

Texas Christian Advocate.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FIVE TEXAS CONFERENCES OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

VOL. XXXI.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1884.

NO. 14.

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THE TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

Now that the Board of Publication has met and done its work, the annual conferences all hold, and the new editor taken his place at the helm of our great church organ, it is opportune to say a few words to our agents and friends as reminders both of duty and privilege.

The history of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE abounds in lights and shades—prosperities and adversities. It finds a parallel in the history of a heroic itinerant preacher, and like the faithful standard-bearer of the cross, it has kept steadily on its career of usefulness, scattering the seeds of truth and blessing and carrying sunshine into the homes of thousands. The amount of reft good it has already done may not be estimated by any human standard of calculation. The light of eternity alone can reveal the facts and methods of its estimate.

It is safe to say that no outlay of money brains and prayer, in any of the enterprises of Texas Methodism, has been so remunerative of results, both to church and State, as have been the investments in our church organ.

Another problem remains unsolved, viz.: If it has been so fruitful of good, why its limited circulation, what might it not have done if it had visited regularly every Methodist family in Texas? We can only regret our failures in the past. We can not recall lost opportunities. If the fault has been traceable to neglect or want of zeal on our part, then the regret should be pungent and reformatory. The possibilities of Methodism in Texas are stimulatingly grand and inviting; the field is white and the laborers are plying the sickle with a will. The ADVOCATE is an arm of power; an angel to strengthen the laborer and what to keener edge the heaven-tempered blade he wields. The influence of the ADVOCATE on boards of stewards, on families and individuals, can not be estimated. It visits every house where it finds access and delivers its weekly message to parents and children. It is the pastor's coadjutor in the delicate and responsible duties of his calling. As the new conference year is just opening, we appeal to our brethren—the agents and friends of Methodism throughout the State, for a united aggressive move to increase the circulation of the ADVOCATE to at least 15,000 subscribers in the next three months. We think this can be done. This will enable the publishers to greatly improve the paper, and it will stimulate the new, gifted editor to his very best. I propose the following motto to its every agent: THE ADVOCATE IS EVERY FAMILY IN MY CHARGE.

If this motto shall be adopted, and each and all work up to it, a new era will dawn, not only upon the ADVOCATE, but upon the church throughout our borders.

The publishers have shown marked liberality by allowing the agents a liberal per cent. on all subscriptions to the paper. No one is asked to work for nothing, and yet we could afford to do so and find an ample compensation in a consciousness of duty—in the utilization of an engine of power for the dissemination of enlightening, saving truth. Let us do our very best, and success is assured. F.

THE HISTORY OF METHODISM IN TEXAS.

An Explanation—A Mission that Failed—Lost Records—How they are to be Recovered.

To the brethren of the North Texas Conference I desire to say: When you appointed me at the McKinney conference to visit the East Texas Conference, at Tyler, and look up the old East Texas Conference trunk containing the books and papers of that conference, from its organization in 1840 to the close of its session in 1860, I felt quite sanguine of success until I reached Tyler and made known my business. I was informed by old members of that body that they had used due diligence years ago to find said trunk and had failed. After spending several days in search among old friends for any information they could give, from all that I could learn I came to the conclusion that it must have been consumed in the great fire in that town a few years ago, which destroyed the business house of Sutton & Holt. I left the trunk in hands of Bro. Sutton (now deceased) when I moved from Tyler in the fall of winter of 1860. Bro. Sutton was secretary of the conference in 1860; Bro. Wm. P. Petty, in 1861. Whether Bro. Petty deposited the papers of that session in the trunk I do not know; think, however, that he did not. Bro. Sutton located at the session of 1856, and went into mercantile business with the Holts. As I was moving into bounds of the Trinity conference, I thought it proper and safe to leave the trunk in charge of Bro. Sutton, who was not only a first-class business man, but one who felt to the last days of his life an abiding interest in the affairs of the church. The probability is that after the death of Bro. Sutton the trunk was placed among the rubbish in the warehouse, and there remained until consumed by the flames. Now while no one is to be blamed for this unfortunate loss, the question comes up, what shall we do? How can we procure the necessary data for the proposed "History of Methodism in Texas"? As the Trinity, (now North Texas) Conference naturally grew out of the old East Texas, how can she find the necessary data when the important first links in her historical chain are lost?

The only remedy I see is for some one to write up from memory all that can be furnished from such a source, including dates and incidents, commencing with the organization of East Texas Conference and continuing up to the division of East Texas and formation of Trinity, in 1860.

And as I was secretary and assistant from the organization of the East Texas Conference very nearly to the division, I propose, provided the editor-elect calls for it, and provided further that the few remaining old members of East Texas Conference will assist me to furnish in rough shape, under style of "Reminiscences Resumed," all that I can from memory as far as health and other circumstances will admit. I am admonished that what some of us do must be done quickly.

J. W. FIELDS.

ITINERARY.

In traveling by rail the scenes and scenery change almost as rapidly, and with as many forms and phases as are witnessed in kaleidoscope. Here I am in Underhill, Vermont, in sight of old Mansfield, a mountain peak, at the foot of which I first saw the light of day.

Travel and residence in the far West and the distant South has enlarged my orbit of vision. Everything there appears upon a diminutive scale. What my childish recollection pictured as noble rivers meandering through boundless meadows, have shrunk to rivulets. The valleys are narrow, the large fields mere garden patches, and the meadows are so very small when compared with the boundless prairies of Texas. Even the Mansfield mountain peak, which I had pictured as rearing his summit up among the clouds, and throwing his shadow against the sky, has grown wonderfully small to what I expected. It is but little taller than Rock Saddle peak on the Llano, or some of the taller peaks seen in ascending the Nueces or Tingo canons.

A word about politics: Vermont is celebrated as the pole star of Republicanism, never having had a Democratic governor or legislature. In my travels I have conversed with intelligent men of all the States through which I have passed of both political parties. Does the ADVOCATE wish to know why Cleveland was elected over his opponent? In my judgment one word with a prefix explains the whole. Cleveland was trusted; Blaine was distrusted. I have yet to find the first gentleman who does not believe that Cleveland will make a good President. So mote it be, and so I hope and believe it will be.

H. S. T.
Underhill, Vt., Nov. 29, 1884.

Here I am in the dominion of Queen Victoria, and among her truly loyal subjects. The ground is clothed in its wintry garb, but the sky is cloudless and the atmosphere calm and bracing.

Two hours after President Arthur's message was read in congress I bought a newspaper, containing the full text, on the railway train passing through Northern Vermont. The Montreal papers published it in full, and gave in detail the congressional proceedings. The Montreal Gazette of yesterday contains Senator Gibson's speech against the Spanish treaty as being wholly in the interest of Spain. The same paper publishes the proceedings of a public meeting in New Brunswick, in which it was stated that if the treaty was ratified the British American ports would lose and the United States would gain a trade amounting to at least \$7,000,000 per annum. This shows the different aspects in which this subject is viewed in Louisiana and in New Brunswick.

SENSATIONAL.

The Montreal Gazette of yesterday has a sensational article on the effect of the Democratic triumph upon the colored population of the South. According to this article the negroes of the South have been seized with a panic, and by thousands are leaving their old homes, for fear they will be again remanded to slavery. Again, this frightened mass will not rest serene until they reach Canada, as in former years, by the underground railroad. Then again, to supply the lack of laborers in the South, the Canadians would be tempted to migrate thither, and thus the population of Canada would become largely African. People here seemed perfectly astonished when I assured them that thousands of negroes voted the Democratic ticket, and that the freedmen of the South had no more fear of being remanded again to slavery than the Canadian subjects of England's Queen.

INQUISITIVENESS VS. INDIFFERENCE.
Before I came North I had an impression that every person I met would be popping into my business. This is a mistake. Time and again, thinking I might have an opportunity to enlighten my fellow-passengers on the boundless area, the inexhaustible soil, the variety and value of our undeveloped resources, I have dropped a hint that I was from Texas. Their looks seemed to say they cared not a fig where I was from! Again, I have registered my name at hotels, writing "San Antonio, Texas," in large letters. I watched the gentlemen looking over the names and expected some one to turn to me and inquire about the great Empire State. Not a bit of it. Muna was the word. I am now firmly persuaded that a man may travel through these Yankee States and no one will have the curiosity to ask his name, his business, where he came from, or whether he is going. Even custom-house officers are indifferent. Three times I have crossed the Canadian line, and my valises have never been examined or opened by an officer on either side of the line.

METHODIST CHURCHES.

The recollection of my childhood is that the Methodists worshiped in inferior buildings, located in out-of-the-way places. It is not so now. Not being as resilient as my fellow-passengers, in passing through many villages I have asked to what denomination particularly the church edifices belonged. The answer was often "to the Methodists." Hence I have concluded that even in New England the Methodists have come out of their hiding-places.

I have an appointment to preach to-night in the most conspicuous church in this village. It belongs to the Wesleyan Methodists.

H. S. T.
SUTON, CANADA EAST, DEC. 1.

LAMPASAS PREACHER.

How it Received its Preacher—Grooming Tables and Full Pantries—Five New Members.

No year of my ministry has begun more pleasantly—I am sure none have been more responsible. I found brethren at the depot waiting to greet me and announce hospitable arrangements already consummated for my further comfort and encouragement; and, at the coming of my "better half," came also from responsive hearts, homes and stores, material expressions to kitchen, table and appetite, fully assuring us of that Christian appreciation which inspires to gracious and renewed consecration and devotion. Yes, the parsonage was "warmed," the table was "loaded," the pantry "filled" and the parson and wife and babies "fed." This is a busy city and a kind people, and by the help of the Holy Spirit we could on a gracious revival.

Bro. Barnett reported ten new accessions since conference in this charge, and I have received five, making fifteen since the close of our conference. Bro. McHenry, pastor of Centenary 4 miles, is a driving man, and under his care our educational interest here is being pushed to a high degree of activity. He needs the hearty cooperation of the local preachers of the State. I would state now to every itinerant in Texas, Dr. McHenry is in heartiest accord with the local preachers. He needs their cooperation, and he seeks to develop the latent resources of the local ministry of our common Zion. Everything is very prosperous in this charge, with brightening prospects.

Our hearts are touched when we know of the continued illness of Bishop Wilson, one of our great spiritual fathers. Our prayers are for his recovery, yet we are attentive to God's gracious providence. H. B. HENRY.

TWO BOOKS.

While at annual conference we bought two books: The Life of Napoleon Bonaparte and the Living, unmythical life of John Wesley, as portrayed by Bishop McTear's Century History of Methodism. We have read the first and just finished the last.

Napoleon, to make character, drew the sword of steel, that all the while in his hand ran blood. He overturned kingdoms, and often in one battle girdled in death the pride of nations. He signed his own abdication, and died in exile, regarded by mankind as the disturber of the world's peace. In another department of the world's greatness will scarcely be forgotten the life of John Wesley.

John Wesley drew the sword of Truth to meet a more wily foe. Quickly about him gathered the Marston Nests of moral strength. He laid the axe to the root of the tree, and he laid the sword to the throat of the serpent. He laid the sword to the throat of the serpent, and he laid the sword to the throat of the serpent. He laid the sword to the throat of the serpent, and he laid the sword to the throat of the serpent.

LETTER FROM MEXICO.

Sunday Bull-fights—The American Sabbath—Romanism Rampant—Beaten and Left for Dead—Some Books for Protestants to read.

In this land of Sunday bull-fights and all kinds of Sabbath desecration we have frequently pointed to our native land as an evidence of the truth of the Protestant religion, and of its influence upon a nation. But how have our hearts saddened and our heads lowered in shame as we have read lately of the great increase of Sabbath desecration in the United States. Some of our Mexican friends will visit the Exposition and see for themselves, and how shall we look them in the face when they return to tell us that our boasts were false?

It is not to us, who are endeavoring to raise a foreign nation from the darkness and superstition of the Romish faith, to know that in our own land it is making such progress, that Protestants ignorant or heedless of her true character, lend "The Mother of Harlots" a helping hand. They should have revelations, chapters 12 and 17, and have not changed her character, as proven by her action, where she has the power in her hands. On the 20th of October, in the Hotel Empress, about 11 miles from Mexico, the capital of the State of Mexico, a few native Christians endeavored to commence a mission work. They entered the house and endeavored to see the necessary protection before commencing services. This was denied them on the pretext that it was a feast day, and that there were no forces. They remained waiting in the street until about midnight, when they were ordered to leave the house while the president went to mass, but despairing of all, they were leaving, when the military band, the municipal president, having received the advice of the priest, charged upon them. The scene is said to have been horrible. Our good old friend and brother, a Protestant, was seized, and his three sons, defended themselves with desperation, but in vain, against the united population of two towns. The Protestants were scattered, after seeing their father as they thought dead. After a time the old man managed to rise and address the president, saying, "One from the agonized wife and children watched beside his mangled form, and then he breathed his last, a martyr to the cause of Christ."

Shouting for Protestants to help to build Catholic churches and convents, and even send their children to them! More should be written in our church papers of the church and electric of Rome, so that our people remain not in ignorance of these things. We are gaining abroad and losing at home. The "preacher" who circulate among the young men, books as, "Kirkwall Letters," "The Spiritual Conflicts of a Roman Catholic," "Conscience of a Catholic Convert," etc., I suggest that some one familiar with the subject prepare a catechism on the errors of Rome for use in our Sunday-schools in the United States. Here one is circulated in the States, it is full of errors, and is a slander—among other things declaring that children are especially the prey of the Protestant wolves, and that Protestant children are being lured to the disbeliever's fold in all manners and immorality. Let the ADVOCATE continue its warning notes.

CELESTIAL MEXICO.

Faine Church, San Antonio.

I came to my new appointment, Faine Church, of this city, last week. The people have given me a true Methodist welcome—generous and cordial. I found a home neatly furnished and a larger well filled with provisions. I appreciated highly the substantial aid thus given me, but much more the spirit which prompted it. My impression now is that there are many earnest Christian people connected with our church here, and that they are not only ready to receive their pastor with open arms, but to help him in his work. I am sure I shall love them and enjoy my labor with them. A great field is open before me. I enter upon it with fear and trembling, but with trust also in the promise which goes with my commission. I believe that God will be with us. The editor of the ADVOCATE has a special invitation to come up and preach for us.

E. B. CHAPPELL.

A Question that Awaits an Answer.

Could there not be a decided improvement made in Texas Methodism in the way of singing? We certainly should not continue old tunes without considering present surroundings. Wesley and those of his day and for years afterward, doubtless found a great necessity of lining the hymn. Is it necessary now, when our Publishing House will furnish hymn-books at forty cents apiece? And are we not encouraging our people in not supplying themselves with books by reading for them?

B. T. PEARSON.

BAPTISM—THE THING AND THE MODE.

The natural relation between a thing to be done and the mode of doing it is the same in baptizing as in doing anything else. This subject needs to be treated naturally, rationally. By following unwise leaders we have, most of us, got the notion that there are three modes of baptizing, viz.: immersion, affusion and sprinkling; that one of these is the legal mode and the others illegal, or perhaps that they are all legal modes. This is a mistake. There is no legal or illegal mode of doing anything. Things may be done in an awkward, expensive or in many respects an unskillful way, but nothing is done in an illegal way. A thing is done or not done, however well or ill it may be done.

Law or command, in its nature, requires the doing or forbidding of doing certain things, but the mode of doing is always discretionary with the agent. Nevertheless, the command to do any general thing, or theoretically anything, implies the doing of several modes of particular things, which latter class of things stand in the relation of mode to the general thing, but still being one of the several things which may be done in a different mode, none of which are uncommanded. Things, not mode, are subject matter of law.

