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KATHLEEN DOUGLAS.

BY JULIA PHIFER TRUITT.

CHAPTER III.

"God keeps His holy mysteries Just on the outside of man's dream."

—Mrs. Brownson.

The two frail leaves drifted along the mighty ocean, until wind and wave swept them into a sheltered nook, and there they rested. My mother took furnished rooms in a quiet house that faced a quiet street, and the new life opened with as little noise or excitement about it as though it had always gone on just so. We went nowhere, we saw no one—except when we looked from the windows at the crowds that passed and repassed during the day—feeling, as I always did, that I was nothing to them, and they were nothing to me, and that we two were more alone here than we had been in the old home. The first loneliness I had ever known took possession of me. Besides, I longed, silently but bitterly, for the two friends that had been swept away so quickly; but no word of them ever came, and I abandoned the hope at last. In the close, secluded life we led, my only consolation was in my studies, and the books to which we now had easy access. My mother devoted all her time and strength to the work of teaching me, and I learned rapidly. There was a piano in the house, and the lady kindly gave us permission to use it, and so a grand music-world dawned upon me. I revelled in its glorious sunrise. I sat enraptured at the feet of my loving teacher. She had struck the key-note of my nature, and whatever was best and truest in it responded to her touch.

Several months of this close, confining work took severely on her health and on mine, and another course had to be taken at last. It was necessary that I should have change and relaxation, the physician said. "And it would be better for Mrs. Douglas, too," he hinted. But my mother steadily refused to leave her retreat, and I could not go alone.

As the result of the doctor's caution, my mother soon afterwards engaged a companion for me—a stout, rosy-checked Gretchen, good-natured and agreeable, but phlegmatic to a painful degree. She was never excited over anything. Her only care was to keep me from being run over when we took our walks—not to admire the things I admired, nor to furnish answers to my questions. Still, I went on confiding in her, from the force of habit. She was a safe confidant, at any rate, for if I had made my communications in Chaldea she would not have understood less of them. We began to have a very singular kind of affection for each other after awhile, and took great pleasure in exploring all that portion of the city.

I had been accustomed to wandering in a solitude, and this was but a solitude of another sort. I had studied nature on the hills, where I found some small curious things under every dead leaf, and a living porolage under the bark of the dead pine, gnawing its devious way around the riven heart of the poor old tree; and here, in this wilderness of men, I was but to study nature of a different kind. And in my own quiet observing way, I commenced the perplexing study.

Not far from our home was a great old stone church, with a deep porch in front, and mighty pillars, like the smooth brown stems of the pines I had loved so long. It was a sheltered recess, where Gretchen and I could sit secure and watch the passers-by, without attracting attention ourselves. After I had found it out, we went there every day. I never grew tired of it. Gretchen complained that it was cold and dull, but I was so much attracted to the place that I resisted all entreaties to go elsewhere.

"This is not nice. It is cold. It gives one the ague," murmured Gretchen one afternoon in October, when the air was filled with Indian summer warmth.

"It isn't very cold, Gretchen, after you get used to it," I argued. "I like this great dark stone; I wish it was all covered with ivy, like the old English churches. I am glad these are just round columns, instead of Caryatides, like those I read about last night."

"Katy-dids, you mean?" queried Gretchen. "No, no. Oh, Gretchen, how can you make such mistakes? The Caryatides are marble women, and they stood and held the roof up, so. But I wouldn't like to see them. They would make me think of people who were bearing some great trouble that was hanging heavily upon them. Don't you think so?"

"There's no need of that. You would know they were marble," said practical Gretchen.

"Yes, but they couldn't bear it always. Even marble breaks sometimes. You can hardly find a whole statue in the old temples, Max says, and the roofs have fallen on the Caryatides and crushed them. How lonely one of the old Greeks would feel if he could wake up now."

"Why?"

"Why, suppose we should go to sleep, and then wake up again after a long time—hundreds and hundreds of years—and find New Orleans all gone: just a swampy hole in its place, not a ship or a boat in the river, not a sign of life anywhere, a new people reigning in the land, with a new religion, and our old churches all fallen down, or just kept for strangers to look at curiously? Suppose our spirits, yours and mine, should come back to this spot and find travelers digging about here and there in the ground, turning up a broken piece of column or a piece of glass from the windows, and taking it back home to put in their museums, and perhaps giving it the wrong name, as Max says they do sometimes. Wouldn't we feel lonely to think that the old church where we used to sit day after day, and the crowds

of people we watched, and even the dear old city, had all been buried out of sight? And that's the way an old Greek would feel I suppose."

"You think strange things," said Gretchen, in superstitious wonder.

"I wonder if these people out in the street ever think of that," I went on musingly. "They always seem so busy and earnest about the things they are trying to gain, as if they would last forever. See how they hurry along, and never look up to see how blue the sky is, and how those little white clouds sail over it like ships. They could see it plain if they looked straight up."

"But then they might fall, or be run over," said prosaic Gretchen.

"They might stop a few moments sometimes, just to look at the sky. It would make them better, I should think. Or if they would remember that the church is here, and would look up, they would see that great shining spire pointing away from the streets, and the noise, and all the sin and wrong. How nice it would be, Gretchen, if the spire could charm away everything that was sad or wrong from people's hearts, when they passed under its shadow. That would be better than a fairy story. That would be like the story of Jesus, who healed all who came to Him." Then, as the sublime truth of my dream flashed upon me, I exclaimed in surprise: "Why, sure enough, Gretchen, it does cure the wrong and sorrow. Don't you see?"

"Mercy, such a child!" was Gretchen's wondering response.

"But isn't it splendid to think so now, Gretchen? I shall put it into a book some day, so that people will find it out; and it will be like lifting the roof off of the Caryatides a little while, when men and women pass the church, and think of it, and smile softly to themselves. I wish I could see Max; I would like to tell him of it."

Then Gretchen and I sat silent while the shadows lengthened, and I dreamed of what we and sin were healed forever.

Days and weeks passed away in the same routine. The Indian summer slipped into the cheerless grey of November days, but it was a true Southern winter, coy as maiden spring. There were long seasons, even in December, warm enough to set the peach buds swelling; and many days here and there suggested early violets out on the hills, and made me long for them with my usual quiet but intense longing. Then those slow, hazy days came and stayed for awhile, weighing down our hearts with the unutterable pathos of spring; and at last the mist rose, and the spring widened and warmed into June.

My spirits rose with the mists, and grew higher as the mercury ascended—"the elastic ladder of the air." From my earliest remembrance, spring has been the saddest of the seasons for me, and this time was no exception, though the New Orleans fair was rioting in a later and lovelier Carnival of bloom. I was glad when June came, and it was over, and spring had ceased propounding her old sphynx-riddle, that has haunted and perplexed the restless ages.

Gretchen was growing resigned to the old church now, and frequently took there with her an endless piece of work which necessitated very close attention and much counting of stitches. Wholly absorbed in that, she let the great tide flow and ebb past, and my workings and dreamings and questionings fell on unheeding ears. I used to think sometimes that if the stone pillars had been Caryatides indeed, Gretchen would have sat in their shadow and counted her stitches quite comfortably. They never would have haunted her with that terrible sense of an awful burden.

Sometimes the Sexton came and talked to us for awhile, and once the minister sat down by me and had a long conversation. He had noticed my face in the church on Sundays, he said; and he always saw us sitting there in the afternoons. Was it not too cold, too thoughtful a place for a child? The grave and thoughtful years came soon enough, without being hurried by such a study as I had undertaken.

Then he knew, he understood! I looked up eagerly into his face; but the single, curious moment of sympathy was gone, and I could not understand me, nor I him.

One evening, toward the last of June, Gretchen and I made our way, hand in hand, through the usual burying crowds, and ran up the broad stone steps, laughing and out of breath. Then we saw that some one was in our place—a young gentleman, dressed stylishly, and leaning languidly back, surveying the crowd coolly and critically.

"Come on," he said, seeing that we hesitated. You are at least two minutes earlier than you were yesterday evening, but in such an important work as this it is never too early to begin."

He made room for me on the stone seat beside him, but I hesitated still, not knowing what to do, whereupon the young gentleman laughed and added gaily:

"Do you doubt my sincerity? Now that isn't complimentary, because people are in the habit of saying that the expression of my countenance is a sufficient passport into anybody's confidence and affections. Come, sit down and talk to me. I want to see if your tongue is as expressive as your eyes are."

I sat down, and looking at him shyly, saw how handsome he was, and how, though he was not more than eighteen, there were weary lines around his mouth that should not have come there for years yet. He was dark, and had a splendid forehead with black curls all tumbled over it, and his dark eyes would have been rather soft and tender, but for the laughing, mocking light in them.

"Well," he said, after a little. "You appear to have taken the inventory: item, a mouth; item, a nose; item, two eyes; item, 'check.' What do you think of the total?"

"It wouldn't be polite to tell," I responded gravely.

"Wouldn't it? Well, there's no one in hearing. Suppose we dispense with politeness for a few minutes. I'm sure it will not hurt me. I've tried it frequently. You wise little bird of Minerva."

"You are dispensing with politeness now. It isn't polite to call a person an owl," I said with dignity.

"I stand corrected," he returned meekly.

"I thought the owl was the symbol of wisdom."

"Owls are as stupid as they can be," said I, warning to my subject. "Or, if they

know anything at all, it is something wicked—what else makes them laugh so at night? Did you ever hear them laugh?"

"I never had that pleasure. I withdraw my simile, or metaphor, or whatever it was, and return to the original proposition. What do you think of my face—this charming countenance of mine, which artists would doubtless love to depict on canvas, if they could once see it, and could appreciate its merits?"

"Mama says that only silly people are vain," I returned reprovingly.

"Then think of the number of silly people there must be in the world—for you know what the preacher says: 'Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.'"

"But you know he didn't mean this kind of vanity," I said—certain now that he was only pretending to misunderstand me.

"Dear me! It appears that I have been entertaining several mistaken notions," he said with provoking coolness. "It's very good in you, Quentic, to instruct my ignorance. Perhaps you'll be so good as to tell me, if this be it."

"You are laughing at me, of course," I said, feeling an angry glow creep up into my face. "I don't like you as well as I do Max. Max never laughed at me."

"That was very considerate in Max. If I ask who Max is, no doubt you'll tell me brother or cousin or sweatheart?"

"He is Max Arlington," I said with all the dignity I could summon. The young gentleman drew up his lips for a very elaborate whistle, and then changed his mind and laughed mischievously.

"I think I have seen him," he said. "Conceited fellow, isn't he? Flatters you extremely, no doubt; catch me doing such a thing. I always attended by a tall shadow with critical eyes, named Kingsley. Of course I mean the shadow bears that name, not the eyes."

"Do you know Mr. Kingsley? Do you know Max?" I cried with intense delight, forgetting to be angry at his unflattering description.

"Know Mr. Kingsley? Why, my dear child, he has been my bosom friend ever since I could remember—for many, many years, that is. Know Max? Look at me. Don't you detect a certain kind of resemblance? Max is a handsome boy. Don't you think he favors me?"

"I don't think he does," responded candid childhood.

"Hum—that's unfortunate. Because he is my brother, and considers himself quite honored by the relationship, I believe."

"Are you Malcom?" I asked curiously.

"Malcolm Arlington, at your service. I should have introduced myself sooner. Perhaps you will return the compliment."

"I am Kathleen Douglas," I said hastily, and then going closer to him, "I am so glad to hear from Max again. Is he well? How would you like to see him?"

"That's easily managed," said Malcolm nonchalantly. "Give me your address and I'll bring the boy around to-morrow afternoon."

"I must ask mama first," I interrupted in distress, and Malcolm forbore to laugh for the first time during the interview.

"I know you now," he said after a little. "You are the little Douglas that came down the river with Max and Mr. Kingsley. Max raised all the ire in Desir's gentle nature by a few invidious comparisons."

"Who is Desir," I asked.

"A certain small sister of mine. By the way, you may cultivate Max's acquaintance within certain limits; and mine—you'll like me better the longer you know me. But as a friend, I'd advise you to let Desir alone."

Malcolm arose, looked at his watch, hummed a little tune, and started down the steps with an air of the utmost unconcern; but just as he reached the bottom, he gave a start, turned and ran back. His face was all aglow with mischief.

"See there!" he exclaimed. "Yonder's a lady who fancies that I resemble Byron. Now watch me throw myself into the Byronic attitude."

To my intense astonishment, Malcolm instantly contrived to call up a most interesting expression of hopeless melancholy, and lounged languidly and haughtily down into the street, met the lady, bowed, and then I saw it was Miss, Hallie. Before I had recovered from my surprise and wonder, both were out of sight, and I turned an astounded gaze on Gretchen—who was placidly counting her stitches.

I hurried homeward, eager to tell my mother, and I think it must have been the first childish burst of delight I had indulged in since we came to the city. She looked up, surprised, as I ran into the room, but the windows were darkened, and I could not see the expression of her face.

"Mama, only think, I have found Max! I have heard from Max!" I exclaimed breathlessly, and I gave the story of my interview with Malcolm—keeping in view always the central truth, the fact that he was Max's brother and Mr. Kingsley's friend.

"He isn't quite as nice as Max, mama," I added apologetically. "He makes fun of things, and don't speak in earnest; but I suppose he means well."

My mother smiled, in spite of a very white face, and lips contracted with something like pain.

"Well, what else is there?" she asked, seeing that I hesitated. I wound my arms around her neck and asked pleadingly:

"Mama, may I see Max and Mr. Kingsley? I wouldn't promise Malcolm, because I thought you might not like it; but I do so want to see them; I have been thinking of it ever since we came here."

"You have had your little sorrow, too, then?" said my mother softly, "and have kept it to yourself. Poor child!"

