

Our Postcard Cards.

Full many a flower was born to blush unseen, And waste its fragrance on the desert air. So many a card from youthful writers, green. From the waste-basket at the pro tem store.

Correspondents take notice and govern yourselves accordingly.—AGENT.

ROCKDALE, Milam Co., July 24.

FLORENCE, Williamson Co., July 20.—Weather dry and hot. Crops short. Religion at a low ebb. * * * Our protracted meeting commences first Saturday in August. Hope to see a good time then. Had no circuit preaching here since the first of June. Pray for us; a religious famine here.—JOHN W. STANLEY.

PITTSBURG, Upsher Co., July 22. I closed a meeting on last Sunday night of considerable interest; it lasted eight days and resulted in 12 professions and 23 accessions to the church. Our crop prospects in this part of the county are good; the corn crop is made, and cotton unusually fine for this early in the season.—D. P. HAGGARD.

HOPKINS COUNTY, July 21.—Just closed our third quarterly meeting; our beloved presiding elder was at his post. The financial condition of the church is behind, but think will come up. Took up mission collections, seven dollars and thirty cents. May God bless and pour out His blessings upon the good people of this circuit. Needing rain.—S. H. RENFRO.

MADISONVILLE, Madison Co., July 23.—Query: Why are dogs allowed to disturb the preacher and the congregation in time of divine service and men denied the same liberty? Are dogs privileged characters? A dog is always in disorder in the house of God. Why not expel him from the congregation of the Lord? Let all the people say amen and act accordingly.—G. S. SANDEL.

MILAM, Sabine Co., July 18.—Our protracted meeting here closed last night. Five conversions and four accessions. All glory to God for His abundant goodness. A fine shower fell yesterday. You may look for a good number of subscribers from this section soon. Your liberal offer will take rapidly I think. Lasting success to the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.—G. D. WILSON.

MISSION VALLEY, July 18.—Parties inquire about early Bermuda potatoes. It is our earliest sweet potato. It is our sweetest variety, bearing drouth better than any other. It is better for the table than others when first dug. But it does not improve after being taken from the ground as others do. Therefore, we like it for early table use and for a sure product; but for winter use we raise other sorts.—G. OXBERGSON.

VELASCO, Brazoria Co., July 25. Our camp-meeting opened according to announcement, and continued five days. Rev. J. H. Shepard was the only visiting minister. He was greatly blessed in his pulpit ministrations. God was with us. The church was gloriously refreshed. No shouting, but intense thinking and feeling with well nigh all, and indescribable joy with many. Eight additions to the church.—SAMUEL H. WILLIAMS.

MOSCOW, Polk Co., July 21.—After a short absence from my work, upon returning to Moscow, I was glad to learn that the Lord was working in our midst. A short distance from here we have an afternoon appointment one Sunday in every month. There has been a meeting at this place. A Baptist church was organized, and the people are blessing God. There were some left for us. This is the result of Union churches. I suppose, however, that a half a loaf is better than no loaf at all.—E. C. FINLEY.

WEIMAR, Colorado Co., July 24. I have been looking for a report from Bro. Spencer concerning the result of our Osage camp-meeting. Well, it commenced on the 26th of June and held a whole week. It was a good meeting; can't give the number of conversions nor accessions. Bros. Lane, Kennon, McShan, Allen, and Thomas were with us; also Bro. J. H. Stone a part of the time.—WESLEY SMITH.

TRAVIS, Austin Co., July 23.—Have just closed a meeting at Nelsonville, which was protracted eight days. Congregations were good. Three accessions to the church. A number of others seriously concerned about their souls' salvation. Some Campbellite preachers set in two miles from us; labored intensely for one week; did nothing, and, I understood, got mad, and went home.—R. F. BEASLEY.

BLACK CREEK, Medina Co., July 22.—Have just closed a meeting held on the Chicon. We had a

good time. The Lord was with us in his reviving power. Methodist and Baptist united and threw their efforts together. Results: A new society organized with eight members. Several conversions. Don't know exactly how many. The church greatly revived. Give God all the glory. I received the Church Register. Am well pleased with it. Every charge should have one.—T. J. THOMASSON.

GRAND VIEW, Johnson Co., July 22.—The good work prospered; Bro. W. R. D. Stockton has just closed a protracted meeting at Center Point, which resulted in about 25 conversions, about 20 accessions to the church, and the church greatly revived. Bro. Stockton is doing a good work; his preaching is pleasing, practical and pointed, and by his consistent life and sound preaching, he is lifting the church to a higher standard of Christianity. We love him very much.—G. S. WYATT.

MONTAGUE, Montague Co., July 21.—Our district conference has just closed, and we have had a pleasant time. Dr. John says the reports of the pastors compare favorably with any district conference which he has visited. We were very glad to have the Doctor with us; they praise him much after he has left. We are protracting the meeting; we expect a good revival. We are needing rain very much. I will write when I close the meeting.—S. CRUTCHFIELD.

CORYELL COUNTY.—We had a camp-meeting at Henson creek, commencing on Friday night before the second Sunday in July, lasting for ten days and nights, resulting in forty-two conversions besides a great many bright reclamations and 27 accessions to our church. A vast amount of good done; think it will be felt for years to come. Pray for us; drouth continues.—W. W. HENDERSON.

BLACK CREEK, Medina Co., July 22.—It is very dry out here again. Corn crops are a failure; cotton is suffering very much for rain; will not make very much if it does not rain soon; don't know what the people will do if it does not rain soon. Times will be very hard here another year; prospects very, very gloomy. Stock are doing finely, but there are only a few who have enough to do much good. Prospects for general revival tolerably good. May the Lord grant it.—T. J. THOMASSON.

OLD CANTON, Smith Co., July 22. Our pastor, Bro. F. M. Stovall, is stirring around among the people, looking after his flock. He says he will find his way into the house of every Methodist in this community, when he gets around I will report the fact to his credit, as it will be something that no pastor has done for many years, if ever. He is trying to get his brethren to have their own Sunday-schools, instead of union so-called; he has only succeeded at one place, Canton. Our school is gladdening the hearts of many children; our prospects are bright.—C. S. WILLSON.

WEBBERVILLE, Travis Co., July 20.—Third quarterly meeting. A gracious revival in progress. The presiding elder present and looking into all the interests of the church. In thirty years we never saw a more willing people. They all work and work all the time. It is not strange that God visits them with power. We note the fruits of Bro. Erkenbrack's labor years ago. If he never did anything else, there is joy in this. Colorado camp-meeting deferred until second Sabbath in August. Ministerial help needed. Come and help us.—W. G. NELMS.

Galveston District Conference. District conference for the Galveston district of the Texas conference, met in St. John's church in Galveston, at 9 A. M. July 23. The presiding elder being absent, organization was perfected by the election of Bro. Goodwyn President, and O. T. Hotchkiss, Secretary. Out of the twelve charges in the district, eight were represented, from which we learn that the work of the church is advancing. Instead of appointing the usual committees, the conference passed a resolution that we have but "one committee to be known as Committee on the general state of the church, whose duty it shall be to take into consideration all the interests that are within the jurisdiction of this conference, and make a comprehensive report at the close of the session." A communication from Bro. Dashiell, presiding elder, was read and on motion referred to a special committee, which committee made report at later day in the session as follows: We, the committee to whom was referred the communication from

Rev. B. D. Dashiell, beg leave to report that we deeply sympathize with our beloved and afflicted brother in his suffering, and with his dear family, and that we are grateful to our Heavenly Father for the sustaining grace which has enabled him to submit patiently to those afflictions:

Resolved first, That we will earnestly pray for his speedy restoration to health and ministerial activity.

Resolved second, That it is the sense of this conference that Bro. Dashiell abstain absolutely from ministerial labors until he is fully restored to physical health and strength.

Resolved third, That we request the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE to publish and the Secretary to furnish Bro. Dashiell a copy of this report.

The report was unanimously adopted after kind remarks of several of the brethren.

Touching the above report the following resolution was passed: Resolved, That we earnestly urge upon all the preachers and stewards of this district the importance of meeting, at once, the claim of our beloved presiding elder.

Resolutions endorsing the Southwestern University and Chappell Hill Female College, were passed, to wit: Resolved, That the Southwestern University, located at Georgetown, the Methodist educational enterprise of Texas, deserves our unqualified support, and the patronage of all good citizens, and that we will seek opportunities to so present it.

Resolved, That this conference endorse the Chappell Hill Female College under the presidency and management of I. M. Onins, and will embrace every opportunity to call the attention of those having daughters or wards to educate to the merits of this institution.

The Secretary was requested to furnish to the ADVOCATE for publication, a synopsis of the proceedings of this conference, and to embody in that synopsis, the report of the Committee on the general state of the church, which here follows:

Report of the Committee on the General State of the Church, within the Galveston District. Your committee has received reports and statistics from eight of the twelve charges composing the district: St. John, St. James, Columbia, Richmond, Eagle Lake, Clear Creek, San Felipe, Houston circuit, together with a brief representation of Cedar Bayou; hence our report can only refer to the state of the church within the above-named charges. Dividing the general state of the church into the following departments—Spiritual condition, Sunday-schools, missions, finances, church literature and quarterly conference records—and giving the most careful consideration that our time allowed to these six interests in detail, we have prepared and beg leave to submit the following report:

SPIRITUAL CONDITION. The general state of the church, spiritually, seems to be fair. It is true the reports show the presence, in many of the churches, of worldliness, of formalism, and in many cases of open apostasy, but they also show, we think, that the good predominates and is at war with the bad. While from the study of the facts submitted to our consideration, we are compelled to cry, "the night cometh," as well as "the morning," yet we believe the morning to be in the ascendant, and that the darkness flees before the day. Two very discouraging circumstances, however, we cannot forbear to mention. First: there seems to be throughout the district a general carelessness in reference to the social meetings of the church, the prayer-meeting especially. It is the sense of your committee that the prayer-meeting is the very life of each church organization. If "prayer is the Christian's vital breath," the weekly prayer service is the church's spiritual pulse, and with its beats does church life rise and fall.

Second: The seems to be a very general neglect of family prayer. Is not the true secret of worldly churches to be found in worldly homes? Let family altars be erected, let the homes be kept bright, and the fires will flame grandly upon the altar of the sanctuary. Let every household be like Bethany, a home-type of heaven, and then our churches will be strong and vigorous; blessed centers, from which shall go out spiritual influences, radiating far and blessing all they touch.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS. We have not been furnished with, and hence can not give, the statistics of the Sunday-schools within the district. In the reports received we have been impressed with this fact, that Sunday-schools do not seem to flourish as they should in rural charges. With the exception

of the excellent schools at Columbia and Richmond, there seems but little success in this great work beyond the cities. We are constrained to believe that this might be changed for the better, and earnestly urge the pastors within the district to give their personal attention to the Sunday-schools, and encourage teachers to hold weekly meetings for the preparation of lessons and consultations about the interests of the Sabbath-school cause within their charges. We are glad to state that the Sunday-schools within the district are almost universally Methodist in name and fact—Methodist superintendents, Methodist teachers, Methodist literature.

MISSIONS. We report this important interest as receiving an average share of attention. Some charges have already raised their assessments, and the remainder, with perhaps one exception, are earnestly striving so to do.

FINANCE. The outlook financially is hopeful. The preachers have been well cared for, and the most of them will receive a very liberal support. We must call attention, however, to the fact that the presiding elder has been but meagerly paid. He has received the following amounts: St. John, \$81.25; St. James, \$62.50; Shearn Chapel, \$67.50; Washington Street, \$2.50; Cedar Bayou, \$30.45; Clear Creek, \$7.50; San Jacinto, \$2.00; Columbia, \$23.30; Velasco, \$12.50; San Felipe, \$11.60. Total, \$298.35. We are constrained to say that this shows a shameful and criminal neglect on the part of the delinquent charges of the district; and we can not too strongly urge the immediate payment of the amounts due to date.

CHURCH LITERATURE. We are glad to see that the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE is very generally taken throughout the district. In tasteful dress, it goes on its weekly visits into many homes among us not only bearing with it the condensed wisdom of current literature, purified with the salt of Christian sentiment, but seeking out and exposing the many errors that are percolating through the social soil. Well does it deserve our united support and we trust to see it enter yet every home in the district.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE RECORDS. We find from the reports and record books submitted to our notice, that there are within the district but three well kept quarterly conference records. Some charges place the proceedings of this important body upon loose sheets of indifferent paper, liable to be lost, and totally unfit in any case for such important records. Some do not preserve them at all, a neglect we can not too strongly censure. It is in the quarterly conference records that the history of the great Methodist Church is written, and we would earnestly urge every pastor to see that these records are properly kept, even should he be compelled to keep them with his own hand.

CONCLUSION. In the study of the reports submitted to our consideration we have found much cause for encouragement. During this half of the ecclesiastical year much has been accomplished in the district for the glory of God and the good of the church. Far more would have been done but for loss of an efficient leader, by the protracted illness of the presiding elder. If he could have been with us we think his earnestness would have kindled ours, and his self-sacrificing example and wise counsel would have been of untold benefit to the work at large. We can not, however, refuse to acknowledge the signs of encouragement with which the reports abound, and to be deeply grateful to the Great Head of the Church who amidst storm and sunshine guides all things to the accomplishment of his blessed will.

The following resolutions relative to the affliction of Bro. R. T. Nabors were adopted by a rising vote: Resolved, That while we regret the absence of our dear Bro. R. T. Nabors, we extend him our heartfelt sympathies.

Resolved, That we will offer special prayer that God will soon restore him to health, and that he may long be spared to bless the church, which recognizes in him one of its most devoted and earnest ministers.

Delegates elect to the annual conference are: D. J. Parker, E. E. Rice, J. C. C. Winch and Geo. O. Cherry. Alternates: Ben Allen, W. A. Shaw, W. D. Shepard. The next district conference is to be held at Asbury Chapel, on San Felipe circuit. O. T. HOTCHKISS, Secretary.

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THIRD QUARTER—SIXTH LESSON—AUG. 10, 1879.

Gal. v. 22-26; and vi. 1-9; The Fruit of the Spirit. Time—Probably A. D. 57; Place—Either Corinth or Ephesus; Rulers, Nero, Emperor of Rome; Felix, Governor of Judea and Agrippa II, King of Chalcis and Galilee.

