor of the chamberlain.

V. 10. "And the prince * * said unto Daniel, I fear my Lord, the King, who hath appointed your meat and your drink." The chamberlain must have understood the King's notices toward the young men, and must have known that the meat and drink were essential means to that end.

V. 11, 12 and 13. "Then said Daniel to Metzab (the steward, not a proper name), * * * *prove thy servants I beseech thee ten days, and let them give us pulse to eat and water to drink. Then let our countenance be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat the portion of the king's meat; and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.*" "Prove," try. "Ten days," a sufficient test for Daniel without risk to the steward. "Pulse," vegetable food, edible seeds, beans, peas, etc. "Water," instead of wines, simple diet. "Then," at the end of "ten days," compare us with those who eat meat and drink wine. The proposition was fair. Prove our simple diet, and if it fails then we will submit. Daniel commits his cause to God with an assurance that to some would seem rash. But, like Joseph, he was childlike in his confidence.

V. 14. "So he consented to them and proved them ten days." The proposition was so reasonable, that he could not well resist one whom God had so favored.

V. 15. "And at the end of ten days their countenance appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat." They improved.

V. 16 "The steward then com-

plied with their request, and took away the meats and wine." So while they meekly submitted to their heathen names they thus escaped the seductive viands intended to do the work of undoing their faith in the God of their fathers.

V. 17. "As for these four children (Daniel was a mere youth, and possibly all were of a like age), God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams." God gave him wisdom as He did to Solomon, and knowledge of visions and dreams as He did to Joseph.

PRACTICAL.

8. All should resolve in heart not to defile themselves. We can shun worse evils than the king's meat; and, like Daniel, we should not accept the wine, though offered by the hand of hospitality, the hand of Authority, or the hand of Affection. When in Rome, we may do as Romans do, unless s thereby we violate the law of God or conscience. Pleasing and popular sins are as dangerous as the king's meat or wine. Daniel as a prisoner to the most powerful monarch of his age, did not yield conscience captive, while many to-day yield to custom and fashion. Be courteous but firm, and bring the world to you, as Daniel did the king and his court.

9. Opportunities to hold up the colors of Christ come to all; but, alas! alas! how few embrace them. The firm dignity of true Christian character never fails to secure the favor and esteem of the world's stewards. More than this, a consistent Christian character wins where all other means fail.

10. Daniel's transparent sincerity placed him, who was appointed to undermine his trust in his God, on his defense. He pleads his fear of his king and the loss of his head.

11, 12 and 13. Then as Daniel commits himself and associates to God, with an assurance that few of his age could, so should all Christians forsake the luxurious temptations that assail them. We should imitate Daniel in shunning the rich dishes of kings, together with wine, that robs humanity of so many of her stalwart sons. The friends of temperance need never fear to prove the virtues of a simple diet. Heroic temperance brings its own reward in health and beauty. And those who eat the rich meats and drink the wines of the king soon suffer sadly in comparison with those who do not.

14. Be firm and prudent, and the world will always submit to the logic of truth.

15. When we place ourselves in God's keeping, we need fear no evil. Virtue and truth never fail in a contest with vice and error.

16. Conquer courageously once, and other victories are the more easily won. Let it be known that you never drink wine or indulge in other pleasures of sin, and the world's tempters will not trouble you. It is easy for him to resist who never yields.

17. God always blesses those who live virtuous lives, and if He does not bless them with the knowledge of visions and dreams, He does bless them with a knowledge of Himself, and a knowledge of their own sins forgiven, which is far more important.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Scenes, Shams, Stage Business, Episodes and Spectacles in the Comedy of Political and Social Life at the Capital—Scientists in Session—Their Work and their Diversion—An Inventor of Thirty-one Years the Greatest Lion of them all—What he will exhibit at Paris—The Generic Rural Member and his Family of Redundant Rural Grace.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington has been called a cosmopolitan city, and so it is in a narrow sense; during the Congressional session it is the most cosmopolitan city of this hemisphere, but the cosmos from which it derives this distinction is contracted and separated from the grand cosmos by the Atlantic Ocean. Still, as Macaulay says, we have here the representatives of every science and the votaries of every art, and, as Macaulay did not say, the charlatans of every sham and beats from every part. Any day and everywhere may be seen diplomats, judges, politicians, admirals, generals, journalists, ladies, lobbyists, and loafers. Every day are occurring little spectacular episodes, interludes in the grand political opera, apparently magnificent and almost indefinable, but, for those

who have eyes to discern them, not without importance in the swelling history of the times. A few days ago I saw the Senator from Mississippi, whom Senator Conkling has called a Jesuit, and the ablest man from the South, walk the entire length of the Avenue from the Capital to Willard's, nearly a mile, with Senator Bruce from the same State, and the only colored Senator in Congress. There has never been any social recognition of colored people here; no matter what political distinctions their constituencies may have conferred upon them, when they reach Washington they find the social barricade impregnable, and it may be said to their credit that they make no effort to scale it.

The Convention of the American Scientific Association has been in session during the week, and has attracted in its select and erudite circle almost as much attention as the too talkative Senator Conkling has in political circles. Yesterday in convention at the Smithsonian Institute, after discussing such light and diverting questions as the "Photometric comparison of close double stars;" "characteristics of some of the lower spectral lines;" "a new element of the cerium group;" "Ruby corundum in basalt"—they were entertained by the inventor, Mr. Edison, with the phonograph—which sang, whistled, laughed, quoted poetry and Scripture in a startlingly natural way. It is Mr. Edison's intention to send a very large phonograph to the Paris Exposition; it will be run by steam, and proclaim its locality in stentorian tones that may be heard for three miles, thus: "Come and see the phonograph, section nine, American division, Grand Exposition." It will say this in half-a-dozen different languages, for although Yankee by birth, it is a true cosmopolitan, and can repeat French without an accent.

Among the entertainments, both edifying and amusing to the quiet looker on in Washington, is that furnished by the generic rural member and his family. The rural member has been here a session or a half session, and he has learned that to be a mere honest member of Congress, on a salary of \$5,000, does not give him boundless social, pecuniary or political influence; but his wife and three healthy daughters, who come to spend a month at the capital, have not learned even the rudiments of this humiliating lesson, and they refuse to be taught it, looking always upon the father and husband, from their district point of view, as the great lawyer and statesman, the man of genius and influence. They had imagined that their hero was on perfectly familiar terms with all the social magnates, and they expect to be welcomed at their houses as friends. At one or two places where he presumes to present them, with their redundancy of rural grace, they are coldly received. They see rooms furnished with extravagant luxury, and women dressed with an excess of jewelry and a deficiency of drapery. Instead of having their calls returned, twenty days after a card is left at an insolently improper hour. They go to the capitol and sit in the members' gallery of the House of Representatives, and look down upon the legislative babel on the floor. Prompted by an excusable vanity they ask a reporter to point out Judge so and so, from such and such a State, but they are mortified to learn that not even a reporter has heard of their great man. When the session adjourns, and the congressman returning home is met by a brass band and conducted to the town hall or school house, where he addresses his proud constituents and tells what he has accomplished for his country and for history—he is on his native heather, has become again a giant of genius and erudition, and the wife and daughter are too happy in this re-transformation to reflect on the illusions and shams of men.

CARR.

(Communicated.)
CORRECTION.—The published Minutes report "\$1,200 collected for missions." It should have been \$1,185 66 for domestic and \$1,077 47 for foreign missions, making an aggregate of \$2,263 66.—ASA HOLT, treasurer.

TERRELL, TEXAS, April 25, 1878.

A barbecue, attended by 2,500 people, was had at Groesbeck the 24th ult. The occasion being the laying the corner-stone of the new court-house.

Personal Mention.

Rev. G. Ruddell, writing from McNelly's Bend (frontier), reports crops promising and farmers happy.

Rev. S. G. Cotton, of Houston, dropped into the ADVOCATE office this week. He was on his way to the General Conference.

Rev. C. S. McCarver, of McMillan, says that in that section there has never been a better prospect for a general revival of religion.

Rev. Wm. G. Coker, of Hackberry, Lavaca county, says: "Our country wears just now many lovely blushes, and promises a successful harvest the coming summer and fall."

We were during the week favored by a call from Mrs. J. A. Fitzpatrick of the newspaper, the *Story County Watchman*, published at Nevada, Iowa; and Mrs. H. A. Burrell, of the *Washington Press*, Washington, Iowa. These ladies were of the press excursion from that section, which has recently been "doing" Texas.

Dr. J. L. Leslie, of Van Alstyne, says of the ADVOCATE: "For more than twenty-six years I have been a subscriber to the TEXAS ADVOCATE. The more I read it the better I like it; each copy is filled with strengthening counsel which is calculated to inspire the soul with more zeal and to take fresh courage and run and not be weary." We don't think our modesty (and we are modest—though we do have to tell people so before they find it out), should keep us from inserting such encomiums.

Rev. B. A. Thomason, of Kickapoo circuit, writes from Nechesville, Texas, April 15: "Bro. Johnson, of Rusk and Jacksonville, favored us with his presence on last Sunday, and preached an interesting sermon, appropriate to the day and occasion. The occasion was the dedication of the new church at Anderson camp-ground, at which Bro. Johnson officiated. We also had a good Sunday-school at that point, which promises to do good. The ADVOCATE is a welcome visitor to a larger number of families here this year than it was last. It is gaining favor, notwithstanding the stringency of the times and the scarcity of money. May it continue to prosper until all the enemies of virtue, temperance and religion shall have been overcome."

Rev. W. C. Brodie writes from Wadeville, April 16: "On reaching our circuit after conference, we found an extensive field of labor before us. Embraced in the circuit were eight appointments. These were scattered along the Central Railroad, beginning at Wortham and ending opposite Rice. Chambers' Creek and Richland flows through my work, and for several weeks after conference were, at places, impassable. The first quarterly conference for Corsicana circuit convened at Birdston the 1st of March, at which time my work was reduced from eight to four appointments, and all these save one are situated between Chambers' Creek and the Trinity river. It is hardly one week since we came to this place. The good people here and at Prairie Point have, since the change in my circuit, amply provided for us. They have arranged for a house, and have furnished it admirably; so we are at home, and can sing: 'Home, home, there is no place like home.' We confidently expect a revival of 'pure and undiluted religion' over this circuit. 'O Lord, revive Thy work.'"

The Bonham News objects to the ADVOCATE's arraignment of a portion of the secular press. It thinks the advice will accomplish little with the secular papers. We are of the same opinion. "Bro. Piner," (we mean a brother as journalist of course); but we may hope to induce Methodists and other religious and moral people to withdraw patronage and encouragement from that portion of the secular press which caters to the immoral and vitiated elements of the community. The News must remember, however, that we do not arraign the entire secular press. We could name a number of secular journals in Texas which we consider allied with the TEXAS ADVOCATE in its advocacy of reforms.

Cleburne is intending to put up three new churches this year. Such improvements attract the right kind of population.

Texas Items.

The Bellville *Beacon* reports corn in abundance in Austin county at thirty-five cents per bushel.

Fine crops are reported in Burleson county by the *Caldwell Eagle*. Fruit crop promising. The new courthouse is nearly completed.

Notwithstanding the cry of hard times, the Pilot Point *Herald* says business houses at that place are doing a good business.

We are glad to note the fact that the authorities of Fort Worth are prosecuting the proprietors of dance houses, keeno and other gambling establishments.

The bull and lion fights at San Antonio were not sufficiently bloody and brutal to measure up to the demand of the disappointed crowd.

Colonists from New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio are expected shortly to reach Young county.

The Hempstead *Messenger* says that both in bottom and uplands sugar-cane is looking very well in Waller county.

The Fort Worth *Standard* reports that town growing rapidly. Buildings are going up in all directions.

The *Era* says all kinds of vegetables grown in this region are to be found in the gardens at Castroville.

Austin county is out of debt, and will realize a neat income in the way of taxes on its property, assessed at \$2,877,414.

The prospects of the acorn and fruit crop in Burleson are very fine.

The Henrietta *Journal* thinks the merchants in that town sold double the goods sold by any other town of the same size in that section.

The Fayette County *Record* speaks favorably of the crops in that county.

The Fort Worth City Council is enforcing the laws against gamblers and dance-houses. Hence the latter are building outside the city limits, and the former are leaving for more congenial quarters.

Three men, masked, entered the postoffice at Marshall about midnight on the 29th ult., and forced the postmaster, Judge McAdoo, to open the safe. They secured about \$2,000 in money and several hundred dollars in stamps.

Wool is coming into San Antonio rapidly. Quotations: Improved Merino, 15 to 18 cents per pound; Mexican 10 to 13 cents.

The citizens of Corpus Christi are making strenuous efforts for the deepening of Corpus Christi Pass to a depth of twelve or more feet, which, if successful, it is claimed, will enable that port to control almost the entire business of Western Texas and that of Mexico contiguous to the Rio Grande. It is well worth the trial.

The survivors of Hood's and Grandberry's brigades will meet at Corsicana, Texas, July 10, 1878. Gov. Hampton and Senator Vorhees are expected to be present.

Indians and Mexicans have been raiding across the Rio Grande. It is apparently the result of a well-laid plan to obtain horses without which the revolution, which it is claimed by some is brewing in Mexico, would prove a failure. The scarcity of horses in Mexico and the lack of money with which to purchase them, make it necessary to resort to this means of obtaining them.

The Live Stock Fair in Bastrop county (opening April 24) is pronounced a grand success. These fairs tend greatly towards advertising a county; and hence in developing its resources. This one has demonstrated that there is in Bastrop county a growing disposition to introduce fine stock.

The Bonham News objects to the authorities permitting the ninety-cent sheet destroying daily two dollars worth of vegetables. This is as forcible as the statement of the old gentleman who said: "My friends, the time 'has arriv' when our young men must quit living two hundred dollar lives on fifty dollar salaries." There is philosophy as well as humor in such statements.

A party of four men murdered Dr. Grayson and his wife at Ioni, twelve miles from Grapeland last week. Dr. Grayson had many enemies, and it is conjectured that some of them committed the murder. Several children, of whom the oldest is but nine years old, are left orphans by this dastardly murder.

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.

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

PRIVATE letters to the editor should be marked PERSONAL.

(Communicated.)

Church Conferences not Church Courts--An Opinion of Bishop Wightman.