Something in the manner of saying it, more than in the words, awed me into silence. After a long pause, she spoke again.

"It will not be long, Kathleen. The time is almost here. You shall see them before long."

My joy at the promise was clouded by the sorrowful tone, and the look of change in my mother's face, but she kissed me directly, and then sent me away, and I was left to meditate in the silence of my own room, alternately on the prospect of meeting my two friends, and on my mother's sudden accession of sadness.

That night the door was open between our rooms, and I saw that my mother was writing when I went to sleep. Later still, in the night, I awoke, and she was writ-

ing yet, and her face was wet with tears. I called her, and she put the paper away, and came and leaned over me, crying passionately and kissing my eyes and hair. But when I asked her why she cried she only said:

"Because it is almost ended, Kathleen. Did she mean her writing, I wondered? or what was it? But I was afraid to ask, and so went to sleep, with her tears on my cheek, and dreamed that a fountain fell on my face all night long."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST.

An Inquiry Concerning the Length of Time it Will Take Certain Primordial Forms to Reach Perfection.

BY HELVETIUS, A. M.

The "Survival of the Fittest" is a question full of perplexity, and one which has always seemed to us to make extraordinary demands upon our credulity; but it is a theory which proposes to explain phenomena that cannot be explained upon any other hypothesis, and as such it has its conveniences. We ourselves have been observing various phenomena which have forced us to go to Darwin for an explanation; and, as Darwin himself would no doubt be surprised to learn, these phenomena are in the religious world. The great mistake of Darwin was that he only applied his theory to physics. He was ignorant, it seems, that it was capable of much wider application.

Now, if we prove that there is any connection between our phenomena and Darwin's theory, we must begin with protoplasm, which is, according to Prof. Haeckel, the link between the animate and the inanimate. This protoplasm was believed by Tyndall to be universal, and was supposed to cover the bottom of the ocean. But I have discovered that it is still more universal than either Tyndall or Haeckel supposed it to be. It is on land, and in the religious world. I am confident that it is protoplasm, although it is regarded by some as a kind of Christianity. True it does not present itself in the form of jelly-specks, but there are many and striking similarities—and according to this theory it is only necessary to show a few striking similarities in order to show to what class or group a thing belongs. Now in Tyndall's and Haeckel's protoplasm there is no animation, or, at most, very little; so it is in ours. There is no apparent motion activity in the protoplasm of which we speak; neither is there in Tyndall's and Haeckel's. There is a yielding to any hard substance in their protoplasm; so there is in ours. If it comes in contact with popular prejudice or public opinion, this religious protoplasm always yields. To it, "vox populi" is, without controversy, "vox Dei," though it be only the shout of the rabble praising Nebuchadnezzar's golden image. All the life this protoplasm has is on the lowest plane. Under powerful heat (for you know that heat plays an important part in this theory) it shows some faint signs of life, but as soon as the heat is removed it sinks back to its normal condition. During camp-meeting seasons I have seen this religious protoplasm giving off considerable signs of life, so that a great many people mistook it for Christianity; but in a month or two it was as quiet and inanimate as ever—reduced to the state of mere jelly specks.

Now, the question is, if it has taken the protoplasm of Haeckel from the Cambrian age to the days of Adam to develop into a man, how long would a camp-meeting age have to last in order for this religious protoplasm, under the influence of continual heat, to develop into a Christian.

Darwin has had a great deal to say about "rudimentary organs," and has labored to prove the existence of such organs in ostriches, boa-constrictors, etc., etc. I think more kindly of Darwin than I did, for I have discovered some rudimentary organs also; and again (to Darwin's surprise no doubt,) I will bring my illustrations from the religious world. The theory says that the legs of the boa-constrictor are rudimentary from disuse—hence his walk is limited to a crawl. He lies up in the shade on the bough of some tree near a cooling stream, until he has an opportunity to pounce upon a deer, an antelope, or perhaps some passing traveler. His prey once swallowed, he creeps off into some dark place to sleep and digest his meal.

There is great similarity between the boa-constrictor of natural history and the one I have discovered. The latter lies upon Sunday within

a stone's throw of the church, and digests the prey he has captured during the week. He prepares to capture some poor victim that is passing unwarily too near his den. He doesn't go to Sunday-school, or prayer-meeting, or class-meeting—not he. Those things are unfashionable, he says—and in this age no one thinks of being so overly pious. In the next generation, his children—the rudimentary organs—are better developed. He has sons whose "feet run to evil and make haste to shed blood" and his daughters are very expert in every ball-room. How many ages will it be before enough warmth will be infused into his sluggish blood to place him among the number who can "walk and not be weary; run and not faint?"

Darwin proves that the wings of the ostrich are rudimentary. We learn from natural history that when this interesting bird is pursued, he hides his head in the sand or rubbish, leaving his body exposed to the attacks of the enemy. Gartner describes races between ostriches in pursuit of their prey. They are very fleet on foot under such circumstances.

I also can prove that there is a species of religious ostrich, a bird cowardly and fleet-footed, and endowed with rudimentary wings. When there is a dollar in sight, he is extremely fleet; nothing can exceed his rapidity in pursuit of that dollar. And when he is approached on the subject of his religious duty, immediately he hides his head in the rubbish of some wrecked Christian character; (Brother A. or B. has done so;) and thus our ostrich justifies his intemperance, his faithlessness, his perjury, and his fraud. How many ages must pass in the ordinary process of development before his useless wings shall expand enough to lift him above the petty meanness and clinging impurity of earth? How long before he shall learn to "mount upon wings as eagles?"

God grant that the time may come, and come soon, when, instead of mere religious protoplasm and useless organs, we may have in the church a living, working membership. Then shall we find that the quickening heat will last the whole year round, and not die out when the camp-meeting closes. Then shall we find our membership in the prayer-meeting, and the class-meeting, and the Sunday-school. Then will each man stand erect and say for himself: "I know that my Redeemer liveth," instead of either rejoicing or seeking excuse for himself, because A. or B. has fallen.

HEAR! HEAR!

Dr. Sledd, in his able *Monthly*, says: "If from any cause there should be no Bishop remaining in our church, after the election of one by the General Conference, any three of the elders appointed for that purpose shall ordain him. But we find no provision for the ordination of either deacons or elders in the absence of a Bishop. Men elected to these offices 'fail of their ordination' if he be not present. Here is, to our mind, an incongruity between our doctrine and our practice; and we ought either to surrender the former or conform our law and practice to it."

Just so. The failure by accident or disease of a Bishop to be present at an Annual Conference ought not to subject a class of worthy deacons and the people whom they serve to all the evils of non-ordination. Let the law be changed.

J. H. BRUNNER.

We find the above in the *Nashville Advocate* without protest. This, in our judgment, would destroy our episcopacy. The two cases are not at all parallel. In one case we have no bishop and must provide one or give up our episcopacy. In the other a class of men is subjected to a brief delay in their ordination, though, if they are elected to deacon's orders, the time of their probation for the office of elders runs not from their ordination but from their election. We protest against any such radical change merely to avoid a temporary inconvenience.

VICTORIA, Victoria Co., December 12.—We are having some disagreeable weather; trying to rain—a thing we are needing very badly. Farmers are waiting for rain so they can plow. Cotton all sold, and the money about gone. Victoria about as wicked as ever; it would violate the Sunday law, but don't relish the hundred dollar fine. Health good. Our preacher on this work is laboring internally. May God bless his labors.—NATIVE TEXAS.

APPOINTMENTS OF THE TEXAS CONFERENCE.

BISHOP M'VEYRE, D. D., PRESIDING.

Galveston District.

H. V. PHILLIPS, PRESIDING ELDER.

St. John, Galveston.....G. W. Briggs
St. James, Galveston.....W. J. Phillips
Cedar Bayou Circuit.....S. H. Brown
Clear Creek Mission.....(To be supplied by P. E. Nicholson)
Shearn Church, Houston.....Halsey Werlein
Washington Street, Houston.....Fred. T. Wilson
Eagle Lake Station.....H. B. Stocking
San Felipe Circuit.....R. F. Beasley
Richmond Station.....G. V. Ridley
Velasco Circuit.....Samuel H. Williams
Matagorda Circuit.....(To be supplied by V. A. G. Beaumont)
Columbia Circuit.....John B. Denton
Editor TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.....L. G. John

Austin District.

E. S. SMITH, PRESIDING ELDER.

Austin Station.....W. Shepard
Swede Mission.....Carl Chanquist
Webber's Circle.....W. G. Neams
Austin Circuit.....J. W. Whipple
Live Oak Mission.....J. L. Murray
Cedar Creek Circuit.....R. Collinson
Bastrop Station.....Wecmas Wootton
Winchester Circuit.....M. S. Hotchkiss
West Point Circuit.....Daniel Morgan
Elgin Circuit.....J. M. Young
LaGrange Station.....F. L. Allen
Platonia Circuit.....Thos. F. Dimmitt
Welman Circuit.....C. J. Lane, sup
Columbus Station.....U. C. Spencer
Columbus Mission.....F. A. Moshan
Recent Southwestern University.....To be supplied F. A. Mood

Chappell Hill District.

T. W. ROGERS, PRESIDING ELDER.

Chappell Hill Station.....R. Alexander
Travis Circuit.....A. L. P. Green
Brenham Station.....F. T. Mitchell
Hempstead and Heckley.....B. T. Kavanagh
Bryan Station.....A. E. Goodwyn
Bryan Circuit.....J. M. Wesson
Welborn Mission.....(S. J. Graves, sup
Independence and Burton.....James A. Duncan
Caldwell Circuit.....J. L. Lemons
Elbee Circuit.....(M. H. Porter, sup
Giddings Circuit.....P. P. Reese
Lexington Mission.....Peyton B. Sadfield
Nail's Creek Mission.....To be supplied

Huntsville District.

C. H. BROOKS, PRESIDING ELDER.

Huntsville Station.....S. C. Littlepage
Dodds Mission.....B. F. Johnson
Willis and Montgomery.....J. M. Pugh
Cold Springs Circuit.....I. Z. T. Morris
Prairie Plains Circuit.....C. L. Farrington
Madisonville Circuit.....G. H. Phair
Zion Circuit.....R. H. Kennon
Anderson Circuit.....J. H. Chambliss
Navasota and Millerton.....J. C. Mickle
Courtney and Plantersville.....O. T. Hotchkiss
Spring Creek Circuit.....J. W. Kelley

Transferred—R. T. Nabors, to the North Alabama Conference, and stationed at Tuscaloosa; W. J. Young, to the West Texas Conference, and stationed at San Antonio; Thos. Price, to the Mississippi Conference; and C. M. Caldwell, to the Kentucky Conference.

ATTENTION is respectfully called to the advertisement of Messrs. Bridgeford & Co., which appears elsewhere in this issue. This house handles stoves of their own manufacture only, and are thus enabled to furnish repairs at a moment's notice.

OSDON CREEK, Ellis Co., Dec. 14.—Weather fine. Crops gathered. Wheat, sorgho, Waxahachie our county's, and new railroad city is progressing rapidly. The stone side of the square with its beautiful iron and brick facade, will soon be completed. Business flourishing, and the "iron horse" is still puffing and snorting with his mighty nostrils, as he steams the rugged gale of the "blue northers." We love the Advocate.—J. C. CROCKETT.

WAXAHACHIE, Ellis Co., December.—I am on my second round on the Waxahachie circuit. I find the church alive to duty, and a better people no man ever served. This is my second year among them, and the more I am with them, the better I love them. I want Mr. Circuit Rider to give us a call at the earliest opportunity. The only dread that I have of your visit among us is that the people will treat you so kind that you will want to cut down your big circuit and have the Bishop send you to this work next year. But come anyway, and we will risk it. The Advocate and the Sunday law are in favor with our people. At the last regular meeting of the Lebanon Council of United Friends of Temperance, in the bounds of this circuit, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That we endorse the Sunday law, and heartily endorse the faithful and able defense of the same by the editor of the Advocate." Give it to them, Doctor. A physician in treating a difficult case, though a remedy may only nauseate at first, he does not hesitate to apply it. So go on. Repeat the dose; keep the matter before the people, and you will have done a good work.—JOHN S. DAVIS.

Dallas Business Directory.

KNOWLES & MANN.

Managers of the New Home Sewing Machine, for the State of Texas. General office, 702 Main Street, Dallas, Texas. Agents wanted in every county.

TRINITY CIGAR FACTORY

Wholesale dealers in Cigars and Leaf Tobacco, 610 Main Street, Dallas, Texas.

W. W. ORR,

Successor to SECHLER & ORR, —Manufacturer of and dealer in— Carriages, Phaetons, Buggies, and SPRING WAGONS. 724 and 726 M. in Street, Dallas, Texas. We claim to sell the cheapest and best buggies ever sold in the State, and defy competition. Send for catalogue and price list.

W. H. HOWELL & BRO.,

Wholesale dealers in Drugs, Patent Medicines, Paints, Oils, Window Glass, Stationery, Violin Strings, Garden and Flower seeds.

Texas Christian Advocate

Our Postal Cards.

LOOSE OAK, Hunt Co., Dec. 6.—Emory Council, No. 154, organized Dec. 4; fifteen male and four female members; Prof. Hart, W. P. Lone Oak Council, No. 239, organized with sixteen males and five females; A. W. Heifer, W. P., and R. P. Hawley, W. S. The cause prospers.—YOUNG.

SPANISH CAMP, Wharton Co., Dec. 7.—Bro. H. B. Stocking preached his farewell sermon to-day at Quintine, Snake Creek circuit, on "The Way, the Truth and the Light." It was a soul stirring theme. The power came from God through the speaker to the people, and all felt it.—J. H. W.