I may be commanded to build a house, or to preach, but there are many kinds of houses and modes of building. Forty things may be commanded in regard to the house or may be left open. Even the command to do things, and not a mode. No two men preach alike. In the absence of any particular law, each man complies with the general law, though one preaches once a day and the other once a year. One preaches an hour at a time and another longer and another shorter. All deniable particulars are left to the discretion of the agent. Still, the mode is left to the knowledge, prudence, skill or judgment of the agent. The mode of building and of preaching, as to details not specifically commanded, is of course left discretionary with the agent.

And just so of baptizing. We are commanded to baptize and how the question arises, Are we commanded to do any particular thing in doing so? The answer to this question is, We are commanded to baptize with water. This is a general command given in the most general way. Beyond that all is left discretionary. Baptize, and do it with water. Do it religiously, and in the name of the triune deity. There are forty modes of baptizing, and other particular directions as far as they go, and then depend on our own good sense, general belief, discretion, decorum and reasonableness, and the best mode of doing it, in compliance with these general rules of behavior, especially in all religious matters.

Great stress is, by many persons, laid upon the supposed fact that Christians in early times, say in the second, third or fourth centuries, sprinkled water on the subject in baptizing, or poured water on his head, or immersed him in water. Suppose they did. Is that any guide for us? Had they any special opportunity of knowing how to use water in baptizing than we have? Surely not. In this respect we are generally superior to them. Those early Christians did several things that we neither do nor are commanded to do. Their mode of doing things is our guide, as it was of ours, if we have been there.

What heterogeneous masses of stuff have been raised and scraped into this subject, and yet the name of argument! The feeblest ground of all argument generally, viz.: the precise meaning of words, which is never ascertained in any controversy, has been patronized in this argument to a most voluminous and illogical extent. Arguments about definitions and terminology are never settled. A good debater generally clears up a rubbish out of the way first if it should chance to get in the way.

The most important lesson in all argument is to learn how to discover and to discard irrelevant issues. When legitimate testimony falls and argument limps, the inevitable resort is to some outside issue, irrelevant to the question in hand. The man who follows an opponent in a single yard on one of those illegitimate definitions and terminology, is never settled. A good debater generally clears up a rubbish out of the way first if it should chance to get in the way.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The fortieth session of the East Texas Annual Conference, M. E. Church, South, was held at Longview, Nov. 19-21, Bishop H. N. McTear, presiding.

A large number of clerical members answered to roll-call the first day, a few more the second day, and several were not in attendance who were not present at roll-call. Four failed to reach the seat of conference.

The lay delegates were comparatively few.

E. F. Bone was elected secretary, and L. M. Fowler and W. B. Patterson, assistants.

The usual communications were received and referred to appropriate committees and boards.

Several visitors were present from time to time, whom the brethren were delighted to see, notably, Drs. Elton Fox, G. D. Goddard, D. C. Kelly, Rev. Boardman, Thurl, Lane, McLean, Haggard, Pickett, Patterson, Grace, Jones and Messrs. Palmer, Blaylock, and others.

Reports from the charges showed that a great and good work had been done, but the net gain was small, owing to the large number of removals. Perhaps the collections came up very well, if we make any allowance for the stringency of the times.

The disciplinary questions brought out the following results:
Admitted on trial, six—E. W. D. Ogden, Geo. C. Hardy, Martin D. Long, Geo. W. Langley, Wm. L. Pate, John A. Smith. Continued on trial, nine—W. W. McAnally, L. A. Burk, John Hughes, T. S. Armstrong, G. O. Allen, J. M. McArthur, H. B. Everett. Admitted into full connection, four—J. M. Smith, W. R. McDow, J. C. Calhoun, J. F. Archer. Re-admitted—Neill Brown. Received by transfer—James Campbell, R. J. Deets.

Deacons of year one—M. E. Blocker, J. T. Murrish, B. R. Bolton, D. W. Towns, W. H. Crawford. Traveling preachers elected deacons—J. M. McCarter, J. C. Calhoun. These were also ordained. Local preachers elected and ordained deacons—C. B. Smith, J. M. James, J. D. Rogers, J. T. Browning. Traveling preachers elected and ordained elders—J. T. Murrish, L. C. Ellis. Local preachers elected and ordained elders—Edwin D. Ogden. Located at their own request—S. W. Turner, J. M. Trautt, J. F. Henderson. Supernumerary—H. M. Booth, J. B. Hall, W. N. Bonner. Superannuated—Daniel Morse, L. C. Cause, Richard Menifree, R. M. Kirby, David E. P. Rogers, J. B. Pullis. All the preachers blameless in their life and official administration. Local preachers, 136; decrease, 6. Members, 16,680; increase, 310. Infants baptized, 714; adults, 999. Sunday-schools, 165; officers and teachers, 927; scholars, 7072. Necessary for conference claims, \$1,255.50; collected, \$1,009.75. Foreign missions, \$1,833.58. Domestic, \$1,067.70. Anniversary, \$133.70. Total, \$3,044.93. One school, Alexander Institute, at Kilgore, Texas, in a flourishing condition. (Full statistics not yet received.) Next session at Beaumont. E. F. BOONE, Sec.

WILLOW CITY CIRCUIT.

After a three weeks' move, and hunting all over my circuit for a house for my family to live in, I came to Round Mountain, on the border of another circuit, where I succeeded in getting a kind family to divide shelter with me for the present. I have been received kindly in the main upon my new circuit. Have preached four times, and visited every neighborhood. After preaching at Post Oak last Monday night, two joined the church by certificate. The brethren whom I have served as pastor before give me a cordial hand-shake, and seem glad to see me. My health has improved some, and is still improving. Some of the brethren think they are not able to support a preacher with a family, and especially so if they have no parsonage for him to live in. The circuit ought to have had at least \$200 missionary money appropriated to it, and been called "Willow City Mission." Please let me see my friends everywhere that my address is Round Mountain, Blanco Co., Texas. R. M. LEATON.

Dec. 3, 1884.

Texas Christian Advocate.

(Written for the Advocate.)

ADA STEWART.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

BY MARY RICHARDSON LEBENS.

Chapter I.

"Aunt Margaret, just come to the dining-room and see the beautiful Christmas present Charlie has sent me. Oh! it is lovely! A pink and gold China teaset. Just what I have wanted above all things. How good of Charlie to give me such a surprise! He is just the dearest, best husband in the world, Aunt Margaret," and the young wife chattered on until they stood over the well packed box the porter had just deposited and opened on a side table in the cozy little dining-room of Dr. Charles Stewart. The mistress of this little dining-room was like some we child delighted with its Christmas toys. "I believe I'll run back and tell Uncle Allan to come, too, and look at the pretty things as we take them out. "No," she said, taking breath and a little second thought with it; "Little Maggie's on his lap. I guess her sweet prattle will amuse him till Charlie comes. I'll tell you what we'll do, Auntie. We'll grace our Christmas table with Charlie's gift, and christen them in honor of you and Uncle Allan, our Christmas guests. Won't they compliment each other—these dainty wares and my delicate jellies and cakes? And dear Charlie, how pleased and surprised he'll be to see our little table so beautiful?"

While the servant washed and wiped each piece the ladies arranged them on the table, and Mrs. Stewart's blithe tongue ran on in its joyousness, for she was a bright, cheery little woman, a look into whose face warmed any one up, for a genial, sweet nature was distilled from her smiles; and her eyes! they fairly convinced you that a warm, loving little heart gave them their brightness. Aunt Margaret made a good listener, putting in a word here and there, and thinking all the while of the happiness of a home like this. "Uncle Allan and Aunt Margaret would have come over from Scotland many years ago. They were favorite relatives of Charlie Stewart's, and when his wife asked him a few days previous who should be their Christmas guests his reply was, "Uncle Allan and Aunt Margaret, of course." Charles Stewart had been orphaned at ten, and this good couple seemed more like parents than otherwise to him.

After a day's toil he enjoyed sunning himself, he called it, in Uncle Allan's broad humor, and Aunt Margaret was so placid and quiet and motherly. Dr. Charlie did not love gaiety. His bright, little wife did. She was so social and genial. But hitherto during the four years of their married life he had managed to have things his way about, that matter, and his quiet home life was seldom disturbed by the circle of young people who boasted that there was no gayer place in the South than their own city, Princeton.

Just as everything was ready on the tea-table a step was heard on the porch, and the young wife glided away from the dignified Auntie and tripped lightly to the hall door. "Charlie, you dear, good fellow, to send me the pink and gold teaset; the very loveliest in Princeton!" An arm—a loving, tender, protecting arm—found its way around the young wife's shoulders. "I claim a Christmas gift in return, dearer than all costly wares," he said softly; and stooping down pressed a kiss on his wife's lips, as her head nestled against his breast. Hand in hand they stood a moment in the parlor door. With this bright little room Aunt Margaret's beaming, motherly face seemed to give additional radiance. She was standing in front of Uncle Allan, who had Maggie on his knee, as he sang for her the old song every verse of which ends with the impressive strain, "For the horse has devoured my bonnet of straw." The plaintive intoning of the old man's voice almost brought Maggie's tears, and did bring the "jaculation," "Mean old jerk!" At length Charlie's voice broke in, "Right glad am I to welcome you, Uncle Allan and Aunt Margaret, as our guests this good night. All the joys of the season to you both." After the hand-shaking and greetings, Uncle Allan said: "Charlie, when I come into your cozy little nest of a home I feel like I am over the waters again in our old Scotland. Everything in here is so bright, and cheery and warm, letting his voice pour out into its broad, Scotch accent: "Is it you; the gude wife, or the wee bairn that makes everything so canny?" "Oh! Ada is queen here, Uncle," and Dr. Stewart looked proudly into the beaming face of his wife. It was a rare and striking face, with its pure complexion, full, dark eyes, and clear-cut, delicate features, and to-night happiness rendered it very beautiful.

The bell soon summoned them to tea. Ada had said the china and the viands would compliment each other, and so they did. It seemed that every little cup, and every tiny dish did its full share of complimenting and flashing, and the whole table seemed in a blaze of congratulation and good will. Dr. Charlie's surprised, pleased face brought no exception, and after the roast turkey and white bread had received a share of attention, and the cakes small and her hand as white as a water-sprite's. "The spritz wouldn't have much trouble crumpling one of Ada's cakes, Charlie, eh! I'll take another one of the small cakes, Charlie." Delightfully the evening wore away. Toward its close, Uncle Allan said: "You doctors have rather a bad time of it these cold days and nights, don't you? Isn't it o'er muckle work for o'er little pay, when you are called down into East Row so much?" "Well, I don't know, Uncle;

we pill-bag men have to learn to do a great deal of that sort of thing, and some times to our good fortune the old saying is reversed and there's o'er muckle pay for o'er little work, and so that evens things. My practice pays me finely now. In fact I feel like my head is above water at last, and a fine practice awaits me."

Going home that night Uncle Allen said: "What a nice little couple they are! Things seem to move on very smoothly with Nephew Charlie and his pretty wife." "They do just now, Allen," gravely responded Aunt Margaret, "but they are not rooted and grounded as I would like to see them setting out in life. Neither of them are members of the church, and now that they are getting money ahead they'll find many allurements, particularly if Ada goes into society much as she says she's going to do this year.

"Society! fiddlesticks!" muttered Allen McLeod. "I'd would be a pity to take outside birds into so cozy a home-nest. And if the hawk's talons and the eagle's bill should take a whack at it, happiness would lie down for Nephew Charlie. His taste don't run that way, and what's society these days but a humdrum, wheedledom of dancing jigs and theater prigs."

"Kape your wife at home," the old man unconsciously caught himself humming, but coming to a sudden halt said, "Hap! that won't do to sing in free America, will it my Margaret?"

CHAPTER II.

"Charlie, you know we said we did not intend to live in so much seclusion. Everything is prosperous with us now, and here is a nice opportunity for us to begin our social life."

Charlie Stewart made no reply to these remarks. He looked into his young wife's face as if sounding her earnestness. "Here it is," she said, feeling rather uncomfortable with the silence and the scrutiny. "Mrs. Weber has sent us an invitation to attend her New Year's party. It will be a splendid party, I know. They are such gay, nice people."

Dr. Charlie mechanically took the invitation his wife handed him. He opened it and gazed at it some seconds. His eyes rested on the few lettered words, but the little lady watching him intently, well knew his thoughts did not. "Say we will go, will we not, Charlie?" she coaxingly asked, placing her clasped hand on his knee and looking into his face, for she was seated on a low chair by him.

"Is not our little home happy enough, that you wish to go elsewhere to seek happiness?" he asked, without taking his eyes from the invitation. "Oh, yes, dear, but one gets tired of monotony. You find change in attending to your professional duties, but it is different with me, I only go out occasionally to make tiresome afternoon calls. In the evenings I am sure it would be so enjoyable when you could go with me to attend some of the parties we are constantly invited to. I would like this party, Charlie." Silence several moments.

Sometimes Mrs. Ada thought her husband prokingly slow. When his lips were opened she heard the unexpected proposal: "How would you like to pay mother a little New Year's visit? I cannot leave my practice, but you and Maggie could take a run up to Verme." "Mother is not at home. Don't you remember she said in her last letter she was going to spend a month in New Orleans with Aunt Jane. What's the matter about the party, Charlie? I want to go to it."

"Oh, it's not that particular party, Ada, but all the subsequent parties that I'm thinking of. I want you to have society, child; that is, good society, but the promiscuous gatherings they call parties in Princeton are not the places to seek it."

"Why, Charlie, I think they are nice parties. Such nice, fashionable people go to them." "You think so, because you do not know, and long may it be said you do not know." Dr. Stewart was a man of few words. The conversation was dropped, but his wife was not satisfied with its ending. She by no means sounded the depths of his few words. She was too pure-minded to fathom them. He thought his explanation clear enough, and that she ought to be satisfied with it. She was not. A vague sort of only caught at his meaning in a vague sort of way, and having her heart quite set on breaking the monotony of her home life by a little more gaiety, she tried to account for her husband's disapprobation of her attendance on the Princeton parties with other reasons than the one he had given her. Thinking over the matter she said to herself, "Charlie ought to remember that he did promise me that when his practice became better established, and little Maggie got old enough for me to leave at night, that we should go into society more. I am twelve years younger than he is. I want to see more of life. I can't give up going to that party." And the little woman remembered the beautiful dresses she had hid away untouched for so long, and how beautiful her mirror told her she looked in these robes, and that she was the admiration of all admirers when dancing, and she said again to herself, "Charlie must not say no. I can't give up the New Year's party."

When the subject was again broached she said gaily, "Charlie, my *gen-dar-us* silk only needs some fresh ribbon, bows and laces to make it the very thing for the New Year's party, so you see there will be no great ill to foot, and I want to run down to Madam Harlan's this evening to get them. Give me \$5 before you go." He drew out the pocket-book, handed her the money, and said as he did so: "I was in hopes that you were not in earnest about going to that party." "Oh, yes, I am indeed," she said brightly, for she felt that she was gaining her point. "Charlie, you are a doctor, and you say it is not well for the physical nature to breathe the same atmosphere too long. Now, don't you know it is the same with the mental structure. The atmosphere must be changed. Don't you know when one lives day after day in the same routine, thinking over the same thoughts, living over the same feelings, the brain oxygen becomes exhausted and the fever of unrest sets in?" "Why, what a little *medico scientifico* lawyer you have become," he answered jocosely. "One has to come round when science and medicine are brought into requisition in argument, and the broadside is like 'Osses on Pelion piled.' We go just because it's New Year's Day. Will you remember that, little woman?" He stooped and kissed the happy face, beaming with joy and gratification. The New Year's party was attended. Both Dr. Stewart and his lovely wife found the evening enjoyable. Only one thing occurred to mar its pleasure for him.