GOLDEN TEXT. Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Gal. vi. 7.

Galatia, in Asia Minor, was settled by a colony from Gaul, or France as now called, about 337 years before the time of Paul's writing. The Romans called all that race Gauls, and the Greeks called them Galatians. Their characteristics have not changed much. They were fickle, easily moved, fond of change, enthusiastic, vain, and impulsive in courage. The Galatian churches had been founded by Paul in his first and second missionary tours. It seems that here, as elsewhere, Judaizing teachers followed him, and, in some instances, anticipated him, for the purpose of thwarting his plans and causing failure in his work. One of their methods of attacking him was to question his authority (chap. 1); and another was to insist on circumcision as necessary for Gentiles as well as Jews. They were industrious, and met with success, as is evident from the reading of Paul's letter to them. It was to counteract the pernicious influence of these false teachers that the apostle wrote. They were practically claiming that all Gentiles must first become Jews before they could be saved. To this daring but fickle people, Paul's naked doctrine of salvation through faith in Christ, was not so captivating as the gorgeous ritualism of Jerusalem, dead as it was. Paul, in his epistle, boldly discards all formalism as killing, while he earnestly asserts that religion centers in the heart. It is in Galatians that Protestantism has entrenched herself against Romanism, burdened with her lifeless forms. Paul herein teaches the freedom by faith in Christ that liberates from the dead works of the law.

Vs. 22 and 23. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law." "But" here contrasts the "fruit" of the Spirit with the "works" of the "flesh," as given in verses 19, 20 and 21; "fruit," the product; "Spirit," Holy Spirit; "love;" love to God and man; "joy;" a result of love in the heart; "peace;" a calmer and deeper state of enjoyment. Love, joy and peace form the first triad of graces, and are confined to the possessor. The next triad, "long suffering," "gentleness" and "goodness," give the results of the former three in conduct toward others; while the last triad, "faith," "meekness" and "temperance," are the manifest results of love, joy and peace on the individual possessor. "Long suffering;" enduring or sustaining wrong from others; "gentleness;" a gentle disposition with others; "goodness;" benevolence toward others, a step beyond gentleness; "faith;" trustness, fidelity; "meekness;" modest firmness; "temperance;" self-control over all improper appetites and passions; "against such;" against such virtue; "law;" enactment forbidding. Law is to restrain evil; but in the fruits of the virtues above given, there is nothing to restrain; as the author had declared in verse 18: "If ye are led by the Spirit, ye are not under the law."

V. 24. "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with affections and lusts." "They that are Christ's;" they who have given themselves to Christ, as the Galatians had done; "have;" is unnecessary; "flesh;" corrupting nature; "affections;" passions; "lusts;" impure desires.

V. 25. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." The agreement is that if we have subdued all evil propensities, we are no longer under the dominion of the flesh; but we are in the dominion of the Spirit; and hence he exhorts us, that "if we live in the Spirit (rather by the Spirit), we should walk by the Spirit," as evidently the Galatians were not doing.

V. 26. "Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another." "Be desirous;" become desirous; "vain glory;" empty glory; "provoking;" challenging, the act of one overbearing and strong; "envying;" cherishing hatred, the act of one submissive and weak. The envying weak one corresponds to the provoking strong one.

V. 1: Chap. vi. "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an

one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." The translation of the first part of this verse is defective. It should be: Brethren, even though a man be overtaken (that is, taken before he could escape) in a transgression, restate such an one in a spirit of meekness. "Ye which are spiritual;" reminds us of our Savior's expression: "He that is without sin." "Restore such an one;" rebuild or repair such an one; "in the spirit of meekness;" not in a vain-glorious spirit. The spirit of meekness soothes instead of irritating the fallen one. "Considering thyself;" recalls to mind those who seek notes in their brothers' eyes. Observe how Paul, to add force and personal application to his appeal, drops the form of general exhortation, and adopts the particular and singular address, as "thou," "be tempted," "be tried." The inference is strong that if tempted, there would be a transgression.

V. 2. "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." "Bear one another's burdens;" is a strong illustration drawn from the habits of fellow-sufferers, who thus relieve each other in cases of sickness or weakness from any cause; "the law of Christ;" the law of love.

V. 3. "For if a man think himself something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself." The self-conceited man is in as much danger as the man morally blind; he sees only his own imaginary worth, so magnified that he can see no good in others. Self-conceit prevents one from sympathizing with others in trials. Such an one magnifies his nothingness into something huge. The apostle coins a word for the one translated "deceiveth himself." It is phrenopathy; cheats his brain.

V. 4. "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another." "Prove his own work;" put it to the test by comparing it with what God requires of us: test it by the rule of St. James, i. 22: "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." "Then will have;" then will he find; "rejoicing in himself;" rejoicing in his own case, not as the vain-glorious one does, in finding faults in others.

V. 5. "For every man shall bear his own burden." "Every man;" covers the fault-finder and the transgressor. We can lighten or bear each other's burden in this life; but there comes a time with every one when he must bear his own burden of sin and responsibility.

V. 6. "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things." "Communicate;" share with; "with him that teacheth;" with the preacher; "in all good things;" in all Christian activities and duties—lighten the preacher's labors.

V. 7.—Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. "Deceived;" led astray. The word rendered mocked means to turn the nose in derision. "Soweth;" figuratively expresses a man's acts, while "reap" expresses the consequences.

V. 8. "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." "To his flesh;" to gratify his flesh; "corruption;" putrefaction, or rotteness; "to the Spirit;" under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

V. 9. "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap; for if we faint not." "Let us not be weary;" let us not exhibit a bad nature or disposition; "in doing good;" in doing an excellent deed; "in due season;" at the proper time; "shall reap;" shall be rewarded; "if we faint not;" if we are not discouraged and give up.

APPLICATION. 22 and 23. As the tree is known by the fruit, so is that one who possesses the fruit of the Holy Spirit—the love-lit fruit on the boughs of righteousness. Such an one finds no inward nature rebelling against a destructive law. 24. They who are Christ's have nailed their unholy nature to His cross, not to find a resurrection like Him.

25. When converted, let our lives show it; when Christ is in us, let the fact be manifest. 26. The "vain glorious" spirit, and the "provoking" spirit, and the envying spirit, cause all the fruits of the spirit to fall as the untimely figs, useless, blasted.

1 (vi). The most spiritual are the most charitable; and the guilty, the most unforgiving. They only succeed in reproving who do so lovingly and tenderly. 2. Society is too apt to set its holy foot on a fallen one, rather than to stoop down and lend a helping hand. The religion that

has to be so carefully guarded, lest it be stained, can not be very useful. It is plain that those who do not bear another's burden, do not fulfil the law of Christ.

3. The meek man is one stripped of selfishness and a vain glorious spirit. How much more congenial to weak human nature it seems to be to compare our virtues with the frailties of others, instead of comparing our frailties with their virtues.

4. If we examine ourselves honestly, it will not be difficult to discover whether our actions are the fruits of love or of a vain glorious spirit.

5. However much we may aid or hinder each other, as we press on, each with his own load, there comes a final hour when each must shoulder and bear over the river of death his or her own burden, and thence onward through all eternity. No one but Christ can aid in bearing that load. If we have loved Him, the load ceases; but if not, it crushes us.

6. We must share with our pastors their labors, and stay their heavy hands when we can do so. The pastor can not contract to do our duty, or to save us. Each has his own work, and the work continues while opportunities last.

7. In the field of individual responsibility we are always sowing and always reaping. If we sow in derision of God, we will reap of His derision when our fear cometh. Each seed produces its kind, and in a marvelous or fearful ratio, according as the seed is good or bad. While God's awards are found at the end of the path of duty, His retributions, like beacons, warn others of our failures and commemorate our penalties and the consequences of our sins.

8. If we sow loving deeds of kindness, we reap a harvest of loving deeds of kindness; if we sow for eternal life, we will reap in kind. It is plain that there are two channels in which one's life can flow out: one is through the flesh, appetites and passions, and its course is downward to death; while the other is through the spirit, a pure, loving spirit, and its course is upward to God and eternal life.

9. God's assurance that we shall reap as we have sown, should urge us to sow of the good seed, and to sow beside all waters; for in His "due season" the grand harvest of all human deeds will come with each one; we cannot fail to reap an abundant harvest of joy and peace.

Palestine District Conference. The twelfth session convened at Rusk, Cherokee County, Texas, on 26th of June, 1879. Rev. John Adams, P. E., called the conference to order, and opened it with divine service. It was clearly shown from the reports of the preachers that Brother Adams is looking closely to the interests of his district. D. M. Connally was elected secretary.

There was a large attendance of laymen. Ten ministers out of the twelve charges answered to their names. One of the absent ones was sick, and the other was engaged in a revival. The usual committees were dispensed with. The P. E. called the different charges in succession. As a general thing a favorable report came up from all parts. The prospect is now bright for the ingathering of souls in the near future.

The financial, Sabbath-school, and missionary reports were over an average. The preaching was excellent, and I trust lasting good will be the result. These are the names of the lay delegates: T. R. Bonner, R. H. Givens, W. M. Shumatt, P. W. Ezell, Wm. Spence, John Hank, W. W. Davis, and L. L. Ansley. The usual resolutions of thanks were voted the citizens, the railroads, and stage lines for their hospitality and liberality.

The sessions throughout were very pleasant and agreeable. The next session convenes at Crockett, Tyler county, Texas, July 25, 1879. D. M. CONNALLY, Sec'y.

WEATHERFORD, Parker Co., July 13.—I am not accustomed to writing for the press, but I desire, through the columns of the ADVOCATE, to call attention, especially of church-members, to a custom that prevails here, and, as I suppose, in many other of the churches throughout the country. I pray God that the evil may be remedied.

The custom to which I allude is that of church-members taking back seats in the house of God. Is it right? In my humble judgment it is not. Why? First, it prohibits many of the irreligious from attendance upon divine worship, and hearing the preaching of God's word. How? By filling the seats which they desire to occupy; and, as they feel a timidity in occupying the front seats, many of them leave the house when there is plenty of room. I have known this to be the case frequently when there was plenty of room to have

seated all who came, and have heard them say that they were crowded out by the church-members. This, brethren, is standing in the way of sinners, and we are taught in the first Psalm that such is wrong. If sinners are to be saved through the instrumentality of preaching, and we, by such imprudent conduct, exclude them from hearing it, do we not incur a most fearful responsibility, and will we not be held responsible for it? Again, by such conduct we fail to show a proper sympathy with the minister who preaches to us the Word of Life. If we would sit near the pulpit, and eagerly drink in his words, his preaching would be more effectual, and our souls would derive greater benefit. We would then more effectually join our prayers with his for the success of the gospel, and labor with him for its accomplishment. Further, such conduct impresses the ungodly that we are ashamed of the religion to which we subscribe. Religious timidity is a sin, as is also religious presumption. There is, perhaps, no better way of confessing Christ before men than by an humble zeal in the house of God. The most effectual exhibition of this is to occupy the seats near the pulpit, and engage heartily in the songs and prayers. Let us try it, brethren, and see if it does not ease our consciences, and refresh our souls. If we had more Holy Ghost religion more sinners would be convicted and converted. Less dignified formality, and more spiritual worship, would secure a more genuine and extended revival of God's work. Let our conduct be such as to show to the world that our religion is a fixed reality—a living principle. Let us sing it, pray it, talk it, live it. Let us not ask to be excused from any duty, a neglect of which God will not excuse at the great tribunal. God help us to live that our laymen may not be evil spoken of.—A LAYMEN.

WHITE ROCK CIRCUIT, Hunt Co., July 18.—Closed a meeting last Tuesday night, at Mount Carmel, of eleven days' length. Visible result: 12 conversions and ten accessions to the M. E. Church, South. Two of the converts joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We are indebted to Bro. Z. Parker (Bible agent) for valuable services rendered. Bro. P. is a live man. Brothers Hightower and England (faithful local preachers) have been conducting a meeting for several days at Hackberry with good success. This has been denominated by the preachers for years as a bad place; but, thank the Lord, quite a revolution has taken place: six conversions to date, and a number of penitents at the altar. I organized a class there the day before yesterday of eighteen members. One addition since, and several more expected. As fine crops in this section as I ever saw, wheat excepted.—J. H. WHITE.

A sad event, says the Norristown Herald, has occurred in the family of asteroids. Hilda is lost. One of the nearly two hundred members of the planetary sisterhood revolving between Mars and Jupiter can no longer be found in her accustomed celestial haunts. It is not known whether Hilda has eloped with her father's coachman or has run away and joined a traveling "Pinafore" troupe. We have predicted time and again that if Hilda's parents didn't keep a close eye upon her she would give them trouble. Being a revolver, it is not strange that she has "gone off."

Church Notices. TEXAS DISTRICT.—FOURTH ROUND. Sand's mission, Aug. 2. Rockport, Aug. 9. Leesville, Sept. 6. Texas, Sept. 11. Boxville, Sept. 13. Concrete, Sept. 20. Hallettsville, Sept. 27. Clinton, Oct. 4. Moulton, Oct. 11. A. A. KILBOUR, P. E.

GEORGETOWN DISTRICT.—FOURTH ROUND. Milano, Sept. 9. Belmont, Aug. 16. Belmont, Aug. 23. Belmont station, Aug. 30. West Falls, Sept. 6. Cameron, Sept. 13. Salado and Davilla, Sept. 20. Sugar Loaf, at Pleasant Hill, Sept. 27. Georgetown, Oct. 4. Liberty Hill, Oct. 11. Georgetown and Round Rock, at Round Rock, Oct. 18. San Gabriel, Oct. 18. Round Rock, Oct. 21. It is very important that all the official members be present.

CORPUS CHRISTI DIST.—FOURTH ROUND. Rockport, at Rockport, Aug. 9. Beeville, at Beeville, Aug. 16. Collette, at Hord's school-house, Aug. 23. Oakville, at Lagarto, Aug. 30. Success River, at Success, Sept. 6. Corpus Christi, at Corpus Christi, Sept. 13. Goliad and Victoria, at Goliad, Sept. 20. Helena, at Escondido, Sept. 27. Rancho, at Rancho, Oct. 4. JNO. B. DESTON, P. E.

