

The Texas Christian Advocate.

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DALLAS, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1896.

NO. 17.

EDITORIAL.

LETTER FROM MARSHALL.

On Tuesday, December 15, we boarded the Texas and Pacific Railway en route to Marshall, the seat of the East Texas Conference. We reached our destination in due time after a very pleasant ride. As soon as we reached the bounds of the East Texas Conference the brethren serving the various pastoral charges along the line of the railway began to get aboard. Soon we had an abundance of agreeable company, which helped to beguile the natural tedium of such a journey. Cheerful talk and laughter filled the train as the preachers interviewed each other and recounted the experiences of the year that is gone.

At the depot we were met by Rev. J. T. Smith, the preacher in charge of the Marshall Station, and Bro. J. R. Heartsell, a staunch layman of our Church, who welcomed the numerous guests and assigned them to their respective homes. Carriages were in waiting, which at greatly reduced figures carried the guests to their homes. Bro. Smith and his assistants performed the duties and courtesies of hospitality with much more than ordinary thoughtfulness and diligence, and Marshall entertained the conference in a truly elegant and bountiful manner. No set of preachers, lay delegates and visitors ever tendered the usual vote of thanks with more real gratitude and enthusiasm. In company with Rev. W. H. Vaughan and Rev. H. Twomey we were domiciled in the pleasant and bountiful home of Dr. Taylor, who, with his most estimable wife, did all in their power to make their visitors comfortable and happy. They succeeded in a marked degree, and we shall always appreciate their lavish kindness and unstinted hospitality.

Marshall is one of the best towns in East Texas, and afforded many indications, even to a casual observer, of solidity and prosperity. We saw many things which reminded us of our former home and early life. Marshall is not characterized by the stagnation and lack of enterprise which we sometimes witness in the eastern section of the State. On the contrary, there are signs of progress and life, and we believe that the near future will see a larger development and a more extensive business. The fact that Marshall is the point of departure for New Orleans, and the fact that the Texas and Pacific Railway shops are located there, will always give this place the advantage over many of its rivals. Our best wishes go out to Marshall and its hospitable citizens.

We found Bishop Hendrix promptly in the chair Wednesday morning, December 16, and, notwithstanding the fact that he had held three conferences in as many weeks, he was remarkably vigorous and fresh. He conducted the business of the conference with unwearied patience and with unusual tact and efficiency. There were some things which threw a positive gloom over the conference and others which threatened more or less friction. The President steered the way through all the difficulties and brought the business of the body to a happy consummation. The reports of the preachers were in the main very good, and the past year, though one of much embarrassment and many difficulties, was, on the whole, a year of progress and usefulness. Three of the connectional officers were present—Dr. Barbee, Dr. Bigham and Dr. Lambuth—who at different times made telling and entertaining addresses in behalf of the great interests which they represent. Mrs. W. H. Johnson and Mrs. W. C. Young, of Dallas, who

are laboring so zealously in behalf of the "Rescue Work," were also present, and they succeeded in securing the co-operation of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society of this conference with those of the North Texas and the Northwest Texas Conferences in this noble and much needed work. It was the verdict of all concerned that this was a most pleasant and profitable gathering, and that the influence of it will be felt in years to come.

Sunday was a high day, great crowds gathering in the various churches to hear the preaching of the gospel by members of the conference and others. We heard good reports of all the services, and trust that the seed sown will bear abundant fruit.

Monday morning, about 10 o'clock, the conference closed. A sea of anxious faces was turned toward the Bishop when he rose up to make known the contents of the portfolio. Dr. I. Alexander's prayer breathing trust and consecration helped many a heart to brace itself for the coming disclosure and the trials of the future. So far as we were capable of judging the appointments were good ones and the best interests of the preachers and people conserved. The Bishop made a brief and forcible talk and answered the last question on the list. Palestine was selected as the place for holding the next session of the conference.

We reached home in good time, devoutly thankful that we had been preserved and blessed during this tour of the conferences, and that our loved ones had been divinely guarded and cared for in our absence. We ought to be better and happier all our life for the rare privileges which we have enjoyed and for the manifest Providential mercies which have been over us and about us.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Bishop E. R. Hendrix preached at 11 o'clock, Sunday morning, in the Methodist Church. The day was perfect, a large audience filled the spacious building, and the service was eminently spiritual and profitable. The Bishop preached on the "Advent," a sermon beautifully appropriate to the Sabbath preceding Christmas day. In the introductory remarks he spoke of the profound and wide-spread influence of the Advent Season. He proved and illustrated the fact that the world was tremulous with the inspiration of the Day.

He then raised the question, Why was the coming of the world's Redeemer so long delayed? He said, first, that the long delay was in harmony with the general methods of Providence. God works slowly, but surely, as is seen in nature and history. He said, second, that the coming was delayed until everything was ripe for the incontrovertible authentication of the wondrous event. Before then methods of records and proof were limited and defective. He said, third, that they waited until then that man might have the opportunity of exhausting all other means of salvation and demonstrating their inadequacy. Man had come to the end of his own strength and was in despair.

The Bishop elaborated these points with great fulness and force and the immense congregation was deeply impressed. Responses were frequent and earnest, and tears fell like rain. It was a very sacred hour; the Divine Presence was manifestly visible and many hearts were quickened into a better life. The Bishop's sermon met the expectations of the preachers and people and contributed to the edification and comfort of all who heard.

THE MINUTE BUSINESS.

The East Texas Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, South, held at Marshall, Texas, beginning December 16, 1896, ending December 21, 1896—Bishop E. R. Hendrix, President; A. J. Erick, Secretary.

Question 1. Who are admitted on trial? F. A. Downs, C. H. Rice, M. C. Coppedge, D. S. Burke, J. M. Perry, W. W. Nunn, W. S. Easterling, R. J. Smith, R. L. Steelman, M. J. McCann.

Question 2. Who remain on trial? C. T. Cummings, J. W. Goodwin, J. A. Harvey, J. M. Brewer, Gus Garrison, W. F. Hardy.

Question 3. Who are discontinued? W. M. Zimmerman.

Question 4. Who are admitted into full connection? M. I. Brown, J. T. McClure, R. J. Birdwell.

Question 5. Who are re-admitted? None.

Question 6. Who are received by transfer from other conferences? J. B. Turrentine, W. A. Manley, W. W. Graham, J. A. Beagle, R. H. Greathouse.

Question 7. Who are deacons of one year? C. A. Tower, I. F. Pace, H. B. Smith, A. Methvin, W. F. Davis, D. L. Cain.

Question 8. What traveling preachers are elected deacons? M. I. Brown, J. T. McClure, R. J. Birdwell.

Question 9. What traveling preachers are ordained deacons? M. I. Brown, John T. McClure, R. J. Birdwell.

Question 10. What local preachers are elected deacons? F. A. Downs, J. G. Pollard, C. M. Davis, J. M. Martin, J. F. Johnson, H. A. Abney, W. H. Powell.

Question 11. What local preachers are ordained deacons? F. A. Downs, J. G. Pollard, C. M. Davis, J. M. Martin, J. F. Johnson, H. A. Abney.

Question 12. What traveling preachers are elected elders? A. A. Kidd, J. W. Bridges, J. W. Downs, H. W. Bowman, J. B. Luker, W. W. Watts, J. T. Kirkpatrick, T. B. Vinson.

Question 13. What traveling preachers are ordained elders? A. A. Kidd, J. W. Bridges, J. W. Downs, J. B. Luker, J. H. Kirkpatrick, T. B. Vinson, W. W. Watts, H. W. Bowman.

Question 14. What local preachers are elected elders? B. Z. Powell.

Question 15. What local preachers are ordained elders? B. Z. Powell.

Question 16. Who are located this year? J. L. Wyche, A. C. Benson, J. Woodson.

Question 17. Who are supernumerary? G. W. Langley, R. H. Kimball.

Question 18. Who are superannuated? R. S. Finley, W. N. Bonner, R. W. Thompson, M. Donegan, A. D. Parks, J. A. Smith, J. B. Hall.

Question 19. What preachers have died during the past year? W. T. Burch.

Question 20. Are all the preachers blameless in their life and official administration? They were called one by one and their characters passed, except J. C. Calhoun, who was expelled.

Question 21. What is the number of local preachers and members in the several circuits, stations and missions of the conference? Local preachers, 182; members, 33,922.

Question 22. How many infants have been baptized during the year? 611.

Question 23. How many adults have been baptized during the year? 1495.

Question 24. What is the number of Epworth Leagues? 43.

Question 25. What is the number of Epworth League members? 1777.

Question 26. What is the number of Sunday-schools? 212.

Question 27. What is the number of Sunday-school teachers? 1603.

Question 28. What is the number of Sunday-school scholars? 15,969.

Question 29. What amount is necessary for the superannuated preachers and the widows and orphans of preachers? \$2122.

Question 30. What has been collected on the foregoing account, and how has it been applied? \$1537.15.

Question 31. What has been contributed for missions? Foreign, \$3338.60; domestic, \$1815.05.

Question 32. What has been contributed for Church Extension? \$961.25.

Question 33. What has been done for the American Bible Society? Collected \$88.27.

Question 34. What has been contributed for the support of presiding elders and preachers in charge? Presiding elders, \$2459.22; preachers in charge, \$37,151.33.

Question 35. What has been contributed for the support of Bishops? \$718.30.

Question 36. What is the number of societies, and the number and estimated value of church edifices? Number of societies, 478; number of church edifices, 293 1/2; value, \$251,343.

Question 37. What is the number of pastoral charges, and the number and value of parsonages owned by them? Number of charges, —; number of parsonages, 81; value, \$58,735.

Question 38. What is the number and value of district parsonages? Number of district parsonages, 2; value, \$2300.

Question 39. What are the educational statistics? Collected \$608.30, equally divided between Northwestern University and Alexander College Institute.

Question 40. Where shall the next session of the conference be held? Palestine.

Question 41. Where are the preachers stationed this year? See appointments.

APPOINTMENTS.

Marshall District.
D. P. THOMAS, P. E.

Marshall, First Church—D. F. C. Timmons.

North Side—D. W. Towns.

Harrison Circuit—J. C. H. McKnight.

Arliston—W. W. Graham; and one to be supplied.

Beckville—W. A. Shanpey; G. W. Langley, supernumerary.

Kellyville—Jus Garrison.

Coffeetown—B. T. Hayes.

Longview—A. J. Frick.

Henderson Station—C. F. Smith.

Henderson Circuit—Marvin Coppedge.

Jefferson—Ellis Smith.

Hallville—D. P. Cullen.

Church Hill—H. B. Smith.

Kilgore—J. M. Mills.

Secretary Conference Board of Education—D. F. C. Timmons.

Tyler District.
JOHN ADAMS, P. E.

Tyler, Marvin Church—B. H. Greathouse.

Cedar Street—W. W. McAnally.

City Mission—J. M. McCarter.

Tyler Circuit—T. B. Vinson.

Walton Mission—E. N. Large.

Edom Circuit—D. L. Cain, J. M. White House—F. A. Downs.

New York—B. C. Ansley, supply.

Mineola—A. A. Kidd.

Wills Point Station—A. Little, R. H. Kimball, supernumerary.

Wills Point Mission—P. R. White.

Emory Mission—G. M. Fletcher, supply.

Canton Circuit—C. H. Smith.

Grand Saline—M. I. Brown.

Arliston—W. P. Pledger.

Lindley—G. W. Riley.

Troupe and Overton—S. N. Allen.

Malakoff Station—R. J. Birdwell.

Pittsburg District.
T. P. SMITH, P. E.

Pittsburg—J. W. Johnson.

Winfield—L. H. McGee.

Texarkana, State Line—J. A. Beagle.

Fairview and Rose Hill Mission—G. C. Hardy.

Denham—W. T. Ayers.

Quitman—G. R. Hughes.

New Boston—W. J. Owens.

Glimer—C. A. Tower.

Dangerfield—J. C. Carr.

St. Pleasant—J. S. Mathis.

Wells Mission—R. L. Steelman.

Dalby Springs—Wm. Sproule.

Queen City—C. T. Cummings.

Atlanta—A. A. Wagner.

Musgrove Springs—S. W. Jones.

DeKalb Mission—R. J. Smith.

