

# TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

Per Annum, \$2.00.

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

To Preachers, \$1.00.

Vol. XLIV.

Dallas, Texas, Thursday, December 9, 1897.

No. 15.

## EDITORIAL.

### The Itinerant Service.

It would be impossible to attend several sessions of the Annual Conferences in succession without being deeply impressed in favor of the itinerant ministry of the Methodist Church. One can not but see that through this instrumentality the largest number, and the most needy of the population, are most effectually reached. The masses, the sparsely settled regions, never call preachers and contract for their support. Our system provides both for the sending and maintenance of the messengers of truth and grace. Thus missions were established, which grew into self-supporting circuits and stations, thus enabling us to cover the continents and islands with centers of spiritual light and influence. The itinerant system, by moving and changing the preachers, enables all our pastoral charges, sooner or later, to get the benefit of all the ministerial talent in the Church. One man holds a great meeting, wherein hundreds are converted; another comes along and builds a church and parsonage; still another organizes all the departments and puts the finances upon a solid basis. The preaching of one is characterized by profound and systematic doctrinal statement; that of another is distinguished by the accentuation of the ethical elements of the gospel; that of still another is marked by the prominence of the consolatory aspects of religion. It is just as if each Church had a pastor whose versatility was commensurate with all the needs and demands of the people.

These two considerations have done much to promote the phenomenal growth of Methodism and the marvelous spreading of Scriptural holiness over these lands.

Moreover, the itinerancy is authorized by the example of Christ and the apostles, who, while not neglecting the temple and the synagogue, built upon their own foundations, and went to the masses and the frontier. Perhaps the roving of the Master with his disciples suggested the itinerant idea to Wesley, while their labor and the fruits of it constitute an invaluable precedent and an indestructible argument for the Methodist propaganda. There is no such system on earth, and the perpetuity of it is assured if the preachers keep their religion and their zeal for the souls of men. Any fundamental modification of it would prove hazardous, and to eliminate it from the ecclesiastical plan would amount to collapse and death.

The vast majority of Methodist preachers have always approved this species of propagandism, and have been wondrously loyal and obedient thereto. Full of religion, they rejoiced at the enlarged opportunity of doing good, and, aflame with enthusiasm and zeal,

they trod beneath their feet the difficulties of the way and heroically endured the inevitable hardships incident to the enterprise. Chronic self-seekers have been disappointed and have dropped out of the majestic procession, while the effeminate and apostate, together with all the otherwise unworthy, have been sloughed off with the passing of the years. The rank and file, the great majority, are and have always been sound to the core, preserving the enthusiasm and zeal of their youth, and maintaining intact and unabated the loyalty and submissiveness of their early life. They go into it with their eyes wide open, having counted fully all the cost. They cling to it with unyielding tenacity and unconquerable devotion, because they love the aggressive, soul-saving work. In response to the call of God they have said: "Here am I; send me," and when the mandate comes back: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," they scatter far and wide over the face of the earth, proclaiming "the glorious Gospel of the blessed God." These itinerants are the impersonation of consecration, love and zeal, heroes of the finest stripe, unselfish benefactors of the race.

We can not conceive of anything more satisfactory and consoling than the deep, sweet consciousness, in the conclusion of life, that one has been a faithful and efficient itinerant preacher of the Gospel of Christ. Under God he maintained his integrity and kept a good conscience. He built up a noble Christian character and bequeathed to his family and the Church a stainless record and an honorable name. Unambitious and dead to the world, he devoted himself wholly to God and his work. Free from self-seeking and indifferent to fame, he took his appointments as from the hands of divine providence and strove to do his duty and his work. Content with his lot, he endured as seeing Him who is invisible; and, renouncing the world, he put his treasure and his heart in heaven. Now the toils, hardships and griefs of life are behind him. He hangs up the battered shield and sword. He lingers, the conqueror of many a hard-fought field, a patriarch among his brethren. The benedictions of the Church encircle his brow like a halo, and his name is a household word. He never sought an appointment, he never betrayed an interest of the Church. He never wantonly wounded a brother's heart. He never shrank from danger and from toil. His old days are full of quietude and peace. For a little while he rides at anchor near the port; the morning tide floats him over the bar and into the haven of everlasting rest.

Such a character and name are worth striving for. Let us strive to be worthy of our fathers, and to wear their mantles with fidelity and success.

Let us live as they lived, and serve as they served, in the fear of God and with an eye single to the glory of Christ. Not for the world and the universe should we barter such a memory and such a hope.

The Christmas season draws on apace. We trust that all concerned will make every possible effort to magnify and hallow the occasion. We should recall and brood over the facts which make Christmas a red-letter day. We should utilize it in the interest of our spiritual life. We should especially remember the children and the poor. A kindness done to some poverty-stricken family in Christ's dear name may lead it into a Savior's love. The presents which the children should receive will brighten all the coming future. There are "children," too, "of a larger growth" who would be glad to receive some token of love. After all, little things make up the joy of life. May the coming festival of redemption prove a blessing to all!

We have recently attended three "memorial sessions" of the conferences. The memoirs and the talks demonstrated the fact that these preachers had but little in the way of fame and wealth. But they had something infinitely better—character and record. Ah! when seen against the background of death and eternity a good name and stainless career loom into infinite proportions. Poor in this world's goods and doomed to inevitable obscurity, nevertheless our brethren were rich in the things of God, and their names were written in the "book of life." In the presence of "the kingdom of God and his righteousness" all temporal and carnal things fade into insignificance and nothingness.

We should be guided by principles rather than rules. A great principle thoroughly understood and adopted will guide one almost infallibly, whereas some poor rule would be entirely inadequate. It is a remarkable fact that Christ has committed the ethics of the Gospel more largely to principles than rules. Judaism is built upon an elaborate system of regulations, multitudinous and minute; Christianity is a system of great principles. Love to God and man is the formula which comprehends all Christian duty. It is the part of wisdom to discern and apply these mighty fundamental truths.

Cross-bearing is one of the essentials of the discipline of the Christian life. There is in each life much that is supremely painful, substantially a crucifixion. It is idle, and worse, to quarrel with this great fact. If the cross was necessary to redemption, it is equally necessary to the perfection of Christian character. We must take our cross daily and follow Christ, if we would reproduce and mature the Christ-spirit within us. Here many

break down. This is an offense and a stone of stumbling. We need to pray continually for fortitude and faith.

The promise of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit is a great promise. He is the fountain of our holy thoughts and sacred aspirations. From Him, as from a divine spring-head, well up our purest desires and strongest resolutions. Peace and hope and all our consolations are the fruit of the Spirit's power. The blameless conversation and the stainless life are the Spirit's work. We should magnify the third person in the everlasting Godhead as never before. We should invoke and woo His presence with an importunity hitherto unparalleled.

"How hard the way is!" cried one, toiling along the up-hill path in deep shadow. "Isn't there a pleasanter way round? Must we go straight up?" "Yes; we must go straight up," was the answer of the elder companion. "There is no easier way. Up the hill is into the light."

Many a time pleasure-seekers and treasure-seekers find themselves toiling along in the dusky shadows up a steep path. They are thwarted, hindered, hampered, in the press of life; but up the hill is into the light. At the end of life's long ascent "the city lieth four-square;" in "the mount of the Lord it shall be seen," and "the sun shall no more go down."—Julia H. Johnston, in "Bright Threads."

Whenever you meet with a morose, gloomy Christian, you may rest assured that there is something wrong either with his life or with his liver; his health is bad, or his religion is out of order. Heir to all the sunshine in this world, heir to every promise in this dear old Book, heir to a prescience that notes the sparrow when it falls, and to the providence which counts the very hairs of his head, he is heir also to all the glories that are yet to be revealed. With all this within him, beneath him, about him, above him, how can a child of God repine? As one has said, "Every day should be a note of joy, every week a bar of music, every month a line of melody, every year a completed stanza, and life itself one sweet, long, beautiful psalm, a prelude to the anthem sung above."—Rev. J. R. Campbell, D. D.

"Cast your net on the right side of the ship and ye shall find. They cast therefore." Just what was commanded these disciples, they did. I think it just here we so often fail. It is the peculiar temptation of discouragement to fail, just here, at the point of an exact obedience. We say, how often, "There is no use trying any more," and we give over trying, instead of obeying. But though, like these disciples, we are wet and cold and tired and clean gone in hope, the thing to do is to obey, as they did. More than ever, amid discouragement we should be scrupulous in obedience.—Wayland Hoyt, D. D.

How many a Christian pilgrim would not have seen anything of the spiritual manna and the spiritual stream from the rock had God listened to him, when, with fear and trembling, he besought Him not to lead him into a desert.—Krummacher.



## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

### THE RELIGIONS OF MAN-COMPARATIVE.

Man is essentially an idealist. In his primitive state, dwelling in the tents of savagery, and in constant touch and sympathy with all the moods of nature, his mind, groping in spiritual gloom and ignorance, discerned in the forces of nature an intelligence and strength far superior to his own; and, to show his appreciation of that strength and intelligence, he engraved his rude imagery of it upon wood and stone, and crudely molded it in bronze and clay. To propitiate the anger or to court the favor of this invisible infinitude of power, the savage prostrated his body and poured out the yearnings of his darkened and despondent soul before the shrine of his idols.

The savage in time saw his religion displaced and its power usurped by that of the barbarian; but even this religion was little superior to the one it had supplanted. True, the barbarian possessed a much finer concept of the Deity than did his savage predecessor, but his religion was so draped in the mysticism and superstition of the Orient as to render its devotees incapable of living in a state of complete moral purity. It elevated and ennobled their minds to a certain extent, it is true, and placed them upon a higher plane of intellectual enjoyment and mental culture; but still it was incomplete—it was yet unable to satiate the spiritual hunger of humanity.

We of to-day, living in these the closing years of the nineteenth century—the heirs of all the knowledge and refinement of the magnificent past—enjoy the blessings of a civilization founded upon the one true religion, the religion for which its founder suffered all the ignominy and agony of legally enforced dissolution on the lethal tree of Calvary nearly nineteen hundred years ago—the religion of Christ Jesus, the immaculate Son of God.

Little did the brutal minions of Pontius Pilate think, as they watched the precious blood drip drop by drop and hour by hour from the lacerate hands of Him whom they had immolated upon the cross of fanatical desire, that they had thus cruelly murdered the founder of a religion which was destined to prove in the course of a few decades an iconoclast and a successor to their own haughty pantheism of imperial Rome. Yet that city espoused the cause of the lowly Nazarene almost before the generation of his executioners had passed away; even she recognized the truth and beauty of His religion, and claimed it for a comforter.

Yes, in the religion of Christ we possess the only one bestowed upon man by the hand of Infinity, and in the divine doctrines enunciated by Christ are contained the essence of the only religion whose service is pleasing to Him. It lifts us far above the intellectual and moral heights attained by the savage and the barbarian, for instead of bowing in superstitious devotion before a graven image of nature, or performing immoral rites in a pagan pantheon, we do better than they by singing anthems of praise to the majesty of nature's God, and endeavoring to satisfy his demands upon us by emulating to the best of our ability the beautiful example set for us by His crucified Son.

We possess the only religion which will come to us as we look down with tear-dimmed eyes upon the pale, cold faces of our confined loved ones, and whisper to our saddened hearts sweet assurances of a blissful reunion with them on the further shore of the dark river of death and a new life in the joyous eternity of heaven.

PRESTON MORROW.  
Amarillo, Texas.

### THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The General Conference is coming on, and there seems to be much work for it to do. Let us make the best possible use we can of the Annual Conference also. My first experience of a Texas conference was at McKinney,

the fall of 1883. O. P. Thomas was the busy host. Bishop Parker was in the chair, and I desire to call attention to one petition in his prayer, to-wit: "Forbid that there should be a word spoken, or even a thought entertained, during this session that shall be offensive to the Holy Spirit." What a blessed thing it would be if all our praying and all our living would be along that line. We sometimes hear of one man being sat down on, and another being knifed, etc., which might be all right but for the text, "Whoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." It is sad to think of Dr. J. B. McFerrin's message to the Tennessee Conference, sent from his death bed, begging pardon of his enemies. What a pity it was delayed so long. Some of our brethren are gone, never more to meet us here. It is so refreshing to be assured that they died in peace with God and all mankind. So may we all appear in that day.

W. W. GRAHAM.  
Arlington, Texas.

### BROTHERLY KINDNESS.

Did you ever attend a session of a Methodist Annual Conference? Are you acquainted with the salaries usually paid these members of the conference? Look at the minutes of the conference and you will see that the general average is not above \$500 per year, and that out of this all the expenses of a little home and sometimes rather a large family are to be met.

But we are now at the Annual Conference, and are talking about brotherly kindness. Some have said the preachers are wanting in this great element of Christian character; others say that their life and calling make them more kindly inclined toward each other than any other class of men on earth, and so they claim they are. They profess to follow Him who taught that to fulfill the law we should bear each other's burdens; that love is the fulfilling of the law, and that seeing a brother hath need and shutting up the hand of compassion against him is a sure sign that this love dwells not in that heart.

Some children in the conference are reported as needing, and a purse of thirty-three dollars is at once raised. This tender chord is struck and finds a prompt response.

An aged brother is reported in feeble health and needing help, and the dollars are promptly brought forward and laid on the table until this brother's wants are relieved with a purse of forty-four dollars.

Sidney Lanier says: "What the world needs is heart," and it looks like heart is here.

Another brother, with wife and four small children, is reported in much need, and five-dollar bills are promptly deposited until one hundred and fifty-five dollars are given for the relief of him and his family.

This is something of what a spectator witnessed in one Methodist conference. These incidents impress us that they have hearts to feel another's woe, and hands to help, as the Good Samaritan. W. H. H.

### THE INFLUENCE OF CHARACTER.

It is a very responsible and serious thing to be an example, to have an influence, and every person is having some influence over those with whom he associates. Is our influence over our friends and associates for better or worse? Is it of an elevating, Christ-like nature? Is the question each person, and especially those who profess Christianity, should ask their own hearts.

Our words and our actions will reveal our thoughts, and the very nature of our hearts, and if our hearts are pure and truthful, our conversation will be likewise. Some simple act or word may often help and impress some one when we ourselves never realize it, nor think anything of it. And one may also do some little thing which is wrong, and it will also have its influences. Some one will notice it, and be influenced by it for the worse. Then we should be very careful about our conduct—to let our influence be in the right direction, and show by our every-day life that we are true to the Christian religion which we profess. And we should let our light shine in the little and simple things, as well as

in the greater things of life. We must walk straight, and "shun even the appearance of evil," and must not indulge in anything that would lead us off and away from God, and not do anything that He does not approve of, and take Christ with us everywhere, if we want our influence to be for the better, and to prove that we have quit the ways of sin and are crucified with Christ Jesus.

We must ever be ready to do whatever our hands find to do for God and his cause; and to have a good influence over our associates is within the reach of all. We can always find something to do, if our hearts are willing, and we should not try to find an excuse for not obeying God's commands, but ever be ready to show which side we are on, for excuses amount to nothing whatever in God's sight, and can avail us nothing in the day of reckoning. And if our influence in this life has not been in accordance and harmony with our professions, and has not proved our faithfulness, but has rather had the tendency to lead the other way—for the worse—we will not only have to answer for our own souls, but for the souls which by our influence we have dragged down.

We should be firm, steadfast and resolute in the faith, and must not hesitate to shun—to say no—to anything that has a tendency to lead away from God, for he hath said, "If sinners entice thee, consent thou not; neither walk thou in their way."

We can never impress upon the heart of the sinner that we are right with God, and faithful to his cause, if we claim Christianity and at the same time indulge in worldly revelry and follow after the things of the world, rather than walk in the way God has prepared, and keep his commandments, for he hath said, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments," and "Ye can not serve God and Mammon."

For the sinners will note the careless manner in which we live this life, and they will not be impelled or constrained to quit their sinful life, and thus our influence will drag them down, and some day we may awake to a sense of our duty, but to find that we no longer have the power over them to influence them and cause them to do better. They have lost faith and confidence in us, and have become hardened in sin, and we can then see what a mistake our life has been, and the many opportunities we have had—how we could have pointed that sinner to God and heaven by a true Christian example and influence, and how useful and bright we could have made our lives if we had only taken the right path and the great and faithful Guide, and have helped others also to live that happy life by encouraging them and setting a faithful example.

We should study more upon this life influence, and strive to make our lives perfect in God's sight, and to take his sacred word as our guide, that those around us may realize that we walk with God. We must "let our light shine before men, that they, seeing our good works, may glorify our Father, which is in heaven." We should not hesitate to testify for God's cause when an opportunity offers, but should not forget the beautiful example and the powerful influence of the faithful, every-day Christian life, that our lives may be a witness unto our testimonies, and that we may have a clear conscience before God.

LIZZIE MONTGOMERY.  
Gertrudes, Texas.

### SOME RECENT CRITICISM ON FICTION.

In reading the "Literature and Art" department of the "Texas Magazine" for September, I have been struck with the superficial criticism of some current books. The editor of the Magazine, in speaking of Hall Caine's "The Christian," says, after a brief comment: "The book deserves to live, if for no other reason than that it is healthy." In another place in the same magazine, he says: "There is a wretched similitude of realism that dresses the villainess of the school of Zola in the masquerade of George Eliot, and seeks to palm itself off as a high type of realistic refinement," and then adds: "To such productions belong the much-vaunted stories of Tolstoi, Grant Allen, James Lane Allen and some of Thomas Hardy's."

It does not appear to me that a candid criticism can accept "The Christian" as healthy, and refuse to accept on the same ground "A Summer in Arcadia," and accept Hardy's "Far from the Madding Crowd," and refuse to accept "The Choir Invisible."

Mr. Caine has undertaken to give us a picture of life at the close of the nineteenth century. In order to fix our attention more closely on his central purpose, he weaves his philosophy about the lives of "John Storm" and "Glory Quayle." Young Storm is the son of an English lord, who has indulged his every whim, and who has had him travel through every land, and pick up knowledge here and there. His father calls him home at last, and begins to fulfill a long-cherished plan of revolutionizing the government and, at the same time, securing vengeance on an offensive brother, who is also prime minister. Glory Quayle is the granddaughter of an innocent old clergyman, and also the daughter of a zealous missionary, but Glory is one of those unaccountable beings whose actions can never be forecast, even by her most intimate friends.

She and Mr. Storm meet. At once the young man gives up all hope of earthly aggrandizement, and becomes an enthusiast in the Church.

The Texas Magazine reviewer says: "They (the characters) are at least natural." I hold that this is exactly what they are not. At the age of twelve Glory actually proposes to a Mr. Drake, who is likewise young, and when he is loth to elope with her, she urges him, and at last almost forces him into a boat and puts off with him. She is made to show this same forwardness after maturity, when she writes to her grandfather that she has made love to Mr. Storm. She is a pure, chaste woman, with a high sense of honor, but she sings in a Sunday night variety theater and hears all kinds of vulgarity and filth. She has been raised in a very wholesome atmosphere, but she drinks wine and beer in a common saloon, and with almost maudlin whimperings she embraces Mr. Drake in a public drinking hall.

Yet our worthy editor says this is healthy, and deserves to live.

There are some fine womanly traits in her character; some fine, delicate touches of beauty upon her soul; but the general story of her life and character is incongruous.

Then the character of Mr. Storm is unaccountable. Mr. Storm goes to London and is placed under "Archdeacon Wheatley," and finds that all kinds of sin are tolerated and even encouraged in the wealthy members of the Church. A poor, sinning hospital nurse is ostracised for her sin, while the man who has wronged her is held in the Church, and the cringing rector does not allow his name mentioned. Mr. Storm thus finds himself the only preacher who holds the pure faith of the Gospel.

Then, acting under the impulse of the Spirit, Mr. Storm steals into Glory's room one night to kill her, so that her soul may be saved. After some earnest begging on her part, he finds it was the devil who had prompted him.