CHAPPELL HILL DIST.—THIRD ROUND. Travis, at Sempronius, July 26. Chappell Hill station, August 16. Bryan circuit and Welborn mission, at Rector, August 23. Bryan station, August 30. Hempstead mission, September 6. Caldwell and Elbert, at Caldwell, Sept. 13. Lexington, at Lexington, Sept. 20. Giddings and Cedar Creek, at Early chapel, September 27. District conference at Chappell Hill, Thursday, July 31, at 9 o'clock A. M. The preachers of the different charges will please send the names of the delegates elect to Bro. R. Alexander, Chappell Hill, Texas. Please be prompt to do this, brethren. T. W. ROGERS, P. E.

WEATHERFORD DISTRICT.—FOURTH ROUND. Cartersville, at Goshen, July 19. Acton, at Acton, July 26. Graham station, Aug. 9. Jackson and Center, at Jackson, Aug. 23. Weatherford, at Harmony, Sept. 13. Weatherford station, Sept. 20. Jackson and Center mission, at Pleasant Grove, Sept. 27. Springtown, at Walnut Creek, Oct. 4. Colorado, at Good Hope, Oct. 11. Christian Mission, at Center, Oct. 18. Lake City, at Grindstone, Oct. 25. The District Conference will be held at Wade's Chapel, 12 miles southwest of Weatherford, commencing on Thursday, nine o'clock A. M., before the 30th Sunday in August, at which time we intend to have a self-supporting camp-meeting. W. PRICE, P. E.

AUSTIN DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Elgin, at Pleasant Grove, July 26. Winchester, at Ridgeway, Aug. 2. Bastrop, at Hill's Prairie, Aug. 9. West Point, at Ridge Chapel, Aug. 16. Eagle Lake, Aug. 23. Flatonia, at Pine Springs, Aug. 30. Weimer, at Orange, Sept. 6. Columbus, at Columbus, Sept. 13. Columbus, at Alleyton, Sept. 20. Brethren will note changes in time of holding several quarterly conferences and govern their selves accordingly. E. S. SMITH, P. E.

GALVESTON DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. St. James, Galveston, July 19. Cedar Bayou, July 26. Clear Creek, at Dickinson, Aug. 2. Matagorda, at Caney, Aug. 16. Velasco, Aug. 23. Richmond, Aug. 30. Eagle Lake, Sept. 6. San Felipe, Sept. 13. The District Conference will meet in St. John's Church, Galveston, July 23, at 9 o'clock A. M. Pastors will please forward names of lay delegates to Rev. A. E. Goodwyn, Galveston, E. D. DASHIELL, P. E.

MARSHALL DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Henderson and Church Hill, at Church Hill, July 26. Loneview, at Lagrone's Church, Aug. 2. Marshall, at Marshall, Aug. 9. Starville, at Starville, Aug. 16. Garrison, at Andrew Chapel, Aug. 23. Starville, at camp-ground, Aug. 30. Prairieville, at Prairieville, Sept. 6. Mineola, Sept. 13. Elysian Fields, at Elysian Fields, Sept. 20. Camp-meetings will be held on the Starrville and Garrison Valley circuits at the time and place indicated above. Ministers and working brethren are cordially invited to be with us and feel at home. R. W. THOMPSON, P. E.

SAN AUGUSTINE DIST.—THIRD ROUND. Shelby, at Asbury chapel, Aug. 30. Milan, at Milan, Sept. 6. Pleasant Grove, at Pleasant Grove, Sept. 13. Pleasant Grove, at Union Chapel, Sept. 20. District Conference convenes at San Augustine, July 9, at 2 o'clock P. M. W. A. SAMPEY, P. E.

BEAUMONT DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Beaumont and Orange, at Beaumont, 1st Sunday in August. Liberty, at Shiloh, 2d Sunday in August. Woodville, at Woodville, 3d Sunday in August. Mt. Hope, at Cook's Meeting House, 4th Sunday in August. Homer, at Barsold, 5th Sunday in August. DANIEL MORSE, P. E.

PARIS DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Robbinsville, July 26. Rockport, Aug. 2. Honey Grove, Aug. 9. Wrayland, Aug. 16. Clarksville, Aug. 23. Harrison, at Harrison, Aug. 30. Blossom Prairie, Sept. 6. J. H. McLEAN, P. E.

TERRELL DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Terrell, fourth Sunday in July. Rockwell, at second Sunday in August. Rockwell, at first Sunday in August. Farmersville, at third Sunday in August. Elmo, at fourth Sunday in August. The district conference will convene in Rockwell, Thursday before the fifth Sunday in June, at 10 o'clock A. M. The opening sermon will be preached at 7:30 P. M., by the Rev. W. F. Eastering. R. M. POWERS, P. E.

GAINESVILLE DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Maryville, July 26. Henrietta mission, August 2. West Fork mission, August 9. Rockport, August 16. Roseton, at August 23. District conference convenes at Montague, July 17, at 9 A. M. W. H. MOSS, P. E.

HUNTSVILLE DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Anderson, at Piney Grove, 4th Sabbath in July. Navasota and Milcan, at Milcan, 1st Sabbath in August. Courthouse and Plantersville, at Plantersville, 2d Sabbath in August. Spring Creek, at Spring Creek, 3d Sabbath in August. Prairie Plains, at Prairie Plains, 4th Sabbath in August. S. C. LETTERFAGE, P. E.

SHERMAN DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Savoy, at Sears, 4th Sunday in July. Collinsville, at Farmington, 1st Sunday in August. Sherman, at White Rock, 2d Sunday in August. District conference at Whitesboro, commencing on Thursday preceding the 2d Sunday in August, at 2 o'clock P. M. Recording steward will bring minutes of quarterly conference for examination. All delegates will try to be present; also all ministers and members that desire to come. J. M. BINKLEY, P. E.

SULPHUR SPRINGS DIST.—THIRD ROUND. Pittsburg, at Leesburg, 4th Sunday in July. Greenview, at 1st Sunday in August. White Rock, at White Rock, 2d Sunday in August. Sulphur, at Sulphur, 3d Sunday in August. District Conference at Sulphur Springs, June 26, at 9 o'clock A. M. R. LANE, P. E.

JEFFERSON DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Boston, at 4th Sunday in July. Jefferson, at 1st Sunday in August. Collettsville, at 2d Sunday in August. Mt. Pleasant, at 3d Sunday in August. Kelleville, at 4th Sunday in August. The Jefferson District Conference will meet at Linden, Cass county, Texas, on Wednesday before the 5th Sunday in June, at 9 A. M. A full attendance desired. Preachers from other districts invited. L. B. ELLIS, P. E.

WAXAHACHE DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Ennis, at Burham, 4th Sunday in July. Sulphur, at Oak Branch, 1st Sunday in August. The District Conference for Waxahachie District will begin Thursday morning before the 5th Sunday in June, at Lancaster. CHAS. E. BROWN, P. E.

FORT WORTH DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Covington, at Peoria, August 2. Fort Worth, at August 9. District Conference at Arlington, July 25, at 10 o'clock A. M. Introductory sermon July 25, at 8 o'clock P. M., by Rev. W. Vaughan. HORACE BISHOP, P. E.

CORSICANA DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Thornton, at Thorn Hill, July 26. Leona, at Leona, Aug. 2. North Leon, at Ringgold, Aug. 9. District Conference at Groesbeck, July 16. JAS. MACKAY, P. E.

SAN MARCOS DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Seguin, July 26. San Marcos, Aug. 2. The District Conference will meet at Luling, on Thursday, June 26, at half past seven, P. M. Let every pastor see that the quarterly conference journal is present for examination as the Discipline directs. O. A. FISHER, P. E.

STEPHENSVILLE DIST.—THIRD ROUND. Stephenville, July 26. Stephenville and Corinth, at Corinth, August 2. The District Conference for this district will convene at Covington Springs, eight miles west of the town of Meridian, July 16, at 9 o'clock A. M. J. P. MULLIS, P. E.

COMANCHE DISTRICT.—THIRD ROUND. Mountain mission, July 26. District Conference at Lower Cherokee, in San Saba county, August 14, at 9 A. M. C. H. ELLIS, P. E. SAN SABA, TEXAS.

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HON. JAMES P. NEWCOMB, of the Texas Sun, published at San Antonio, was in the city last week. He reports West Texas as still advancing in interest and importance.

MR. SWEET, the San Antonio "Sifter" of the Galveston News, paid us a visit last week. He is certainly the humorist of Texas. We hope "Bro." Sweet will call again.

MR. FREEMAN, of San Antonio, was in our office last week. Mr. F. was prospecting as to putting up water-works for Galveston. He is thoroughly posted, having superintended the Austin and San Antonio water-works.

DISTRICT CONFERENCES.—Would it not be well for each District Conference to appoint a suitable person to condense the proceedings for the ADVOCATE. We frequently receive half a dozen reports of the same conference, and this burdens our columns.

NOM DE PLUMES.—While we do not absolutely exclude articles over nom de plumes, we beg to inform our readers that the fact of an article not having real name of author multiplies to a great extent its chances for going the way that leadeth to the waste-basket.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.—The session of this institution begins on the 1st of October, and continues nine months. Its grand endowment insures the finest culture and talent in its faculty. Its graduates hold first positions in every profession in the land. See advertisement.

A PAMPHLET, explaining Wall Street finance, and giving instructions, showing how small sums may be profitably invested, which is advertised in another column, will be of interest to many of our readers.

WE WANT ten thousand names on the fifty cent proposition. Let every preacher work to this point. It is a business proposition, made on what the publishers believe good business policy. They do not want it understood that they are making any great concessions. They prefer their friends to think that the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE is conducted by business men on business principles.

WE see in the Galveston News a telegram from Dallas giving an account of the "trouncing" of a certain person whom it styles an "elder," for a grossly indecent act with which he was charged, while attending a meeting at Duck's Creek. The editor happened to be in the vicinity when the affair transpired, and made inquiries about it. In justice to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, we state that the man is not an "elder," in that church or any other. No religious body is in any way responsible for him or his acts.

CHAPELL HILL FEMALE COLLEGE.—It will be seen by the advertisement that this institution opens its fall term Sept. 1st, under the presidency of Hon. I. M. Onins. The high rank of Judge Onins at the bar, his native endowments, and his superior culture justify us in congratulating our friends of the Chappell Hill Female College in securing his services in the important position he now fills. We presume his lady will take charge of the musical department. Her rare endowments as a musical performer are well known to a large circle of friends. We commend the Chappell Hill College to our friends who wish to secure to their daughters and wards a thorough education.

WE have received over a thousand subscribers thus far on our fifty-cent proposition. Let all the brethren work on this plan. It means business. We want the Methodists of Texas to see and read their church paper, and then they will become permanent subscribers. The fifty cents will pay postage, mailing, etc., and the permanent patrons secured will be the profit.

ATTENTION is called to our St. Louis advertisements, sent us by our regular correspondent and traveling business representative.

THE NEWS AND THE SUNDAY LAW.

Those familiar with the course pursued by the Galveston News respecting the moral issues which have been before the people of Texas the past few years, will not be surprised to observe that it has arrayed itself squarely against the Sunday law now in force in our State. It asserts that the law verges "too closely on the puritanical notions prevalent in the land of steady habits a couple of hundred years ago, to be relished by the general public." We are aware that in the beer-garden and like institutions the Sabbath is denounced as a puritanical notion, and that all laws regulating its observance are pronounced the offspring of religious bigotry and intolerance, which seeks to cram its creed down the throats of other men, regardless of their conscientious rights; but when a paper with the pretensions of the Galveston News echoes such sentiments, it simply reveals its ignorance of the issues involved, or its solicitude to secure the support of certain interests which are in conflict with Sabbath rest and quiet. While its editorial columns are opened against the law, its special and locals tell us that the "Germans are bitterly opposed" to the law, and that saloon-keepers at different points are combining to secure its defeat. Before the News is done with this discussion, which it has opened, it will learn that the question involves other issues than the maintenance of the Sabbath sentiment of Christian people.

The Sabbath is based on the law of rest, and all legal enactments are based on the right of the laborer to one day of rest in seven. The Christian does not demand that the infidel, the German and the Jew, who hold the Sabbath of the Christian in contempt, shall be compelled to accept the Christian conscience as their standard of action; but he does demand that the infidel, the German and the Jew shall not be permitted to compel others to violate their conscientious convictions by requiring them to work on the Sabbath day. So long as the land is without Sabbath law, multitudes are compelled to carry on their business on Sunday, or abandon their vocations. The merchants in our cities and railroad towns, the butchers, the barbers and men engaged in other lines of business, are forced to keep their houses of business open, or see a large portion of their patronage pass into the hands of a class of men who have no conscientious scruples in this line. Several years ago, at the suggestion of one of the leading butchers of Galveston, the ADVOCATE made a plea for the relief of this large class of citizens by the enactment of a law which would secure for them Sabbath rest. He said that he and his employees were not only deprived of the rest that other men enjoyed, but their families were also deprived by this Sabbath work of the worship of God, in which many would gladly engage. We have had similar complaints from the proprietors of grocery stores. They would gladly close up on the Sabbath; but unless there was a law which made its observance general, they must lose a large portion of their trade, which would go to dealers which are open on Sunday. We have heard employees complain that they have been compelled to work on Sunday when they sadly needed rest, and when their consciences revolted against the act. To refuse the command of their employers was to forfeit their situations. The issue before the people of Texas is this: Shall we retain the Sabbath of our fathers, or inaugurate in America the Sunday of Germany, and France, and Italy.

From legitimate lines of business there will be but little complaint against this law. Now and then a German or Hebrew store-keeper, in some city or railroad town, will complain that he can not spread his wares before the public on Sunday; but the vast majority of merchants and their employees will rejoice that they can have Sunday rest or worship, as they prefer. The clamor will come chiefly from the beer-garden and the whisky shop. The columns of the News, in reporting the reception of this law at certain points, furnishes ample evidence of this fact. It tells us that the law was not generally observed in Galveston, and then follows a list of parties arraigned for its violation. Every one is a saloon-keeper. The News adds: "Chief of Police Atkins told the reporter that there were more drunken men in town

than he had seen in any one day for a long time." This only proves the extent to which the law was violated. While other men respect the law, the liquor dealer claims the right to evade or violate it at will, and his patrons abet him in the act. Lovers of law and order will bear these facts in mind.