BROCKENBROUGH STORES Co., Dec. 4.—I have been living here two weeks, have not seen a drunken man in the place. We have religious, intelligent and industrious population. Preacher on the work well received and I think will bring up a grand report next conference. Health good. Some appearance of rain. Some are sowing wheat.—A. K. MILLER.

HELENA, Karnes Co., Dec. 8.—First quarterly meeting closed; pleasant time. Presiding elder, C. M. Rodgers, laboring extensively to build the fallen walls of Zion. No rain; no grass, and corn \$1.30 per bushel retail. Farmers are getting ready to plow when the rain falls. Helena has a neat church-house, a college building and an excellent school in it; and there seems to be a good business done in the grocery and the mercantile line of dry goods.—H. A. GRAVES.

JEFFERSON, Marion Co., Dec. 8.—Our city is truly alive. It looks rather like old times. Cotton! cotton! cotton!!! Our merchants, both wholesale and retail, are doing better than far years past. The preacher in charge and family very comfortable. Jefferson may have lost in many respects, but her people still retain a remarkable supply of the milk of human kindness. We are looking up to heaven for a blessing. The Lord send it soon.—D. M. PROCTOR.

SAN ANTONIO, Bexar Co., Dec. 8.—At the close of the past conference year my circuit (Medina) presented the presiding elder, preacher in charge, and two local preachers who went up to join the conference, with new suits of clothes, and beat some large stations in its collections, and yet we were turned up with the drought, and it continues, the whole country being as "dry as a bone." The people are religious, and have two new church enterprises on hand.—H. G. HORTON.

GRANBY, Hood Co., Dec. 9.—Rev. William Vaughan is on the granby circuit and gone to work in good earnest. The first quarterly meeting. We were well pleased with our preacher, Bro. J. K. Lane, our presiding elder, was at his first quarterly meeting on time, in the spirit of the Master, and commenced looking after the interests of the church on the Palo Pinto district as though he was used to such work. He will succeed. Good rain last week. Wheat looking well, though some late. The outlook is good for a fine wheat crop. More anon.—JAMES HENK.

JEWETT, Leon Co., Dec. 9.—I have just recovered from a three weeks' spell of sickness, commenced my ministerial labor last Sabbath in the presence of a large and attentive audience. I find in Jewett a great many good, Christian-hearted people, who are ready to help in the "good fight of faith." The preacher and his wife are well provided for. God bless the good people of Jewett. This is my first charge; so let me ask the prayers of the Christian people of Texas, that I may be faithful.—C. W. DANIEL.

MERIDIAN, Bosque Co., Dec. 8.—Wife writes to her friends that our "income" was an ovation; that is, nobody set the dogs on us. But it is better yet; a sensible, Christian reception greeted us on our return. Still dry; light rains occasionally. Considerable sickness—chiefly flux and malarial disorders—mostly among children. By neglect of the jailer, four of the six prisoners escaped on the 7th inst. About sixty houses in the new town of Whitney, twenty-three miles out of us, now terminus of the Waco Tap Railroad, surgeons have gone through our country, westward.—JOHN.

GREENVILLE, Hunt Co., Dec. 8.—Rev. James Young, the State temperance lecturer, spent Saturday and Sunday with us, lecturing at night on "temperance, lawlessness and crime"; and on the Sunday gave a temperance message. Last night our church was well filled with an interested audience. The doctor fully met the expectations of the people, and the grand truths he presented were heartily endorsed. A rising vote, almost unanimous, was given in favor of the Sunday law. We had a temperance "boom" and organized a council of U. F. T. with seventy-eight members, with Col. W. C. Jones, our representative in the legislature, as "Worthy Primate"—P. A.

CALVERT, Robertson Co., Dec. 9.—I see by the papers that Major Penn said in your city: "That he was a sinner and that he sinned hourly." Now, he must know, and I am not disposed to contradict him; but the question will come up in my mind: what right has one sinner to reprove another sinner? Sin is sin wherever found, and sin will damn the sinner. The Word says: "He that committeth sin is of the devil." And again: "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested that He might destroy the works of the devil." And it also says: "Whoever is born of God doth not commit sin." Now, put all these quotations together, and what can you make of them? Perhaps you of Galveston can explain all right, but we up here can't make them stick together.—J. A. GRAVES.

MARSHALL, Harrison Co., Dec. 7.—A Word for Marshall Sunday-school.—Last Sabbath was the closing one for the conference year. The banner for the class giving the most money for foreign missions was awarded to W. W. Harshill's class of young men, they having given \$19.31. Total amount for foreign missions raised by the Sunday-school, over \$60, and distributed equally between Brazilian and Mexican missions. Our superintendent stated that of over 200 that have been on our roll this year there had not been a single death. How is that for health? Today we organized for another year with 150 present. How will that do for a beginning? Our pastor is attending conference at Palestine. We are anxious to know who they will send us; but being Methodists we will receive whoever is sent. You are giving us a good paper; we read it eagerly, and endorse the advocacy of the Sunday law.—B. E. N.

BOERNE, Kendall Co., Dec. 8.—Rev. A. J. Potter held on Saturday and Sunday, the 6th and 7th inst., his first quarterly conference with the church at Boerne since his promotion to the important position of elder. He performed the duties of his new position in a manner that reflected credit upon himself and gave pleasant satisfaction to all the parties concerned. Energy, executive capacity and financial ability are three very important and requisite qualities possessed by our new elder in a remarkable degree. We have known Bro. Potter for several years as a citizen, preacher and neighbor, and were much rejoiced when we heard that a

simple act of justice had been done; that his services had been appreciated; and that the honors, responsibilities and duties of the elder ship were conferred upon him, not because of his fluency of speech, nor because of his powers of elocution and oratory, but because of his individual merit, his personal worth and his useful life. The time will come when the correct history of Methodism in the frontier counties of Western Texas will be written, and then the life and work of A. J. Potter will stand forth in bold relief. He has always, since his reformation, been ready to preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified at any time and place, whether it was in the protected cities of the interior or in the unprotected camps of the wild frontier.—JACOB WEST.

STARBUCK, Smith Co., Dec. 11.—There is joy on the Starbuck circuit—thanks to the bishop, the presiding elder, the preacher and Shaw & Blaylock—for the return of our highly esteemed pastor, J. R. Wages, for another year. We like all the preachers, but we needed Bro. Wages particularly for another year; some of his appointments especially, there being an element he could control better than any other man in the conference. We are all glad—saint and sinner—except the salvation of a minority.—L. J. S.

ANNONA, Red River Co., Dec. 11.—Arrived within the bounds of my work last Friday. Have preached three times since to small but attentive congregations. Work rather disorganized, being made up of parts of three works. People buoyant with hope financially, having been blessed with abundant cotton crops the past year. As a consequence, church enterprises are favorable; the ADVOCATE not excepted. We hope. Married my first couple yesterday: Mr. Daniel Harvey and Miss Eugenia V. Parchman.—J. A. WYATT.

GRAHAM, Young Co., Dec. 5.—Rain and hail yesterday; did stock a great deal of good. "The tongue is a little member;" a match is a little thing, but it can fire a city, and lay waste palatial mansions; so the tongue ruins and debases the possessor, and lays waste the character a man or woman has been a life-time in building up. Principle is something of which too many men and women are devoid. Talmage, perhaps, is a sensational preacher; but he tells us of some things which American society ought to be ashamed. Iniquity in high life ought to be condemned, as well as in low life. Sin is sin; in wealth as well as in poverty. It seems that the liquor dealers are much exercised over the condemnation of their iniquitous business. If it is not wrong to sell death and misery to men and women, why do liquor sellers make such a fuss about it?—S. W. GOODR.

DODD CITY CIRCUIT, Fannin Co., Dec. 10.—We have sixteen appointments on our work; six Sunday-schools; four prayer-meetings; our spiritual condition very good. Our people are eager for the ADVOCATE; have obtained nine subscribers in the last week—my first attempt to work since conference. We are going to do our best to have it in every Methodist family and as many others as possible. We got one brother Baptist to subscribe. Cotton picking nearly over. Farmers are needing rain very much.—J. A. ALLISON.

LIBERTY HILL, Williamson County, Dec. 2.—Many of the brethren lay it to hard times, and they see no chance to support their preacher. But in many cases the will is wanting more than the ability to pay. The following will illustrate the fact. Last year there was living in the bounds of Liberty Hill circuit, a poor widow woman who had no means with which to pay her quarters. And in order to meet the demands of the gospel, she went to a steward's wife, seeking work to raise money to pay her preacher. She was employed and her quarters was paid. Now, brethren, when the steward comes round collecting for the pastor, don't plead hard times, but think of the poor widow.—METHODIST.

STEWARDS OF THE MARSHALL DISTRICT.—Dear Brethren: Now is the time to help your preachers. They are on their new work. Some of them have moved from good homes. They are in need of help. There is money in the country. Our people are liberal. Begin your work early with a plan—come together—make the salary of your preacher—then see all your members. Better have a church conference, and learn how much each one will pay, and collect all you can now. Then see the friends of the church—they will, they ought, to help you. Do not wait until the first quarterly meeting. Begin now. You have done nobly—but can do better. Let all go to work early for a glorious year.—R. W. THOMPSON.

LULING, Caldwell Co., Dec. 18.—Have removed from Lockhart to Luling. Have made one round on the circuit. The church is in good condition. Luling is growing, despite the hard times. Deput crowded with cotton, and still it comes. The late crop is turning out well. Have had several showers of rain recently.—B. HARRIS.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Nueces Co., December 8.—MEXICAN MISSION—I got back to this place after twenty days' absence on my circuit. I found all our members in good spirits, and glad that the Bishop sent me back to them. A German gunsmith took his own life to-day by shooting his brains out, and nobody knows the reason why. What is to become of Corpus Christi if it keeps on this way.—SANTIAGO TAPOLLA.

NECKERTOWN, Nueces Co., Dec. 9.—I have just closed my first round on Lagarto circuit. Met with a kind reception. Congregations good; we have a church going people, who appreciate the gospel. Prospects are flattering for a prosperous year. I hope and pray that we may have an abundant spiritual harvest. Pray for us. I have just returned from San Diego. The small pox is raging terribly at that place among the Mexicans, resulting in a great many deaths. I am presenting the claims of the ADVOCATE; I hope to be able to send some subscribers very soon.—N. W. KEITH.

FORT WORTH, December 9, 1879.—The Sunday morning issue of the Fort Worth Democrat, the excellent morning paper of our thriving city, contained an editorial upon Col. R. G. Ingersoll which is so well written, practical, and so full of common sense, that I send it to you, and hope you will give it a place in your columns. No sermon in our city pulpits reached so wide an audience, or was more calculated to do good.—JOHN R. ALLEN.

From the Sherman Chronicle we learn that it has been suggested that the people of Denison and Sherman unite in inviting Robert G. Ingersoll to lecture before them at the latter place. Cui bono? If religion is a blessed reality, the spread of infidelity, through the efforts of Bob Ingersoll, is deplorable; if religion is not a blessed reality, no one can logically contend that its votaries are made

worse by their faith in it—and those who choose to disbelieve ought to be able to do so without the aid of eloquent skepticism. It seems to us there is an inconsistency in these infidel revivals, so to speak, and when men send for Pope Bob it looks as if their doubts and denials required strengthening. We cannot understand the seeming desire of infidels to argue and proselyte. Suppose Christians do make war upon infidelity? Their motive is plain. They are actuated by a sense of duty and by love for those whose immortal interests they believe to be in imminent peril. But, if there is nothing beyond this vale of tears, no other life than this, why waste precious time in saying so? Why seek to disturb the faith of men and women whose trust is to them a firm anchor and a safe refuge? Why enter upon a warfare against a faith that cannot work harm to mankind—be it false or true? Christians are safe in any event, for the long and short of this whole matter, it seems to us, is this: If Christians are right, they are safe; if they are wrong, they are safe; if infidels are right, they are safe; if they are wrong, they are not safe. The only argument that will justify infidels in seeking to combat the efforts of Christianity to proselyte believers, and in seeking to propagate the ideas of which Bob Ingersoll is the latest and most eloquent expounder, is the plain and unequivocal charge that Christianity is an evil, that its teachings are inimical to man's best interests, and that its practices do not tend to promote good government and human happiness. If Christianity is a curse, by all means send for Ingersoll, and let his marvelous eloquence be kept employed constantly battering down the bulwarks of religion. If Christianity is not a curse, an evil, a promoter of bad ends in private and public affairs, then Bob Ingersoll, as an infidel lecturer, is a curse to this land, and those who encourage his assaults are equally with him the enemies of good. Do those who are to unite in this invitation to the great apostle of infidelity believe that Christianity is a curse, an evil, a promoter of bad ends in private and public affairs? If they do not, they are guilty of a great wrong in seeking to expose the youth of Texas to the dangerous eloquence of the great scoffier; if they do, let them boldly proclaim the fact, and openly make war upon what they regard as a great wrong, and not slink behind the audacious sacrilege of Bob Ingersoll.

ADAM L. HARCASTLE. The collections made and yet to be made by the Catholic Church of this country, to help Archbishop Purcell pay his debts, if we judge from present indications, furnish but a poor show for the creditors. The Cincinnati Commercial thinks that, all told, they will not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars. This would cover but a mere fragment of the whole indebtedness.

Children's Department.

PRAYER. What various hindrances we meet. In coming to the mercy-seat! Yet who that knows the worth of prayer But wishes to be often there. Prayer makes the darken'd clouds withdraw. Prayer drives the ladder Jacob saw. Gives exercise to faith and love. Brings every blessing from above. Prayer, the simplest form of speech That infant lips can try; Prayer, the soul's inmost strains that reach The majesty on high.—Schoel.