His wife engaged in the cotillon. He did not approve of dancing, and was particularly opposed to married persons engaging in it. He knew that she had been very fond of the dance before their marriage, but he knew also that she was aware of his disapprobation of it, and he was shocked to find her at an early hour among the dancers. As soon as an opportunity offered he came to her side, and plainly reading his disapprobation, she said: "Charlie, I didn't mean to dance, but it seemed to me that old times had come back, and before I knew it I said 'yes.'" "Well," he said in a grievous tone, "we will go home now." "Oh, no, Charlie; not yet. It would certainly occasion remarks. I am engaged for another set. It would be rude." Just then Col. Singleton came up and claimed the promised set. Charlie Stewart looked at the man leading his wife to her place among the dancers. Shocked, grieved, almost horrified, he quitted the room. He would not look at Ada in that scene. After a time the music changed. The gay waltz vibrated on the air, and returning to the room Stewart sought his wife. He did not see her for some time, and was about quitting the room to seek elsewhere when he saw her waltzing with Singleton's arm encircling her frail waist. Words would fail to describe his feelings. With a scowl he turned away, and hid his angry face in the darkness. As soon as the waltz was ended a servant approached Mrs. Stewart and said: "Dr. Stewart bid me say he awaits you in the east parlor."

The ride home was a silent one, except that Ada made several attempts to open a conversation, failing in which she said, "What is the matter, Charlie? I have been young in engaging a little innocent dancing?" For some seconds Charlie Stewart spoke not a word. Then, with hated breath and unnatural tone, he said: "Some other time we'll talk of this." He loved his little wife. He knew that in her innocent childish views of life she had unwittingly acted in the manner that so pained and shocked him. He did not wish to wound her feelings. He knew that she was angry. He was afraid to trust his tongue with the real rein, for he was well aware that sometimes it became, indeed, an unruly member. That was why their ride was silent. Ada did not know all this, and becoming piqued at his silence she became angry, and thus it was they entered their house, as miserable as they had been happy when quitting it three hours ago.

The same other time came the next day. Not that Dr. Stewart had cooled down the fires, almost volcanic, that burned in that room. Not that he was calm enough yet to talk, but that the state of things had become unendurable to the trusting little wife who had hitherto found her married life all sunshine. After their silent dinner she sought Charlie, for he did not sit with her as usual at that hour. With tears in her eyes she began: "Charlie, tell me, what is the matter? How have I offended you so deeply? She laid her hand on his shoulder. He moved away from the hand so that it fell by his side. Then in slow grave, tones he said, "Ada, when I went to Mrs. Weber's party with you I did not think to find you void of that sense of dignity that a wife and a mother should always feel. You know that I disapprove of dancing in promiscuous crowds. I had no dream of seeing my wife giving her hand to the touch of these hands that I joined hers in that room. 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Vital Questions ! ! !

Ask the most eminent physician Of any school what is the best thing in the world for quelling and allaying all irritation of the nerves, and curing all forms of nervous complaints, giving natural, childlike refreshing sleep always.

Ask any or all of the most eminent physicians: "What is the best and only remedy that can be relied on for the diseases of the kidneys and urinary organs, such as Bright's disease, diabetes, retention, or inability to retain urine, and all the diseases and ailments peculiar to Women?"

Ask the same physicians "What is the most reliable and surest cure for all liver diseases or dyspepsia; constipation, indigestion, biliousness, malaria, fever, ague, etc., and they will tell you: "Mandrake! or Dandelion! ! ! !"

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Continued from Second Page. of his child's illness. "I would be cruelly wrong to do otherwise."

Grandma Reid brought pen, ink and paper, and said: "Write a telegram; I will send it this hour."

Ada looked up through her blinding tears into the face bending above her. Grandma answered the questioning glance:

"Act with decision; you know not what the issue will be"—glancing at the sick child—"and this farce of estrangement about a few hot words has been kept up long enough."

Ada tremblingly wrote: "Maggie is very ill. Come."

"No, 100 Prince street, Toluck."

She drew a long sigh of relief. Grandma interpreted the sigh. She knew that the young wife had only needed some wise counselor all the while to set her right.

The next night Charles Stewart and Ada stood over the sick bed of their child. With a strange mixture of the joy of reunion and the anguish of suspense they watched the restless tossing of the child.

Once in delirium she murmured: "Papa look me up and put out one curl." Ada threw her arms around her husband's neck, and with her heart almost breaking with reproach, sobbed the words: "Forgive me? Oh, Charlie, can you forgive me?"

which account you will see that he is a very important boy; Nicholas is the eldest son of Alexander III, czar of the Russian empire. He was born May 18, 1868, at Czarska Selo (Czar's village), an imperial summer palace fifteen miles from St. Petersburg.

"Crown princes have so much to learn that they must begin early and lose no time. Until his ninth year the education of the young Grand duke was superintended by Madame de Flowot, one of the ladies of honor who had followed the Princess Dagmar from Denmark to Russia. In 1877 the charge was given to Lieutenant-General Daniloff, who has arranged the Prince's hours of instruction in accordance with those of the military gymnastics. His regular lessons are from eight in the morning till three in the afternoon, but with such intermissions that they never exceed five hours a day.

His afternoons are spent in walks with the Emperor, or in outdoor sports—riding, swimming, fishing, fencing, gymnastics—of all of which he is very fond; and his evenings are devoted to preparing for next day's lessons, reading, and keeping a diary. He is an excellent scholar and linguist; enters into his studies with much zest, and excels in the languages of Danish, French, German, and English. The crown prince of England and Germany may study if they like at the universities, but the heir of Russia must be educated by private tutors.

"Last May, upon his sixteenth birthday, the day on which the Prince became of age, he renewed his oath of adherence to the orthodox church, the ceremony taking place in the chapel of the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg. As heir to the Russian throne, he accompanied the Emperor and Empress to their recent meeting with the sovereigns of Germany and Austria.

"In person the Prince is slight and delicately formed, with fair complexion, and auburn hair; and he usually wears a sailor costume, which suits his slender figure. He is a member of the Preobrazhensky (Transfiguration) Guard, the famous regiment founded by Peter the Great; and by birth he is Attendant (chief) of all the Cossacks of the empire. It is his privilege to wear the uniform of any regiment he pleases.

"Neither for crown princes in Europe, nor for boys and girls in America, can we predict what the future will bring; but we will all give our best wishes to the young Prince of Russia."

THE CZAREVITCH. "God help the lad whose words may bless or blight where they fall. From Russia's shores have stirred, To China's winding wall; And from Schiovetz, whose crosses gleam Atward the frozen seas, To soft Crimean vales that dream In vain of the Russian peasant, The Khan by the border, The valiant Cossack warrior, The Pole by broad-armed Vistula, And all the countless clans and tribes Swayed by the Czar's decree, And that which might be fought are one Within the vast domain, And dwell in peace and loyalty When he shall come to reign."

A Question. "Can the children who read this column tell the Texas Christian Advocate where and when the first Christmas was celebrated on the continent of America?"

Each "cistern is first set up at the shop, and hooped fitted, and each stove numbered, so that any one can get them in any order, and packed in bundles for shipment to any portion of the country. Printed directions for setting them up accompany each cistern.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall-st., N. Y.

CORNS WHY WILL ANY ONE SUFFER FROM CORNS WHEN THEY CAN GET A BOTTLE OF THE "GERMAN CORN REMEDY" FOR ONE CENT? It is the best remedy for both Corns and Blisters of any kind. It is sold in all drug stores. Write to the Proprietor, 113 Fulton Street, New York.

HOME SANATIVE CORDIAL PURIFIES THE BLOOD ERADICATES MALARIAL POISON, INDIGESTION, THE SYSTEM, BRUISES, SCURF, AND ALL SKIN AFFECTIONS, DYSPEPSIA, STOMACH, FEMALE, AND ALL BILIOUSNESS. Recommended by the best Physicians.

JAMES PYLE'S PEARLINE The Great Invention, For EASY WASHING, IN HAND OR SOFT, HOT OR COLD WATER. Without Harsh or FABRIC OR HANDS, and particularly adapted to Warm Climates. No family, rich or poor should be without it.

DR. T. G. BRACKING'S FEMALE AND GANGLER INFIRMARY, 420 W. Walnut St., Louisville, Ky. All diseases of females, especially, no matter how long standing, nor who have failed with others, are speedily and happily cured.

FITS STOPPED FREE. Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. It is a certain and reliable remedy for all cases of epilepsy, neuralgia, and other nervous affections.

CONSUMPTION. I have a positive remedy for consumption, and by its use I have cured many cases. It is a certain and reliable remedy for all cases of pulmonary consumption.

OUR No. 1 Plantation Saw Mill, \$200. SEND FOR DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULARS. SMITH, MYERS & SCHNIER, 371, 373, 375, & 377 W. Front St., CINCINNATI, O.

AMERICAN Breakfast Cereals. Selected grain, all built, cooked, and impurities removed. Prepared in a sanitary and healthful manner, in ten minutes. Saving time, saving waste, saving health. Easy to digest, healthful, already thoroughly cooked and dried (sterilized).

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IDEAL YEAST CAKES MAKE BEST BREAD AND ROLLS. Samples and Prices Furnished to the Trade. A LARGE PACKAGE will be Mailed to Consumers for 15 cents in Stamps. HIBBERT & ALEXANDER, Manufacturers, GALVESTON, TEXAS.

P. H. CARVILLE, CISTERN MAKER. Mechanic Street, between 27th and 28th Sts., GALVESTON, TEXAS. All Sizes Made to Order.

BAYOU CITY IRON WORKS, A. MCGOWEN, Manufacturer of Steam Engines and Boilers, Saw Mills, Cotton Presses, Gin Gearing, Etc. All Sizes Engines and Boilers constantly on hand. Near Central R. R. Depot, Houston, Texas.

Chilliarine! The only GUARANTEED CURE for FEVER AND AGUE, CHILLS AND FEVER, DUMB AGUE, REMITTENT, INTERMITTENT and BILIOUS FEVERS, NEURALGIA, and ALL MALARIAL DISEASES. CHILLIARINE is sold on a POSITIVE GUARANTEE by the Proprietors and Druggists who sell it. If used according to directions, with the Liver Medicine, and it does not cure the Chills, you can take the bottles back to your Druggist, and he will refund the money.

DEM. A. SIMMONS' LIVER MEDICINE. CURED INDIGESTION, BILIOUSNESS, SICK HEADACHE, CONSTIPATION, DYSPEPSIA, COLIC, &c. &c. CURED LOST APPETITE, SOUR STOMACH, FULB BREATH, COLIC, &c. &c. VEGETABLE LIVER MEDICINE. ENDORSED BY ALL PHYSICIANS AND CLERGYMEN Who have used it for the past Forty Years.

THE KEystone WASHER. OVER 300,000 IN ACTUAL USE. And all giving perfect satisfaction. AGENTS WANTED. Will wash Cotton, Flax, and Linen, and will save the labor of hand washing. Every Machine Warranted FIVE Years.

OUR CATARRH IN THE HEAD. From the Cause of the Headache (Dyspepsia), every stage of Catarrh of the Head, the most distressing form of the NOSE, THROAT and LUNGS CURABLE by a new and SUCCESSFUL SYSTEM. Not a douche, snuff, nor patent medicine.

AGENTS WANTED STOCK-DOCTOR FOR THE PICTORIAL COMPLETE. Dr. J. C. Beall, Columbus, Ga. Dr. J. C. Beall, Columbus, Ga. Dr. J. C. Beall, Columbus, Ga.

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TUTT'S PILLS "THE OLD RELIABLE." 25 YEARS IN USE. The Greatest Medical Triumph of the Age. Indorsed all over the World. SYMPTOMS OF A TORPID LIVER. Loss of appetite, Nausea, bowels costive, Pain in the Head, with a dull sensation in the back part. Pain under the shoulder blades, Fatigue after eating, with a disinclination to exertion of body or mind, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, Lassitude, memory, with a feeling of having neglected some duty, weariness, Dizziness, Fluttering of the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Yellow skin, Headache, Restlessness at night, highly colored urine.

TUTT'S HAIR DYE. GRAY HAIR OF WIDENERS changed to a Glossy Black by a single application of this DYE. It imparts a natural color, and is sold by Druggists, or sent by express on receipt of \$1. Office, 44 Murray St., New York.

A Skin of Beauty is a Joy Forever! Dr. T. Felix Gouraud's Oriental Cream or Magical Beautifier Purifies the Skin. Beautifies the Skin. No other Cosmetic will do it.

Children's Department. A CHRISTMAS CAROL. BY SUSAN COOLIDGE. The Christmas chimes are pealing high Beneath the solemn Christmas sky, And blowing winds their notes prolong Like echoes from an angel's choir.

An Only Daughter Cured of Consumption. When death was hourly expected, all remedies having failed, and Dr. H. James was experimenting with the many herbs of California, he accidentally made a preparation which cured his only child of Consumption. His child is now a healthy and happy girl.

WANTED: GOLDEN DAWN, or LIGHT on the GREAT FUTURE. School Teachers, Students, and Ladies, acting as agents for this book, are making over \$100 a month. Sell fast. One agent sold 71 first days; another 45 in 5 days; another 11 in one day; another 15 and 5 Bibles in 5 days. Secure territory quick. Also, agents wanted for the best Illustrated Family Bibles ever sold by agents. Send for circulars. Address TEXAS BOOK & BIBLE CO., 257 Elm St., Dallas, Texas.

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A WORD OF INTRODUCTION.

By the action of the Joint Board of Publication at its last annual meeting, I have been made editor of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, and with this issue my responsibility begins.

In accepting this position I am moved by no thought of personal advancement. I accept it in the same way and for the same reason that I have accepted every other appointment which I have received as a Methodist preacher. I go because I have been sent. Before applying, in 1878, for admission to the traveling connection, I made up my mind that I would never, under any circumstances, seek an appointment, and that I would never refuse one to which I had been properly assigned. It is my belief that by God's help I have thus far kept the faith.

The question of my qualification for this position was not one for me to decide. Years ago, by assuming the vows of a traveling elder, I placed this responsibility upon other shoulders, and from thence I cannot afford to remove it. It is the duty of those "unto whom is committed the charge and government" over me, to know what I can and what I cannot do. My responsibility begins and ends in doing my best wherever I am placed.

Being without experience in journalism, it is natural that I should enter upon this work with some trepidation, notwithstanding the fact that a number of my brethren, wise in counsel and gifted in judgment, have chosen me thereto. Just here I find encouragement in reminding myself and in reminding you that I am not alone, but will have continually the co-operation of an able corps of associate editors, upon whom I can confidently lean for advice and assistance.

The confidence bestowed upon the retiring editor during the long period through which he so ably conducted this paper was in every respect deserved. I trust that the same confidence will be cordially bestowed upon his successor, and that he will receive the support the Joint Board has invoked in his behalf.

Knowing that you will cheerfully overlook any defects which may appear in the first few issues of the paper, I cease with these words to claim your attention, and will hereafter be seen only in what fills these columns. It is in reading what they contain you will sometimes think of him who toils in silence behind them, I shall be grateful, and it will greatly strengthen me for the work in hand to know that in your prayers I will find an humble place.