We are treated to all kinds of characters. We visit the slums of sin, the houses of lust; the story of shame is told of several pure and unsuspecting girls. The whole story is unnatural and unreal. There is not one healthy character in all the book, except the old grandfather.

The church sides against Storm. He is hunted with dogs, and, though he has given all his love and money to the poor, still they attack him on the street and brutally murder him. This might all have been true two hundred years ago, but it can not be true at the close of the nineteenth century. The book makes no note of the strong current that has begun to show itself in the social world—the curse that rests upon the man who sins as well as upon the woman who sins.

Then the book is untrue in the character of Church leaders. Our great men are nearly always our good men. The men who hold our important positions are not men who compromise great issues and tolerate immoral conduct. They are men of profound sympathies and generous judgment.

There is much more that might be said about the book, but I have not the space to say them here.

The work of James Lane Allen was placed far below Mr. Caine's. Let us take any story of Mr. Allen's and measure it with "The Christian." Take



"Summer in Arcadia," which has been most condemned by the moralists. The style may be a little too ornate, but what is the story? There is no hint of the saloon or the brothel. No pure woman falls. There is the pure country air; the farms full of waving grain; the beauty of nature lovingly 'old by one who loves her. The sensuous love of two ill-trained youths is slowly transformed and purified until they are married and happy. While I do not think Mr. Allen's book is to be hailed as a master-piece, still I do believe it to be much better than Mr. Caine's "The Christian."

Then when you take Mr. Allen's other stories, "Kentucky Cardinal," "Aftermath," "Flute and Violin," "The Choir Invisible," there is no comparison between them. Mr. Allen touches nature with such a gentle appreciation, and shows us so clearly the beauty that environs us, that we turn to him gladly. Mr. Hardy is blessed with a pure diction, and his pastoral scenes are very fine. But in "Tess" and "Jude the Obscure" he has mistaken the function of literature, and the result is an unwholesome book.

If this is published, I should be glad to give my views on the special function of literature, and what is lawful in it.  
R. T. BLACKBURN.  
Smithville, Texas.

**AMENDMENTS, CHURCH LETTERS, ETC.**

A Christian woman, active in Church work, and a constant reader of the Advocate, said to me a few days ago, in substance the following: "I'm tired of all those articles about amendments; I wish you would write something to the Advocate on a different line." The good sister's suggestion reminded me of a promise made myself some time ago, namely, to write a few things about "Church Letters," so-called, but which, according to the Discipline, should be spoken of as "Certificates of Membership."

A brother wanting to change his Church relationship asked his pastor for a "letter." He said it would not help him get into the Church to which he was going. Of course the pastor did not grant the request. Why give a paper that will not be recognized? The brother's notion, however, was not unworthy. He wanted an honorable disposition made of his name on the register of the Methodist Church. The thing for him to do was to withdraw. This he did, and the register shows that he "withdrew," rather than "removed by certificate."

A few years ago I received a brother by certificate. At the same service her wife presented her letter from the Presbyterian Church. Afterward a brother, referring to the matter, said: "I liked the way that Presbyterian letter read." He may have been pleased because the Presbyterian had become a Methodist, or the form of the letter may have touched his fancy above the form of his own Church certificate. But there was a real difference. One was well written, and on a sheet of good paper; the other was poorly written, and on a part of a sheet of poor paper.

I asked a professional man to send for his Church certificate, to put in the Church at the place where he then resided. He said: "I did that once, and was so ashamed of its appearance that I never presented it."

Once I received certificates of a man and wife, written with lead pencil on a postal card, which read as follows: "The bearers, Bro. — and Sister —, has been acceptable members," etc.

Several years ago a local preacher moved into a community where the Church had been "dropped" from the plan of the circuit. The brother, desirous of doing good, proposed to dispense the Gospel to the community. This he did, assuming all the duties of a "pastor in charge." So, when a sister who was moving away called on the local preacher for a "letter," she received it. Said "letter" set forth her standing and "recommended her to other Churches of like faith and order." It was duly signed by the brother, and following his name were the letters "P. C." (The aforesaid "P. C." had made several attempts to become an itinerant. His repeated failure to get in the conference was, so he thinks, due to the fact that the presiding elders were always against him. Though the conference would not ad-

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

mit him, one thing is certain—he could give a Church "letter," and a valid one, too, for in due course of time it was presented to a Church of "like faith and order," and accordingly recognized.)

Some pastors in giving certificates write more than the book says. This can not be best. The Discipline gives the form. Should the pastor add to, or take from? Should he mend or keep the rules?

After the pastor has given a certificate of membership, he should, as a rule, write to the pastor to whom said certificate should be presented. Let him not only call attention to the party having the certificate, but mention any gifts or qualifications for usefulness. Nor would it be out of place to mention the weaknesses or shortcomings of the member; not simply that such things may be known, but in order that the prudent pastor may render help where needed and protect the Church from loss. If at this point pastors were more careful, much good, on several lines, would come to the Church.  
CHARLES F. SMITH.  
Henderson, Texas.

**BENEFITS OF PROHIBITION.**

Two years ago Crenshaw's School District voted on prohibition, and the pros carried it by a majority of seven votes. To-day, November 27, 1897, this district polled 311 votes on the same issue, the result being pros. 207, antis 104, which shows a gain of 96 over the election of two years ago! Where are the seers who prophesied that our streets would grow up with grass; that the business houses would be empty; that our schools would languish, and (sic) our preachers would have to follow the plow or shove the plane? None of these things have happened. Drummers say they have sold more goods here in the last two years than in any two preceding, and that their collections are prompt and full. Prosperity abounds, peace and harmony prevail, and the saloon sentiment is on the decay. What wonder when we have such teachers in the pulpit, on the rostrum and in the schools?

This is Thanksgiving time with us, and as I sit before a blazing fire, in good health, with roasted 'taters, mellow apples and a cheerful wife, I am contrasting the present with the past. In the history of their literature, we are told by Mr. Taine that our English fathers were "coarse" and "brutish" because their fare was rough, and consisted principally of beef and ale, and they were somewhat affected by climatic influences. If these conditions produced a Ben Jonson, a Swift and a Voltaire, they also brought forth an Addison, a Luther and a Wesley.

Human nature is the same to-day as it was in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, but what effect has food, drink and climate had upon Americans under a republican form of government? America has been a house of refuge for the oppressed and persecuted of all nations, and her fecundity has been a marvel to the world. "Yes," you may say, "a conglomerated and heterogeneous mass." True, but while this admixture has given us brawn and bone, it has also imparted brain and heart. We have come to love literature, art, science, philosophy, politics, religion and theology. These

all bud and bloom together; the fruit thereof has become our heritage. But to what influence and to whom should we be most thankful for all the privileges and blessings we as Americans enjoy? The Gospel of Jesus Christ, promulgated by the Christian ministry.  
T. J. B. NEELY.  
Whitesboro, Texas.

**"OUR HONOR ROLL."**

This is the title of a little article by J. David Crockett in last week's Advocate. He evidently sees through a glass darkly, having only stated one side of the question. It is true the superannuated roll ought to be one of honor, but so ought the conference as a whole to be. I ask is it justice to keep a preacher employed for years, knowing all the time that he is unacceptable and a "gum log" in the cabinet, and then, when he is on the shady side of life, locate him, instead of superannuating him? The conference has approved him by passing his character, officially and morally, and hence ought to treat him as if he had been acceptable and efficient. The remedy lies, not in Bro. Crockett's suggestion, it being unjust to the man and our charges, but he ought to have been located years before he arrived on the shady side of life. We need to have official backbone. A man does not have to travel twenty-five or thirty years for the Bishop and his cabinet to find out that he is unacceptable. Let the conference exercise its prerogative, and then the superannuated roll will be an "Honor Roll" indeed.  
H. B. SMITH.

**A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.**

I rise to a question of privilege. In your issue of November 25, referring to my sermon during the Annual Conference at Weatherford, you make me say: "All I gave up for the ministry was a bottle of whisky, two sixshooters and a pair of bell spurs." That sentence doubtless greatly astonishes my old acquaintances. I have been an unworthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, since my tenth year, and never in my life owned a spur or pistol, nor took a drink of whisky. I was quoting what I heard another preacher say, and so stated.  
E. HIGHTOWER.

[We are glad to make the correction above. We simply misunderstood the preacher. However, he made a good point, worth considering.—Editor.]

**IS IT A TRIFLE?**

**THAT COMMON TROUBLE ACID DYSPEPSIA, OR SOUR STOMACH.**

Now Recognized as a Cause of Serious Diseases.

Acid dyspepsia, commonly called heartburn or sour stomach, is a form of indigestion resulting from fermentation of the food. The stomach being too weak to promptly digest it, the food remains until fermentation begins, filling the stomach with gas, and a bitter, sour, burning taste in the mouth is often present. This condition soon becomes chronic and being an everyday occurrence is given but little attention. Because dyspepsia is not immediately fatal, many people do nothing for the trouble.

Within a recent period a remedy has been discovered prepared solely to cure dyspepsia and stomach troubles. It is known as Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets and is now becoming rapidly used and prescribed as a radical cure for every form of dyspepsia.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets have been placed before the public and are sold by druggists everywhere at 50 cents per package. It is prepared by the Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich., and while it promptly and effectually restores a vigorous digestion, at the same time is perfectly harmless and will not injure the most delicate stomach, but on the contrary by giving perfect digestion strengthens the stomach, improves the appetite and makes life worth living.

Send for free book on Stomach Diseases by addressing Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

Fine Pronouncing Bible (worth the price alone) and Texas Christian Advocate one year for only..... **\$4**

**NORTH TEXAS FEMALE COLLEGE**

Mrs. Lucy Kidd Key, President,  
SHERMAN, TEXAS.

The faculty of this excellent school has been enlarged and strengthened by the following changes and additions:

Harold von Mickwitz, Director of the Conservatory of Music, was a pupil of Leschetizky, who is recognized as the greatest living teacher of piano. Mr. Mickwitz was a classmate of Paderevski, and is personally recommended by the above artists, Fannie Bloomfield Zeisler and Victor Herbert. Mr. Mickwitz is probably the only authorized exponent of the celebrated Leschetizky method in the South, and those who desire the best advantages will do well to take notice.

Herr A. J. Friedman, our new Vocal Teacher, comes highly recommended as an artist and as a gentleman. Mrs. Holt, in writing of him, assures us that he is a genuine artist and that we are fortunate in securing his services.

Miss Mary O. Norris, who takes charge of our Art Department, is a teacher of unusual ability. She was engaged by the Legislature of Arkansas to paint portraits of Washington and Bryan, which she did to their greatest satisfaction. Miss Norris is now in New York, getting the latest in her profession. Instruction will be given in the whole range of art, including the latest in China painting.

Prof. A. M. Merrill, a graduate of Dickinson College, will give instruction in Natural Sciences. He is now in the Harvard laboratory pursuing his studies. We are adding a splendid physical and chemical laboratory, and pupils in these branches will be required to do individual work.

Among other improvements furnaces are being put in "Annie Nugent Hall."

The public may feel assured that I will spare no care or means to keep this institution in the front ranks, and that I will give my patrons and pupils the benefit of the best culture and talent that can be commanded.

Respectfully, MRS. L. KIDD KEY,  
Sherman, Texas.

**FITS** STOPPED FREE Permanently Cured Insanity Prevented by DR. KLINE'S GREAT NERVE RESTORER  
Positive cure for all Nervous Diseases, Fits, Epilepsy, Spasms and St. Vitus' Dance. No Pains or Nerveaches after first day's use. Treatise and \$3 trial bottle free to fit patients, they paying express charges only when received. Send to Dr. Kline, Ltd., Bellevue Institute of Medicine, 931 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

**Lassetter & Steele,**  
Local Preachers and Exhorters,  
M. E. Church, South,  
**BROWNWOOD, TEXAS.**

We are ready to hold meetings for our pastors only where we are invited. We carry tent to seat 800. If you want us write us at Brownwood, Texas. Reference: O. F. Sensabaugh, presiding elder Brownwood District.

**AUSTIN WHITE LIME CO.,**  
Manufacturers of the Celebrated **White Lime**  
And dealers in PORTLAND and ROSDALE CEMENTS, PLASTER, HAIR, SEWER PIPE, FIRE BRICK, etc. **AUSTIN, TEXAS.**



**Texas Conference.****WEBBERVILLE CIRCUIT.**

S. H. M., Nov. 29: All well and happy. Rounding up a good year. Collections will be full; salaries slightly behind. This deficit falls on only one place. Three members received last Sunday. Hard times are among us, but the Lord will provide. Our last Quarterly Conference, all things considered, was the best we have had in ten years.

**McKEE STREET, HOUSTON.**

S. W. Thomas, Dec. 6: We leave for the Annual Conference to-morrow. Our second year in this charge closes up well. The people have been very kind to this preacher and family, and he goes to conference with a profound sense of gratitude to God for his mercies and to these people for their goodness to us. Right nobly have they done. We have all of our assessments up in full. Happy the preacher whose lot is cast among a people who can pull as hard as this toward the wind-up of the year's work.

**OFF FOR CONFERENCE.**

W. D. Bradfield, Galveston, Dec. 6: The fifth and happiest year of my ministry is just closed. My eyes have seen this year what some of my best friends believed they would never see. We have had truly a great year; one hundred and one accessions, salaries aggregating \$1720 paid in full, our conference collections, aggregating \$548.65, paid in full. Our congregations comport with the above figures. We have a Sunday-school with an enrollment of three hundred and thirty-five; a League with a membership of sixty. We have paid this year \$350 on notes made for the support of the ministry last year. Our people have thus given this year for the support of the ministry \$2070. These figures can not tell of the enthusiasm of our membership. They can not tell of estranged members come back to Methodism, nor of the increasing number of visitors coming in from Sunday to Sunday, nor of noble young men who are turning in larger numbers each Sunday toward our beloved church. No pastor ever had a better people; no pastor ever had a more attentive people to the ministry of the word. A wonderful victory is in sight; I see it; I feel it; it is coming; God will give it! George Stuart will be with us in April; the pastors of the city, without a dissenting voice, united upon him. We expect 1000 conversions.

**DURANGO.**

J. W. Thompson, Nov. 26: We are closing up our third year on this charge. We have received into the Church two hundred and eight members; moved one church about half a mile, weatherboarded and painted it and put an organ in it; added an alcove to another one of the churches; added an organ, fenced the graveyard and dug a well at the Pleasant Valley church; put a new church at Blevins, worth twelve or thirteen hundred dollars, and put an organ in it. We have added to the parsonage a back gallery, canvased one room, paved the yard and garden, put an addition to the barn, made improvements on the fence around the patch and lot, added a cow and calf to the comfort of the preacher and his family, put out a young orchard and built a chicken-house. The worst feature I see of the three years' work is the winding up of this year. The finances are fearfully behind. This circuit is in one of the finest belts of country in Texas, and if our people would stand by their Church the Durango Circuit would be one of the leading charges in the State, because it has the natural resources.

Catarrh, like scrofula, is a disease of the blood, and may be cured by purifying the blood with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

**North Texas Conference.****POST OAK.**

James A. Kerr, Dec. 1: The people of Post Oak, representing all denominations and the world, manifested their high appreciation of our return to Post Oak charge last night with an excellent supper and a "pounding" of many valuable presents. Many were the kind words and wishes for the preacher and his family, as the large

crowd marched into the parsonage, to present their gifts of friendship and love. May God's mercy and peace abide with them forever.

**NEVADA.**

E. G. Phillips, Dec. 6: 'Tis with sad hearts that we part with our much-loved pastor and family, C. I. McWhirter, who has served this charge four years faithfully and earnestly. He will leave a record behind him that would be envied by many. As he goes, he will have the prayers and sympathy of many in his new field of labor. Yet with our love to him, we will be none the less faithful to our new pastor, Bro. Nichols. To the delight of all will Bro. Nichols be received on this work. To our mind there could not have been a more suitable man sent to this place. The people are enthusiastic over the appointment. But we want to show our enthusiasm by standing by the preacher with our support, prayers and co-operation, making this even a more successful year than any previous year of our history. There has been a great deal of work to do here among the young converts since the great revival last year by Rev. E. G. Kilgore. This work we are endeavoring to do in the Epworth League and young men's prayer-meeting. I have been in twenty-six revivals this year, and I have not found a more consecrated and faithful set of young men than we have at Nevada, though we fear that too few of our young people read the Advocate and Epworth Era. We cannot be efficient Christian workers and be ignorant of the Church and its workings.

**BLUE RIDGE.**

Joel S. Graves, Dec. 6: I have just returned from Blue Ridge, where I preached to a large congregation Sunday morning. At night we were greeted with a full house, but I allowed Bro. Adair to share the honors, and he took a "last lick" at them. Sunday was a fine day—typical of the Sabbath of eternal rest. Not a fleck of cloud hung upon the sky to mar the vision of transparency, while the sun, like coursing steeds of fire, stood on his way. The day was, in all respects, a befitting omen of glorious future events, and seemed the *ecce signum*, or divine sanction, of our ecclesiastical appointment. We made a good start, and, by the grace of God assisting, we intend to accelerate our motion. Blue Ridge is a half station, with two church house appointments outside to divide the other half time. The name, "Blue Ridge," is incongruous. The town is painted white, and crowns the summit of two large hills, which, in color, are neither blue nor black. I made a close inspection of the parsonage, and found in it a neat, comfortable preacher's home, with plenty of good water and large out-grounds. The main house is two stories, with lower and upper galleries. In the "attic" I found a room suited for a study. This was really the object of my search, and if it lacks the romance of history, I'll make it the den of a recluse in all my spare moments. "The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light." The people love Bro. Adair, and wanted him returned, but the Bishop saw fit to send him elsewhere. Notwithstanding their love for him, like loyal Methodists and true, they have accepted the situation without murmuring, and accorded his successor a cordial and gracious welcome. We are proud of such a spirit of confidence and love. There can be no higher honors among men.

"Some of us will smart for it."  
—*Much Ado About Nothing, Act V, Scene 1*  
Not much! Pond's Extract removes all smarting.

**Northwest Texas Conference.****CRAWFORD.**

N. M. McLaughlin, Dec. 7: After saying good-bye to many true friends whom we had served for three years on the Valley Mills circuit, we came to Crawford November 29. Bros. Brewington, Walker and Richardson, of this place, showed kindness to us by moving us without price. We have received a royal welcome from this people, and we are impressed that we are in the midst of a liberal, large-hearted flock. November 30 they came with

armsful of such things as were needed, and piled them down on the floor until we were not only pounded, but well pounded. Such tokens of appreciation call for the best year's work that we can possibly give.

**ALEDO.**

C. E. Lindsey, Nov. 27: "They carried pie to the parson's house." On last Thursday our friends spread a sumptuous dinner at the parsonage, and invited the pastor's family to dine with them, which we did to the best of our ability, after which we had Thanksgiving service at the Church. Aledo has given us a hearty welcome for the fourth year. I trust that the Church may prosper under the blessing of God. I serve a good people. Aledo Circuit is all right.

**COPERAS COVE.**

Jno. E. Stephens, Dec. 6: We reached our new work last week; had a good time last Sunday at 11 o'clock and at night and at Moore's Chapel at 3 in the evening received two members into the Church. The people have welcomed us very cordially and have, since we came, remembered us in a very substantial way, for which we are very grateful. We are anticipating a good year, and by the help of the Lord we expect to have it. We regretted very much to leave the people we served last, but we take it as from the Lord, and with prayer and faith in him we enter the new field and look to him for victory.

**West Texas Conference.****BANDERA AND MEDINA CITY.**

J. D. Worrell, Nov. 24: By the appointment of Bishop J. C. Granbery, we have been returned to this charge for another conference year. We have been kindly received, and in token of their appreciation the good people of Bandera have given us a first-class pounding—both in lots of good things to eat, and some to wear. May the Lord bless the donors, and help us to be faithful in the work of the Master.

