

The Texas Christian Advocate.

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Texas Christian Advocate

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

The Tendencies of Moral Evil.

I see you have kindly given space to the paper published by the ministers and brethren of Waco and vicinity. We have held two meetings, and ere the ADVOCATE reaches us again, the third will have been held. I hope they will be continued, and that seems to be the intention of the brethren at this time. The prevailing tendency of all evil forces is to unity; a circumstance that must not be overlooked by those who love righteousness and "eschew evil." Organic force cannot be successfully resisted and overcome but by organized opposition. The friends of lawlessness and crime are strengthening their lines for a desperate effort in opposition to Christianity and Christian civilization. I am not trembling for the ark, nor do I prophesy evil to come; but we should be ready for any emergency that may arise. Those who desire the peace and safety of the country—the endurance and perpetuity of civil and religious freedom—the glory of God and the salvation of the people, ought to arrive at a perfect understanding among themselves, and by every laudable means seek to unify their strength in a righteous warfare upon the adversary. Individual crime or personal violation of law, is not to be dreaded like organized crime and public hostility to law. A simple case of drunkenness, theft, or homicide, may be expected to occur now and then under any form of government, and in defiance of the wisest laws; but when men begin to organize in open and avowed hostility to law, as the liquor dealers of this State are doing, there should be an awakening of the people. Members of the church are not the only ones that are interested in opposing the wicked designs of these men, but every peaceable, quiet, and law-abiding citizen in this country is interested. Every one who loves law and order ought to lend his influence against them.

It is a reproach to our people and a sad reflection upon our civilization, that men are allowed to manufacture and sell whisky on any terms, and more, if they be allowed to rob the State of her revenues, as it seems they are now doing. I believe it is universally admitted that in this country there is more whisky drunk in the month of December than in November or October, yet I see by the reports from many places that the number of drinks registered by the bell punch was greater in October than in November, and less in December than either October or November. Now this can hardly be explained to the honor of whisky dealers. Besides this robbery of the State, they have become the champions of the anti-Sunday law faction. It is a sad reflection upon the morality and intelligence of our people, that a decided majority of the secular newspapers of the State are encouraging these men in their vicious designs. In some instances they are abetted by officers of the law—even judges have been known to charge grand juries to pay no attention to the violation of the Sunday law. Among the last two classes mentioned, be it said to our credit, that so far as I have heard, they are very few. But if the people do their duty as freemen, the unfaithful will soon come to grief. I thank God that this government is yet in the hands of the people, and that every man is equal at the ballot box, and I believe that if every good man will direct his vote with a view to the peace and safety of the country, there will be an end to this war on the Governor, legislature, and the laws of the State. The course of moral evil is dangerous to the State. It is utterly demoralizing, and ought to be rebuked in no unequivocal terms.

They are resting their hopes in the possible control of the dominant party in politics, not perhaps openly, but by shrewd wire-working. The people should be warned of this. Let due care be taken to select good men for

delegates to the conventions. Men who honor and obey the laws themselves, and they will make nominations from among that class. It is time that demagogues and professional politicians be allowed to retire. They are the ruin of all parties, and the strongest party in any country will find that it is in the greatest danger from them. Be it said to all parties, for I am no partisan, that in your precinct and county conventions the greatest danger lies. Let good men of every party see to it that from these they send men who will represent the people. It is often the case that in these conventions the people stay at home and leave the work for a few heady men, and they frequently of a cut-and-dried class. They are not place seekers, that is, candidates for office, but if they can just have the control in making the nominations they are happy. The good people stay at home, saying they will do their part when it comes to voting. Now how can they remedy a bad nomination by their vote? They may say, if you do not nominate good men we will not vote for them. Then they may have to vote against the party, and if all the parties have been controlled in the interest of bad men they may scatter their votes upon various good men and thereby insure the election of a demagogue already sworn in to the service of the whisky ring.

I said I was no partisan. I will qualify that remark by saying that I am not blinded by the zeal of a party spirit. I have always voted with a certain one of the great parties of the State when a good man was in nomination, and frequently I have been under the necessity of scratching my ticket rather than stultify myself by voting for an unworthy man.