Having observed the miscellaneous results so often attending the public examination of character and the raising of investigating committees in open church conference, I resolved, upon entering the pastorate, not to follow a custom which, though practiced by some of our best preachers, I am bound to regard as hurtful in its tendencies, unauthorized by church law and condemned by the teachings of the Master. Recently my mode of administering discipline was attacked by a good brother who had been converted and brought into the church since the creation of church conferences, and having served under pastors who practiced the "new rule," had church conferences and the investigation of character inseparably connected in his mind. In order that it might not be regarded as arbitrary, I wrote to Bishop Wightman the subject, stating beforehand that when the Bishop gave me his views I would let the church know what they were. I herewith enclose a copy of the Bishop's letter, which I hope you will have published.

[NOTE--The third and fourth questions referred to were in regard to complaints made public before private means were exhausted, and the allowing one member to bring a formal complaint against another before they had a personal interview.]

J. O. C. S. BAIRD, ROCKDALE, TEXAS, April 17, 1878.

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 8, 1878.

Rev. J. C. Baird:

Dear Bro.--Yours of the 29th ult. just received. The College of Bishops are prohibited from giving legal decisions, except in the way prescribed in the book of discipline. The private opinion of any of us may be given and taken for what it is worth--it is not an official decision. This being understood, I reply to your inquiries: (1.) The law does not contemplate the public examination of character at a church conference. (2.) The law (See V. Dis.) in specifying the forms of the process when a member of the church is under report of crime, does not refer even remotely to the church conference. In item 2, page 142, the proper method is specifically laid down. This answers your third question, also the fourth. The preacher in charge is bound to visit the delinquent party himself; in a great many cases the evil will be arrested and corrected by an affectionate exhortation, setting forth particularly the views of the "Pastoral Address," in the appendix of the discipline, page 301, and urging the consideration that a church member is bound to surrender many worldly pleasures for the sake of others, and that in the Church of Christ, private tastes are often to be controlled by the public opinion of the body. The reputation of the whole church may be often compromised by the liberties taken by a few. The very spirit of the gospel is to subordinate self to the consideration of others. It is to follow the example of Christ, "who pleased not himself." This may seem to involve sacrifice, but "accept a man deny himself, take up his cross and follow Christ," he is none of His; and hence church membership in such a case is worth nothing so far as reaching heaven is concerned. (3.) It is no part of the business of a church conference to appoint committees of investigation. The law specifically provides for this, and let us stick to it and stand by the law. We are safe as administrators of the law when we adopt the principle of strict construction; when we are covered by the plain letter of the law. The spirit of love, however, should run through the whole administration; and it should be our earnest endeavor to bring the people committed to our oversight up to that point of religious experience, where love is the final law. When religious life is at a low point of vitality, it is hard work to make legal enactments do the office of love. The remedy is to have the Holy Spirit take the place in the human heart of pride, worldliness, indifference to God and duty. Very affectionately,

(Signed) W. M. WHARTMAN.

(Communicated.)

The Two Preachers.

In the Advocate of the 12th inst. was an article under the above head, and well did it describe the condition of many of our churches--they have great preachers but very poor pastors. Ministers who seem to think their mission divinely inspired to annihilate the abstruse theory of Huxley, of whom many of us never heard, and entirely lose sight of what the Devil is doing in their own neighborhood.

I know a church whose pulpit for several years has been filled by a great preacher, whose rhetorical skillfulness would entertain the cultured mind, however devoid it might be of religious influence, and yet that church to-day is weak--I might truthfully say on the decline, all the result of the neglect of pastoral duty.

That same preacher, who is so bold and fearless in the pulpit, has extended himself to his congregation for not doing more pastoral work, "because he felt a delirium in going to a man's house and approaching him on the subject of religion; and invited them, if they wished to advise with him on the subject, to let him know first." "Gentlemen of the Light Dragons, as soon as convenient, you will please proceed to fire."

And yet, that preacher, as well as all other ministers of the Methodist Church, hold their divine commissions from the Great Commander to do this thing, and, in accepting that commission, take the oath of allegiance to obey in all things the laws of the church which requires it.

The leader falls in his duty; the whole church sympathizes and falls.

That same church has on its rolls about one-third more names than any other Protestant Church in the same city; and yet its Sunday-school has about two-thirds less members than some of the Protestant schools.

Many of the Methodist children, like the members, have strayed off. No one seems to know or care where the result of the great preacher and little pastor's policy. If you should go into that church next Sabbath, you would see a most beautiful banner and some very valuable and costly presents given to a few of the scholars; but don't be mistaken. These prizes are not awarded to the scholars who have been most punctual in attendance, who have recited the best lessons or brought the greatest number of new scholars to the Sabbath-school. These secondary virtues are never rewarded in that school; but the prizes go to those scholars on whose parents the God of gold has smiled, and who, for the prizes' sake and the glory thereof, have contributed most. These are made the happy and honored ones, while the poor little fellow of poor parents, though perhaps the brightest and best scholar, goes unrewarded and unremembered.

It would not be strange if a great pastor was April 16, 1878.

Dies Ira, Dies Illa. -- TRANSLATED.

Oh day of wrath, oh dreadful day!
When earth to lava melts away,
And David with the sibil said.

Ah! what a quaking then shall be,
When Christ shall come and we shall see
That strict account so dread!

The direful trumpet then shall sound
Through all the regions under ground,
And summon all before the throne.

Then Death and Nature'll stand aghast,
And all creation rest at last,
To answer Him the Judge alone.

The written Book will then be brought,
In which is writ each deed and thought,
And thence it will the world arraign.

And then the Judge will take his seat,
And everything concealed repeat,
And naught will unavenged remain.

Oh, what shall I, a wretch, then say!
And to what mediator pray!
Since scarcely are the just secure!

Oh king of dreadful majesty!
Who freely savest all, save me,
Thou fount of love and all that's pure!

Remember, Jesus, that for me
You came to suffer on the tree;
Destroy me not, then, on that day.

Thou saddest woe'd seeking dress;
Thou didst redeem me on the cross--
Such agony my debts to pay!

Just Judge, of Judgment just!
Forgive my sins, my promise trust,
Before I to Thy bar repair.

Condemned, I groan at wrath divine,
My blushing sins confessing crime!
Oh God, a sinful suppliant spare!

Whodidst a Mary's sin forgive,
And hadst the thief in dying live,
Hast also given hope to me.

My prayers, so faint, can not avail,
But Thou in mercy dost prevail,
Then burn me not, oh eternally.

Among Thy sheep, oh give me room
And from the goats far place my doom;
Yea, place me on Thy right, I pray.

And from those cursed and dumb with ire,
And hurled amidst devouring fire,
Oh call me with the blest away!

A suppliant, I Thee entreat,
With bruised heart I still repeat:
Remember Thou my final pains.

Oh day of tears, when earth shall rise
From burning marl to clearer skies,
And guilty man, the Judge arraigns,
Then spare him, God, eternal chains.

(Communicated.)

Dallas Notes.

Spring in all its vernal loveliness is again smiling upon us--the waving fields of wheat are seen on every side, luxuriant and beautiful, promising an abundant harvest to reward the husbandman. The unusually wet season of winter has been succeeded by an unusually dry spring, and as a result the country has been suffering somewhat for rain, the ground being too dry in many places for farmers to plant cotton. Last Sunday and Monday, however, a kind Providence sent us the much-needed showers, and from what we can hear, the rain has been general all over this portion of the State--hence, all faces seem so cheerful, and Nature's robes seem "resplendent in brightness."

Among the entertainments which Dallas has enjoyed recently, is that of the performance by that musical prodigy of the world--Hind Tom. He was greeted with large audiences here, as on previous occasions two years ago, when he visited our city. Comment upon his performance is unnecessary, for all who have ever heard him acknowledge the wonderful musical talent of this blind, half-witted negro. But the most pleasant hour I have passed for a long time was while listening to the sweet, simple songs of "the sweet singer of America," Philip Phillips, in our opera house not long since. How memory carried me back to the innocent days of my childhood, as the notes of the "Cradle-bed Song," sung by him, fell upon my ear; tears started to my eyes, while visions of my early childhood home in old Alabama, upon the banks of the Tennessee river, came vividly to my mind. Again, I saw the little household gathered around the family altar at the hour of retiring, while my father, a minister of the gospel, read a portion of the Holy Word, and then knelt in fervent prayer, invoking a Divine Father's care over us in slumber--then a good-night kiss from parents to their children, and soon I am tucked snugly away in my "cradle-bed," and sweet slumber is wooed to my eyelids by the voice of my mother singing a lullaby song. How far away seemed those childhood days to me, a mature woman, that night, as I sat and listened to the cradle-song, sung by stranger lips.

The State Convention of the Y. M. C. Association met here a few weeks since. The various Associations of the state were nearly all represented, and Messrs. Cree and Taggart of New York, were the leading spirits in conducting the exercises of the Convention, and altogether, the occasion was one long to be pleasantly remembered by those who attended. It seems that these Christian Associations are doing a great and good work, securing, in many instances, the attendance and attention of a class of persons, who rarely attend the regular church services; and it seems that the leaders of these Associations, while not supplanting the work of the authorized ministers of the gospel, nevertheless are the means of winning many souls from the paths of worldliness to Christianity. Long may they continue the good work begun, of late years, in our State.

While this writing of the pleasant thoughts of the unemployed come to mind. The quiet security of this portion of our State has been interrupted within the past few weeks by robberies committed in our vicinity. Several weeks since the mail and express car of the Central Railroad was robbed by several masked men, at the little station of Allan, just north of our city about twelve miles. This robbery was followed in quick succession by similar robberies of the mail and express car at Hutchins, first station going north on the Central Railroad from Dallas; and a few days after, at Eagle Ford, about half way between Dallas and Fort Worth, on the Pacific Railroad. Yesterday morning the excitement in our city regarding these outrages was increased by the news that the mail and express car on the western home passenger train of the Pacific Railroad was again robbed, at Mesquite, first station east of Dallas, on Wednesday night, about half past ten o'clock. The band of robbers had increased from the four men connected with the previous robberies, to about fifteen in number; and as the train stopped at Mesquite station they rushed upon the platform and confronted the conductor as he was about stepping from the first passenger car. He asked them what they wanted, and they making some harsh reply, he stepped back into the sleeping car and secured a large pistol. He then went out to the rear door of the sleeping car and began firing upon them. They opened fire in return and soon wounded him seriously in the arm, while a ball passed through his hat. They continued firing on Capt. Alvord, the conductor, until he, seeing he could effect nothing against

The Dameron-Chambers Dispute.

This is a most unfortunate affair--in many respects. It was our hope that the gentlemen publishers should settle the dispute without it getting into the papers. As, however, the fullest publicity is being given to it, we shall endeavor to let our readers have the facts. It must be understood that we express no opinion in the premises. The following letter is from Mr. Chambers:

Rev. I. G. John, D. D., Editor Texas Christian Advocate:

Dear Sir--In the issue of the St. Louis Christian Advocate of March 29th, it was announced, over the name of Logan D. Dameron, that the Life and Labors of Bishop Marvin was being prepared by the senior editor of that paper; and in the issue following (March 27th) Mr. Marvin's letter to the senior editor appears with the doctor's comments, which may lead people to believe he was not going to publish his proposed life of the Bishop. Such, however, is not the case, as he is furnishing MS. every day to the printer, and preparing to issue his book, notwithstanding his comments, and in opposition to the known wishes of the family, and the fact that I have made arrangements with Mrs. Marvin to publish the Life and Labors of Bishop Marvin, and that I have already paid \$400 on account of royalty, of which the family is to receive a certain amount on each copy sold. You can readily see that the injustice to me is very great; also to Mrs. Marvin; and I think all our good people should know the facts that they may be able rightly to decide as to the conduct of the Life and Labors of Bishop Marvin, which is the one of the family to receive profits from. All I wish is that our brethren know the facts in the case, and you can do much to correct a wrong which, if allowed to go unexplained, will, as you see, work injury to our beloved bishop's family as well as myself.

Yours sincerely, JAMES H. CHAMBERS.

(Communicated.)

Work for the General Conference.

Our Creed vs. "The Apostle's Creed," so-called, is not what its name imports, for the Apostles did not prepare it; nor was it made for many years after their day; it was probably the creation of the Council of Nice in the fourth century. It was adopted from the Church of England into our ritual; but there were some things in it so anti-Methodistical that the General Conference of 1844, in its 1844, expurgated the words "He descended into hell," and some others, as anti-Scriptural, and laying a foundation for an imaginary purgatory; and also the doctrine of "hell redemption." It does not now express the full Methodist belief which the candidate for baptism or admission into the church should believe and possess. Methodism holds as cardinal the doctrines of total depravity by the fall; universal and complete atonement by Christ; the correcting and converting agency of the Holy Ghost; the remission of sins by faith in Christ's atonement; the direct witness of this fact to our spirits by the Holy Ghost; the necessity and attainableness of inward and outward holiness in this life by the constant exercise of faith in Christ as an all-sufficient Savior; that faith exercised in and by the hearty performance of all the duties of life. And then may follow: Do you believe that you are accountable to God for all your desires, tempers, words and actions in this life? I do. Do you believe there will be a day of final judgment, in which all mankind shall be brought before God to answer for the deeds done in the body, whether good or bad? I do. Do you believe there is a place of everlasting torment for the wicked? I do. Do you believe there is a place of everlasting glory and happiness for the people of God? I do. Do you sincerely and earnestly desire to do the will of God by His help, that you may escape that place of torment and enter into that glory? I do. Will you be baptized in this faith? I will. Are you now ready, and do you now with all your heart enter into covenant with God and His people according to the terms of this faith? I am now ready, and do with all my heart hereby and herein give myself, soul, body and spirit, wholly to God, without any reservation whatever, to the His and His forever. Amen. Now, the minister is fully and scripturally authorized to do and say: "I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; and enter into that glory? I do. Will you be baptized in this faith? I will. Are you now ready, and do you now with all your heart enter into covenant with God and His people according to the terms of this faith? 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Texas Christian Advocate

(Written for the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, SONNET.)