Dear Little Children—Little Clarence's letter received. Uncle John is glad so many who promised to read the Good Book this year have already complied with their promise, and are beginning to read again for a new year. While many are yet to be heard from, Uncle John hopes they have not forgotten their Bible or their promise to Uncle John, and hopes they all will begin with us again on Christmas day. Little Clarence is right when he says there are many things in the Bible hard to understand. Yet this is why we should love to read it more and more; and when we find those hard places, ask papa and mamma, or our kind teachers, or pastors, to explain them for us that we may understand the will of the Lord, and thereby "get wisdom and knowledge; and with all our gettings, get understanding." The Good Book tells us "to receive instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold." "For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it." (Prov. viii: 10, 11.) "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom; and with all thy getting, get understanding." Exalt her, and she shall promote thee; she shall bring thee to honor, when thou dost embrace her." "She shall give to thee head ornament of grace; a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee." Don't forget to ask papa and mamma, or your kind pastor, or write to Uncle John, when we find places hard and difficult; so as we can all take it to the Lord, and by His help understand His precious truths. Uncle John wants to begin soon to write to the children about the Bible, and by the help of the good Lord hopes that we will understand more and more of His good word.—UNCLE JOHN.

LEXINGTON, Lee County, Texas, 1 Nov. 23, 1879. Dear Uncle John—I thought I

would write to you again, and let you know how I am getting along reading. I am not quite through yet. I don't read as fast as some of my little cousins do. I study and try to be benefited thereby. I think it would be doing an injustice to the word of God to read it hurriedly. I haven't joined the church yet, but I am trying to be a good girl. I go every evening about sunset to secret prayer, and pray to God, who hears and answers little children's prayers, to cleanse my heart from sin, and make me a good girl. I am going to school—have quite a number of studies. I help my grandma and mamma all I can. Last year I collected seven dollars of missionary money, and Bro. M. H. Porter gave me a nice prize for collecting the most money. I hope to be able to join your class. Love to all my little cousins. Good bye, Uncle John.

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HOP BITTERS. (A Medicine, not a Drink.) CONTAINS—HOPS, RUCHE, MANDRAKE, DANDELION. AND THE PUREST AND BEST MEDICAL QUALITIES OF ALL OTHER BITTERS. THEY CURE All Diseases of the Stomach, Bowels, Blood, Liver, Kidneys and Urinary Organs, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Female Complaints and Drunkenness. \$1000 IN GOLD Will be paid for a case they will not cure or help, or for anything impure or injurious to be found in them. Ask your druggist for Hop Bitters and free books, and try the Bitters before you sleep. Take no other. The Hop Cough Cure and Pain Relief is the Cheapest, Surest and Best. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

AGENT WANTED For the Pictorial Bible Commentator, 1,018 pages, 473 illustrations and maps. The most complete and comprehensive Commentary on the entire Scriptures (in one vol.) ever published. Price \$5.75. BRADLEY, GARRETTSON & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Cure, without medicine, a whole class of diseases which heretofore have been called different diseases, but which are found to have a different source or origin, and which have baffled the skill of the best physicians. The effects of the treatment are simply wonderful, and would seem incredible but for the facts constantly accumulating from the experience of patients benefited.

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Texas Christian Advocate

Sunday School.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS. BY R. M. MOORE. REVIEW.

FOURTH QUARTER—December 28, 1879. This review completes the seven years' series of International Lessons.

Discards all faith that folds its hands in the presence of duty and slumbers when it should labor. Good deeds are the coins of Faith's mint.

Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth.—Verse 22. Peter, the great apostle of the circumcision, in his impetuosity, backed by the courage of a lion, after the blessings of the Pentecost, seeks in every possible way to be faithful in his ministry.

John, the beloved disciple, is always intent on stating truth, rather than plying his readers with arguments to prove the truth. The thought that gives color to his entire theme is "fellowship, or Christian communion—its nature, its spirit, its life and source, and the tests by which it may be known."

As Christ was held up in the last lesson as the Great High Priest, He is held up in this as the substance of all the types and shadows of the old ceremonial law.

James "the Less," in this Epistle, while contending strenuously for the fruits of faith-works, in no way attempts to undo the office of faith, but he maintains that faith, to be of any value whatever, must be alive, active, and fruit-bearing.

but to the one of Sardis, a further statement is more fearful still, "thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." A dead pastor, and a dead church; like priest, like people!

Here the revelator continues the vision begun in the previous chapter. He gives us grand views of Heaven itself, of God, and other grand personages, one being a mighty angel proclaiming in reference to the book of human destiny, and saying, "who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof?"

From the transcendent sights and song of the last lesson, we come to the transcendent city of this the New Jerusalem, the "Heavenly city," with its twelve gates of pearl, with its street of gold, with God as its temple, without sun and moon, illumined with the glory of God, with nations walking in that light, bringing in all their honors and glory, with its gates open for all that is pure and excluding all that is impure and false.

The prophecy closed in the last lesson, and this lesson is the epilogue or conclusion of the book. The interpreting angel solemnly asserts the truth of the revelation and pronounces a blessing on those who "keep the sayings of the prophecy of this book."

The twelve lessons in brief are: 1. The Perpetual High Priest. 2. Types Completed, Christ the Substance. 3. Faith Triumphs, Righteous Rewards. 4. Faith and Works, true tests. 5. Peter Presents the Perfect Pattern. 6. The Perfect Savior, Love and Light. 7. The Father's Love, Confession of Christ. 8. A Glorified Savior Sends His Message. 9. The Messages to the Churches. 10. The Lion and Lamb, the Heavenly Song. 11. The Heavenly City, the City of Life. 12. The Last Words, the Call to Come.

This lesson is Christ's message to two of the seven churches—Sardis and Philadelphia. The one is condemned, the other commended. The "works" of the church in Sardis were not "perfect before God," and the church in Philadelphia, had a "little strength," had kept His "word" and had not "denied" His "name."

not in that position on the circuit that it should occupy. The conference year past by, as it has for four or five years past, without much good being done.

I see there is an effort set forth of late, through the ADVOCATE, urging a full attendance upon quarterly meeting occasions. This is exactly right, and now allow me to make one suggestion: Let every official member in particular be present, and bring with him his wife, daughter, sister or mother, as the case may be.

God hears the heart without the word but He never hears the words without the heart. Rev. Dr. Kirkus, rector of one of the Protestant Episcopal churches in Baltimore, asked, recently, for contributions of "gold, silver and jewelry" from the congregation toward the manufacture of a new communion service, and received in response to his appeal offerings of jewelry and ornaments to the value of \$1,000.

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This work, under its former pastor, enjoyed gracious favors from the Lord. Fathers and brothers who were old in sin, have been converted to God; so that, in some particulars, this country has put on her new garments, and from almost every stand-point God has blessed this people.

not in that position on the circuit that it should occupy. The conference year past by, as it has for four or five years past, without much good being done. I would be very glad to see or hear of Pleasant Grove being greatly revived this incoming conference year.

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Texas Christian Advocate

SHAW & BLAYLOCK - Publishers. I. G. JOHN, D. D., Editor. Associate Editors: R. S. Finley, East Texas Conference; H. S. Thrall, West Texas Conference; W. G. Connor, D. D., N.W. Texas Conference; S. J. Hawkins, North Texas Conference; R. T. Nabors, Texas Conference

THE TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The fortieth session of the Texas Conference was held in the city of Austin, beginning December 10th and closing the 15th; Bishop H. N. McTyeire in the chair. H. V. Philpott was elected Secretary, and P. B. Saffold and O. T. Hotchkiss, Assistants.

Of those who answered roll-call, only six were members of the conference thirty-two years ago, viz: R. Alexander, J. W. Whipple, J. M. Wesson, O. Fisher, J. G. Johnson, and I. G. John. It was cheering to see the noble company of young men who are taking up the burden their older brethren ere long must lay down.

The reports of the preachers showed a general advance in every department of church enterprise. The aggregate increase in the five Texas conferences will give to Texas Methodism nearly 80,000 members. The reports show 60 local preachers; 8193 members; 532 infants and 478 adults baptized; 77 Sunday-schools with 540 officers and teachers, 3680 scholars and 7638 volumes in libraries.

The report of the Committee on Sunday-schools pointed to the want of church buildings as the chief cause of failure to organize and sustain Sunday-schools in so many charges. In union houses it is impossible to have Methodist Sunday-schools. Were this the only evil that the absence of church buildings entails on the church, it would be a sufficient reason to demand churches of our own in every charge.

There were 705-6 churches in the conference valued at \$165,691.55. One of the presiding elders made some very pertinent remarks while reporting the state of the work in his district respecting the great need of church buildings. In towns and neighborhoods, where our churches have been organized for forty years, our people are still worshipping in school-houses, court-houses, or dilapidated church buildings, which are a reproach to the liberality of the church. Population is coming in, but at many of these points the church is not as strong as it was when the old men of the conference were in the vigor of early manhood.

There were fourteen parsonages reported, valued at \$12,435. At least thirty more are needed to meet the present demands of the work. There has been expended in building and repairing churches during the year \$18,671.73; \$401.35 was reported for the bishops' fund, and \$1021.30 on conference collection. The Texas Conference has an unusually large proportion of claimants on the conference fund, and the preachers and people should bear this in mind when making and responding to this appeal. Some of our superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of preachers who have died at their posts, are sadly in need of help. Let our people bear in memory these men who have grown gray in the service of the church, or the families they have left in its charge.

The aggregate claims of the preachers amounted to \$27,446.26; the receipts reported were \$24,497.92. Although this leaves a deficit of \$2948.34, yet it is among the best reports we have heard this year.

The collections for domestic missions amounted to \$941.40; for foreign missions \$1062.40. Two of the charges raised one dollar per member, viz., Chappell Hill station, Dr. Alexander, pastor, and Richmond circuit, O. T. Hotchkiss, pastor. Chappell Hill reported \$1.30 per capita for missions, and was the banner charge in all the collections. Shearn church, Houston, also sent up excellent missionary collections. It is worthy of remark that, both at Chappell Hill and Houston, women's missionary societies have been organized, and to these the pastors were largely indebted for the liberal collections made.

The rain reduced the audience at the missionary anniversary, yet, after most admirable addresses by Bros. Nabors and Briggs, the editor lifted the collection, which amounted to over \$150. Considering the size of the congregation, this is one of the best collections raised at any of our anniversaries this year.

Another end was attained which, possibly, was of more importance than even a larger collection. The Texas Conference has been raising about thirty cents per member for missions. This entitled it to the banner amongst its sister Texas con-

ferences, if not among all the conferences of our connection. At the anniversary it was resolved by a unanimous vote of the members of the conference to increase their collections to one dollar per member. Why not? Two charges reached that figure the past year. The Wesleyan Methodists raise missionary money in that proportion, and have been doing it a generation. Our Presbyterian brethren have reached that standard of liberality. The Moravians rise above it. The preachers of the Texas conference can measure up to that point if they have the will for the work. Let them commence early and work faithfully, and the Texas conference may open a new epoch in the history of our mission work. Among the visitors at the conference was Bro. Sutherland, Superintendent of the Mexican border mission work. Represents the work moving steadily on.

"Above all, pastors are needed in Texas. Churches in the East have been depopulated by church letters given to people coming to Texas. They are somewhere. It is the business of the pastor to hunt them up." The Bishop was addressing the candidates for admission into the conference. He was also addressing every pastor in the State. Were every church letter now withheld to be reported next Sunday the membership of the Methodist church, South, would report an increase of at least fifty per cent.

Dr. Shapard honored the Editor by sending him out on Thursday night to preach to the Swedes at their neat and tasteful church in the Eastern part of the city. If a preacher were to fail to have liberty while surrounded by the religious atmosphere that pervades this congregation, he would be sadly in need of a revival in his own heart. Six years ago a mission was organized among the Swedish population of Austin and vicinity under the charge of Rev. Carl Chanquist. It has been wonderfully prospered. The pastor reports a membership of 175. Their piety is deep and fervent. A family altar is found in every household, and every adult member, and many of their children, are ready to lead in prayer at home or at their social religious services. Their church cost some \$2600. They have a parsonage valued at \$700. We wish we had its duplicate in every pastoral charge in Texas. They report two Sunday-schools with fifty scholars. So important is this work among our foreign population that it should be retained under the fostering care of the Mission Board, and command the sympathy of the entire church.

Austin is growing rapidly. It boasts of some of the finest private residences in the State. The architect is evidently abroad in the land. A marked improvement is visible in the style of the public buildings of recent growth. A new State house, which will correspond in architectural finish with recent structures, is sadly needed.

PREACHING SO AS TO CONVERT NOBODY.

BY PRESIDENT FINLEY.

There is so much truth and evangelical propriety found in the enclosed sketch, that I send it to you for publication in your truly evangelical paper. It is taken from the Baltimore Episcopal Methodist. I think its publication will suggest improvement in some quarters. B. T. KAVANAUGH, Houston, Dec. 5, 1879.

The design of this article is to propound several rules by a steady conformity to any one of which a man may preach so as not to convert anybody. It is generally conceded at the present day that the Holy Spirit converts souls to Christ by means of truth adapted to that end. It follows that a selfish preacher will not skillfully adapt means to convert souls to Christ, for this is not his end.

1st. Let your supreme motive be to secure your own popularity; then, of course, your preaching will be adapted to that end, and not to convert souls to Christ.

2d. Aim at pleasing rather than at converting your hearers.

3d. Aim at securing for yourself the reputation of a beautiful writer.

4th. Avoid preaching doctrines that are offensive to the carnal mind, lest they should say of you, as they did of Christ, "This is a hard saying. Who can hear it?"

5th. Denounce sin in the abstract, but make no allusion to the sins of your present audience.

6th. Preach the Gospel as a remedy, but conceal or ignore the fatal disease of the sinner.