G. W. BRIGGS.

In many parts of Texas it will be Christmas Eve when these lines are read. On Christmas morning the great holiday of the year will dawn, a day which will be celebrated in many lands, and which shall yet become "the jubilee of the whole world." It is good to see that this annual festival is becoming more and more, among all men, a season of peace on earth and a time of fraternity and good will. To the Christian it might be more than this, for it celebrates the birth of Him who came "to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind." The Redeemer has given to this world about all the freedom it has which is worth the having. Even our political freedom comes from him. It is true he did not institute any form of earthly government, nor did he interfere with existing tyrannies, but he gave to the world a truth which made new civil institutions only a question of time. He taught the world the true worth and dignity of each individual human soul—a truth which has unseated a thousand tyrants and changed the face of the world. But the best and highest freedom we have received at his hands is neither political nor intellectual—it is spiritual. The true captives are not the slaves of earthly tyrants, nor the enchained of superstitious and one-sided philosophies. The true captives are the moral captives—the enchained of their own evil natures. These chains Christ has broken for all who in sincerity of heart have accepted him. For these he has torn the devil-fetters from the will, given it new strength and buoyancy, and made it free with a liberty which none can take away. "If the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed." Are we among those whom he has thus redeemed? Have we his witness in our hearts so that we may look up to him and say, "Thou hast made me free?" Then may we rejoice indeed, for we rejoice in "the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free." But if the chains with which the devil leads captive the heart and will are still unbroken by the touch of Christ's power, joy is a snare and gladness a mockery. Instead of the chime of Christmas bells and the triumphant salves which usher in the day, better, far better, in such a case, were sackcloth and ashes, and the cry of Ezra: "I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God; for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens."

"Thou poor always ye have with you," said our Lord, and time has verified his words. The contrast in the story of Dives and Lazarus is as old as human nature. Nothing, not even Christianity, seems able to obliterate it. But Christianity provides for it by making the poor the special charge of all Christ's followers. During this season of good cheer, of giving and receiving gifts, let us not forget them. It has been a hard year for many who are not poor. How severely, then, must they have borne upon those whose lives are a perpetual struggle. Seek out these needy ones as Christ did, and supply their wants. Such giving is doubly blessed. It may be that it blesses the giver more than the receiver, for it is in helping the needy and bearing the burdens of the weak that men and women grow into God's likeness. "Blessed is he that considereth the poor, the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble."

NO ROOM IN THE INN.

It was a very natural accident, looking at it from its human side. The decree of Caesar had filled the streets of Bethlehem to overflowing, and it is not astonishing that these strangers from Nazareth should be compelled to find accommodation where they could. Looking at it from its divine side we feel that it was not altogether an accident. The Almighty chose that his advent should be made in this lowly way. He could come as he liked. He could have come as the sun does, flashing on the world through the gates of the morning. He could have burst on the astonished earth from the upper sky, coming down the ether with steeds of fire; but he chose to come in the lowliest way. It was in accordance with his purpose that it had to be written that there was "no room in the inn."

Nor should this seem strange. God could do much for man, but there was one thing he could not do: He could not wrap his infinity in the tawdry robes and tinsel with which we are wont to surround our little, brief authority. If the arrangements had been that of a man, a palace would have been his birth-place and the shouts of rejoicing thousands would have hailed the advent of the Prince of Peace. But when we rise up to the thought of his greatness and majesty, we see that such an advent would have been much "as if some mother should enter the nursery among her children, having covered her form with their tinsel trinkets, and causing their little drums and trumpets to be sounded before her." Would it had been less a condescension if he had been born in a palace?

It is not the place that makes the man, but the man that makes the place. So speaks the manner of the advent. Jesus was just as great wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger as he would have been amid the silken canopies and pictures and marbles of Herod's palace. The value is not in the trappings, but in the man. We are perpetually forgetting this. We strive for the surroundings of place and power, as if this could make us great. It is not the crown that makes the king; it is the kingly power which transforms that poor band of gold. If a man is a king at all, he is king though he be unworn. It is better to be greater than our place than to have our place greater than we are. Many a small man has been dwarfed by his great place, and many a great man has glorified his small one. Would that we could learn this; learn it in all things, and so be content.

Jesus Christ was more than the ideal man. He was God incarnate, God, in the person of his Son, who came to save the world. How lies the deeper reason for the manner of the advent. He came to reach all men, and hence would place himself on a level with those experiences that touch all men. Here he certainly touched three—insignificance, poverty, pain. Insignificance is the rule, conspicuousness the exception. Here and there men rise above their fellows. About such men books are written and orations pronounced. The very titles of such lives are lifted into importance. The absence of incident is compensated for by the transformation of dullness into incident. But this is the exception. Most men and women since the world began have moved in their little rounds undistinguishable in this great mass of being. So with these other experiences. Poverty is the rule, riches the exception. Poverty is the sea level; riches the white crest on the wave; but the waves go up and down. And as to pain, "man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble." That is the rule. All the elements of every palpitating human heart, and all of them in his advent the Redeemer touched. And this was the tone of his whole life. From the manger to the cross there never was any room for him in the inn. And hence it is that he has moved the world as it was never moved before. It is written that "the common people heard him gladly." No wonder. He was one of their own order; one with them in their insignificance and poverty and pain. And the common people have always heard him gladly. And all the world should hear him, and every knee shall bow, and every heart throw wide its doors at the coming of Him for whom there was "no room in the inn."

THE NATIVITY.

The exact date of the birth of our Lord is unknown. It is almost certain that our present chronology places it four years too late. He was born during the year before the death of Herod the Great. Herod died 751 U. C. This would place the birthday during 750 U. C. But the current chronology begins at 754 U. C. Again, our Lord entered on his public ministry at thirty years of age, and in the fifth century year of Tiberius Caesar, which was 780 U. C. Taking thirty from 780 brings us back to the year of Rome, 750, four years before the current era. The error is supposed to have been committed by Dionysius Exiguus, a Roman abbot, a man of vast chronological research. But having determined the year, we can go no further with any probability of arriving at the true date of our Savior's birth. During the first four centuries the Eastern Church celebrated the Nativity on the sixth of January. On this day they celebrated the manifestation of God in several respects:

First—His incarnation, or appearance in the flesh. Second—The appearance of the star to the Magi, which was the means of his manifestation to the Gentiles. Third—They dated his baptism also on this day, and celebrated his manifestation by John, and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon him, and the voice of the Father: "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." Fourth—Their tradition also asserted that on that same day our Lord made the water wine, and manifested forth his glory in Cana of Galilee. The Western Church, however, from a very early period, celebrated the Nativity on the 25th of December and the Epiphany on the 6th of January.

There were also traditions in the church, believed by many, that the natal day was in April, and also some said in May.

From all this we conclude that the Christmas festival has not the sanction of our Lord nor his apostles; else the day would not be doubtful.

It is likely the origin of the festival was a pious design on the part of the Christians of the second century to substitute religious observances for the extravagant and senseless excesses in which the heathens indulged upon their Saturnalia and Kalends of January, at this very season. Consequently we find they gave minute directions as to the manner of keeping the feast. Fasting on that day was positively forbidden, because it was the occasion of the greatest thanksgiving. "It is not strange," said one of the fathers, "that Christ, when he was become man, should die; but the wonder is that, being God, he should so humble himself as to become man." Therefore the early Christians speak of the Festival of the Nativity as the principal feast, from which all the others took their origin.

Chrysostom calls it "the metropolis or mother of all festivals." But while he observed it with thanksgiving, and forbade fasting and robes of humiliation, yet more earnestly did

they prohibit "dancing, wine drinking, or any of those indulgences that are an inlet to sin." They observed it as they did the Sabbath.

There is a sad story of barbarity, perpetrated during the Diocletian persecution at Nicomedia. It is said that he found a large multitude of Christians in a church celebrating the nativity, and commanded that all doors be shut and the house set on fire, and in a short time the house and people together were in ashes.

All along the history of Christianity those churches which pay attention at all to the ecclesiastical years have held this day in the highest veneration. Some of the rarest specimens of sacred eloquence are sermons on the divinity of our blessed Lord, delivered on Christmas day.

Presbyterians pay no attention to this, nor to any other of the so-called Christian festivals, not even Easter. Baptists, also, ignore the ecclesiastical year.

Among Methodists the observance of Christmas is, like the rest of their ritualism, of a decidedly pharisaic character. As we recede from Wesley, chronologically, we drop many of those customs which he as a "churchman" observed to the day of his death.

As Marvin was wont to say: "The world celebrates a birthday; but our Lord appointed memorials only of his death and passion." After all, it seems to us as if the fathers failed in their design. Instead of Christmas capturing the people from their saturnalia, the saturnalia have captured the people from their Christmas, and it is really less a religious feast among us than the national thanksgiving annually proclaimed by our President.

THE SECRET OF THE SUCCESS OF METHODISM.

The Baltimore Episcopal Methodist thus accounts for the marvelous success of Methodism: "There are many agencies which have combined to secure the wonderful results accomplished, under God, by the Methodist Church, but if each of these be examined it will soon be discovered that they all have reference to something antecedent, and without which none of these agencies would perhaps ever have been called into action. The source from whence they all proceed is the definite, personal, religious experience which has, from the beginning of our people, and which is so freely confessed before a gaining world."

It was not possible to have gone more directly to the mark. Methodism has not only preached full and free salvation, but salvation of which we may be assured. To the doctrine of Free Grace it has joined the doctrine of the Witness of the Spirit. It has said to men everywhere: "You may be saved, and you may know that you are saved." A bold and earnest confession is impossible without this knowledge. Such a confession makes the confessor a marked man. It exposes him to the charge of singularity, if not of fanaticism; and it is impossible for the man to stem the tide unless he has something more to rest upon than a mere hope. Paul, himself, could not have said "Learn all things, but lose," had it not been that he was able also to say, "I know whom I have believed."

In holding forth for a century a confession, bold because based on knowledge, Methodism has not only supplied the world's sorest need, but has really given just what the world demands. That which the world wanted then and wants now is, personal witness. That which men are yearning for, and crying for from street and garret and death-bed; from the closet of the student and the hamlet of the worldling who would fain be something better than he is; that which the thirsty, perishing multitudes are crying for, is personal witness.

The age of miracle has passed away, the age of personal witness has come; but personal witness is itself a miracle, for no man can give it who has not experienced the standing miracle of the ages—personal salvation.

Six—Forgiveness—Holiness—three doctrines that have triumphed for a hundred years! Let the Methodist Church hold fast to them for another century, and "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdom of our Lord and his Christ."

In the very Gospel which treats human nature with contempt is found an estimate of its worth unparalleled.

WHERE there is no hunger who cares for bread? In Arctic snows, with no ship in sight, who can calculate the value of a crust? There is no Christ for the man who does not feel the need of Christ. "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."

TEXAS Methodism was stirred to fresh zeal and increased power by defection and infidel aggression. The true church is always militant.—Nashville Advocate.

It is claimed that no American preacher is so widely known and read as Talmage. It might be claimed with a nearer approach to the truth, that no American preacher inspires his readers with so great a desire to see and hear him.

Several hundred Galveston people, moved by this desire, paid one dollar each last Friday night for the privilege of listening to his lecture on "The Bright Side of Things."

"The Bright Side of Things" is not new, at least to those who read Talmage's sermons and the newspapers. A large part of his audience had heard or read many times before most of the fine things he had to say about good and ill-natured people.

It is not meant by this that the lecture failed. It did not fail. The manager was no doubt satisfied with the receipts, the audience with the entertainment, and the lecturer with his reception.

Certainly the audience had small reason to complain. The word-painting was gorgeous; the wit was irresistible; the humor was side-splitting; the facial changes bewildering; the action and elocution a revelation, at least to those who do not attend the theater.

There was just one dead fly in the pot of ointment—the performer was unhappily a minister of the gospel.

"The Bright Side of Things" showed the dark side of sensational preaching.

A CORRESPONDENT asks, "Does D. C. Cook, the Chicago publisher, belong to the church, and if so, what church?" He is a member of the M. E. Church, and the superintendent of a Sunday-school. Having said this much, it is best to add, that the Sunday-school literature which he circulates belongs to no church at all. The effort to make it fit for the use of all churches has naturally issued in making it fit for the use of none. Cheap physics that propose to be good for everything is usually good for nothing.

MAYOR WILKS, of Waco, is receiving many kind words from the Methodist press. The following is from the Arkansas Methodist: "We notice with delight the welcome address of the Mayor of the city of Waco, Texas, to the annual conference recently held there, and from our heart of hearts we greet that God would give you just such a Mayor for our own loved city."

THE ADVOCATE would be glad to print this year a few thousand bulletins like the following: LOVE OAK, Dec. 12: Local option was carried in this precinct yesterday by a vote of 122 for and 38 against. J. S. T. BULLWORM.

BISHOP McVEYRE, in receiving the report of the Committee on District Conference Records, at the Texas Conference, made an announcement that will be repeating. "It is," he said, "the duty of every preacher in charge to see that his quarterly conference records are at the district conference, and the duty of each presiding-elder to see that his district conference records are at the annual conference."

The following is from an editorial paragraph in the Galveston News: Rev. Isaac G. John, in a short valedictory, retires from the editorial chair of the Galveston CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, after serving eighteen years in the position. He had been unanimously re-elected to the place, but resigned. He has been a zealous and faithful worker.

In this issue will be found a communication in which some important statements are made concerning "The History of Methodism in Texas." The writer goes on to say in a postscript: "May God be his providence spare us old Texas veterans to see and read that history before we go hence. For one, I feel that like good old Simeon, I could take the child in my arms and say, 'Now, Lord, lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.'"

HON. J. C. BUCHANAN, a prominent Methodist layman of Mineola, died last Tuesday. The Bonham News says him the following tribute: "He had just been elected district attorney of his district. He served in the state senate during the 18th legislature, was an able, industrious senator; Armaty of the highest tone; honorable; faithful and true in every department. His future was a bright one. We regret that in the vigor of his manhood and in the midst of a useful career, he has thus passed away."

A CORRESPONDENT reports that on reaching his new charge and looking over the church register he found over forty names which he had to dispose of by making the proper note of their removal, death or withdrawal. His predecessor should take some lessons in book-keeping; or rather, he should repent of a negligence that is none the less sinful because it is so common.

G. J. PHILLIPS, late of the New Congregational Church, gives, among others, the following reasons for joining the M. E. Church, South: "I have adopted the New Congregational Church as being the best of the different churches in, in my belief, unscriptural."

CENTENNIAL ECHOES.

1. The admirable arrangements for the reception and entertainment of the conference left nothing unprovided for; nothing further to be desired. 2. The hospitality of Baltimore is simply unbounded; indescribable. 3. Mr. Hunt, chairman, presiding at the first meeting, announced that telegraphic and telephonic connection had been provided for in the conference room. He thought, considering the number and size of the Methodist Churches in the city, that this conference would be better accommodated than the conference held in this city, December 23, 1874. At the meeting of that body, for the comfort of its older members, some of the benches were furnished with backs; and in view of the severity of the weather, the house was furnished with a stove. The contrast between the two bodies, the modes of transportation, state of society, were graphically described by our McFerrin in his inimitable and unique style. 4. The Texas Conferences are at present represented by Superintendent Sutherland and Rivero, of the Mexican work, and Wm. Healden, Esq., who represents both American and Mexican churches. Rev. M. H. Neely represents North Texas. So far, the Northwest Texas, East Texas and the Texas Conferences have no representatives, either clerical or lay.