**FLORESVILLE.**

W. H. H. Biggs, Nov. 25: The people at Floresville know how to make the preacher and family feel at home and happy. Tokens of kindness have been brought and sent to the parsonage since our arrival, which have already brought us under lasting obligations. We find ourselves resolving and resolving to give this generous people the very best service of which we are capable. This packing and moving and unpacking and arranging equals a first-class case of dengue on bone and muscle; but how soon it is all put far into the past by a few tokens of appreciation. May God's richest benedictions rest upon the people of Floresville.

The household remedy is Hunt's Lightning Oil. All aches and pains quickly relieved. Satisfaction or money refunded.

Cowards are ever dying, but the brave man never dies till his time comes.

**WHEN YOU WANT**

Watches, Clocks, Silverware, Diamonds, Sterling Silver Novelties, Optical Goods, Rings, Leather Goods, Fine Stationery, Gold Pens, Fountain Pens, Badges, Medals, Silver Toilet Articles, a postal card request will bring you our.....

**New Illustrated Catalogue.****C. P. BARNES & CO.**

Jewelers and Opticians,

504-506 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky.

This firm is reliable—The Editor.

Fine Pronouncing Bible (worth the price alone) and Texas Christian Advocate one year for only.....

**\$4**

**Those Who Endure**

The pains of rheumatism should be reminded that a cure for this disease may be found in Hood's Sarsaparilla. The experience of those who have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla for rheumatism, and have been completely and permanently cured, prove the power of this medicine to rout and conquer this disease. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the One True Blood Purifier, and it neutralizes the acid which causes the aches and pains of rheumatism. This is why it absolutely cures when liniments and other outward applications fail to give permanent relief. Be sure to get Hood's.

No sacrifice is bitter when sweetened by love.

What is it? A cure for Coughs, Colds, Croup, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, and all Bronchial Affections of the Throat, Chest and Lungs. 50 doses for 50 cents. Money refunded if it fails to give satisfaction; we mean Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup.

# Southwestern University

Ladies' Annex and Fitting School.

GEORGETOWN, TEXAS.

The leading Methodist institution of the State, under the patronage of all the Texas Conferences and endorsed by them.

The SPRING TERM opens **JANUARY 18, 1898**

This is an excellent time to enter your sons and daughters in the institution.

The new addition, finished in November, gives us a number of new and beautiful rooms for young ladies.

TERMS—Young ladies can attend during the Spring Term the Annex for from \$99 to \$109 for board, laundering, and tuition. Extras at usual price.

Preachers' daughters receive the same for \$56.50.

Board at the Giddings Hall will cost young men \$42.50 for the Spring Term, if paid in advance; or in private families it will cost from \$12 to \$15 a month. Tuition is \$22.50 to \$32.50 a term.

For Catalogue and particulars, apply to

JOHN R. ALLEN,

Chairman of Faculty.

Georgetown, Texas.

## Grand Holiday Excursion to

TENNESSEE,  
MISSISSIPPI,  
ALABAMA,  
GEORGIA,  
NORTH and SOUTH CAROLINA  
....OVER THE.....

## MEMPHIS & CHARLESTON RAILROAD.

Tickets Sold Dec. 21 and 22,  
GOOD 30 DAYS.

Ask your nearest ticket agent for tickets over the MEMPHIS & CHARLESTON and go

Over the Short Line  
On Quick Time  
In Through Cars.

At one fare for the round trip.  
C. A. DeSAUSSURE, M. H. BONE,  
Gen'l Pass. Agent, Western Pass. Agent,  
Memphis, Tenn. Dallas, Texas.



NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE

(Crowded over from last week.)

REPORT OF THE JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.

To the President and Members of the North Texas Conference, 1897:

Dear Fathers and Brethren—Your Joint Board of Finance submits the following report:

We have received the following amounts from the sources and for purposes named, viz.:

Table with columns: District, Conference Claimants, Bishop, Delegates Gen. Con. Amounts for Dallas, Terrell, Greenville, Sulphur Sp'gs, Paris, Bonham, Sherman, Gainesville, Bowie.

Claimants' fund, as above... \$4660 70 Received from Publishing House... 748 00 Received from Calvin bequest... 23 50 Balance from contingent fund... 249 50

Less 10 per cent. for contingent fund, \$568.20, and appropriation for publishing minutes and expressage, \$48.50... 616 70

Amount appropriated... \$5065 00

To the following persons:

Table listing names and amounts: Allen, Mrs. M. A., Angel, Rev. J. L., Brewer, Rev. A. H., Carroll, Rev. F. B., Chalk, Rev. J. W., Clifton, Rev. W. L., Cobb, Rev. S. S., Cummings, Mrs. Sinnie, Davis, Rev. W. R., Easterling, Mrs. Camelia, Fields, Mrs. M. L., Haislip, Mrs. Anna, Harrison, Rev. L. W., Hawkins, Mrs. Emma, Hunter, Rev. J. H., Lane, Rev. R., Lewis, Mrs. M. A., Lively, Rev. L. P., McDougald, Rev. James, McDougald, Mrs. Jane, McKee, Mrs. Mattie, Miller, Rev. T. L., Morton, Fannie and Carrie, Nelson, Mrs. Lucinda, Nichols, Mrs. Ella, Pearson, Mrs. Mary, Peele, Mrs. Sallie L., Piner, Mrs. M. J., Rabb, Rev. James B., Rainey, Rev. R. G., Randall, Mrs. Mary C., Randle, Rev. J. R., Read, Miss Henrietta, Rizzan, Helen and Willie, Scoggins, Mrs. Kate, Sewell, Mrs. S. E., Shaw, Jane and Mary, Sherrill, Mrs. M. A., Shook, Mrs. Mary G., Simpson, Mrs. J. C., Smith, Mrs. Mattie, Soragins, Mrs. Dora, Whittenburg, Mrs. Lucy.

From the contingent fund there was appropriated the following:

Table with names and amounts: Powers, Mrs. Annie P., Sellers, Rev. A. R., Sherwood, Mrs.

The balance of the assessment, uncollected, for delegates to General Conference, is reassessed against the several districts, and presiding elders are requested to collect same on their first round, and remit to the Treasurer of the Joint Board of Finance immediately after its collection.

The assessment against this conference, account of Bishops' fund, 1898, is \$1650, and we have estimated the amount necessary for conference claimants at \$7000. The scale and assessments against the several districts are as follows:

Table with columns: District, Conference claimants, Bishops' fund, Del. to G. C. Amounts for Dallas, Terrell, Sulphur Springs, Greenville, Paris, Bonham, Sherman, Gainesville, Bowie.

Total... \$7000 00 \$1650 00 \$205 30

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. L. SMITH, Chairman. B. M. BURGER, Sec. and Treas.

This Tells Where Health May Be Found.

And that is more important than making money. If your blood is impure, Hood's Sarsaparilla is the medicine for you. It cures scrofula, salt rheum, rheumatism, catarrh, and all other diseases originating in or promoted by impure blood and low state of the system.

HOOD'S PILLS are easy to take, easy to operate. Cure indigestion, headache.

One trouble with the world is that there are so many people in it who are content to drift down stream.

A cough is an easy thing to cure if taken in time. It is dangerous to neglect one for any length of time. Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup is guaranteed. Fifty cents a bottle.

SKINS ON FIRE

Skins on fire with torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, and pimply humors, instantly relieved by a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, a single application of CUTICURA (ointment), the great skin cure, and a full dose of CUTICURA RESOLVENT.

Cuticura

Is sold throughout the world. POTTER D. & C. CO., Sole Props., Boston. "How to Cure Torturing Humors," free. BABY'S SKIN Scalp and Hair purified and Beautified by CUTICURA SOAP.

He thanked God and sighed. Some people always sigh in thanking God.—Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

From many people we hear that Piso's Remedy for Catarrh is a prompt and pleasant cure for Piles. This is not surprising, for whatever is good for diseased mucous membrane in one part of the body is, of course, good for it in other parts. For obvious reasons, we do not like to advertise extensively the Catarrh Remedy for piles, but think some may prefer to order such medicine by mail; therefore this opportunity is given. Send 2-cent stamp for sample, or 50 cents for a full package, to THE PISO COMPANY, Warren, Pa.

When we cannot do as we would, it will smooth the jolts to be willing to do as we should.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOTES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Wherever you find the true Christian spirit, you will find it trying to do the work of Christ.

Percival Lowell, who has devoted a fortune to the establishment of observatories in Arizona and Mexico, and whose discoveries in relation to Mars have attracted universal attention, will contribute to the next volume of The Youth's Companion an article on "The Plans and Hopes of the Modern Astronomer."

MARK TWAIN'S NEW STORY.

Mark Twain's new humorous story, which he is now writing in Vienna, is to go to the Ladies' Home Journal, which magazine has also secured F. Marion Crawford's new story, which is a tale of the unreal, with the striking uncanny title of "The Dead Smile."

A NEW CATALOGUE

Is being issued by C. P. Barnes & Co., Jewelers and opticians, Louisville, Ky., showing in half-tone engravings the newest things for holiday gifts in sterling silverware, sterling silver novelties, watches, rings, etc., etc. They will be glad to send you a copy upon request.

Frank R. Stockton has written for the next volume of The Youth's Companion an account of the various dogs he has owned, including one called "Uno," which belonged to him when a boy. He says: "It greatly delighted me to have persons ask the name of my dog, and then to watch their faces when I told them what it was. Some kind-hearted inquirers would persist in assuring me they did not know, and this was very grateful to my feelings; I then experienced as much pleasure in explaining the matter as I have since done in giving answers to conundrums which friendly listeners were good enough not to guess."

Uriah Jones, Hezekiah Brown and John Peter Smith will testify to the wonderful curative properties of Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup. Sample bottles free. Satisfaction or money refunded.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS TO THE SOUTHEAST.

On December 21 and 22, the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad will sell round-trip tickets to all points in the Southeast at rate of one fare for the round trip. Tickets good for return thirty days from date of sale. Special trains with through coaches will

1897 CHRISTMAS 1897

DO YOU INTEND TO PURCHASE A PRESENT IN THE JEWELRY LINE FOR YOUR WIFE, SWEETHEART OR FRIEND?

If so, write us and we will MAIL you our ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE FREE. We guarantee all of our goods FIRST-CLASS in every respect and prices so low that we fear no competition. ONE TRIAL and you will be convinced, and we will make a customer of you for the future. (Reference, this paper.)

IRION & GIRARDET, Jewelers, 404 W. Market Street, Louisville, Ky.

Liberty Enlightening the World. FARMERS ARE BECOMING ENLIGHTENED ON THE SUBJECT OF FARM IMPLEMENTS AND THE MOLINE LINE IS CONCEDED THE BEST. Write for Circulars describing our Dandy Cultivator, Good Enough Sulky Plow, New Gladiator Steel Frame Stalk Cutter, King Cotton Corn and Cotton Planter, New Dutch Girl Disc Harrow. We also have the best Farm Wagons and Finest Buggies. Address TEXAS MOLINE PLOW CO., WAREHOUSE AND OFFICE: COR. AUSTIN ST. AND PACIFIC AVE. Dallas, Texas.

THE NEW CANTON Disk Plow. In offering our NEW DISK PLOW to the farmers of Texas, we say without fear of successful contradiction, that it stands without a successful rival. It is constructed upon correct mechanical principles that must win for it. FIRST PLACE AMONG DISK PLOWS. UNLIKE ANY OTHER, IT DOES NOT REQUIRE WEIGHT TO PUT IT IN THE GROUND and is guaranteed to plow not only the hardest, but the loosest black waxy or sandy soil, and SCOUR PERFECTLY in any kind of land. The CANTON DISK PLOW cuts a 16-inch furrow 6 to 8 inches deep WITH THE SAME TEAM THAT OTHERS USE IN PLOWING 12 INCHES, leaving bottom perfectly flat, cutting all roots and the ridge that other Disk Plows leave, besides leaving the furrow ample for large size horse or mule to walk in. It is guaranteed as represented, or money refunded. Write for descriptive circular and price. We manufacture and carry in stock the largest and best assorted line of Implements, Wagons and Vehicles in the Southwest. WRITE US FOR YOUR WANTS. PARLIN & ORENDORFF CO. Dallas, Texas.

be run from Texas points to the old States. Routes as desired.

For rates, time of trains and further particulars, address any M., K. & T. ticket agent, or W. G. Crush, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Dallas, Texas.

M., K. & T. LOCAL HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.

For the Christmas and New Year holidays the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway of Texas will sell round-trip tickets between all points on its line at the rate of one and one-third fares for the round trip. Tickets on sale December 24, 25 and 31, 1897, and January 1, 1898. Good for return until January 3, 1898.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NOTICES.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE. The class of the fourth year will meet the committee at 9 a. m. Tuesday, December 14, at the Methodist church in Palestine, Texas. D. F. C. TIMMONS.

The following letter will explain itself. I have written to all other railroads in the

bounds of our conference. Have not heard from them yet, but feel sure they will answer as favorably as does the International and Great Northern Railway. If no further notice is given, let all who attend the conference inquire at their respective railroad stations for reduced rates. A. J. FRICK, Longview, Texas.

A. J. Frick, Esq., Secretary East Texas Conference, Longview, Texas:

Dear Sir—Answering your favor 17th instant, take pleasure in advising that for the East Texas Annual Conference, which will convene at Palestine, December 15, 1897, we will make reduced rates from all stations between and including Mineola and Longview on the north and Houston on the south, on the basis known as the Distance Plan, namely: From points within seventy-five miles, four cents per mile; seventy-five to one hundred miles, \$3; beyond one hundred miles, one fare for the round trip. Tickets to be sold December 13, 14 and 15, with return limit December 21. Connecting lines within the territory described in your letter have been requested to sell through tickets at rates made on like basis. Yours truly, D. J. PRICE, General Passenger and Ticket Agent.

The presiding elders of East Texas Conference will meet at the Methodist Church, in Palestine, on Tuesday, December 14, at 10 a. m. JOHN ADAMS.



**OLD AND YOUNG**

*Pussy's Strange Bed.*

All over the country recently we have been holding elections. That means that the voters of the country have been voting for the men they wish to govern them. There are always two, and sometimes more, candidates for each office. The ballots having the names of the candidates are dropped into a ballot box, and after a certain hour they are counted in the presence of several men; then all are put into a large box, and sealed for the final decision as to who was elected. There might be a dispute, and then the ballots would all have to be counted again. In one of the smaller cities the Board of Elections counted the ballots in a certain ward, put them in the box and sealed the box. The box was in a store where the voting had been done. The next morning strange sounds came from the box. Everybody was astonished; the sounds indicated great distress. It was against the law to open the box. That must be done by the authorities.

The box must remain sealed until the final decision as to the election. The sounds increased, and the men became excited. Legal advice was sought. At last it was decided that the box might be opened in the presence of witnesses. It was done. Out jumped a cat. The contents of the box were a sight. Pussy, in her efforts to get out, had scratched the ballots to pieces.

If the election is disputed in that ward, they will have to have a new election. There are no ballots to be recounted.—The Outlook.



*The Duty of Being Pleasant.*

"I wish we had company all the while, mamma," said little Alice, as she saw the front door close behind a friend who had been spending the afternoon with her mother.

"Why do you wish to have company all the while, my dear?"

"Because, mamma, you are always so pleasant when other people are here, and somehow everything seems to be nice."

The little girl went to her play, and the mother sat down with a basket of mending. Her little daughter's words made a deep impression upon her. It was too true that she was quite irritable at times when she was alone with her own family, and that she fretted and chafed over the duties which should be the most sacred and dear, those home duties toward those we love the best of all on earth. She did not wish to make an unfavorable impression on her outside friends, and acknowledged to herself that she could put on "company manners," and doff her petty fault-finding garb in a very short time. That night she took up her little book of daily reading, and read, "You have not fulfilled every duty unless you have fulfilled that of being pleasant." Alice's mother was one who "looked well to the ways of her household." She saw to it that the necessary requisites for the physical well-being were supplied. She was orderly and painstaking; her home was always attractive, and everything in its place. But she had a habit of nagging the dear ones, and worrying over the work she had to do. The child's words were true—it was pleasanter in the home when company came and the mother was on dress parade. She had never seen herself in such an unfavorable light before, and she resolved with God's help to make home just as happy and peaceful when only her family were present as if she had the critics of the outside world making up their verdicts of her character.

O how many persons there are in the world like Alice's mother! They keep their pleasant ways and kindly, well-chosen words for strangers and guests. We feel that those who are dearest to us, and who are bound to us by kinship and love, will put up with our disagreeable ways with them, and not expose us, for the sake of family reputation. We may do our duty to our family in certain directions, but if we have done our work with fretful words, and often-

times sharp ones, and gone about the looks on our faces, we have not fulfilled our whole duty. It is true that we are often overtaxed and weary, and wear, as it were, our nerves on the outside of our bodies, but it is not soothing to them nor restful to our spirits to be irritable and unkind to those with whom we live—most especially toward the little children, who are not expected to understand the daily round, and who are so trying sometimes. "A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger," is true in our dealings with our children, as well as with grown people. We often provoke our children to wrath by our impatience and cross words.

The older we grow the more is the truth borne in upon us that "cheerful people in the home are like sunny days." Lubbock says: "The world would be brighter and better if we would only learn the duty of happiness, as well as the happiness of duty, for we ought to be as cheerful as we can, if only because to be happy ourselves is a most effectual contribution to the happiness of others." A happy face about the home, and pleasant words and ways, have an influence for good and happiness in a family that can not be estimated. Let us make it our aim to cultivate cheerfulness and pleasant manners as an every-day duty to those who live with us, until it becomes so natural to us that we will not have to make any changes for the better when company is announced.

Many years ago there was a dear wife and mother, in whose family it was my privilege, as a young girl, to be for a short time. This dear woman had peculiar trials, which youth, of course, could not comprehend, but which in later years has caused a halo of glory to be cast over the memory of that patient saint. It was her custom to get up very early in the morning, before the day's flood-tide of work began, and go in a little room by herself. It was quite curious to the younger ones why she did this, and later in the day we looked about the room to see if there was any kind of work which she did so early, and kept hidden there. One day we heard her opening her heart to a friend, who asked her to tell her the secret of her keeping so unruffled in the midst of so much hard work and care. "I go up to the Mount of Vision early every morning," she said, "and talk to my Lord. Then I

house with frowns and protesting come down into the valley, and he sustains me in my daily rounds."

That was the secret of her sweet ways, of her patient toil, and her uniform cheerfulness in the home. Her influence is still with those who dwelt with her, although she has long been in the home of her Father. In days of trial and vexation, that "Mount of Vision" she spoke of comes to remembrance as a place of rest and strength.

Fathers and mothers, make home the happiest, brightest and most hallowed place on earth. The home-nest will all too soon be broken up; the little ones will learn after a time to use

their wings and fly away. Let them take away in their hearts the sweet influences of a happy, cheerful, God-loving home. Let us all remember that too often

We have careful thoughts for the stranger,

And smiles for the sometime guest; But oft for "our own" the bitter tone, Though we love "our own" the best. Ah! lips with curve impatient,

Ah! brow with that look of scorn; 'T were a cruel fate were the night too late

To undo the work of morn.

—Susan Teall Perry, in the Christian Work.


**GET THE GENUINE ARTICLE!**

**Walter Baker & Co.'s**  
**Breakfast COCOA**  
**Pure, Delicious, Nutritious.**  
**Costs Less than ONE CENT a cup.**

Be sure that the package bears our Trade-Mark.

**Walter Baker & Co. Limited,**  
**Dorchester, Mass.**

(Established 1780.)