7th. Preach salvation by grace; but ignore the condemned and lost condition of the sinner, lest he should understand what you mean by grace, and feel his need of it.

8th. Preach Christ as an infinitely amiable and good natured being;

but ignore those scathing rebukes of sinners and hypocrites which so often made his hearers tremble.

9th. Avoid, especially, preaching to those who are present. Preach about sinners, and not to them. Say they, and not you, lest any one should make a personal and saving application of your subject.

10th. Aim to make your hearers pleased with themselves, and hence, with you; and be careful not to wound the feelings of any one.

11th. Preach no searching sermons, lest you convict and convert the worldly members of your church.

12th. Do not make the impression that you expect your hearers to commit themselves upon the spot, and give their hearts to God.

13. Leave the impression that they are expected to go away in their sins, and to consider the matter at their convenience.

14th. Say so little of hell that your people will infer that you do not believe in its existence.

15th. Make the impression that, if God is as good as you are, He will send no one to hell.

16th. Often present God in His parental love and relations; but ignore His governmental and legal relations to His subjects, lest the sinner should find himself condemned already, and the wrath of God abiding on him.

17th. Avoid pressing the doctrine of total moral depravity, lest you should offend, or even convict and convert the moralist.

18th. Do not rebuke the worldly tendencies of the church, lest you should hurt their feelings, and finally convert some of them.

19th. Be time-serving, or you will endanger your salary; and, besides, if you speak out and are faithful, you may convert somebody.

20th. Ridicule solemn earnestness in pulling sinners out of the fire, and recommend, by precept and example, a jovial, fun-loving religion, and sinners will have little respect for your serious preaching.

21st. Cultivate a fastidious taste in your people, by avoiding all disagreeable allusions to the last judgment and final retribution.

22d. If your text suggest any alarming thought, pass lightly over it, and by no means dwell upon and enforce it.

23d. Address the imagination, and not the conscience of your hearers.

24th. Encourage church socials, and attend them yourself, because they tend so strongly to levity as to compromise Christian dignity and sobriety, and thus paralyze the power of your preaching.

25th. Encourage the cultivation of the social in so many ways as to divert the attention of yourself and church-members from the infinite gulf and danger of the unconverted amongst you.

The experience of ministers who have steadily adhered to any of the above rules will attest the soul-destroying efficacy of such a course; and churches whose ministers have steadily conformed to any of these rules can testify that such preaching does not convert souls to Christ.

THE BETTER WAY.

—There are two ways of treating those who do not altogether agree with us in our mode of preaching and carrying forward the kingdom of Christ. One was that suggested by two of the apostles—to call down fire, as did Elijah. Another, and we think a better way, is to look charitably upon such persons and see if there are not points of agreement and plans by which we may co-operate with them. We have been led to these remarks by reading a letter in the Wesleyan Advocate from Hannibal, Missouri, signed C. W. Horn. We think Mr. H. did much better than to have denounced those who differed with him and provoked a bitter controversy. We copy from his letter:

I find in my new charge a company of so-called "holiness people." The Inskip ideas have got them, and they have for years rather abused the Pauline, Johannean, Wesleyan doctrine of sanctification. Some of them have been fanatical, some have been inconsistent, and altogether the doctrine has been brought into disrepute. On the other hand, the more sober part of the church has not dealt altogether fairly with them—they have been in a measure driven off. The result is the church has been divided, strife engendered, and the energies of a good section of it wasted in irregular work. I have been aiming to weld the parts and put them to co-operation in our church work. I find among the "holiness" folk much that is good; zeal, fervor and a true devotion. I am so happy thus far as to secure their confidence, endorsement and co-working. They promise to work in the church. I fear the indiscreet advocacy of sanctification by some has driven others to the opposite extreme, and we seldom hear as

we ought the doctrine preached and insisted upon. This error ought to be avoided, and the holiness should be emphasized by all our pulpits. I have found some who have never so much as heard whether there be any sanctification taught either in the Bible or by the Methodist Church. I am gratified to learn, notwithstanding, that the doctrine can be so presented even in Hannibal, that both parties accept it. How much of our differences come of misunderstanding! How sweetly brethren may dwell together in unity when they apprehend Christ intelligently and in a true faith! How mollifying and peaceful is the doctrine and experience of Christian holiness and perfect love!

A NEW DEPARTURE IN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.—A movement of considerable importance, probably, in its bearing on the practical relations to each other of members of the various evangelical denominations, was initiated on the 14th inst. by the opening of the new Baptist church at Bowdon. By a clause in the trust deed of the property provision is made for the admission to members of the Evangelical Christians of all denominations. Such members—that they may fully preserve their own consistency as Presbyterians; Episcopalians, Wesleyans, etc.—are to be styled "non-denominational members;" and, in order that the church may maintain its distinctive principles intact, they are not to speak or vote at church meetings upon matters affecting baptism or other recognized points of difference between themselves and the denomination. No doubt if the plan here indicated were generally acted upon there would be found in many localities one strong and vigorous church instead of three or four struggling institutions. The advocates of this new departure, as it may be termed, in religious matters point out that various important societies are maintained by persons representing all sections of evangelical Christians, and they think that in church matters such generous co-operation may be secured between persons whose points of agreement are greater and more important than those of difference, by the frank recognition of the latter and a general consent to treat them as open questions.—Memorial Guardian.

[This movement will doubtless result in the formation of a new denomination. This is usually the net result of all such union departures.—Ed.]

THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF Ingham county, Michigan, recently brought suit against a saloon-keeper of that place, for selling liquor to some boys of rather tender age. On the trial the lawyer for the State sustained his position by quoting an act of the last legislature prohibiting the sale of liquors to minors. In answer, the counsel for the defense said that the law referred to by his "learned brother" was in no way applicable to this case, as the law mentioned expressly prohibited the sale of liquors to minors, not minors, (which on examination proved to be correct). As the boys did not follow that occupation, the law did not apply to them. The prosecuting attorney, however, obtained a judgment against the saloon-keeper by pleading the palpable intent of the law; but the case has been appealed to the higher courts of the State, which, with its array of legal talent, must decide if the law as it now stands can be enforced against those who sell intoxicating liquors to youths.

A Letter from a Preacher's Wife.

Permit me through the columns of the ADVOCATE to return thanks to dear Bishop McTyeire and his cabinet for having returned my husband to the Tyler station (and Bro. John Adams to the Palestine district), and sealing my destiny for the year 1880 just as I desired. While I am willing to accompany my dear husband to any field of labor that the wisdom of the presiding Bishop and his cabinet would, in the fear of God, see fit to send him, it would indeed have been a great trial to have separated from the dear, good people of Tyler. I have been the wife of an itinerant preacher for a number of years; have accompanied him on hard missions, long circuits, and in stations; and have always been treated kindly, and have made friends in Alabama, Mississippi and Texas—many of whom I will never see again until the great itinerant army shall with triumphant rejoicings meet with their flocks in the city of God. But it has never been my fortune to be associated with a people who excelled those of Tyler for kindness and attention to their preacher and his wife.

I deeply regret that my health has been such that I could not mingle with them more than I have. We turn the leaf that introduces us into the labors of the new conference year with high hopes and prayers to our Heavenly Father to give us success in all departments of the church intrusted to our care.

Hoping that the wives of the preachers of the East Texas Conference are as happy as the writer, and that they will so express themselves, I commit this missive to your care, with my permission, if it does not meet your wishes, to commit it to the waste basket.

MOLLIE I. PHILLIPS. TYLER, South County, Texas, Dec. 9, 1879.

A Card of Thanks.

Allow me a little space to return my thanks to the members of St. James church for a handsome purse containing fifty dollars, and to express also my deep appreciation of the many, many kindnesses I have received from this, the most liberal-hearted people I have ever served. Sincerely, G. W. BRIGGS. GALVESTON, December 17, 1879.

Notice From the Treasurer of the Board of Missions.

Will all parties having funds for Foreign Missions in their hands please forward them promptly? Where it is not cause of too much delay, it is better to send through the conference treasurers. But please help us in this emergency. Will all be careful to state their Conferences in sending funds? AS State lines and conference lines are not the same, it is frequently the case that it requires fifteen minutes to hunt for conference relations before an entry can be made; this is a great waste of valuable time, and fruitful source of mistakes. Address, J. V. MEHNER, Treas., Nashville, Tenn.

Minister Suspended.

SHILOH, LAVACA COUNTY, Dec. 11, 1879.—The decision of the committee in the case of W. G. Cooke, of the West Texas conference, was as follows: Upon the testimony, we find W. G. Cooke guilty of gross immorality, and recommend his suspension from the ministry. JAS. G. WALKER,) A. G. NOLEN,) Committee. T. G. WOOLLS,)

The Presiding Elder, James H. Tucker, pronounced the sentence of suspension.

A LETTER from Rev. Jonathan King, who was admitted into the Northwest Texas conference at Fort Worth, and assigned to North Leon circuit, informs us that, owing to a failure of health, he has been compelled to retire from the work. He acts under the advice of competent physicians. We trust a year's rest will restore his health, and that he will have many years in which to serve the church.

A LETTER from Walker station, containing a long list of subscribers at DeKalb post-office, and an order for a number of books, comes to the publishers without name of writer. Let him send us a duplicate order.

A DISINGENUOUS to go to work prior to the holidays is a subject of gossip, and a sentiment is growing in favor of changing the time for the meeting of Congress. Among Western members the idea is that the regular meeting should begin in October, so that most of the work usually done in what is now styled the winter session could be finished prior to the holidays. As it is, there is a great deal of time wasted, and, though Congress meets on the first Monday in December each year, very little business really culminates prior to the usual holiday recess; and after the recess it usually takes about ten days or two weeks for members to get well at work.

CARLETON, Hamilton Co., Dec. 10.—I have nearly completed a round on Cotton circuit, which comprises a part of Hamilton and Comanche counties. I find the people kind and hospitable, and so far the preacher has met a cordial welcome. There has been a failure of crops on a portion of my charge for three successive years, consequently times are hard. Corn is selling from \$1 to \$1.25 per bushel. The religious prospects are good. It is still dry; rain is needed for wheat sowing.—O. M. ADAMS.

MARRIED.

STEVENS—THORNTON.—By Rev. J. W. Neil, at the residence of the bride's father, Dec. 3, 1879, Mr. J. J. Stevens and Miss Bettie Thornton. All of San Antonio, Texas. COX—FAYLLE.—By Rev. John W. DeVillies, at the residence of the bride's mother, in the city of San Antonio, Nov. 19, 1879, Mr. Wm. Cox and Miss Ada Faylle. STERD—DANIEL.—At the residence of the bride's father, December 11, 1879, by Rev. S. W. Jones, Mr. Charles S. Sterd and Miss Mary D. Daniel, all of Wood county. JORDAN—BOWMER.—By Rev. John W. DeVillies, at the residence of the bride's mother, in the city of San Antonio, Dec. 2, 1879, Mr. Geo. M. Jordan and Miss Mollie Bowmer.

SAN AUGUSTINE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Pine Hill, at Mt. Enterprise, Jan. 17 and 18. Pleasant Grove, at Stovall Chapel, Jan. 23-25. Carthage station, Jan. 31, Feb. 1. Carthage circuit, at Harris Chapel, Feb. 7 and 8. Buena Vista, at Concord, Feb. 11 and 12. Shelby, at Carroll Chapel, Feb. 21 and 22. Milan, at Myrtle Springs, Feb. 28 and 29. San Augustine, N. George's station, and San Augustine mts, at San Augustine, March 6-7. Melrose, at Melrose, March 13 and 14.

Linn Flat and Douglas, at Union Springs, March 30 and 31. District stewards will please meet me at Galveston, in Rusk county, on Friday at 11 o'clock, A. M., Jan. 16. Wm. A. SAMPEY, P. E.

PALESTINE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Kickapoo ct. at Nechesville, Jan. 7, 4. Rusk ct. at Rusk, Jan. 10, 11. Jacksonville ct. at Jacksonville, Jan. 17, 18. Larissa ct. at Pleasant Hill, Jan. 21, 25. Palestine ct. at Woodland Hill, Jan. 31, Feb. 1. Pennington ct. at Pine Grove, Feb. 7, 8. Crockett ct. at Wesley Chapel, Feb. 14, 15. Tyler station, Feb. 21, 22. Athens ct. at Asbury Chapel, Feb. 28, 29. Crockett and Augusta sta. at Crockett, March 6, 7. Palestine station, March 13, 14. Trinity mts. at Mitchell's Chapel, March 20, 21. The district stewards are: J. C. Hockersmith, W. D. Murray, John Keys, John A. Caley, Jack Smith, John Bank, G. J. Couch, J. H. Woodard, James Mcarty, W. Davis, B. C. Moore and B. A. Boyles. They will meet at Nechesville, Jan. 3, 1880. Hope it will be present. JOHN ADAMS, P. E.

HUNTSVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Anderson, at Anderson, Jan. 3, 4. San Jacinto ct. at San Jacinto, Jan. 10, 11. Courtney and Plantersville at Plantersville, Jan. 17, 18. Spring Creek, Jan. 24, 25. Willis and Montgomery, at Willis, Jan. 31, Feb. 1. Prairie Plains, at San Jacinto, Feb. 7, 8. Huntsville, Feb. 14, 15. Dodge mission, at Dodge, Feb. 21, 22. Cold Springs, Feb. 28, 29. Madisonville, March 5, 7. Zion, March 13, 14. District stewards will please meet at Anderson, Jan. 3, 1880. C. H. BROOKS, P. E.