BY JULIA FRISER TRUITT.
Am I to blame if only thoughts of thee
Usurp my mind—its old calm ruler slain,
And take the crown and scepter, there to reign
In purple state and regal sovereignty?
They fill the halls with music grand and free,
And draw their trailing vesture down the floor,
Or meet me staringly in open door,
With wide, deep eyes, that always look on me,
Deep piercing with a sudden, wordless pain;
And when I strive to read the book—in vain!
My own eyes fall abashed—ashamed to see
How my own heart has brought its simple store
To crown him kingly who was king before.

The Indians of Texas—The Methodist Church South.

Rev. Homer S. Thrall, pastor of the Methodist Church of this city, delivered a very interesting lecture last night before the San Antonio Literary Association, on the Indians of Texas, of whom there are not many left. The lecturer divided the Indians into three classes: the Pueblo Indians, who lived principally on the Rio Grande, but who are not responsible for the conciliatory policy pursued toward the Americans; the stock-raising and agriculturally inclined Indians; and lastly the scalp-raising Indians. It would appear that the stock-raising Indians, who raise, jointly with the Mexicans, the stock of the country, must have amalgamated with the scalp-raising tribes, judging by the peculiarities of their dialects and customs. Mr. Thrall said that the Indians were much better than they had been represented, at which I am not surprised. The devil himself is not as black as he is painted, and very likely the term "devil" is a collective one, and includes the red devil. It must not be supposed that Mr. Thrall's lecture, which by the way, they put a gubernatorial candidate in the field, like a railroad does, or the grangers? There will be forty Texas delegates. I am alluding to the Methodist Conference. Mr. Thrall will be very much missed, particularly on Sunday mornings. He goes by the way of Palestine, Texas.—*San Antonio correspondence*

The Methodist of course, will never put a gubernatorial or other candidate in the field. Religion and politics will not run together. However, we hope to see the day when Methodists and the other Protestant denominations of Texas will sufficiently understand their moral power as to demand that only proper men shall fill the various offices of the State, county and city. We do not believe in politico-religious parties, but we do believe in the religious and moral elements of our country controlling it. It is about time we should rise in our might, and do the polls teach tricksters the difference between politics and profligacy—notwithstanding the terms have come to be almost synonymous.

(Communicated.)

The Presiding Eldership.

As it is now in order for everybody who feels so disposed to give an opinion as to what the General Conference should or should not do, and as the ADVOCATE is the medium through which some have already spoken, I will also give my opinion. There must be a cause of so much complaint, and some resolutions of some annual conference upon the office of Presiding Elder. But it seems from all that can be gathered there is only one change necessary to make this office what it once was in the church. If any one will take the minutes of 1814 and 1851, and compare the office then and now, you will perceive one vast difference. Then the best men, physically, mentally and spiritually, were put into this office. The men who could lead in any enterprise of the church, and that were in demand at any place in the conference, were our Presiding Elders. When a quarterly meeting came, the people knew that they had a man who could surpass their pastor in all things; hence the people saw the use of this office in the church. Seeing this, there were no complaints from any quarter. But now let us see who are made Presiding Elders. There is no place on earth where we see more sympathy exhibited than among Methodist preachers, from the bi-hop to the "circuit rider." Among these is the conference man who has given his life to the work of the church. He was one of the "charter members," and has filled all the offices in the church but a bi-hop. But now that voice is shattered, that imagination is dulled, and that frame has run down. But how he loves the ranks of his old army; how he dreams to see the time when he "must be laid on the shelf." The bi-hop's heart is full of love for him, and he can serve a district. In his age and for what he has done the people will endure him four times a year. So down he goes, and up comes the cry against the office. It must be changed. "The people" will not stand it. Now so long as this office is made a convenience in order that a man may be cured for and saved from an honorable relation in the church; or if because a man's business is in a certain section and his personal property needs his attention, and he is put on that district; or that purpose—we will continue to hear the complaints that are now in the church.

When our Bishops have the nerve to put men in the office who can do the work of the office, and because they are the men for that place—looking over what men "have done"—and schools, plantations, and everything else but the church, then we shall find no more complaints. But when the Bishop has to say: "What will I do with Brother Jones if we take him off that district? It will kill him to have to superannuate; he can't travel a circuit; no station wants him; so I will have to put him back—there we will need legislation." M. M.
April 16th, 1878.

Missions.

Foreign Domestic.		
Galveston District.....	\$125	\$340
Chappell Hill District.....	425	540
Huntsville District.....	325	340
Columbus District.....	200	180
Amount for each charge in Chappell Hill District:		
Domestic Missions.....	\$70	
Bryan Station.....	70	
Chappell Hill Station.....	70	
Travis Circuit.....	20	
Giddings.....	20	
Calwell.....	20	
Independent.....	20	
Bryan Circuit.....	20	
Ellice Mission.....	5	
Hempstead.....	5	
Foreign Missions.....		\$70
Bryan Station.....		70
Chappell Hill Station.....		70
Travis Circuit.....		20
Giddings.....		20
Calwell.....		20
Independent.....		20
Bryan Circuit.....		20
Ellice Mission.....		5
Hempstead.....		5

The Children's Corner.

Letters to the Children.

Dear Little Cousins:—As your "Cousin Joe" has not time now to write to you as often as he wishes, he has asked me to write alternately with him. I am not sure that you will like the arrangement, but we will soon see. You know that it is said "variety is the spice of life."

I expect to meet you in that "Sun-bright Climate," where friendships 'tis never severed, and where the flowers of sweetest pleasure forever bloom.

O, yes, friend Mollie, we will meet in that bright world above.

Where loved and cherished ones shall greet their friends in purest love.

Where golden streets and pearly streams shall gleam like the "raptured eye," and sweeter far than earthly dreams are songs that never die.

Where saluted ones in white shall greet their friends of other day.

And sweetly joined, at Jesus' feet, shall give Him endless praise.

May your altar gather many pearls from the sea of thought, add many shades of beauty to the flowers of friendship, which bloom for you, and strengthen the golden chain which links Christian hearts in deathless love.

J. M. PUGH.
(Communicated.)

Bible Distribution in Texas in two Months—February and March.

Families visited..... 615
Bibles distributed..... 912
Destitute individuals supplied..... 452
Destitute individuals supplied, in addition..... 180
Number of books sold, 1877, value..... \$780.90
Number donated to the needy, 553, value..... 133.99

Our need of help is urgent. Opportunities of the most inviting kind are open every day. Applications, impromptu and inconstant, come to us for grants of Bibles. Well qualified and well recommended men are waiting for commissions to go forth as Bible missionaries. All things are ready except the money needed. Who will help us to this? Our noble work is curtailed and hindered from lack of adequate means to carry it on. Give and it shall be given unto you.
Dist. Supd. A. B. S., Austin, Texas.
(Communicated.)

Commending the Advocate.

The following resolution was adopted by the Austin circuit Quarterly Conference, in session at Webberville, Texas, April 13, 1878:

Resolved, That as members of the Quarterly Conference of Austin circuit, we will do all in our power, with the assistance of the preacher in charge, to place the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE in every family in the bounds of the circuit this conferring year, and that the preacher in charge be requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the ADVOCATE for publication. Signed in behalf of said Quarterly Conference,
E. R. CROCKETT, Sec. J. W. WHIFFLE, P. E.

Obituaries.

NEELY—Benjamin F. Neely was born January 2, 1812, in the State of Tennessee; removed to the Mexican territory in 1825, and settled in the town of Besque, where he has since resided. He was a citizen of Besque county, occupying positions of honor and trust for many years. With a devout and a noble heart, he was a man of high character and of whom all who knew him were justly proud. He was a member of the Baptist Church, and his piety and respect for his family. Two sons were born to him, and he was a devoted father. His health failed in 1875, and he was unable to perform his duties. He died at his residence, after a brief illness, on the 13th inst. He was 66 years of age. He was buried in the cemetery at Besque. His funeral was held on the 15th inst. His remains were taken to his home in Besque, where he was buried. His wife and children survive.

COCHRAN—Elias Kennedy Cochran, son of Joshua B. and Sarah Cochran, was born in Montgomery county, North Carolina, January 17, 1821. He came to Texas in 1844, and settled in Tennessee, and resided there four years; from thence he moved to Marshall county, Mississippi, where he, in his fourteenth year, was married to his wife, Jane. He joined the Baptist Church, and the next year his parents moved to Angelina county, Texas, where he, in his nineteenth year, was married to his wife, Elizabeth. He was a member of the M. E. Church, South, and was, ever afterwards, a zealous Christian, never doubting for one moment of the truth of the Christian religion. He was a faithful and zealous laborer in the church. At his residence, in said county and State, Feb. 6, 1878, he, after seven days' severe sufferings of pneumonia, sweetly fell asleep in Jesus, without pain, and rejoicing and praising God to his latest breath. His works follow him, and many will still be his admirers. He leaves many souls to Christ. Many stars will be added to his crown; and in heaven he will gather sheaves. He is buried in the cemetery at Besque. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and a daughter, who is also a member of the church. His funeral was held on the 10th inst. His remains were taken to his home in Besque, where he was buried. His wife and children survive.

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EDIGRAPHS.

One week at home; letters to read and answer; proof to read; copy to prepare for the press, whose hunger is never satisfied. How swiftly the hours speed. Time drags wearily with the idler; but he whose hours are filled with useful labors wonders that its footsteps are so fleet. Off for Atlanta.

We note the papers talking of men killed by over-work—more die of the dry rot of indolence. It is not the fact that the hours are filled with labor so much as the fact that the heart is burdened with care, that hastens the over-taxed business men to the tomb; worry that tightens the nerves to their utmost tension; complications which bewilder the brain with perplexities; possibilities which make men toss on sleepless beds, furnish that kind of work which shortens human life. An employment in which the heart enters with delight and duties which throng on us so swiftly that we can not waste our strength in useless slumber are healthful both to soul and body.

Here we are in Palestine again. We arrive at midnight, but a conveyance bears us to Sterns' Hotel; and the proprietor, a member of our church, gives us cordial greeting. The day had been dusty and the night air chill; but the snug, well furnished room, the white

sheets, the spring mattress, and a sound sleep of a few hours prepared us with a keen appetite for the breakfast which awaited us. Strawberries—cool, fragrant, delicious—closed the meal.

There is something in this town of Palestine that attracts us. Possibly it is the strawberries. They are attractive. Possibly it is the warm-hearted hospitalities we have encountered. We shall long bear in mind the kindness of our friends. Possibly it is the stir and activity of the place that gives to this growing inland city its charm. In addition to the fruit farms in its vicinity, which we mentioned last week, the machine shops of the International and Great Northern Railroad established here give employment to hundreds of mechanics. Their neat houses and cheerful gardens give a cheerful, prosperous look to the suburbs of West Palestine. Those enterprises that give employment to multitudes of willing workmen and supply their homes with the comforts of life, may be ranked among the great benefactions of the age. The stockpens located in this part of the town cover two acres, and indicate the extent of the business in this line which centers at this point. The iron and brass foundry of G. M. Dille, and the other important enterprises of the place. It turns out all kinds of iron and brass castings for the railroad, and is the only establishment in the State, we believe, that makes car-wheels. It also manufactures plows and other agricultural implements. This enterprise reminds us that we are on the border of the iron region of this portion of the State. The rugged hills of Cherokee and adjoining counties are ready with their wealth of iron ore to feed the forges which, before many decades pass, will flame and thunder all along the great thoroughfares now penetrating Eastern Texas. The residence of Mr. Hoxie, Superintendent of the I. & G. N. R. R., is near the depot, and is one of the most attractive spots in this beautiful town. Its smoothly mown lawns, handsome walks, tastefully arranged borders, and the cool shade of trees and shrubbery covering the slope hard by, the rush and roar around the depot, tell us how nearly the beautiful and practical can approach in human affairs.

We are under personal obligations to every community which preserves in its yards or thoroughfares the native forest trees. Art never made anything more beautiful than a tree. It is one of the wonderful works of God. We are grateful to the citizens of Palestine for the graceful surroundings of their court-house square. Other towns have more imposing and costly houses of justice, but few can rival the green sod and waving trees which embosom in their broad branches the courthouse of Anderson county. The grounds around the Palestine Female College show an equal appreciation of the beautiful. Prof. E. A. Bailey reports his school prosperous. Its halls are crowded.

The location of the Masonic Temple has been decided, and ere long another imposing structure will be added to the public buildings of Palestine. The Masons are doing a work for our State in the way of erecting public buildings, which the public but partially appreciates. We have noted school buildings, the work of Masonic enterprise and liberality, or substantial houses, with a lodge above and church or school below, in nearly all the leading towns or prosperous communities we have visited. These buildings benefit the communities where they are created, as well as the order to whose intelligence and munificence we are indebted for these establishments.

Masonry, Oddfellowship, and other organizations command liberal support from their members. There is in this fact both a lesson and an incentive from which the churches may profit. Each Mason or Odd Fellow is expected to pay his dues. Failure to meet this obligation forfeits his privileges in the order. No member claims the

benefits of membership who neglects its conditions. It might not be wise policy on the part of the church to adopt such stringent rules; yet some legislation or process of education which will impress the church member with his duty to support his church is one of the imperative demands of the hour. Masonry is a good thing—so is Oddfellowship. We do not depreciate either when we affirm our conviction that Christianity is of supreme importance, and the obligation to support its institutions are, of all others, the most binding. If each church member would give as Masons give, houses of worship would take the place of old field school-houses where many congregations now meet to worship God, and the ministry of God would not languish because of meagre support.

We find the people of Palestine profoundly disturbed over a double murder which had taken place in the county the night before our arrival. The victims were Dr. Grayson and wife. They were aroused about midnight, and the doctor was called to visit a sick woman. As he walked out on the gallery he was shot down, and the firing continued until he was riddled with buckshot. On the arrival of the officers the body was found where it fell on the gallery, and in the room his wife lay dead in her bed, shot through the brain. Beside her a little babe about one month old lay in its crib, and three other children—the oldest eight years of age—were in the house safe, but motherless and fatherless. A colored man and a German, who were on the premises, say the men who committed the deed shouted like madmen while doing their bloody work. They shot at a dog and a horse as they rode down the road, making but little effort to conceal the act. Some monster prompted the deed, but they were evidently drunk. If so, this adds another to those ghastly tragedies in which whisky has played its part. It is the natural ally of man in such hellish work. Arrests have been made, but as yet only suspicion and vague proof point to the guilty parties. The citizens of town and county feel the stain this atrocious deed has brought on their peaceful community, and no efforts will be spared to bring the guilty to punishment.