5. The address of welcome by Bishop Andrews was eloquent, spiritual, catholic and admirably adapted to the occasion. His apostrophe, at the close, to our recently deceased Bishops Simpson and Pierce was one of the finest specimens of pulpit eloquence to which it was ever my privilege to listen. 6. While most of the speeches and addresses have been well conceived and most cordially received, there have been occasional exhibitions of Methodist zeal, pronounced by outsiders "gush"; but a little laudation of Methodism is perhaps excusable on this great occasion. A colored brother, whose name was not on the programme, was called upon for a speech at the meeting on the first night. He touched a subject which ought to have been passed over in silence. Sam Houston, in one of his speeches on "Know-nothings," pronounced that it was dead, and buried face downwards, never to have a resurrection." So of the institution referred to by our colored brother. It is dead. Requiescat in pace. 7. It is not possible to give an outline or an adequate conception of Bishop Foster's great opening sermon. Let the reader procure, read it, and preserve it. 8. The business of the conference is progressing smoothly and harmoniously according to the published programme. The essays are read from printed copies, the matter having been put in type and stereotyped before being read to the conference. 9. There are between one hundred and fifty and two hundred Doctors of Divinity in the body. I find it difficult to remember names, and so when I pass a company of these venerable brethren, I salute them in a body, "Good morning, Doctor!" They all gratefully return the salutation. At night, meetings are held in a good many of the Methodist churches, of which there are about one hundred in the city. H. S. T.

Besides the preliminary services on Tuesday night, three days of the great Centennial Conference have now passed, the programme having been strictly adhered to.

MOUNT VERNON PLACE CHURCH.

The church in which our sessions are held is centrally located, immediately in the rear of the Washington Monument. The church is ample in its dimensions, complete in its appointments, and admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is used, with, perhaps, one exception. The light is so dim through its stained windows that the gas jets have to be kept constantly burning.

At the opening of the conference, seats were assigned to each delegate, so that all of each branch of Methodism represented sat together. The appearance of the body is venerable, a large number of its members being far advanced in life. The Texans here are about the most youthful on the floor of the conference; and this is as it should be—young, active men from a young, growing State.

PROCEEDINGS. The papers read and the addresses from invited speakers have been prepared with great care, and are worthy of the men and of the occasion. Of course there are various grades of merit; but they all rank in the ascending scale—good, better, best.

These papers and speeches appear in the daily papers, especially in the Daily Christian Advocate, issued by Dr. Boyle; but they are not in a form convenient for preservation, and it is proposed to issue all in book form. Not only the papers read, but the extemporaneous speeches in the discussions, give evidence of matured thought, thoughts expressed

in clear, forcible language. Very little gas, and no buncombe. Large audiences fill the church and galleries, and sit hour after hour listening with the closest attention to the proceedings, and occasionally giving expression to their high gratification by rounds of applause.

Judging from the distinct and emphatic declarations in essays and speeches, the Methodists of to-day are rigidly orthodox, according to the Wesleyan standard. In one of Dr. McFerrin's happy speeches he said other religious denominations might revise their creeds, but the Methodist creed was all right—needed no revision. It is refreshing to meet so many from all parts of the United States and Canada, representing so many different bodies, all so profoundly and enthusiastically attached to Methodist economy, and grounded in the doctrines of Arminius as expounded by John Wesley.

The weather is still mild, but I have been unable to fix the points of the compass since I have been here, as I have hardly seen either sun or star for the fog overhanging this otherwise beautiful city. BALTIMORE, Dec. 12, 1884.

TEXAS PERSONALS.

—The postoffice of Rev. J. Fred Cox, is Ennis, Ellis county, Texas. —Rev. Weems Wootton's address is Floyd Street Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas. —Dr. I. G. John requests the ADVOCATE to announce that his address is Huntsville, Texas. —Rev. J. F. Follin, of the Texas Conference, has been promoted to the presiding eldership, Galveston district will receive him most cordially. —Rev. E. S. Smith, the newly appointed pastor of St. Johns Church, Galveston, will be in his place by Jan. 1. A warm welcome awaits him. —The following is clipped from a special to the Galveston News from Willis: "Our citizens attend cheerfully welcome Rev. S. N. Barker as pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. —Rev. A. H. Gillett, Assistant Secretary of the Sunday-school Union, of the M. E. Church, filled the pulpit of St. James Church, Galveston, Sunday morning, Dec. 14. Rev. J. B. Sears, of Flatonia, preached at night. —It will cheer the heart of Bro. Samuel C. Vaughan to know that his brethren of the Texas Conference missed him from his place, and that their hearts went out to him and his two little children in their great affliction. —Rev. H. S. Thrall, associate editor of the ADVOCATE for the West Texas Conference and delegate to the Centennial Conference, is in Baltimore doing good work in both capacities. His "Centennial Echoes," for this week, make good reading. —Rev. F. P. Ray, the secretary of the Northwest Texas Conference, makes, in another column, an announcement in regard to the publication of the conference proceedings. During his stay in this city he renewed many old acquaintances. He was in former days superintendent of the Ryland Chapel, and it was there that he was licensed to preach.

SOME NOTES FROM THE FIELD.

—Buckets and baskets of good things met J. C. Weaver, at Ladonia. —Wm. L. Harris, Jr., had a cheering reception at Meridian, Bosque county, Texas. —The ladies of the Methodist church at Belton have lately held a very successful bazaar. —Rev. W. R. Manning, Brookston, writes that his health is better and prospects brighter. —Ennis has a prosperous woman's missionary society. It has re-elected the officers of last year. —A new parsonage has been built on Dublin circuit since conference—Geo. W. Riley, preacher in charge. —Dr. Young has been lately among the people of C. H. Maloy's charge, Llano. A council of sixty-nine members was organized. —S. A. Ashburn, Elmo, has reached his charge, visited several families and read one book in the conference course. He has a mind to work. —C. S. McCarter, Forrest Store, Ellis county, reports ten members received by letter, all from C. G. Shutt's work. He expects to take in Bro. Shutt also before the year is over. —Rev. J. M. Bond, Italy circuit, writes that he is in fine spirits, and surely he ought to be, since he has begun the year with a revival. Seven have been added to the church thus far. —The church at Burnet is in good condition; fine Sunday-school and prayer-meeting. Rev. L. G. Rogers, preacher in charge, has received five members by letter. Two penitents were at the altar Sunday night. —While Bro. J. Fred Cox was attending the session of the Joint Board in Galveston, what does Sister Cox do but pack up his goods and chattels and move! There was compensation, however. The good ladies of Ennis had a warm supper and a warmer welcome awaiting the itinerant's family. —D. J. Martin has been well received at Farmersville. Two members have been received, and the prospects for the year are bright. He writes that he has received fifteen dollars quarterly and a box of cigars. If Dr. T. O. Summers were alive, he would groan at that last announcement.

—Dr. J. Oxley, Valley Springs, writes that Dr. Young has lectured in two places on his work in two days, and organized lodges as follows: At Cherokee, a council with twenty-four members; C. C. McClure, W. P.; at Valley Springs, a council with thirty-three members; R. R. Phets, W. P.

—Rev. Lucy Boone has this year labored faithfully among a kind people on Kickapoo circuit. As he leaves for his new work he reports contributions to all religious purposes for the year; nine hundred dollars, including his salary. Thirty-three members have been added to the church, making a net gain of eleven.

—The following is from Bro. Geo. W. Graves, Georgetown: "I hereby tender my sincere thanks to Bros. Melugin, Nelm and Allison, together with their respective charges, viz: Salado, Belton and Georgetown, for that nice suit of conference clothes. It made a retiring presiding elder feel very good. Success to you, Mr. Editor, and also to our noble old war-horse, Dr. John. Texas Methodism owes him a big debt.

—Mrs. A. M. Ireland, writing from Austin, Dec. 11, of the "Fisher Memorial Window," says: "I have received from Miss Irene Tolcan, in behalf of the Sabbath-school at Chappell Hill, \$3.80, an offering to aid in commemorating the labors and virtues of our worthy dead. We extend a most grateful acknowledgment to this Sabbath-school, and also to Bro. Johnston for his kindly suggestions in behalf of our Fisher monument."

DONATION TO THE TOLUCA FUND.

I have a small donation to the Toluca Church fund, which you will please report through the ADVOCATE. In September I received from Rev. J. W. Lively, P. C. Daingerfield, N. T. Conference, \$3.00, contributed by

Mrs. Jane Hampton, \$2.00; Walter Hampton, 25 cents; Wyatt Hampton, 25 cents; Eugene Hampton, 25 cents; little Lola Hampton, 25 cents. This is the second contribution Bro. Lively has sent from this missionary family. Sickness prevented my reporting sooner. May God liberally reward the kind donors.

MRS. A. M. IRELAND.

SOUTHERN METHODISM.

—Charleston, S. C., closes the centennial year with a revival. —Miss Laura A. Haygood arrived safely at Yokahama, Nov. 7; Cobi, Nov. 12. —Rev. S. Noland, of the Kentucky Conference, will soon issue a volume of his sermons. —Mrs. H. H. Kavanaugh, widow of the deceased Bishop, will reside at Pelatuna, California. —Dr. Patterson, superintendent of missions in Mexico, will be in Memphis, Tenn., until January. —The secular press pays high tribute to the late Dr. W. D. F. Savrie, of the Tennessee Conference. —Rev. Sam Jones has been reappointed agent of the Orphans' Home of the North Georgia Conference. —Bishop Wilson has so far improved as to be able to preside at one of the sessions of the Centennial Conference. —Rev. Dr. Hopkins has been elected to the place made vacant in Emory College by the resignation of Dr. Haygood. —Jas. A. Duncan, son of Dr. Jas. A. Duncan, of blessed memory, has been admitted on trial into the Virginia Conference. —The Juvenile Missionary Societies of the Alabama Conference gave this year nearly six hundred dollars to missions. —The Life and Sermons of Dr. W. H. Watkins, who died a member of the Mississippi Conference, will soon be issued. —The Raleigh Advocate says of Bishop Parker, who presided at the North Carolina Conference: "He is a charming man and a grand bishop." —Rev. M. L. Wood, of the North Carolina Conference, retires from the presidency of Trinity College and goes as presiding elder to the Shelby district. —Dr. C. B. Galloway, editor of the New Orleans Advocate, took part in the platform meeting at the Centennial Conference when the subject of Sunday-schools was discussed. —The following are the officers elect of the Woman's Missionary Society of the South Georgia Conference: "President, Mrs. R. D. Walker; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. J. B. Cobb; Recording Secretary, Mrs. F. J. Vaughn; Treasurer, Mrs. R. F. Burden." —There is what is called a "Bishop's House" in Charleston, S. C. It was first conveyed to a board of trustees for the use of "Bishop Capers and his wife, Susan Capers, during their natural lives." The rents were paid to Bishop Capers; after his death to his widow until she died in 1839, and after that to his family until 1861. The rents were then paid to Bishop Lightman up to his death and since that to his widow. It yields \$188 net per annum. The house is very old, having been constructed of wood nearly half a century ago. It requires frequent repairs to render it habitable. The property is entirely under the control of the South Carolina Conference.—Western Advocate.

DR. I. G. JOHN.

It was with a sad heart that we read the telegram announcing that Dr. I. G. John had resigned his position as editor of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE—a position which he has held so long and filled so faithfully. For a period of nearly twenty years he has served the church in that responsible place, wielding pen and influence for the glory of the Master, whose footsteps he ever seemed to bear; making no compromise with sin, but denouncing wickedness in high places. Surely the church grants him today the grandly earned plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" Twenty years! What changes have taken place in that time! "Full many a saint by earthy care oppressed, And fondly longing for eternal rest, Has laid his armor and his weapons down, Exchanging crosses for the heavenly crown." During this time babes have to manhood grown who were wont to prattle around Bro. John's knees in the homes of his friends; some of them watchmen on the walls of Zion. Not less marked are the changes visible in the editor himself. Twenty years ago he was in life's prime; full of zeal, full of energy, working in the vineyard with might and main; bearing lightly the burden and the heat of the day; marching toward greater heights and aspiring to greater conquests in the Redeemer's name. Now there are silver threads among his jetty locks, and the decrepitudes of advancing life are creeping upon him. Meet is it that he should now rest after so long a strain upon mind and body. Often, doubtless, with throbbing temples and aching head he has penned the thoughts which have so touched the hearts of his readers. And what of the church during all this time? When we contemplate the rapid strides it has made, and the noble conquests it has won, we are lost in amazement. From a little handful of worshippers it has become an army, great and invincible. Methodism, like the "stone cut out of the mountain," has increased until its ensigns are now planted in every land and its banners float o'er all the seas. Her faithful missionaries in distant lands are telling o'er and o'er the story of the cross, and bringing hosts of the benighted to the knowledge of the Lord. Verily "the people that sat in darkness" have seen "a great light."

And in our own beautiful Texas, schools and colleges have been founded, religion and civilization have renewed her waste places, and, as far out as man has gone, made the desert blossom as the rose; and while the shining shore grows luminous with the throng of the redeemed, yet God's work goes on. While we could but express our regret at the resignation of one whose name has become in Texas a household word, yet not the less cordial is our welcome to the new editor. We are glad that one so faithful to his Master's work has been selected to fill the vacant place, May God touch his heart and brain with a live coal from off the altar. Having been faithful in declaring the whole counsel of God from the pulpit, may he be still faithful before that larger audience—the readers of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

MRS. M. E. WHITTEN.

The tropical tree which so greatly excited the curiosity of certain distinguished persons during the session of the Texas Conference in Galveston, and for which they could find no name, is the papaw. It is about eighteen feet high, with soft herbaceous stem; the leaves issuing on long foot-stalks. The fruit grows forth from the stem, between the leaves. It is eaten raw when ripe, but is more commonly pickled or cooked.

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

Zeal Without Knowledge. (From the Nashville Christian Advocate.) The zeal of the young pastor is not always according to knowledge. He feels strong, and his ardent soul longs for the large measure of Christian service. He is in a hurry; he cannot take time for consultation, or wait upon the slow movement of others to keep step with him. So he is ready not only to call the preaching of his charge, but the singing, the praying, the visiting, and the canvassing as well. He is like a detached locomotive—pulling, blowing, driving ahead by itself, hitched to nothing, making much noise, and doing little good. When he gets older he will attach the engine to the train, and let his power run to waste in such foolish fashion.

A Battle to be Fought.

We mean the school question versus the Roman Catholics. They are avowed and unrelenting enemies of our entire school system, and it is possible, would it were very expedient, to educate, independent of the priests, they know to be the sure overthrow of the hierarchy. Superstition can not live in an atmosphere of intelligence. Calling in all schemes, they now boldly declare their purpose to demand a share of the school-tax for the support of Catholic schools. In view of an express constitutional prohibition this is certainly a bold declaration. And as the church wields a fierce political power, the manager is not being over-cautious in urging every patriotic citizen to give serious thought to this problem, for the day of danger is not far distant.

Local Option in Georgia.

Local option now obtains and prohibition is now enforced with more or less success in over ninety counties of the State. That is about a two-thirds majority of the State, taken by counties, favors prohibition. In these counties, where the law is in force, it may be, prohibition has been adopted by a majority vote. In most places the vote has been cast after an active canvass, and in most places the majority was not large. No man, therefore, except a ward politician, need fear the loss of political power on account of his prohibition sentiment. It is not likely that they are for him are more than they that are against him.

The Doctrines of the Fathers.