WAXAHACHE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Waxahatche sta. 2d Sunday in Dec. Waxahatche ct. 1st Sunday in Dec. Ennis sta. 4th Sunday in Dec. Bogor ct. 1st Sunday in Jan. Lancaster and Wesleyan 2d Sunday in Jan. Waxahatche ct. 3d Sunday in Jan. Farris ct. 4th Sunday in Feb. Rice and Chandler 12th Sunday in Feb. Irene ct. 3d Sunday in Feb. CHAS. E. BROWN, P. E.

MARSHALL DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Overton and Troupe, Jan. 3, 4. Henderson sta. at Henderson, Jan. 10, 11. Bellview ct. at Millville, Jan. 17, 18. Prairieville ct. at Prairieville, Jan. 24, 25. Mineola ct. at Mineola, Jan. 31, Feb. 1. Garden Valley ct. at Union Chapel, Feb. 7, 8. Starrville ct. at Antioch, Feb. 14, 15. Starview ct. at Louisa, Feb. 21, 22. Hallville ct. at Millwood, Feb. 28, 29. Marshall sta. at Marshall, March 6, 7. Ulysses Fields ct. at Mt. Zion, March 13, 14. Harrison ct. at Waxahatche, March 20, 21. District stewards will please meet at Overton, at 9 o'clock Saturday morning, Jan. 3, 1880. Will the brethren all come. R. W. THOMPSON, P. E.

DALLAS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

Floyd ct. 2d Sunday in Feb. Lamar street, 3d Sunday in Feb. Garth and Cochran, at Cochran, 4th Sunday in Dec. Plano, 1st Sunday in Jan. McKinney sta. 2d Sunday in Jan. Honey Creek ct. 3d Sunday in Jan. Bethel ct. 4th Sunday in Jan. Louisville ct. 1st Sunday in Feb. Grapevine ct. 2d Sunday in Feb. Grapevine mts. 3d Sunday in Feb. The brethren of McKinney circuit will please meet me at the church in McKinney at 11 o'clock on Saturday before the second Sunday in January, to organize. The district stewards will please meet me at Floyd street church at 2 P. M., 4 o'clock. I would most earnestly urge the stewards in all the charges to at least collect one-fourth of the amount you expect to pay your preachers. This will give you a good start while there is money in the country, and insure success in the end. Brethren, will you try it? W. H. HERRON, P. E.

San Cataldo and Throckmors' "Brown's Escalated Tonic" are renowned and marvelously effective, giving immediate relief in most cases.

Special Notice.

Hard times compels the most enterprising of us to economize. Many of our friends in Galveston, instead of purchasing several suits of heavy clothing for autumn and winter wear, have had their old clothing cleaned or dyed by Mr. H. Habine, at 116 Postoffice street, near Tremont street, Galveston. Mr. Habine has had considerable patronage from the staff of our office we have always found his work first-class and his charges very low. Connected with his dyeing and cleaning house, Mr. Habine has a first-class tailoring department, where he makes clothing of all kinds, from Scotch, English, French and domestic cloths, at prices to suit the hard times. Mr. Habine desires us to state to our readers that he buys his cloths direct from importers and home-manufacturers for cash, and he is enabled to make clothing in the most fashionable styles and from the best quality of goods at surprisingly low figures.

From a Member of the Sixteenth Legislature.

S. M. Johnson, of South Bosque, McLennan county, Texas, writes as follows: "My brother, G. W. Johnson, a member of the Sixteenth Legislature, writes me from Austin that he is using your wonderful Liver Pad, and that he feels better than he has for years, and that all of his old pains and aches have left him." I am therefore persuaded to try it myself, and also to take the agency of it, if agreeable to you.

Containing Holman Pad has 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 265 Galveston, Texas.

Wilbor's compound of Pure Cod-LIVER OIL AND LIME. The advantage of this compound over the plain Oil is, that the nauseating taste of the Oil is entirely removed, and the whole rendered entirely palatable. The offensive taste of the Oil has long acted as a great objection to its use; but in this form the trouble is entirely obviated. A host of certificates might be given here to testify to the excellence and success of "Wilbor's Cod-Liver Oil and Lime"; but the fact that it is regularly prescribed by the medical faculty is sufficient. For sale by A. B. WILBOR, Chemist, Boston, and by all druggists.

We call the attention of those who wish to enter a safe paying business, which requires small capital, to Dr. Horace L. Farwell's advertisement in another column. From his testimonials which we have seen, both the "Discoverer" and the "Doctor" are highly recommended; and as he specially refers to two prominent clergymen of our church in Kentucky and Mississippi, who are State agents, and with whom, of course, he desires, those intending business, to correspond, and as he has over 900 clergymen now acting as local agents, with success, we deem the opportunity a good one, for some person, in a central location to build up a nice business in this State.

Our friends who desire to purchase a first-class watch, with all the fixtures, or a clock on which they can rely for the time of day, may have their wants supplied on the very best terms by applying by letter to Wm. Kendrick & Son, jewelers, 110 Fourth Avenue, between Market and Jefferson streets, Louisville, Kentucky. They will send a full price list and catalogue, with full-sized cuts of their different styles of watches. Table cutlery of all kinds. Communion sets, and silverware of every style. Send for their price list and catalogue.

Texas Christian Advocate

ADVERTISING RATES: Space, 1 Mo, 2 Mos, 3 Mos, 6 Mos, 1 Year. One-half inch, 50 cents per line per month...

ATTENTION is called to the advertisement of Messrs. Wiggins & Simpson, owners and managers of the Phoenix Iron Works, Houston, Texas. COMMERCIAL. TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE OFFICE, Galveston, Texas, Dec. 17, 1879.

At New York, the market opened with good demand and closed dull. Sales 294 bales. Quotations for all grades are as follows: Ordinary, 11 3/16; Good Ordinary, 11 1/2; Low Middling, 11 1/4; Middling, 11 1/8; Good Middling, 11 1/4; Middling Fair, 11 1/8; Fair, 11 1/4.

AT Philip Werlein's PIANO WAREROOMS, 135 CANAL ST., NEW ORLEANS. CAN BE FOUND THE LARGEST STOCK OF INSTRUMENTS TO SELECT FROM IN THE CITY.

Dr. Harter's IRON TONIC. A Preparation of IRON and CALISAYA BARK, in combination with the Phosphates. Endorsed by the Medical Profession, and recommended by them for Dyspepsia, General Debility, &c., &c.

Let Everybody Remember Now is the time to push the Advocate's Circulation, ON THE PROPOSITIONS: TWO DOLLARS! January, 1880, to January, 1881.

NET RECEIPTS. This day, 2901; This week, 12,964; This season, 308,672; Same time last season, 327,259; Stock on hand, 29,195.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. B. R. DAVIS & BRO. HAVE OPENED AT THEIR New Stand, 58 & 60 Market St., North side, bet. Tremont and 24th Sts. GALVESTON, TEXAS.

The Chickering & Sons' Upright and Square Grand Pianos. They are not only receiving the admiration of artists of our own country, but command a sale in Europe, where they have been exported in large numbers.

BRIDGEFORD & CO., MANUFACTURERS OF STOVES, RANGES, TINWARE. Tin Plate, Sheet Iron, Copper, Zinc, Wire, Tinners' Tools & Machines.

Important to Every Methodist. The proprietor hereby announces that the January number and each succeeding number of Street's Monthly, will be illustrated with a dozen or more engravings of Texas scenery, public buildings, portraits of eminent Texans, &c.

MARKET STEADY; and unchanged. Medium, 26 @ 28 1/2; Western, 26 @ 28 1/2; Barry, dirty, 4 @ 6 1/2 off.

HOLIDAY MUSIC. Six Christmas Carols. (25 cents.) New, by H. N. BARLETT. Also many other fine Carols. Send for list. Christmas Gifts.

The Mathushek Piano. It is gratifying to record the unprecedented success achieved by these Pianos, relying solely on their intrinsic merits.

LYONS & BRO., SADDLES and HARNESS, Saddlery Hardware and Materials. 79, 81 and 83 Mechanic St., 83 and 85 Tremont St., GALVESTON, TEXAS.

LYONS & BRO., SUCCESSORS TO J. C. GORMAN. With their long experience in business, having been for many years connected with the widely known and extensive saddle and harness manufactory of Louisville, Ky., and their increased facilities for manufacturing, we are warranted in saying they are fully prepared to furnish the trade with goods of their own make at prices to compete with the largest markets.

MARKET STEADY; and unchanged. Medium, 26 @ 28 1/2; Western, 26 @ 28 1/2; Barry, dirty, 4 @ 6 1/2 off.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston, C. H. DITSON & CO., 343 Broadway, N. Y. CENTRAL ROUTE TO TEXAS! Houston and Texas Central Railway and connections.

ORGANS. They are growing in demand. These, with many other first-class Organs, is our assortment. In order that these instruments be appreciated, they ought to be seen and heard.

GREGORY'S SEED CATALOGUE. MY ANNUAL CATALOGUE OF VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEED FOR 1880, rich in engravings from photographs of the originals.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION. For judicious editing, select and popular contributors, and sprightly, entertaining reading, the Youth's Companion has no superior among the Youth's publications. It has twice the circulation of any similar publication, and unquestionably merits its success.

THE GENERAL MARKET. We quote jobbing-house prices for country produce, and liable to ordinary fluctuation. Butter, Extra heavy, per yard, 12 1/2 to 13; Ties, per bundle, \$2 50 to 12 1/2.

THE SHORT LINE. Pullman's Palace Sleeping Cars each way without change. Between Dallas and St. Louis via VINTA and St. Louis and San Francisco R. R.

Every Instrument Warranted! The best Wood and Iron STOOLS in the Market. PIANOS of every description.

MOODY & JEMISON, Commission Merchants, Grocers. Have on hand a very large stock of Choice Fresh Groceries.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. The column advertisement of Mr. Philip Werlein, one of the leading dealers in musical instruments in the South, will arrest the attention of the readers of the Advocate. Mr. Werlein has one of the largest stores on Canal street, New Orleans, and he carries a very heavy stock of pianos, organs and musical instruments of all kinds.

On Goods. Peaches, 2 lb. per doz., 1 30 to 2 00; Strawberries, 2 lb. per doz., 1 25 to 1 40; Pine apple, 2 lb. per doz., 1 25 to 1 40.

LEGS & ARMS. Artificial Limbs. Soldiers furnished free on government account. Office and manufactories, Detroit, Mich.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Chicago, Ills., and No. 2 North 4th St., St. Louis, Mo.

Second-hand Pianos Taken in Exchange. Instruments Sold on Installments. Descriptive Catalogues sent free to any address.

THE OVAL CAKE. The most economical form of Washing Soap. All bar or square cakes wear down in use to a large flat piece, too thin to handle and therefore, wasted, while the OVAL CAKE of COLGATE & CO'S.

It is only in the most fertile sections that Fever and Ague become a scourge. Happily for our race, Dr. HARTER'S FEVER AND AGUE SPECIFIC is an infallible remedy for all forms and degrees of malarial disorder.

NEW SOAP. NEW SOAP can be cut in two, the oval end clamped readily in the hand, and the larger end worn down almost to a wafer without any waste. COLGATE & CO'S recommended.

\$500 Partner Wanted. On account of excessive express charges from here in small quantities, I want a good square business man, at a central point (preacher preferred), with above amount, to act as GENERAL STATE AGENT for Texas for the sale of the popular and WONDERFUL BLOOD PURIFIER of the AGE - DR. DITSON'S VEGETABLE DISCOVERY.

OPEN EVENINGS. Dealer in SHEET MUSIC, INSTRUCTION BOOKS, and Importer of MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS of every description and MUSIC.

A. R. COLLINS & CO., General Land Agents, DENISON and GAINESVILLE, TEXAS. ROSES and GERANIUMS. 50,000 new roses. Some better than 100 years old. \$2.00 per bush. \$2.50 per bush. \$3.00 per bush. \$4.00 per bush. \$5.00 per bush. \$6.00 per bush. \$7.00 per bush. \$8.00 per bush. \$9.00 per bush. \$10.00 per bush.

Texas Christian Advocate

Too Much Preaching.