The event will be sent forth as another proof of Texas lawlessness. The papers will furnish the details of the revolting horror, and the Northern press and public will accept it as the normal state of Texas life. Though the columns of Northern pictorials are black with records of crime committed at home, while their streets and alleys swarm with thieves and ruffians yet their moral sensibilities are specially sensitive respecting Southern crime. We have enough of it in all conscience, but not enough to justify the reputation these sensational reports of Texas crime give our State.

We met on the cars two gentlemen from Northern Michigan, who were in the lumber business in that region, and were examining the pineries of Eastern Texas. They were surprised at the magnitude and the resources of the State. Trained to estimate accurately the number of feet of lumber as well as the amount of greenbacks which can be worked out of a pine tree, they see in the immense pineries of Eastern Texas fortunes awaiting the men of enterprise who will work out the problem. They expressed still greater surprise at the quiet and orderly state of society around them. Train robberies did not startle them. They were familiar with the burglars' work near home. But instead of each man wearing a revolver, or desperadoes in broad-rimmed hats and rattling spurs, parading the cars or riding through town at headlong speed, as they expected, they found the people as orderly and refined as in any of the Northern States. The grass of the prairies, and leaves and blossoms on the trees, so different from their colder climate at this season, told them that they

were in Texas; but the society they had encountered was fully equal to that they had left behind them. They good-humoredly confessed the misgivings with which they had ventured into this land of desperadoes, and their disappointment in being unable to return with terrible stories of Texas ruffianism, with which to startle their friends at home. They had received their ideas of Texas from the papers; which give the bad because it will be read, and withhold the good because it is not sensational. Many of our Texas papers, while catering to this morbid love of the horrible, furnish the Northern press with the material with which our name is darkened.

Texas is a poor place for a lazy man. The notion that people can lounge and dream himself into a fortune on the fertile land and grassy prairies of Texas, is a fiction which allures many across her borders, only to send them back disenchanted and disgusted. God's gifts are not carelessly tossed to the idle and unworthy. The land is fruitful and the heavens are auspicious, but only to those who obey the primeval law to "subdue the earth" will it render its generous tribute. To the enterprising and thrifty no land yields richer returns than Texas. But the timber in its bottoms must be felled; the tough sod of its Savannahs be broken up, and skilful culture be employed to secure the harvest which its soil and climate promise to the thrifty husbandman. It welcomes the enterprising, but looks coldly on the tramp, whether he walks the highway in rags or lounges through our towns or cities in broad-cloth.

THE TWO SERMONS.

A few years ago the writer was in Springfield, Illinois, and on the following Sunday, the morning papers announced that Prof. Patten, of Chicago, would preach in the morning and at night in the Second Presbyterian Church of that city. Prof. P. had, at that time, become somewhat celebrated on account of the Swing-Patten controversy that had been carried on for several years in that church; but had then been settled, as a church question, by the withdrawal of Prof. Swing from the Presbyterian Church. The world, however, had taken up the question, and, as it is usual in such cases, had been liberal with its theological opinions and fraternal advice. Both these able divines were Professors in a Theological Seminary at Chicago, and in the course of their instructions in the pulpit and lecture room, the fact was developed that, while Prof. Swing was liberal in his Presbyterianism, Prof. Patten was a Presbyterian after the straightest sect. The difference soon assumed the form of charges against Prof. Swing. These charges were not sustained by the first ecclesiastical court. But Professor P., planting himself on John Calvin's creed, and the Westminster confession of faith, renewed the attack. Professor Swing, who claimed to rest more on the spirit than on the letter of the law, seeing he must fall by the letter, closed the controversy by withdrawing from the church. But the contest had already lifted the contestants into a broad horizon of notoriety. We had made other plans for the day's services, but learning that Professor Patten was to preach that day, we resolved to hear him once at least. Shortly afterward we found our way to a pew in that elegant and capacious church. A few minutes before 10:30 A. M., the time for opening service, a slender, beardless, boyish-looking man entered the pulpit. Our anticipations at once suffered an eclipse, and could we have decently retired we would have done so. He read his hymn and lesson and prayed twice. In his second prayer he alluded to the absent pastor and his own charge in a distant city; and we began to think, that he might not be a theological student sent in to supply an unexpected vacancy; but we could not yet suppose it possible that the apparent youth was one of the world's marked men—the eminent Dr. Patten. But he reads his text and we allow him

to dispel our doubts. He comes with the heroic declaration of Paul to pagan and persecuting Rome: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation." Then without manuscript or note his crisp, keen logical sentences fell from his lips without any seeming effort, in a style as lucid as light. His voice, not strong, was calm, and was heard as easily in the rear as in the front of that church. His manner of speaking was that of a teacher explaining a problem in science to his pupils. He unfolded the Gospel of Christ, as he understood it, and as expressed in the two declarations of his text, with the ease and elegance of a Master anatomist. And as he did so, the doctrines, like the complete map, naturally assumed Presbyterian coloring. It covered the entire world of duty and service to God. That map, like the surface of the earth, had its mountains, sunny with God's favor and love; its valleys, dark and shadowy without God's presence or sunlight; its fountains, rivers and lakes making glad the thirsty fields of life; and its deserts, parched, barren, fruitless and lifeless; but all parts of God's grand world of human duty and destiny. It was not for the shaded valleys to complain of the sunlit heights; nor for the deserts to inveigh against the green and fruitful fields. Nor could man, God's creature and servant, question His maker any more than the clay could the potter. Strict obedience gave no room to question the seeming inequalities of life. God had clearly said to all, "What I do ye know not now." Why, said he, in closing, should any one be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, such a grand plan of salvation so wonderfully adapted to our human necessities? He, who is ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, could he enter the gates of life, would be more ashamed of his own moral obliquity. His clear statement of doctrine would have charmed us still more had man's future weal or woe formed part of God's glory.

Having heard him once we could not resist the desire to hear him twice. Hence we were on hand again at night. His text then was: "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up." In the fewest possible words he gave us a clear-wrought picture of Israel in that weary wilderness—typical of the journey of life; bitten by the flying fiery serpent; sick, suffering, dying; we could see those fleet-winged venomous things in the sultry air, and the wild, agitated glance of terror on the face of that afflicted multitude. Aye, we heard that agonized wail; that funeral dirge of the march of death. But a voice rings out through that camp of distress. It is the voice of the great leader, Moses, repeated by a thousand subordinates to all the suffering: *Come look and live.* By God's command he rears a sovereign remedy in the midst of that camp. How easy and simple the remedy! True, it required an effort, in some cases, to reach the remedy, and then a will to look. But none need die when they could so easily live. There was no failure in the remedy. It would seem that none would have perished, and yet thousands did, because they would not look. And millions are perishing to-day for the same inexcusable folly. Ah! perhaps they reasoned that there was no virtue or sense in that senseless thing, as many reason to-day when asked to look to an intangible, invisible spirit, as God. We think how blind and stupid was the stubborn Jew who would not be healed, and feel that he deserved to be damned; and yet blinder, more stupid and stubborn, is the sin-bitten man who dies to-day in the white heat of a Christian noon. He who will perish deserves to perish, and is unworthy of sympathy.

Thus the same preacher taught the same people twice in the same church on the same day. His sermon in the morning was concentrated Calvinism, relieved somewhat of its unkindly features, by a few strokes from the pencil of the great and good Jonathan Edwards. But relieved as it was, there ap-

peared visible the stern features of Fate. There was but one will, and no glad news for all the world to look and live. All was for the glory of God, whether suffering or rejoicing eternally. At night he taught, without asserting it, the reverse. He taught that as the serpent was lifted up in the wilderness as a sovereign remedy for all who were bitten, so was Christ lifted up, to whom every sin-smitten soul could look and live; and if they would not look, they had only themselves to blame for not being healed. The one was a close corporation, run by a privileged few; the other a grand asylum of life, open to all.

His severity on those whom he termed the willfully blind, reminded us of what Bob Ingersoll, that brilliant but blasphemous orator, had said of him and Prof. Swing, when asked what he thought of them: he said that had Swing been present when they burned old Servetus, he would have tried to put out the fire; but that Prof. Patten would have complacently parted his swallow-tailed coat and warmed himself by the fire.

Professor Patten, as a delegate from his church to the General Conference of the M. E. Church, in session at Baltimore in 1876, jocosely said that the difference between Methodists and Presbyterians was that Methodists preached Methodism, but prayed Presbyterianism; while Presbyterians preached Presbyterianism, but prayed Methodism. There is some truth as well as humor in this statement. At the recent Pan-Presbyterian Council in Scotland, a Texas delegate was so charmed with him that he said of him, as had been said of one other: if he lives ten years longer he will be the greatest living Presbyterian.

THE Southern papers just now are saying a great many tart things against Dr. Edwards, editor of the *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, published at Chicago—organ of the M. E. Church. Dr. E. says numerous ridiculous and bitter things against us. We trust, however, our brethren will be a little more tender with him, for—when not talking of the South or its interests—his articles sometimes evidence that he is part-human.

RAPIDITY OF MODERN FIRING.—It is difficult, writes a war correspondent, to describe, as it is indeed almost impossible to understand, even on the spot, the marvelous rapidity of firing and the enormous quantity of bullets that are whizzing in the air. Above the roll of musketry is heard the whistling, like a strong wind blowing through the trees. These are the showers a mile and a half from the fight, of bullets that rain upon the ground anywhere within a radius of and the oftener he hears this sound the more its significance becomes clear to him. It means that every man of the thousands engaged is firing several times a minute, more or less, as he fires at random or take aim. The Turk, as is well-known, does not take aim, but fires from the hip, when in the fields, lays his rifle on the parapet when behind intrenchments, and depends more on the quantity of bullets he sends than on the direction of them. When this fact is borne in mind it will easily be understood why the proportion of dead and wounded is so great in every battle that has taken place.

THE NATIONAL REPOSITORY for May, Daniel Curry, D. D., editor, is on our table. Its contents are as follows: 1. Spring Flowers. 2. Ocean Grove. 3. Ashes of Palms. 4. Victor Emmanuel. 5. Past Christian Judaism. 6. Among the Thorns. 7. Russia and the Russians. 8. Robert Pollok and his Times. 9. Assyriæ Miscellany. 10. Editorial Miscellany. We have read almost all of these articles with profit and interest. It is ably edited, and well adapted to fill its mission among the periodicals. We only regret that we have not space to make some extracts for our readers as samples of a feast which they may enjoy monthly by sending only three dollars to Nelson & Phillips, New York, Hitchcock & Walden, Cincinnati, Chicago or St. Louis.

While Rev. Dr. Reed was preaching at the Methodist Church Sunday night, there was so much disturbance by certain thoughtless young people that Bro. Shea reprimanded them publicly and threatened that the Grand Jury would be invoked if the offense should be repeated.—*Bonham News.*

Texas Christian Advocate

ADVERTISING RATES:

Table with advertising rates for different insertion lengths and quantities.

Rates on Standing Advertisements:

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

THE PUBLISHING HOUSE.

That Celebrated Balloon Exhibit.

How Dr. Redford gets \$3,233.50 profit by subtracting \$20,115.04 expenses from \$18,071.44 receipts.

He left off the Minus Sign.

What the Nashville Advocate Gained by Reducing to \$2.

Random Shots, but not with Velvet Bullets.

Twelve Years a Student, and yet a Freshman.

A criticism of the Nashville Publishing House involves a criticism of Dr. Redford. This writer wants it understood that anything he may say to Dr. R. only in his official capacity...

To Make Haste Slowly.

There may be some who think it undesirable to comment thus. Such may ask, what is to be gained? To them let me say this—none is the time and the only time to speak out on this question...

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Profit is reported at \$200, from which he gives the following table: Total receipts—subscriptions, \$13,916.29; advertising, \$1,398.05.

Grand Total of receipts, \$15,314.34. Total expenses—per statement, \$15,114.61.

Net profit claimed, \$332.33.

Now I have made a careful estimate of the amount for which the Nashville Advocate can be issued—9200 copies 92 times, or one year. Being a practical printer, I feel pretty confident as to the correctness of my estimate.

Expense for Week. Paper, delivered on the spot, at average...

Printer, delivered on the spot, at average...

Presswork—77 tokens—can not be counted...

Salaries of the staff, including Dr. Redford...

Printing and publishing expenses...

Printing and publishing expenses...

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as much collectable on open accounts as is due creditors? Would the Publishing House books...

Among the assets occurs this item: "Stereotype plates, \$76,650 20." There may be some imaginary value attaching to these to realize on when in reprinting books...

As a practical printer, I want to know if there is not too much money in presses, engines and fixtures; \$15,122 72 invested in machinery is quite liberal.

Then there is the stereotype foundry put down at \$2,000 00. I would ask if this figure is not about \$1,000 above the necessities of the case.

It has been the desire of the publishers of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE to open a branch depot at Galveston. They were afraid to make purchases direct from the House—...

Of course very many other questions, pertinent and impertinent perhaps, suggest themselves, but these I have asked from the standpoint of a printer.

Every observer must have noticed that in choosing our officials—State and national, executive, legislative, judicial and ministerial—no attention is paid to their habits of temperance.

It can not be necessary to argue that there is a deficiency of sober, honest and capable material in the country to supply all its offices.

Let us not be deluded that government by temperate and capable men is preferable to that of the opposite class, though equally capable.

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their fall and broken their hearts. Ask him how his ruin began. Likely he will tell you: Do you see your eminent man. He is a leader among you. He has a living intellect. He is your representative in the Convention. It was that first place to my lips the circus cap. To secure my wife I pled me with the blandishment of the strong drink. I fell beneath the temptation. Then I was respected and happy. Now, I need not say what I am. Suffice to say, I would not attract his regard, unless at another election he should approach me through his vilest creatures.

Through the baneful effects of liquor it is that the drinking man secures his success at the polls. Many good men vote for such candidates without proper thought. The remedy for this evil consists in: first, producing a sound public opinion that it is an evil; and secondly, in discouraging the use of spirits in promoting the cause of temperance.

Without the influence which the general use of liquor affords to assist them in besetting men's minds, they will never be able to persuade others that they are fit to represent them.