The doctrines of the Methodist Church are in the main set forth in the "Articles of Religion." These were announced in the organization of the church, but not published in the Discipline in their present form until 1790. No essential changes have been made in them since their formation, and by the action of the General Conference of 1868 that body is restricted from making any change. There are, however, certain doctrines which are not distinctly declared in the articles, which have nevertheless, been clearly defined and earnestly maintained by the church through all her history. These are to be found in Wesley's sermons and his Notes on the New Testament, in Watson's Institutes, "all of which, by the general consent of the church, have been received as authoritative standards of Methodist doctrine." The articles of religion are, as all good Methodists know, an abridgment of the thirty-nine articles of the Church of England, with such omissions and changes as eliminate all traces of Calvinism, Romanism, and Ritualism. The doctrines which, though not formulated in the articles of religion, have nevertheless, been clearly defined and earnestly maintained by the church through all her history. These are to be found in Wesley's sermons and his Notes on the New Testament, in Watson's Institutes, "all of which, by the general consent of the church, have been received as authoritative standards of Methodist doctrine."

Preachers Sons.

This statement "seems" among the sons of preachers doubtless to be from the simple fact that more is expected of them than of other boys—their peers. If the preacher's young son thrashes his playmate and says some ugly words to him he had learned from the lips of either an editor, or a lawyer, a physician, or eminent citizen, then all the titles and residences of the latter are to be had, but son of the preacher. And yet it may be the young chip of the cloth was clearly in the right in all but the imitation of the language of his teachers.

The Origin of Thanksgiving Day.

So many young people are fond of Fore-father's day with Thanksgiving, that it may not be an uninteresting thing to give the origin of the two feasts. Fore-father's day commemorates the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth. Around it are clustered all the tender memories of that dark December day which forever closed their citizenship with the old world, and gave them but a cold and cheerless welcome to the new. The story of their struggles has been told by the historian, but by far the most pathetic part perished with the crew of the Mayflower. In the Massachusetts Bay Colony, pain, privation, and poverty reached a point of despondency and despair. Some of the settlers actually froze, others starved, while sickness mowed them down like a Roman war-chariot, protracting the pain of the certain death. In the deep distress a day of fasting and prayer was appointed for Feb. 6, 1623. But, on the day preceding it, Feb. 5, 1623, a ship laden with provisions from England came into port. Their tears were quickly dried—the day of fasting was turned into one of thanksgiving—the first of the kind ever observed in the present territory of the United States.

Licensed Gambling.

Some time ago the authorities of the city of Sacramento, finding it hard to suppress gambling, yielded to the specious argument of many with reference to the illegal traffic, "if we cannot suppress it let us make a revenue from it." And they passed an ordinance licensing gambling. At once gambling rooms were fitted up in saloons, cigar stores, and in fact all over the city. Professional gamblers flocked into the city from all parts of the country and from the way money poured into public treasury for licenses it looked as if a wise thing had been done—to those who looked only at the money feature of the subject. But last week a revolution was made. A man of the State Treasurer was arrested as a thief, at the instigation of the Governor. And when locked up he freely confessed his crime. Being a temporary trustee of his money was led, for amusement, to visit one of the gambling saloons in the rear of a cigar store. He was induced to bet, and he became infatuated. That universal solvent of common sense was applied—liquor. He became excited and gambled away all his money. He then went to the State Treasury to get his father's deputy, and took from special deposits several thousand dollars, went back, lost all that, and from day to day he was pined with liquor and fevered until he lost of money taken from the treasury safe within a fraction of \$40,000.

A Word from Waxahachie.

A Word to the Brethren—If you have any Campbellites on your work or Methodists that are not sound in the faith of baptism and its subjects, circulate the "Theological Grab-Ax" and the "Ecclesiastical Pump," published at our Publishing House. If you want something good and instructive to read yourself, send and get the "History of Methodism," by Bishop McTearle. This is good. Sims and Glenwood is a good circuit. Other preachers have labored here. The former pastor is loved here by everybody. C. S. McCARVER.

The beautiful Nelson uses no powder but Pozzoni's. For sale by all druggists.

The only cosmetic that imparts a velvety softness to the skin without danger of injury is Pozzoni's. For sale by all druggists.

THROUGHOUT TEXAS.

—Cuero has had no frost yet. —Bonham is increasing rapidly in population. —Philip Phillips will visit Texas in January. —The Police Gazette is still offered for sale in Dallas. —The Alvarado Bulletin says: "The six shooter must go." —Theatrical people have fared badly in Texas this season. —The Holiness Band are holding out-door exercises in San Antonio. —Frank Cravens, of the Waco Excelsior is quite ill with typhoid fever. —A Scandinavian Society has been organized in Galveston, A. Sandegard, president. —Prohibition was defeated in Georgetown at the last election by about three hundred votes. —Eason, Polk county, has near it fine mineral springs, unknown as yet except to local fame. —The next annual meeting of the Texas Press Association will be held at Galveston, Feb. 12. —The new courthouse in Brenham is nearing completion. It will be one of the finest in the State. —The first annual meeting of the Southern Live Stock Association will be held in San Antonio, Jan. 6. —Dallas cotton receipts for the present crop is 17,610 bales against 36,500 for like period of last year. —T. DeWitt Talmage preached in First Presbyterian Church, Houston, Sunday, Dec. 14. —J. S. Woods, representative from Kaufman county, will be a candidate for Speaker of the House. —Complaints are heard all over the State against the railroad rates to the New Orleans Exposition. —Engene Diggs succeeds Hon. Willis Wallace, deceased, as district attorney of thirty-eighth district. —The citizens of Galveston have petitioned the County Commissioners for a wagon bridge to the mainland. —Belton has a centenarian—Mr. Josiah Grasston, who was born in Burke county, North Carolina, in 1778. —The Austin Conference of the M. E. Church adjourned, after a pleasant session in Austin, to meet at Denton, Nov. 1885. —General Henry E. McCulloch, of Seguin, is an applicant for the office of United States Marshal for the Western district of Texas. —Dr. Denton, Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, complains of the inadequate protection against fire afforded by the Austin waterworks.

—There is great distress among the poor in San Antonio. Many who are willing to work and no employment, even for bare subsistence and shelter. —The citizens of Fort Worth, south side, held a meeting the night of Dec. 12 to protest against an alleged unequal division of the funds for public improvement. —Teachers in any part of the State can visit the New Orleans Exposition at the uniform rate of five dollars, except from San Antonio, the rate from that place being not yet settled.

—Death of John Maupin. John Maupin, an official of the Chickasaw Nation, died at his residence, at Colport, I. T., Dec. 15. Mr. Maupin was a historical figure, being one of Quander's guerrillas, who played such an important part in the late war.—Galveston News.

—Texas Cotton at the Exposition. Captain R. S. Pridden, of Grapeeland, hopes to get the premium of \$1,200 offered by the Exposition and Cotton Exchange, at New Orleans, for the best bale of American upland cotton, not long staple. Judges in Houston pronounce his exhibition bale the best they have seen.

—The Electoral Vote of Texas. The following is the electoral vote of Texas according to the official count: Cleveland electors, 25,208; Blaine, 88,208; Johnson 3,311; Butler, 3,321; Lockwood, 2; total vote 31,750; Cleveland's plurality over Blaine, 13,873. His majority over all is 12,602. In 1880 the Democratic electors received 156,428 votes; Republicans, 57,802; and Greenbackers, 25,693 votes.

—The Future of Marshall. Some towns in this section of the State will ultimately take the lead and become the central point for railroads, manufactures and commerce. The natural advantages are in favor of this city. It is not only the first town on the eastern border of Texas—the entrepot of immigration and commerce—but it is the largest place in this section. It is at present the leading railroad town, with machine-shops and a few factories that promise a very inviting future.—Tri-Weekly Herald.

—The Next Legislature. As the legislature of Texas the coming session will be composed of better men than usually go to the House of Representatives, we may naturally have of better laws, and some protecting the debtor class from the encroachments of the rich. It should be remembered that several members of the Press Association will be there, and, as may be anticipated, they will neither legislate exclusively for the legal fraternity nor the officials. They will favor a bill, and the legislature should promptly pass an act to compel sheriffs and other officers to advertise in the newspapers of the respective counties, having the largest bona-fide circulation, all forced sales.—Weatherford Times.

—"Hermann" is up to an extraordinary number of tricks with his nimble hands; but he never takes in as much, or as many, as the square inch, as Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup in its big raid on coughs or colds.

—The late Judge Guild, of Nashville, is credited with having said: "The only way to improve a razor-bladed hog is to cross him with a railroad."

—BLACK LEGS. This is to certify that I have used WONDERFUL EIGHT and found it to be an immediate relief for Black-Leg in cattle, by giving them from 15 to 30 drops internally and applying once or two externally to parts affected. A. J. McCURE, Butternut, Williamson county, Texas.

—A woman in society with no intellectual or moral aims is a woman standing in flowing robes amid flying wheels and shafts.—Intercourse.

—YOUNG MAN, your sweetheart would enjoy your company more if you would remove the tobacco smell and stains from your teeth by using ORIDONTO, only 50 cents a box, liquid and powder, at all druggists.

—It is an unmarried lady of Boston who proposes that single ladies hereafter be called "bachelorettes."

—NATH'L TOBEY, ARCHITECT, 167 Market Street, Galveston, Texas. Plans, estimates, and superintendence furnished on short notice for any description of public or private buildings. References given if required.

—The verdict: First Irishman (waiting in the corridor, to his friend, pushing in from the door):—"What's Tim gone?" Second Irishman (in a breathless whisper):—"For life!" First Irishman—"For life!" (With emotion.) Och, sure, he won't live half the thime!"—London Punch.

—Brvant and Stratton's Business and Short Hand School St. Louis. Graduates are successful in getting employment. We are agents of the U. S. Stenograph Co. for qualifying Shorthand writers on the Shorthand machine. Send for circulars.

Deep Water.

The question is not whether Galveston shall be the beneficiary of large slipping facilities or not, but whether at that particular point on the Gulf of Mexico deep water can be had sufficient to accommodate the commerce tributary to the immense agricultural, stock and mineral regions of the empire of country that would be benefited by it. Galveston as a city has no more weight in settling the question than the same in the county population in any other part of the State. We must discuss it in the light of a national necessity, not as a seaport of ample capacity on the Gulf is demanded, and of no doubt. The only thing to be determined is, is Galveston the best place, and can deep water be had there? The answer to the first proposition has already been given by the various surveys made at different times on the Texas coast by competent engineers, all pointing to one conclusion, that Galveston is more central and accessible than any other place, and that her natural facilities for navigation are superior to any other port. The next question to be settled is, can deep water be had there sufficient to accommodate the largest vessels that float, and can the work be done at a cost that will justify the national government in undertaking it. Captain Eads, the greatest engineer of the present age, has given the matter a thorough investigation, and says that it can be done.—Belton Reporter.

The School Census.

The census of each school district must be taken by the white trustees of such district. Children the same in the county population in eight and under sixteen years of age September 1 next are entitled to enrollment in any city or town in the county in an independent district. The census is to be taken by the city or town assessor. Rolls must be completed, sworn to and delivered to county judges by the first Monday in June. Abstracts of same in duplicate must be made by county judges, one to be filed by the judge and one mailed to Mr. Baker's department by the first Monday in June. Unless the abstract reaches this office by the 15th of July no apportionment of the public fund can be made to the county.—Supt. Barker.

The Inauguration.

Some newspaper correspondents appear to think that President-elect Cleveland will be inaugurated in his shirt-sleeves, and that he will then proceed to the White House through a number of back streets and enter it by the back door. Now Mr. Cleveland recently indicated that, while he did not like display, he did not propose to make a ridiculous display of his dislike and he should observe the proprieties with all due diligence.—New York Graphic.

A Paying Business.

The New York City Press Association has offered \$5000 per year or 15 per cent. of the profits for the privilege of erecting kiosks in the streets for the sale of newspapers and periodicals. The American News Company offers to pay \$50,000 outright for the privilege.

Cremation.

Cremation has made more progress in Italy than in any other country in Europe. The crematorium societies in that country now have more than 6000 members, and there are beautiful and costly temples in all the principal cities.

Advertisement for JACOBS OIL, THE GREAT GERMAN REMEDY FOR PAIN. Cures Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Lumbago, Backache, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Headache, Toothache.

Advertisement for The Youth's Companion, CHRISTMAS PRESENT. A MILLION READERS.

Advertisement for Every Week in the Year. ELEGANTLY ILLUSTRATED. For Young People and the Family.

Advertisement for Cure Your Cough. Preston's PECTORAL SYRUP. In Colds, Invererate Catarrh, Asthma, etc., its efficacy is unquestioned. A single bottle will satisfy the most skeptical. Price 50 cents.

Advertisement for Preston's Cod Liver Oil and Phosph. Lime. CONTAINING 50 Per Cent. Pure Cod Liver Oil. This Cod Liver Oil is made from the fresh fish and guaranteed to be the best in the world. Highly recommended for Coughs, Colds, Consumption and general debility. Prepared by C. W. Preston & Co. Apothecaries, No. 25 Market Street, Galveston, Texas. Sold by druggists generally.

Advertisement for North Texas Female College. SHERMAN, TEXAS. JUDGE I. M. ONINS, President. This Institution (the property of North Texas Conference) is located in the most desirable part of Texas. Sherman is distinguished for its salubrious climate, cultivated society and excellent schools. Every department of the College is filled by thoroughly trained teachers. In the family of the President, young ladies have a home in which they are surrounded by every influence which tends to develop the true woman.

Advertisement for DON'T YOU WANT A \$65 SEWING MACHINE. Contains all attachments. Hundreds of useful articles. Retail less than Wholesale Prices. Send for List. Chicago Scale Co., Chicago.

Advertisement for WANTED—Employment of any kind by a young man. References: Shaw & Baylock, Galveston. \$65 A MONTH and Board for 3 live Young Men or Ladies in each county. Address P. W. ZIGLER & Co., Philadelphia.

A Sensation In Court

of relief is sure to follow the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and thousands thankfully acknowledge its good effects. Charles C. Smith, Craftsbury, Vt., says: "I have been troubled, for a long time, with a humor, which appeared on my face in ugly pimples and blotches. Ayer's Sarsaparilla cured me. I consider it the best blood purifier in the world."

Judge Lynch

of the feelings of Mrs. T. P. Cushing, 87 Suffolk st., Chelsea, who, after being so afflicted with Salt Rheum that her fingers would crack open, and bleed and itch terribly, was cured by four bottles of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Mrs. E. G. Evans, 78 Carver st., Boston, Mass., suffered severely from rheumatism and debility. Ayer's Sarsaparilla proved a specific in her case. Francis Johnson, Editor of the "German American," Lafayette, Ind., writes: "For years I have been subject to chronic attacks of neuralgia, especially at the commencement of spring. I have derived great benefit from Ayer's Sarsaparilla." It has

Lynch

Wholesale Grocer, Lowell, Mass., says: "Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the best." The following, from R. L. King, Richmond, Va., is corroborated by Purcell, Ladd & Co., druggists, of that city. Mr. K. writes (May 12, 1884): "My son Thomas, aged 12, has suffered horribly, for three years, with scrofula, in its worst form. His case was said to be incurable. One arm was useless; his right leg was paralyzed; a large piece of bone had cut through the skin at the shoulder-blade, and three large sores constantly discharged offensive matter. He began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla on the 6th of March, and, oh, what a

Saved and Happy

restored thousands, Walter Barry, 7 Hollis st., Boston, Mass., after being very afflicted with a number of medicines, for the cure of lumbago, was persuaded to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla. He writes: "Your valuable medicine not only relieved me, but I believe it has worked a perfect cure, although my complaint was apparently chronic." Thos. Daily, Watertown, Mass., has long been a sufferer from lumbago and rheumatism. So great has been his improvement since using

Happy

change; indeed, a miracle. In a few weeks the sores began to heal; he gained strength, and could walk around the house. We persevered with the Sarsaparilla, yet having little hope of his recovery. To-day he can run as far as any other boy of his age. The sores on his arm, shoulder, and back, have nearly healed, his muscles are strengthening, and he is the picture of health." Equally important facts concerning the use of Ayer's Sar-

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

saparilla that he has every reason to believe it will effect a permanent cure. Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass., U. S. A. For sale by all Druggists. Price \$1; six bottles for \$5.