The attitude of the secular press of Texas toward the Protestant ministry, with a few honorable exceptions, is far from that of friendship and sympathy. This was evidenced by the late howl that went up in concert with the lamentations from beer gardens and whiskey sinks against preachers and the Sunday law. This very large section of the newspaper influence of the State is being wielded directly against the pure, practical religious principles taught by the Protestant denominations at work in our midst. It was only last week that I saw in the Fort Worth Democrat a long bill of charges against the Protestant church and ministry of Texas, copied from the *Castroville Quill* with an editorial notice and endorsement. This self-constituted censor, copied by the Democrat, classes the whole Protestant ministry of Texas with *tramp-councils, impostors and lunatics*. He says: "Texas with its Penns and its Haynes and its Goodnights and others of the soul-stirring, blood-boiling, heaven-distilling, glorifying, sanctifying, loud-shouting class is becoming a rich field for the gentry of the cloth." His language implies that these ministers obtrude themselves upon the people and that they labor solely for the loaves and fishes, and are therefore destructive, pestiferous elements in the social body, giving no return or equivalent for what they derive from the people. On this point the *Quill* says: "If chickens were a little more plentiful they would swarm like grasshoppers, which, by the way, resemble them in destructiveness. If these preachers are nothing but social vampires, contributing nothing to the general welfare of our great State, we are forced to the conclusion that the labors of early Protestant missionaries in Texas were worse than useless; and to follow but one of the many channels in which flow the results of their work, we must conclude that the eighty thousand pious Southern Methodists in Texas are bad elements in society, an incubus upon our progressive civilization, who stand as so many breakers against the incoming tide of foreign free-thinkers, infidels and Sabbath breakers. This body of devoted people is therefore an outstanding evidence of the netarious work of chicken eating Methodist preachers. The labors of the brave and eloquent Rev. John B. Denton, one of the first of the swarm who came to preach Methodism in Texas, and who lost his life while leading the citizens of his circuit to drive the murderous Indians from their midst, and the labors of Dr. J. W. P. McKenzie, another one of the pioneer preachers and leading educators of the State, and the labors of Fowler, Ruter, Alexander, Thrall, and a host of others, who have wrought in our development, are not to be reckoned by this oracle as factors in our greatness as a people. But his teachings will only be received by the vile and the ignorant. Denton poured out his blood in defense of the homes and families of those to whom he preached the gospel; and the town of Denton, Denton creek, and Denton county, have been baptized with his name. His works do follow him, and his memory is enshrined in the hearts of his countrymen—he will not be forgotten. No other man has contributed more to the refinement of Texas than Dr. McKenzie. Through his devotion to the cause of education and the ministry, hundreds of the noble sons of Texas who have and do now adorn the professions of law, medicine, literature, statecraft and the ministry, as well as a multitude of her fairest daughters, have received the benefit of both mental and moral culture under the care of "Old Master," as this grand nector of sanctified learning is styled by his students. The memory of his labors and the image of his moral worth will live in the minds and hearts of the good people long after the present generation of public traducers shall have been relegated to their eternal associations, and forgotten by the living, while the Rev. H. S. Thrall, the historian of Texas, and the model Christian minister, able and abundant in labor, is beloved by thousands, and will be honored when "scorners die and are forgot." The next modest charge he makes upon the ministry is that they hold up the rich, or well-dressed thief to respectability, while the ragged vagabond is condemned. He says, "We want less of sickly sentimentality and that kind of preaching which makes respectable the thief in broad-cloth, condemns the poor rogue in rags, and then translates the murderer on the scaffold." If this public teacher has been so unfortunately reared as to be unacquainted with the Protestant, and more especially the Methodist manner of dealing with well-

dressed robbers, we would respectfully refer him to the columns of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, where black-legs in broad-cloth, and thieves and gamblers generally, have been held up for public condemnation by preachers, while the dearest interests of the poor, ragged, besotted, demented wretch, who, while crazed with whisky or inflamed by beer and wine, may either steal or murder, have been most eloquently pleaded by preachers in defending the Sunday-law, which is so obnoxious to some of our secular newspapers.

On the theology of the Protestant church in Texas we have the following deliverance: "The religion of the pulpit is to the last degree somber. God is supposed to be in a continuous state of grief over the imperfections of His own work and does not smile even at the antics of Talmage nor the wit of Beecher. Heaven is only lit up by the lurid flames of hell, and the saved therein made happy by the howls of the damned." Who ever heard such silly twaddle from a man claiming intelligence enough to run a newspaper and honesty enough to be a safe public guide? Such statements, made in the face of facts to the contrary, impress the average reader with the thought that the author is either profoundly ignorant of the whole subject of Protestant preaching and theology, or that he is too dishonest to speak the truth on subjects of the very first importance to the people. Lastly, the *Quill* makes the sweeping charge of ignorance against the ministry of the whole Protestant Church—from the Church of England down to Corsicana's Holiness Band—each of which, it says, is "made up of faith and built principally upon ignorance."

Now, if these charges be true, the people of Texas ought to know it, and steps should be taken to free our young and prosperous commonwealth from this insidious enemy. But, as we humbly believe this to be a false arraignment before the world of those upon whom depends the maintenance of pure morals and good society, the author and advocates of this slander ought to be made to feel the weight of these unmerited blows recoiling upon their own heads. The most effectual way to rebuke such falsehood and presumption is for all good people who are the subjects of these false charges and wicked insinuations to withhold all financial support from these enemies of our faith and the moral and social welfare of our children. We recognize the necessity for the secular press. It occupies a very important place in our economy as a factor in literature, society and commerce. We need it, and must and will have it. But we have a right to demand that the press, which stands side by side with the pulpit in giving shape and direction to public thought and sentiment, shall not be prostituted to the service of infidelity. The *Quill* might be induced to revise its *fiat* fractions, in which it teaches that only "one-tenth of our people go to church, and of those who go one-tenth of that one-tenth are true believers," if the Protestants of Texas, who number hundreds of thousands, were to assert their right, and demand that the secular press should be made morally clean, or else forfeit their patronage. The papers in question, however, would impress their readers with the idea that Protestant Christians are such an ignorant set that they can not supply this necessity for a secular literature, and are therefore dependent upon them.

We have the ability among those who are "true believers," and it is our duty to ourselves, our country and our posterity to secure this much needed reform. The true *animus* of the *Quill* is displayed in the last paragraph when it says: "We need less of this ideal heaven and more humanity, less talk and more work. This is the secret, by the way, of the Catholic success. That church goes about doing good; it fetches heaven down to earth, while the Protestants are trying to lift earth up to heaven. It can't be did." When he shoulders this last broom-stick we see so plainly that on which he stands that comment is unnecessary. Charges of Protestant ignorance and wickedness are so common from that source of darkness and spiritual bondage that we have long since ceased to be surprised by them. But that *Catholic heaven* on earth! The very thought suggests the picture of the heaven which the *Quill* now dreams that Protestants preach, where the flames of hell give the only light and the sounds of suffering constitute the only joy. When we take a look into this Roman Catholic heaven through the light of the inquisition, and contemplate what have seemed its chief joys in the rack, the dungeon, and the sword and the fiery stake, and whose chief virtues have consisted of silly self-imposed penances and cruel self-flagellations, we have a

fine prototype of the aforementioned dream. How apt we are to dream of things familiar. The substitute which he offers for Protestant preaching is a very sensible one, and will be eminently necessary, provided the country can be cleared of Protestant churches and ministers. The *Quill* evidently feels since the marvelous revivals of the present year as did certain parties of like mind, more than eighteen centuries ago under apostolic revival preaching, who said: "Those who turn the world upside down have come hither, also." It says the world has too much of this pestilential preaching, and that, "What we want in Texas is better jails, innocent jurors, more district judges and district attorneys," etc. When we consult the prison record and the criminal docket of our courts, and see what an overwhelming majority of the cases that occupy the time of our criminal courts, and render good, large jails necessary, come from the Catholic population and other classes who *desecrate the Sabbath* and disregard the teachings and institutions of Protestantism, we can see at a glance how the Catholic heaven on earth would demand more jails, and larger and stronger ones, and that the increase of criminal business produced by the abolition of Protestantism would demand "more district judges and district attorneys," to hold in check that unbridled "more humanity" for which the *Quill* clamors. Good idea! But where shall we place the *Democrat*? It is the leading daily in Northwest Texas and it is therefore important that we know just where it stands. It says, "the *Quill* is both right and wrong," but fails to point out the wrong, and war against it, like a faithful guardian should. There is ample room for the *Democrat* to rise and explain, as there is some danger of its being reckoned in the same category with the *Quill*. The *Democrat* wants more "good preaching." What he means by this may be inferred from the following: "There is too much of hell and its fires, and not enough of heaven and its beauties." I doubt the wisdom of this suggestion, and I believe the *Democrat* will agree with me when it remembers that there is a very large class, in which the secular press is well represented, whose *catholic* powers are so overshadowed by moral obliquity that they can never be aroused to an appreciation of the *beatitudes*. They seem incapable of becoming the subjects of love to God, and if ever changed from their present wicked course, that change must be superinduced by fear of the Devil. But if it should be objected that "sacred Christians" are not worth much, we answer that when appeals to all other motives of right action fail, it is then best, both for the individual and society at large, to have recourse to the restraining influence of fear. The *Democrat*, however, makes some very grave charges against the membership and ministry of the church. "There are too many Christians," it says, "who lie awake nights, bemoaning their unworthiness, and thinking up schemes by means of which they can defraud their fellow-men." This may be true, but it fails to give us the *data* upon which so serious a charge is made; whether it is based upon observation or personal experience.

We suggest, however, that the hypocrite who is wicked enough to lose sleep in devising means for the purpose of defrauding his neighbor, has never been known to spend much time in privately "bemoaning his own unworthiness." The *Democrat* charges the ministry with a lack of earnestness, sincerity, and moral courage. Hear him: "But there is a lack of that earnestness that carries conviction. There is too much of an effort to serve God in a manner acceptable to man, to do these things that are considered popular in the sight of man. That is what ails the preaching and the cause of religion. Any minister who will stop to reflect, and is honest enough to acknowledge it, must see and appreciate this truth, but there are not a dozen in all Christendom with boldness enough to make the departure necessary to correct the evils that exist." In what a sad plight then is the church and the world. "Not a dozen ministers in all Christendom with boldness enough to denounce sin and expose iniquity when it is displeasing to the sinner! I thank God that the *Democrat* has missed the mark this time. There are hundreds of Christians—yea, even Protestant ministers in Texas—who have boldness and moral courage enough to "cry aloud and spare not;" men bold enough to warn, rebuke, admonish, and expose all manner of sin and uncleanness, saying to the liar, the thief, the gambler, the swindler, the murderer, the drunkard, the whore-monger, the profane man and the Sabbath breaker, even though he be editor of a secular paper, "Thou art the man!"

I long to see some enterprise inaugurated which will give to the good people of Texas a *morally clean*, high-toned secular daily and weekly newspaper. I am sure that such a paper would meet with immediate success. Who will give us the needed reform? Can it be that not one man on the great stages of daily journalism has "boldness enough to make the departure necessary to correct the evils that exist?" W. R. ROBINSON.

Medical Testimony Against the Use of Strong Drink. We respectfully invite the attention of all drinking men, and particularly of all moderate men, to the following testimony from the most eminent physicians in the world: Dr. Benjamin W. Richardson, an eminent and well-known medical writer, says: "Alcohol, in all its forms and combinations, is essentially a paralyzer," and "is neither a food nor drink suitable for man's natural demands." He says: "In whatever direction the physician turns his attention to determine the value of alcohol to man beyond the sphere of its value as a drug which he may at times prescribe, he sees nothing but a void. In its use he sees nothing but disease and death; mental disease, mental death; physical disease, physical death." Over 2000 physicians in England declared "Alcohol has no place in the healthy system, but is an irritant poison, producing a diseased condition of body and mind." That "total and universal abstinence from alcoholic beverages would greatly contribute to the health, the prosperity and happiness of the human race." The National Medical Association of the United States, at their convention at Detroit, which was attended by nearly five hundred physicians, resolved: "That we, as members of the medical profession of the United States, unite in the declaration that we believe that alcohol should be classed with other powerful drugs. That we would welcome any change in public sentiment that would confine the use of intoxicating liquors to the uses of science, art and medicine." When we read the following facts, we are not surprised that medical men are anxious for a "change in public sentiment" in regard to the use of alcoholic beverages. We desire all moderate drinkers who read the *Advocate* to carefully consider the following startling statistics, which have never been denied: Marblehead and Beverly are towns situated in the State of Massachusetts. The former had a license law—the latter a prohibitory law. From 1865 to 1869 the number of deaths of children under one year of age was 26 in every 100 in Marblehead, and only 12 in Beverly. The number of deaths of children under five years of age in Beverly was 19 in 100, and 31 in 100 in Marblehead. Marblehead had 60 saloons—Beverly none. The citizens of Marblehead passed a strict prohibitory law, and a year after, the death-rate fell to that of Beverly, proving beyond all doubt the deadly influence of the drink habit upon the human family. HARD BRICK.

When a board of eminent physicians and chemists announced the discovery that by combining some well known valuable remedies, the most wonderful medicine was produced, which would cure such a wide range of diseases that most all other remedies could be dispensed with, many were sceptical; but proof of its merits by actual trial has dispelled all doubt, and to-day, the discoverers of that great medicine, *Herrick's*, are honored and blessed by all as benefactors.

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The Christian Advocate

WASHINGTON LETTER.

A Dull Week in Congress—No Great Efforts Yet—Secretary Sherman's Strength—Expensive Legislation.

[From our Regular Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, D. C., December 8, 1879.

The first week of Congress has been dull. The statesmen who crowd the galleries with due advertisements of a "great effort," have not yet come to the front. Their ululations will be heard in due time. The Southern ghost will not down until after the next census; and both members and senators are firing up for red-hot frantic oratory on the United States' marshal deficiency bill. The financial question created a ripple of excitement, and developed strong opposition to the policy suggested in the president's message; but the indications are that neither party is willing to take the responsibility of action on the president's recommendations, each preferring that the supreme court shall settle the matter by a decision in the Chittenden-Butler case. In fact, it is more and more plain that, although Congress has a yearly session, it is only the two middle years of every presidential term which are really available for legislation. The year before the presidential election is given to political maneuvering for position, and the year after to distributing spoils and satisfying claims.

The presidential perspective is all too nebulous at present to justify confident prediction, but I may say that, in the opinion of the knowing majority, Mr. Sherman has the whip-hand. Personal popularity he has not; his presence is repellant and anti-magnetic; his manners are frigid; he is wanting in all those qualities that create enthusiasm in a following. But it has been more than once, and very recently, proved in our brief history that the attributes so essential to leaders in a romantic age are not necessary to the highest success of the American politician. Mr. Blaine was much better known, loved, and admired by their party than Mr. Hayes, but he failed by a few votes to get the nomination. If Mr. Sherman fails to get the nomination, he will at least never have to reproach himself for not trying to get it. The four thousand national banks, with their colossal money power, are in favor of his candidacy. A powerful newspaper combination—the New York Tribune, the Cincinnati Commercial, Cincinnati Gazette, Chicago Tribune, and many others—it is asserted have promised their support. Ohio is for him; the president is for him; and if the powerful Republican delegation from the South does not come to the convention pledged to his support, it will not be because the influence and patronage of the administration has been wasted there in the interest of other aspirants. Col. Ingersoll recently said that the people of the United States were not stupid enough to elect to the presidency a brother of the general of the army; but the people have little to do with electing in the true sense of the word. They simply divide into two masses, and within party lines for the party nominee.