**CARDS AT 1/2 PRICE.**

**OVER 1,000,000!**

Beautiful CARDS in New Designs, bought at a Great Reduction, which we will sell at Half Price. Cards, large size, highest grade of art work, assorted in pleasing variety, formerly selling at 2c. to 5c. each. We offer 50 Cards, assorted designs, post-paid, for 25 cents. You can have your choice of Christmas, New Year, Birthday, or Easter Verses, Scripture Texts or Reward of Merit, 50 cards for 25 cents, 10 beautiful Ribbon Book-Mark Cards, 25 cents, 10 Dainty Booklets, 25 cents. We also have a set of Beautiful French Dolls, wearing the prettiest wardrobe ever seen on Dolls, bewitchingly fascinating; the children go wild over them as soon as they see them; mothers too are delighted. Price per set of 3 Dolls, 25 cts. post-paid. A handsome present free if you send us the names of 3 teachers who use Cards. Address, ART DEPARTMENT, WAYSIDE PUB. CO., Clintonville, Conn.



**I am praised by all of my purchasers.**

WHO AM I? Don't you know—almost everybody does. Well, I am the sewing machine that you see so much about in this paper. I am fully guaranteed and only cost \$22.00. You also get the Advocate one year. Address Texas Christian Advocate, Dallas, Texas.

**Rudyard Kipling,**  
the famous story-writer, is only one of many celebrated contributors engaged to write for the next volume of

**The Youth's Companion**  
52 Times A Year.

To show the varied strength and charm of The Companion's original features for 1898, we give the following partial list of

**Distinguished Contributors.**

Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone	W. D. Howells
Hon. Thomas B. Reed	Mme. Lillian Nordica
Hon. Justin McCarthy	Mrs. Burton Harrison
Hon. George F. Hoar	Octave Thanet
Lieut. Peary	Mary E. Wilkins
Max O'Rell	Margaret E. Sangster
Frank R. Stockton	Harriet P. Spofford

And Fully Two Hundred Others.

**12-Color Calendar FREE to New Subscribers.**

*This Calendar is published exclusively by The Youth's Companion and could not be sold in Art Stores for less than \$1.00. It consists of three folding parts, each a true reproduction of charming group pictures. See Important Offer.*

**FREE**  
...To...  
**Jan. 1898.**

NEW SUBSCRIBERS who will cut out this slip and send it at once, with name and address, and \$1.75, will receive:

FREE—The Companion every week from the time subscription is received till January 1, 1898.

FREE—Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Double Numbers.

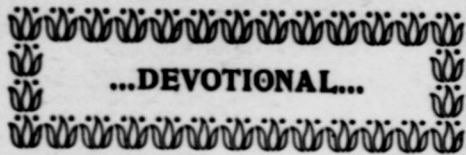
FREE—The Companion Art Calendar for 1898, a production superior to any of the famous pieces of Companion color-work of previous years. It is a beautiful ornament and a costly gift. Size 10 x 24 in. Free to New Subscribers.

And The Companion Fifty-Two Weeks, a Full Year, to January 1, 1899.

*Illustrated Prospectus of the Volume for 1898 and Sample Copies of the Paper Free.*

**THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, 201 Columbus Avenue, BOSTON, MASS.**





...DEVOTIONAL...

A Message for the Middle-Aged.

The poetry of life gathers round its commencement and its close, just as the poet finds inspiration in the rising or the setting sun. Infancy has its charm of innocence, youth has its charm of energy and hope, age has its charm of pathos. We wish to know the story of the infant and of the old man. From the latter we desire the tale of his experiences; upon the former we look with curiosity, and wonder what will be the tale which will be written upon the blank pages of life.

But round middle life there seems to gather no halo of poetry. The bird that wakes the morning with its song is silent in the midday hour. The burden and heat of the day are not favorable to music. The poet who will celebrate the open brow of childhood or the furrowed cheek of age will find no inspiration in the anxious eye and busy front of middle life. The maiden who moves fancy free among the meadows, and the tired face and eyes of tranquil resignation, bordered by silver hair, may alike provoke his muse; but who will sing the middle-aged man or the middle-aged matron? Who will find inspiration from the stout man, who travels daily into town from some northern height, transacts prosaic business in a stuffy office, and at evening lets himself into his house with a latch-key, kicks off his boots, assumes his easy coat and slippers, eats in silence and with capacity frowns upon the children's noise, and answers his wife testily if he answers her at all, and generally lets a grunt stand for an answer? And does his wife rouse poetic fire? She, poor soul, now in the forties, has left the grace of other days behind her. She is heedless of her appearance; her clothes fit badly; she has an unkempt and slovenly air; she is immersed in household cares. Her soul does not rise above her tradesman's books and her children's clothes. The piano on which she once did execution responds now only to the sound of scales practiced by uncertain and childish fingers. The garland of verses, a book once gorgeous in binding, now lies dusty and faded upon the round table in the parlor window, in company with a huge black family Bible, closed with ponderous gilt clasps, some half-bound magazines, and the family recipe-book. Once in a while the busy housewife looks at them with a sorry sort of pride, puts them down with a sigh, and goes on with her dusting of the little parlor. The whole atmosphere of such lives lack the poetic quality. Their existence is practical, prosaic, dull. We find it hard to invest such lives with poetry. The shadows disappear at the midday, and with the shadows the picturesqueness of the landscape disappears. The onlooker calls youth and age poetry-touched; he calls middle life prosaic. In this view there is a withdrawal of sympathy from middle life. None talk of the stalwart, struggling, middle-aged with any touch of sentiment. They are so practical; they can well manage for themselves. Who will waste any emotion upon them?

And yet, perchance, they stand most in need of our sympathy. Youth has not tasted the bitterness of life's cup. Age has grown well accustomed to its taste, and perhaps even the palate has grown less sensitive. But with the middle-aged the bitterness is there, and the capacity to feel is yet strong, while the reasons for fear and anxiety are keenly felt.

For it is upon middle life that the burdens and anxieties fall. The way is not yet quite clear before the man in middle life. He may know what he has to do, but he does not know how far he may succeed; and, while success hangs doubtful in the balance, he has probably already given pledges to fortune. He is winning his way, but not for himself alone. He looks into the merry eyes of the children who chatter around his table, and his solicitude is multiplied by their needs. Like the patriarch, he is competent, when weighted with the care of the mother and the children, to wrestle with the unknown through the dubious night,

and according to his temperament will be the effect of such thoughts upon his work. There are those whom the challenge of difficulties raises to a higher quality of endeavor. There are, on the other hand, those who are paralyzed by anxiety, and who are at their worst because they are aware of the necessity of being at their best. The stakes which they have in the result unnerve them. Thus middle life is exposed to a trial of which early life and later life are ignorant. And while all this is so, the consolations of other periods of life are denied them.

If the poet finds it hard to sing the glories of middle life, middle life finds few incentives to song. Anxiety kills imagination. The necessity of daily and practical occupation dries up the fountains of fancy. It was, perhaps, with an unconscious recognition of this that the sacred writer found the seers of the new age among the young and the old, and not among the men of intermediate age.

"Your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams." Is middle life, then, the saddest and most unsoled period of our pilgrimage? Are there no compensations for its dull drudgeries? The answer depends on our faith. If God be indeed the living God, then is he the God of every age and generation. The patriarch who meets with the visions of angels on the pathway of his early life may meet with God in his middle life also. It may be in conflict that the divine comes to him, but it is the divine still. And who will say that the vision of Peniel is not more splendid than the vision of Bethel? The conflict may yield richer results than sleep.

If Bethel brings visions of a ladder and angels leading upward to God far off at its summit, Peniel may be the revelation of God near at hand. We may not meet the sweet and shadowy angels which haunted our early dream, but we may meet God face to face in the struggle, and in the shadow of impending danger meet him to the preserving of our life.

There are benedictions for middle life which, if not so glorious as those of youth, may be more substantial and abiding.

There is an educating ministry in every period of life, and middle life has somewhat to teach us. It is not without advantage that we leave youth behind. The rich coloring fades from the sky. The splendid shapes which we saw in the early visions melt away; the light of common day takes the place of the gorgeous hues of the dawn. The practical side of life is forced upon our attention. Necessity and responsibility compel us to take heed to ways and means, to cost and expenditure. The principles of the conduct of life are more forcibly pressed upon our attention. Whatever poetical influences cast their spell upon our spirit before, we must be practical now. We can not exist beautifully, we must live serviceably. Use, service, and daily duty, unfold to us the practical side of life. We learn to translate the sentiments of our younger life into the duties of later life. Is not the change for good? The strong gush of tender feelings, which we thought to be an all-sufficing evidence of life, we find it to be, not all, not nearly enough. Life is not to feel, but to be. It is not the sentimental experiences of lofty and exhilarating feelings; it is the patient and heroic discharge of duty. We are inclined to say conduct, not emotion, is three parts of life. The transition is a gain—as it is from the land of imagination into that of reality. From being spectators we become actors; we are not so alive to the glories of the fight, because we are taking part in it. And the necessity of taking part in it is transforming what was only a loosely ordered assemblage of sentiments into well-compacted powers of character. We are putting theories to the test, we are building up the moral fiber. In the stress of war we are, without knowing it, training to become veterans; in the heat and burden of the day we are gaining powers which youthful imag-

ination and numberless nobilities of sentiment could never bestow.

And thus we are preparing for that insight into the significance of life which experience alone can give. We have left the seat of the spectator; we have descended armed into the arena; we have tested and proved the worth of weapons; we have gained knowledge, and, what is more, we have gained skill. And, as old age comes upon us, it will be from the resources and capacities which we have won in practical life that we shall be able to speak as life guides to others. The warrior of middle life may well become the prophet of later life. We speak not thus from a ready and sensitive imagination, but we speak what we know. Our utterances flow from what we have felt and handled and experienced. Prosaic days of struggle prepare for prophetic days of helpfulness. It is the old man who once wrestled at Peniel till the day dawned, and who bore the marks of the struggle far into later life; who possessed the keen and unerring discrimination of spirit which read in Ephraim greater qualities than in the firstborn Manasseh. Through trial, through hard tasks and distasteful duties, through much solicitude and severe conflict, comes that swift instinct which can choose men, and, as if by a prophetic gift, assign to them their places according to their varying characters and qualities. We must pay the price. Taet comes from con-

tact, vigor and keenness from conflict, sagacity and insight from experience. Middle life is often the school of the prophets.

But not for all, it will be said. No, not for all—that is, it is not given to all to exhibit the results of the experience they have won. The capacity of expression comes not to all in this life. Perhaps something more than three-score and ten years are needed for the maturing of such a capacity in some natures. But there is one benediction which comes to middle life, and which is surely open to all. It is to the middle-aged that is entrusted, as a rule, the molding of the future. The young learn, middle life teaches. We may be in the prosaic period between thirty and sixty. We are not viewed with the admiration which is granted to youth, or the veneration which is yielded to age; but these are bearing the burden and heat of the day.

The vast proportion of the education of the rising generation is carried on by the men and women of the second generation. They are making the merchants, teachers, statesmen, artists and poets of the next age. Like Falstaff, they may not be witty, but they may be the occasion of wit in others. They may not have leisure for utterance, but they may be providing for future utterances. They may not seem to make much, but they are making history.—Right Rev. W. Boyd Carpenter, in the Preachers' Magazine.

The Woman Who Uses

GOLD DUST

Washing Powder

finishes her work as fresh and bright as her house is clean.

Largest package—greatest economy. The N. K. Fairbank Company, Chicago. St. Louis. New York. Boston. Philadelphia.



THOSE WHO OWN A HOME and WANT TO OWN A HOME

should subscribe for Texas Farm and Ranch, the handsomest, best, cleanest, most interesting and instructive Family, Farm and Stock Paper published. Weekly; \$1 a year. Send for a free sample copy.

A LITTLE WORK will bring BIG PAY

to those who can spare the time to secure subscriptions for us. Cash pay and handsome premiums for those getting up clubs. Samples, particulars, etc., on request. Write NOW.

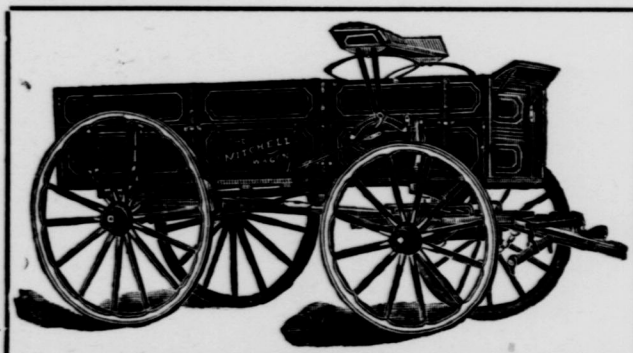
TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

MITCHELL & LEWIS CO., Ltd.

Manufacturers of....

RACINE, WIS.

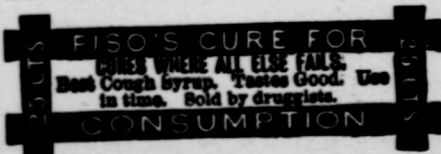
Ask Your Dealer for the Old Reliable



The Oldest Farm Wagon in America.

THE MITCHELL WAGON, The Monarch of the Road.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE.



A Fine Bible and Advocate \$4.



# Texas Christian Advocate

L. BLAYLOCK, - - - Publisher

Office of Publication—Corner Ervay and Jackson Streets.

Published Every Thursday at Dallas, Texas.

Entered at the Postoffice at Dallas, Texas, as Second-Class Mail Matter.

T. R. PIERCE, D. D., - - - Editor

F. B. CARROLL, D.D., { Editor  
Sunday-School Dept  
STERLING FISHER, { Editor  
League Dept.  
MRS. F. E. HOWELL, { Editor  
Woman's Dept.

## SUBSCRIPTION—IN ADVANCE.

ONE YEAR.....\$2 00  
SIX MONTHS..... 1 00  
THREE MONTHS..... 50  
TO PREACHERS (half price)..... 1 00

For advertising rates address the Publisher. The date on label gives the time of expiration of subscription.

DISCONTINUANCE—The paper will be stopped only when we are so notified and all arrearages are paid.

BACK NUMBERS—Subscriptions may begin at any time, but we can not undertake to furnish back numbers. We will do so when desired, if possible; but, as a rule, subscriptions must date from the current issue.

If any subscriber fails to receive the ADVOCATE regularly and promptly, notify us at once by postal card.

All ministers in active work in the M. E. Church, South, in Texas are agents and will receive and receipt for subscriptions.

Subscribers asking to have the direction of a paper changed should be careful to name not only the postoffice to which they wish it sent, but also the one to which it has been sent.

## TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

Held by Bishop J. C. Granbery.

Dec. 8..... Texas..... Bryan  
Dec. 15..... East Texas..... Palestine

One little note of Northwest Texas Conference matters escaped us until this time, but it is too good to be lost. After a few words concerning the Scarritt Bible and Training School, Bro. Sam P. Wright, who had two daughters in that school in 1895, and whose daughter, Miss Mattie, will graduate there next summer, asked the Bishop to suffer Bro. R. B. Bonner to canvass the conference room for subscriptions to the Evangel, the school's paper. Bro. B. secured in a few moments ninety names. The whole of this subscription is applied to the scholarship of Miss Essie Roberson, of Salado, Texas.

## CONNECTIONAL NEWS.

Arkansas Methodist: Our Church at Muscogee, I. T., has a good house of worship, built of stone, seating 350 persons. It is carpeted, has excellent pews, and electric lights. We have here, also, a good school—the Muscogee Institute, built up by T. F. Brewer; W. R. Thornton now President. This school has \$45,000 worth of property, and is in a flourishing condition, having now 260 students. The Indian Mission Conference met here on November 10, Bishop A. W. Wilson in the chair; M. L. Butler Secretary. There are in the conference 118 clerical and 36 lay members. The work embraces the Territory of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory, including the country of the Cherokees, the Choctaws, the Creeks and Seminoles, and half a score of smaller Indian tribes. A Church membership of about 20,000, about 15,000 of whom are whites.

Rev. A. P. Parker, in St. Louis Advocate: The China Conference met on September 22, and adjourned on the 27th. In the absence of a Bishop, this writer was chosen President of the conference. We had a good meeting. The Lord was with us of a truth. The spirit of brotherly love and of a sound mind prevailed. For while there were necessarily differences of opinion on various points in regard to the work, the differences were manifestly prompted by a sincere desire for the best interests of the work, and not of petty

personal ambition or unkind feeling toward any one.

The reports from the different branches of the work showed some falling off as compared with last year, but there was an actual gain in membership of fifty-one during the year, and a considerable number of probationers was received. A considerable number of names had been stricken off the probationers' list as persons that had been lost sight of or had ceased to attend Church. Such a reconstruction of Church rolls has to come in this field as well as in the home land.

One preacher was received on trial, and five were received into full connection, including the foreign missionaries, one of whom was Rev. C. T. Collyer, of the Korean Mission, who had come over from Korea to Shanghai to attend the conference.

The work in all its branches, evangelistic, medical and educational, has been vigorously prosecuted during this year, and very encouraging results have been attained. The preaching at all our churches and chapels has been well attended, and large numbers of people have shown deep interest in hearing the Word of Life as proclaimed to them by the earnest and faithful men and women throughout the bounds of our work. Changed lives and rich experiences of the saving grace of the Lord Jesus attest that the Gospel is indeed the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, even in China.

Large numbers of patients have come to our hospitals and dispensaries for treatment for the many ills that flesh is heir to, and while there have had abundant opportunity to hear the message that is able to bring healing to their souls.

Our educational work has prospered as never before. Our schools and colleges in Shanghai and Suchow, and indeed throughout the entire bounds of our work, have been full to overflowing, and thus hundreds of boys and girls have been brought under the power of Christian truth, to be trained for usefulness in the Church and country in time to come.

## GENERAL CHURCH NEWS.

The College of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church (North) made the following deliverances at their session:

The Bishops unanimously agreed that nominal appointments, being of doubtful legality, and also inexpedient for other reasons, should not hereafter be made.

They also agreed, in view of the liability to a misapprehension of the facts and the intentions leading to a contrary course, that it is expedient to seek information concerning persons proper to be appointed presiding elders by private consultations only, and not in the open conference.

By order and in behalf of the Board of Bishops.

EDWARD G. ANDREWS, Sec.  
New York, Nov. 4, 1897.

The Outlook: If any woman in America has proved that she is worthy of ordination to the Gospel ministry, that woman is Mrs. Ballington Booth. Such was evidently the opinion of all who were present at Carnegie Music Hall on Monday evening last, November 22. The great auditorium was thronged. Mrs. Booth was ordained by the Volunteers of America, according to their forms and with their special service, although representatives of other Christian bodies took part in the exercises. Ordaining prayers were made by Rev. Dr. Josiah Strong, of the Evangelical Alliance, and by the Rev. Dr. Amory H. Bradford, of the First Congregational Church, Montclair, N. J., while the Rev. Dr. David Gregg wrote a letter in which he said that "Mr. Booth's ordination was of the Lord." The actual ordination service was that of the Volunteers' Manual, and was conducted by Commander Ballington Booth, assisted by Brigadier-General Fielding and Colonels Hallimond, Merrill, DeBarrett and Gardner. Mr. Chauncey M. Depew acted as chairman of the meeting, and made an interesting speech, in which he said:

Some people can be reached only by incense and devotional ceremonials, others by didactic sermons, and still others by noise. I have sympathy for

the people who can be reached only by noise, for it takes a bass drum to stir the gray matter in some brains. I believe in uniforms, too. There is something about a uniform that lifts a man up and inspires him with self-respect. The Volunteers are doing a good work. I believe it is not only God's work, but the work of our country.

Whatever the opinion generally held concerning the regularity or expediency of the ordination of women, we are persuaded that there will be little difference of opinion concerning the wisdom of the action which recognized Mrs. Booth as a worthy minister of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## TEXAS PERSONALS.