Linden—Stuart Nelson.

Palmetto District.
L. M. FOWLER, P. E.

Palmetto—J. Alexander.

Brushy Creek—J. B. Luker.

Grapeland—J. M. Perry.

Trinity, Lovelady and Groveton—J. L. Dawson.

Alto—W. L. Pate.

Denham—W. Nunn.

Jacksonville—V. R. Ridley.

Jacksonville Circuit—L. A. Bark.

Rusk—V. A. Godbey.

Holcomb—Alex. Methvin.

Crockett Station—S. Whitehurst.

Crockett Circuit—J. T. Kirkpatrick.

Saron Mission—W. F. Hardy.

Lufkin—T. T. Booth.

Wells Mission—J. W. Hammer, supply.

San Augustine District.
J. T. SMITH, P. E.

San Augustine and Chireno—J. B. Turrentine.

Sharpshooters Mission—J. S. Wilson.

Center Station—A. J. Weeks.

Center Circuit—I. F. Pace.

Garrison—J. W. Bridges.

Nacogdoches—L. A. Webb.

Melrose—W. W. Gollighugh, supply.

Thompson—J. W. Goodwin.

Tenaha—S. M. Thompson.

Carthage—W. F. Davis.

Minden—J. D. Burke.

Shelbyville—John Helpinstill.

Doaglass—G. W. Henderson, supply.

Appley—J. W. Goodwin.

Sexton—H. L. Hare.

Hemp Hill—W. D. Lum.

Beaumont District.
T. J. MILAM, P. E.

Beaumont, First Church—W. W. Watts.

Beaumont and Sabine Mission—S. E. Wilson.

Woodville and Colmesneil—J. D. Dorsey.

Livingston—W. A. Manley.

Jasper and Kirbyville—J. T. McClure.

Jasper Mission—C. H. Rice.

Burkeville—A. H. Harvey.

Orange Station—T. Stafford.

Liberty—O. A. Shook.

Kountze—W. S. Easterling.

China Mission—E. J. Gates.

Pinkney Mission—S. K. Spell, supply.

Newton Mission—J. F. Johnson, supply.

Boliver—J. L. Williams.

Moscow—D. S. Burke.

TRANSFERRED—M. J. McCann, to the West Texas Conference; B. Wright, to Louisiana Conference, and stationed at Vienna Circuit; S. S. Holladay, to Louisiana Conference; H. M. DuRose, to Mississippi Conference, and stationed at Jackson.

NOTES.

In connection with the report of the Board of Education, Dr. W. M. Hayes and Dr. J. H. McLean addressed the conference in behalf of the Southwestern University, stating encouraging facts and exhorting the brethren and friends to greater loyalty and zeal. Also Professor Williams, the Principal of Alexander College Institute, located in Jacksonville, Texas, represented this institution in a sensible, forcible speech. He proposes to make this institution a training school—a feeder to our Southern colleges and universities. This is rather a new departure in educational work in Texas, but at the same time a

very important one. Our public schools do not prepare boys and girls for college. But this school is correlated with the Southwestern University and in this position is prepared to do and to do thoroughly an indispensable work. We congratulate the Professor and his associates upon their success and wish them a more abundant prosperity in the future.

Mrs. W. H. Johnson, representing the "Rescue Work" of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society, was introduced to the conference and made a brief speech. She was listened to attentively and sympathetically. We desire to commend this most excellent lady to the Church and public. We would mention particularly the little paper, the King's Messenger, which she edits and publishes in the interest of the "Rescue Work." Mrs. Johnson and the noble ladies associated with her in this great work are entitled to our confidence and co-operation. Mrs. W. C. Young, of Dallas, the Treasurer of the "Rescue fund," was also in Marshall during effective service and adding interest to the occasion.

Rev. I. Z. T. Morris, the General Collector of the Texas Conferences, was present in Marshall, mingling with the brethren and selling books. Bro. Morris has done a great deal of good in the distribution of first-class literature and we are glad to know that he proposes, under most encouraging circumstances, to continue in this excellent work. Bro. Morris has done a fine business during the fall conferences, and says that the outlook for the future is bright. All orders sent to him at Fort Worth will be promptly filled, and during the year he will travel and sell books as heretofore. We trust that the General Collector will do a fine business during the incoming year and that he will be instrumental in the accomplishment of much good.

The conference organized a Brotherhood with the usual insurance features. The brethren were very much interested and the roll of the charter members was quite a good one. Rev. R. W. Thompson was elected President and Bro. J. R. Heartsell was elected Secretary and Treasurer. This is a good move, and now, all the conferences in Texas are provided with an institution of this sort.

The Memorial Service was held Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. One minister had died—Rev. T. Burch. Two wives of ministers had died—Mrs. J. M. McCarter and Mrs. A. A. Kidd. Rev. R. W. Thompson read the memoirs which had been prepared by the committee and also preached the sermon, which was able and appropriate. Several brethren then spoke of the deceased. The occasion was a solemn and tearful one to many hearts and the service was no doubt an inspiration to many to lead a better life.

The publisher and Bro. Ragadele were hospitably entertained and enjoyed the company of the family of Dr. E. B. Blocker.

The brethren who were transferred to other conferences and who could not be received on account of the crowded condition thereof, were very kindly treated by the Bishop. Notwithstanding the brethren were disposed to tease them in a good-natured way the Bishop took their part and tied them over the bars.

It was a great pleasure to see the venerable Dr. R. W. Finley present at the conference. The Doctor is a veteran member of the conference, though now superannuated, and is highly honored and greatly beloved.

Dr. F. T. Mitchell, of the Northwest Texas Conference, and Rev. R. Lane, of the North Texas Conference, both superannuated and veterans, attended the session in Marshall and were made thoroughly welcome by the brethren. It was a great gratification to see these fine old gentlemen and heroes of many a battle-field going in and out among the preachers and people.

Dr. Lambuth, one of the Missionary Secretaries, was introduced to the conference and made an impressive and effective address. He spoke of our missionary literature and exhorted the brethren to circulate it. The speech took a wide range and was full of information and pathos. It bristled with sharp points and did good service for the cause. We were glad to note that the audience listened attentively and sympathetically.

Dr. Bigham, the Secretary of the Board of Education, was introduced to the conference and made a capital and telling speech for the cause which he represents. The brethren heard him with real pleasure and we doubt not with much profit. On Wednesday night the Doctor preached on "Christian Education" to a very large congregation and touched a responsive chord. We believe that the selection of Dr. Bigham for the po-

sition which he fills was a very happy one and we predict for him a career of great usefulness. His visit to the East Texas Conference was a great gratification to the preachers and people.

Rev. J. B. Sears, of the Texas Conference, was introduced to the conference and made a brief and forcible address in the interest of our German work. He stated some facts that were not generally known and stirred the conference to a realization, somewhat, of its responsibility and duty. The commission, charged with the management of this interest is doing a great work and we wish for it the most abundant success.

The Woman's Parsonage and Home Society held its annual meeting during the session. On Thursday evening Dr. Lambuth made an address in behalf of the interest represented by this society, which was very kindly received by a large crowd. The ladies held daily sessions and put in some good work for the noble cause for which they stand.

The Bishop presented Rev. W. B. Rankin, the Agent of the American Bible Society, to the conference and gave him ample opportunity to represent the great cause with which he is identified. He did so in good taste and with excellent judgment. The East Texas Conference had within a comparatively short time doubled its collection for this cause. It was a great thing for Southern Methodism when the General Conference linked it indissolubly to the Bible cause. We are doing more and more every year for this sacred enterprise and we trust in the very depth of our heart that the day is soon coming when we shall do our whole duty to this indispensable and glorious institution.

Rev. W. H. Vaughan, the Agent of the Orphan Home, made a fine talk to the conference in behalf of the noble interest with whose prosperity and support he is charged. He related a very pathetic instance—the conversion of a little girl—which touched the whole audience to tears and which proved and illustrated the power of prayer and the superintendence of Providence. This beautiful incident ought to be written out in full for the Advocate in order that our people may see something of the internal working of the Home and be encouraged to stand by an institution which accomplishes so much good. Bro. Vaughan has wrought nobly and efficiently and the blessing of God has been upon him and his work. A small deficit of \$61.55 was raised upon the spot, thus completing the assessment.

The Bishop addressed the class of the second year Friday morning at half past ten o'clock. He explained the difference between being on trial and being in full connection. He referred to Paul's exhortation to Timothy and Titus: "Let no man despise thee." He said that the following things caused a preacher to be despised: Over-professionalism, arrested development, indolence and subordination. He made a fine plea for manliness. Taking up the disciplinary questions he dwelt especially upon these: "Have you faith in Christ? Are you going on to perfection? Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life? Are you groaning after it?" He treated minutely each one of these interrogatories, elaborating it thoroughly and pressing it home upon the conscience and the heart. He then emphasized the point of a full consecration to the work of the ministry, the care of the children, pastoral visiting and affiliated themes. He then asked the other questions in order, commenting briefly thereupon and brought to a conclusion a discourse full of thought and feeling and one which made a profound impression upon a very large and interested congregation. The Bishop spoke very tenderly, now and then melting into tears and dissolving his audience with him, and the occasion will be remembered for many a long day by all who heard him.

The Missionary Anniversary was held Friday night, Dr. I. Alexander and Bishop E. R. Hendrix were the speakers—the former representing the domestic work in his inimitable style, and the latter the foreign work in his characteristic manner. A very large audience greeted these distinguished brethren and the occasion was one of great interest and profit. It was a time of seed-sowing, fine trains of influence were started, food for meditation was furnished. A creditable collection followed. The immense audience professed the utmost delight.

Dr. Barbee was a welcome visitor to the conference. He was diligent in collecting accounts and made himself very affable in the social circle. He spoke for the House briefly and forcibly on the conference floor. If by the preachers and people would only give heed to the practical suggestions of the Agent, the business of the Publishing House would be more than doubled. It would be a fine thing if we could only secure a large and efficient utilization of our resources.

REPORT OF THE JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.

The Joint Board of Finance met in the city of Marshall December 18, 1896, and opened with prayer by R. W. Thompson, Chairman. Members present: R. W. Thompson, W. F. Davis, J. L. Dawson, C. H. Smith, G. C. Hardy, J. F. Reynolds, H. D. Sells, J. F. Cely and T. S. Garrison

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L. BLAYLOCK, Dallas, Texas.

Publisher's Department

REV. F. B. SINEX is a duly authorized traveling agent for the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE and will receive and receipt for money due the paper.

Am well pleased with the Bible every way. M. A. BLACK, Llano, Texas.

The Machine arrived in due time and in perfect order, and gives perfect satisfaction. JOHN W. SIMS, Sweet Home, Texas.

Your Bibles are the cheapest I have ever seen. I have used one for more than a year and am perfectly satisfied with it. All my friends want one. (MISS) ANEMIA LANE, LaGrange, Texas.

Let me congratulate you upon the beautiful Christmas issue. J. W. ABRISON, Waxahachie, Texas.

The Holiday edition is fine. The ADVOCATE is the best Church paper in Texas. She is a monument of beauty and strength to Methodism in Texas. SILAS A. ABBOTT, Beaufort, Texas.

The ADVOCATE is continually improving, and to-day I was more than delighted to greet the beautiful Christmas number, so full of its more beautiful new thoughts. MRS. EUGENIA J. FIELDS, Unanswered Letters.

DEC. 10 - J. T. Gillett, sub. J. R. Murray, sub. G. D. Wilson, sub. J. W. Addison, sub. T. J. Minnis, sub. G. J. Irvin, sub.

DEC. 11 - Jas A King, sub; thanks for kind words. H. P. Shrader, change. B. F. McManama, sub. Jno E Roach, sub. W. F. Davis, has attention. J. C. Calhoun, sub. J. H. Trimble, sub. Ben H Bounds, sub. M. T. Allen, sub. Sterling Fisher, sub.

DEC. 12 - J. M. Armstrong, sub. Wm Sproule, has attention. G. E. Sandel, change in address of sub. is made. J. P. Garrett, sub. Geo S Sexton, sub. A. G. Nolan, has attention. K. S. VanZandt, sub; two cards.