Important, because the weal or woe of our country depends, in a very great degree, upon the character of education given to the rising generation. Impressed with this momentous truth, the Methodists of Northern Texas have taken in hand to establish a school at Honey Grove. The house—a brick, worth \$10,000—is finished and the school in successful operation.

There are \$200 to be raised the present year or the house may be forfeited. My health having failed in the ill-fated work, I have been employed by the Presiding Elder of the district, Rev. J. H. MeLean, to assist in raising the aforesaid amount by the sale of one or two partitions of my residence.

I would say to all who wish to contribute a mite to a good enterprise, that they can do so by sending to me at Fort Worth, Texas, for any of our Methodist publications; or by forwarding donations in cash, which will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged. I have on hand a large supply of Bishop Marvin's "To the East by the way of the West," "Errors of the Papacy," "Pictures of the Bishop, and also of the China Conference, and the eight bishops in a group, all of which I sell at the publisher's catalogue retail prices.

Send to your orders, friends, send money by postoffice order or by registered letter. If things are to be sent by mail, please add 5 per cent. to pay the postage. I am also prepared to furnish any of the American Trade Society publications.

H. B. SWAFFORD, FORT WORTH, TEX., APRIL 19, 1878.

WEATHERFORD DISTRICT—3RD QUARTER. JACKSON CIRCUIT, at Carroll's Mill, first Sabbath in May. Eldorado mission, at Westbrook, fourth Sabbath in May.

St. Andrew's circuit, at Springtown, second Sabbath in June. Graham and Monk's Chapel station, at Monk's Chapel, third Sabbath in June.

St. Andrew's circuit, at Harmony, fourth Sabbath in June. The District Conference will be held at Graham, sixteen miles north of Weatherford, Parker county, commencing at 9 o'clock A. M. on Friday, 1878. Rev. H. M. Glass will preach the conference sermon. It will be a campmeeting occasion.

At New Orleans, the market opened steadily; closed firm; good ordinary, 8 1/2; low middling 9 1/2; middling 10 1/2. Sales 2500 bales.

At Liverpool, the market for spots opened dull and closed flat. Middling Uplands 13 1/2-16; Orleans 6 1/2-10.

The market here is quiet. Sales 700 bales this day. Quotations are as follows: Low Ordinary, 6 1/2; good ordinary, 7 1/2; good ordinary, 8 1/2; good middling 10 1/2.

TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE OFFICE, GALVESTON, TEXAS, MAY 2, 1878.

Agent for Keep's Celebrated Shirts, 174—Tremont Street, Galveston—174. Finest quality Dress Shirts, 6 for \$9; second quality Dress Shirts, 6 for \$8; best Jean Drawers, 75 cents per pair; Gause Underhirts, very best, 85 cents; second quality, 60 cents.

BLESSING & BRO., The old Established and Reliable Photographers of Texas. Are still at their old stand, 174 Tremont Street, Galveston, where they will be pleased to see their friends and patrons.

Commercial. TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE OFFICE, GALVESTON, TEXAS, MAY 2, 1878.

Exchange—Gold and Silver. Sterling 60 days, 48 1/2; 3 months, 49; 6 months, 49 1/2; 9 months, 49 1/2; 12 months, 49 1/2.

THE GENERAL MARKET. Quotations are not applicable to small orders but represent cash prices for large lots:

Short clear, 6 1/2 to 6 3/4; clear rib, 6 1/2 to 6 3/4; long clear, 6 1/2 to 6 3/4; shoulders, 4 1/2 to 4 3/4; breakfast bacon, 8 1/2 to 8 3/4.

Butter, Extra heavy, per yard, 12 1/2 to 13; light weight, per yard, 12 to 12 1/2; ties, per bundle, \$2 to \$3; balling twine, 12 1/2 to 13.

From store, per 100 lbs, 1 05 to 1 10; By the car load, 95 to 1 00.

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responsibility, have written you. G. W. Graves, postoffice, F. C. Stephenson—subscriber, J. J. Davis—list of subscribers; you have never told us whether you get the Contributor, etc.

April 29—Wm. C. Cooke—subscriber; glad Bro B cannot do without the ADVOCATE—subscribers; Bro B—subscriber; G. W. Owens—answered by our agents; W. J. Joyce—list of postoffices; J. B. Taylor—subscriber and obituary.

Boston, March 30, 1878.—The attention of planters, factors, and all interested in the staple, is called to the very poor quality of flax bagging, filled with shives, which has appeared to some extent on the cottons sent us this season.

It is advised that its use be discontinued, as it is sure to lead to much trouble in the future. The attention of the English spinners has been called to the probable growth in the use of this bagging.

If an early remonstrance is not made, and we hope they will join us next year in declining to receive any cotton covered with the shivey cloth.

Our objections to it are as follows: 1st. When the bales are stripped, the shives remain in the cotton, and are so tenacious that they do not always get knocked out in the picker.

2d. Cotton is badly stained where this bagging, when wet, touches it. 3d. It is worth but one cent to one and a half cents a pound as waste, while other bagging brings two and a half to four cents, a serious matter when it costs the purchaser fully ten cents a pound.

This comes to the ADVOCATE signed by twenty-three prominent manufacturers.

We have received from the Publishing House advance sheets of the work entitled "A Catechism on Church Government—with special reference to the M. E. Church, South." By Bishop H. N. McTyeire, D. D. Price twenty-five cents per copy; \$2.50 per dozen.

ALL PERSONS AFFECTED WITH Kidney Diseases, Pain in the Back, and all Urinary Diseases, Diabetes, Gravel, Dropsy or Nervous Debility, should at once take HUNT'S REMEDY. All Diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary are cured by HUNT'S REMEDY.

MARRIED. R. HENRY—KENNEDY—At Paris, Texas, on the 22d of April, by Rev. W. F. Easterling, B. F. Eley, Esq., of Waco, Texas, and Mrs. M. A. Kennedy, of Tennessee.

HILL—RHODES—At the residence of the bride's father, April 17, 1878, at 7:30 p. m., by the Rev. J. R. Taylor, Mr. Albert A. Hill and Miss Sarah E. Rhodes, All of Liberty County, Texas.

WILLIAMS—FITS—April 14th by Rev. J. M. W. Williams, Mr. Hollis Williams of Plattville, Miss E. J. Fits of Shannon's Prairie, Montgomery county.

J. B. BARTON, 174—Tremont Street, Galveston—174. Finest quality Dress Shirts, 6 for \$9; second quality Dress Shirts, 6 for \$8; best Jean Drawers, 75 cents per pair; Gause Underhirts, very best, 85 cents; second quality, 60 cents.

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On Goods. Peach 2 lb, per doz, \$1 50 to \$1 70; Strawberries, 2 lb, per doz, 1 70 to 2 00; Tomatoes, per doz, 1 50 to 2 00; Oysters, 2 lb, full weight, per doz, 1 40 to 1 50; Oysters, 1 lb, full weight, per doz, 1 50 to 1 75; Oysters, 2 lb, light weight, per doz, 1 25 to 1 50; Tomatoes, 2 lb, per doz, 1 50 to 1 75.

Dry Goods. Standard prints, 6 to 6 1/2; Muslin prints, 4 to 5; Brown domestic, 4 to 5; Brown domestic, 3 1/2 to 4; Bleached domestic, 4 to 5; Bleached domestic, 3 1/2 to 4; Brown drills, 4 to 5; Sea Island domestic, 3 1/2 to 4; Tickling, 2 1/2 to 3; Hickory, 7 to 11; Plaid, Osanberg, 7 1/2 to 9; Hickory, 7 to 11; Kentucky jeans, 9 to 45; Tweeds, 20 to 47; Flannels, red, 11 to 50; Flannels, white, 12 to 47.

Eggs. Country patent boxes, per doz, 8 to 9; Eggs, 14 to 15; Fruit, Peaches, 1 50 to 2 00; Apples, per bbl, choice from first hands, 5 to 6; Lemons, per box, \$5 00 to 6 25; Oranges, per box, 5 50 to 6 50.

Fruit, Dried. Raisins, layer, box, \$1 90 to 2 25; Prunes, per pound, 9 1/2 to 10; Currants, Zante, per pound, 7 to 8; Mackerel, barrels, No. 2, \$10 50 to 11 50; Half barrels, No. 1, 6 50 to 7 00; Half barrels, No. 2, 5 50 to 6 00; Kifs, No. 2, 1 50 to 1 50; Herrings, Dutch, per keg, 1 00 to 1 25; Codfish, per pound, 6 to 6 1/2.

XXX, 5 50 to 5 75; Family, 4 50 to 5 25; Yarns, 7 00 to 7 50; Northern, per ton, 15 00 to 16 00; Western prime, 16 00 to 17 00; Western choice, 18 00 to 19 00; Choice sugar cured per lb, 8 1/2 to 8 1/2; 24 quality, 6 to 7.

Hides. Dry selected, per pound, 11 to 12; Light salted, 10 to 12; Stack salted, 10 to 12; Kips, 11 1/2 to 12; Bannings, 4 kips and glue stock, 6 to 8; Wet salted, 6 to 8; Green, 6 1/2 to 7.

Hardware. Axes, per dozen, Collins' Ken. trucky light, \$10 00 to 11 00; Medium, 11 00 to 12 00; Heavy, 11 00 to

Texas Christian Advocate

[Written for the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.]

BY REV. J. M. PUGH.

This now the hour when Sol displays His radiant beams of light, And from the portals of the east Dispeles the gloom of night.

His cheering rays now light the sky, The somber curtains fall, The clouds display their silvery tints, And joy enlivens all.

There's splendor in our rosy morn, Where peaceful beauty glows, Aurora o'er the silent earth Her golden mantle throws.

The songster in his warbles wild, The streamlet's murmuring voice, Bid man forget the cares of earth, And with them, too, rejoice.

Yes, thoughtless man, go forth and learn, From Nature's placid brow, The pleasures which her Master gives To those who humbly bow.

What bosom would not throb with love At such a sight as this, Towards Him who can the soul refresh With ever-changing bliss?

Transporting view! thy beauties far, Surpass the artist's skill— The voice which thence from chaos formed Spoke, "troubled wave be still!"

Benighted orb! thy course pursue, And with thy gentle rays, Impart to earth a genial warmth, And bless its lengthening days.

So may the sun of righteousness This stubborn will subdue, And with the beams of love divine My eye be healed.

Rockdale Circuit.

I have just returned from a trip over the eastern end of the circuit. On Thursday night I preached to a very attentive and very religious congregation; this was my first visit to Providence Church, where an organization of thirty-five true Methodists witnesses the ministerial fidelity of Rev. W. J. McAnally, who has lately come to us from the M. P. Church; his reason for joining us is that he loves the power in Episcopal Methodism to say "go." My ride of thirteen miles, together with my pulpit labor, in my already feeble condition brought on fever, and when I reached Sander's Chapel Saturday morning, was totally unable to preach. After resting a few hours and obtaining some relief from two good-sized blister plasters, I pressed on to Liberty Church. The kind people with whom I had stopped begged me to stay and let them send for a doctor. No doubt, sir, you know from experience what it is to have friends say: "Best and take care of yourself," while the Master cries "go" and "and I am with you." I am more and more convinced that ministerial labor should recognize but one rule. "As much as in us lie," should be the watchword of every evangelist for Christ. On Sunday morning I preached from John III. and VIII. In my physical weakness and want of preparation, I could only depend upon the promise: "I am with you." Knowing also that "he that soweth the seed is the Son of Man," The consciously felt presence of the Holy Ghost was testified by a 11000 audience; one young man was born of the spirit and joined the church. The experience-meeting in the evening, conducted by Rev. G. W. Lantrip, was an appropriate celebration of Easter Sunday. As one brother another testified to the power of Jesus' blood to save, the silent tear and hearty amen deepened into the long and loud hallelujah, showed that the Holy Ghost had fallen on us as on them at the beginning. So far there have been fifteen converts to the church, several conversions and several professions of entire sanctification. Others are seeking peace with God, while a number of those who have experienced the joys of pardoned sin, are seeking the Highway of Holiness. One very gratifying feature in the work is that we have none of the disorganizing element here that the church is annoyed with in some places. This people desire to become pure, not conspicuous; they want to be holy, not troublesome, and they all seem perfectly satisfied that there is no better place to seek holiness and perfect holiness and perfect holiness than in the body of the Methodist Church. God speed the day when we shall all come in the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man—unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Jno. C. S. BAIRD.

(Continued.)

CELESTIAL CIRCUIT.—The Lord has been blessing us. I began a two-day meeting on the 8th of March, at Eppler's school-house, for the purpose of organizing a small society there; but the meeting became so interesting we could not close it till it ran through the week. In spite of the busy season, the congregations were large and attentive. We had several conversions, nearly twenty accessions to the church, fourteen baptisms, and on our churchroll are twenty-six names. Bro. W. Wooten was with us five days, and Rev. F. L. Allen one evening. Brother Vaughn (Presbyterian) and Bro. W. A. Bowen also assisted. But the work was the Lord's, and we pray that this may be but the beginning of a great work among us.—T. F. DENNETT.

Statistics of the M. E. Church, South.—The General Minutes for 1877.

Much regret has been expressed that the Book Agent has not been able to publish the General Minutes for the last two years. We share that regret. We prepared, with great care and vexatious labor, the Minutes of 1876 for the press—they await the printer. We have done the same with the Minutes of 1877—they also bide their time. We wanted to make a special collection for their publication; but that was pronounced inexpedient. We have made out a recapitulation of the Minutes of 1877, and, bating errors which may be detected in passing them through the press, we find the grand total stand thus: Traveling preachers, 3,439; superannuated, 282; local preachers, 5,684; white members; 759,216; colored members, 1,499; Indian members, 4,622; total ministers and members, 774,742. The transferred preachers are reckoned with those of the Conferences to which they now belong. The preachers who were discontinued last year (35), and those who were located (61), are not counted; those who were admitted on trial (232), and those who were readmitted (36), are counted among the traveling preachers, though many of them are also reckoned with the

local preachers. The colored members, for the most part, have left our Connection for the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, organized by our Bishops under the authority of the General Conference.