Rev. A. L. Hunkapillar, of the Indian Mission Conference, is in the city and made the Advocate a pleasant call.

Gainesville Hesperian: Rev. W. A. Stuckey's return to Broadway was a wise move on the part of the conference. He is an able preacher, a faithful pastor and an untiring worker. Under his administration Broadway has prospered during the past year as never before.

An evidence that Rev. C. R. Wright, of Hillsboro, values his time and appreciates the Advocate is the fact that the same mail which brings notice of his change of address from Mexia to Hillsboro brings his order for three new subscribers from his new charge.

Marvin M. McLean, son of Dr. J. H. McLean, is in Dallas, visiting his parents and friends. His home is Washington, D. C., where he has been in business for some time. Marvin is a noble young man, of whom any parents might be deservedly proud. We appreciate very highly a call and other courtesies from him.

## SOUTHERN METHODIST PERSONALS.

Arkansas Methodist: E. R. Hendrix is, next after C. B. Galloway, the youngest member of the Episcopal College. A noble specimen of physical manhood, he is wont to give attention to such exercises as preserve the body in the best equipoise and tone. He still values the gymnasium no less than when he was a college President. At home Bishop Hendrix is never found idle. His time is systematically employed in study, correspondence, and literary labors. But he finds time to be genial to his friends, to enjoy the evening hour with his family, and to attend all the Church services at Melrose. On Sunday the Bishop drops in, often unannounced, at the small Churches, to preach for the boys. His influence fosters fellowship among all the Christian denominations of Kansas City, and he holds a leading place in its public charities. God has given our good Bishop excellent health, a beautiful home, and a lovely family, all of which we pray may long be spared to him and to the Church.

## GENERAL PERSONALS.

Northwestern Advocate: Rev. Jacob Gruber was one of the most eccentric and at the same time historical characters in the history of American Methodism. He was brought up in the German Reformed Church, but was converted at an early age under the preaching of a Methodist itinerant preacher, and united with the Methodist Church. He began preaching when a little over twenty years of age, and six years later was, by Bishop Asbury, made presiding elder of Greenbrier District, the roughest in the Baltimore Conference. He soon became famous for his eccentricities, but was respected for his integrity and piety. In his sermons he was especially severe on what he believed to be the follies of dress and fashion. Mr. Gruber died in triumph May, 1850. He was distinguished in Methodist history as probably the first person to be arrested in the United States for abolition utterances. While preaching at a camp-meeting in Maryland from the words, "Righteousness exalteth a nation," he uttered words against slavery which gave great offense to many slaveholders in the congregation. A

warrant was sworn out for his arrest, charging him with exciting the slaves to rebellion against the laws of the State. He was defended by Roger B. Taney, afterward Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and distinguished as the author of the Dred Scott decision. In the course of his speech in defense of Mr. Gruber, Mr. Taney made a remarkable statement against slavery, which was in striking contrast to his utterance while Chief Justice.

Zion's Herald, in writing up the proceedings of the General Missionary Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, gives the following interesting personal:

Dr. Buckley, who is the most remarkable man in public discussions that we have ever seen, frequently enlivened the proceedings by the flash of his wit and his unflinching resources in repartee. Dr. Eaton, however, turned the laugh upon him quite neatly in one of the sessions. In pleading for needed generosity for the foreign work, Dr. Eaton's heart warmed, and he spoke not only with great earnestness and effect, but in a somewhat loud voice. When he had concluded Dr. Buckley, who has his voice under such perfect control, rose and said—speaking in a moderate tone—that it was once his custom when he became earnest to speak in a very loud voice, until he discovered that when he vociferated he was less able to carry on the proper work of intellectation. When Dr. Eaton got the floor again he began by saying: "Some men speak loud but infrequently, while others who speak in more moderate voice speak continuously." As Dr. Buckley had spoken quite a number of times during that session, the audience gave Dr. Eaton prompt applause for his happy rejoinder.

## THE PRESS.

### THE AIM OF ZIONISM.

Mr. Herbert Bentwich writes in the Nineteenth Century on "Philo-Zionists and Anti-Semites." He is an enthusiastic advocate of Dr. Herzl and the Bale congress.

"All the ecclesiastics in Jewry might have cogitated the Jewish question for centuries, and not have produced such a practical revival of the ancient ideals, such a real step in advance toward their attainment, as followed from the scheme of this very fin-de-siecle and free-thinking journalist. Herzl himself was the first to recognize that his original conception of the Jewish position had not been complete, and to proclaim that 'Zionism is the return home to Judaism, even before the return to the land.' He admitted here the predominance of the religious element; and after the discussions of the three memorable days over which the congress extended, with the concurrence of Max Nordau, his co-worker, he definitely subordinated the political part of his programme in the formula unanimously agreed on by the delegates: 'The aim of Zionism is to create for the Jewish people a publicly, legally assured home in Palestine.'"—Review of Reviews.

### NATURE INEXORABLE.

It is a great mercy that nature is inexorable, visiting the sins of the fathers on the children, and sometimes vice versa, with such ruthless certainty. If she were not, what would become of this earth and its population! If crime and drunkenness and laziness and the perpetual chase after pleasure did not lead in the long run to destruction or extinction, how much worse the world would be than it is; how much blacker its prospects than they are. It is right and necessary that the victories of life should be to the strong, the active, the persistent and the industrious. It is right and necessary that the weak and the idle and vicious should go under. We must approve nature's methods, but recognizing the immense power behind them, and the certainty that the work entrusted to them will be constantly and thoroughly done, however slowly, we may well leave it to her. Our affair in this world is to lighten nature's work of destroying the unfit, not by doing it for her, but by making it, so far as we can, unnecessary. Her task



is to exterminate the characterless and the bad; ours to make character grow where it was lacking, and make exterminations needless.—Scribner's Magazine.

LETTER-WRITING NOT A LOST ART.

Of late years not much has been heard on the once favorite theme of a decline in the art of letter-writing. This argues, perhaps, that persons of culture, who are always most conservative as to their intellectual amusements, are becoming reconciled to a new epistolary standard. This modern taste, derived from new conditions, enjoins upon the letter-writer a strict adherence to topics of personal knowledge addressed to a personal interest. General subjects, no matter how deftly treated, are voted a bore; and letter-writing is now so universal that each person who loves to exchange thoughts with fellow-beings is very sure to receive from family and friends as much epistolary literature as a normal appetite should crave. The time-honored models no longer count for much, because in the main they were written from the point of view of a general intelligence, for a common apprehension; their place is now filled by the salient observations of the leader-writer and the clever descriptions of the press correspondent.

In the days of slow transit and dear postage, letter-writing was such a special habit that tomes of letters which were little more than prosy narrative and stilted dissertation found favor, partly on account of a reverence for any manifestation of the art, and as much, perhaps, for the sake of their modicum of personal flavor. But at the present time the epistolary taste of the public is so highly fed by private interchange that letters must have great historical value, or possess the rarest intellectual charm and vivacity, to attain the distinction of being put to press at a publisher's risk. Letters of the latter quality appear, if at all, in the biographies of men and women of public reputation, so interwoven as to impart, with their modern personal quality, an autobiographic flavor. And the fashion of telling a story in letters has well-nigh died out, as demanding a literary legerdemain of amazing dexterity in order to adapt the racy, individual details of a modern letter to the unfolding of human types.—Century Magazine.

CHRIST REINCARNATE.

If it was known that Christ was incarnate on earth, doubtless He would receive universal homage, in whatever guise he came. It is true that this is still a pretty bad world, and that it rejects its redeemers. It is true that some of the most self-sacrificing and noble reformers have long been reviled and maltreated. But, bad as the world is, it repents and sometimes knows its saviors, and it is not devoid of good sense; what it dislikes in a reformer is often the human in him and not the divine. No doubt it would treat a man who had the appearance of a fanatic as a fanatic. Even the Church would do that, for the Church can not continue to exist without a certain order.

This is still God's world. It is just as much his world as it was in the first century of our era. Providence still orders the affairs of men. The civilization that we have attained is the evolution of his purpose. We have been taught that Christ came in the fulness of time, and it must be assumed in the manner fitted to his purpose. The world has changed, has been changed by his coming, and is not at all the same world in the nineteenth century that it was in the first. What trifling it is to conjecture that a "coming" now would not be with due regard to the condition of the world, that it would not be in a manner to carry belief.—Harper's Magazine.

Send your order early for the Texas Advocate Sewing Machine you are going to give your wife Christmas.

A MINISTER'S STATEMENT

Rev. C. H. Smith of Plymouth, Conn., Gives the Experience of Himself and Little Girl in a Trying Season—What He Depends Upon.

The testimonials in favor of Hood's Sarsaparilla come from a class of people whose words are worth considering. Many clergymen testify to the value of this medicine. Read this:

"By a severe attack of diphtheria I lost two of my children. I used Hood's Sarsaparilla as a tonic both for myself and little girl and found it most excellent as a means to restore the impoverished blood to its natural state and as a help to appetite and digestion. I depend upon it when I need a tonic and I find it once efficacious." REV. C. H. SMITH, Congregational parsonage, Plymouth, Conn.

Hood's Pills cure liver ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25

Sherman District—First Round.

- Travis and Willow Streets..... At will
Pilot Grove, at Pilot Grove..... Dec 11, 12
Bells, at Bells..... Dec 18, 19
Sherman cir, at Friendship..... Jan 1, 2
Pottsboro and Preston, at Pottsb..... Jan 8, 9
Collinsville, at Collinsville..... Jan 15, 16
Whitesboro cir, at Sadler..... Jan 22, 23
Whitesboro sta..... Jan 23, 24
Denison mis, at Cherry Mound..... Jan 29, 30
Van Alstyne sta..... Feb 5, 6
Howe cir, at Howe..... Feb 12, 13
Whitewright sta..... Feb 19, 20
Denison sta..... Feb 26, 27
Gordonville mis, at Gordonv..... March 5, 6
Gunters mis..... March 12, 13
The District Stewards will meet at Travis Street, in Sherman, December 15, at 1 o'clock. Their names are: C. J. McKinney, W. H. King, H. H. Robertson, C. W. McElwreath, H. N. Tuck, A. F. Platter, J. M. Everheart, John Hendrix, F. C. Vaden, E. D. Hughes, C. E. Williams, B. O. Tanner, H. H. Hayes, G. T. Duke, J. W. Fields. Let every steward do his best to bring up a good report at the first Quarterly Conference. J. R. Wages, P. E.

Corsicana District—First Round.

- Bloom, Grove and C. Cr. at B.G..... Dec 11, 12
Rice cir, at Chatfield..... Dec 16
Frost cir, at Salem..... Dec 17
Brandon cir, at Rienzi..... Dec 18, 19
Hubbard sta..... Dec 19, 20
Dawson cir, at Dawson..... Dec 20
Armour cir, at Armour..... Dec 21
Wortham cir, at Wortham..... Dec 22
Thornton cir, at Thornton..... Dec 23
Barry cir, at Barry..... Dec 24
Corsicana cir, at Zion's Rest..... Dec 25, 26
E. Corsicana mis, at E. Corsl..... Dec 26, 27
Corsicana sta..... Dec 27
Kerens cir, at Kerens..... Dec 28
Hornhill mis, at Hornhill..... Jan 1, 2
Groesbeck sta..... Jan 2, 3
Cotton Gin cir, at Cotton Gin..... Jan 8, 9
Mexia sta..... Jan 9, 10

Please have dinner on the ground. Immediately thereafter the stewards meet for conference. Then will follow the business session of the Quarterly Conference.

These hard times fall hardest upon the preachers. Many of them have had to break up, take long moves and begin life over under trying circumstances. Will not, therefore, every good and faithful steward do his utmost to make as full a report as possible? John R. Nelson, P. E.

Bowie District—First Round.

- Alvord, at Alvord..... Dec 11, 12
Chico cir, at Wesley..... Dec 18, 19
Bridgeport and Boyd, at Brgpt..... Dec 25, 26
Sunset cir, at Fruitland..... Jan 1, 2
Crafton cir, at Pringle..... Jan 2, 3
Rheme cir, at Aurora..... Jan 8, 9
Deatur cir..... Jan 15, 16
Deatur sta..... Jan 16, 17
Boonsville cir, at Bethel..... Jan 22, 23
Bellevue cir, at Bellevue..... Jan 29, 30
Bowie sta..... Jan 30, 31
Blue Grove cir, at Mountcastle..... Feb 5, 6
Post Oak cir, at Post Oak..... Feb 6, 7
Iowa Park, at Clara..... Feb 12, 13
Wichita Falls sta..... Feb 13, 14
Holliday, at Holliday..... Feb 19, 20
Archer City..... Feb 20, 21
Jacksboro, at Jacksboro..... Feb 26, 27
Bryson cir, at Salt Hill..... Feb 27, 28
F. O. Miller, P. E.

Clarendon District—First Round.

- Plainview cir, at Plainview..... Dec 11, 12
Floyd mis, at Floydada..... Dec 18, 19
Silverton and Tulla, at Silv..... 7 p. m. Dec 20
Clarendon sta..... Dec 25, 26
Clarendon cir, at Clarendon..... 2 p. m. Dec 30
Matador mis, at Matador..... Jan 1, 2
Wellington, at Wellington..... Jan 8, 9
Memphis, at Newlin..... Jan 15, 16
Claude, at Claude..... Jan 22, 23
Amarillo sta..... Jan 29, 30
Amarillo cir, at Panhandle..... Feb 5, 6
Higgins mis, at Higgins..... Feb 8, 9
Canadian cir, at Canadian..... Feb 12, 13
Childress mis, at Kirkland..... Feb 19, 20
District Stewards are called to meet at church in Clarendon, Thursday, December 23, at 10 o'clock a. m. R. A. Hall, P. E.

Bonham District—First Round.

- Bonham sta..... Dec 14
Balley, at Balley..... Dec 18, 19
Ector, at Savoy..... Jan 1, 2
Senth Bonham, at Brotherton..... Jan 8, 9
Gober, at Providence..... Jan 15, 16
Dodd and Windom, at Windom..... Jan 22, 23
Honey Grove sta..... Jan 24
Petty, at Petty..... Jan 29, 30
White Rock, at Rock Point..... Feb 5, 6
Ladonia sta..... Feb 8
Brookston and High, at High..... Feb 12, 13
Randolph, at Binkley..... Feb 19, 20
Trenton and Marvin, at Marvin..... Feb 26, 27

- Lannius, at Lannius..... March 5, 6
Fanning, at Forest Grove..... March 12, 13
District Stewards' meeting Honey Grove, December 11. Isaac W. Clark, P. E.

Brownwood District—First Round.

- Winters, at Bowman..... Dec 8, 9
Robert Lee, at Hayrick..... Dec 11, 12
Bollinger sta..... Dec 13
Decker..... Feb 12, 13
Coleman..... Dec 17
Glen Cove, at Glen Cove..... Dec 18, 19
Center City, at Center City..... Dec 25, 26
Goldthwaite..... Dec 27
Lometa, at Long Cove..... Dec 28
Mullin, at Mullin..... Dec 29
Indian Creek, at MacAnally..... Jan 1, 2
Brownwood..... Jan 3
May cir..... Jan 8, 9
Blanket..... Jan 15, 16
Comanche sta..... Jan 20
Fleming..... Jan 22, 23
Comanche cir, at Indian Creek..... Jan 23, 24
Bangs, at Bangs..... Feb 5, 6
Santa Anna, at Santa Anna..... Feb 5, 6
O. F. Sensabaugh, P. E.

INFORMATION WANTED.

A fifteen-year-old boy left Troupe about two weeks ago. Small to his age; light hair; dark eyes. He went off bare-footed and thinly clad. His name is Frank Wade. He is a son of a widow, who is in great trouble. Any information of his whereabouts will be thankfully received. S. N. ALLEN, P. C.

MARRIAGE NOTICES.

Hay—Draughon.—December 5, 1897, while sitting in their buggy at the gate of the officiating minister, Mr. T. B. Hay and Miss M. E. Draughon, all of McLennan County, Texas; Rev. W. H. Edwards officiating.

Armstrong—Acree.—At the residence of the bride's father, Abner Acres, in Alto, November 28, at 3:30 p. m., Mr. Wilbur D. Armstrong and Miss Leona Acree; Rev. W. L. Pate officiating.

Swinney—Boyston.—On the 14th of November, 1897, at the residence of the bride's father, near Pleasant Grove, Bell County, Texas, Rev. O. C. Swinney, local preacher on Florence Circuit, and Miss S. D. Boyston; Rev. W. T. Melugin officiating.

Murphy—McCullough.—At the residence of the bride's parents, near Manor, Texas, on November 17, 1897, Mr. Gaines Murphy and Miss Ida McCullough, all of Travis County, Texas; Rev. S. H. Morgan officiating.

Simmins—Pickering.—On the 19th of September, 1897, at the residence of Mr. J. T. Pickering, the bride's father, Mr. Peter Simmins and Miss Rosa Pickering; by John M. Thompson.

Wright—Litchfield.—On the 21st of November, 1897, at the residence of Mr. R. Litchfield, the bride's father, Mr. C. D. Wright and Miss Lula Litchfield; by John M. Thompson.

Stewart—Allen.—At Science Hall, November 10, 1897, Mr. Frank Stewart and Miss Maggie Allen; Rev. W. O. Shugart officiating.

Law—Wright.—At the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wright, near Buda, Texas, November 11, 1897, Mr. G. E. Law and Miss Mattie Wright; Rev. W. O. Shugart officiating.

Craver—Bagley.—At the home of Mr. Z. T. Craver, November 13, 1897, Mr. W. S. Craver and Miss Alice Bagley; Rev. W. O. Shugart officiating.

Isaacs—Washington.—On the 28th of November, 1897, at the residence of Mr. Thos. Washington, the bride's father, Mr. John Isaacs and Miss Minnie Washington; by John M. Thompson.

Love—Tate.—At the residence of H. L. Tate, M. D., in Lindale, Texas, at 6:30 p. m., November 28, Mr. D. B. Love and Miss Rasha Tate, all of Lindale; Rev. G. W. Riley officiating.

Bloom—Armstrong.—At Science Hall, on October 27, 1897, Mr. W. M. Bloom and Miss Annie L. Armstrong; Rev. W. O. Shugart officiating.

Howard—Gold.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gold, on October 31, 1897, Mr. S. F. Howard and Miss Rosa Gold; Rev. W. O. Shugart officiating.

Advertisement for Swayne's Ointment, featuring an illustration of a woman's face and text describing its benefits for skin conditions.

Advertisement for a Sewing Machine, highlighting its features and offering a subscription to the Texas Christian Advocate for \$22, including freight.

1846 THE ORIGINAL 1897 POND'S EXTRACT

The Old Reliable Remedy,

HEALS AND CURES

Cuts, Wounds, Bruises, Sores, Colds, Sprains, Hoarseness, Frostbites, Sore Throat, Chilblains, Catarrh, Piles,

ALSO

INFLAMMATIONS & HEMORRHAGES

Be Sure You Get Pond's Extract!

SUBSTITUTES ARE DANGEROUS!!

Sold in bottles only, with buff wrappers and our landscape trademark printed thereon. See that our name is on label and wrapper.

POND'S EXTRACT CATARRH REMEDY

For Catarrh. Price 75 Cents per bottle.

POND'S EXTRACT DENTIFRICE

For the Teeth. Price 50 Cents per bottle.

POND'S EXTRACT PREPARATIONS are for sale at all first-class drug stores, or sent on receipt of price by the

Pond's Extract Co., 76 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

MASON & HAMLIN PIANOS and ORGANS

The Cabinet Organ was introduced by Mason & Hamlin in 1861. These organs have always maintained their supremacy as the Best in the World. The Mason & Hamlin Pianos illustrate the same highest degree of excellence, and the new styles just introduced are eliciting the most enthusiastic praise from pianists and musicians. Catalogues free. Address: MASON & HAMLIN CO., Boston, New York, Chicago and St. Louis

BARLEY CRYSTALS

New Diuretic, Restoring Tonic Cereal. Endorsed by physicians in cases of weak and irritable Digestive Organs, and Kidney troubles. Emollient, attractive, palatable. Unsurpassed in the whole range of cereals. PAMPHLET AND COOKING SAMPLE FREE. Unrivalled in America, Europe. Ask Dealers, or Write to Farwell & Rhines, Watertown, N. Y., U.S.A.