J. S. BROWN & CO., HARDWARE MERCHANTS STRAND, GALVESTON, TEXAS.

Offer Interior Merchants SPECIAL ADVANTAGES in the following Lines of Goods: GLIDDEN AND IOWA GALVANIZED BARBED WIRE Milburn Wagons, Carts and Buckboard Buggies. Iron, Steel, Castings, Nails, Saddlery, Tinware, Woodenware, Mantel Grates, Wagon and Buggy Materials, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Brushes, Rubber Belting, AND THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT OF TABLE AND POCKET CUTLERY EVER EXHIBITED IN TEXAS. Sole Agents for Lyon's Patent Heel Stiffeners at Manufacturers' Prices.

Advertisement for CASTORIA for Infants and Children. Castoria promotes Digestion and overcomes Flatulency, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, and Feverishness. It insures health and natural sleep, without morphine.

Advertisement for CENTAUR LINIMENT—an absolute cure for Rheumatism, Sprains, Burns, Galls, &c. The most Powerful and Penetrating Pain-relieving and Healing Remedy known to man.

Advertisement for Best Rolled Gold Lace Pin. Oriental Diamonds. These four cuts represent some of our Best Rolled Gold Lace Pins. The stones in these pins have the brilliancy of genuine diamonds, and will take a good judge to tell the difference. Send for our Illustrated Catalogue and Price List, which we will send free. Address IRION & GIRARDT, S. W. Corner Fifth and Market, Louisville, Ky. Mention this Paper.

Advertisement for A \$65 SEWING MACHINE. Contains all attachments. Hundreds of useful articles. Retail less than Wholesale Prices. Send for List. Chicago Scale Co., Chicago.

Advertisement for DON'T YOU WANT A \$65 SEWING MACHINE. Contains all attachments. Hundreds of useful articles. Retail less than Wholesale Prices. Send for List. Chicago Scale Co., Chicago.

Advertisement for DR. J. J. & W. H. TOBIN, Wholesale and Retail DRUGGISTS, Congress Ave., Austin, Texas. Price, - \$1.00 Per Bottle. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS

Advertisement for DR. J. J. & W. H. TOBIN, Wholesale and Retail DRUGGISTS, Congress Ave., Austin, Texas. Price, - \$1.00 Per Bottle. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS

HEPATOZONE!

DR. TOBIN'S GREAT Liver Medicine!

CURES DISEASES of the LIVER IN ALL ITS Various Forms. SUCH AS DYSPEPSIA, HEADACHE, NEURALGIA, WATER BRASH, OR ANY IRREGULARITY OF THE BOWELS.

THIS IS A COMBINATION of Saline and Vegetable materials, and contains no Mercury or any drastic vegetable cathartic, such as Mandrake and Aloes, and is far superior in its action, as it never debilitates or produces any unpleasant effects. It will remove all disease incident to a disordered state of the liver, and is therefore recommended in all Liver Complaints. It will act thoroughly on the liver in from two to four hours' time, and does not produce nausea or griping pains in the bowels. Dr. Tobin's medicine, which restores health with liver disease, and after trying every known remedy without success, has succeeded in preparing this remedy—and by its use some restoring his health—now offers it to the public for the cure of all liver troubles, and sends it under a guarantee that after taking three or four doses of the medicine, and satisfaction is not given, you can have your money refunded by returning the bottle and wrapper.

HEPATOZONE has, since its introduction, proved one of the most valuable medicines discovered. Its merits and success has been as gratifying to the proprietors as its effects have proved beneficial to the patient. A vast number of testimonials are received, speaking in the highest terms of its efficacy in its action on diseases of which it is recommended. There is no doubt of the value of Hepatozone. It is efficacious, mild and thorough in its action, and there is no today a medicine which can equal it as a regulator of the liver and corrector of the bowels. As an indication of its worth, we will state that though every bottle is guaranteed to give satisfaction, yet out of over 20,000 bottles sold, we have had only two bottles returned to us. We append a few unqualified testimonials of its value:

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM, AUSTIN, TEX., May 8, 1884. Dear Sirs—Your Hepatozone has had a rather extended trial in this institution, among officers and pupils; it has proven a safe and certain remedy in all cases of the liver. It is also a valuable and cheap aperient. It removes constipation of the bowels, relieves indigestion, and can be taken at any time without any bad effect. I cheerfully recommend its use in all cases involving derangement of the functions of the liver, and in many cases, where the stomach and bowels are involved. Truly yours, JOHN FORD, Supt.

Letter from the Hon. Ex-Comptroller: AUSTIN, TEX., March 30, 1885. Dear Sirs—Having, during the past year used the remedy prepared by you, I feel compelled to state that it is the best remedy I have used for liver troubles. I take pleasure in stating that it has proved to be what its name implies, a Liver Remedy. I have found no alternative and purgative more certain or more pleasant in its effects, and none so efficacious in arousing a torpid liver to the performance of its proper functions. W. M. BROWN.

Letter from Hon. A. W. Houston, President pro tem. of the Senate: AUSTIN, TEX., Jan. 1, '85. Dear Sirs—Your Hepatozone has been used in my family for over a year, and I unhesitatingly say it is the best remedy I have ever used for my liver trouble or constipation of the bowels. I would not be without it. Respectfully, A. W. HUSTON.

From our prominent bankers: AUSTIN, TEX., April 8, 1885. Dear Sirs—Your Hepatozone is a valuable and certain remedy for all liver troubles, and from my experience I think it would be well for no family to be without it. It is so efficient, mild, and yet certain to accomplish what is proposed by its use. J. W. WHIPPLE.

From the Rev. Dr. Whipple: AUSTIN, TEX., Nov. 19, 1885. Dear Sirs—I take pleasure in recommending your great liver medicine, Hepatozone, and from my experience I think it would be well for no family to be without it. It is so efficient, mild, and yet certain to accomplish what is proposed by its use. J. W. WHIPPLE.

From Mr. H. Newton, Milano Junction, writes April 22, 1884: I find it is the very medicine I have been needing for fifteen years. I have tried many remedies for sick headache but found nothing that benefited until I tried your Hepatozone. Please let me have two bottles as I don't want to be without it a single day. FRANK HAINES, Supt. Institution.

From Z. T. Fulmore, County Judge: AUSTIN TEX., June 30, 1885. Dr. W. H. Tobin, Austin: I have tried your Hepatozone as a sort of last resort to prevent the frequently recurring headaches to which I have been subjected for eight or ten years, and unhesitatingly pronounce it more beneficial than any medicine I have ever tried. Its results upon my system are all and more than claimed for it. Yours, etc. Z. T. FULMORE.

From Rev. Dr. Shppard, Superintendent of Deaf and Dumb Asylum: I have been using Dr. Tobin's Hepatozone for about eighteen months, and have found it to be a valuable medicine, so much so that as soon as the last dose is out of one bottle forthwith I procure another. W. SHAPARD, Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Austin, Texas, March 30, 1884.

SEE HOW IT SELLS! BRENSHAM, TEXAS, March 5, 1884. Messrs. J. J. & W. H. Tobin, Gentlemen: We were induced by one of our esteemed customers to order one dozen Hepatozone on the 27th day of January, 1883, merely for trial, he assuring us that we would find ready sale when once introduced, and beyond our greatest expectations we had to renew our order on February 17th, making it one gross, the demand being so great, and so on to the present time we have sold SIX AND A HALF GROSS. We take pleasure in recommending it to our customers, well knowing it will give satisfaction. In our experience since we have been in the first complaint against Hepatozone, which we can say has few, if any, imitations, we have never sent us one more gross, as we cannot afford to be without Hepatozone. Yours truly, WALKER & CO.

DRS. J. J. & W. H. TOBIN, Wholesale and Retail DRUGGISTS, Congress Ave., Austin, Texas. Price, - \$1.00 Per Bottle. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS

Secular Department.

The dark ages—Women. A man with a river of ideas must have an outlet. To what geological formation does rock the cradle belong—Savannah Journal.

Who's wife is troubled with debility, nervousness, liver complaint or rheumatism? Just tell him it is a lady who is suffering that way. Brown's Iron Bitters will restore her.

How do you brain your hair so nicely? queried a gentleman who was visiting a lady friend. "Oh," broke in her effusive sister.

Pragmatism in natural districts says that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is as much the standard remedy for female weakness as quinine is for the prevailing chills and fever.

Reliability is the test of real value. No matter how wonderful cures a medicine sound, it will not be worked if it cannot be relied on.

The Yonkers Statesman thinks it isn't strange to hear of a woman dying without a will, because she has exercised it so much during her life that there is nothing left of it when she dies.

Cured of Chronic Rheumatism. "I suffered almost intolerable torments from rheumatism for many years. Parker's Tonic restored my health," says M. Alfred Baer, of Sing Sing, N. Y.

An overtasked brain. A clergyman in Iowa, after a few weeks' use of our Treatment, writes: "Your Compound Oxygen has worked like a charm."

Mrs. Daniel Weidner, New Baden, Texas, was cured of severe Neuralgia by St. Jacobs Oil, the great pain-cure.

Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute, Indian Corn Remover kills Corns & Bunions.

Bombay husbands cut off their wives' noses for punishment. Thus do we arrive at the knowledge of the important fact that Bombay women talk through their noses.—Boston Post.

Horsford's Acid Phosphate. Hundreds of Bottles Prescribed. Dr. C. E. Drake, Belleville, Ill., says: "I have prescribed hundreds of bottles of this."

Consumption Cured. An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections...

Consequential Damages! Not as resulting from an infraction of international law requiring a High Joint Commission to arrange arbitrators, and a Board of Arbitrators to decide on the amount of injury sustained...

What do you say to the gentleman, Johnny, for that nice candy? "Honey's candy's awful good." "What does mamma say when papa gives me a lot of money to go shopping?" "More!"—Golden Era.

Now, if you or any of your family are suffering with chills, remittent or intermittent fever, aching of the bones, jaundice, biliousness, or any other symptom of malarial poison, we earnestly solicit you to try MOORE'S T-X-S-AGLE TONIC.

Do you know anything about the solar system? "Well, I should smile. That's a queer question to ask a father who has five daughters to stare."—Boston Budget.

A disease that has appeared to baffie medical science is that known by the designation of "Bright's disease of the kidneys." A powerful enemy of this dreaded destroyer has appeared in Mishler's Herb Bitters.

Church Notices.

MARSHALL DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Harrison cir. at Willie's chapel. Dec 27, 28 Church Hill, at Willie's chapel. Jan 3, 4 Centennial, at Harmony. Jan 10, 11

JEFFERSON DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Kelleyville, at Avinger. Dec 20, 21 Pleasant cir. at Bridge's chapel. Jan 3, 4 Boden, at Holden. Jan 10, 11

ABILENE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Abilene cir. at ... Dec 27, 28 Sweet Water cir. at ... Jan 3, 4

WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Wesley and Hush, at Wesley. Dec 20, 21 Pleasant cir. at ... Jan 3, 4

BROWNWOOD DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Comanche cir. at Comanche. Dec 27, 28 Pleasant cir. at ... Jan 3, 4

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. San Antonio cir. at ... Dec 27, 28 Nacogdoches and Lufkin, at Nacogdoches. Jan 3, 4

DALLAS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Lamar, at ... Dec 27, 28 McKinney cir. at ... Dec 27, 28

EASTLAND DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. DeLeon cir. at ... Dec 27, 28 Paluxy cir. at ... Dec 27, 28

SULPHUR SPRINGS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Sulphur Springs cir. at Pine Forest. Dec 27, 28 Sulphur Springs cir. at ... Dec 27, 28

PORT WORTH DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Whitney cir. at Bethel. Dec 27, 28 Village Cir. cir. at Missionary Ridge. 4th Sun in Dec

VICTORIA DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Quero, at ... Dec 27, 28 Moulton, at ... Dec 27, 28

CORPUS CHRISTI DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Luning cir. at ... Dec 27, 28 Laguna cir. at ... Dec 27, 28

SAN MARCOS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Luning cir. at ... Dec 27, 28 Kyle cir. at ... Dec 27, 28

WEATHERFORD DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Springtown, at Springtown. Dec 27, 28 Jacksonville and Carroll Creek at Jacksonville. Dec 27, 28

BRVANT AND STRATTON'S BUSINESS AND SHORT HAND SCHOOL. Graduates are successful in getting employment. We are agents of the U. S. Stenograph Co. for writing shorthand.

WACO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Cedar Island cir. at Oak Hill. Dec 11, 12 Woodstock cir. at ... Dec 11, 12

TERRELL DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Allen cir. at St. Paul. Dec 11, 12 Mesquite cir. at Rose Hill. 4th Sun in Dec

PALESTINE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Kiekapou, at camp ground. Dec 27, 28 Palestine cir. at Shade's chapel. Jan 10, 11

GEORGETOWN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Burnet cir. at ... Dec 27, 28 Round Rock cir. at New Round Rock. 1st Sun in Dec

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REWARD

Comes to those suffering WOMEN who use MOELLER'S BERLINER TONIC!

Composed of Cohosh, Black Haw, Iron Ergosteron, Cassia, and all the Most Noted Womb Tonics.

BADGER'S ANTI-BILIOUS BITTERS THE ONLY LIVER STIMULANT.

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Mrs. POTT'S SADDLE IRON GOLD HANDLE SADDLE IRON

ADVANTAGES DO NOT BURN THE HAND DETACHABLE WALNUT HANDLE

NOW READY. To meet all demands for our Twelve Dollar Solid Brass Hunting Case

TIMKEN SPRING VEHICLES! The Great Tonic and Cathartic for the Stomach, Liver and Kidneys.

Pianos! Of the finest makes, at the very lowest prices and warranted to stand any climate.

Organs! The ESTEY & CAMP PIANO is acknowledged to be the BEST LOW-PRICED PIANO now manufactured.

4% LONG LOANS. Principal paid never by REPAY

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH FARM MILLS For Stock, Feed or Rent

JOSEPH GILLOTTS STEEL PENS Sold by ALL DEALERS throughout the WORLD

THE SCIENCE OF LIFE. ONLY \$1 BY MAIL POST-PAID.

KNOW THYSELF. A Great Medical Work on Manhood.

MEENEY BELL COMPANY. The Finest Grade of Church Bells.

BLUMYER MFG CO. BELL'S

Baltimore Church Bells Since 1844 celebrated for superiority over others

A \$63 SEWING MACHINE For \$18!

50 CARDS "Embossed Beauties," large

THE CREAM OF ALL BOOKS OF ADVENTURE. PIONEER HEROES AND DEEDS.

MILLERS AND FARMERS Special for new catalogue of our Water

OPUM AND WHISKY HARTER'S cured all homes without pain.

Texas Christian Advocate.

Entered at the Postoffice at Galveston, Texas as second-class matter.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Address all letters intended for publication to Editor TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE. Address all letters appertaining to business department to Shaw & Haylock.

SUBSCRIPTION.

Table with subscription rates: ONE YEAR \$2.00, SIX MONTHS \$1.00, THREE MONTHS \$0.50, TO PREACHERS (half price) \$1.00.

Publishers' Department.

M. P. Hennessy, Hardware and sole agent for Grand St. Louis Charter Oak, Buck's Brilliant, old Buck's Patent, Bode's Texas and Southern Home Cooking Stoves. Send for price list.