I am not in favor of preachers meddling in politics, and always witness any such indiscretion with mortification. I should regret exceedingly to see the church become an element in organic party politics. But in this country every man, whether in the church or out of it, is free to cast his vote; and if by political parties be the only way to secure men and measures, then let men of all parties see to it that the drunken and lawless element be not allowed to control the nominations. I have written nothing but what may serve any one of the political parties. I have not observed any disposition upon the part of the ministers in this country to enter the arena of politics; neither do I expect to see such a thing. But ministers of the gospel and religious papers certainly ought to be loyal and patriotic; and when they see the approach of any evil threatening the State, they should denounce it. They are interested in the peace and prosperity of the State, and expect to obey the laws, "rendering honor to whom honor is due." They will "obey magistrates," and "pray for them that have rule over us." They are expected to cry out against every form of evil, whether public or private, social or political, and exhort the people to a faithful and patriotic support of the laws of the country. Some of the secular papers have criticized the religious journals for their vigorous support of the Sunday law and those laws regulating the sale of liquor, as if religious people were not as free to discuss these measures as any one else. When a man joins the church he is no less a free man than he was before; and if he is converted to holiness of life he is opposed to every form of lawlessness and crime. The law of Christ enjoins upon him the solemn duty of "abhorring that which is evil and cleaving to that which is good."

The secular and political papers have been depended on as the mediums for political discussions; but on the introduction of these whisky measures they have, with but few exceptions, betrayed the people, and were it not for the religious press and the pulpit, there would be none to cry out against them. The politicians are too anxious to secure their support, and may be their whisky, to take any stand against them.

The religious papers have already done a good work for the State in their pronounced opposition to these public evils, and the people will reward them for their firmness and fidelity to the best interests of the State. They can neither be bought nor intimidated. They are not working for money nor drinks, and I am glad to see

that the ministers are disposed to give them the support of the pulpit. The present course of moral evil is disastrous to the country, and to completely overthrow it will require the united efforts of all good men, on the rostrum, in the pulpit, through the press, and at the ballot box. Let there be no cessation of this warfare, but by every laudable means sustain the laws and those who make and execute the laws. J. D. SHAW.

WACO, TEXAS, JAN. 25, 1880.

Car Toon, the Joker.

Car Toon represents me as a joker. I may have some reputation in this line. But Car Toon proves himself the prince of jokers. When he speaks of himself as a modest man, he rises into the sublime; he presents a caricature of modesty unparalleled; one that must have waked up a consciousness of genius not before known to itself. His ideal of a modest man is the joke of the season. No doubt his most excellent wife has been filled with laughter at seeing her "Will" personating modesty; and what can modesty think of the joke! She surely don't know herself in this forced form. It is said a man should stop after his highest effort, and let this effort fix his reputation. Car Toon's genius will never give him a more favorable opportunity. To be serious, Car Toon has missed the spelling of the word. His leading characteristic does not begin with m; (when I was a boy it was spelled b-r-a-s-s, in later years it has been spelled c-h-e-e-k. You can leave out this in parenthesis).

Of course, all Car Toon's talk about the political funerals he is preparing, and grappling these prosected patriots to my heart with hooks of steel by trying to save them from his chariot wheels, and picking buck-shot out of his carcass, of course these are but modest jokes of Car Toon.

His seven propositions constitute another joke. The joke is in the number and nature of these propositions. Specially does the modesty of the joke come out where Car Toon represents himself as a wise general encouraging his timid soldiers to go over to the enemy, and where he bids them give heed to his warning.