They are reported in their own Minutes—hence the apparent decrease in that department. Infants baptized, 25,710; adults baptized 421,346; Sunday-schools, 6,597; teachers, 53,342; scholars, 352,163; collected for Conference-claimants, \$62,205 54; for Missions, Foreign and Domestic, \$121,111 75. The Minutes of 1875 (those for 1875 not published nor recapitulated) show traveling preachers, 3,271—increased in two years, 168; superannuated preachers, 259—increased, 23; local preachers, 5,462—increased, 222; white members, 715,951—increased, 43,265; colored members, 2,083—decrease, 584; Indian members, 4,335—increased, 287. Total increase, ministers and members, 43,381 in two years. The Minutes of 1875 show infants baptized, 22,603—in 1877 there were 3,107 more than in that year; in 1875, adults baptized, 38,908; in 1877 there were 3,434; more than in that year. In 1875 there were 7,578 Sunday-schools—decrease, 981; in 1875 there were 49,797 teachers—decrease, 3,545; in 1875 there were 346,759 scholars—increased, 6,404. Is this disparity to be accounted for by a tendency to report the number of Sunday-school scholars, without reporting the numbers of schools and teachers? We call attention to this. We have reported all the figures sent us from every Conference. In 1875 we reported \$64,326 18 for Conference-claimants—decrease, \$2,120 64. In 1875 we reported \$120,128 31 for Missions—increased, \$983 44. This includes both Foreign and Domestic Missions—but in neither case does it include any contributions not reported by the annual conferences. Hence there is disparity between these figures and those of the Treasurer of the Board Missions.—Nashville Christian Advocate.

Looking at this Minutes-publication from a practical standpoint, it seems to us it should be at least a self-sustaining enterprise. So believing, we make this proposition: we will print the Minutes of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, annually, and rely upon the sale of same for our compensation—the copy to be furnished us. If there be loss, we will sustain it; if gain, it is ours. A consideration of this proposition is invited from those who have the power to act in the premises. SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

Diversity of Crops.

The greatest advantage that Texas enjoys as an agricultural country is found in the facility with which the greatest variety of productions are grown in her soil. There is no staple grown upon this continent but can be reproduced in the greatest perfection in Texas. The newspapers of the State never find it necessary to urge upon the agriculturists the necessity of planting a diversity of crops for the reason that there is a great diversity of crops that are planted every year. Every farmer raises all the corn, oats, wheat, rye and barley used upon the farm and has some for export. Every one who has been here long enough to become established saves all the meat he uses and has some for sale. Many of them make their own molasses, and a few their own sugar and tobacco. Cotton is a staple in Texas as in Louisiana, and the cereals all grow to as great or greater perfection than in the Northern and Western States. Were Texas cut off completely from the outside world, it would only be necessary to establish factories and eschew coffee and tea, and it would then be independent and self-sustaining. Horses, mules, cattle, goats and sheep can be raised at less cost and trouble than in any other section of the Union.

This is the reason why thousands are constantly leaving comfortable homes, severing dear associations and coming to Texas. As those advantages become known and appreciated they are sought for by the enterprising men of the South who are weary of raising cotton alone, and sending to the North for their flour and meat. The same motive actuates the people of the North who are compelled to work hard for six months in the year to raise enough to feed the cattle for the next six months. These influences are operating to make Texas the home of countless thousands who desire to better their condition, and the State is receiving the benefit of their energy, enterprise and capital, and in the end will become the most populous and wealthy State in the Union.—Fort Worth Democrat.

Let us pray God that he would root out of our own planting, and set out there, with his own hands, the tree of life, bearing all manner of fruits.—Fenelon.

Church News and Views.

There are about 9,000 Protestants living in the island of Cuba. The General Conference of the Canada M. E. Church will be held at Beveille in August.

Two thousand London preachers preached in favor of war on a recent Sunday.

A Presbyterian Church composed wholly of Chinese has been organized in Oakland, California.

Dr. John Hall's church in New York, the largest in the city, has no choir. All the people sing.

A new Church of the Wesleyans, recently dedicated at Durban, Natal, South Africa, cost \$25,000.

Seventy thousand Bibles have been sold to Russian soldiers in the fields by the British Bible Society.

Four-fifths of all the Papists in the world are said to be located in the United States.

Fully one-fourth of the Roman Catholics of the world are, it is said, in America—North, Central, and South.

A bill has been introduced into the House of Lords creating four new bishoprics, with sees at Southwell, Liverpool, Wakefield and Newcastle.

Dr. Joseffy, a converted Jewish Rabbi, is to be sent by the English Presbyterians on a missions to his countrymen in Ozerovitz, Bukovina, Austria.

Messrs. Moody and Sankey's work in New Haven is taking hold not only of the citizens but of the students of Yale College.

The Sunday-school Convention of the Baltimore Conference will be held in Staunton, Va., July 9-12.

Notwithstanding the opposition of Roman Catholics, a mission school is sustained in Madrid, Spain, with 255 children on the roll.

A mammoth petition against Auricular Confession, in Protestant England, embracing the signatures of 401,442 persons has been presented to Queen Victoria.

The question of the use of instrumental music in public worship is hotly discussed by the Presbyterians of Ireland. It is certain to come up the next General Assembly.

Rev. George Piercy, the Superintendent of the Wesleyan Mission in China, who went twenty-seven years ago to that country, is still residing at Canton, China.

An exchange says that three of the bishops of the Reformed Episcopal Church were originally Methodists—Cummings, Nicholson, and Fellows.

According to a statement of Bishop McTyeire at the Southern Baltimore Conference, sixteen churches on the line of the Chattanooga and Tennessee Railroad were destroyed during the ravages of the war.

Rev. John Brown, D. D., now in his 87th year, has just resigned the care of an Episcopal church at Newberg, N. Y., of which he has been pastor for sixty-two years.

The new missionary settlement of the African M. E. Church, in Africa, is likely to be named Allenville, after Bishop Allen, the founder and first Bishop of the African Methodist Church.

The Rev. Dr. Talmage on Sunday March 31, preached on Church Music, condemning frivolous and operatic music in the House of God. And the organist, says the Independent, at the foot of the pulpit played a selection from "Il Trovatore."

The Methodist preachers of Boston have resolved that "all attempts to reform the theatre are Utopian and vain, and that we can hold no relation toward this school of vice but that of stern, unrelenting, Christian hostility; and we earnestly recommend to all people who would support good morals in society to persistently abstain from attendance upon the theatre."

The Roman Catholic Church has purchased a tract of 7,000 acres of land within nine miles of Chase City (Mecklenburg county, Va.) mission, and propose to colonize and educate the freedmen on the industrial farm plan.

The First M. E. Church, South, of Atlanta, will be finished for General Conference, and will be one of the most beautiful and commodious in the South. The pews alone, seating 1200 persons, cost \$3,000.

PASTORLESS CHURCHES.—About seventy Protestant churches in France are destitute of pastors; not for want of ability to support them, but because the pastors are not to be had.

After full discussion, by a vote of 46 to 26, the Poughkeepsie Methodist District Conference has voted to license Miss Katie Lent as a local preacher. Miss Lent is highly spoken of as a preacher and her father is a minister of this Conference. There are now half a dozen or more female preachers in the Methodist Church, but none have yet been admitted to the iternacy.

The Czar has been led by the services rendered by the Jews to the state and the army during the late war to make some important concessions to this class of persecuted citizens. Foreign Jews trading in Russia will now be permitted to become merchants of the first guild, by which they acquire all the rights of native traders. The great ruler ought to go further, and put an end to the persecution of the Uniates in Poland.

An influential Minnesota man writes to the Baptist Weekly, suggesting that one or two hundred of the unemployed ministers in the East go West, and adding: "If any should be so unfortunate as to starve to death, I'll agree to pay funeral expenses myself."

The Glasgow Evangelistic Association, in addition to the Sunday morning breakfast and children's dinner, which they have for some time provided, now furnish soup daily to about 4000 persons.

There are in London 1,030 charitable institutions, of which the total income for last year was £4,651,132. Of this sum, Bible and Tract Societies received £304,681. Missions £1,294, 56.

A Rome special to London says the commission of cardinals, appointed to consider the position of Catholics, in reference to Parliamentary elections, have reported that it is the duty of Catholics to participate in elections, and accept seats in Parliament, if elected, taking the usual oaths to King and Parliament, but pledging themselves not to offend against the laws of the church.

The Pope is about to occupy as his summer residence, Castle Gandolfo, on Mount Albano, thirteen miles from Rome, a long time, the summering place of popes. The "imprisonment" in the Vatican is over, the voluntary "state of siege" is raised, and the papacy has entered upon a new regime in relation to Italy and its pretensions of temporal power.

The World's Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations will be held, this year, at Geneva, Switzerland, August 14-20. Arrangements are making for an excursion thither from New York, by way of Scotland and England.

A Rome correspondent says:—A faction hostile to the Pope is said to exist among cardinals, headed by Beradi, Bilio, and Martinelli. They are displeased with the temperate tenor of his allocation, the appointment of Cardinal Di Pietro as Camerlengo, and the fact that the Pope has not announced his accession to deposed sovereigns.

Curiosities of the Indian Territory.

In the Seminole reserve, on the top of a rocky ridge running from the Canadian to the Little river, are a succession of pits that have been dug in former times for some purpose or other. They are alike in size and shape, and are dug at about equal distance apart—about three hundred yards. The whole distance on which they occur is about eight miles.

There are also at three different points, the marks of human footprints in the rocks. At one place the tracks are about one and a half inches deep, by eleven inches long. They occur in hard sandstone rock.

In the Creek Nation, near the Seminole line, on a creek, is to be found the ruins of an old circular embankment, bearing the appearance of having been used as a fort. The place is grown up in trees, but the site of the fort is quite plainly marked.—Atoka Independent.

Westward, Ho!

The tide of emigration now starting Westward is astonishing. We could easily fill whole columns with notes taken from our Western exchanges of the daily transit and arrival of trains loaded with emigrants and their household goods. Thousands of farmers and laboring men are leaving Pennsylvania and the Eastern States and settling in Texas, and the other Western States. One statistician, well informed as to the movement, estimates that during 1878 Nebraska will gain 50,000, Kansas 75,000, and Texas 200,000 population. "Go West, young man," is as potent today as when spoken years ago by Horace Greeley. The Mississippi Valley has abundance of room for teeming thousands, and extends a hearty invitation to all to come and share in the heritage there awaiting the patient toiler.—Chicago Railway Review.

The crown of England contains 1,700 diamonds, the imperial crown of Russia contains 2,500 diamonds, the crown of France 3,352 diamonds, but the crown of the poorest of Christ's saints is one solid gem, not to be compared for beauty and value with all the diamonds in the world; for the Lord God of Hosts is for a crown of glory and for a diadem of beauty to the residue of the people.

NO MORE BUZZING IN YOUR HEAD, DEAFNESS, BLINDNESS, SPINAL TROUBLES.

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A NEW DISCOVERY

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No other Medicine required. It is used alone. Dr. J. H. McLean's Liquid Substitute for Quinine will cure any feverish, poisonous, inflammatory action that may exist in the system. When you take a teaspoonful, it is taken up by the absorbent vessels in the stomach, follows and destroys any poisonous elements in the chills and Blood vessels, relieves the causes of Chills and their accompanying diseases.

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Texas Christian Advocate

(Written for THE TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.) LEARNING.

You tell me of a distant land, Beyond the starry dome, And yet I do not understand The beauties of that home.

News of the Week.

Six per cent is to be the legal rate of interest in New Jersey after July 1.

The Queen makes frequent inquiries as to Dean Stanley.

Camden county, South Carolina, has produced this year \$200,000 worth of turpentine.

It is proposed in England to raise 1,000,000 pence for a memorial to Robert Raikes.

There are about 19,000 women Grangers among the Patrons of Husbandry.—N. O. Peacemaker.

A dispatch from Shanghai reports that the famine in the northern provinces of China is increasing.

The quinqucentenary commemoration of John Wycliffe was observed in London, Friday, March 22.

The Marquis of Salisbury is a lienal descendant of Cecil, Queen Elizabeth's famous prime minister.

England and the Vatican are negotiating for a re-establishment of relations.

A proposition is pending for an international exhibition between the United States and Mexico, to be held at the city of Mexico.

Gortschakoff, at eighty, has "a remarkably smooth, well preserved face and large expressive eyes."

The telephone has been adopted by the Chinese, the telegraph being useless, as they have no alphabet.

A bill has been introduced into the House of Commons to permit interments in church yards with a religious service other than that of the Church of England.

Mr. James Tucker and Mr. David Livingstone, two wealthy retired wood-carvers, have given \$25,000 each for the foundation of a home for their destitute fellow-craftsmen in Eastern Massachusetts.

The Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service reports for disasters to vessels during the year ending July, on board of which were 1,500 persons, of whom 1,461 were saved, and 39 lost.

Mrs. Mary Farrell, of Providence, who is reported to be 105 years old, and still hale and hearty, attempted to commit suicide by drowning on April 1st, but was discovered and rescued.

The young Spanish king, being separated from his bride by the rigid court etiquette and public affairs for several days each week, had his private apartments, connected with her palace by a telephone, through which the royal lovers communicated without interference or annoyance.

Passengers arriving at New York from Havana state that from 4,000 to 7,000 Cuban insurgents are entrenched in the eastern and Lasso-line districts, and that less than 1,000 have surrendered to the Spaniards.

The Paris Observatory announces the discovery, by M. Prosper Henry, on April 27th, of a planet of the eleventh magnitude in 12 hours 44 minutes right ascension, and 4° 37' south declination, with a daily motion of 1' north.

Over thirty tons weight of the great Cincinnati organ for the Music Hall in that city have gone forward from Boston.

The Daily News states that Lady Burdett-Coutts is negotiating for land in Osnaburg street, London, on which she intends to erect lodgings for the poor, capable of accommodating 10,000 persons at a maximum rent of 4s 6d weekly per domicile.

Peace is restored in San Domingo under the Provisional Government of Cesario Guillermo. Hayti is also at peace.

W. Jasper Blackburn, of the Malvern Journal, Arkansas, has just missed a good job of printing. He says: "A member of the African Methodist Church, South, asked us what we would charge to 'strike him a hymn-book?'"

Cope's Tobacco Plant estimates the tobacco annually consumed in the world amounts to two thousand millions of pounds, and that if the leaves were made into a roll two inches in diameter, we should have a "tobacco serpent" which, following the direction of the equator, would wind around the earth thirty times.