DR. J. T. MATHIS.

OCCULIST AND AURIST.

Oculist to the Blind Asylum. Keeps Artificial eyes.

Austin, Texas.

In this life whisky is one of the real dangers.

As a Blood Purifier I. X. L. Sarsaparilla with Lode of Potash has no equal. \$1.00 all druggists. M. D. Conklin & Co., Proprietors, Houston.

When a horse stops suddenly in the street it shows his bringing up.

As a Tonic take I. X. L. Chill Cure, one teaspoonful in a wine glass of water, three times a day. It will give strength and remove all Malaria. M. D. Conklin & Co., Proprietors, Houston, Texas.

The spanked child soon finds out who has the upper hand in the domestic government.

FOR relieving and curing all forms of Constipation and Nervous Headache, Bilious Headache and Sick Headache, keeping the bowels free and preserving the system in a healthful condition, MORLEY'S T-X-S LIVER PILLS stand head.

The wire that connects the tongue to the heart is controlled by the brain.

If you have Chills and Fever, Ague, Bilious, Malarial or Intermittent Fevers, take I. X. L. Chill Cure, and if it does not benefit you, the dealer will refund amount paid for it. Sold by all druggists. M. D. Conklin & Co., Proprietors and Wholesale Druggists, Houston, Texas.

A silent partner is one who is expected to keep his mouth shut when he sees the confidential clerk speculate with the funds of the firm.

Are you Bilious? Are you troubled with Sick Headache, Indigestion, Costiveness, Torpid Liver or Jaundice? If so I. X. L. Liver Pills will cure you. Sugar-coated and pleasant in their action. One bottle, 25 pills, for 25 cents. All druggists. By mail on receipt of price. M. D. Conklin & Co., Proprietors, Houston, Texas.

"Why are they called almighty dollars," says? he asked of his father. And the old man replied promptly: "because they are almighty hard to get."

A FEW spoonfuls of KAY'S KENTUCKY KIDNEY POWDER mixed with meal and fed to poultry once or twice a week will cure them of gapes and cholera and make them thrive. Be sure and get the K. K. K. Powders. They excel all others.

In trying to win respect have your olive branch well loaded.

It is Always Foolish To dye the hair. Parker's Hair Balsam restores the original color. Is not that better? Only 50 cents.

A woman's work is best appreciated when it is not done," said an old housekeeper in our hearing the other day. The appreciation is certainly more likely to be expressed.

Every Flavor that Dr. Price has made has the peculiar taste of the fruit from which it is obtained, and are so true to nature that just use leaves nothing to be desired. We have yet to hear of the cook who has used Dr. Price's Special Flavoring Extracts, that was not delighted with them. For natural flavors "none compare with Dr. Price's."

The Eads Bill.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—A meeting of the Texas senators and representatives in connection with the Eads bill, at the rooms of the Galveston committee to decide as to the best plans of proceeding to accomplish the passage of the Eads bill. All were present except Messrs. Throckmorton and Stewart. On motion of Mr. Mills, it was resolved that the Texas delegation unite in an effort to get the provisions of the Eads bill incorporated into the river and harbor appropriation bill. If this effort is successful it renders more favorable the prospect of getting it acted on in both houses of Congress at this session. It was further resolved that an invitation be extended to the senators and representatives of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, California, Colorado, Oregon and Louisiana to meet the Texas delegation next Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock to consider the measure and to also invite Captain Eads to be present.

"Economy is the road to wealth." It will pay you to borrow your tea from Dealey & Son, Galveston. Making a specialty of that business, they cut and sell far better teas, and cheaper than any store dealing in general goods. The art of buying, blending and selling teas requires careful study, hence Dealey & Son, by giving their whole attention to it, are enabled to suit any and all. Prices range from 10c to \$1.

COMMERCIAL.

FINANCIAL.

Galveston, Dec. 17, 1884. EXCHANGE AT GALVESTON. Official quotations at the Cotton Exchange. Buying. Selling. Sterling, sixty days, 4 1/2, 4 3/4. New York sight, 4 1/2, 4 3/4. American silver, 4 1/2, 4 3/4.

EXCHANGE AT NEW YORK.

[Telegram to Cotton Exchange.] Bank, 60 days, 4.80, 4.84. Commercial, 60 days, 4.70, 4.74. Brown Brok. & Co., 3 days, 4.70, 4.74. Franks & Co., 3 days, 4.70, 4.74. Bank, 60 days, 4.80, 4.84. Commercial, 4.80, 4.84.

EXCHANGE AT NEW ORLEANS.

[Telegram to Cotton Exchange.] Sterling—Bank, 60 days, 4.81, 4.85. Commercial, 4.81, 4.85. Franks—Commercial, 60 days, 4.75, 4.79. New York Sight—Bank, \$1.00. Commercial, 50 dis.

COTTON.

Table with cotton market data: CLASS, This day, Yesterday, Last Year. Ordinary, 8 1/2-10, 8 1/2-10, 8 1/2-10. Good Ordinary, 9 1/2-10, 9 1/2-10, 9 1/2-10. Low Middling, 10, 10, 10. Middling, 10 1/2, 10 1/2, 10 1/2. High Middling, 10 1/2, 10 1/2, 10 1/2. Middling Fair, 10 1/2, 10 1/2, 10 1/2.

Galveston Live Stock Market.

Table with live stock market data: RECEIPTS, Beaves Yearlings and Cows, Calves, Sheep, Hogs. This day, 52, 361, 496, 875. Last day, 52, 361, 496, 875. This week, 351, 361, 496, 875. Last week, 351, 361, 496, 875. Stock in pen, 361.

Quotations—Grass ten cattle, choice, 30 1/2c; grass-fed cattle, common, 24 1/2c; 2-year-olds, per head, \$12.00; yearlings, per head, \$9.00; 1 1/2; spring calves, per head, \$6.00; 1 1/2; mutton, per pound, 6c; 5c; mutton, over-mast-rod, 4 1/2c. Remarks—Market overstocked with all classes of stock except hogs.

Publishers' Unanswered Letter List.

Dec. 12.—E. M. Sweet, sub. Abe Long, subs. Horace Bishop, subs. J. C. Weaver, subs. J. Sherwood, sub. J. A. Wyatt, subs. W. F. Jackson, change made. Dr. Todd, has attention. J. W. Helpenstell, sub. W. F. Clark, sub. J. W. Sanson, sub. S. C. Riddle, sub. F. W. Glass, sub. W. L. Nelson, subs. C. M. Daniel, sub. S. N. Barker, sub. Wm. Hay, sub. J. T. Bludworth, sub. T. W. Morton, sub. Dec. 13.—J. A. Mohler, change made. J. W. Sanson, will change as directed. T. L. Allen, change made. H. C. Trammell, subs; specimen copies sent. W. S. May, sub; change in your address made. J. Russell, subs; have answered your question in this issue. M. S. Hotchkiss, subs. J. T. Bludworth, sub. E. F. Boone, sub; will discontinue as you direct. M. C. Carters, sub. J. O. Allen, sub. G. C. Harris, sub; change. Dec. 15.—W. F. Thornberry, subs. E. H. Holbrook, sub. T. L. Miller, sub. J. C. Calhoun, subs. J. S. Wyatt, subs. A. H. Hendon, sub. S. J. Franks, sub. A. C. Benson, post-office of sub received. A. F. Cox, sub. T. B. Lane, sub. O. P. Thomas, sub. W. E. Carpenter, sub. M. A. Black, sub. R. W. Thompson, sub. W. V. Jones, sub. C. W. Daniel, sub. E. R. Large, sub. J. J. Harris, sub. D. F. Fuller, sub. J. L. Mills, sub. J. B. Womack, sub. H. M. Glass, change made. J. F. Denton, sub. A. J. LeClerc, sub. Dec. 16.—J. A. Wyatt, sub. J. C. Russell, sub. J. A. Duncan, sub. C. A. Evans, sub. J. L. Shutt, sub. W. J. Joyce, sub. R. W. Wellborn, will have attention. W. W. Horner, sub. S. B. Ellis, sub. J. A. Wyatt, sub. Dec. 17.—I. V. Gallows, sub and change. L. G. Rogers, sub; will send list of subs as you direct. W. L. Harris, sub. C. H. Maloy, sub. H. G. Walker, sub. S. J. Franks, sub. E. H. Holbrook, sub. I. F. Palmer, sub. L. M. Fowler, sub. R. J. Perry, sub.

To the Members of the Northwest Texas Conference. Dear Brethren—The minutes will be mailed to you this week, and in spite of some mistakes, I hope may prove reasonably satisfactory. I have simply done what I could. Should you fail to receive them, advise me at Waxahachie, Texas. Hoping you may so distribute your minutes as to realize the best results, I am, dear brethren, your obedient servant. E. P. RAY, Sec.

HUNTSVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST BOARD. Bryan, Dec. 28. Millican and Welborn, at Millican, Jan 3, 4. Zion cir. at Zion, Jan 10, 11. Navasota and Anderson, at Anderson, Jan 17, 18, at which time the district stewards will please meet. Bryan cir. Jan 23, 25. Spring Creek mts. Jan 31, Feb 1. Madisonville cir. Feb 7, 8. Huntsville mts. Feb 14, 15. Huntsville cir. Feb 21, 22. Waverly mts. at Cold Springs, March 7, 8. Cold Springs, at Cold Springs, March 14, 15. Willis sta. March 14, 15. Plantersville cir. March 21, 22. Prairie Plains, at Prairie Plains, March 14, 15. H. V. PHILLIPS.

CHAPPELL HILL DISTRICT—FIRST BOARD. Chappell Hill sta. Dec 27, 28. Brenham sta. Dec 27, 28. Deleville cir. Jan 3, 4. Vega mts. at Shiloh, Jan 10, 11. Miliano cir. Jan 17, 18. District Stewards' meeting, Jan 24. Caldwell cir. Jan 31, Feb 1. Hempstead and Courtney, Jan 16. Burton and Giddings, Jan 23, 25. Leebetter mts. at Leebetter, Feb 28. Lexington cir. Feb 28. Cameron cir. Feb 28. Mayfield cir. Feb 28. Oak Hill mts. Feb 28. Bayville cir. Feb 28. Rockdale cir. Feb 28. Belleville mts. Feb 28. March 8. Chappell Hill mts. March 8. The district stewards will meet in Caldwell, Jan 9, at 3 p. m. For the good of the cause a full attendance is essential. Let every member of the quarterly conference be in the place at the time appointed. Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time appointed. And do not send our rules, but keep them. Discipline. I. Z. T. MORRIS, P. E.

GALVESTON DISTRICT—FIRST BOARD. San Felipe, at Sealy, Jan 3, 4. Richmond, at Richmond, Jan 10, 11. Eagle Lake, at Eagle Lake, Jan 17, 18. Warton and Colorado, at Warton, Feb 14, 15. Houston, Fifth Ward, Feb 14, 15. Shearline Church, Feb 21. Alvin and Reed Hill, at Alvin, Feb 21. Velasco, at Caney, Feb 14, 15. Columbia, at Columbia, Feb 21, 22. Houston, Washington St., Feb 21, 22. Galveston, St. James, March 8. Galveston, St. John's, March 8. Galveston, at Galveston, March 14, 15. Cedar Bayou, at Cedar Bayou, March 21, 22. The district stewards will meet at Richmond, Friday, Jan 8, at 2 1/2 p. m. J. F. FOLLEN, P. E.

To the Preachers of the Galveston District: The preachers of Galveston district will please notify me where their first quarterly meeting will be held, and suggest routes to reach them. Address me at Richmond. J. F. FOLLEN, P. E.

PERHAPS the most remarkable feature of the brilliant announcement just issued by The Youth's Companion is a series of articles written expressly for that periodical by Prof. Tyndall, Prof. Max Muller, Prof. Freeman, Mr. James Anthony Froude, and Canon Farrar. Tyndall will write on "Popular Science for Young People," Max Muller on "The Cultivation of Memory," Freeman on "A Half-Century a Thousand Years Ago," Froude on the "Study of History," and Farrar on the "Study of English Literature." Surely any magazine might be proud of such a group of writers as this.

Capital Business College, Austin, Texas, will sell six life scholarships to parents and friends who desire to obtain them as Christmas or New Year gifts, at a discount of 25 per cent, or \$45 until Jan 1, 1885. A life scholarship entitles the holder of it to a complete course in Book-keeping, Arithmetic, Penmanship, Business Law, Political Economy, Business Correspondence, Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Rhetoric. Time for completing the course is unlimited. Geography and Penmanship at Capital Business College, Austin, Texas, costs for a complete course only \$24. Capital Business College, Austin, Texas, receive the First Premium for Pen-work and also for Pen-drawing. Prof. D. A. Gridditts, the artist-penman of the college, was awarded the prize.

There is nothing more useful or more indispensable to complete a home as a modern citizen. Water is always at your hand, and the best in the world for drinking, washing or any other purpose. No water is so soft and so pure as a western well. A western well will pay for itself in a year in doctors' bills alone, besides the water being so soft makes washing doubly as easy and the clothes doubly as white as any well or spring water. We have been using western water manufactured by Mr. H. E. Garret, on Church street, opposite the Tremont Hotel, Galveston, for the last ten years and cheerfully recommend them. He is now making them at very low prices, owing to the dull times. He will send a catalogue of sizes and prices to any address, and also cisterns in complete bundles wherever desired. Any person can set one up without trouble, even if they never saw one before. Every family should have one.

Crossing the Pasture. Mr. J. A. S. Monk's etching, "Crossing the Pasture," which is given in all numbers of the Magazine for 1884, is as gripping a bait as a publisher ever held out to an art-loving public. Mr. Monk's water-color drawing from which he made this etching was recently exhibited at the National Academy of Design, where it attracted a great deal of attention and praise. In the etching the effect of color is wonderfully well given, and to a certain extent the work of the needle is more pleasing than that of the brush. The feeling of twilight is caught with more success in the etching, and the peculiar quality of the sheep's wool is shown with great fidelity. There is a great deal of charming sentiment in this picture, which when appropriately framed will be an attraction to any wall, or in a portfolio will honor any collection.—Cassell & Company, New York.

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Majorities of Texas Congressmen. The majorities of the congressmen-elect are as follows: Stewart, 34,130; Reagan, 8,964; Jones, 22,826; Culberson, 25,165; Throckmorton, 28,131; Wellborn, 25,083; Crain, 4,801; Miller, 8,670; Mills, 13,284; Sayers, 9,270; Lanham, 26,327. Total Democratic majority, 192,451.

Maj. M. C. McLemore delivered a pointed and pathetic address at the annual reception of the Island City Protestant Orphans' Home, Dec. 13. There are forty children in the home. Its receipts from July, 1881, to Dec. 1884, have been over eleven thousand dollars.

Trinity has thus far shipped more cotton than the farmers hoped to raise; and the end is not yet. Over 50,000 bales of cotton have been compressed in the city of Waco since Sept. 1.

PROSPECTUS YOUTH'S COMPANION 1885

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Natural History

THE RIVER WOLF, and Other Papers, by FELIX L. OSWALD. TAME COCKROACHES, and Other Papers, by REV. J. G. WOOD. THE WILD HORSE and His Wanderings, by ARABELLA B. BUCKLEY, by the editor of "Don't." FISHING ON DRY LAND, and Other Curiosities of Natural History, by PROF. C. F. HOLDER. A BEE'S BRAIN; The Songs of Insects; Insects Useful to the Farm; and Other Papers, by PROF. A. S. PACKARD, Jr.

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