Another joke of Car Toon's is in fancying me a stump speaker at the Five Points or in a Texas political convention holding forth in this language: "It amounts to nothing that the young men of the country can cite high official examples for their drinking, their gambling, their midnight carousals and brawls, their practices as libertines, and their catering to the demands of animal passion or fiendish practice." Making such a speech as this at the Five Points or in a political convention, I surely would feel to be out of place almost as much as Car Toon does in personating modesty. And what has excited Car Toon's imagination so as to give birth to this strange picture? He represents the Commissioner of the Land Office as doing good work, as discharging the duties of his office faithfully and efficiently. The only complaint he makes of him is that he is not a burning and shining light as a temperance reformer, and is a member of no church. I simply replied: "Nothing more can be demanded of a public officer." And now, because I would not unite in the demand that the Land Commissioner shall become a "burning and shining light as a temperance reformer and a member of some church," this unbridled imagination fancies me in strange places and uttering strange things. To confess the truth, I have somewhat soured on burning and shining lights. I admire that "burning and shining light" of the wilderness of Judea—that man of camel hair raiment—but modern burning and shining lights in temperance and religion are not always of the same stuff. They are often like a certain "wise general" we read of, who himself is a recent recruit, whose victories are more imaginary than real, and who so soon is engaged in drumming out of his service the very men who enlisted him as a soldier and administered to him the oath of allegiance.

Now, dropping Car Toon's jokes, let us see the real point in issue. In his first letter is this language: "Indeed it may be stated as a logical proposition that religious, moral and temperance sentiments are so largely represented in the suffrage constituency of Texas, that these interests should find an

exponent in every elective or appointive officer." If the word exponent has any significance here, the meaning of the proposition is that every elective and appointive officer of the State should be not only temperate and moral, but also a religious man. That Car Toon intended what he said follows from the objection he makes to the present elected officers. Why does he propose to put Gov. Roberts out and another in? The reason is given in italics: "He is not a member of any church." Why does he propose to put out the Comptroller, the Treasurer, the Commissioner of the Land Office, the Attorney General? The reason italicized in each case: "He is a member of no church;" and as his proposition embraces appointive officers also, he would go through every department of government, and wherever a head should show itself uncovered with the ecclesiastical cap, he would cut it off; and as he refers to employees in one office, are we further to infer that he would apply his proposition to all employees of the State?

In the case of the Treasurer he took stronger ground, and brought out his relation by affinity to the Catholic Church. If the Treasurer has any relation to this church it is through marriage; his love led him to a member of this church. The inference is that Car Toon would proscribe a man on this ground.

Then comes the fervent exhortation to the temperate, moral, and religious people to rally. Who are these religious people called on? They are the "several hundred thousand adult members of Protestant denominations." "The potency of these hosts" are to be "properly and dutifully utilized in secular affairs." These are the people appealed to. These are the people unbraided for their lack of unity manifested in political affairs. To what must they rally but to the proposition laid down in the first part of the letter, that religion should find an exponent in every elective or appointive officer? that the present officers shall be turned out on the ground that they are not members of the church?

I made no objection to any man being an exponent of religion. I did not suggest that any man should be an exponent of immorality. I did object to Car Toon's proposition and letter in regard to its demand that church membership shall be a *sine qua non* to civil office. I did object to his rallying cry to the church to put out the present officers of State on the ground that they are not church members. I did object to the proscription of an officer of State on the ground that he had married a Catholic woman. I did object to the "potent hosts" of the Protestant denominations being "utilized in secular affairs" to carry out Car Toon's proposition. I did object to the union of the church with temperance organizations or any other organizations for carrying out any such purposes.

Now, Car Toon, after making several suggestions con and pro concerning me, concludes that he must have been extremely vague in expressing his meaning in his first letter. Well, if you had only found out this a little sooner, it would have saved you a good deal of labor. But after you had written the greater part of your second letter, I suppose you could not bear the idea of throwing it into the waste basket. The Roman Catholic Church has had much to do in running governments, and the Northern Methodist Church has taken a little hand in the business. Neither of these churches have come out of the business with great credit. Let the Methodist Church, South, pursue her legitimate work, and stick to it. Let every citizen, whether church member or not, be a true patriot, an advocate for sound, honest political principles, a lover of virtue, and let him exercise his franchise according to his own judgment, and for the good order and happiness of society, and the glory of God.

The leading editorial in the ADVOCATE of the 17th puzzles me. I am in doubt whether the editor had me in his mind or not. The matter of the editorial is so foreign to my objections, yet the time, and my inquiry "whether our Church organ is to be used for war against officials on the ground that they are not church members," rather impresses me that he was cackling me. At these editors often remind

me of hens. They lay an egg and cackle over it, often cackling over the same egg several times. Dr. John has laid several nice eggs. We have seen his eggs and heard his cacklings. Yet he need not set up a fresh cackling around me while I am only trying to take out of his nest the snake egg cartoon laid in it. W. SHAPARD.