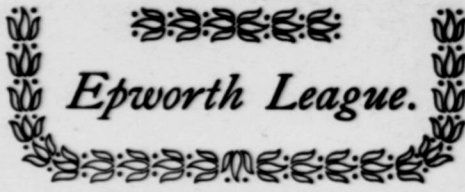
Advertisement for a Double Breech-Loader gun, showing an illustration of the firearm and listing its features and price.

Advertisement for a medical reference booklet, featuring a portrait of a man and text describing the booklet's value for physicians and patients.

Pronouncing Bible and Advocate \$4.

Large advertisement for SAPOLIO, featuring the slogan 'IT WAS BEFORE THE DAY OF SAPOLIO THEY USED TO SAY "WOMAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE."' and an illustration of a woman.





**Epworth League.**

Address all communications to  
Rev. Sterling Fisher, San Antonio, Texas.

Count no man your enemy, and hate nothing but sin.

Put no confidence in the appearance of things, for Satan intends to deceive you.

If we saw sin in its true character, we would shun it as a pestilence.

The good soldier not only shines on parade, but has courage to advance under fire.

The world's greatest battles are fought with invisible foes on the battlefield of the human soul.

**TOPIC FOR DECEMBER:  
THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.**

December 19: The Foes of the Church.—Eph. 6:10-12.

For almost two month we have been studying the Epistle to the Ephesians. It is devoted to teaching concerning the Church—its origin, its growth, its unity, its beauty, the varied duties of its members, have all engaged our attention. The apostle is now bringing the Epistle to a close, and in doing so speaks of the Church in an entirely new aspect. He represents the Church as an army, engaged in a campaign, and exhorts the soldiers to constancy and courage. This is the practical application of all the truth that has gone before. Having learned of the nature and membership of the Church, it remains for us to devote ourselves to the duty and work of the Church. If we do not, all the rest is practically valueless.

This army of the Lord, engaged in a bloodless campaign, whose every step is opposed, who have so many battles to fight, need for their preparation:

- 1. Courage—"Be strong in the Lord."—Verse 10.
- Courage to endure hardship.
- Courage to fight.
- Courage to suffer.

This courage can not be our own, but must be of the Lord. "Our sufficiency is of him."

2. Proper Armor—God has provided weapons and defenses to enable us to repel attack and escape disaster. We can not neglect them without suffering defeat. Our next lesson will treat of them at length.

3. Knowledge of Our Foes—So that we may compare our forces and plan to make successful battle.

In Luke 14:31 Christ says: "What King, going to make war against another King, sitteth not down first and consulteth whether he be able, with ten thousand, to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?"

In like manner should the soldier of Christ take account of the character and strength of his foes and prepare to meet them intelligently.

**NOT ENEMIES OF FLESH AND BLOOD.**

It is very easy to make the mistake of thinking that irreligious and blasphemous men are our enemies and that we should deal harshly with them. They do oppose the gospel, but they oppose themselves more; and Paul, writing to Timothy, tells him to instruct them in meekness.—II Tim. 2:25. No enemy in flesh and blood can hurt the Christian, unless he first allow himself to be overcome by another and more dangerous enemy.

Principalities—"Beings of first rank and order in their own kingdom."—Clarke. Satan is the ruler in the kingdom of darkness. Wise, watchful, malignant, he directs the affairs of his diabolical kingdom solely with reference to the downfall of virtue and the prevalence of wickedness.

Powers—Aiding Satan, tributary to him and executing his orders, are multitudes of other beings. They are powerful and skilled in the arts of deception.

Spiritual Wickedness—"Highly re-

fined and sublimed evil; disguised falsehood in the garb of truth."—Clarke.

Mr. Wesley says: "Perhaps the principalities and powers remain mostly in the citadel of their kingdom of darkness, but there are other spirits which range abroad, to whom the provinces of the world are committed. The darkness is chiefly spiritual darkness which prevails during the present state of things, and the wicked spirits are those which continually oppose faith, love and holiness, either by force or fraud; and labor to infuse unbelief, pride, idolatry, malice, envy, anger and hatred."

The apostle, Peter, writing to the elders of the Church, exhorts them: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."—I Peter :8.

**THE OPPOSING ARMIES.**

On the one side is the Church of Jesus Christ, redeemed, pardoned, rejoicing. Upon their banners is inscribed, "Holiness to the Lord." At their head is Jesus Christ, the Captain of their salvation. On the other side, the hosts of evil, armed, malicious, cruel. Satan is their leader. He is deceitful, wise, watchful. The issue for which they contend is the salvation or ruin of the world.

The young members of the Church constitute an important part of Christ's army. Let them be strong and of good courage and soon they shall join in a song of triumph.

Our absence from home has prevented our notice of the marriage of our State President, F. P. Works, to Miss Nannie Dixon. The happy event took place at the Methodist Church at Hillsboro, November 11, 1897. The League Department extends congratulations.

We are gratified to hear of the success of the League at Buckhorn, on the San Miguel Circuit, in the West Texas Conference. They have raised funds to buy an organ; everyone of the twenty members takes an active part in the devotional meeting, and they have arranged for the literary work. We commend their example to other Leagues in the country.

**MISS KINGSLEY ON MISSIONARIES.**

Missions are a failure. So Miss Mary Kingsley says. She has written a book called "Travels in Africa," and therein tells all about it. She says that the missionary is the "worst enemy to the existence of the African tribe," and that "the English Protestant missionary has had most to do with rendering the African useless." But Mary has other opinions. She thinks that the liquor sent to Africa (rum and gin) is not so bad, and that "polygamy is not an unmixed evil." Those who read the sister's opinion of rum and polygamy will not be much affected by her remarks concerning missionaries.—Epworth Herald.

Rev. M. B. Chapman, D. D., figured out the cost of the Toronto Convention, and asked if it would not have been far better for this money to have gone into the treasury of the Board of Missions. Now comes a bright Epworthian in the St. Louis Advocate and calls attention to the fact that Dr. Chapman is at a watering-place enjoying a vacation at considerable expense, and that several years ago he took a wonderful trip around the world, and then asks if the Board of Missions would not be delighted to have the cost of these things in the treasury. There seems to be no sure way of telling when a gun is going to kick!—Epworth Herald.

**A Christian's Experience.**

Having read numerous accounts of persons making money easily, prompts me to give my experience. During the past few years I have tried selling various specialties, Dish Washers being included, but usually met with failure until I tried the Mound City Dish Washer. Since taking up this work I have made from \$100 to \$150 per month, and only worked part of the time.

It requires little or no ability to sell the Dish Washer, as it is only necessary to show it in operation to make sales.

If any of your readers desire a profitable and genteel employment I would strongly recommend the business of selling these Dish Washers. Ladies can do the work as well as men. No experience is necessary.

You can secure full particulars and get a start in the business by writing to the Mound City Dish Washer Co., St. Louis, Mo. C. F. HARR.

**ALLEN'S Lung Balsam**

Is composed of the active principles of Roots and Plants, which are chemically extracted so as to retain all their medical qualities. Its action is expectorant, causing the lungs to throw off the phlegm or mucus, changes the secretions, purifies the blood, heals the inflamed and irritated membrane, gives tone to the digestive organs, and imparts strength to the whole system. Such is the immediate and satisfactory effect, that it is warranted to break up the most distressing cough. It contains no opium. For sale by all druggists.

**Don't Delay to Cure That COUGH WITH ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM.**

**THREE SIZES, 25c., 50c., and \$1.00.**

**EDUCATIONAL.**

This entire building, and two annexes, are devoted exclusively to the work of the **NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.** Accessible to musical events of every nature. The best masters in music, elocution and languages that money can command. *George W. Chadwick, Musical Director.* Prospectus free. **FRANK W. HALE, General Manager, Boston, Mass.**

**Cole's... Classical and Military School**

...Formerly... Cole's Select School.

**Dallas, Texas.**

**A Limited Number of Students can Board in the Family of the President.**

**THE ONLY PRIVATE, SELECT, CLASSICAL and Military Institute in Texas.** Collegiate, Preparatory, Primary and Commercial Departments. It looks after the moral, physical and social, as well as the mental, development of your sons and daughters. A distinguished graduate of the Virginia Military Institute in charge of the Military and Scientific Departments.

Girls are admitted into the School on equal terms with the boys and receive instruction in Instrumental Music by an experienced and competent teacher without extra charge. They are in separate rooms and grounds and under the immediate supervision of the daughter of the President, who is a graduate of this School.

For particulars or Catalogue, apply to **COL. J. R. COLE.**

**308 De-ss Avenue, Dallas, Texas.**

**University of Texas.**

Fifty-seven instructors, 751 students. Women admitted to all departments. Tuition free. Total expenses, \$150 to \$250. **ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT:** Session begins Sept. 29; Entrance Examinations Sept. 22; Matriculation fee, \$10; 116 courses of study; University system of instruction and discipline; well equipped scientific laboratories; Library of 35,000 volumes; Y. M. C. A.; Y. W. C. A.; Gymnasium, Athletic Field. Teachers' courses lead to permanent State teachers' certificates. Engineering Department confers degree of Civil Engineer. **LAW DEPARTMENT:** Session begins Sept. 27; Entrance Examinations Sept. 22; Matriculation fee; payable only once, \$30. A two years' course leads to degree of Bachelor Laws, and entitles holder to practice in any court in Texas. Law students may pursue Academic courses without further charge. **MEDICAL DEPARTMENT:** (Located at Galveston). Four years course; Faculty of 30 trained specialists; School of Pharmacy; School of Nursing (for women); Matriculation fee, payable once, \$30. Complete equipment in all Schools. Session begins Oct. 1; Entrance Examinations the preceding week. For Catalogue of any Department, or for information, address **PRESIDENT WINSTON,** Austin Texas.

**"Rust,"**

the dread of the cotton grower, can be prevented. Trials at Experiment Stations and the experience of leading growers prove positively that

**Kainit**

is the only remedy.

We will be glad to send, free of charge, interesting and useful pamphlets which treat of the matter in detail.

**GERMAN KALI WORKS,**  
93 Nassau St., New York.

Any one wishing to engage a reliable Stenographer or Bookkeeper would do well to correspond with the President of the Polytechnic College, Fort Worth, Texas.

**DR. J. B. SHELWIRE, Practitioner Limited to Skin, Genito-Urinary and Rectal Diseases.**

Rooms 507-508 North Texas Bank Building, Dallas, Texas. Office Hours, 8 to 1: to 5 p. m.

*Hill's Business College*

Recognized as the only great Business University of high grade and standing in the South. Indorsed by merchants and bankers because its methods are practical, progressive, short and to the point. Actual practice in banking, wholesaling, jobbing and retailing. Largest and best faculty south of Chicago. Most luxurious equipments in America. 500 students from 14 states. 22 gold medals from State Fairs. Graduates always get the best positions at the highest salaries, because they know how to do the work. Send for Catalogue—it tells the whole story. **Railroad Fare Paid to Jan. 1, 1898. Address R. H. HILL, Prest., Waco, Texas.**



**Sunday-School Dept.**

Address all communications for the Sunday-school Department to Rev. F. B. Carroll, D. D., Greenville, Texas.

**FOURTH QUARTER—LESSON 12, DEC. 19.**

**John's Message About Sin and Salvation.**

I John 1:5 to 2:6.

Golden Text: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins."—I John 1:9.

Time: According to Dr. Lardner, the First Epistle of John was written as early as A. D. 68, but the weight of authority more probably places it, with Mill and LeClerc and Canon Farrar, about the year A. D. 97.

To Whom Written: In this Epistle, says Mr. Wesley, St. John speaks not to any particular Church, but to all the Christians of that age, and in them to the whole Christian Church in all succeeding ages. As to the scope and method of the Epistle, he says: St. John in this letter, or rather tract (for he was present with part of those to whom he wrote) has this apparent aim, to confirm the happy and holy communion of the faithful with God and Christ, by describing the marks of that blessed state.

The Epistle itself seems to indicate that St. John wrote with his eye upon certain errors prevailing among those who had professed faith in Christ, notably that of the Docetae, who denied the real humanity of Jesus, and resolved all the events of his life into a series of illusions on the senses of his friends and enemies. The opening verses of the Epistle stand out in distinct terms against this Gnostic heresy: "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and our hands have handled of the Word of life, declare we unto you." The Nicolaitan doctrine of antinomianism, "that nothing was forbidden to the children of God under the Gospel," is also squarely met and refuted. And, at the same time, while the Epistle meets and overthrows these grave errors, no portion of the word of God points out more strongly the true characteristics of the real Christian.

**GOD IS LIGHT.**

V. 5: "This is the message which we have heard from him." That is, from Christ, of whom St. John has just been speaking as he "Word of life," whom he had heard, seen and handled. The sum and substance of all the teaching of Christ is this: God is light—with the glorious truths touching man and God which are essentially involved in it. Light, in the Scriptures, is the symbol of purity, truth, knowledge and happiness; as is darkness of the opposite. So, then, God is the light of wisdom, love, holiness and spiritual glory. What light is to the natural eye, God is to the spiritual eye.

"And in him is no darkness." No contrary principle of ignorance or sin, but pure, unmixed light. And so God is to us our moral, our intellectual, our spiritual light.

On this great fundamental truth of theology, St. John bases another, namely, our personal, conscious fellowship with him. "If we say we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth." (V. 6.) We must be like Him, we must be children of the light and of the day, if we belong to Him and have communion with Him. To walk in darkness means to live habitually and consciously in sin—in sin of any kind. To live in sin and to profess to have fellowship with God is nothing less than a contradiction. "We lie," says St. John, "and do not the truth"—both our words and our deeds are false. So true is it that a life of fellowship with God is a pure and holy life.

**CONDITION OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.**

V. 7: But if we walk in the light; in all holiness (says Mr. Wesley) as God is—a deeper word than walk, and more worthy of God—for God is in the light. Mr. Barnes makes walking in the light include three things: (1) Leading lives of holiness and purity. The Christian must be characteristically a holy man, a light in the world by his example. (2) Walking

in the truth, in opposition to all the errors of heathenism and infidelity, and having clear spiritual views of the truth, as the unrenewed never have (II Cor. 4:6). (3) Enjoying the comforts of religion, the joy which religion imparts to the soul.

If thus we walk in the light of holiness and truth and joy, then we have fellowship one with another. Thus is our imitation of God the ground of our Christian fellowship, and not some superficial, outward agreement of opinion and form. The basis of Christian fellowship is as deep as the life of God in the soul, and coextensive with those who know his light and love.

**THE CLEANSING BLOOD OF CHRIST.**

"And the blood of Jesus Christ, his son, cleanses us from all sin." While we thus walk in the light, this cleansing process goes on. There is efficacy in that blood to remove any and every sin of which we may be conscious. There is no stain made by sin so deep that the blood of Christ can not take it entirely away from the soul. The crimson and scarlet alike yield to the all-atoning merit and power of the Son of God. What a glorious truth is this! "Cleanses from all sin." "Yes," says our great expounder, John Wesley, "from all sin, both original and actual, taking away all the guilt and all the power." The blood of Jesus Christ stands for the life of Christ surrendered on the cross, Christ's atonement for sin, and is at once the expression of the infinite love of God and the awful guilt and evil of sin. And it is this wonderful provision of the Gospel of Christ, adapting it to the nature and need of mankind, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but is justified, cleansed and saved, which makes the message of Christ the Glad Tidings to the human race.

**SELF-DECEPTION.**

V. 8: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." But what is here St. John's point of view? Great and good men differ in answering this grave question. Mr. Wesley has this note: "If we say—any child of man before his blood has cleansed us—we have no sin to be cleansed from, instead of confessing our sins, the truth is not in us, neither in our mouth nor in our heart. And certainly such a declaration, denying sin, when as yet a man has not by faith accepted Christ and been cleansed by the renewing of the Holy Ghost, is alike contrary to all consciousness and to the Word of God. Thus should we indeed deceive ourselves, lead ourselves astray. And there are some in all ages who attempt to justify their conduct and deny any need of a Savior. And after we have been cleansed by the blood of Christ, such is the infirmity of human nature, and such the limitation of our finite faculties, that we are not absolutely free from sin, and must yet say:

"Every moment, Lord, I need The merit of thy blood."

"But by this we by no means intend that we must walk—that is, live—in known and voluntary transgression. Precisely the contrary St. John, in several ways, asserts. The great, immediate, practical end of the coming of Christ is to destroy the works of the devil, and to save his people from their sins. And only a life of holiness, walking in the light as God is in the light, gives us fellowship with him and with his son, Jesus Christ. So a Christian should thus not only live above sin and without sin—all known and voluntary sin—but this is only the negative side of his present salvation; he is not only to be emptied of all sin, but also to be filled with all holiness. Whosoever committeth sin is of the devil, and whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin—but lives the life

No one who knows Macbeth lamp-chimneys will have any other—except some dealers who want their chimneys to break.

Write Macbeth Pittsburgh Pa

**Christmas** SERVICES for the Sunday School. Three samples for 15 cts. CANTATA, etc. Write for catalogue. GEO. F. ROSE & CO., Chicago, 910 W. Madison st., New York, 44 E. 3rd st. Name paper

of a son of God. This high ideal, this noble, sinless God-like life, with due discretion and earnestness every Christian teacher and preacher should press home upon the hearts and minds of those under his care. Beyond a doubt, the great body of Christian people live a feeble, halting life, filled with doubt and fear—a life far below their duty and their opportunity.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS.**

V. 9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Confession must always go before pardon, for thereby we acknowledge the fact of our guilt, both to ourselves and to God. Then, He is faithful to forgive our sins; faithful, because He thus keeps His own word; the blessing of forgiveness, promised by the unanimous voice of all the prophets. And He is also just in forgiving us, because Jesus died to the end that God might be just and at the same time the justifier of every one that believeth in Jesus. Thus is God faithful and just both to forgive our sins—to take away all the guilt of them, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness—to purify our souls from every kind and degree of it.

V. 10: "If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us." Because he has declared in His word that all have sinned. To say, therefore, that we have not sinned is to contradict God's word, and thus to make him a liar. See Romans, chapters 1, 2 and 3, where the picture of the universal sin and guilt of the race is so powerfully and graphically drawn. Compare also Gen. 6:11, 12; Job 14:4, 15:16. And if we say we have not sinned His word is not in us—His word sustains no vital relation to our life unless we own the fact of our sins, for the whole system of Christianity is based on the fact that man has sinned, and needs a Savior.

**THE WAY OUT OF SIN.**

Chap. 2, vs. 1, 2: My beloved children, these things I write unto you that ye sin not. Thus he guards them against the abuse of the atoning mercy and abundant grace of God. "All the words, institutions and judgments of God are leveled against sin, that it may not be committed, or that it may be abolished." So St. John here writes, declaring the glorious character of God, and his faithfulness and justice in the pardon of the confessing sinner; but all this to the end that they may not sin. So does St. Paul: "Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, who are dead to sin, continue therein?" That ye may not sin, is the word of his grace to every Christian. To say that we must live in sin is an utter contradiction and perversion of the entire Gospel.