DEC. 14 - E. S. Smith, sub. W. F. Brinson, sub. H. B. McKeown, trial sub. J. A. Walkup, sub. Chas Davis, has attention. D. C. Ellis, sub for two years; A. has attention. J. W. Long, sub. M. W. Moody, change.

DEC. 15 - J. B. Turrentine, change made. G. E. Sandel, sub. J. H. Chambliss, change made. M. W. Moody, sub. Theophilus Lee, sub. J. N. Hunter, sub.

DEC. 16 - H. E. Smith, sub. T. J. Duncan, sub. Jno L Sullivan, sub. J. J. Harris, sub. John S Huckabee, sub. A. E. Goodwyn, sub and change. J. T. Griswood, sub. R. B. Bonner, sub. S. W. Miller, has attention. B. H. Passmore, sub.

DEC. 17 - T. J. Beckham, sub. J. T. L. Annis, sub. Thos Gregory, has attention. J. R. Smelser, sub. Chas A Corry, trial sub. J. W. Dickinson, sub.

DEC. 18 - C. C. Davis, sub and trial sub. E. S. Smith, sub. W. H. Terry, sub; thanks. R. N. Brown, sub. P. G. Huffman, sub. E. Hightower, sub.

DEC. 19 - J. A. Ruffner, trial sub. J. Kilgore, sub.
DEC. 21 - J. W. Addison, o. k. J. E. Walker, sub. Jas Hammond, sub. E. K. Denton, sub.
DEC. 22 - Sam'l Weaver, sub. W. H. Killough, sub.
DEC. 23 - S. L. Ball, o. k. J. B. Elder, sub. H. L. Jamieson, sub. H. H. Vaughan, sub. G. E. Sandel, sub.

Rev. Geo. P. Mains, of Eaton & Mains, publishers of the New York Christian Advocate, is visiting Texas in the interest of the M. E. Church Publishing House. He is attending the M. E. Conferences now being held in this State. While in Dallas he called at the ADVOCATE office and made his stay exceedingly pleasant. He is an affable Christian gentleman and will make many friends in his trip through the South.

We are very grateful to our many friends who have spoken so kindly of our Christmas edition. We did our best to please our patrons, and we are glad to learn that our efforts have not been fruitless. Competent judges have pronounced it a great success typographically and otherwise. To know that this effort to please our constituents has been completely successful, is a great gratification. Many thanks for appreciative words.

W. T. Strange and wife, of Celeste, made the ADVOCATE a pleasant call.
Rev. T. G. Whitten, of Midlothian Station, paid the ADVOCATE a pleasant visit. He reports a hearty reception in his new charge and overflowing congregations, with flattering prospects for an advance along all lines.

We had the pleasure of a conversation with Rev. F. T. Mitchell, D. D., a superannuated member of the Northwest Texas Conference, while we were in Marshall last week. We found him in fine health for one of his years and in the best of spirits. The Doctor is a candidate for Chaplain of the House of Representatives of the Texas Legislature, which meets next January. We trust that he will be elected, for he is splendidly qualified for the position and deserves such recognition.

We see from the New Orleans Advocate that our venerable and beloved Senior Bishop, J. C. Keener, has been greatly bereaved in the death of his daughter, Miss Emma. The whole Church will feel this affliction very sorely and will sympathize with and pray for the stricken family. The ADVOCATE tenderers heartfelt condolence.

THE RESCUE HOME AT CHRISTMASTIDE.

"Behold I bring you tidings of great joy."
The East Texas Conference, by formal resolution, accepts the invitation of North Texas Conference to join her and the Northwest Texas Conference in a triple alliance to build and maintain a "Rescue Home" in Dallas. We have had from the beginning the love and co-operation of this conference; but now they come officially, and assured of God's blessing, there can be no such word as fail. But speedy success is what we want. With one grand effort let us raise the balance needed to begin work. Are there not two hundred followers of Jesus of Nazareth, the first friend and advocate of these friendless, homeless, erring girls, who will honor his blessed anniversary by giving \$10; four hundred who will give \$5, and one thousand who will give \$1? - thereby adding \$5,000 to our building fund. What a shout of "Glory to God in the highest" would go up from our workers. Then in two months we could open the doors of the new home and give the message of our Lord, "Whosoever will may come." No more with shame and confusion would Christian women have to say, "No room; your soul must be lost!" Dear brothers and sisters, for once forego the pleasure of giving needless gifts and bring on this happy Christmastide your offerings to our Lord's treasury. Oh, can you know the need of this home! Can you see these lost souls stretching out pleading hands for your mercy and refuse in the name of Jesus!

We will publish in the Advocate the names just as received. There are others who may wish to give to our \$100 fund. Mr. W. C. Padgett and Col. C. C. Slaughter each have added their names to this honor roll. Make this Christmas one never to be forgotten by the Rescue Home of Dallas in an offering worthy of him whose we are and whom we serve.

More love to thee, O Christ;
More love to thee!
Hear thou the prayer I make,
On bended knee;
This is my earnest plea,
More love, O Christ, to thee;
More love to thee!
With more love and a little self-sacrifice this new Christmas morn will be well with this House of Mercy as a memorial to those who put into it their prayers and their money.

MRS. W. H. JOHNSON, Financial Agent.
MRS. W. C. YOUNG, Treasurer.
345 Wall Street, Dallas.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

(Continued from first page.)

REPORT OF BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION.

The Board of Church Extension met in the city of Marshall, December 17, 1896, and received from the six districts as follows:

Table with 2 columns: District Name and Amount. Includes Marshall District (\$194.00), Tyler District (\$190.30), Palestine District (\$184.00), San Augustine District (\$174.15), Pittsburg District (\$191.00), Beaumont District (\$41.50).

Credit by draft to D. Morton, \$487.47
Credit by donation to Rusk Church, 300.00
Credit by donation to Shiloh Church, 30.00
Credit by donation to Tatum Church, 50.00
Donation to Percilla Church, 30.00
Donation to Paterson Church, 30.00
Donation to Union Church, 30.00
Appropriation for Bulletin, 10.00

Received from Mrs. J. S. Mathis, Treasurer of the W. P. and H. M. Society, the sum of \$300.00
Appropriated same as follows:
Paid Mrs. G. P. Hendricks, Louisville, \$150.00
Donated to Beaumont Church, 75.00
Donated to Wells Mission Church, 50.00
Donated to Hallville Church, 25.00

Assessed the sum of \$1600 for Church extension for 1897, and apportioned the same to the following districts:
Marshall District, \$300.00
Tyler District, 300.00
Palestine District, 300.00
Pittsburg District, 300.00
San Augustine District, 225.00
Beaumont District, 175.00
\$1600.00

The following ladies are the officers of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society for 1897:

Mrs. G. V. Ridley, President, Jefferson.
Mrs. W. W. Watts, First Vice-President, Beaumont.
Mrs. W. C. Huntington, Second Vice-President, Shelbyville.
Mrs. W. A. Sampey, Recording Secretary, Beaumont.
Mrs. George Call, Corresponding Secretary, Orange.
Mrs. V. A. Godbey, Treasurer, Rusk.

DISTRICT SECRETARIES.

Marshall District - Mrs. Joe Battle, Longview.
Tyler District - Mrs. L. L. Jester, Tyler.
Palestine District - Miss Fannie Fowler, Palestine.
Pittsburg District - Mrs. Fannie Trigg, San Augustine.
Beaumont District - Mrs. Hattie Stone, Jasper.

Respectfully submitted,
J. S. MATHIS, Chairman.
J. D. FORB, Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we express our great pleasure at the mastery and powerful editorials of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE. They abound in thought, in research, and in truth. They are a manly defense of the doctrines and polity of our Church, and of the faith once delivered unto the saints.

Resolved 2. That the Epworth League Department is managed with great skill, and we most cheerfully commend that department to all the Leagues of the East Texas Conference.
D. F. C. THOMPSON,
O. P. THOMAS.

JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.

R. W. Thompson, W. P. Pledger, A. A. Wagon, L. Dawson, W. F. Davis, W. A. Manley, L. Trice, J. N. Shuford, C. A. Tower, L. D. Gynne, T. S. Garrison and H. D. Seils.

THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The Journal, edited with more care than either of the three preceding issues, went to the printers on December 23, and the proof is expected hourly, December 12. Members of the conference and others will receive copies about January 1. Please note the following:

- 1. If you have any doubt about the editor having your true postoffice, give it to him, at Georgetown, at once on a postal card.
2. If you fail to receive as many copies as you need by January 10, write to him.
3. If you will inform the editor immediately how many copies you will need and will use judiciously the means do not put them away in pigeon-holes of your desk and forget them; he will endeavor to meet your demand from one to twelve copies.
4. Those who do not make special written requests will receive copies according to their office, as follows: Superannuates, supernumeraries and presiding elders, two copies each; pastors, four copies; widows or children of our deceased members, one each; connexional people and others according to their known wants or their request.
5. Those wishing to have the Journal, who are not entitled to it postage free, would do a thoughtful thing to enclose a 2-cent stamp for each copy desired.
6. The editor would like to exchange with editors of other Journals.
SAML' P. WRIGHT, Editor.
Georgetown, Texas.

No man has a call from God to go as a missionary to the other side of the world, until he has done something for Christ at home. - Ram's Horn.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE FOR 1896-7. Columns include: Districts, Local Preachers, Total Members This Year, Infants, Adults, No. Societies in Conference, No. of Churches, Value of Churches, Value of Parsonages, Value of Other Church Property, Expended for Churches and Parsonages, Assessed, Paid, Conference in Churches, Bishops, Conferences, Foreign Missions, Domestic Missions, Churches, Religious, Paid Am. Soc. for Missions, Orphan Home, Other Objects, Total from all sources, Ep. League, No. League Members, Schools, Officers, Teachers, No. of Scholars, Amt. Collected for Sunday Schools, Amt. Collected for Missions, Amt. Collected for Children's Day, Amt. Collected for Other Objects, Total Amount raised.

NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE

WORTHAM.

F. M. Winburn, Dec. 14: "A new broom sweeps clean." Preached at Rabbit Hill 6th inst.; nice congregation; preached here yesterday and last night; church and yard full at each service. If this continues we need more room. Fine Sunday-school and League a. m. and p. m. I suppose all the "new" brethren are having large crowds. Now's the time to strike, brethren.

MANFIELD AND ST. PAUL.

L. W. Cain, Dec. 14: Two weeks ago we moved to our new home in Mansfield. I said "new" - yes, it is a brand-new, five-room parsonage, built on the modern style. A nicer and more comfortable home a preacher need not covet. Our reception was all we could ask for. It is due these people to say, they know how to make their preacher

and his family feel easy and at home with them - not only in word, but in deed also. Well, the pounding - it was just immense, consisting of lots of most everything that goes to make up a fat kitchen - enough to last some two or three months to come. We've spent two very pleasant, and we trust profitable, Sundays here, and the outlook is very flattering for a most successful year along all lines of Church work. We are praying and hoping for the best year in the history of the charge.

BOWIE.

W. M. Leatherwood: We reached Bowie, our new charge, on Thursday, the 6th, and met a real cordial welcome. Indeed, the reception has been really refreshing. On Monday night, of last week we received such a "pounding" as we never had before. One hundred or more people broke in upon us, each bearing a package or sack of something nice and useful. When the joyous, jolly crowd had deposited their gifts the dining-table was a perfect pyramid of packages, and sacks and bundles were under the table and around the wall. We have not been so well supplied with nice things for a long time. The kind and thoughtful ladies of the Church have put some nice new furniture in the parsonage and the "Little Workers" put handsome shades on the windows of one room. Doubtless more will be added from time to time till the parsonage has become a home of comfort and of pleasure to the preacher and his family. The parsonage is new, nice and very conveniently planned. Of course, our gratitude is thoroughly aroused to these kind people and we feel to do all for them as pastor possible. We are starting off well. Our congregations are large and attentive. We hope and pray for a year of grace. Bro. Stuekey was here four years and did a fine work. Besides the parsonage, the church is practically new and is a good building. He added a large number to the Church. He is popular with this people and deserves to be. God bless him! We enter into his labors. If we are not mistaken in the "signs of the times" we are entering upon a year of spiritual prosperity in this charge. "So mote it be."

TAYLOR.