Until six years ago Grayson county was 180 miles in the interior, Jefferson being the nearest shipping point for produce, and Abilene and Kansas City the main shipping points for cattle.

The population of the county at that time was 15,000, having increased 6,200 in the ten years preceding, and to-day the population of the county is at least 30,000, showing an increase of 15,000 in the last six years.

At the time mentioned the vast rich and rolling prairies were nearly an unbroken range from which many of the early settlers derived an easy living by raising cattle, the limited farming operations being carried on along the streams and belts of timber, and confined principally to the cultivation of cotton.

On the 25th day of December, 1872, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway was completed to Denison, and the revolution inaugurated that has redeemed the county from its comparatively wild condition, and caused its raw prairies and waste places to smile with bountiful and diversified harvests that meet with a ready demand at the very gates of the magnificent farms that dot the length and breadth of the entire county.

A retrospect of the past six years shows such an improvement in Grayson county as has been witnessed in but few instances in the development of this country.

While Denison, a city of 6,000 people, with its four railroads, its manufactories, and the finest buildings in the State, has arisen from the wilderness, the agricultural interests of its tributary county have developed in proportion.

The Union Trust Company of New York, through its president, Mr. Edward King, have made out their reports and statements of the condition of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway for the year 1877 for the benefit of the bondholders.

It reports the road in a very prosperous condition, and though the year has been a light one in general traffic, the report of the general manager shows a good balance left over at the end of the year.

He gives the gross earnings as follows: Freight earnings, \$2,176,275 33; passenger earnings, \$832,675 71; mail earnings, \$94,925 34; express earnings, \$54,775; miscellaneous earnings, \$38,670 29; total earnings, \$3,197,321 67.

The expenses for the same period were as follows: Conducting transportation, \$499,263 70; motive power, \$489,646 81; maintenance of cars, \$185,558 97; maintenance of way, \$320,730 25; general expenses, \$113,535 36; renewal expenses and improvements, \$529,921 73; total expenses, \$2,148,656 82, leaving as net results over ordinary expenses of operating, renewals, etc., the sum of \$1,048,664 85.

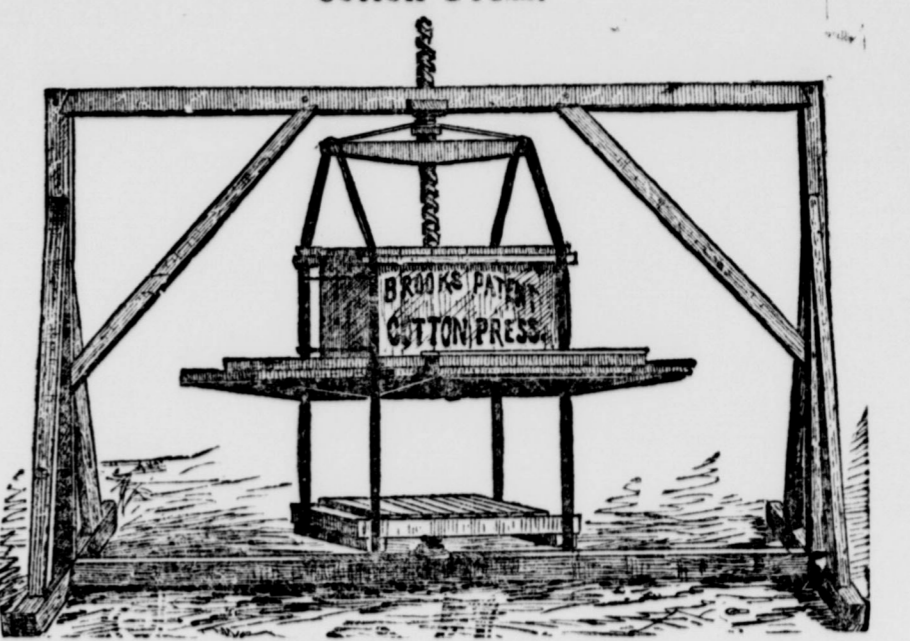
The taxes on the road-bed, rolling stock, etc., paid out during the year amount to \$96,453 67, leaving a net income of \$952,211 18. The earnings of the year 1876 were \$312,353 increase over 1875, while the earnings of 1877, although \$292,396 in excess of 1875, show a decrease of \$19,957 from those of 1876.

The company operates 786 miles of road, and during the year moved 500,792 tons of freight, and transported 225,722 passengers. There have been 76,694 acres of land disposed of at a consideration of \$170,758 65, while the payment on account of the land department amount to \$68,094 91.

A GALLUS OUTLOOK FOR TEXAS.—Mr. Samuel D. Williams, a prominent citizen of Princeton, Ill., arrived in the city yesterday on a visit to Solon N. Sapp, Esq. He has been for the last few weeks in Texas, where he made the purchase of a large tract of land for farming and grazing purposes.

Philadelphia merchants are rejoicing at the prospective opening of commercial intercourse with South Africa, a vessel having sailed from that city to Port Elizabeth, Cape of Good Hope, with an assorted cargo adapted to the market.

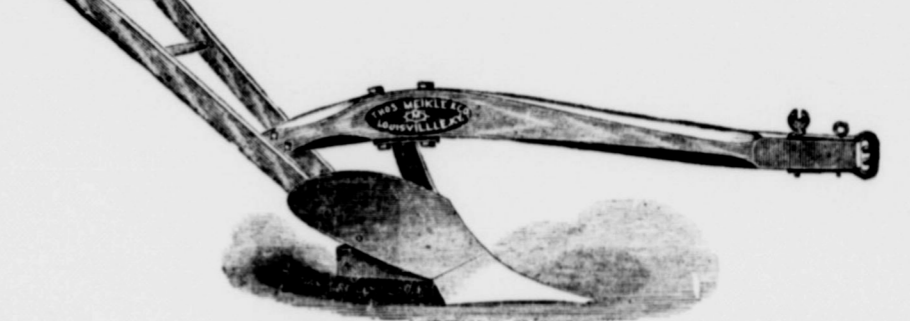
Brooks' Improved Wrought-Iron Revolving-Screw Cotton Press.



We now make only the largest size—10-foot. Every Press warranted up to 550 pound bale. Price for 10-foot set IRONS complete (currency), \$165. With cotton, 1 box (currency), \$200.

Gullet's Improved Light-Draft Gin, \$4 a Saw; Cotton-Gin Feeder, \$1.25 a Saw.

JOHN W. WICKS & SON, Agents for Texas, 53 STRAND, GALVESTON.



MEIKLE PLOWS, ITHACA SULKY HAY RAKES, AMES' PORTABLE ENGINES.

Steadman's Stationary Engines and Boilers; Goddard's Celebrated Taps, Dies, Screw Plates, etc.

EAGLE COTTON GINS, W. L. CUSHING & MOORE, Galveston.

Send for Circulars. SENECA FALLS BELL FOUNDRY.

For Church, Academy, Factory, Depot, Steamboat, Ship, Locomotive, Plantation, Fire Engines, etc.

Great Limited Mail Route from St. Louis to the East composed of the VANDALIA LINE, PAN HANDLE AND PENNSYLVANIA R. R.

The only Route running Pullman Palace Cars from St. Louis to New York without change.

DAY-LIGHT EXPRESS—Leaves the Union Depot, St. Louis, every morning, and, being a Fast Express, stops only at principal stations.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS. Execute all work with neatness and dispatch.

THE MAGIC COIN BOX. Holds over \$5.00 of Silver coin in 10 Half Dollars, Quarter Dollars, Dimes, and Cents.

MURPHY & REYNOLDS. W. S. FORSHEE & CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.

SOLID SILVER AMERICAN \$15 WATCHES. The extraordinary favor with which our \$15 Watch has been received by the public, has encouraged us to greatly improve its quality.

C. P. BARNES & BRO., Jewelers, 221 Main Street, bet. 6th and 7th, Louisville, Ky.

Texas Christian Advocate

News of the Week.

Washington.

House bill making an appropriation of \$10,000 for pier lights at the entrance of the jetties in the South Pass of the Mississippi river, passed the Senate.

A bill passed the House by yeas 177, nays 35, forbidding the further retirement of United States legal tender notes.

The Senate bill to disapprove and annul an act of the legislative assembly of the territory of New Mexico, passed on the 18th of January, 1878, by a two-thirds vote of both houses over the veto of the governor of said territory, was taken up on the 24th. The act is that of which mention was made in the columns of the Advocate some time since, looking to the incorporation of the Society of the Jesuit Fathers of New Mexico. In explanation of the bill, Mr. Garland, from the Committee on Territories, said the committee unanimously agreed to report in favor of annulling this act, as it violated section 1889 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which prohibited territorial legislatures from granting private charters for special privileges. The bill was then passed.

A bill removing the political disabilities of R. J. Chapman, of Texas, passed the House. Also the Thurman funding bill.

Geo. L. Smith is nominated Collector of Customs at New Orleans. He is a prominent Republican—carpet-bag politics being his profession.

Mr. Bell, of Georgia, in an able speech in favor of the postal savings bill, showed that under the operations of this bill the foreign debt might be refunded at a lower rate of interest and held by our own people in place of a foreign syndicate.

The Committee on Appropriations recommends \$4,772,000 to the Indians. The total of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, as recommended, is \$14,735,000—being \$682,000 less than bill of 1876, and \$714,000 less than that for the current year; less than the bill passed by the forty-third Congress by \$416,600; and under that of last session by \$6,000,000.

The Eastern Question.

Affairs in the East are no nearer adjustment, it would appear, than at date of our last issue. Dispatches are so conflicting that it is impossible to give even an opinion. There is a well founded rumor that Bismarck has retired from the position of mediator. As the principle of simultaneous withdrawal of British and Russians from the neighborhood of Constantinople is accepted, he thinks negotiations as to details can be more conveniently carried on directly between the parties concerned. Perhaps he is also influenced by certain unofficial insinuations that he does not ardently desire the success of negotiations. Russia, it is said, is quite ready to continue negotiations directly, and hopes Lord Salisbury will abandon his purely negative criticism; but it is not known how England intends to act. St. Petersburg telegrams say that direct negotiations can hardly fail to be successful if both sides desire an amicable arrangement. It is also claimed that Russia is ready to accept any arrangement securing amelioration of the condition of Christians and moderate compensation. Some difficulties, however, present themselves concerning mutual withdrawal from Constantinople. This is caused by questions of detail, and not by change of mind on the part of Great Britain. The Russians say the retirement of their army and the British fleet from the neighborhood of Constantinople could easily be arranged but for Turkish obstinacy on this point, which destroys confidence.

The position of the English war party seems to be that the government took its stand upon public faith and honesty, and upon the declaration of 1871, that one party to an engagement could not withdraw from it without the consent of the other. It is denied that the government were indifferent to the wrongs of Turkish Christians, but the policy of a great power could not be destroyed by an incident, however horrible—the real question being, whether England had or had not great interests in the East. It is maintained that the treaty of San Stefano, in its present shape, does not contain a single element of permanent peace. The interests of the Greek and Mussulman population must be protected as well as those of the Slavs. The measures of the British government are not only warlike, but precautionary. If a people went to war it must not be for the sake of victories, but only for great principles.

Bismarck is represented by some as the mediator; by others as attempting to league with Austria and Russia, and thus isolate England. When or what the end will be, can be known alone to the Infinite.

Miscellaneous.

The Expressmen's Aid Society Convention at New Orleans adjourned the 25th to meet in New York, 1880.

The San Francisco postoffice pays money orders in gold.

MACON, GA., April 25.—The Grand Council of Royal Select Masters met in this city yesterday and to-day, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Chas. R. Armstrong, of Eastman, most illustrious grand master; Thos. J. Perry, of Rome, illustrious deputy grand master; J. J. Little, of Griffin, P. C. of Work. Attendance large and session harmonious.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Georgia also met here at the same time. Wm. J. Johnson, of Fort Gaines, was elected grand high priest.

WHEELING, W. VA., April 21.—Yesterday at Taylorstown, Washington county, Pa., a few miles from this city, a cow owned by Robert Hall, a farmer, gave birth to fifty calves, ranging in size from rats to opossums. The cow died shortly after giving birth to the calves.—Special to St. Louis Times.

ROME, April 25.—An encyclical just issued by the Pope points out that it is wrong for society to combat the church and the Roman Pontificate, especially regarding the latter civil principality, which is a guarantee of its liberty and independence. The Pope renews and confirms the protest of Pius IX against the occupation of this civil principality of the church. His Holiness is confident, with the aid of God and the zeal of pastors, that society will finally return to the homage it owes to the church.

We have had during the week two or three sensations: First—The confession of one McLin, one of the Florida electoral count commissioners, has been a feast for sensation mongers. He is reported as saying: If the returning board had acted in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Court of the State, defining the powers of the board in reference to throwing out precincts, since rendered, there is no question of the fact that Tilden would have been entitled to the vote of Florida. He then gives in detail the frauds perpetrated. It is regarded, we think, by both Democrats and Republicans as emanating from disappointed politicians and disaffected Republicans for the purpose of fomenting discord. Apart from the illegality of attempting to reverse the decision of the electoral commission, it is thought that to reopen the question at the present time, when the country is upon the eve of financial prosperity, would be nothing less than a crime, and should be denounced by all prudent men, irrespective of party.

And then we have, as sensation No. 2, the news that a Lerdist revolution against the Diaz government in Mexico is imminent.

It may be mentioned as sensation No. 3 that it is reported by parties who claim to be in the plot, that in anticipation of the breaking out of hostilities between England and Russia, a movement is afoot to fit out a privateer at San Francisco to prey on British commerce. Letters of marque from the Russian government are already there in blank, waiting for the declaration of war. Negotiations are under way for the purchase of one of a number of steamers now laid up in Alameda creek. Capt. Waddell, late of the wrecked Pacific Mail steamer City of San Francisco, formerly in command of the Confederate privateer Shenandoah, is mentioned as the probable commander, and Captain Lapidge, late of the Pacific mail service, is named as one of the officers. From other sources it is learned that the Russian corvette Craysse, now lying in position, is prepared for instant action, and the object of her long delay here is to obtain the earliest possible news of the outbreak of hostilities, and at once to go to sea and be in wait for British vessels bound to this port. It is understood that, with the exception of the corvette Apola, and the small gunboat Rockett, at Victoria, and the frigate ship which is supposed to be somewhere in the neighborhood, there is not a single British war vessel in the north Pacific to interfere with the designs of the Russian cruiser, and it is possible that the vessels at Victoria would be retained there for defensive purposes.