Its Houston correspondent says: "Despite all that has been said during the past week about the Sunday law and its observance, there were some prominent saloonists here who determined to stand the consequences of its violation. Messrs Japhet, Albright and Sterns had their saloons open during the day, and it is probable that they did more business on yesterday than upon any other one day during the year. The houses were crowded from early morning till late at night with a continuous crowd, all eager to contribute their mite toward the breaking of the Sunday law. One house disposed of eight kegs of beer; another's receipts were over \$300. The increase of business can very easily stand the assessment of the \$20 fine which was imposed upon the gentlemen this morning, as they entered the plea of guilty before the Recorder."

Other people respect the law in Houston, but the dealers who grow rich in the exact ratio that public morals are debauched, combine to defeat the law; and because the liquor dealers of Galveston and Houston, and other points, planted themselves against the law, while their patrons, to show their sympathy, made beasts of themselves, the News rushes to the hasty conclusion that the law is a failure, and will defeat itself. The liquor seller and liquor drinker have personal rights, and so have others, and after employing six days in their demoralizing traffic, the interests of society will demand that on the Sabbath at least they shall cease their pernicious trade. Its telegram from Austin says: "There is great indignation by retail men and saloon keepers, and members of the legislature who voted for the law are all down on the black list." Nobody is surprised at this. We will hear from these gentlemen at the next legislature. We published one scheme they projected to control legislation with money.

In the same column we are told that in Sherman the law was observed except by three saloon keepers. In San Antonio, the News informs us, that no attention was paid to the law. "All the saloons, and some business houses were open. We would be glad to learn the genealogy of these parties who joined the saloon men in defying the law. San Antonio, with its mixed population, can not expect to rule the entire State.

The News also tells us that in the west "the Germans are bitterly opposed to the law." Its reporter from Castroville says: "It is particularly hard on the saloon keeper, as Sunday was their principal day of business." It will be a blessing to the families of the men who frequented those places, as the money spent for beer and whisky will enable them to feed and clothe their wives and children better than ever before, besides "laying up something for a rainy day."

While the saloon keepers are unhappy over this law because they fear their "hopes of gain are gone" for that day, other classes will give it their approval. We regret that the News has made itself the mouth-piece of a class whose business and its results all good men deplore. "Birds of a feather flock together." Beersaloons and whisky dens and Sabbath desecration join hands to evade the law, and the Galveston News is their self-appointed champion.

ON OUR CIRCUIT.

Grayson is one of the most prosperous counties in the State of Texas. It is intersected by railroad lines in every direction, and boasts of an unusually large number of thriving towns and villages. Sherman claims nearly 12,000 population, and with its splendid court house and school enterprises, is displaying a spirit of improvement as wise as it is liberal.

One marked feature of the district conference at Whitesboro was the deep religious tone that pervaded the exercises. A district conference never accomplishes its mission unless it lifts the church to a higher plane of experience and purpose, and leads penitents to the altar.

The love-feast on Sunday afternoon was one of those seasons which those who shared it will not soon forget. We wish we could tell how Bro. Stelzer made our hearts burn within us when, with his strong Teutonic accent, he told the "old, old story" which has made

so many souls happy in this world. We are sorry that Christian who has never realized the help which such experiences impart.

The following are the delegates from Sherman district: J. A. L. McFarland, L. Kelly, Rev. J. H. Johnson, E. H. Adams. Reserves: W. J. Morphy, F. P. Collier, E. H. Benton.

After preaching at Whitesboro on Monday night to a large and serious congregation, we left on Tuesday morning, in company with Bro. Moss, for his district conference at Montague. Our route for several miles led us beside well-tilled farms. The Red River counties have been highly favored this year. They will make an abundance of corn for home supply, and in many places a surplus for market, while the cotton crop promises an average yield. Fruit has been a failure. The appearance of the orchards, especially in the black sandy prairies, and in the the cross timbers, gives evidence that, with proper attention, fruit can be grown successfully in this region. The idea which obtained among the older settlers that Texas is a poor fruit country is yielding before the experiments made by farmers who have given proper attention to this interest.

Some five miles west of Whitesboro we entered the lower cross timbers, which are here about ten miles in width. The soil and timber is the same we have found at every point where we have crossed this remarkable strip of land, which rests its lower extremity on the Colorado hills of Texas, and stretches north through the Indian Territory and Kansas. For a long time these lands were considered poor, and the region unhealthy. They are interspersed with many beautiful prairies and wooded valleys, and the settlers claim that, in point of health and productiveness, they compare favorably with the black, waxy land of other sections. Things are well adjusted in this world. If all men were alike in their taste and judgments, what a tussle there would be for the same wife, while everybody would wish to locate on the same patch. Texas contains such a variety of soils that the man who can not be suited will have to emigrate to another world to find the land he is seeking. It is possible many of them would be dissatisfied with the locations they would secure in the other world.

Passing through the lower cross timbers, we entered the rich undulating prairie region lying between the lower and upper cross timbers. This belt of land, which varies in width from twenty to fifty miles, is one of the finest farming and grazing regions in the State, and is intersected by streams which make up the headwaters of some of the leading rivers of Texas. The soil in the prairies is principally the black or chocolate sand, with some spots as black and tenacious as the famed land of Collin and adjacent counties, while the creek bottom lands are of the finest quality.

Gainesville, the county seat of Cooke county, is located in a beautiful valley on the east side of Big Elm, the central prong of Trinity river. It already feels the impulse of the coming railroads from Denison and Sherman. New brick buildings are going up, and property changing hands at advanced prices, while the merchants who expect to ship produce direct from the depot, are making preparations for a heavy trade. The large and well appointed court house is built of the reddish sandstone that abounds in this region. The district court room is very large, well ventilated, and possessed of acoustic qualities for which lawyers should be profoundly thankful. We climbed to the outlook on the tower of the court house, and had a fine view of the rich region drained by Big Elm, with its green border of timber and farms dotting the land from valley to hills. Bro. Moss went up with us, but declared, as we came down, that hereafter we must do our own climbing and sight-seeing without his help.

We were glad to be permitted to preach in a new and elegant church building recently completed by the liberality of our church in Gainesville. It is 36x60 with a bell in the tower whose tones can be heard by all the region round about the town. The house cost some \$2100, and is furnished with handsome carpet and comfortable seats. We congratulate Bro. Smith, the pastor, and his charge on their possession of this beautiful house in which to worship God.

Though Gainesville is only six miles from Red River, which makes

a great bend into Texas territory at this point, yet the waters which drain the region around it are tributaries of the Trinity, and flow south. At some points the dividing ridge separating the Mississippi valley from the water system of Texas approaches within one mile of Red River. Standing on that narrow divide, one can see the rain which falls from the clouds parting on this elevated point, and while one portion flows southward toward the gulf, the other mingles with the turbid waters which flow eastward to swell the tide which the Mississippi pours through its ever growing delta.

At Gainesville our company was increased by the addition of Bro. Smith and Robbins, of Gainesville station and circuit, and Jones and Bailey, lay delegates to the conference. The size of our company and the amount of theology it represented did not enable us to keep the right road, and instead of the high ridge route between Big Elm and Red River, our course led us along the valley broken by many of the creeks tributary to the former stream. We were repaid by seeing many farms in these bottom lands, whose existence we would not have suspected while traversing the hill country, which at present is the undisturbed heritage of the herdsman and his flocks. As we approached St. Jo, a beautiful town on the head waters of Big Elm, we were repaid by a magnificent view of the broad undulating plains to the south, east, and west, broken by the long lines of timber which mark the course of the streams which here begin their journey to the gulf. What a change will be wrought in another decade, when the locomotive shall open up these fertile lands to the coming immigrant. For miles and miles the vision reached over the green hills, which as yet are unbroken by the plow, while the blue sky, which meets the far distant horizon, is undimmed by the smoke from the settler's cabin. Yet pioneers of civilization are on the ground. Hidden in the green valleys along the water-courses, but faintly seen in every direction, are already many a peaceful home and thriving farm, and only a few years distant is the multitude which will transform these silent hills into a cultivated garden.

After a cool bath and an early supper, which refreshed us after one of the hottest day's travel we have experienced for years, we reached St. Jo. Bro. Whaley, our kind host, told us of a point in the vicinity from which we could see across Red River valley into the Indian Nation. A sharp tramp of a mile brought us to a high knoll overlooking the darkly timbered valley of Mountain Creek. To the north, between the bold bluffs which guard on each side the broad chasm which the stream seems to have cleft for itself through the hills, we could see the dim outlines of hills north of Red River, some fifteen miles or more distant. Mountain Creek, which lies to the east of St. Jo, sends its waters into Red River. Looking west, we could see the valley of Big Elm, which heads a few miles from the town, and pours its waters southward. We were on the dividing ridge which separates the waters of Texas from those of the great Mississippi valley, which drains both the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains and the western slopes of the Alleghenies.

We preached on Wednesday night in a neat Presbyterian church, the only house of worship in St. Jo. We remember the day when ministers of other denominations visiting Texas were glad to avail themselves of Methodist pulpits, because there were but few others in the land. We confess it is a new experience to enter a thriving town in our State and find ourselves indebted to another church for a similar courtesy. We were delighted with our visit to St. Jo, but we think our good people there ought to have a church of their own.

Leaving St. Jo with the early dawn, our road led us up a high ridge, which at times furnished glimpses of the hills north of Red River, now the heritage of the Chickasaw Nation. After traveling for six miles we were still ascending the inclined plane before us, when suddenly the green hills sank into a vast wooded plain, and we found ourselves pausing on the high bluff, while, over a hundred feet below us, we were gazing down on the upper Cross Timbers. From this elevated point the eye looked north and west as far as its powers would reach, until sky and earth were mingled in the distant haze. To our right and left we could trace the bold outlines of the "jump off," as it is styled, which borders what seems to have been at some period a sudden break down or depression in the crust of the earth forming this vast basin of timbered land. We were told that beds of oyster

shells are found all around these bluffs, which would indicate that this remarkable depression was once the bed of a bay or gulf, whose briny waters washed the base of the steep hill side before us. The deposit of marine matter may account for the singular fertility of these timbered lands, whose white sands give but little promise to the casual observer of abundant crops. The timber and soil of this section are very similar to the lower Cross Timbers. These two timbered belts correspond in width, and run parallel with each other across the State, unbroken by rivers and creeks until they are lost in the wilderness to the north.

The Gainesville District Conference was opened promptly at the appointed hour, July 17th, by Bro. Moss, the presiding elder. The district embraces a large territory, and in portions is sparsely settled. Though there was a large attendance, the roll-call indicated several absentees.

The report of the preachers on the spiritual condition of the church was, in many respects, very encouraging. The attendance upon public worship throughout the field is very large, and where we have houses under our control, class-meetings and prayer-meetings are held with profitable results. From several charges there were most encouraging reports as to improvement in family religion, a larger number having family altars than we have heard reported before at many other points. In others there was sad neglect as to this duty manifest. Only thirty per cent of the preachers' claim had been paid, and yet they are cheerfully going on with their work. Nine church buildings and three parsonages were reported. Our church is taking root in these lands. Much interest is manifested in the Sunday-school work, though the want of houses of our own presents an insuperable barrier to success in many charges. Over 1400 scholars were reported.

We were much interested in accounts we received from various sources respecting an unoccupied field lying in the bounds of the Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory. The region lying between Red River and the Washita is to a large extent cultivated by white men who hold the land under leases from the Indian proprietors, varying in length from six to one hundred years. The soil is fertile, rents light, taxes nominal, and farming remunerative. We were assured that three good circuits, or missions could be formed there. The people want the gospel. Three local preachers, named Pickering, Hancock, and Holsenbeck, are living in this region, and are doing effective work. One has six regular appointments. We have given their names to preserve a record of these pioneers who are laying the foundation of the church in this field. Bros. John W. Milburn and Wm. McCarty, local preachers from the Marysville circuit, often go over and preach to the people, who give them cordial welcome. They want the preachers to come, and we have been assured they will cheerfully support them. We trust active steps will be taken to occupy this field.

The weather was intensely hot during our stay in Montague, but the people came in crowds, and the town people made them welcome. The house was crowded, but they listened most attentively to the Word of God. On Sunday morning not one-half of the congregation could find space in the house, and though the sun was hot, they stood patiently about the doors and windows, giving earnest heed to the message the preacher was endeavoring to deliver. At night there were many at the altar, and one heart found peace in believing, while many more came forward and gave the preacher their hands in pledge that they would seek the Savior.

We would gladly have stayed longer with this people, but other duties called us away, and at an early hour on Monday, in company with six others, preachers and laymen, we took our seat in a staunch two horse wagon and resumed our round upon our circuit.

Before we started we mailed to the office the largest list of subscribers we have yet secured at any one point.

The following are the delegates from Gainesville District: Nathan Johnson, A. J. Wolverton, W. L. Everheart, Wm. Midkiff. Reserves: T. B. Norwood, R. C. Mount, C. C. Bell.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

Little children, love each other. 'Tis the Savior's blessed rule, Each little one is brother To his play-fellows at school; We're all children of our Father, That great God who reigns above; Shall we quarrel? No, much rather Would we dwell like Him above.

Texas Christian Advocate

ADVERTISING RATES:

Table with columns for Space, 1 Mo, 2 Mos, 3 Mos, 6 Mos, 1 Year. Rows include One-half inch, One inch, Two inches, Three inches, Four inches, Six inches, One-half Column, One Column.

CHANGES.—Any advertisement may be changed monthly free of charge.

For double column advertisements 10 per cent added to the regular rates.

For triple column advertisements 25 per cent added to regular rates.

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

No advertisement counted less than one-half inch.

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

No improper or objectionable matter inserted on any terms.

For further information, address SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

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

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

Remit by Postoffice Money Order, Draft or Registered Letter.

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

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

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

POSTAL CARDS.—Will the brethren head their publications in the following order: Postoffice, county, date. Many now leave out the county. Very few people are so familiar with the State as to properly locate the intelligence unless they give the county.

ENG. H. QUICK.