T. J. Duncan, Dec. 14: Your kind words of greeting and welcome, together with the expressed wish that I might be made comfortable in the Northwest Texas Conference, abide with me. Truly, "Kind words never die." I read the Sunday following the reading of the appointments. Bro. Annis had, in the midst of much personal affliction, done a good year's work. The people paid his salary in full and gave him up with regret. They received Mrs. Duncan and myself with great hospitality, kindness and love. We have spent three Sundays here. The house is full at every coming together. Good Sunday-school, prayer-meeting, large and full of interest. Leagues working well, official board hopeful, fifteen accessions on certificate yesterday. The interior of the parsonage is newly fitted up and the store-room beautifully supplied. Thanks to the kind-hearted ladies of the Church. We are laboring to make a return in spiritual things. Bro. Wright has moved with his family to Georgetown. It will be a serious loss to the working forces of our local congregation - especially to our young people. Though quite unwell after conference he never ceased his labors, but with his characteristic energy and promptness he never rested until the copy of our minutes were in the mail en route to the printer.

DECKER CIRCUIT.

J. N. Broyles, Dec. 12: The last Annual Conference made the Decker Mission a circuit by adding to it Spring Creek from Buffalo Gap and Wingate from Ballinger Mission. The Board of Stewards met to-day and made their assessment: Wingate, \$60; Decker, \$60; New Hope, \$40; Mt. Carmel, \$40; Hillton, \$40; Spring Creek, \$55; Silver, \$30. Bro. N. C. Bolin gave fifty dollars apart from the assessment. It was returned to the assessment. I have been kindly received. I hope this may be the best year of my life. As pastor of this circuit I deem it due my people to report through the Advocate the amounts raised for the different disciplinary claims. I did not get to conference. I sent my report to my presiding elder, W. M. Shelton, asking him to settle the same for me, but have not been able to hear from him; Presiding elder, \$20; preacher in charge, \$180; Bishops, \$2,500; conference claimants, \$9; foreign missions, \$10; domestic missions, \$10; church extension, \$3; education, \$1; Orphans' Home, \$1.75; other objects, \$3.25.

WHITNEY.

S. C. Littlepage, Dec. 15: I am much pleased with my new charge, the intellectual, pious and cordiality of the people, together with the hearty welcome we have received and the greeting of old friends. I held two protracted meetings here - one twelve, the other thirteen years ago - when I was a member of the old Texas Conference. The subjects of these meetings are still here - some of them. But the most gratifying feature of the situation is the prospect of doing good and the heartiness with which the Church enters upon the labors of the new year. Our District Conference meets here this year.

DE LEON.

A. E. Carraway, Dec. 21: We are in the midst of a meeting in my charge at DeLeon Station. It began the 13th inst. Rev. T. G. Patterson, formerly of Callifornia, but now of DeLeon, is doing the preaching for me. Bro. P. has for the

past five years been an evangelist. He is a man of God; a true Methodist preacher; has done us good work. The meeting still goes on with prospects of great good. Bro. Patterson's father and mother live here and are members of my charge and are old-time Methodist folk. He is a success in a meeting. Any brother who wants real good help will do well to get him. This I know, because I have tried him. Glory to God for salvation. We are confidently expecting a great year at DeLeon this year.

HUCKABAY.

J. D. Hendrickson, Dec. 9: We arrived here last week and preached Sunday to large and attentive congregations. We have been cordially received, and last night quite a number of our people came and gave us a liberal pounding. They spent a short time with us, talking and singing, and then left us to recover as best we could from the surprise. This morning two young ladies, on their way to school, brought in a basket loaded with good things. May God bless this people and help us to serve them faithfully.

BLANKET CIRCUIT.

E. E. Sandel, Dec. 16: We are back again among this people for another year's work. The stewards have met and made their assessment and we are ready to do our best. The many kind expressions of regard are greatly appreciated. Took up a novel collection last Sunday: Eleven acres of cotton subscribed for the building of a church at Salt Creek. May God prosper the consecrated crop.

COVINGTON CIRCUIT.

C. L. Ballard: I reached Covington Circuit the 4th of December. In one week I visited fifty-five members, held four Church Conferences, appointed seven class-leaders, elected committee to secure and locate a church lot, organized one Sunday-school, organized one Epworth League, lettered sixteen members, dropped by Church Conference four members, preached seven times, held one prayer-meeting. There is plenty of work to do on Covington Circuit. May the Lord help me to do it well.

RICE.

B. A. Snoddy, Dec. 11: The preacher and his family have been kindly received on the Rice and Chatfield charges. The membership and kind friends of the other Churches have given expressions of their appreciation by a handsome pounding, consisting of many nice things. For these good things and the many kind words giving us welcome to our new pastorate, words can not express our gratitude to the Giver of all gifts and to these kind people. May God help us to be a blessing to them during the year.

PEORIA.

C. S. Cameron, Dec. 19: After a move of 150 miles we are snugly housed in our parsonage in Peoria. We have found a kind and generous people here. The outlook here for the Church is as bright as the promises of God. I have gone partly around my work. I meet large congregations. I have plenty of work to do and I shall do it with the help of the Holy Ghost. My people have received us kindly. On the evening of the 16th instant they remembered us in a very substantial way with a pounding, and it has been continued. May God reward each of them and I will try to administer in spiritual things. We are happy in the work. "So mote it be."

PROCTOR.

J. W. Fort, Dec. 10: We reached this charge immediately after conference. Have been kindly received. Preached last Sunday at Graham's Chapel, had a large congregation; fine meeting; six sinners came and gave their hands, asking for an interest in our prayers. This is a splendid farming country; people as a whole are in better shape than anywhere we have been in the State. Last night our hearts were made to rejoice when a procession of Methodists, Baptists and Campbellites, headed by Bro. Ray, the Baptist pastor, came to the parsonage and left a good stack of staple and fancy groceries for the inmates of the parsonage. God bless them every one, and help us to do them a good year's work.

QUANAH.

N. B. Bennett, Dec. 16: We reached our new field of labor on Friday, the 4th day of December, and met a kind and hospitable people, who kindly entertained us until our household goods came in. On Sunday morning at 11 o'clock we were greeted by a large and appreciative audience. We find here a most excellent Sunday-school, under the superintendency of Bro. J. B. Roberson, with a corps of good teachers. We have also a live Epworth League, presided over by Bro. Ferguson. On Monday, 2 p. m., the Ladies' Aid Society met at the parsonage and carpeted two rooms and added some new furniture. Everything moved along about as usual with the average itinerant preacher until Thursday night, when the people of various denominations began to rush into the parsonage and severely pounded the inmates in a good, old-fashioned way - hams, backbones and spare-ribs, sugar, coffee, canned fruits, preserves, jellies, and things too numerous to mention. From the parsonage we repaired to the church house and prayed to and praised the Lord for a season, and concluded by pledging ourselves to more useful lives. We were invited to be

DUBLIN.

W. H. Matthews, Dec. 14: We have just commenced our third year in Dublin. The last two years have been pleasant years, and our Church has prospered. The membership has increased from two hundred and thirty-five to two hundred and eighty-seven. Conference collections have been paid in full. Improvements have been made in the way of fencing, planting of trees, painting church and furnishing parsonage, etc. Pastor's salary has increased considerably over former years. Our women have done good work; so has the League. Our presiding elder and his family live here - or rather his family lives here, and he stops with them occasionally. They have been a great deal of help to the Dublin Church. Our people appreciate them and we hope soon to have them comfortably housed in a district parsonage. Dublin will contribute about \$500 to this enterprise. We hope to begin work in a few days. We have had some great meetings in Dublin since we have been here. But the most remarkable one was conducted by two of our class-leaders - Bros. T. L. Ward and M. L. McNally. These brethren have been conducting cottage pray-

present at Childress - the other half of our station - on Friday night to attend the literary entertainment given by our Epworth League at that place, which invitation we most cordially accepted. We were met at the depot by that faithful old veteran of the cross, Dr. W. T. Albert, who conducted us to his kind home, where we enjoyed the hospitality of this old Georgian for a time and thence to the church where we found a wide-awake League in waiting for us with a full-grown pounding, which was second to none we have seen in several years. We preached here to large congregations. Bro. Hardy, if you expect to find a better people than you left at Quanah and Childress, I think you will be mistaken, even though you have a whole district to pick from. We are expecting a glorious year.

WALNUT SPRINGS.

J. R. B. Hall, Dec. 17: After saying farewell to the many people we loved on the Bertram and Mt. Horeb charge, with tearful eyes and heavy hearts we turned our faces from these pleasant fields to the point which was assigned us by Bishop Keener, and are now safely housed in the parsonage at Walnut Springs. Not a single face that we have ever seen before have we yet met, but the people among whom our lot is cast have shown us many kindnesses already, among which was a nice pounding, and we, very naturally, feel at home in their midst. We are much pleased with the locality and pray that God may bless us and make us worthy of the people we are sent to serve and help us to be a faithful shepherd to the flock over which the Lord has made us pastor. The nice souvenir quilt, presented to us by the W. P. and H. M. Society of Mt. Horeb on our return from conference, we hereby acknowledge the receipt of with many thanks.

SOUTH TEMPLE.

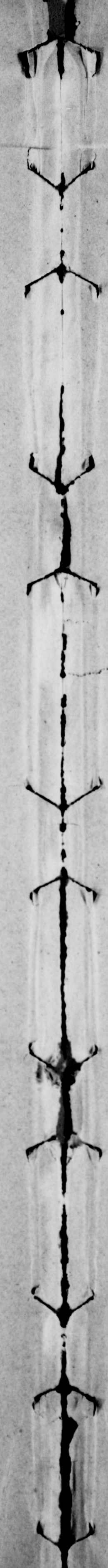
J. M. Armstrong, Dec. 14: Our people have received us cordially. Nobody kicking, so far as I know, at our novelty. Placed electric lights in church aisle conference. Preacher's wife rigged in new suit by the good ladies, much to our appreciation. Should its absence prove an offense to the humble saints, the preacher need not be held responsible. In every direction there are signs of an upward trend for Methodism in South Temple.

EASTLAND CIRCUIT.

R. S. Heizer, Dec. 15: We have begun on our second year on this circuit and the outlook for a good year is encouraging. We have received many warm handshakes, many words of welcome and from Mrs. J. P. Shannon a fine turkey for Christmas, for which we return our sincere thanks. Our first Quarterly Conference for the present conference year convened at Eastland, 12th and 15th. Our new beloved presiding elder, Bro. Chapman, was on hand and preached our four soul-stirring sermons. The fact is, he just captivated both saint and sinner. All were well pleased and his visits will be looked forward to with joyful anticipation. We have five appointments on the circuit and each was represented. The official board made a liberal assessment for their pastor and reported \$49 paid the first quarter. Oh, for a baptism of fire on all our hearts, that we may go to work in earnest to save precious and immortal souls.

WHITNEY.

One of the most pleasant social events of the season occurred at the Methodist parsonage Tuesday evening. Scarcely had the pastor got straightened up when the mutterings of a storm were heard, and though no one appeared alarmed, its strength increased until both front rooms were filled with a happy joyous throng of people of both sexes. All ages, all Churches represented in our town, and a number of our Church at all, mingled in the mirth and merriment of the hour, leaving a rich deposit of fruit as shaken from branches of the living vine by a wave of Christian kindness, whose frequent occurrence can never be deplored. Dropping the metaphorical and dealing in plain English there were sugar, coffee, flour, ham, pickles, catsup, canned goods, table linen, etc., and last, but not least, the inevitable gubber, without which no feast is perfect. After a few remarks, expressions of appreciation and prayer by Mr. Littlepage, all departed leaving the parsonage calmer than the surface of a storm-swept sea. - Whitney Voice.



was held last night, under the auspices of the League, which was very well attended. The exercises were appropriate-meetings in Dublin for quite a while. The Holy Ghost put it in their hearts to protect these meetings, and after consultation with the pastor they did so. The meeting commenced the first of October and the attendance was soon so large that no residence would hold them. Capt. H. A. Smith, a Baptist brother, fitted up a building on South Side, and the meeting moved into it. The meeting continued about two months. There were about one hundred conversions and reclamations. This meeting was called a unique meeting and all denominations earnestly engaged in the work. It has gone out that this meeting was a "holiness meeting." I wish to say that Bro. Ward and McAnally are not at all in sympathy with the independent holiness movement. They do not profess as much as some others, but by their lives and work they have proven that they walk with God. As the Morrison holiness meeting has been heralded abroad as a very great and wonderful meeting, we wish to say that out of sixty-five conversions they claimed, only one has joined any Church in Dublin out of the one hundred sanctifications reported. We have some few who are true and loyal to the Church, while a number of others are possessed with the same lawless spirit that characterized the leader of the meeting.