But if any man sin, then here is his help and hope: He need not lie in sin, despairing of pardon and reconciliation. For we have an Advocate with the Father, one who intercedes for us, and pleads for our pardon. And this no mean person, but Jesus Christ, the righteous. He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through him, because he ever lives to make intercession for them. And he is the propitiation for our sins, the atoning sacrifice, which he offers as the ground of our reconciliation; and not for ours only, but also for the sins

**Hood's Pills**  
Cure all liver ills, biliousness, headache, sour stomach, indigestion, constipation. They act easily, without pain or gripe. Sold by all druggists. 25 cents. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

**GOLD,** \$100.00 IN GOLD Given away by the YOUTH'S ADVOCATE, Nashville, Tenn., to the person who will form the greatest number of words from the name DRAUGHON. Send, before the contest closes, for free sample copy which will explain. We also offer, free, Bicycle or Scholarship in Draughon's Bus. Colleges, Nashville, Tenn., Galveston or Texarkana, Texas, and other schools. The YOUTH'S ADVOCATE is a semi-monthly journal of 16 pages Elevating in character and interesting and profitable to people of all ages. Non-denominational. Stories and other interesting matter well illustrated. Agents wanted. (Mention this paper.)

of the whole world. All have sinned, and the propitiation is for all.

**TEST OF OUR CHRISTIAN CHARACTER.**

Vs. 3-6: The great test of our saving knowledge of God is obedience to his commandments, walking in the light, leading a holy life. We may be sure if we are living on in our old sins that we do not know Him. And this obedience is of the heart, and not of outward forms. The law is written in the Christian's heart. To say that we know Him, and yet live in sin, this is to lie, and the truth is not in us. But whoso keepeth his word, as the inward principle and nourishment of his life, living by that word and according to it, in him the love of God is perfected—that is, perfectly known, according to the full measure of our finite powers. So love and obedience go together, and measure each other.

Hereby we know that we are in Him—by the consciousness of His love and the power to do His will in absolute self-surrender and consecration to his service. He that saith he abideth in Him, ought also to walk as He walked. To abide in Him "implies a durable state, a constant, lasting knowledge of and communion with Him." Thus abiding in Him, he ought himself so to walk even as He walked. For Christ is both the source and pattern of holiness. To abide in Him one must therefore walk—that is, lead a holy life—as he did. He must be the exemplar, the ideal, to which the Christian's life must constantly aim and conform.

"He ought" to do this. Christ gives him the grace and the light, and truth demands it.

**Radway's Pills**  
Always Reliable, Purely Vegetable,  
Perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen. RADWAY'S PILLS for the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Dizziness, Vertigo, Costiveness, Piles,  
**SICK HEADACHE, FEMALE COMPLAINTS, BILIOUSNESS, INDIGESTION, DYSPEPSIA, CONSTIPATION AND ALL DISORDERS OF THE LIVER.**  
Observe the following symptoms resulting from diseases of the digestive organs: Constipation, inward piles, fullness of blood in the head, acidity of the stomach, nausea, heartburn, disgust of food, fullness of weight of the stomach, sour eructations, sinking or fluttering of the heart, choking or suffocating sensations when in a lying posture, dimness of vision, dots or webs before the sight, fever and dull pain in the head, deficiency of perspiration, yellowness of the skin and eyes, pain in the side, chest, limbs, and sudden flushes of heat, burning in the flesh.  
A few doses of RADWAY'S PILLS will free the system of all the above named disorders.  
Price 25c. a Box. Sold by Druggists, or sent by mail.  
**RADWAY & CO.,**  
55 Elm Street, New York.

**CERTAIN SAMPLE FREE**  
ATARRH With Full Particulars.  
URE Address, WILLIS & MACK,  
Box 40, Westfield, N. J.

**RUPTURE and PILES**  
CURED Without the KNIFE or detention from business.  
Fistula, Fissure, Ulceration of the Rectum, Hydrocele and Varicocele. No Cure no Pay. Trusses fitted. Have best made. Send stamp for pamphlet of testimonials.  
**DR. F. J. DICKEY, 395 Main St., Dallas, Tex.**

**BELLS.**  
**CHURCH BELL** SWEET TONED, FAR SOUNDING, DURABLE  
AMERICAN BELL FOUNDRY, NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN.  
CATALOGUE FREE.

THE LARGEST ESTABLISHMENT MANUFACTURING  
**CHURCH BELLS** CHIMES & PEALS  
PUREST BELJ METAL (COPPER AND TIN).  
Send for Price and Catalogue.  
**McSHANE BELL FOUNDRY, BALTIMORE, MD.**

**BLMYER BELL** UNLIKE OTHER BELLS  
CHURCH SWEETER, MORE DURABLE, LOWER PRICE.  
BELLS. OUR FREE CATALOGUE TELLS WET.  
Write to Cincinnati Bell Foundry Co., Cincinnati, O.



## WOMAN'S DEPT

Address communications to Mrs. Florence E. Howell,  
28 Masten Street, Dallas, Texas.

### MISS LUCINDA B. HELM.

The death of Miss Lucinda B. Helm, which occurred so suddenly and unexpectedly on the 15th of last month at Nashville, Tenn., has brought a pang of sorrow and a sense of loss to the hearts of her sister workers throughout Southern Methodism. The members of the W. P. and H. M. Society of the Church feel the sad loss most keenly, for they realize that in the death of Miss Helm the society has lost a most efficient officer and a dear friend and sister. The editor of this department has been personally acquainted with Miss Helm for a number of years, having first met her at the General Conference of the Church in 1892 at Nashville, Tenn., and she feels it a privilege to have known such a cultured and consecrated Christian worker. The loss to our Church and society by her death seems almost irreparable, yet we know that an allwise Father overruleth all things for the best. While we lament her loss here, yet we are comforted in the thought that her frail body, so often prostrated by disease and pain, is now at rest, while her liberated spirit has gone to "a fairer world on high," where pain and weakness are unknown, where death can never enter. We give below resolutions passed by the Central Committee of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the Church, taken from the Nashville Christian Advocate:

Whereas, our Heavenly Father in his inscrutable wisdom has removed to the home above our loved and honored collaborer, Lucinda B. Helm, one of the most consistent of Christians, truest of friends, and most beautiful and refined types of Christian womanhood; and whereas she was intimately and actively connected with the establishment and organization of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, an institution destined of God to play an important part in the history of our Church and of our national life, being for seven and a half consecutive years its General Secretary, and since the establishment of its official organ, "Our Homes," its only editor and agent; therefore be it

Resolved, That as a Central Committee we return grateful thanks to Almighty God for sparing through so many years of frail health her valuable life, to shape the form and policy of the society, to direct its counsels, and to encourage and inspire its officers and members.

2. That we extend our tenderest sympathy to the large circle of her immediate family, relatives and personal friends, whose devotion to her was manifested by unceasing and loving attentions, and who justly cherish her noble, heroic life and abundant labors as a household legacy.

3. That we sympathize with the membership of our society everywhere, the young and the old, in the great loss they have sustained, and that we call upon them to emulate her virtues and her devotion to the cause for which she lived and died.

Belle H. Bennett, Ruth E. Hargrove, Emily M. Allen, Eliza J. Wolf, Ellen Burdette, E. E. Wiley, Marion Kirkland, A. C. Carter, Lucy Kidd Key, Amelia McT. Tigert, Frances A. Lyons.


### MISS LUCINDA B. HELM.

In the death of Miss Lucinda B. Helm the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society has sustained a great loss. With a Christ-like heart and fertile brain, she was the inspiration of the society. She fostered it from its incipiency, when it was no more than a grain of mustard seed. With unflinching courage and sublime devotion she watched its development, until its branches extended throughout our beloved Church.

Her character was the harmonious blending of the strength of Luther and the gentleness of Melancthon. The cry for help to her was like the bugle, arousing heroic effort, and with intrepid courage and compassionate ten-

# IVORY SOAP

If you would have your husband's shirt fronts immaculate give your laundress Ivory Soap.  
A white soap, it washes white.



derness she responded. Thoroughly consecrated to her work, she was constantly planning to make the Parsonage and Home Mission Society more expansive and effective.

Resolved, That we emulate her noble example and, like brave soldiers, though our leader has fallen, falter not, but press onward.

Resolved, That we cherish the fragrance of her good works as we pursue life's journey, and that, like fadeless immortelles, its beauty and sweetness will linger with us.

MRS. VIOLA HUNT,  
MRS. IRA O. WYSE,  
MRS. L. P. SMITH.

[The above was adopted by the Executive Board of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society during the session of the North Texas Conference.]

The recent session of the North Texas Annual Conference, held with First Church in Dallas, was a season of enjoyment, spiritually and socially, to the members of that Church, and also to the Methodists in general of the city. We were glad indeed to meet and greet so many of our sisters from the various pastoral charges, who came as visitors to the conference.

The anniversary exercises of the Board of Church Extension, held in the church on Thursday night, were of especial interest, Bishop Granbery and Dr. J. J. Tigert being the speakers. Dr. Tigert referred in strong terms of commendation to the work of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the Church, and paid a tender tribute to the memory of Miss Lucinda Helm, the active promoter and officer of the society, who had so recently passed from labor to reward.

The sermon of Rev. H. A. Bourland, of the Northwest Texas Conference, at 3 o'clock p. m. on Thanksgiving Day, was one in the interest of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, preached by special request of the Auxiliary of First Church, such a sermon having been thought advisable at the suggestion of the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Dallas District. The sermon was full of information for those interested in foreign missions, delivered with power and unction, and was heard with interest by the audience, many of whom had learned to honor and appreciate the speaker in other days, during the four years which he had spent among them here as pastor of the Church. At the close of the sermon Mrs. Matthews, of Terrell, who was elected organizer for the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of North Texas Conference, at the annual meeting in October, came forward, by request, and was introduced to the members and friends present. She made a few timely remarks regarding her mission as organizer for the society, asking the help and co-operation of the preachers of the conference in her work.

The grand missionary hymn, "All hail the power of Jesus' name," was sung with fervor, and many came forward in response to an invitation from Bro. Bourland and gave him their hands as a pledge to renewed zeal and efforts in the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

A few remarks of hearty brotherly appreciation of the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society were made by Rev. J. H. Reynolds, of the conference, which, together with the inspiring sermon of Bro. Bourland, will, we trust, be productive of much good in the cause of foreign missions, bringing about a redoubling of diligence in the work on the part of both preachers and people in our midst.

### THE NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE VISITS OUR MISSION HOME.

During the session of conference the ministers and their wives were invited on Friday afternoon to visit the Home, that by personal knowledge they might become better acquainted with the work. About three hundred availed themselves of the opportunity thus offered.

Dr. J. J. Tigert was introduced by the writer, and with gracious, helpful words comforted and encouraged all. After some beautiful songs and after the girls had each given a Scripture selection, the ministers were asked for a text. We shall never forget how apropos was Dr. Tigert's response: "Unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen!" There was a whole sermon in that apt quotation. Jesus

was able to keep those whom his mercy had gathered in, from falling; not only that, but to present them faultless before the presence of his glory. Thank God for a Church so imbued with the Spirit of the Christ that she provides salvation for even an outcast girl.

There was not a minister present whose heart was not touched—many even to tears—by seeing these poor girls, whose lives and souls are only saved from utter wreck and ruin by this Home, largely built by generous contributions from the small salaries of the ministry.

On Sunday services were again conducted at the Home, Rev. H. B. Read officiating and Rev. W. H. Brown assisting. Several other ministers were present, whose names we failed to get. From the beautiful text of Ruth's devotion to Naomi, "Entreat me not to leave thee," etc., Bro. Read preached one of the finest sermons ever heard in the Home. He preached with power, as the Spirit gave him utterance. Such pictures as he drew of woman's faithfulness and courage, of the possibilities of even those who had wandered far from the fold, to be gathered in by the Good Shepherd, and saved by riches of His mercy. It was a wonderful sermon; we literally felt the inspiration which moved him. We knew that Jesus was there, and that we should see great things. First one of the girls whom we had known in her mother's home asked him to baptize her babe; then another, and another, until seven infants and four of the girls received holy baptism, and thirteen asked for membership in the Church of God. It was a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Joy and peace filled each heart till



## The Inner Experiences of a Cabinet Member's Wife

The actual social experiences of a prominent Cabinet member's wife. For this reason the authorship will be withheld. It is, without question, the most fascinating recital of politics, love, and the intrigues of high social and official life ever given publicity.

The first parts are in  
the CHRISTMAS

## LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

ONE DOLLAR FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR

The Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia



shouts of triumph echoed and re-echoed through the Home. Seven of the girls were converted, and could not contain their joy. It reminded me of the glorious meeting we had at Atlanta, only most of these were giving thanks for sins forgiven with the sweet joy which comes to the new convert. None present will ever forget that blessed meeting. Bro. Reed stated clearly to the girls, if any wished to join other than the Methodist Church they were free to do so—that he even advised them on returning to their homes to take their Church letter from the Mission and join the Church to which their parents belonged; that the one important thing was to become Christians, and then identify themselves with the people of God.

With hearts filled with gladness and thanksgiving we returned home, determined to go forward with our work, and with God's help complete the Home, so that there may be room to shelter and save them that are lost, and answer, when God asks:

"Have ye looked for sheep in the desert,  
For those who have missed their way?  
Have ye been in the wild, waste places,  
Where the lost and the wandering stray?

Have ye trodden the lonely highway,  
The foul and darksome street?  
It may be ye'd see in the gloaming  
The print of Christ's wounded feet."

MRS. W. H. JOHNSON.

PLEASE NOTICE.

Dressmaking in the Mission Home and Training School is one of the means by which we not only help to meet the current expenses of the Home, but by it we also teach the girls to become self-supporting. Madam Watson is an adept in her art. She came to the Home from one of the most fashionable establishments in this city, and gives perfect satisfaction at lowest prices. Ladies, take your dresses or plain sewing to the Home, and thereby not only get your work well done, but help to build up a great institution in your city which seeks and saves the lost. The Elm Street car will take you within a few blocks of the Home, on Carroll Avenue, or if you drop Madam Watson a postal she will come to your home. We will appreciate your help in this way, and God will bless you for it.

MRS. W. H. JOHNSON, Financial Agent.

W. F. M. SOCIETY.

According to resolutions passed at last annual meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, North Texas Conference, I send the names of Auxiliaries and Corresponding Secretaries of Greenville District:

- Wesley Church, Greenville—Mrs. Annie Foster, Greenville, Texas.
- Kavanaugh Church, Greenville—Mrs. George Perkins, Greenville, Texas.
- Mrs. Mary Edwards, Kingston, Texas.
- Mrs. Eula Mackey, Merit, Texas.
- Miss Ola Davis, Alliance, Texas.
- Mrs. M. P. Ferguson, McKinney, Texas.

Young People's Society, McKinney—Miss Josie Davis, McKinney, Texas.

Bethel Auxiliary—Miss Maggie Naugle, Rock Hill, Texas.  
Bethel Juvenile—Master Charles Acker, Rock Hill, Texas.

The above is my list, except Lebanon, which place I have not heard from. Would have responded earlier, but have been waiting to hear from all Auxiliaries.

Lebanon may send name to me, or to Mrs. Lura Potts, Gainesville, as it is too late to go on list.

I most sincerely trust that all the Auxiliaries will devotedly observe the Week of Prayer, and that God's richest blessings will be upon us and our work this year. Yours and Christ's,

MRS. M. B. MOCK,

District Secretary Greenville District, Alliance, Texas.

NOTICE.

The Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the East Texas Conference will convene in its annual session in Palestine, Texas, December 15, 1897. Let each Auxiliary elect one

delegate. It is important that every Auxiliary send a full statistical report—not what you want to do, or intended to do, but what you have done.

Send names to Rev. I. Alexander, that you may be entertained.

MRS. W. A. SAMPEY, Secretary. Beckville, Texas.

For Nervous Women

Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

Dr. J. C. ALEXANDER, Charlotte, N. C., says: "It is pleasant to the taste, and ranks among the best of nerve tonics for nervous females."

Whoever kicks over a lie, will find a big brood of others hiding under it.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth,

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP, for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pains, cures wind colic and is the remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

Vice either hides or draws its sword as soon as virtue shows her face.

Why Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup is the cheapest. It is the only cough remedy giving 50 doses for 50 cents. Money is refunded if not benefited or satisfied. Try it. Ask your druggist for a sample bottle.

TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

Special low rate tickets to points in the Southeastern States will probably be sold by the Texas and Pacific Railway Company from all points on its line December 21 and 22, the same as in former years. It should be borne in mind that passengers have the choice of three gateways via this line in going back to their old homes for Christmas and New Year's, namely, New Orleans, Shreveport and Memphis. If you contemplate making the trip, and want to know the cheapest and best way, write to Mr. E. P. Turner, G. P. & T. A., Texas and Pacific Railway, Dallas, Texas.

Monumental Records.

The Greatest Special Periodical of the Day.

ITS SCHOLARLY REPORTS AND SUPERB ILLUSTRATIONS DO FOR THE PAST WHAT THE MOST PROGRESSIVE NEWSPAPER DOES FOR THE EVENTS OF THE DAY.

MONUMENTAL RECORDS has its Correspondents in every field where ruins mark the civilizations of the Past. These men are photographing and giving the results of the excavations which are being carried on by the great Exploration Societies, Museums, and Governments of the World, and the greatest explorers are its friends and promised contributors.

MONUMENTAL RECORDS interests old and young; it appeals to the scientist, and attracts the reader who is influenced through the imagination. Its presentations of the past come to some as a fairy story—a romance; to others as a scientific dissertation and a truthful record of the older civilizations. The scientist needs it because it is a record of fact. The Biblical student must have it because many of the discoveries bear on the historical records of the Bible. All interested in the development of man will find it an invaluable help.

Inscriptions are translated by the most eminent scholars.

To bring the wonderful Past before the intelligent masses of the Present, the subscription price of MONUMENTAL RECORDS is put at cost of production. A year's subscription is only \$1.50. Its size is 10 1/2 x 14 inches, to admit of the most ample illustration, and photographic reproductions are from originals, and the paper is the best manufactured. Taken in every way, there is no monthly published in any language that surpasses MONUMENTAL RECORDS.

It has already on its paid subscription list (it has no other) many of the most prominent men of this country. Those sending \$1.50 for 1898 will receive the November and December numbers of 1897 free, or the November and December numbers will be sent on receipt of fifteen two-cent stamps, or a four months' subscription for fifty cents.

—AGENTS WANTED.

For further particulars address

Monumental Records Pub. Co,

St. Paul Building,

220 Broadway, NEW YORK CITY

In subscribing, mention this journal.

BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS.

It is a great satisfaction to us to be able to invite your inspection of the most complete stock of books ever shown in the South.

In order to substantiate our claim to being the largest bookstore in the South we have culled all that is good from the line of the leading publishers in the United States, and can show you more books, more titles, more style in binding, and all at lower prices than any other house in the entire South.

Our books in sets commence with Cooper's Works, 5 volumes, cloth bound, at 75 cents, and extend through the entire line to sets in fine bindings at \$75 and \$100.

Toy Books, illustrated in colors, 5 cents to 50 cents.

Toy Books, board covers, in colors, 10 cents to \$1.00.

Boys' and Girls' Juveniles, beautifully bound, at 25 cents, 35 cents and 50 cents.

Mrs. Burnett's Books, Lord Fauntleroy, etc., at \$1.00.

Elsie's Books, all titles, your choice at 75 cents.

SANGER BROS. DICTIONARY CLUB.

"There is a tide in the affairs of man which, if taken at the flood, leads into fortune."

That is trite, but applies to

SANGER BROS. DICTIONARY CLUB,

For when this edition is exhausted our club offer will be withdrawn.

Have you looked into this?

Have you send for circulars?

Do you know that our Book Department, through the medium of an organized club, will deliver to you, upon the payment of \$1.00 and eleven monthly payments,

Funk & Wagnall's Standard Dictionary,

The world's greatest authority; 2000 pages, fully illustrated, bound in embossed sheep.

A useful present for Christmas.

Send, or bring your dollar, and join the Club.

SANGER DICTIONARY CLUB.

Special Holiday Catalogue now ready. It's yours for the asking.