We have engaged Mr. E. H. Quick as general traveling and advertising agent of the Advocate. Mr. Quick will also furnish the paper letters of the times from the localities he may visit. He has had considerable experience in the newspaper business, having for five years been connected with the Democratic Statesman, at Austin, Texas, and previous to that with several other papers in the State. In addition, he is a practical printer. We ask of our friends in St. Louis, Chicago, New York, New Orleans, Memphis and other cities he may visit, the co-operation and courtesy which we guarantee to all who visit Texas.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

Special Notice to Subscribers.

Almost every mail brings us requests about our notices: "My time of subscription is out. I can not well do without the Advocate; so please continue it, and I will send you the money in a short time." We never continue the paper in such cases. Let it be understood, that in all cases would necessitate the opening of several thousand additional accounts in our books. This of itself is a good and sufficient reason. There is, however, another: we are not supposed to bear the financial responsibility of our subscribers; and to resort to an indiscriminate credit system would subject us to the just charge of being indifferent business men. Subscribers who wish their paper continued must send the money, unless they subscribe through some of the preachers or specially appointed agents, in which case they, the preachers, become personally responsible to us. This is a rule to which we make no exception.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

REMEMBER

—THAT SOME PREACHERS—

In Each of the Five Texas Conferences

—WILL GET A—

Fine Gold Watch

—FOR SENDING THE—

Largest Number of Subscribers to

THE TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

Than any other member of his Conference.

AN EXTRAORDINARY PROPOSAL.

READ THIS.

The regular subscription of the Texas Christian Advocate for six months is \$1.50. Arrangements have been made by the publishers, WITHOUT ANY OUTSIDE HELP, by which they agree to send the Advocate to any address until January 1, 1880, for FIFTY CENTS. This offer is made to all, whether to new subscribers or renewals. We never discriminate against old friends. We are confident that if the Advocate visits a family he that period, it will remain a welcome guest.

Under this proposition, we want ten thousand new subscribers.

By extending the Advocate's circulation, its sphere of usefulness will be enlarged. With this increase of patronage, the publishers will be able to enlarge and otherwise improve the paper.

The design of this offer is to introduce the paper into households now destitute of a religious journal.

Ministers and church members, and all persons willing to aid in circulating a journal devoted to the spread of religion and engaged in a war against vice, are asked to co-operate in this effort to increase the circulation of the Advocate.

"This is no hoax, no humbug; but a sober reality, and one of the best offers ever made." (And with no outside help.)

"Many persons will, because of the extremely low price named, contribute their five or ten dollars, and have the paper sent to friends in different parts of the country." (Perhaps.)

THE ANNUAL MINUTES TEXAS CONFERENCES.

The publication of our Annual Minutes, while of great value to the church, involves no small amount of labor and expense to the publishers. To insure its success, it is important that each preacher should ascertain as far as possible the number who will take the Minutes before he comes to conference. Let him bring as many names as he can secure, with the money, and their address, and they can be sent promptly to the parties when the work is published. These, with those which will be secured after the arrival of the preacher on his new work, will indicate the edition the publishers will issue from the press.

A copy of the Minutes should be in the possession of each member of the church who desires to be posted as to its movements. They will furnish information as to its condition and growth. They contain reports respecting the state and prospects of the different enterprises the church has inaugurated. They are an excellent church directory, giving information respecting each conference, district, pastoral charge and preacher in the State. Will each preacher bring up a list of subscribers to his conference? The editor, together with one of the publishers and a secretary appointed by the conference, can prepare the copy for the Minutes during the session of each conference—and thus avoid the delay heretofore caused by having to wait until the conference secretaries could prepare the matter for publication. This plan will also relieve the regular secretaries from a difficult and burdensome task; and secure uniformity in the style of the work.

"Chills that set the bones to aching, giving them an earthquake shaking, causing every tooth to chatter, Like bones shaken on a platter; Twisting all the joints about, With a wrench that makes you shout, 'Chinax of all earthly ills, Are these racking fever chills.'"

MARRIED.

MOOR—RAMSEY.—By Rev. T. S. Garrett, at the residence of the bride's sister, July 17, 1879, Mr. F. Moor and Miss Maggie Ramsey. Both of Caldwell county, Texas.

HALL—WILLIE.—By Rev. W. B. Rogers, in Broadham, Texas, on July 21, 1879, Mr. H. Hall and Miss Rebecca L. Willie, daughter of Judge W. T. Willie. All of Independence, Texas.

PHILLIPS—MANUEL.—By Rev. L. Z. Morris, at the residence of the bride's father, in San Jacinto county, Texas, July 19, 1879, Wm. M. Phillips and Miss Mary H. Manuel. All of San Jacinto county, Texas.

STEPHENSVILLE DIST.—FOURTH ROUND.

Carlton cir. at Carlton, Aug 9, 10. Jonesboro cir. at Hurst, Aug 16, 17. Galveston cir. at Station Creek, Aug 28, 24. Clearwater cir. at Fred, Aug 29, 30. Clifton cir. at Kings, Sept 6, 7. Meridian cir. at Meridian, Sept 13, 14. Dallas cir. at Meridian, Sept 20, 21. Sunday Creek cir. at Mt. Pisgah, Sept 27, 28. Duffen cir. at Wesley's chapel, Oct 4, 5. Granbury cir. at Granbury, Oct 11, 12. Stephenville cir. Oct 18, 19.

SAN MARCOS DIST.—FOURTH ROUND.

San Marcos cir. at Cottonwood, Aug 16, 17. Round Mountain cir. at Walnut, Aug 28, 24. Clearwater cir. at Blaines, Aug 29, 30. Thompsonville cir. at Clark's chapel, Sept 6, 7. Mountain City cir. at Science Hall, Sept 13, 14. Fossil cir. at West Park, Sept 20, 21. Seguin cir. Sept 27, 28. San Marcos sta. Oct 4, 5. Gonzales cir. at Gonzales Oct 11, 12.

WAXAHACHIE DIST.—FOURTH ROUND.

Waxahachie sta. 24 Sunday in August. Waxahachie cir. at Center Point, 24 Sunday in August.

ROSEAN cir. at Oulton, 4th Sunday in Aug. Paris and Fulmer 13th Sunday in Aug. Ferris cir. at Trinity, 1st Sunday in Sept. Rice and Chastell, at Rice, 2d Sunday in Sept. Lancaster and Wesley, 2d Sunday in Sept. Fossil cir. at Saline, 4th Sunday in Sept. Trinity cir. 1st Sunday in Oct. Adams' sta. 2 Sunday in Oct.

PALESTINE DIST.—THIRD ROUND.

Kickapoo cir. at Anderson's camp-ground, Aug 2, 3. Palestine cir. at Parker's chapel, Aug 9, 10. Palestine sta. Aug 16, 17. Clearwater cir. at Blaines, Aug 28, 24. Tyler sta. Aug 29, 30. Athens cir. at Red Hill, Sept 6, 7. Trinity cir. at Meridian's chapel, Sept 13, 14. Campmeetings will be held in connection with the quarterly conferences of Kickapoo, Athens and Trinity circuits. JNO. ADAMS, P. E.

FORT WORTH DIST.—FOURTH ROUND.

Fort Worth cir. Aug 22. Cleburn sta. Aug 30. George's Creek, Sept 6. Canton Grove, Sept 13. Alvarado cir. Sept 20. Hillsboro cir. Sept 27. Covington, Oct 4. Fort Worth, Oct 11. Arlington, Oct 18. Fort Worth sta. Oct 25. HORACE BISHOP, P. E.

DALLAS DIST.—FOURTH ROUND.

Honey Creek cir. (camp-meeting), Aug 10, 11. Lamar Street, Sept 6, 7. Floyd Street, Sept 13, 14. Bethel cir. Sept 20, 21. Grapevine cir. Sept 27, 28. Grapevine cir. Oct 4, 5. McKinney and Van Alstyne, Oct 11, 12. Pleasant Hill, Oct 18, 19. Campmeeting at White Rock, Clark & Bryan camp-ground, convening Friday before the 4th Sunday in August. Preachers are cordially invited.

COMANCHE DIST.—FOURTH ROUND.

Comanche at Ebenezer, Aug 9. Hamilton, at Farmer's Chapel, Aug 23. Plum Creek, at Lankford Cove, Aug 30. Houston Creek, at Houston, Sept 6. Lampson, at Elm Grove, Sept 13. Burnett, at Crowder, Sept 20. Lane sta. at Mountain Valley, Sept 27. San Sab, at Harry's school-house, Oct 4. Colorado sta. Sept 4. Mountain sta. Oct 11. Brownwood Oct 18. C. H. ELLIS, P. E.

BOOKS.—Will the brethren please bear in mind that the money should accompany orders for books. We are compelled to this course because we must pay cash for books.

ST. LOUIS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

Arrangements have been made to send the St. Louis Christian Advocate, a large eight-page paper, edited by D. E. McAnally, D. D., to any person who has not heretofore been a subscriber, six months for the nominal sum of fifty cents. Address all orders to LOCAL D. DAMON, Manager, St. Louis, Mo.

We call the attention of our numerous readers all over the State to the advertisement of Dr. Bell's Fit Cure in another column. From the numerous testimonials given, the most skeptical should be convinced of its power to overcome this dread disease. If you know of any one afflicted call their attention to the advertisement. This remedy should be in the hands of every afflicted person in the State; it has a world-wide reputation, and is spoken of in the highest terms by the afflicted. Our ministers throughout the State should investigate this matter, and recommend it to their afflicted people. Hundreds of lives have been made happy by seeing their loved ones restored to health.

CAN'T PREACH GOOD.

No man can do a good job of work, preach a good sermon, try a lawsuit well, doctor a patient or write a good article when he feels miserable and dull, with sluggish brain and unsteady nerves, and nose should make the attempt in such a condition when it can be so easily and cheaply removed by a little Hop Bitters. See "Truths" and "Trove's."

STRAENA.—Our readers are directed to an advertisement headed Straena, an excellent preparation for mending dishes, glass and china ware, marble, ivory, porcelain, leather, wood, etc. J. J. Tobin, Druggist, Austin, Texas, has the preparation for sale.

What the Press Say.

R. C. Buckner, publisher of the Texas Baptist, at Dallas, writes: "When our columns are crowded with advertisements, our readers will allow me to over-run a little for so good a thing as the Liver-Pad."

Saved Many Times Its Cost.

Dr. Wesley Taylor.—My wife has suffered with sick-headache and neuralgia for years. She never got relief from physicians, except when pain was very bad she took morphine, giving temporary relief. About the first of November last she purchased a Holman Liver Pad; since then she has not had sick-headache or neuralgia. The Holman Liver Pad has saved me in money many times the cost of the Pad, and I have the great happiness of having a healthy wife, which I did not have before she got the Holman Liver Pad. A. Y. HOGAN, ST. LOUIS, Mo. Genuine Holman Pads have his picture on the box and Pad. All others are worthless imitations. Ask for the Holman Pad, and take no other, sold by druggists.

Address all correspondence to DR. WESLEY TAYLOR, Box 268, Galveston, Texas. Prices: Taylor's Pad, \$1.50; Women's \$2; Men's \$3; XXX Pads, for chronic cases, \$5. Absorbent Body or Foot Plasters, 50 cents each. Absorbent Bathing Salt, 25 cents per package. All except salt sent free of postage; 10 cents per package for registering. Give symptoms.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure for consumption, bronchitis, cough, asthma, and all throat and lung affections; also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French or English. Sent by mail, with addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 119 Powers' Block, Rochester, New York.

A. K. HAWKES.

Persons desiring a pair of Hawkes' Celebrated Spectacles, can send for catalogue containing price list, and directions for insuring a perfect fit; and have them sent by mail. Address A. K. HAWKES, Austin, Texas.

WHICH IS CHEAPEST.

A package of DUKE'S Durham, containing twenty pipe-fills of the best smoking tobacco made, or one common cigar? Each costs ten cents.

F. EVERETT, NOTARY PUBLIC, Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Collections made, contracts drawn, and a general agency business conducted.

AYER'S PILLS are the best Purgative.

T. E. THOMPSON, The Old Established and Reliable JEWELER.

Cor. Tremont and Market Sts., Galveston, Texas. Watches and Jewelry carefully repaired at low rates.

All Work Warranted. An article for repair can be sent by mail, registered, with safety. Prompt returns guaranteed.

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. All kinds of pictures executed in the best style of the art and at reasonable prices. PHOTO-CHEMISTS AND CONVEX GLASS sale. send for price list. 84-ly.

Commercial.

TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE OFFICE, Galveston, Texas, July 31, 1879.

COTTON.

At New York, the market opened firm and closed quiet. Sales to-day 224 bales. Quotations for all grades are as follows:

Ordinary 10 5-16e
Good Ordinary 11 1-16e
Low Middling 11 7-16e
Good Middling 12 1-16e

At New Orleans, market is easy. Sales 225 bales. Quotations are as follows:

Good Ordinary 10 5-16e
Low Middling 11 7-16e
Good Middling 12 1-16e

At Liverpool, market for spots opened steady and closed firm. Quotations are as follows:

Middling Uplands 69-16d
Ordinary 69-16d

The market here opened dull and closed nominal. Quotations are as follows for all grades:

PRESENT QUOTATIONS.

Table with columns for Commodity and Price. Includes Beef and cows, good to choice, 1 1/2c @ 2c; Beef and cows, common and ordinary, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Yearlings, choice, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Yearlings, common, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Calves, choice, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Calves, common, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Sheep, choice, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Sheep, common, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Hogs, choice, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Hogs, common, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Corn-fed calves and cows, choice, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Corn-fed calves and cows, fair to ordinary, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Corn-fed calves and cows, rough, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c.

Beef and Cows.—Butchers are supplied for a few days. Present supply ample for the demand of the coming week.

Calves and Yearlings.—Would not advise shipment at present.

THE GENERAL MARKET.

Table with columns for Commodity and Price. Includes Flour, extra heavy, per yard, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Flour, medium, per yard, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Flour, low, per yard, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Corn Meal, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Sugar, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Coffee, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Tea, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Rice, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Beans, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Peas, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Potatoes, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Apples, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Oranges, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Lemons, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Limes, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Pineapples, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Watermelons, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Cucumbers, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Tomatoes, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Peppers, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Onions, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Carrots, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Parsnips, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Turnips, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Potatoes, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Apples, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Oranges, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Lemons, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Limes, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Pineapples, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Watermelons, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Cucumbers, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Tomatoes, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Peppers, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Onions, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Carrots, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; Parsnips, 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c; 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Texas Christian Advocate

Dallas Female College.