MINERAL WELLS.
J. S. Tunnel, Dec. 9: We are in the sixth week of a great revival here—the greatest ever known in the history of this town. Evangelist A. L. Prewett, of Nashville, Tenn., is doing the preaching and leading the hosts. I suppose about one hundred and fifty have been converted and perhaps as many more have been reclaimed. Among the converts are representatives of all classes—lawyers, doctors, bankers, mechanics, business men, saloon men and gamblers. One man was saved the night before his 70th birthday, and even the children have shared the influence of this mighty revival. Scores of family altars have been erected and the Church has become a working force. A mission work has been established on the streets, where daily services are held which are proving a power for good. Greater harmony prevails among our own people than at any time during my pastorate of two years past. The pastors of the Baptist and Christian Churches, with their people, have co-operated in the work and are reaping souls. Nearly one hundred have joined all the Churches and many more will join. Bro. Prewett is an earnest gospel preacher, using no clap-net methods. He holds the sword unsparringly against sin, calls sinners to the altar to repent, confess sin and seek pardon.

CRANDALL.
J. B. Minnis, Dec. 12: By the authority of the Church I have been appointed to the Crandall Mission for another year. As soon as the conference closed I picked up my grip and started for Crandall. My people all express themselves as being proud of my return. We have received many tokens of their appreciation since my return. Last Monday the Church at Lone Elm gave us a regular pounding, consisting of such things as a family allowance, several dollars' worth of sugar and coffee, and many other things too tedious to mention. The class at Lone Elm is hard to beat. Now, let other classes follow and the preacher will have plenty to eat. Our prospects are good for a prosperous year.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.
CEDAR HAYOU.
J. R. Murray, Dec. 7: I arrived home from Bastrop December 1, and started my second year's work on this charge the following night by marrying a couple of our best young people. Yesterday I preached to three good congregations. Since my return our people are not only Methodists, but members of other Churches and others who are not members of any Church, have been quite outspoken in expressing appreciation at my return. This morning we decided to build a nice two-story parsonage, and we expect to start work on it next week.

LYONS.
W. C. Bracewell, Dec. 14: We have been kindly and cordially received and pounced, too. These people are not novices at a pounding, for they gave us the most substantial one we ever saw, bringing enough of everything to last us more than a month and enough of some things to last several months. May

BABIES WITH SKINS ON FIRE
From itching and burning eczema and other skin and scalp troubles. None but parents realize how these little ones suffer. To know that a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, and a single application of CUTICURA Ointment, the great skin cure, will in the majority of cases afford instant relief, permit rest and sleep, and point to a speedy cure, and not to use them without a moment's delay is to fail in our duty.
Sold throughout the world. Price, CUTICURA, 25c. Soap, 50c. Ointment, 25c. and 50c. For Sale Everywhere. Beware of cheap imitations.
"How to Cure Skin Troubles" mailed free.

ROYAL
The absolutely pure
BAKING POWDER
ROYAL—the most celebrated of all the baking powders in the world—celebrated for its great leavening strength and purity. It makes your cakes, biscuit, bread, etc., healthful, it assures you against alum and all forms of adulteration that go with the cheap brands.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK

the Lord reward and abundantly bless them. Our first Quarterly Conference was held on Monday, Dec. 14. After a great ingathering of 284 members last conference year, I had supposed that this year would be one of training and developing, but with only two Sundays since conference we have received 10 members—four on profession of faith and six by letter. Rev. J. F. Archer, of North Texas Conference, preached for us first Sunday morning and our people were delighted with his sermon. Bro. Hutchins, our new "beloved," preached a most excellent and heart-searching sermon at night and held the first Quarterly Conference Monday night. We are glad to note that Bro. Ward and Sears are starting off finely at Shearn and Tabernacle Churches, respectively.

WASHINGTON STREET, HOUSTON.
J. W. Horn, Dec. 14: After a great ingathering of 284 members last conference year, I had supposed that this year would be one of training and developing, but with only two Sundays since conference we have received 10 members—four on profession of faith and six by letter. Rev. J. F. Archer, of North Texas Conference, preached for us first Sunday morning and our people were delighted with his sermon. Bro. Hutchins, our new "beloved," preached a most excellent and heart-searching sermon at night and held the first Quarterly Conference Monday night. We are glad to note that Bro. Ward and Sears are starting off finely at Shearn and Tabernacle Churches, respectively.

MADISONVILLE.
W. W. Horner, Dec. 14: The Texas Conference adjourned on Monday, November 16, and I reached Madisonville, my new charge, Wednesday evening of the same week and conducted the prayer-meeting service that night. I have preached at all the places on the work and have had very large and attentive congregations at each place. Madisonville is a quiet little town of about 700 or 800 inhabitants, and is the county seat of Madison County. They have one of the finest schools here that can be found in any town of its size in the whole country, conducted by the Allen brothers, assisted by two very intelligent young ladies who are also active church workers. The other two places on the work are Midway and Elwood—one a little town, the other a thickly-settled neighborhood. They have fine schools at both of these places also, which speaks well for them. I preached here yesterday to two very large and intelligent congregations, attended the League devotional services at 3 o'clock, and at 4 we organized a Junior League with forty-five children as charter members. They did not elect their officers, as we did not have time for this, but will complete the organization and put the children to work later on. I have received a very hearty welcome all around the work, and by the grace and help of God, I am determined to try to do the very best year's work of my life. There is much hard work to be done here, and my earnest prayer to God is that he will enable me to accomplish great good in this field of labor, and build up the cause of my blessed Master all over the work.

AD TONIC.
Horsford's Acid Phosphate.
Dr. A. E. CAROTHERS, San Antonio, Texas, says: "It is the best tonic I know of in debility and nervous prostration, with sleeplessness, caused by mental overwork or prolonged lactation."

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.
GREENWOOD.
J. W. Tincher, Dec. 21: We had a good day yesterday at Stoney. I preached the first sermon in our new church at Stoney. We had a large and attentive audience. The church is not completed yet, but will be soon. Methodism is laying a good foundation in a fine country. May God help us to move on.

ROCKWALL.
D. F. Fuller: Our reception has been most cordial. Many kind acts bear evidence that we are to serve a worthy people. The ladies have added to the furniture of the parsonage, and the stewards have made a liberal assessment for the preacher. Bro. Nichols leaves many friends here. It is pleasant to find a former pastor so beloved. May the blessing of God be upon him and dwell in those he leaves behind.

FARMERSVILLE.
J. F. Anderson, Dec. 14: We reached this place on Tuesday after conference; were kindly received. The good ladies had prepared a tempting supper. There were at the parsonage to receive us about a dozen of these ladies, who did much to make us feel at home, and they succeeded well. After their friendly greeting and words of kindly cheer they left us in full possession, when the preacher, his good wife and hungry children did justice to the supper. This is a kind people, who have done much already to endear themselves to the new pastor and his family. Tokens of good-will have been fre-

quently received. The culminated storm reached us on the 8th and left in its wake much filling for the larder. We are thankful to God and the people for these kind remembrances. May the Lord grant us a grand harvest this year. We intend by divine help and guidance to do our best work for this people.

ROSSSTON.
J. C. Weaver, Dec. 9: We reached Rossston Wednesday, December 2. We found several of Rossston's good women, with a few of the brethren, at the parsonage. They had a good fire and a good dinner awaiting our arrival; so we were warmly and beautifully received on our new work. Tuesday, December 8, Rush Creek came in with many things we will not ask space to mention. The ladies took charge of the cooking and dining-room and, my my! what a dinner we had. Then the same night came Rossston's crowd again, seemingly trying to excel Rush Creek. So this parsonage is simply loaded down with good things—substantial things. Many thanks to the donors. We are preparing for a good and profitable year. I find many here now I used to preach to years ago.

WHITESBORO.
W. H. Brown, Dec. 14: Some one said to me, "What makes you write in the Advocate so much?" My answer is simply this, I want my friends to know how good the Lord's people are to me and I want the Lord to have all the glory. Then there are so many good things to write about—things too good to keep. Such things as happened to us on last Thursday night are too good to keep. The good people of Whitesboro, led by that old mother in Israel, Sister Newman, came rushing into our rented home and left so many good things for us that we could hardly find room for them all; then Bro. Riddle, the pastor in the station, and his good wife were in the crowd, and he made us such a good talk and prayed such an earnest prayer for our success that we feel assured we will not fail this year. We preached our first sermons at Southward and Kendall's Chapel yesterday to very attentive congregations, and the Lord blessed us abundantly. Some cried and some shouted, and many made vows to live better lives. All glory to God.

CUMBY CIRCUIT.
W. T. Morrow, Dec. 14: We were read out at conference to Cumby Circuit. We bade good-bye to kind friends at Como the 22d ult., and came to our new field of labor. We were met at the depot and conducted to the home of Bro. Bond, where we were entertained till Tuesday, when we moved into the parsonage. That night there was a co-gregation gathered at the church near by, and sent a committee after scribble and better half to conduct them over to receive a first-class pounding, consisting of many of the substantial necessities of life. Many tokens of appreciation have been finding their way to the parsonage since. We have met two of our congregations. At Mt. Zion, first Sunday inst., we were greeted by large and attentive congregations, which manifested signs of spirituality. We were met yesterday and last night at this place by a very large audience, who were very attentive and gave audible signs of God's presence. We are expecting a successful year and hope to reciprocate the many kindnesses to us by a faithful year's service.

LEWISVILLE.
J. A. Wyatt, Dec. 14: I have just completed the first round on my circuit since conference and have been very heartily and substantially welcomed back for another year. The brethren at each appointment on the work have recognized the fact that the preacher and his family have needs at the beginning of the year as well as the ending, and have opened their purses liberally considering the money stringency. We have arranged to begin a meeting at Lewisville on the first Sunday in February, and are preparing for a sweeping revival. We had, so far as this pastor is concerned, a unique reception. Returning from conference on Wednesday, quite a large number of ladies and gentlemen and children gathered at the parsonage at 7 p. m., and after spending a little time in a kind of general social way, the meeting was turned into a kind of Church Conference service, in which there were prayers, songs and talks, the latter taking a wide range.

RHOME.
W. S. May, Dec. 22: Pounding the preacher is in order. So the preacher in charge at Rhome came in for a share. Like that affair in Eastern Texas, it was the women who did it. In early afternoon, Monday, 14th inst., a buggy-loaded came, and by the time it was unloaded there came another, and such a pile as was deposited in the parsonage kitchen! Sisters Miller and Barker and Miss Madena Prunty, Mrs. George Arrington (these latter two sisters not members of our Church) were the perpetrators of this pounding. A fine turkey, ham, sausage, butter, lard, coffee, soda, starch, etc. After preaching last Sunday the preacher was notified to appear the next morning at the store at Anneville. We obeyed, and found the pounding not over. Others had taken it up in that community. Sisters Breedlove and Anthony were at the head. And now we are loaded down to the guards. Another turkey and other good things of same kind as mentioned above, with some silver coin in addition. So you see the friends of Methodist preachers, and especially this one, are not all dead. God bless and save these good people in the prayer of the preacher and his wife of Rhome Circuit.

SALES TALK.
With Hood's Sarsaparilla, "Sales Talk," and show that this medicine has enjoyed public confidence and patronage to a greater extent than accorded any other proprietary medicine. This is simply because it possesses greater merit and produces greater cures than any other. It is not what we say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story. All advertisements of Hood's Sarsaparilla, like Hood's Sarsaparilla itself, are honest. We have never deceived the public, and this with its superlative medicinal merit, is why the people have abiding confidence in it, and buy

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Almost to the exclusion of all others. Try It. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

There is only one soap that is kept by all grocers, that is Ivory Soap.