John Morrissey is dead.

Bev. P. B. Morgan, St. John's Episcopal Church, Cincinnati, the 29th of April, formally announced his withdrawal from fellowship in that church on account of its Romish tendencies, and his intention to unite with the Reformed Episcopal Church.

The Louisiana log war promises to be ended speedily, by the people getting together, purchasing all the logs bought in at the government sale. This under promise that all the government officials shall leave.

LONDON, April 27.—The Times dispatch from Berlin says there is no prospect of a compromise between the Vatican and Prussia. The Vatican has instructed ecclesiastics in Prussia to be moderate in their language.

ROME, April 27.—Negotiations for the restoration of relations between the Vatican and the Swiss government have nearly fallen through in consequence of the opposition of the exiled bishops of Basle and Geneva.

Over one hundred thousand foreigners witnessed the opening of the Paris Exposition.

The amount of United States notes retired the present month in consequence of the issue of national bank notes, will be about \$1,200,000. The Secretary of the Treasury orders this amount to be replaced by silver dollars, to be paid out in the course of business. This sum will be distributed among various sub-treasuries and public depositories, so that to this extent silver dollars will be paid out for currency obligations. This payment of silver dollars will not interfere with procuring silver dollars in exchange at par for gold coin at any time.

The Secretary of the Treasury directs all medical officers of the marine hospital service to make use of the metric system of weights and measures.

Final arrangements to complete the reorganization of the Erie railroad company under the title of the New York, Lake Erie and Western Albany railway company, were filed at Albany April 28.

M. Leon Choteau, member of the French Committee, who favors a reciprocity treaty between France and the United States, was formally received at New Orleans on the evening of April 29, by the chamber of commerce and other commercial organizations, at the cotton exchange.

The Free Press building, Detroit, Michigan, was burned April 29, from explosion of a gaspipe. Loss \$50,000.

It is thought by some of the stockholders of the Western Union telegraph company that it would now be safe to divide that portion of the large surplus represented by its own stockholders as assets in the treasury.

The House joint resolution appropriating \$5000 for the erection of a monument over the grave of Thomas Jefferson passed.

The venerable rector of St. George's P. E. Church, Dr. Stephen H. Tyng, Sr., preached his farewell sermon the morning of the 28th. He thanked the congregation for their kindness to him and said he had much for which to be thankful. When speaking of the severance of relations between them his voice faltered. At the close he was led out of the church leaning feebly on the arm of one of the congregation.

(Communicated.)
Parker County.

It may be interesting to your readers to hear from this part of our rapidly growing country.

Weatherford is a beautiful city with twenty-five hundred inhabitants, resting among the hills nearly in the center of Parker county, and well watered by the south fork of the Trinity, which is fed by numerous springs of water from the adjacent hills. Stone is abundant and much used in building and fencing. Wood is plentiful at two dollars a cord. The city supports two secular weekly newspapers—the Weatherford Times and the Exponent—and their proprietors are doing a great deal to keep the emigrating public from the older States posted in the merits of the Northwest, and especially of Parker and the surrounding counties. The secular press, when it pursues its line of legitimate duty, by condemning lawlessness and crime, fostering the cause of education and virtue, advocating industry and economy, truthfully chronicling the current events of the day, without hurling vulgar innuendoes at Christianity and its doctrines, is a most potent agent in promoting the intelligence and civilization of the country. The citizens, although money is scarce, are not wanting in enterprise. Public spirit marks the business and professional men. Mills for making the best flour, improved machinery for moulding brick, dressing lumber, furniture shops; indeed, nearly all the industries are plying away by horse and steam in such a manner as to drive the thought away that a few years since, here the Indian roamed and the buffalo had his home. Three new churches, a large flouring mill and other buildings are in process of erection. Excellent farms, comfortable homes, and

much permanent improvement in school-houses and churches, give their evidence to the prosperity of the county. Nearly fifty thousand dollars within the last few months have been paid out for the school and company lands; and this item of investment also shows the wonderful energy with which the Northwest is advancing. Its increase of population and agricultural wealth, if no disaster, will far excel the figures of any preceding year. The extension of the Waco Tap and the Texas Pacific Railroads is a pressing necessity to meet the demands of this increasing wealth and travel, and should Congress fail to furnish the funds to extend these roads, we think the people should supply the money or do the work.

Stockraisers from the frontier report their herds in fine condition, owing to the mild winter and early spring, and that heavy droves will be early sent to market. We know not how to estimate the nature of the buffalo meat and hides already forwarded through here to market in the older States. That noble race of Texas animals is certainly near extinction.

The agricultural and mineral resources of this region of Northwest Texas, and its capabilities to furnish its people with homes of plenty and wealth, must remain in their infancy for years to come. Intelligent industry must come to cultivate its lands, machinery to work up its cotton, wool, hides and wheat for home use and for markets abroad ere we can estimate its blessings of wealth and prosperity.

The Texas school law, susceptible of much improvement, made to operate with less friction and less outlay of its funds before they reach the teachers who, under its workings, have been deprived of their pay, may become a great blessing to thousands of children in this country. But intelligent citizens must not rely upon the free school system to educate their children. Schools of higher grade and teachers of better qualifications must be sought after and obtained to meet the wants of the rising generations in this country, or their education will necessarily be woefully defective. We speak of the free schools in the country places.

Religious literature is much needed, and we shall induce our people to buy and read it, and extend the circulation of the Advocate to the best of our ability. The church and the children of the church in many places are perishing "for the lack of religious knowledge." Our preachers on the Weatherford District, except Rev. S. A. D. Strickland of this circuit, are all at their posts of duty, doing noble work for their Master. Bro. S.'s health has failed—a cause of deep regret to all who know the great promise of one so young. Trust he may do the lighter work assigned him by his presiding elder. Rev. T. W. Hines, Presiding Elder, in his programme has the entire interest of church enterprises at heart; labors in unceasing devotion, and leaves nothing undone in the fulfillment of his mission as a faithful minister of Christ. The district, though behind in its finances—paradoxical as it may seem—is, religiously, in a prosperous condition. The people of God to wield the full volume of their power must live in vital union with Him and mental sympathy with each other. Duty and happiness are forever wedded, and the faith of the church may always see the clouds of salvation gathering to break in copious showers to make fruitful the heritage of God.

H. M. GLASS,
WEATHERFORD, April 18, 1878.

The Industrious Brakeman.—A True Story for Boys.

I want to tell the boys about a friend of mine whose faithful performance of present duty led him into higher positions than he ever dreamed of filling, and gave him what we would all like to reach—honor and success.

In the earliest years of my experience as a printer in Chicago, more than twenty years ago, our firm did a good deal of printing for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, and because of this I came to know a young man who is the subject of my story.

He came from Massachusetts; he was poor, and had no influential friend to even give him a letter of recommendation. He sought employment on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and after waiting a time, at last secured a position as brakeman on a freight train—salary about thirty dollars a month. He was faithful in this position, and being both intelligent and industrious, he was soon made a conductor on the train, with wages nearly doubled. He soon attracted the attention of his superior officers, who saw in him an honest, faithful, conscientious conductor; one not seeking his own ease and pleasure, but constantly devoted to the interests of the company that employed him, so that not many months elapsed

before he was made conductor of a passenger train—a more comfortable position, and one yielding a somewhat higher salary. Here I first knew him, and I saw in him a modest, quiet, unassuming young man, free from popular vices, and one who tried to be just as faithful and true, and devoted to his work as a conductor as though the position had been that of general superintendent. He did not apparently have a high opinion of his own abilities; there was a total absence of that swagger and strut so often seen in those who come to similar suflatern positions. It seemed as though he thought that, to properly conduct his train—to secure the comfort of his passengers, and rightly serve the interests of his company—required the full exercise all the powers of God had given him.

One of the sternest and most exacting and yet one of the noblest, ablest, and most conscientious men who ever filled a similar position, was then general superintendent of the road. This man, Col. C. G. Hammond, watched every employe of the road with an eagle's eye. He measured every man, knew the ability of each, and seemed intuitively to know which were the faithful workers and the lazy shirks. Our young conductor did not escape his keen eye. When he least thought of it, his chief was measuring and sounding him, and finding out what kind of metal he was made of; but none ever knew whether he was approved, or not, for the chief's look was always stern and cold as ice.

One Friday night, train number four moved slowly out of Chicago under the charge of my friend, who, only intent on doing his work as well as he knew how, seemed to have no higher ambition than to be a good conductor—salary nine hundred dollars a year. About noon, when he stopped at a station, he found a telegram from the head office, ordering him to "leave the train in care of ———, and take the first train for Chicago."

This was an unusual thing. Wondering what could be the matter, conscious that he had tried to do exactly right, and yet remembering how exacting was the general superintendent, he feared that unintentionally he had fallen under his displeasure. Reaching Chicago late Saturday evening, he found Col. Hammond had gone home, and knowing how strict he was in his observance of the Sabbath, the conductor waited impatiently for the coming Monday morning, when with a fearful heart, he presented himself at the office of the superintendent.

"Good morning, Mr. Hammond; I have answered your telegram, and come to see what it means."

"Good morning," growled the chief. "I see you have, sir. I have concluded to take your train away from you."

The conductor's heart sank lower than ever. What before was only fearful foreboding, was now painful truth. He had served the company to the best of his ability; he had kept the affairs of his train in order; his reports had been carefully and correctly made, and yet, after all, he had lost his position; he knew not why, and felt that his case was sad indeed. He inwardly resolved that, having missed his calling, he would quit railroading and try some other service, where faithful work would be appreciated. He dared not hope to reverse the decision of the all-powerful official, yet in as calm a voice as he could command, he politely asked the reason for his summary dismissal.

Col. Hammond waited awhile before he answered. Then the muscles of his face relaxed a little. "I want an assistant superintendent in my office, and I have called you take the place."

"True worth is always modest, and our thunderstruck conductor could only stammer, 'But I am not competent, sir, to fill the position.'"

"You can do what I tell you; you can obey orders, can't you? That's all you have to do, sir. You will begin work this morning. That is your desk."

The new duties were not as difficult as he expected. At first he had only to obey orders, and carry out the details of work laid out by the chief, and to these duties he brought the same faithfulness and thoroughness that had made him noticeable as a conductor. His elevation did not spoil him or make him vain. He was as plain and modest, and hard-working as before—the salary at first was one thousand eight hundred dollars.

After a few years of service under Col. Hammond, and an advance of salary to two thousand and five hundred, the plain young man was invited to take the office of general superintendent of a younger road, at a salary of four thousand dollars. Distrusting his own ability, but determined to do his best, he

In the meantime Col. Hammond had become the general superintendent of the Union Pacific Railroad, running from Omaha to Ogden, where it connects with the Central Pacific road. This latter road was owned by four or five millionaires who had built it, one of whom was its good superintendent. However good a business man he was, he knew but little about railroading, and under his care the road was anything but prosperous until the owners and directors resolved upon a radical and sweeping change.

But where could they find a general superintendent who had the ability, and would dare to re-organize the road and put its affairs upon a better basis? They consulted Col. Hammond and other railroad men, and the result was that, most unexpectedly, our whimsical, modest and hard-working conductor one day received a telegram asking him if he would undertake the duties of general superintendent of the Central Pacific Railroad at a salary of ten thousand dollars. He was satisfied with his appreciation by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, who proposed to increase his pay to seven thousand dollars, and as he preferred to remain in Chicago, he declined the princely offer made by the California Road. Then another telegram asked at what salary he would become the chief of the Central Pacific. Almost hoping to discourage his tempters, he telegraphed, "Thirteen thousand a year in gold." At once came the answer, "Accepted." So, taken in his own trap, he had nothing to do but to bid adieu to the city that had served him so well, and turn his face toward the land of gold. My story would be too long if I should try to tell you the unexpected difficulties he encountered from the old officers of the road, who had determined that they would not be superseded, and that the new superintendent should not enter his duties; how they, before his arrival, set the whole press and people of California against him; how, supported by the directors of the road, he quietly took control, disarmed prejudice, conquered submission, and earned success.

This was nine years ago. He is still general superintendent of the Central Pacific Railroad, one of the most important railroads in the world. With its connections in California, this quiet man, not yet forty-eight years old, now superintends 2,734 miles of railroad and over fifty connecting steamers, besides dictating the tariff of the China, the Australian, and the Panama lines of steamships. While other young men, preferring present ease and comfort to the interests of their employers, wasted money and time in billiard halls, and theatres, and drinking saloons, Albion N. Towne was at work, building up a character as well as reputation, and now fills one of the most important positions in California; and instead of three hundred and sixty dollars a year as brakeman on a freight train, he now draws the comfortable salary of twenty thousand dollars a year in gold.

"Lucky man," says one. "Lucky" had but little to do with it; modest worth did it; work did it; faithfulness in the performance of present duties, however humble, did it. This untiring faithfulness in the humbler duties, not only attracted the notice and won the appreciation of his superior, but fitted him for the higher positions, which, without his seeking, he was called to fill.

I have long desired to tell this story of a young man's faithfulness, and consequent success, for I consider it a lesson that boys and young men of the present day can study to advantage.—By Alfred L. Sewell, in Home Arts, Chicago.

Against light and in the teeth of all opposing dissuasions a man may rush into murder, into leprosy, into suicide, and so sin that he cannot forgive himself. That is a possibility which replies to every objection not grounded on the very structure of the human spirit. God has not so made us that our natures are an organized lie. In the incontrovertible fact, that a man may so sin against light that he cannot forgive himself, the human soul, by its revelatory structure, proclaims that there may easily be eternal penalty for sin. The deepest laughter of the soul at itself, it cannot hear more than once without hearing forever.—Joseph Cook.

It was the pleasure of your correspondent to pay a short visit, the other day, to the new and thriving little village of Hawkins Prairie. It is situated in one of the most beautiful places in North Texas. Several buildings are under course of erection, the most important of which is a fine steam mill.—Erath Co. correspondence Bonham News.

Frank Stephens of Stephenville, has one of the finest young orchards in North Texas. He has thirty-seven different kinds of fruit