As a part of the committee appointed by the North Texas conference we desire to report to the church what we saw and heard at the recent commencement exercises of the Dallas Female College. As we belong to no mutual admiration society, we will leave out all superlatives, and come at once to facts. The college we may truthfully say has closed a successful year. Seven young ladies were graduated, and evinced a good knowledge of the branches studied. Their essays had less of moonshine sentimentality, and more good sound sense, than any we ever heard read on a similar occasion. Above one hundred matriculated during the year, and considering the changes made of teachers, etc., in the midst of the year this may be considered a wonderful achievement. Rev. Marshall McIlhenny, A. M., the new president, has demonstrated his pre-eminent fitness for his position, and this is the judgment of this whole community. As a scholar he has, perhaps, no superior in Texas, and his methods of instruction are the ripened products of twenty years' experience in the best colleges in the land. He is not only a ripe scholar, but a believer in the truths of our holy religion, and God is the concrete of all truth whether it be in the domain of physics or metaphysics, art or literature. No young lady can pass a year under his tuition without being deeply impressed in her moral nature. In the curves and axioms of mathematics, the laws of thought, in the inflections of language, in the history of nations, in our psychology and physiology he sees a Divine hand. No parent need fear to trust a daughter's morals in this college. Adopting Bishop Marvin's definition of education, the most comprehensive ever given—viz: "Education: the soul's adjustment to universal truth," he has an extensive curriculum embracing the elementary branches, and culminating in the most advanced studies in mental and moral philosophy, etc., together with the ornamental arts. Mathematics receive more attention than in most female colleges. Ancient and modern languages are taught according to continental methods, and elocution is a speciality. As you have already had a graceful notice of the commencement from the pen of Sister Howell, we add nothing on that point. We are conscientious when we say to the whole church and to all who have daughters to educate: You can not send them to a better college than this. Every facility is afforded here. For full particulars, correspond with the president.

H. A. BOURLAND, Com. M. H. CULLEM.

Receiving Members into the Church.

Every Methodist minister, when received into the conference, promises to "conform to the discipline of the church." Now, the discipline says: "When persons offer themselves for church membership, let the preacher in charge inquire into their spiritual condition, and receive them into the church when they have given satisfactory assurances of their desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins, and also of the genuineness of their faith and of their willingness to keep the rules of the church." Do the preachers conform to the discipline in this matter? Do they inquire into the spiritual condition of the applicant? Do they require him to give satisfactory assurances of his desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from his sins? Do they inquire into the genuineness of his faith and his willingness to keep the rules of the church? I hesitate not to say that any preacher who receives persons into the church before they have given the above "satisfactory assurances" violates the discipline—aye, the most solemn pledge made to God and His church. How is a preacher to know these things unless he has a private interview with the candidate for membership? Is it not a notorious fact that many of our preachers receive persons into the church without a word of inquiry into their spiritual condition? Is it not probable that we would have less trouble with disorderly members if all our preachers, in receiving persons into the church, were seriously to inquire of the applicant in a private interview: "Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works?" etc., and explain to them that this vow required of them to lay aside dancing, card-playing, theater-going, and all other worldly follies. The writer has pursued this course for years, and has in nearly every instance found it to have a salutary effect. Mr. Editor, I have called attention to the above matter, because I believe it is a vital point, and because I fear that many of our preachers are derelict

in regard to it. I would be glad to hear from others on this question. Brethren, give us your experience, views and methods in this matter. G. S. SANDEL.

The Bible vs. Lax Discipline.

"But if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican." "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them that cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned, and avoid them." "I have written unto you, not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner, with such an one go not to eat." * * * Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person."

"We command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly and not after the tradition which he received of us. And if any man obey not our word, note that man and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed." The above quotations are given by an exchange to strengthen some weak brethren who are lax in the enforcement of discipline—especially as regards such diversions as can not be used in the name of the Lord Jesus. The enforcement of discipline should be understood not as a matter of choice, (as many appear from their action to think), but as a divine requirement. A conscientious preacher should not permit persistent violators of the discipline to remain within the pale of the church. "Will it pay?" is not the question. Because a member contributes liberally is no excuse to "keep his company" if he be loose in morals, or in any particular violates the discipline. "If the church nourishes wrong within her own bosom, instead of casting it out, she is false to her mission, and is forfeiting her character as a Christian church. It is far better for her to be purified, if necessary, by the application of a disagreeable remedy, than to be in a state of chronic disorder, and become an asylum for evil-doers. It should be distinctly understood that it means something to be a Methodist. The church has no right to encourage looseness in moral conduct. It is the light of the world, and should stand before the community firmly opposed to every species of immorality and crime. In this present age, which is characterized by the frequency of dishonest and fraudulent transactions, it is highly important that the church should stem the tide of corruption, and be a bulwark of defense to our country."

Brady City Mission.

In the ADVOCATE, of July the 12th, I find an article under the title, "The Other Side," calling attention to my postal of June 21st. I wish to say that the number on roll is ninety, not seventy. That there can not be found in the bounds of the Brady City Mission, as given me at conference, the number of church going people reported in the minutes, the work embracing in the plan, McCulloch county and two appointments in Mason—Concho and Tom Green, not being named in that plan. Dr. Tucker goes out of the mission, in his article, to bring in McKavett. Is not that in the Menardville mission? The number reported to have been gathered in last year is seventy-seven—see minutes, page thirteen, Brady City mission. I am perfectly calm, doctor. The organizations I referred to were, Camp San Saba, where the largest number is to be found, and Peter's Prairie. The class-leader, Prof. J. D. Hurley, and a majority of the members say that there was not a discord in the church when Dr. T. reached them. I find a family of five, whose names were enrolled last year, and they say that they have never joined the church in Texas. There are others who were dropped off the year before whose names were gathered up, and some of them were placed in office and I do not think have proven of any benefit to the church. I. K. WALLER.

Sherman District Conference.

The district conference, for Sherman district, North Texas Annual Conference, convened at Whitesboro, July 10th, at 2 p. m. Rev. J. M. Binkley, P. E., in the chair. The session was harmonious and pleasant throughout. There was the fullest attendance the writer has ever seen: all but two or three of the lay delegates, and all but one of the traveling preachers being present—that one detained by a revival meeting. The business of the conference was transacted rapidly, thoroughly and pleasantly. Our presiding elder believes in thorough work. The spiritual state of the church seems good. Revivals reported from various parts of the

district; yet family worship is too much neglected. The Sunday-school exhibit was meagre. Methodist Sunday-school interests have suffered much among us, from the lack of Methodist church houses and the abundance of Union schools. Will our people ever learn that to patronize Union schools is, in many instances, to give their children over to Calvinistic influences? The subject of general education received full attention, especially in connection with the North Texas Female College. The trustees and friends of this institution have made arrangements for building a commodious edifice of brick, for the use of the college; and having secured the services of Dr. E. D. Pitts, late of Chappell Hill, they feel they have in his ability and reputation a solid foundation for confidence in success. The financial outlook is not as bright as could have been desired. Only one charge, Pilot Point station, being "ahead of time." The majority of the works far behind. Still the prospect is perhaps not worse than usual at this time of the year. The preachers and laymen both seem hopeful, the one depending on the Lord, the other on the "cotton crop." The bright countenance of Dr. John beamed in upon us, on Saturday morning; and his talk for the ADVOCATE met a hearty response in the shape of about seventy subscribers. The good people of Whitesboro "showed us no little kindness;" the usual vote of thanks was unanimous and hearty. Next conference to be held at Pilot Point. E. W. ALDERSON.

Texana District Conference.

The Texana District Conference convened at Mossy Grove, July 10, 1879, and no "Bishop being present," the Presiding Elder, A. A. Kilgough, was in the chair, and, notwithstanding his indisposition bodily, presided to the satisfaction of the conference. Bro. C. M. Allen was elected secretary, and his efficiency was apparent to all. The pastors were all in attendance except two, Brothers Vest and Holbrook, and from the reports made, decided improvement is shown in the line of church and parsonage building and repairing. This gives permanency to the work, and opens up a hopeful future. In the way of Sunday-schools, much remains to be done. There must be greater effort put forth by our preachers in behalf of our children; our people must get out of union schools and set up for themselves. These were matters brought out and talked over in the conference. Shall we look for an increase next year? The Southwestern University, located at Georgetown, received a hearty endorsement and recommendation in speeches by the presiding elder and Dr. Walker. While there was no formal resolution of endorsement given the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, yet its praises were heard in every direction. The increase in the circulation of the ADVOCATE during the past year bespeaks its endorsement and popularity. The support given the preachers in the district is possibly in advance of preceding years, but in some charges the deficiencies are alarming. One preacher on a mission, having had a revival, reports ten dollars from the people. That revival—its genuineness—I must not comment upon. The congregations were large and attentive, and the hospitality of the good people of Mossy Grove boundless. As a camp-meeting was held in connection with the conference, there was preaching three times each day. Dr. Walker's sermon on Sunday morning was equal to the occasion, strong in its make-up and forcible in its delivery. When the writer left on Monday a fine revival was going on. Expect to hear a good report from Bro. Cook at its close. J. S. Menefee, D. L. Kerknot, T. M. Dodd and Jas. White were elected delegates to the ensuing annual conference, with Rev. T. W. Glass and W. D. Burt as alternates. Terryville was selected as the place for holding the next district conference.

I write this synopsis at the request of the secretary.

M. A. BLACK.

Parsonages—No 4.

I see in the ADVOCATE some "Apprentice" at Daingerfield has taken exceptions to this boy's article on the above topic. His first objection is to the "old clothes" proposition. Now, this "boy" would inform him that not a word is said of "old clothes" in my article. I asked the ladies to look around and see if they could not help from their own houses, (this is the sense; I have not my article to quote from). If the people at Daingerfield are in the habit of giving their "old clothes" to the church in any way, I ask to be excused from that circuit. I am now living in a parsonage, and if Apprentice's work should ever get to that point where they have a "boy" for their pastor and

he should happen to get a parsonage, I will give him the benefit of my experience in furnishing it on the "old clothes" plan. I look around in this parsonage and see two beds, a wash-stand, looking-glass, several quilts, pillows and pillow-cases, a mattress, two tables, a safe and a quantity of crockery, and various other things that were furnished by the ladies of my charge. All had been used some, but were as good as new when brought to the parsonage. Are not the quilts a lady has had well kept, as good as a blanket a merchant has had in his store for twelve months? Now it seems to me the preacher at Daingerfield, if he only had a parsonage, might get some things among his people that were good enough for him to use; if he were a boy, I know he could. Then he objects to my theory of "entertainments," with "an open Bible and discipline" before him. Will Apprentice tell us on what page in the discipline we can find this information? Now, I ask "Apprentice" to look first at the meaning of "entertainments." If the ladies see proper to have some good music, a sacred concert, charging twenty-five or fifty cents for admission, where, in the Word of God or the discipline, do we find that this is contrary to the Spirit of Christ? But as he so far misunderstood my theory as to furnishing the articles, I presume he thought "entertainments" meant horse-races, dances and raffles. However, this is Apprentice's definition of the word, not Webster's. I know of no more "honorable way" to get anything than to work for it, and if the ladies will agree to go to work (for work it requires) and get up a supper for the church and charge a reasonable price for it, and every one gets the full value of money spent—I have yet to see anything in the Bible or discipline that forbids it. The church "merits" our labor, and if this is not giving labor to the church, I am deceived. Now, this boy crosses this piece, hoping that when he is sent to Daingerfield they may have a parsonage, the people whom he visits may have suitable beds for him to sleep on, good enough crockery for table service, chairs he will not object to sit upon, and everything in their houses decent and in order; because you know if he can't use these things at their houses he can't at the parsonage. If they are not good enough to be used in the parsonage, "excuse us" from them altogether. JOE JONES.

TEXAS CONFERENCE, July 10th.

"Some" Snake Story.

This is no postal card, and I do not wish it put with the postals, but in a column by itself. For years I have been accustomed to read one or more of the ADVOCATES, and have frequently found in them letters from the brethren praising the ADVOCATE, etc. You know I never do much of that sort of writing (as it would have passed through your hands, for had I praised any it would have been the TEXAS), not because they do not deserve praise, but because there are plenty of the sort of people that it suits to do this class of correspondence, and they do it well—so that there is no need. Yes, I would praise the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, if I would praise any of the family, and yet it needs it about as little as any of them; but there is one thing in which you do not measure up to the great central organ. I refer to selections, miscellany, clipped here and there. That paper has some real singular selections. Some of them can't be surpassed in their way. There can be no doubt that boys love spicy tales—about dogs, and snakes, and tigers, and elephants; and they should not be overlooked by the pulpit and religious press, as they too frequently are. For instance, there is a selection in the Nashville Advocate, of the 19th, about the "Python and the Tiger," that doubtless made many a boy's eye sparkle; they relish such things. More boys will read a thing like that than could be found to read all the stories of the Bible put together; and then, too, they will do it pleasantly, and will not have to be made to sit down where their mothers can see that they do read it as directed by their parents. You know the story I refer to: It is on the second page, and tells about an "English officer" sitting up in a tree in a jungle, in India, where he could not be seen by the tiger, which was quite close to him, nor by the large python, which was between him and the tiger, and "glided into the very tree between him and the tiger, and then shot forth like a spring. Round and round the neck"—the tiger's neck of course—"its folds floated—how, I know not, but the tiger uttered no cry," (this shows that I was right in supposing it was the tiger's neck). "The gaping mouth, the starting eyes showed its agony," etc. There, that settles the question that this was no idle play performed by these denizens of the

forest, but real earnest work. By the way, the tiger waited all the time the snake was climbing into the tree, and until he could shoot "forth like a spring," and put one turn, or tuck, of his coil around his neck. It looked like it was all a joke, and it looked even more so when he still did not howl, nor growl, nor scratch, nor make any attempt to fight or get away. It looked a good deal like they were showing off for the benefit of this "English officer," but when he says that the tiger was in "an agony," it looks a little serious; and yet this English officer may have been the dupe of a well executed trick gotten up for his special benefit. It looks to me very much like this tiger was used to being swallowed up by this very snake, and that there was a perfectly good understanding between them as to how it was to be done and all about it. If this transaction could be thoroughly investigated, I give it as my opinion that the "old shekarry" was also a party in this plot to startle and thrill and entertain the "English officer," and that the snake held still seeming, not to see him, or not to notice him, being too busy swallowing the "magnificent Bengal tiger," and let the "old shekarry" hit him, etc. But, doubtless, a great many of the readers of the ADVOCATE will be like the "English officer" was, and will be highly entertained when they read the selection. Don't you think that it would please the boys, and other people too, of Texas, to put more about tigers and snakes in the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE; but I do not pretend to advise. I like the ADVOCATE very well the way it is conducted. WILLIAM BROWN.