LANCASTER AND HUTCHINS.
P. A. Edwards, Dec. 17: Lancaster gets three-fourths and Hutchins one-fourth of my time. It is a new charge as now arranged, and a pleasant one. We arrived here about 7 p. m., November 24; were met at the train by several brethren and conducted to the handsome residence of Bro. White, where we received a hearty welcome. A hot supper awaited us and we showed appreciation. We spent the hour pleasantly—several brethren and sisters calling on us, giving us a warm reception. Next day some brethren hauled our goods to the parsonage and the ladies furnished a large new cook stove, new bedstead, springs and three mattresses—the other necessary furniture being already in. We have had three poundings—one from Lancaster, one from Hutchins (both of which contained necessities, delicacies, and luxuries in no small degree) and the third one, from the country members, has been going on at intervals ever since we came. God bless these good people and give us a prosperous year.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.
TIMPOSA.
T. J. Milam, Dec. 13: Timposia Station is ending the first year with great credit to her wide-awake people—a people who mean success in whatever they undertake. They have nobly supported the preacher and met all financial obligations. Then, to serve a broad-gauged people is a pleasure to the pastor. To know that an assessment means a paid up assessment at end of year is no small comfort to a preacher.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.
HELENA.
M. W. Francis, Dec. 14: We are very comfortably housed in the parsonage at Helena. Kind friends furnished the parsonage and met us here on the evening of our arrival and made us welcome by severely pounding us. We have made one round on our circuit, and are well pleased with the prospects. We have a large work, lying in three counties, and are expecting great times this year.

SHERWOOD CIRCUIT.
J. J. Franks, Dec. 11: I am on this work for the second year. I even not say that the house is crowded at each service, but can say that my congregations are larger than they have been since I have been on the work. Our work has been changed since last year. We now have two days at Sherwood, and one each at Knickerbocker and Christoval. We serve a good people and are glad to be with them again. They do not shout as much as some people we have preached to, but they can come up on still work. They do not rush in and pound the preacher and his family so hard that they cannot get their breath, but they do see that he does not stay hungry if he hollows in time. They do not all get into the house on prayer-meeting nights, but this is not for lack of room. We are not dead, but feel somewhat ailing, as a sister said of her rheumatic limb. We are expecting a revival soon and one to stay, as we are praying for one to be sent down from the Lord.

HALLETTSVILLE.
B. F. McManama, Dec. 9: I came to this conference a stranger, but they took me in and made me feel at home. I was appointed to the Hallettsville charge. I came on to the work, and I received a warm reception—my family not being with me, as they were visiting in Western Kansas at the time. But on Thanksgiving Day they arrived and the ladies had dinner at the parsonage for us; and it was truly a Thanksgiving dinner! We have been around over the work some, and I find some of the best people I ever met, and I can truly say with the Psalmist: "The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places." Our first Quarterly Conference is past and the Stewards have provided very well for us. We have not suffered as severe a pounding yet as some of the brethren have been writing about, but

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Almost to the exclusion of all others. Try It. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

IVORY SOAP
99⁴⁴/₁₀₀ % PURE
There is only one soap that is kept by all grocers, that is Ivory Soap.

but a very spiritual turn, in which many matters pertaining to the interests of the Church were discussed, we think, to considerable profit. By no means was the least profitable talk made by Rev. W. T. Harris, preacher in charge of Haskell Avenue, Dallas, who had stepped with us for the night on his way to his present charge. This beats a pounding a long way, especially so when the pounding follows in the substantial form mentioned above. The Junior League of Lewisville has furnished matting for the family room of the parsonage, the Senior League of Webb's Chapel has agreed to furnish material to canvas and paint the inside of the kitchen and other improvements have been made. When all is summed up it will amount to about \$20.

STERLING CITY CIRCUIT.
G. M. Gardner: We are in a high, healthy, prosperous part of the West Texas Conference. Sterling City is gradually growing and improving. Our Church membership is about one hundred. The attendance at our regular service is very large for a small town. It can be truly said of Sterling City, she has an hospitable, Church-going people. The people attend the services of all the denominations. We have a new church building almost complete. It is a beautiful, modern style church. We hope to have it ready for occupancy in January. Rev. J. A. Baker, presiding elder, was with us last Saturday and Sunday and we had some profitable and enjoyable services. Water Valley has at last moved out on the main line for Methodism. Our membership has gone from two to twenty-five in twelve months. Our Epworth League, with Prof. W. J. Wilcox as President, has over forty members and is doing a fine work. Two weeks ago I called the people of Water Valley together and organized a Methodist Sunday-school, with full classes and good, efficient officers and teachers. Our people are talking of building a church here. Other appointments on the circuit have not made much change.

NOTES FROM ALICE.
M. A. Turner, Dec. 14: This town is situated on the Texas Mexican Narrow-gauge, forty-three miles west of Corpus Christi, and is also the terminus of the Alice branch of the S. A. & A. P. We have in all about six hundred inhabitants, a small majority of whom are Mexicans of the middle class. Most of our American citizens are a law-abiding, moral and enterprising people. A nice majority are members of some Protestant Church. Ours, the M. E. Church, South, is in the lead, but closely followed by the Episcopalians, who have made a fine start under the leadership of Rev. W. G. W. Smith, who, at present, is taking a rest on account of ill-health. We have had a Church here since the town began to build—some nine years since. Two houses of worship have been built—one under the ministry of J. W. Gibbons, and the other since the writer has been in charge of the work. The first was a neat and comfortable little house, but our congregations got too large for it, so we had to build a larger and more commodious one, which we did, and recently the last dollar of indebtedness on it was paid by two generous and consecrated laymen. The W. P. and H. M.

WATCHES
Our 64-page catalog sent to any address, illustrating and pricing many varieties of solid gold watches, silver watches, nickel watches, and watches with leather bands. Write to us for a copy.
C. P. Barnes & Bro., 540 West Market St., Louisville, Ky.
This firm is reliable.—Texas Advocate.

WANTED: For a boy 12 years old, place to do chores, and go to school, with a Christian family within 25 miles of Dallas. Address 31 Preston Street, Dallas, Texas.
WANTED: By a lady, position either as housekeeper in hotel or private family; sick nurse, to take care of children, do light housekeeping, plain sewing, or as companion to widow or invalid lady. Can give references. Call or address 311 Preston Street, Dallas.

WOVEN WIRE FENCE
We have the best quality of woven wire fence, made by the best machinery, and we have it in stock in all lengths and widths. We also have a large stock of galvanized iron and steel pipes, and all kinds of iron and steel work. Write to us for a copy of our catalog.
KITSELMAN BROS., 112 N. Main St., St. Louis, Mo.

BELLS.
Buckeye Bell Foundry
E. W. Vandusen Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.
Best Pure Copper Church Bells & Chimes.
Highest Grade, Pure Tone, Workmanship.
Bells Founders of Largest Bell in America.

THE SCRIPTURAL MODE OF BAPTISM
Compared with the ORIGIN and HISTORY of IMMERSION FOR 800 YEARS.
By Rev. Wm. Paul, of the North Texas Conference. Price reduced to 25 cents per copy, or 50 cents for 5. Address the author, Waco, Texas.

You Are Thinking of What to Get for a Christmas Present.
What would be more suitable than
One of those magnificent Self Pronouncing Bibles that we are offering in connection with the Texas Christian Advocate? This Bible has the best of all. It is the only Bible that is published every year and it is the Bible of FOUR DOLLARS. Address Texas Christian Advocate, Dallas, Texas.

Name in Gold on Cover For 25 Cents Extra.
"A FAIR FACE GAINST ALL FOR AN UNDOING HOUSE."
USE
SAPOLIO

Society assisted by volunteers not members, deserve much credit for reducing the debt from about \$250 to \$35, which was wiped out by the brethren referred to above. Our house is modern in style and architecture, and by close economy of space will seat about 500 people. The old church has been remodeled and converted into a comfortable five-room parsonage, which, with \$50 more, can be made attractive and neat in every way. The writer has just completed, with his own hands, and at his own expense, a crib, cow-shed and lot. The good ladies intend taking the matter in hand soon and will reimburse the mechanic for all the money spent by him. Somebody hinted that to advance the money would be never to get it back, but I am not afraid to risk the ladies. We are starting well in our third year on this charge, and the people are growing on us all the time. We have tolerably good congregations at the preaching services, but we hope ere long to see an increase, both in numbers and interest. We have an interesting Sunday-school, a good prayer-meeting and a prosperous League, all things considered—new members coming in at every business meeting. A missionary mass meeting

FREE TO BALD HEADS
We will mail an application, free information how to grow hair upon a bald head, stop falling hair, and prevent receding hair line.
Attesting Med. Dispensary, Dept. J. N., Box 779, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dr. J. H. McLEAN'S LIVER AND KIDNEY BALM
CURES
Dropsy
Bright's Disease
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Female Diseases
Bladder Troubles
Urinary Disorders
Calculus or Gravel
Boils and Carbuncles
Gall Stones
Rheumatism
Torpil Liver
Irregular Menses
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All who have used it say it is "The Peerless Remedy" for diseases of the Liver, Kidneys and Urinary Organs.
Price \$1.00. At All Drug Stores.
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BELLS.
Buckeye Bell Foundry
E. W. Vandusen Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.
Best Pure Copper Church Bells & Chimes.
Highest Grade, Pure Tone, Workmanship.
Bells Founders of Largest Bell in America.

WANTED: For a boy 12 years old, place to do chores, and go to school, with a Christian family within 25 miles of Dallas. Address 31 Preston Street, Dallas, Texas.
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Name in Gold on Cover For 25 Cents Extra.
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SAPOLIO

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

Woman's Trust. "Good wife, what are you singing for you know we have lost the hay."

Perewell, dear sister, all your sorrows are over. May we meet on the other shore.

Week of Prayer. The members will take notice that the annual week of prayer for the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society extends this year from February 1 to 7, inclusive.

Subjects for the Week of Prayer for the W. P. and H. Society. In the programme for the week of prayer certain subjects relative to the work of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society are called for.

A resolution to adopt the King's Messenger as the official organ of our Rescuer work, both by the North and Northwest Texas Conferences, P. and H. M. Societies, was unanimously carried at the last session of these conferences.

Our week of prayer is held the first week in February, because in that week the Wesleyans first came to America seeking to evangelize this country.

Resolutions of respect were recently passed by the auxiliary W. F. M. Society of Jasper, Texas, to the memory of Mrs. W. H. Kyle, who was the oldest member of that auxiliary.

Programmes for the week of prayer may be secured from the Conference Secretaries of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society, or from the General Secretary, Mrs. R. K. Hargrove, West Nashville, Tenn.

Day of Fasting and Prayer. The members of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society are called upon to observe Friday, January 29, 1897, as a day of fasting and prayer.

The reason why I acknowledge the receipt of these names through the Advocate, is that it saves me having to answer each individually.

Our Nellie departed this life November the 17th, and was buried at Greenwood Cemetery, Dallas, in the King's Daughter's grounds.

Nothing pays smaller dividends in spiritual results, than making a specialty of discovering the shortcomings of other folks.

Much of the trouble in this world is caused by the man with the beam in his eye trying to point out the mote in his brother's eye.—Ram's Horn.

Orders have been sent to London for 5,000 Bibles, 5,000 hymn books and 5,000 catechisms, to be sold in the Fiji Islands.

Quarterly Conferences

East Texas Conference. Marshall District—First Round. Longview, at Longview, 1st Sun in Jan.

Texas Conference. Calvert District—First Round. Rosebud, at Rosebud, Jan 2, 3.

West Texas Conference. San Antonio District—First Round. Hondo, at Hondo, 1st Sun in Jan.

North Texas Conference. Greenville District—First Round. Merrillville, at Merrillville, 1st Sun in Jan.

Northwest Texas Conference. Georgetown District—First Round. Littlefield, at Georgetown, 1st Sun in Jan.

Weatherford District—First Round. Weatherford, at Weatherford, 1st Sun in Dec.

Abilene District—First Round. Snyder, at Snyder, 1st Sun in Dec.

Brownwood District—First Round. Longest, at Mullin, 1st Sun in Dec.

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False Economy. It is practiced by people who buy inferior articles of food.

How easy it would be to love unlovely people, if we could only see them as God sees.

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Gatesville District—First Round. See Home, at Pidoque, Dec 26, 27.

Dublin District—First Round. Proctor, at Mt. Airy, Dec 26, 27.