THERE can exist in the mind of any sane and honest man not a shadow of a doubt that there should be a complete change in the administration of governmental affairs of Texas. It has been for years rotten from center to periphery. The investigations into the land frauds furnish additional evidence of this fact. The evidence given before that investigation shows, without reasonable doubt, that the grossest frauds have been perpetrated by collusion between employees of the State in the land office and out-side operators. The evidence further shows that employees receiving only moderate salaries have in the course of a few years grown wealthy. It further shows that men yet occupy prominent position in the land office who, in the light of the evidence, construed most favorably to them, are of questionable honesty. There are, doubtless, some honest men occupying positions of public trust in Texas; but it would be a lottery speculation to attempt to find them—as if one would undertake, with closed eyes, to pick one white from among a half-bushel black beans. There is but one certain remedy for existing evils. Let the people demand that the next election secure a clean sweep, from cellar to garret—that there may not, even by possibility, remain track nor trace of the present rottenness. Let there be a complete renovation. To secure this, there must not be left a single experienced employee—whether chief or subordinate. "Experience" in Texas governmental affairs should be at discount.

When politics becomes a profession with a man he sinks his convictions, because they are in the way of wicked methods. It has come to be a truism that it is next to impossible to elect the best men. Everybody knows that it is difficult to persuade our purest and wisest men to run for office. Wherefore? They are afraid of filth. They know that absolute honesty jeopardizes success. They know that a gentleman—to say nothing of a Christian—is degraded by the means that are often employed to win. A true man knows he does a mean thing when he wins votes by bribes—whether with money, or the promise, beforehand, of office. Yet elections, as everybody knows, are managed for the most part, in this way. They call it "organization!"—*Wesleyan*.

The decrease of failures in 1879 as compared with the previous year is more than one-third. The liabilities in 1878 were \$234,000,000; in 1879 they were \$98,000,000. During the latter year the loss was \$2,500,000 a week less than that of the former year. These figures indicate a very prosperous state of affairs as compared with previous years, and although the danger of overtrading is great, as the danger of over-speculation has already been proved to be, there is abundant evidence of the return of a sound prosperity.

The South Georgia Conference at its recent session adopted resolutions looking to the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of Rev. Lovick Pierce, D. D. The work is in the hands of a committee of five, as follows: Jos. S. Key, Geo. G. N. MacDonnell, J. O. A. Cook, J. B. McGehee, R. J. Corley. Contributions should be forwarded to Jos. S. Key, Macon, Ga. Let the responses be liberal. It is a noble work.

AN INTERESTING BOOK, by Rev. Homer S. Thrall, A. M., entitled "The People's Illustrated Almanac, Texas Hand Book, and Immigrants' Guide," published by N. D. Thompson & Co., St. Louis, Mo. We have given this valuable work a careful perusal, and find it replete with interesting and instructive reading. Its contents will prove invaluable to those who desire to keep posted with the internal improvements, development of resources, and the rapid strides toward prosperity, of our State. To those who contemplate making homes in Texas, and to all who are desirous of obtaining reliable and authentic information of our

people, laws, schools, churches, railroads, climate, resources, etc., will find the work all that could be desired.

We cheerfully recommend this new book to the general public, and wish it all the success it so justly merits.

Geo. P. Rowell, of the firm of Geo. P. Rowell & Co., advertising agents, New York, passed through the city during the week. He called at the ADVOCATE office. We have had business transactions with this firm for a number of years, and have found them reliable and business-like. They are, perhaps, the best posted men in the United States on advertising—how and where to do it most profitably.

NACOGDOCHES, Nacogdoches Co., Jan. 22.—Departed this life in this county, on the night of 15th inst., little James Monroe, infant son of J. F. and Mrs. M. Pleasant, aged 11 months and 10 days. He was an interesting and only boy; but, parents, weep not for your sweet babe. God has taken him to Himself. He is not dead; he gently sleeps in the arms of Jesus. He cannot come back, but you can go to him. Yours—J. E. HALL.