CALDWELL'S STORE, Bastrop Co.,

July 16.—We began a meeting on the night of the 5th inst. at Devotion, in the lower part of Travis county, which we continued ten days with success. There never had been a revival in the neighborhood, and but few Christians to assist in the meeting. Had about twelve conversions, and five united with the church. Several backsliders were reclaimed; one man converted that is 68 years old. Assisted by Brothers N. E. Walker and J. L. Murray. The Baptists took up the meeting, and are carrying it on with success.—T. F. DIMMITT.

Southern Methodist Publishing House, NASHVILLE, TENN.

If you are not a subscriber, or have never seen the Christian Advocate, the Central Organ of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, edited by D. P. FITZGERALD, D. D., send for a specimen copy. You will find it an excellent religious journal full of interesting information. A department specially devoted to Missions. Price \$2 per annum, \$1.25 to preachers. Address J. B. McFERRIS, Agent, Nashville, Tenn.

The General Conference ordered the publication of our Sunday-school Literature, and elected W. G. E. CUNNINGHAM, D. D., editor. The supply is complete and attractive, as follows: Sunday-School Magazine, with Expository Notes and one Lesson Quarterly, 75 cents; Lesson Quarterly, thirty-two pages, with Music, 15 cents; Our Little People, four pages each Lesson, beautifully illustrated, 12 cents; The Infant Class, a new weekly Lesson, suited to the youngest scholars, 6 cents per annum—one-half cent a month for four Lessons; Weekly Visitor, 54 cents; Semi-Monthly Visitor, 27 cents; Monthly Visitor, 14 cents. Send your orders, or write for specimen copies, to J. B. McFERRIS, Agent, Nashville, Tenn.

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This Register is just issued by the Publishing House, at Nashville, and is adapted in every respect to the needs of the Church under the disciplinary changes made by the late General Conference. For Register adapted to large congregations, \$2.50. (We will also send it for seven subscribers to the ADVOCATE, accompanied by the money, \$17.50.) For Register adapted to small congregations, \$1. (We will also send it for three subscribers to the ADVOCATE, accompanied by the money, \$7.50.) Every charge in Texas should have one.

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The Texas Christian Advocate

Calendar—August, 1879. FIVE SUNDAYS—31 DAYS.

Calendar table showing days of the week, moon sets, and moon rises for August 1879.

MOON'S PHASES table with columns for Full moon, Last quarter, New moon, First quarter, and Full moon.

HISTORICAL EVENTS—A GUEST. August 1, 1728—Wesley in Hernut h. August 3, 1779—Henry Moore admitted on trial.

THE power of the love of Jesus on the human heart creates a freedom of the soul, an inner ennobling, which no political franchise, no wearing of orders on the breast, can ever bestow.

REFERRING to the passage by the Louisiana Constitutional Convention of an ordinance prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors on Sunday, the New Orleans Advocate makes comments which apply as well to Texas.

But, upon the higher grounds of morals and religion, what can be expected of a community that permits a divine institution to be desecrated by a business that at all times is hardly less than criminal?

FAITH.—A bridge is thrown over a chasm. The engineer is skillful. He is well acquainted with the nature of the materials used in the structure. He has estimated with scientific accuracy the strength of his work.

observation some general truths in regard to nature. He learns, for example, that all bodies have gravity. He learns that this and other laws of nature are uniform in their operation.

FROM THE LAND OF MORALS.—A great deal of interest is manifested by the "truly loyal" in the barbarity of Texas and the South. Reciprocity is a good law. Hence, to show our interest, we copy the following preface of the Chicago Times to a seven column report of murders and barbarities in Hardin county, Illinois.

THE whole question of the divinity of Jesus is narrowed to the inquiry whether His judgment was misled by a false consciousness. If that question be determined in the affirmative, then we have these difficulties on our hands, namely, to account for a man so immaculate, so surpassingly good, so profound, so rapid and searching a reader of the human heart.

Children's Department.

Uncle John's Letters.

"Three little words," but full of tenderest meaning. Three little words the heart can scarcely hold. Three little words but on their import dwelling What wealth of love those syllables unfold!

not forgotten the sweet letters of Maggie, from Bibb postoffice, and Harriet from Cooper, and Lottie from Gonzales, as your kind communications were read with interest.

Our depressed industries, our decayed real estate, and our gasping and throttled commerce, need these reforms even more than railroads, ships, levees and jetties. Give us a Sabbath, a sober people, and deliverance from the power of rum-sellers, and from the blight of legalized gambling, and our good State will become a commonwealth of which her citizens may be justly proud.

YOU CAN BE HAPPY. If you will stop all your extravagant and wrong notions in doctoring yourself and families with expensive doctors or humbug cure-alls, that do harm always, and use only nature's simple remedies for all your ailments—you will be wise, well and happy, and save great expense.

THIRTY YEARS' REMEDY

Diarrhea, Dysentery, Cholera Morbus, Summer Complaint, Flux, Children's Teething, and the Great Preventative of Asiatic Cholera.

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JOHN W. WICKS, AGENT FOR IMPROVED PLANTATION MACHINERY, GULLETT IMPROVED LIGHT DRAUGHT GIN, GIN-FEEDER and CONDENSER.

Uncle John sends down his picture for the ADVOCATE gallery, (for the children). It can be found there as soon as the good editor may see best.—UNCLE JOHN.

CORYELL CITY, July 21.—Dear Uncle John: I see so many little boys and girls joining your Bible class I thought I would do so too. I am eleven years old, and as soon as the school is out I will commence.

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Advertisement for John W. Wicks, featuring an image of a steam engine and text describing improved plantation machinery.

Advertisement for 'Books for the People!' featuring 'BUCKEYE COOKERY BOOK, An Excellent Household Guide.' Price, Postage-paid, \$1.75.

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Advertisement for 'OUR CHILDREN, By Rev. Dr. A. G. Haygood. Bound in Cloth, \$1.50. FOR TERMS, SEND TO SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Galveston

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Advertisement for 'KNOW THYSELF HEAL THYSELF' featuring a small image of a person and text about a medical treatise on nervous system diseases.

Advertisement for 'SENECA FALLS BELL FOUNDRY' featuring an image of a bell and text about manufacturing bells for churches, academies, and factories.

Advertisement for 'McSHANE BELL FOUNDRY' featuring an image of a bell and text about manufacturing bells for churches, academies, and factories.

Texas Christian Advocate

News and Secular.

THE Baltimore Episcopal Methodist is for sale.

A ST. LOUIS paper boasts that a brewery recently shipped eighteen car loads of beer to Texas. A queer thing to boast of.

ROBERT W. JOHNSON a prominent Arkansas citizen, ex-congressman, senator, etc., died recently at Little Rock.

A STORM on the 27th almost destroyed the town of Petrolia, Pa., and did great damage to the surrounding country. Only one life lost.

THE Wesleyan Methodist Conference of England assembled July 23d in London. Statistics: 213 ministers, 14,600 local preachers, 400,826 members, and 6,476 chapels.

THE Methodist Protestants have inaugurated a "Clark memorial" fund, for the benefit of Dr. Clark's family. His life being devoted to the temporal and spiritual interests of others, he died poor in this world's goods.

A COLORED man by the name of Napoleon Bonaparte was recently hanged in Mississippi. As the black-cap was being adjusted, he requested the sheriff to hand him a handkerchief, and he would drop it as a signal for the trap to be sprung. The request was granted, and the unfortunate man actually gave the signal for his own death.

LET everybody rejoice! Bishop Haven in a letter to *Zion's Herald*, of July 24th, has at last, perhaps unwittingly, perpetrated the truth: he says the white people of the South will not allow him to associate with them; that no door is open to him except that of the colored people. Intelligent, honest and truthful men, from whatever section, are, however, always welcome among us.

THE annual yield of gold twenty years ago was \$200,000,000. In 1877 it had fallen to \$96,500,000, and 1878 to \$83,500,000. This year it is expected not to exceed \$70,000,000. Only \$19,000,000 worth is exported this year from the Pacific slope; from Australia \$18,000,000, while Russia will yield about \$30,000,000, thus being in the van of gold producing countries. With this falling off in gold production there are those who insist on an exclusively gold money standard.—*Exchange.*

BISHOP HAVEN says to the Northern press, "Beware how you let these smooth-tongued writers into your columns." This was criticizing a letter in the *Pittsburgh Advocate* showing the absurdity of the attempt to make Rev. Todd a martyr to Southern prejudice. Of course, according to Bro. Bloody-shirt, we should not have a hearing—and reason enough: he never writes a letter on the South in which a Southern school boy could not detect the malice, falseness and venom. Of course he don't want to be exposed.

ONE of the most disgusting events that we have noted for a long time is the action of the colored people of Memphis. They have flocked to that unfortunate city evidently to indulge their laziness in getting "rationed" free. They held an indignation meeting, declaring their fearlessness of the white man or the yellow jack, and they refused to go to the camp. As a climax to their impudence, one of their "military" (?) companies paraded the streets. To this complexion has the teachings of Haven, Fowler & Co. brought this unfortunate element in the animal creation.

SOME of the Texas papers, loudly scolded by the St. Louis *Republican*, are saying harsh things about the *Globe-Democrat's* misrepresentations of Texas. We do not greatly admire the *Globe-Democrat*, but it certainly is a better newspaper than the St. Louis *Republican*, and fully as honest. The *Globe-Democrat* misrepresents Texas politically; the *Republican*, adopting the infidel hobbies of would-be scientists, misleads its readers religiously. We believe, of the two, we would be conscientious in giving preference to the *Globe-Democrat*. It is the least of two immense evils.

THE Wisconsin Republicans have given one evidence of honesty: A plank in their platform "condemning the practice of putting riders on appropriation bills," was defeated in the convention. It was generally conceded that it was wrong, but it was also acknowledged that it was a practice followed by the Republicans when in power. When the Republican ox

was pawing the political ground, and tossing the Democratic bovine around at will, nothing was said; and hence it was considered in bad taste to attempt to saw off the horns of the latter animal just because he was beginning to get up up enough spunk and vigor to "gore" something.

SECRETARY SHERMAN this week made a big speech at Portland, Me., in which he treated the matter of State rights versus centralization technically, and the financial question exhaustively. His speech is a statesmanlike production, from his standpoint. His "big boom" is that resumption, as a Republican measure, is an accomplished fact; that from it has arisen untold benefits, while the blessings of peace and plenty that are yet to follow are inestimable. He places the Democrats upon a State rights platform, and the Republicans upon one asking for unlimited national control. He plays the demagogue just a little when he comes to deal with the "solid South" spectre. This excepted, his speech is a fair, candid and able discussion of the questions at issue between the two great parties. It will do much toward making him the prominent Republican "probability" in the coming presidential contest.

THE Zulu war is virtually ended, as the following London telegram of July 23 will show: It is said that the government has information that Lord Chelmsford has defeated the Zulus, inflicting immense loss.

In the House of Commons the government announced the receipt of a telegram dated Cape-town, July 8, stating that Lord Chelmsford remained in camp till the afternoon of July 3, awaiting the surrender of the cannon and 1,000 rifles captured by the Zulus at Isandula. These not arriving, he advanced, and was attacked in the open country by about 15,000 Zulus, who fled under the heavy fire of the British. Lord Chelmsford then advanced and destroyed Ulundi. The Zulu loss is 800. The British loss is 10 killed and 53 wounded. The battle was fought July 4. The Zulus, who were variously estimated at from 10,000 to 20,000, surrounded the British troops, who formed a hollow square. The Zulus charged the square on all four sides. After the Zulus were broken by the British fire they were pursued by the cavalry and utterly routed. Lord Chelmsford burned and destroyed all the military kraals, and returned to his camp the same evening. Sir Garnet Wolseley telegraphs from Durban, the 8th of July, as follows: "I have halted all reinforcements here, as I believe the war is over. Do not send any more men or supplies till you hear from me. I expect to meet the great Zulu chief about the 16th inst. and discuss terms of peace with him."

THE all-absorbing question with English Statesmen is to find a remedy for the present depression in agricultural and manufacturing pursuits. A parliamentary commission, appointed for the specific purpose of inquiring into the reasons of this depression, is an indication of the alarm felt across the water. The idea of "inquiring into the reasons" is a mere matter of phraseology—as the causes are only too apparent. Neither the English manufacturer nor agriculturist can compete in their own markets with American products. It is eminently in order, however, for England to inquire why her people can not enter into successful competition with their American cousins; and the answer is not difficult. The reasons are in the laws of primogeniture, and the impossibility of the lands of the country being divided among the people. The English farmer is so burdened with rent, tithes, poor-rates etc., that his cost of production is increased to an extent that makes competition impossible, even after the American farmer has paid cost of transportation across the waters. This state of affairs has turned an immense volume of immigration, both of mechanics and farmers, to this country. England must find relief in the doubtful policy of protection—by placing duties upon American products, that will increase cost to at least an equality with the English production—or she must enact laws that will enable her people to own their own lands; else America will close her shops and "turn her fields out to grass." The depression in England in manufacturing and agricultural affairs is a tribute to American enterprise and genius.

BISHOP MERRILL (M. E. Church) will preside over the Austin Conference at Dennison, Nov. 20; West Texas, at Victoria, Dec. 3; Texas, at Galveston, Dec. 10; South German, at Industry, Nov. 27.

ST. LOUIS LETTER.

The Memphis Epidemic—The Movement of Railroad Magnates—The Fair-Grounds, Where You See the Elephants, etc.—Music by the Band—Bishop Marvin's Life.

From our Regular Correspondent.

St. Louis, July 21st.