Waxahatchie District—First Round. Reager, at Boyce, Dec 26, 27.

Corleanna District—First Round. Hubbard, at Hubbard City, Dec 26, 27.

Waco District—First Round. Lorenz, at Lorena, Dec 26, 27.

Vernon District—First Round. Vernon, at Vernon, Jan 2, 3.

Fort Worth District—First Round. Marysow, at Burleson, Dec 26, 27.

Dallas District—First Round. Grand Prairie, at Grand Prairie, 1st Sun in Dec.

North Texas Conference. Greenville District—First Round. Merrillville, at Merrillville, 1st Sun in Jan.

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I WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT I'LL HAVE NOTHING BUT THE GENUINE BLACKWELL'S DURHAM!

SUPERIOR SINGLE DISC DRILL. The Disc Drill is an improvement in drills that will be appreciated by every grain raiser in the Blackland District of Texas.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE. San Antonio District—First Round. Hondo, at Hondo, 1st Sun in Jan.

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Advertisement for Joseph Gillott's Steel Pens, L&N Sewing Machines, and Radway's Pills, featuring illustrations of a woman and a child.

Advertisement for Radway's Pills, Always Reliable, Purely Vegetable.

Advertisement for Henry Lindenmeyr & Sons Paper Warehouse.

Advertisement for L&N Sewing Machines, THE MOST PERFECT OF PENS.

Advertisement for MORPHINE, Optum, Cocaine, and other medicinal products.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

(Continued from fifth page.)

and instructive. The proceeds will go on our assessment for the support of the Epworth League missionaries. Our W. P. and H. M. Society is young and not very well established, but is doing good work now, and, as some of the members seem determined, I feel sure that by the help of God it is going to succeed. An outpouring of God's spirit on every member's heart is what this Church needs now. Lord send it.

LOCKHART CIRCUIT.

Nath Thompson: Lockhart Circuit is neither dead nor dying, but alive and living. I have conducted eight different services in that many different places since last Tuesday night. Preached at three of my Churches yesterday; got on foot the building of a new church house and received into the fold twenty-seven members. Any new convert will pray in public. We would then that way when the iron is hot. Those dozen house-to-house prayer-meetings are still swifter running every week and genuine conversions are being had. Several new preachers are starting out. The District Stewards raised most of our conference collections. That's all right, and we are going to raise them, too. Most of my folks are getting a thorough case of religion. The Lord deliver us from scrubby Methodists.

MILBURN.

J. R. Smelser, Dec. 14: We are here on our work in the parsonage, and while we have not been pounded after the manner of some, yet we have been received kindly. In need, we serve a noble people, who are ever willing to share with the preacher and family whatever they have. May the Lord bless them and give us grace to serve them in such a way as will repay them for every kindness. We are praying for and expecting one hundred conversions this year. God bless the dear Advocate. We are going to do as much for it as we can.

MASON.

Jno. M. Linn, Dec. 19: The conference certainly honored me, this being my first work, by putting me very high up; for I started from San Antonio and seemed to be continually climbing for the greater part of three days, and at last found myself on one of the highlands, in what is said to be as healthful a place as there is in the State. The people have received me cordially all over the work, and I hope to do them good. Would they all were as good to themselves as they have been to me. There are some truly spiritual people on my work, who know the joys of a daily religious life. May their number increase!

UTOPIA CIRCUIT.

Frank B. Buchanan, Dec. 14: We came 170 miles by buggy after conference to our new work over rough roads. Utopia is well named. We are situated in a beautiful valley; mountains on every side as far as the eye can reach, the Sabinal river flowing between. The poet and painter would find almost unlimited inspiration here. As we came down the last mountain road and entered the valley we felt glad that, in the Providence of God, we were to spend the next year in this place, and the feeling of gladness was increased when we met the people. We have had a cordial reception. Kind ladies had unpacked our goods and fixed everything for our comfort before we arrived. We have had a protracted pouring—venison, beef, pork, turkey, and much in the grocery line. We have been greeted by large congregations, and saint and sinner have done all they could to make us feel at home. We have enough work to do to keep us busy every day in the year, and have started out to make this year the best in the history of the circuit. We have efficient help—good local preachers, conscientious, hard-working Sunday-school Superintendents and a first-class Board of Stewards. Our prayer is that we may be able to measure up to our responsibilities.

OUR ENEMY STOLE IN

An enemy has stolen into your system. What has happened? Simply this: the cold and touched your kidneys. They are over-charged with blood and inflamed. Instead of passing the waste matter out of the body they are damming it up in the blood. Every minute, yes, every heart beat adds to the poison in you. Normal action of the kidneys will purify the blood. Nothing else will.



Thus You Overcome Your Enemy. Large bottle, or one size smaller one at your druggist.

MARRIAGE NOTICES.

Colfer—Gardner.—In the Methodist Church, Waxahachie, Texas, on the evening of December 9, 1896, by Bishop Joseph S. Key, assisted by Rev. B. R. Bolton, Mr. H. Frank Colfer and Miss Jennie Gardner.

Brandingburg—Hopkins.—Near West Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, November 22, 1896, Mr. Charles Brandingburg and Miss Lillie Hopkins; all of Dallas County; Rev. J. B. Bennett officiating.

Care—Moss.—Near Duncanville, Dallas County, Texas, November 11, 1896, Mr. G. W. Care and Miss Florence Moss; all of Duncanville; Rev. J. B. Bennett officiating.

Cole—Love.—At the residence of the bride's uncle, Mr. Dobins, in West Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, December 8, 1896, Mr. D. E. Cole and Miss Annie Love; all of Mesquite, Dallas County; Rev. J. B. Bennett officiating.

McPherson—McFarland.—On December 8, 1896, Mr. W. T. McPherson and Miss Mable McFarland; all of Smith County, Texas; Rev. W. C. Stallings officiating.

Potts—Scott.—At the home of the bride's parents, Caldwell, Texas, Rev. E. A. Potts, pastor in charge at Deauville, and Miss Bertie Scott, October 6, 1896, Rev. T. S. Williford officiating.

Olds—Bracken.—At the residence of the bride's mother, near Dime Box, Texas, December 9, 1896, Mr. John H. Olds and Miss Sallie E. Bracken, Rev. E. A. Potts officiating.

Beavers—Munn.—At the residence of the bride's father, Major Munn, Mr. M. M. Beavers and Miss Alma Munn; both of Eastland County, Texas; Rev. J. M. Lane officiating.

Ballard—Berry.—At the home of the writer, near Martin's Mill, Van Zandt County, Texas, December 17, 1896, at 3 o'clock p. m., Mr. H. B. Ballard and Miss Ella Berry, Rev. Frank Everitt officiating.

Kellam—Stearl.—At the gate of the writer, near Martin's Mill, Van Zandt County, Texas, December 17, 1896, at 4:15 p. m., Mr. J. Kellam and Miss Fidel Stearl, Rev. Frank Everitt officiating.

Thilman—Adrian.—At the home of the bride, near Ben Wheeler, Van Zandt County, Texas, December 17, 1896, at 6:30 p. m., Mr. J. B. Thilman and Miss Romilda Adrian, Rev. Frank Everitt officiating.

Laseter—Hazel.—At the home of the bride's mother, near Lindale, Smith County, Texas, December 16, 1896, Mr. J. G. Laseter and Miss Effie Hazel, Rev. W. F. Mayne officiating.

Poteet—Grier.—At the parsonage in Cooper, Texas, December 20, 1896, Mr. M. C. Poteet and Miss Bertie Oyley, Rev. John E. Roach officiating.

Richardson—Brooks.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Wortham, Texas, December 15, 1896, by Rev. B. A. Stoddard, Mr. E. L. Richardson and Miss Mary A. Brooks.

Jones—Kunze.—In South Side Methodist Church, Temple, Texas, at 8:30 p. m., December 16, 1896, Mr. Ernest P. Jones and Miss Beatrice Kunze, Rev. J. M. Armstrong officiating.

Core—Bowman.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Wells, Texas, December 10, 1896, by Rev. W. D. Lewis, Mr. W. C. Core and Miss Eliza Bowman; all of Cherokee County, Texas.

him to the spirit land, and his faithful wife also. Seven children still live to mourn their loss, all of whom are members of the M. E. Church, South, and their only son, James Read, is a local preacher, living near Savoy, Texas.

Bro. Read was baptized in infancy. He was licensed to preach by the Greensburg Quarterly Conference of the Kentucky Conference, and was ordained deacon by Bishop Henry W. Warren, in 1841, at Lexington, Ky.; was ordained elder by Bishop Edmund S. James, in 1844, at Bowling Green, Ky.

Bro. Read was licensed to exhort at the first Quarterly Conference, and filled out the last quarter for his pastor, and was licensed to preach and recommended to the Annual Conference at the fourth Quarterly Conference, and was received on trial September 15, 1839.

Bishop Thomas A. Morris presiding. He was transferred by Bishop James O. Andrew in 1852, from the Kentucky Conference to the Texas Conference, and transferred from Texas to East Texas Conference and transferred from East Texas to the Trinity (now North Texas) Conference in its organization.

Bro. Read says: "I spent twelve years in the Kentucky Conference. Through all of these years the Lord has favored me with his presence."

In 1857 Bro. Read commenced a protracted meeting under an arbor near Elm Grove School-house, on Mill Creek, in Guadalupe County, which resulted in the conversion of Henry McCulloch and wife only son, Ben E. McCulloch, now of Austin. This revival resulted in the conversion of many others, and set in motion a flame of revival fire which swept over several counties.

The like of which Bro. McCulloch informed me had never been known before nor equaled since. Many of them lived and died in the faith and were ready, no doubt, to welcome him on his arrival at the beautiful gate and escort him into the glory land.

While others are following the foot-prints of their faithful but now sainted leader, Bro. Read planted the gospel in Delta County, being the first Southern Methodist preacher who preached in that county.

His foot-prints have been made in many parts of the State as a pioneer preacher. I have enjoyed hearing him tell of his adventures a half century ago and later. He was a man of great faith and consequently of spiritual power. Sinners trembled under his ministry. No one ever speaks ill of him, and even the skeptical say he was a good man, and those who knew him all say he was a man of God.

It was my privilege to become intimate with Bro. Read at conference at Wichita Falls, and on coming to this work twelve months ago, I found him ready with open arms to welcome me, and as long as he was able to attend church his seat was never vacant, and he would respond to the truths of the gospel with a hearty amen. He seemed to enjoy every service. The last service which he ever attended was at White Rock, the first Sunday in May last. He took sick on his way home and from then until his death, he was confined to his bed and endured most intense suffering for most of the time, but never a murmur during his sickness. I baptized his favorite grandchild standing by his bed, at which time he "bro. Miller, when you get to conference I will not be there, but tell the brethren they will know where to find me. I will be up yonder." And in the last week in October I took Bro. Rippey to visit him, and while talking to him he said: "Bro. Rippey, I am disappointed." When asked why he said: "I expected to have some time in heaven, but I am here yet to suffer on, but that is all right."

A truer, better man, I have never met with in life. On the night of November 21, at 11 p. m., Bro. Read fell on sleep as quietly as a candle going out, without a struggle and with a smile on his face, which was apparent even at the grave.

He was laid to rest in the Mount Carmel Cemetery (known as Hog-Eye) in the presence of about five hundred friends, and was buried in the presence of the same. He was impressed with the remarks of one of his sisters, who stated that he led her to Christ.

May those who read these lines strive to live as he has lived, and may our last end on earth be as sweet, spiritually, as I am sure his was.

Son of Rev. C. B. and Alice Fladger, was born in Jefferson, Texas, August 20, 1858, and died after a lingering illness of many months in Terrell, Texas, November 20, 1896.

It is commonly regarded that childhood affords but meagre matter for the obituary notice. Should this paper prove an exception to the rule of brevity, the character of the subject is its ample justification.

The memoir of age is but a sealed record of uncertain value; that of childhood, as in this instance, is a beautiful though broken prophecy, the rare fruitage of whose fulfillment, worthy of the reflective mind, might have reached limitless distances—moved unmeasured forces. In the contemplation of death the sense of loss is never so painfully present as when there has been suddenly terminated the existence of qualities that gave promise of liberal capacity and abundant usefulness. The brief career so quickly closed, to whose memory a friendly hand would pay this humble tribute, bore marks of inherent qualities of body and mind passing common excellence. These qualities existed to a remarkable degree in the subject of this sketch.