Nearly two hundred bills were introduced in the house last week, and the source having been partially drained, there will not be the usual flood-to-day when the States will be regularly called for bills. The extra session gave members an opportunity of offering large numbers of bills, and the unanimous consent given last week also gave them an opportunity to relieve their dockets. A large number of the bills to-day will be of a private character—bills which only encumber the Record, and which should be referred to a commission especially created for their adjudication. The settlement of private claims by debate and vote in both houses of Congress is the most expensive process that could possibly be devised.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

The City Don't Look Like Texas—Not so Much Land to the Acre, but More People to the Square Inch—60,000 Hogs Slaughtered in Two Days—Illinois Prairies—The C. B. & Q. R. R.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 12, 1879.

Chicago is by no means a small village, neither is it a hard place to find. Near forty railroads now center here, and if a fellow wants to find Chicago—the New York of the West—all he has to do is to get on a train and tell the conductor he wants to go to Chicago, and he will bring him right along, provided he has paid his fare in advance. So, you see, that's easy. I don't mean that it's easy to pay the fare; but to ride after the fare has been paid. Chicago is a nice place, but it don't look a bit like Texas. There don't seem to be as much land to the acre here, but there are more people to the square inch. Any cow-boy who has ever laid down in

an ant bed on a Texas prairie, or any one who has ever had a bee-hive tip over on him, can form some idea how thick the people are here. They don't seem to have any particular time for swarming. Hot or cold, wet or dry, the people of Chicago swarm all the same every day and till late at night. They are absolutely so thick here that your correspondent can hardly find a quiet corner when he wants to write. I think I can assert without fear of successful contradiction that the air that I am now breathing has in the last hour been swallowed by at least one hundred other fellows. But that's nothing. Any one who has smelled fried onions and garlic for four weeks in New Orleans don't mind using second-hand air. Air never gets any rest here, unless it makes its escape to the country, which I presume a good deal of it does. I expect that is the best place for it. The first day I was here it rained, so I could not get about; and since that time the weather has been bitter cold—together too bracing for those just from warm latitudes. People go about muffled up and holding their hands over their ears. All seem to prefer the cold weather of the present to the warm, rainy weather of the past two weeks, and the change has brought fresh activity to trade. Over sixty thousand hogs have been slaughtered in this city yesterday and today, and the average will be about that many as long as the "cold snap" lasts. Chicago is the greatest grain and pork market on the continent, and as a manufacturing city she stands in the front rank. She has the best hotels of any city in the Union, and her daily papers are hardly second to New York, and far ahead of any other place. Indeed, Chicago is grand from beginning to end. The great fires proved beneficial instead of detrimental to her; for the "burnt districts," with now and then an exception, have been covered with edifices grand and imposing in the extreme. On Wabash Avenue and one or two other streets I notice ruins of the great fire still standing.

The city seems crowded with strangers, who are brought here and taken away by thirty-eight or forty railroads, some of which run as high as six and eight passenger trains a day. The hotels are doing a good business, and there are no croakers or complainers among the merchants. Illinois is believed by many to be the best and most prosperous State in the Union. From this city to Burlington, just over the Iowa line, a distance of 200 miles, the traveler beholds one grand magnificent prairie, rich in soil and nearly every acre under fence and in cultivation. Nearly every house is well painted and in good repair, and the fences and corn cribs are also in perfect order, and the barns mammoth in size. Extensive orchards and herds of blooded cattle, sheep, hogs and horses, are also to be seen in great numbers, as the traveler is hurried across the great prairies of Illinois as fast as steam can carry him. The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy road, with its different lines, is one of the finest and best managed roads in the United States. It is the direct route to Omaha and the Pacific coast, and the lovely lake regions of Minnesota and the far west, so popular with pleasure seekers during the pleasant seasons of the year. Palace dining cars accompany the trains, and the traveler is furnished with as good meals as can be had at the best hotels in this or any other city. Passengers are also furnished with reclining chairs by day and Pullman sleepers by night, and good time and close connections are made. The C. B. & Q. is a popular route.

PARIS LETTER.

[From our Regular Correspondent.] PARIS, Nov. 24, 1879.

Up to the present moment the battle waged with such energy by M. Naquet in favor of the establishment of divorce in France has remained almost unanswered, in argument if not in investive, by the adversaries of the proposed law. The Pere Didon, however, an eloquent and popular preacher of the Bonapartist church, St. Philippe du Roule, has at last taken up the cudgels in defense of the indissolubility of the marriage tie, and his sermon having excited attention here, some brief notes upon it may interest your readers. The Pere Didon's assertions are that the indissolubility of the marriage tie is a natural law of all primitive races, beginning with Adam and Eve; that the introduction of divorce has accompanied the fall of the great nations of ancient history; and that the importation of the measure into France, which, together with Spain, are the only nations which do not recognize divorce, would lead to a condition of society in which free unions would prevail. The Catholic Church, says the Pere Didon,

has never made concessions with regard to this grave question. It may have invalidated certain contracts, but it has never broken any. Many writers have confused these two subjects, the declaration of the nullity and the breaking of the contract. The preacher next pointed out how divorce had crept into England, Germany, and Russia, without, however, adverting to the immoral effects which, according to his doctrine, it ought to have produced. In France, which the Pere Didon described as the only chivalrous nation in the world, divorce had never gained a footing. He hoped it never would. Without referring to the social evils to which France is a prey and for the cure of which many look to divorce, the fashionable preacher concluded his sermon by painting in vivid colors the still more appalling effects which would, in his opinion, follow the passing of M. Naquet's bill.

The negotiations between Germany and the Vatican were, I hear, continued until quite lately in Vienna, and a confidential official delegated for the purpose by Prince Bismarck has been in almost daily communication with Cardinal Jacobini. When Prince Bismarck was here he lost no opportunity of manifesting the opinion that a great mistake had been made when the temporal power of the Pope was abolished, and, as usual, his Highness threw the blame on Count Beust. But it must not be forgotten that Prince Bismarck had reasons of his own while in Vienna for assuming a hostile disposition towards Italy, and, no doubt, what he said with regard to the Papal States was prompted by the same considerations that caused him to omit the Italian Embassy in his round of calls.

Our readers see from the following what an immense territory Texas has. Just think of it: Either the Austrian Empire, the German Empire, France, Spain, Sweden, Dakota, Montana, Turkey including Bulgaria, Norway, New Mexico, Great Britain and Ireland, Italy, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Wyoming, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, or almost any other organized State or country, set down in the center of Texas, would leave her like a "solid business man's" investment—with a large margin. Texas has an area of 274,356 square miles; Austrian Empire, 240,943; German Empire, 212,091; France, 204,091; Spain, 177,781; Sweden, 168,042; California, 157,801; Territory of Dakota, 150,932; Territory of Montana, 143,776; Turkey, including Bulgaria, etc., 138,264; Norway, 122,280; New Mexico, 121,201; Great Britain and Ireland, 120,879; Italy, 114,296; Arizona, 113,916; Nevada, 112,090; Colorado, 104,500; Territory of Wyoming, 97,883; Oregon, 95,274; Territory of Idaho, 86,294; Territory of Utah, 84,476; Minnesota, 83,531; Kansas, 80,891; Nebraska, 75,995; Territory of Washington, 69,994; Indian Territory, 68,991; Missouri, 65,350; Florida, 59,268; England and Wales, 58,320; Georgia, 58,000; Michigan, 56,451; Illinois, 55,414; Iowa, 55,045; Wisconsin, 53,924; Arkansas, 52,198; Alabama, 50,722; North Carolina, 50,704; Mississippi, 47,156; New York, 47,000; Pennsylvania, 46,000; Tennessee, 45,000; Louisiana, 41,356; Ohio, 39,964; Virginia, 38,348; Kentucky, 37,680; Portugal, 36,510; Maine, 35,000; South Carolina, 34,000; Indiana, 33,809; Ireland, 31,874; Scotland, 30,685; West Virginia, 23,000; Netherlands, 20,527; Greece, 19,941; Switzerland, 15,233; Denmark, 14,553; Belgium, 11,373; Maryland, 11,124; Vermont, 10,212; New Hampshire, 9,280; New Jersey, 8,320; Massachusetts, 7,800; Connecticut, 4,750; Delaware, 2,120; Montenegro, 1,770; Rhode Island, 1,306.

Texas produced in 1878 between 800,000 and 900,000 bales of cotton on 1,808,306 acres, or 2,825 square miles. The consumption of cotton in the United States in 1878 was 1,568,960 bales; if raised in Texas, at present average per acre, 4,800 square miles. The crop of cotton of the United States in 1878-79 was 5,073,831 bales; if raised in Texas, at one bale to an acre, 8,000 square miles. The world uses in all 11,000,000 to 12,000,000 bales of cotton of American weight; if all were raised in Texas, at one bale to an acre, less than 19,000 square miles.

Area of the United States, omitting Alaska, 3,034,399 square miles. Area of arable land, estimated 1,500,000. (A large portion of the remainder is suitable for grazing.) Area of farms now occupied and in part improved, 700,000 square miles. Area of improved land in the above farms, estimated 400,000 square miles. Area occupied by nine crops named below, 221,769. Area of Texas, 274,356. Deduct the desert land of Texas, say 274,356-50,000=224,356.

The area occupied by the principal crops of the United States in

the year 1878, is as follows: Corn, 51,585,000 acres; 26.91 bushels per acre; 1,388,218,750 bushels produced upon 80,601 square miles. Wheat, 32,108,560 acres; 13.09 bushels per acre; 420,122,400 bushels produced upon 50,170 square miles. Hay, 26,981,300 acres; 1.47 tons per acre; 39,608,296 tons produced upon 42,080 square miles. Oats, 13,176,500 acres; 31.39 bushels per acre; 413,578,560 bushels produced upon 20,590 square miles. Cotton, 12,266,800 acres; 0.413 bales per acre; 5,073,531 bales produced upon 19,166 square miles. Barley, 1,790,400 acres; 23.60 bushels per acre; 42,245,630 bushels produced upon 2,800 square miles. Potatoes, 1,776,800; 70 bushels per acre; 124,126,650 bushels produced upon 2,776 square miles. Rye, 1,622,700; 16 bushels per acre; 25,842,760 bushels produced upon 2,535 square miles. Buckwheat, 673,100 acres; 18.20 bushels per acre; 12,246,820 produced upon 1,051 square miles. Total square miles, 221,769.

Washington.

D. K. Tripp, attorney of the Anglo-American Land company, and Col. Fitzhugh, have reached Washington and report themselves favorably impressed with people, soil, and climate of Texas. It is probable the company will invest in lands in Texas and introduce several hundred immigrants from Scotland and other parts of Great Britain.

Gen. Young, of Springfield, Missouri, is in Washington, working in the interest of the railroad contemplated to terminate at Sabine Pass. He is also seeking to secure an appropriation for improving Sabine harbor.

Senate passed Maxey's bill amending articles of war, so as to provide for limitation to prosecute for desertion.

On motion of Maxey, bill to purchase land to enlarge the San Antonio arsenal passed.

Mr. Jones introduced a bill making an appropriation for a custom-house at Galveston.

Mr. Upson introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of war to contract with the San Antonio and Mexican Border railroad company to build a military and postal highway from San Antonio to Laredo.

Mr. Voorhees submitted resolution for the appointment of a committee to investigate the colored exodus from South Carolina into Indiana. The design is to see if there is a political purpose in the movement.

Coke thinks a majority of the Pacific railroad sub-committee, to whom were referred his Mexican border railroad bills, are in favor of them.

Reagan's amendment to the fortification bill, appropriating \$50,000 for batteries for the defense of Galveston harbor, has been adopted.

The Memphis Sanitary Committee recommends a thorough system of opening, ventilating and chilling the houses of the city; that the city control the water-works; that a system of sewerage be established, and a large number of houses be burned.

Foreign.

The war in Afghanistan proves to be a more serious matter than the English anticipated. Advances from Calcutta, under date of the 16th, states that Gen. Roberts is confronted by 50,000 fighting men. He has lost one gun; says their fire is severe; thinks he can restore British authority in Afghanistan, but calls for reinforcements to the amount of 50,000 men. Another account denies the call for reinforcements, and states that the viceroy has an ample force at command to subdue and hold the country.

Mr. P. H. Rose, the photographer, has remodeled and renovated his establishment, No. 159 Market street. We called upon Mr. R. a few days ago, and it gave us pleasure to observe the good taste he has displayed in furnishing and decorating his gallery. Mr. Rose informs us that he has gone to great expense in supplying his rooms with the newest and most improved apparatus for photographing. It should be remembered that he makes a specialty of copying and enlarging old pictures.

Mr. M. STRICKLAND, of this city, so long and favorably known as one of the leading blank book manufacturers and lithographers in the southwest, and also dealer in all kinds of stationery, has just finished renovating and restoring his large establishment on the Strand. We desire to inform our readers that Mr. Strickland has gone to considerable expense in fitting up his lithographing department with all the latest improvements in machinery, and he is now enabled to do all kinds of lithography at very low prices.

Hutchins House.

This well-known hotel is now under a new management. It has recently been refitted, and may be now considered one of the best furnished and most popular hotels in the West or Southwest. The new proprietor, Mr. William Ginneth, has displayed great taste in re-carpeting and refurnishing the rooms of his hotel and supplying his patrons with a bill of fare that can not be excelled by any hotel in the Southern States. Commercial travelers will find at this hotel large sample rooms, and both they and tourists in general may be assured of receiving especial attention. Mr. Ginneth desires it understood by the traveling public that he has rooms en suite for families, and ample accommodations for large parties, excursions, etc.

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