CENTER, Shelby Co., Jan. 22.—Rev. Dr. Younge lectured at this place last night to a large, enthusiastic concourse of people on his favorite theme—temperance; and all may depend upon it he shook 'em up; he cracked his jokes; then blistered the bar-keepers; then gave us a few dots about lawlessness and crime. Oh! if he didn't give it to the amen brethren that voted against prohibition. Don't think those that did it will do so any more. All in all, the roughest time I've seen lately. Organized with sixty-four members; lectures again to-night. Hope the membership will be swelled to one hundred.—J. T. SMITH.

SHELBYVILLE, Shelby Co., Jan. 20th.—We are much pleased with our new preacher, Bro. J. T. Smith. The people will not fail to make him comfortable in his new home, for the purchase of which ample means have been subscribed. Bro. Smith, though young, ranks deservedly high in the ministry; and his deep piety, affability, and zeal, cannot fail to make a favorable impression. In the midst of winter we are having summer weather. Bro. Bridwell, in his postal of December 30th, says I lean too much toward Calvinism. Many thanks to the brother for his timely props of August and November. Braced by these, I feel more confident than ever that I shall never fall.—W. C. HUNTINGTON.

MARLIN, Falls Co., Jan. 23.—"Comic Song"—W. Hanscoin. "Captain Jinks"—(Thalberg)—by request—Professor Burke. "Swiss Fair, with dance, &c."—From programme. "Misses Sallie Shearer and Lu Conlon danced the Highland Fling, and Freddie Cheeseman the Fisher's Hornpipe."—Comments by paper. I picked up a scrap of newspaper with the above in it, and headed: "The Kinder Sin foine was given at Turner Hall last night by Trinity Church Sunday School." Great Heavens! A Sunday school setting forth such a programme. How does it compare with our Lord blessing the children in the temple? To have known such was a religious entertainment, Saint Paul would have needed an introduction.—W. L. ANDREWS.

FORT WORTH, Tarrant Co., Jan. 23.—Prospects bright all around this district. Two quarterly conferences yet to meet. Thus far the finances much better than last year. Revival at Wyatt's chapel, Arlington circuit; five conversions in the winter time; "crowding the season," but we can stand it. The new town of Whitney, at six weeks of age, contains 150 houses, and many more to follow. Held quarterly conference for Fort Graham circuit there. Secured lot to build church; good sandy lot and central. Railway company clever. Large and intelligent congregations all the time. Started subscription for church with fine prospect. Name of Fort Graham circuit changed to Whitney. Raised half of entire assessment against circuit for foreign missions, Sunday night. Collections coming up all around.—HORACE BISHOP.

Texas Christian Advocate

To the Members of the W. M. M. S. M. E. C. S.

DEAR SISTERS:—To many of you it is known that it has been a purpose...

In the formative condition inevitable to a new and untried enterprise...

GIVE CHILDREN SOMETHING TO DO.—Every child should begin young to take care of something...

Habit is second only to nature in its power to control mankind...

There is scarcely a home in the land whose surroundings are so small...

Large and Small Flocks of Sheep.

There is one thing that has been overlooked, viz: the damage done to the grass...

There is one thing that has been overlooked, viz: the damage done to the grass...

OVERTY AND SUFFERING.

OBITUARIES.

CHURCH NOTICES.

How Jim's Heart was Found.

In the paint-shop of the Detroit house of correction, says The Free Press...

CHAPPELL HILL DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

Ladies had small children. The guide took one of the children on his arm...

DEAR SISTERS:—To many of you it is known that it has been a purpose...

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SAN MARCOS DISTRICT—SECOND ROUND.

GALVESTON DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

BEAUMONT DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

AUSTIN DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

MARSHALL DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

SAN AUGUSTINE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

PALESTINE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

HUNTSVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

WAXAHACHE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

DALLAS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

SHERMAN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

JEFFERSON DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

WEATHERFORD DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

WAXAHACHE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

BRECKENRIDGE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

TERRELL DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

GAINESVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.

STEPHENSVILLE DIST.—FIRST ROUND.

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