Sometimes when the index-pain of life seems almost extinguished it is fanned into flame again by prompt, vigorous action. It is a mistake, however, to put off complaints, consumption, or other disease, until it is too late to do anything for it. It is a blood disease, set in the lungs, it chokes the throat, it settles some where else the doctors would give it a different name—scrophulous, indigestion, "liver complaint." It is really all one disease—bad blood; and there is only one cure—good blood.

An abundance of good, rich, red blood put into the circulation, cures every one of these complaints, consumption, or other disease, if it hasn't gone too far. It is on this true physiological principle—fully proven by experience—that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures consumption and all other blood diseases. It tones up the blood-making organs to produce a fresh supply of healthy red blood; it settles some where else the doctors would give it a different name—scrophulous, indigestion, "liver complaint." It is really all one disease—bad blood; and there is only one cure—good blood.

It drives out the poisonous matter which clogs the skin, liver or kidneys. It is simply a question of purifying and building up; where there is anything left to build on, it will do it. It builds up the system, it falls build up and cure. It cures cases which doctors declare "incurable." That which clogs the skin, liver or kidneys. It is simply a question of purifying and building up; where there is anything left to build on, it will do it. It builds up the system, it falls build up and cure. It cures cases which doctors declare "incurable." That which clogs the skin, liver or kidneys. It is simply a question of purifying and building up; where there is anything left to build on, it will do it. It builds up the system, it falls build up and cure. It cures cases which doctors declare "incurable." That which clogs the skin, liver or kidneys. It is simply a question of purifying and building up; where there is anything left to build on, it will do it. 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LIVING PICTURES IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

One Real Living Picture Meets Another.

WHAT SHE TOOK FOR A SPIRIT WAS HER FRIEND.

Ghosts don't walk in broad daylight, and yet when a woman finds herself suddenly confronted by the friend she has mourned as dead she is apt to experience a creepy sensation that isn't dition in the dictionary.

In a case like this no amount of presence of mind or self-possession

who have been lifted into cheerful, vigorous, healthy strength by Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

The stereotyped treatment by "local applications" is seldom necessary, and there is no reason why modest, sensitive women need submit to them.



TWO LIVING PICTURES MEET.

can ward off the mingled feelings of astonishment, fear, joy and curiosity that will render a woman temporarily tongue-tied. It is only after again seeing the cherished smile of greeting, and the fact that there is throbbing life beneath the dainty glove, and after again hearing her own name spoken in the ever familiar voice, that this strange sensation vanishes.

THE STRANGE MEETING

The meeting of the two women whose pictures are here given, shows that everyday life furnishes experiences as thrilling as those that come to us only in our wildest dreams.

A WOMANLY WOMAN.

A woman cannot be entirely womanly—she cannot be a perfect woman—if she is not in perfect health.

Careless, or too busy, physicians frequently treat their women patients for biliousness, nervousness, dyspepsia, liver or kidney troubles, when the real sickness is in the organs distinctly feminine, and no help can come till they are made perfectly strong and healthy in both structure and function.

HER LAST FAREWELL.

Overcome by the presentiment that precedes a lingering death, she asked to be removed to her old home in the West, and spoke what to all seemed to be her last farewell.

SHE BELIEVED ME DEAD.

She said, "I owe my whole life and happiness to Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription, which cured me after doctors, travel, baths, massage, electricity, had failed to even benefit me."

"This woman's case, remarkable as it may seem, is not an exceptional one. Thousands and thousands of just such cures have been made in every State by this some-called remedy for women's peculiar diseases.

"I can truly say," writes Mrs. Minnie Smith, P. M., at Lowell, Iowa County, Iowa, "that I owe my life to your wonderful Favorite Prescription. I was lying down in health very fast and in the last four years had miscarried twice and got so weak that I could not stand on my feet; and seeing that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription was a strengthening preventive, I determined to try it. I took two bottles of the Favorite Prescription and I have gone through and have the healthiest baby I ever had; and I believe I am stronger than I have been in twelve years."

"My wife gave birth to a child," writes S. G. Spear, Esq., of Sand Bank, Oswego Co., N. Y., "before she was sixteen years old. After she got up her health was very poor. I had used Dr. Pierce's Pellets for years, and they are so good I thought I would try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for her. She took two bottles and soon gained flesh and strength. The second time she was pregnant she began to take the Favorite Prescription a few weeks before the birth of her child and she had a very quick and easy confinement and got up from her bed strong and healthy. I honestly think the Favorite Prescription is the very best medicine for women that was ever put on the market. She has just commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery for after effects of La Grippe."

GRATEFUL LETTERS.

From every corner of the country come thankful letters written by those

inberry, Esq., of Mayberry Creek, Patrick Co., Va., "my mother weighed only 95 pounds, and she was confined to her bed nearly all the time. She was persuaded to use Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and took three bottles, which cured her and she is now in good health and weighs 148 pounds. The Favorite Prescription is a God-send to female society, and Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets work miracles to all who use them."

EXPERT ADVICE FREE.

Any woman, anywhere, who is tired of suffering, tired of doctoring, or tired of like, who will write to Dr. Pierce, or to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, of Buffalo, N. Y., of which he is president, will receive, free of charge, good, sound professional advice, that will enable her to cure herself at home (if her case is curable), pleasantly, painlessly, permanently, and this, too, without having to undergo the trying ordeal of "examinations" and the stereotyped and degraded treatment by "local applications."

All such correspondents are treated in the strictest confidence by Dr. Pierce, whose records of over a quarter of a million cases treated during his past thirty years' experience, show that there are not three incurable cases in a hundred.

A GREAT BOOK GIVEN AWAY.

When Dr. Pierce published the first edition of his work, the People's Common Sense Medical Adviser, he announced that after 680,000 copies had been sold at the regular price, \$1.50 per copy, the profit on which would repay him for the great amount of labor and money expended in producing it.

The writer was to get money and pay the notes as they matured. The first, second and third notes were paid; this brings us to the last, which matures the first part of January, 1897.

THE ORPHANAGE AT THE ORPHANAGE.

I was asked to write about Christmas, but an obliged to write about the Orphanage. I will say this, however, that three Christmas ago we were just entering practically upon the work of caring for the children, and first in order to permanent work it was necessary for us to have a house.

WE ASK ALL OUR PASTORS.

The following is the list of topics suggested by the Evangelical Alliance for prayer during the week as universally set apart in January for supplication:

Sunday, January 3. Sermons. "The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him."—Lam. 3:25.

Monday, January 4. Thanksgiving and humiliation, praise and thanksgiving: For the countless mercies that have crowned the past year; for special "times of refreshing; and for the general prevalence of peace, Humiliation and confession of sin; For solativeness in Christ's service; for losing opportunities for witnessing for him; for conformity to the world. Prayer for more entire consecration of heart and life; for a more ardent seeking for the coming of the day of God."

Tuesday, January 5. The Church universal. Prayer that the whole Church of Christ may be more separate from the world; that there may be more true oneness of heart among her members; and that this oneness may be manifest; that what is formal and seasons in worship may be swept away, and that there may be instead of it a soul-thirst for God.

Wednesday, January 6. Nations and their rulers. Prayers for the nations and rulers, and for all that are in authority; that cruelty and oppression may cease; that protection may be extended to the Armenian Christians, the Soudanis, and all who are suffering cruelly for Christ's sake; that all the momentous events happening among the nations of the earth may only tend to the more rapid growth of the kingdom of Christ.

Thursday, January 7. Foreign missions. Praise to God for the "open doors" in nearly every part of the world; for the success which has attended the proclamation of the gospel especially in Africa, China and South America; for consecrated lives given up to Christ's service in heathen and Mohammedan lands; for the large number of faithful native laborers in various countries, and for the spirit of liberality existing among the native Christians generally. Prayer that the hearts of Mohammedans and heathen may be opened to receive the gospel; that the Church of Christ may fully realize her responsibility with regard to those who are still in darkness.

Friday, January 8. Home missions and the Jews. Praise for increased activity amongst God's people, and for many tokens of the power of the Holy Spirit accompanying the means used. Prayer for the blessing of God to abundantly upon all evangelistic efforts; for work amongst soldiers and sailors; and for the better observance of the Sabbath. Praise for the Hebrew New Testament, and for the increasing work amongst Jews. Prayer that there may be such an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Jews as has never been witnessed since Apostolic times.

Saturday, January 9. Families and schools. Thanksgiving for families bound together by the love of Christ; for the earnest work carried on by many students in our universities and colleges. Prayer that parents may more constantly seek to bring up their children in the fear and love of God; that greater prominence may be given in Christian households to the study of God's word and to united prayer; that a special blessing may be outpoured upon universities, colleges and schools; and that the religious teaching given in them may be thoroughly scriptural; that Sunday-schools may increasingly become nurseries for God's kingdom.

"A few years ago," writes I. C. Quest-

that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which can not be removed, but abideth forever. The mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever."

CHRISTMAS AT THE ORPHANAGE.

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NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE BROTHERHOOD.

Rev. C. D. Jordan, a member of our Brotherhood, died at Copers Grove, December 5, 1896. All members of the Brotherhood will please pay their mortuary fees at once. R. F. DUNN, Sec'y and Treas.

By coupon advertisement elsewhere it will be noticed that the Texas Farmer may be received by our subscribers for one whole year for the small amount of 25 cents. This paper is not only a thoroughly agricultural journal, but it gives a thorough digest of literary news, secular news, and has a good "Slacker's Department" and a good "Children's Department." It is somewhat intense in politics, and keeps its readers, whether they agree with its sentiments or not, posted on all the political issues of the day.

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A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.

40 Years the Standard.

Holes in Your Health.

What does that mean? Suppose you are taking in money all day, and drop it into a pocket with holes; you will find yourself a loser instead of a gainer by the day's business. Same with your health. You eat and drink and sleep, yet lose instead of gain strength. There's a hole in your health. Some blood disease, probably, sapping your vitality. You can't begin, too soon, to take the great blood purifier,

Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

The man who wears a hair shirt hates those who dress comfortably. If we could see men as angels see them, there would be as much joy on earth as there is in heaven over the sinner who repents.—Ram's Horn.

Brown's Bronchial Trochides are unequalled for clearing the voice. Public speakers and singers the world over use them.

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POSTOFFICE ADDRESSES.

Rev. O. T. Hotchkiss, 1820 Austin Street, Houston, Texas. Rev. Sam W. Warner, Killen, Texas. Rev. C. B. Garrett, Oakwoods, Texas. Rev. W. T. Melugin, Florence, Texas.

TO THE WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Will our pastors and people kindly remember the recent action of the West Texas Conference in recommending an Orphan Home service in each congregation during the approaching Christmas holidays, and a collection for the Texas Methodist Orphanage? On a recent visit of the directors to this institution, after the annual hand-shaking, the children stood and sang, with thrilling emphasis, "Standing on the Promises of God." Let us minister to the gracious confidence already inspired by bringing these little ones to share in our gifts, while we make merry in united homes. J. T. GRAHAM, Leesville, Texas.

To the Preachers of the Texas Conference: Dear Brethren—The new conference year is on us and we must make an early start on our missionary collections. Our assessments for missions in many cases are a little higher than last year. As is always the case

those who begin early are those who get through easiest. Who will be the first to make a remittance? Who will be the first to report his missionary assessment paid in full? The Secretary will send to the Advocate every week a report of those who remit, giving the amounts they send. So you will please watch the bulletin and mark our progress. You remember our conference passed a resolution making February missionary month. This resolution was not intended to restrain those who may wish to begin earlier than February. The resolution rather means to urge the pastors not to make it later than February. May we not expect all to begin early and push till the assessments are paid in full? Watch the Advocate next week to see the first remittance. JOSEPH B. SEARS, Conference Missionary Secretary, Tabernacle M. E. Church, South, Houston, Texas.

In another column is a notice covering the Northwest Texas Conference Journal, which it would be well for all interested parties to read.

How it would soften the push of the door in the book agent's face sometimes, if we could see the little hands that stretch out to him for bread.—Ram's Horn.

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