This city is exercised no little over the appalling condition of unfortunate Memphis, not that there is any fear of the yellow fever reaching this place; but because of the probable suffering that is again this year likely to come upon the people and cities of the lower Mississippi valley, and the effect an epidemic would have upon business. Refugees are arriving by every boat and train from Memphis and other places down the great river, and all tell the same sad tale regarding the panic created by the breaking out of the dreaded malady. Saturday there was a "quarantine meeting on 'change,'" it being occasioned by Dr. Rutherford's dispatch from Houston, stating that Texas would quarantine against St. Louis if any Memphis goods were shipped from here to that State. St. Louis business men have a "hankering" for Texas trade, and Dr. Rutherford's dispatch aroused them to timely and decisive action. The resolutions, which are adopted without dissent, were in substance as follows: The merchants request the Board of Health of the city of St. Louis to confer with the State Boards of Health of Arkansas and Texas, in regard to such quarantine regulations as will be satisfactory to the people of those States, and to enforce such regulations in the shipment of all goods from St. Louis. The merchants of St. Louis also individually pledge themselves not to ship, nor permit to be shipped, from St. Louis to any point in the South, goods or merchandise of any kind coming from any infected district, and are prepared to accompany all shipments with affidavits to that effect. Your correspondent is satisfied that every thing possible will be done to carry out the spirit of above resolutions, and to prevent the introduction of fever into Arkansas or Texas from this city, and the merchants here are exceedingly solicitous that the governors of both states and the quarantine officers shall take no hasty action that will interfere with trade and travel. The very fact that several wholesale firms of Memphis are moving their stocks to this city has tended to bring about this action, though I think Dr. Rutherford's dispatch had more to do with it. Business men here were preparing for and anticipating an early and a lively

FALL TRADE.

but there is apprehension since the breaking out of the fever that there will be delay in the opening up of the fall business from the South. Still, if the fever can be kept out of Texas and Arkansas until Sept., the inference then will be that it can and will be kept out during the season, in which event St. Louis expects to reap a rich harvest from those States. It is therefore all important to Texas and Arkansas and this city that the dreaded yellow fever shall be kept out of those States.

RAILROAD RUMORS.

Mr. Ford, of the Iron Mountain road, and representatives of the Texas Pacific, the International and Great Northern, and the Peirce road, arrived from Texas the other day, and there are rumors about that, if true, will be pleasing to Texans. It is asserted that the Iron Mountain and the Texas Pacific, the International and all other standard and narrow gauge roads in the Lone Star State, whose interests are identical with it, have entered into a combination that will prove mutually beneficial to them, to St. Louis, Chicago and other northern cities. It is even whispered that the International, after its sale, is to be pushed on rapidly to Mexico, and that the Peirce road is to be extended from San Antonio, and the Pacific from Weatherford to a point of junction in Tom Green county or the vicinity. Major Andrews has gone to San Francisco to attend a railroad convention which, it is said, is to bring about a reconciliation between the Texas Pacific and the Southern Pacific, when the two roads are to be pushed on with all possible dispatch to El Paso. As your correspondent wrote a week ago, there is something huge going on in railroad circles; but just what it is has not yet been divulged. A railroad president remarked the other day that

TWELVE HUNDRED MILES OF RAILROAD

would be built this season more than there had been built in the past three years. This is a day of magnificent schemes—a period of beginnings; and the man who looks hopefully to the future will most likely not be disappointed. The rapid building of the Texas and New Orleans road, which is to be finished to Houston in October,

has, no doubt, acted as a stimulant on the owners of the Iron Mountain and other roads running south and southwest from this city and Chicago. The power of the Morgan interest, and the commercial importance of New Orleans, are fully understood at the North, and Texans should rejoice that enterprise in one section has forced enterprise in others. Had the building of the New Orleans and Texas road been delayed, it is probable that there would have been corresponding delay on the Galveston and Santa Fe road, soon to reach Brenham.

THE FAIR GROUNDS.

Your correspondent on Saturday afternoon visited the Fair Grounds and Zoological Garden, and a more lovely place he has never seen, nor has he ever spent a half day more pleasantly or to better advantage. This charming place is about three miles distant from the heart of the city, and is accessible by several street car lines, which convey passengers the whole distance for five cents. The admission is but 25c. for adults and 10c. for children; and a walk through the lovely and highly ornamented grounds is worth that, to say nothing of the beasts and birds to be seen there. The beautifully shaded grounds are laid off in walks and drives, and the center is occupied by charming flower beds, while at convenient distances there are buildings, large and small, and of different designs, for the fine collection of animals to be seen. The more imposing and substantial buildings, containing cages of lions, panthers, tigers, bears, wild cats, hyenas, lamas, and smaller animals, birds, etc., remind one of engravings of Italian villas. All are well arranged, and the animals are properly cared for. The collection of bears, lions, tigers, hyenas, monkeys, etc., is large, and the show is a better one than is generally to be seen in a traveling menagerie. The elephants, buffaloes, zebras, elk, deer, sea lions, etc., have their respective and suitable places, houses and pens. The sea lions are provided with a reservoir about 30 feet in diameter, and 15 feet deep, and with a rustic little house, with an inclined passage-way to an elevated gallery. One of these strange and ill-shaped animals is a fine ground and lofty tumbler, and an expert base ball catcher. When fed, he will scamper up on the gallery, and every piece of fish thrown to him he will catch in his mouth even though he has to leap for it; and then, with the fish in his ugly mouth, souze in the water beneath, coming out on the other side of the reservoir, and again scamper clumsily up the roadway to the gallery, eager for another opportunity to show his dexterity. In the water they are graceful, and they come out now and then with a bound and a bark. Many fashionable and wealthy people, as well as those of lowly circles, visit the fair grounds, and Saturday the attendance is especially large if the weather be pleasant. The Knights of Pythias' brass band made music on Saturday last, and it was music in fact, and not a noise. For the information of your music-loving readers, I give you a few of the best pieces played: March, "Veiled Prophets," Rossi; selection, "Sonambula," Bellina; polka, "Diana," Mueller; overture, "L'Espoir de L'Alsace," Hermann; waltz, "Cagliostro," Strauss; cornet solo, "Swanee River," Kuehner, by James Stevens; march, "My Compliments;" medley, "Chips," Beyer; "Gavotte Secret Love," Resch; selection, "Pinafore," Sullivan; quadrille, "Marrimton," Kisler; gallop, "Telegraph," Beyer.

BISHOP MARVIN'S WORKS.

The popularity of Bishop Marvin's "To the East by way of West," which was finished while he lay upon his death-bed, after his return from his tour around the world, has created a deep interest in the new book entitled, "Bishop Marvin—His Life and Labors," which it was announced would have been on sale ere this. Your correspondent, knowing the sympathies of the entire church which Bishop Marvin represented, and indeed of all Christian people, called on the publisher the other day, Mr. J. H. Chambers, to ascertain the cause of the delay in the publication and the date the book would make its appearance. The publishers stated that the delay had been caused by the sickness of the editor, Rev. Thos. M. Finney, D. D., of Missouri; but that early in August the book would be on sale throughout the country. The book will give a most complete history of this most holy man of God, including his life, labors, travels—at home and abroad, together with his views of the "Doctrine and polity of Methodism," the system which he so unreservedly embraced and of which he was so distinguished an exponent. It will be elegantly illustrated with three finely engraved portraits, representing the Bishop at different periods of his life—one

at full view, steel, representing him standing with his hand upon the open Bible, taken in San Francisco, upon the eve of his departure for China; an engraving of the old home; also the house in which the Bishop was converted; together with an engraving of the monument to be erected over the remains by the Marvin Memorial Association, as a lasting tribute to one who spent his life in the service of the church throughout the country.

E. H. Q.

MAINE LIQUOR LAW.

"At the time of the enactment of the Maine law the liquor traffic was carried on openly and freely, wholesale and retail, in every city, town, village, and rural district in the State. Immediately upon the enactment of the law the open sale of liquors ceased, and the traffic was at once abandoned by a very large majority of those who had been engaged in it. And now it is entirely unknown in all our smaller towns and villages, and throughout all our rural districts. The traffic yet lingers in our cities and larger towns, secretly and on a small scale, and is confined almost entirely to the worst part of our foreign population. The penalties of the law as it now stands are sufficient to extirpate the traffic from the smaller towns, and to drive out of it every man of decent character. But heavier penalties of fine and imprisonment and more summary processes are necessary to expel from the traffic and keep out of it the low, bad men and women who are yet engaged in it. These needful additions to the law are imperatively required to accomplish this end, and to secure completely the objects aimed at by the policy of prohibition—viz: the deliverance of the people from the poverty, pauperism, sufferings, insanity, crime, and premature death, which come inevitably from the liquor traffic.

"It is not too much to say that the quantity of liquor now smuggled into the State and sold in violation of law is not one-tenth as large as it was before the law. This great change in the habits of the people procures an enormous saving in the wages of labor and in the resources of the State, which were formally so largely squandered and wasted in strong drink. By some slight additions to the law the absolute extirpation of the traffic may be easily effected. This saving in the money and morals of the people by the suppression of the liquor shops has produced most important results, which may be seen everywhere throughout the State. Better houses and buildings, public and private, better farms, better ways of life, and increased prosperity mark very emphatically the result of prohibition. No one who knew what Maine was before the law, and who knows what it has been since, and is now, can fail to see the wonderful change for the better in all its interests, public and private.

"To show conclusively the position which this policy now holds in the public opinion of Maine, it is only necessary to mention the fact that since 1851 several acts additional to the Maine law, all in the direction of greater stringency, have been passed—except that in 1856 there was a general breaking-up of political parties, and one came into power by which the law was repealed and a license law substituted for it. But at the next election that party was ignominiously defeated by a tremendous majority, and the Maine law was re-enacted in a more stringent form, and was submitted to a popular vote, by which it was approved by more than four to one, and since that day there has been no attempt at repeal. In 1871 an act additional, of greater stringency than any which preceded it, was adopted without a dissenting voice in either house; and at the session of 1879 a question came up for the modification and the amelioration of penalties and the requirements of the law, which was promptly defeated by the emphatic vote of 127 to 17. This latter vote may be fairly considered as marking the present condition of public opinion of this State upon the whole principle and policy of prohibition, and the determination of the people to suppress the liquor traffic. We repeat here, what has been many times said before in documents coming from many influential sources, that prohibition of the liquor traffic in Maine has become the settled policy of the State; that there is not any organized or respectable opposition to it in any quarter; and that no exigency is likely to arise which will induce our people to abandon it, and to go back to the old, mischievous, wicked policy of licensing it.

"In many quarters, in other States and other countries, interested, ignorant, or unscrupulous persons have industriously circulated reports that prohibition has been a failure in Maine, the place

of its birth. These reports are absolutely untrue. No circumstance from the origin of the law to this day has occurred which can be construed or tortured into a justification of them. On the contrary, the law has been a great success from the first. Were it not so, it could not have won the confidence of the people, and have commanded their respect and firm support, as it has to-day."

YELLOW FEVER.—There has been no abatement in the yellow fever excitement since last report. Cases of fever have been reported from a number of points where Memphis refugees have been permitted to enter. Cases of fever have been reported in New York and Louisville. At Shelbyville, Tenn., Rev. B. F. Tiller died of fever on the 25th. Several cases are reported at Mississippi City, the first being that of a party from New Orleans, in which place it is claimed the disease was contracted. The New Orleans Board of Health reports a case in that city. The quarantine of New Orleans by Galveston has been a fruitful source of controversy. It may safely be assumed that this controversy is the result of super-officiousness on the part of the distinguished gentleman designated State Health Officer. We can not believe that any respectable proportion of Houston's good citizens share in the petty spirit of prejudice manifested toward Galveston by Dr. Rutherford. All must recognize in the action of the Galveston Board of Health a sincere desire to benefit the whole State. In a commercial sense Galveston is by far the greatest sufferer from the results of this quarantine. The decision of Gov. Roberts is waited with some anxiety. If he should decide that Galveston has not full authority over the channel, and if, under his decision, vessels should attempt to pass, grave complications may arise. We do not believe that Galveston would permit vessels to pass, even though the Governor's decision be in favor of such liberty. But should vessels be permitted to pass, and thus introduce fever into Texas, we fear the Governor would have to be rather strongly "quarantined" if the indignation of the people did not reach him in a vital part, politically speaking.

A SAN FRANCISCO ordinance provides that in criminal cases every male person jailed shall have his "hair clipped to the uniform length of one inch from the scalp." Under this act a John Chinaman had his "pig-tail" taken away, and he sued the sheriff for damages. Mr. Justice Field decided the law unconstitutional as applied to Chinamen; because, regarding their queues with almost religious veneration, it, therefore, imposed a degrading and cruel punishment upon a class who are entitled to equal protection under the laws.

"WHY aren't the ADVOCATE printed as cheap as these here New York papers?" said old Bro. Dogood, by grumbling at everything; speaking through his nasal organ, "I'd allers patronize my own church paper—other things eal—but I aren't going to give \$2 50 for a thing I can get for a dollar'n-a-half—and that's the word with the bark on it, neow!" Of course it is; but if Bro. Dogood (and so forth) will just remove the "bark," or whatever obscures his vision, he will see his mistake. There is no uniformity in newspapers as to price. One paper is cheaper at ten dollars per annum than would be a premium paid on another to allow it in your family. But there is a business principle in this matter of cheap literature that deserves notice. When a paper's poverty forces it to reduce its price of subscription, you can generally decide that it will in the end prove a failure. It is the prosperity of papers that should cause their publishers to reduce the subscription price; but no such reduction should ever be made unless the advertising rates are increased in a greater proportion. It is the opinion of the publishers of this paper that any other policy will be a failure. They do not feel justified in permanently reducing the subscription price of the paper—think, in fact, that \$2.50 is cheap enough; but they, each year, propose to increase their advertising rates, according to increase in circulation. People who object to price are croakers who always find something to grumble at. It must not be understood, then, that our fifty cent proposition is a concession to this class of people. We want the ADVOCATE—as a specimen—in 10,000 new households in Texas—fully expecting it will, in very many instances, ingratiate itself into favor, and become a permanent visitor. Will all the brethren help in the good work? Get everybody to take the paper on the fifty cent proposition!

THE TEXAS ADVOCATE until January, 1880, for fifty cents. Think of that and send us a big club.