SANGER BROS., DALLAS, TEXAS.

THE BEST ELECTRIC BELT ON EARTH

MORE DR. HORNE ELECTRIC BELTS SOLD THAN ALL OTHERS COMBINED



**FOR MEN AND WOMEN.**

**DR. HORNE'S**  
New Improved  
**ELECTRIC BELTS**

Warranted to cure without medicines, the following diseases:

- Rheumatism**
- Sciatica**
- Lumbago**
- Catarrh**
- Asthma**
- Neuralgia**
- Dyspepsia**
- Constipation**
- Heart Troubles**
- Paralysis**
- Nervousness**
- Spinal Diseases**
- Varicocele**
- Torpid Liver**
- Throat Troubles**
- Kidney Complaints**
- Sleeplessness**
- Nervous Debility**
- Lost Vigor**
- Cold Extremities**
- Female Complaints**
- Pains in the Back and Limbs**
- All Weaknesses in Men and Women.**

**READ EVERY WORD.**

**THIS OFFER IS GOOD FOR 30 DAYS ONLY**

We make this Special Unprecedented Offer to Quick Introduce and Obtain Agents in New Localities.

To quickly introduce and obtain agents in as many new localities as possible for Dr. Horne's New Improved Electric Belts and Appliances, we have decided to sell for 30 days only, our No. 4 Dr. Horne's New Improved Regular \$20.00 Electric Belt for only \$6.66, a price that will make it possible for every person reading this advertisement to get one of our best Belts at a nominal price. Never in the history of our business have we offered to sell this Belt at such a price, but we want an agent in your locality, and we believe that if you buy a Belt you will be so well pleased with it that you will either act as our agent or help us to get one.

Remember, the Belt we are offering you for only \$6.66 is our No. 4 Dr. Horne's New Improved Regular \$20.00 Combination Belt for men or women. It is adjustable and can be worn by any member of the family. Suspensory free with every male Belt. It is the best Belt we manufacture; in fact, the Best on Earth, and we make no exception to this statement. We have sold hundreds, yes, thousands of them, up to \$40.00. There is not a family but what should have one of these Belts, as it is the best and cheapest doctor, and you do not have to go out of the house to get it. It will last you for years with proper care, and will save itself in doctor bills ten times over. These Electric Belts have cured thousands and will cure you if you will only give it a trial, as the many testimonials which we publish in our catalogue will prove.

**YOU RUN NO RISK IN DEALING WITH US.**

We do not ask you to send any money in advance. If you want one of these Belts we are perfectly willing to send it to your nearest express office, C. O. D., so that you can see and examine it free of any cost, just the same as if you came into our office or go into any store, and if you are perfectly satisfied with it, pay the express agent the price of the Belt and express charges and take it; otherwise it will be returned to us. Can any fairer offer be made you than this? We are the only manufacturers of Electric Belts who send Belts C. O. D., without asking one cent in advance. If you wish to send cash with order we will prepay all express charges and guarantee the Belt to be exactly as represented, or forfeit \$100.00.

**WE HAVE NOW OFFERED YOU AN OPPORTUNITY OF YOUR LIFE** and if you do not accept it you may be sorry for it, as we shall never again offer this Belt at such a price. It seems needless to say that we are sustaining a loss on every Belt we sell at the above price, but it is cheaper to introduce them in new localities in this way than to send traveling men to do it for us. If you want one of these Belts

**CUT OUT COUPON** and send to us with your waist measure in inches. Don't delay. Order today if possible, otherwise you may forget it.

**DR. HORNE ELECTRIC BELT & TRUSS CO.**  
112-114 DEARBORN ST., CHICAGO, ILL., U.S.A.

P. S.—If you have no use for an Electric Belt please hand or mail this advertisement to some one that you know, who is not enjoying good health. By doing this you will favor them and us. We want a good agent in every locality to whom we can give steady employment. We only employ those who have used our Belts and can speak of their merits from personal experience.

REFERENCES:—As to our reliability we refer to any Express Company, any Bank in Chicago, and the many thousands all over the United States who have used our Electric Belts and Appliances during the past 20 years.

THOUSANDS OF PERSONS CURED ANNUALLY BY OUR BELTS

**AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE**



## OBITUARIES.

The space allowed obituaries is twenty to twenty-five lines, or about 170 or 180 words. The privilege is reserved of condensing all obituary notices. Parties desiring such notices to appear in full as written should remit money to cover excess of space, to-wit: at the rate of ONE CENT PER WORD. Money should accompany all orders.

Resolutions of respect will not be inserted in the Obituary Department under any circumstances; but if paid for will be inserted in another column.

POETRY CAN IN NO CASE BE INSERTED.

Extra copies of paper containing obituaries can be procured if ordered when manuscript is sent. Price, five cents per copy.

**BROWN.**—Sister Nena W. Brown, daughter of Jesse Warren, who for many years was Clerk of the County Court of Lincoln County, Mississippi, was born December 5, 1863, at Brookhaven, Mississippi; married February 16, 1888, and died October 26, 1897. Though our hearts are sore, we sorrow not as those who have no hope. Her sun did not set in clouds and darkness, but went down in a clear firmament, lighted up by the glory of God. Thus we are assured by her sweet and sanctified life, that if we are faithful we shall meet her again. Her loved ones should take comfort in the fact that God gives his beloved sleep. Far from those that loved her in youth she rests, but loving hands will adorn the spot where her body waits the resurrection morn. Beside her sleeps the babe that God lent them for a few short months. Her loss is deeply felt by many to whom she had endeared herself. For the kind and tender husband our warmest prayers ascend that God may comfort him, and that his life, like hers, may be pure. **W. R. CAMPBELL.**  
Wharton, Texas.

**WHITE.**—Little Maggie Marie White was born September 24, 1897, at Webberville, Texas and died November 20, 1897. This was a brief stay on earth, but her visit was full of sunshine, hope and cheer to the fond parents. It was with sadness we laid to rest their only babe. Her mission was certainly not in vain. Returning to the courts of glory she has carried a golden cord to bind the hearts of papa and mamma closer to the eternal throne. Hasty flights and rapid dispatch indicate the importance of the mission. May the "peace that passeth all understanding" keep the bereaved hearts. **S. H. MORGAN.**

**SAMPLES.**—Robert E. Samples was born January 2, 1872, in Brazos County, Texas; married Miss Ida Ganaway April 1, 1896; joined the M. E. Church, South, in July, 1891, and died at his residence in Brazos County, Texas, September 19, 1897. Bro. Samples was a promising, thrifty man, a kind husband, a dutiful son, a modest, unassuming Christian. He leaves a young widow and little babe, a mother and other relatives. Though called away so young and unexpectedly, he had hope in his death. May the bereaved ones rejoice him in that sun-bright clime where no farewell tears are shed. **G. S. SANDEL.**

**JONES.**—Mrs. Ida May Jones was born October 31, 1868, and was married to Mr. A. L. Jones February 17, 1895. She united with the M. E. Church, South, April 27, 1897, and passed into heaven November 19, 1897. She was a beautiful character in all that goes to make up true womanhood—beautiful in person, sweet in disposition and faithful to the Church and to God. She was an exponent of the possibilities of the better nature and an exemplification of the grace of Jesus Christ. She was a dutiful daughter, true friend, affectionate wife and kind mother. We miss this good woman. She is gone from among us, but the influences of a splendid life will be felt as the years go by. Not to have lived in vain! How comforting to the loved ones. We will see her again. **M. A. BLACK.**

Llano, Texas.

**PAFFORD.**—Raymond Pafford, son of Bro. T. M. and Sister Fannie Pafford, was accidentally drowned on November 18, 1897, in the Rio Grande, some twenty miles from Del Rio, while on a hunting trip with some friends. He was about thirty-two years of age, and was a consistent member of the Methodist Church and a devoted Christian. He was one of God's noblemen—a gentlemen in the truest sense of the word; upright and honorable in his daily walk; a true friend, a tender, devoted and loving husband and father and faithful son and brother. As a man he was universally esteemed and loved. His death was a terrible shock to the entire community, and he will be sadly missed by all in Del Rio. He leaves a wife and two sweet and bright little children, father, mother and

brothers to mourn their loss. He was laid to rest in the Del Rio cemetery beside those of his loved ones who have gone on before, on November 24. Through all the great affliction the loved ones are "leaning on the everlasting arms" and trusting in the Savior whom he loved and honored. May our Heavenly Father grant them grace for this time of need and guide them safely until they meet their loved one in our "Father's house of many mansions." **F. H. C. ELLIOTT.**

**KENT—NORSWORTHY.**—Mrs. Rebecca Kent and Mrs. Kittie E. Norsworthy—mother and daughter—departed this life at their home, two miles south of Jasper, Texas, the former, October 16; the latter, September 20, 1897. Just twenty-seven days between the death of the daughter and the mother. They both died of slow fever. Sister Kent was born May 11, 1849. She was first married to Adams H. Snell March 17, 1874, and was again married to Z. E. Kent December 16, 1883, with whom she was living when she departed this life. She had for thirteen years lived a consistent Christian life, during which time she was a member of the M. E. Church, South. She said but little about dying before she died, but she died as she lived. She leaves behind her several children and a host of friends to mourn their loss.

Mrs. Norsworthy was born February 7, 1881. She was sixteen years, seven months and thirteen days old when she died. She was married the 3d of February, 1897, and had scarcely begun her happy relation when death called a separation. She made no profession of religion till a few days before she died, but died in the triumphs of a living faith.

The mother and daughter have gone ahead and have joined hands on the other side to await the coming of loved ones who are left behind. May God direct the footsteps of the two bereaved husbands and the sons and daughters and brothers and sisters in such a way that they may all meet their loved ones who have gone on to the other side. **J. T. McCLURE.**

**McKNIGHT.**—Uncle Jimmie McKnight is no more. He passed sweetly from earth November 28, 1897, at 5 a. m. "He served his generation by the will of God and fell on sleep and was laid unto his fathers." "He walked with God and was not, for God took him." He was one of the most familiar and best known figures in the San Augustine District. Everybody knew and loved "Uncle Jimmie." He was born in Madison County, Tenn., December 12, 1813, hence lacked just fourteen days being eighty-four years old. He professed religion and joined the Church in about his twentieth year, and one year later was married to Miss Louisa Angas. She died and he was married again in 1841 to Miss Louisa Pate, who, with eight children, still survives him. He came to Texas in 1839 and settled, I suppose, in Nacogdoches County, and possibly at the very place he died—Cove Springs. Uncle Jimmie was a good man, good neighbor, good husband, good father. He was a real Christian—a Sunday Christian. Sunday found him, if able and there was any service near him, at the house of God—there to sing, pray, give his money and shout. Yes, he was a Sunday Christian. Yes, and a Monday Christian, too. He was a summer Christian and winter Christian—an all the year and lifetime Christian. He was a power in the revival and was never more in his glory than when in the midst of stirring revival scenes. When I first knew him, twenty years ago, he was then an old man, but the ablest man in prayer I ever heard. When the power of God was greatly on him in prayer the people would be melted to tears, then stirred to shouts of victory. He will have many stars of rejoicing in his crown—souls led to Christ by his humble life of faith, his spiritual singing and mighty prayers. He was a Methodist by nature, by grace and by choice. He could hardly have been anything else. A man of his zeal and temperament could not have found room anywhere else. He had entertained more preachers and fed more people and gone to and helped in more meetings than perhaps any layman in East Texas at the time of his death. He was

steward and trustee at the time of his death. He had filled every office of a layman save that of delegate to the General Conference. He was a continuous subscriber for the Advocate from its beginning. O how we will miss him! He leaves an aged and decrepit widow and eight children, with a mighty host of other relatives and friends. His widow is one of God's chosen ones. His children are all religious. He has two sons and one grandson who are preachers. One of his sons, Rev. J. C. H. McKnight, and his grandson, Rev. W. F. Davis, are members of the East Texas Conference. We held his funeral service in the church at Cove Springs. The house was filled as long as there was standing room with weeping relatives and friends. His Masonic brethren buried him to await the resurrection of the just. "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord." To the sad-hearted, aged widow and sorrowing children we have only to say, "You know where to find him." Be faithful a few more days, or years at most, and life's battle will be over and you will meet him by the river of life. Amen. **J. T. SMITH.**

### "I Have Somewhat to Say to Thee."

There are matters of great moment we ought to consider. They rightfully demand our attention. Do not let daily duties and plans crowd out an interest in holy things. This is a season of opportunities. The "tears of the sower and the shouts of the reaper" are mingling now. Have you found the secret of that blessed life? Can you say with Paul, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me?" That wonderful companionship with Jesus! It lightens care. It helps to toil and to win. Whatever the condition, life is a success when God co-operates with you. "Remember the Lord thy God, for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth." (Deut. 8:18.) God will give you great peace if you thus seek him. Live so that you may realize the truth of David's experience: "Thou wilt show me the path of life; in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

Take time to read, mark and inwardly digest the Word of God. Never forget that a state of full trust in God can not be maintained by hours devoted to current literature, and minutes given to hasty glances at the Bible. The vital elements of the Word come when we ponder much upon it. Do not live so far from God you will have to say, "While I was busy here and there, he was gone."

Be faithful to the services of the Church. During special services arrange to attend regularly. Your very presence is an encouragement. A smile, a warm clasp of the hand, a word spoken for God from you will do wonders. Make somebody's life better by your faithfulness. Have you known the holy joy that comes by leading a soul to Christ? If so, do it again; if not, do it now. It is an experience beyond compare to have some one say, "I am saved, because you led me to Christ."

Let us be patient with everybody. Defects and follies are characteristic of each one. If all were perfect, a minister's work would be done, your example not needed. Perhaps, if we had another's nature and circumstances, we would be no different than he. If any have offended you, do as Jesus did—forgive. He said: "If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive you your trespasses." Never allow yourself to speak evil of any one. If the thought arises, suppress it. Drive it away; it can do much harm.

Urge others to attend our meetings. It is impossible for any one to do this alone. Some may come at your invitation, who will not do so for any other. A minister thus supported will be much more efficient. He can not, neither does God require him, to do his work without co-operation. Let us turn our thoughts and time to a revival of religion. Work for God, and he will enrich you with the choice outpourings of his Spirit.

Few of us gain by the mistakes of others, but he who falls to profit by his own mistakes, will soon be bankrupt in knowledge.

### FREE! Until Jan. 15.

We direct special attention to the following remarkable statements:



The late Rev. W. E. Penn, the noted Evangelist, to Mrs. W. H. Watson, New Albion, N. Y.:

Dear Madam: I recommend the Moore treatment, have tried it, and know it to be just what he says it is; was cured by it and have remained so eight years; have known of many others being cured of the very worst cases. By all means get it.

Yours truly, W. E. PENN, Eureka Springs, Ark., May 24, '94.

Am 72 years old, suffered from Catarrh over 25 years, was almost entirely deaf. Four years ago used Aerial Medication, which I regard one of the most useful discoveries of this age. Since have suffered but little. My hearing was and is still restored, can hear ordinary conversation and preaching.

Rev. Dr. Potter, of this city, has been signally blessed by this treatment in the cure of throat affection.—REV. C. R. PATTON, EUSTIS, Fla.

"Whereas I Was Deaf, Now I Can Hear."

At the age of 69,

after having suffered from Catarrhal Deafness 20 years, am truly thankful to state that I am entirely cured by Aerial Medication; my hearing, which had become so bad that I could not hear a watch tick, or conversation, is fully restored. I will verify this statement.

Derby Centre, Vt.

—WILLIAM RITCHIE, Had catarrh ever since I can remember, often avoided company on account of it; throat was dry and sore, the least change in the weather gave me cold; dull pain over my eyes caused a stupid and drowsy feeling; ears began to ring, in a short time my hearing failed, became so deaf could not hear one talk unless they were close to me, and spoke very loud. Used Aerial Medication eight weeks, hearing was fully restored, roaring and pain stopped, and was entirely cured of Catarrh. I do not see why anyone should suffer from Catarrh or deafness when there is such a good cure as this.—MISS CARRIE BOWERS, Rouseville, Pa.

See Special Free Offer Below.

Am 82 years old, hearing began to fail 20 years ago. For eleven years could only hear loud sounds, could not hear conversation, had continual roaring in head, and sense of smell was entirely destroyed. Used Aerial Medication in '94, it did its work with the greatest satisfaction—the roaring ceased, discharge from head and throat stopped, hearing improved and for four years have been able to hear ordinary conversation and preaching. Sense of smell entirely restored, and cured of Catarrh and no indication of its return.—G. J. QUICK, Media, Ills.

He Threw His Slate Away.

In 1869 I had typhoid fever which left me with Catarrh and totally destroyed my hearing; for 25 years I could not understand a word, or hear a steam whistle, and had to carry a slate so that people could talk to me. In '94 I obtained Aerial Medication and in a week surprised my friends by throwing my slate away, could begin to hear, in two weeks could hear loud conversation, in three months could sit by the church door and fully understand every word that was spoken. The wonderful cure astonished my friends as well as myself; for three years my hearing has been perfect and I am entirely free from Catarrh.—EDWARD E. WILLIAMS, Lead S. D.

We have reliable assurance that the above statements are genuine and that Dr. Moore is a reputable physician.—

### MEDICINES

For Three Months' Treatment FREE.

This very liberal offer having proved remarkably successful last year, I have decided to renew it, and will, until January 15, 1898, send medicines for three months' treatment free. For question form and particulars, address,

J. H. MOORE, M. D., Dept. T 1, Cincinnati, O



ENCOURAGEMENT FOR TOILERS.

A few weeks ago I watched from my window a man plowing a field. A few days later I saw him go over the same ground with a harrow. Later still I saw him passing here and there, with his hand stretched out, doing something which from the distance I could not clearly see, but presumed he was dropping seed in the prepared soil. The hot sun has burned in the heart of that field, and occasional rains—once or twice torrents—have fallen on it since I first became interested in it. To-day it is covered with thrifty green plants, each in its place according as the husbandman sowed the seed, and giving promise of fruit which will enter into and promote the life of men, and through them the general progress of the race. This is only one little patch of ground on the great earth's surface, but it is a part of God's universe, and is essential, no doubt, to the proper balancing, the eternal equipoise, of all. How far its cultivation affects the universal welfare, the man who plowed and harrowed and planted probably never thought. He went no further than to hope for a good crop which would bring a fair price in the market.

Thus it is with the work we do in all the fields of daily avocation. It reaches farther than our thought. We plow, harrow and sow—hard work we do, and grow weary in it, often feeling it to be an unsatisfactory round, a "common task," while if we could see its connection with other things, and how essential it is to results affecting interests of immense importance, it would assume a dignity and value which would put it far out of the commonplace.

Nothing is more wearisome in monotony than household duties. They are never done. The same rooms are to be swept every day, the same dishes washed, the same preparation of food, which, the better it is cooked, makes need for more. The children are to be cared for—clothes, manners, morals—a never-ending train of recurrent work of hand and brain; one day's task done never lessens the tasks which rise upon the horizon simultaneously with every morning's sun. No wonder the woman with aspirations to be and to do something of use to the world grows dispirited if she sees nothing in these homely tasks, to which her activities are limited, beyond the mere doing of them.

But if she can realize that these daily duties, like the seed sown in the field, have a relation to the welfare of human beings, the very work God himself is most interested in, and are in fact her divinely appointed part of that work, the monotony is relieved and the significance of the task makes it not only bearable, but interesting. Much serving is the lot of many fitted by nature and acquirements for what we call better work. But they need not be "cumbered" with it. A Christian surely should not be. Jesus said he was as a man journeying to a far country, who left his house, and to every man his work, and that he would some day return and give a reward to every one according as his work should be.

Surely this should put inspiration into every task. There will be great surprises in that day of rewards. We will be astonished to find that these tasks, so wearisome and discouraging, had a relation to the destiny of immortal beings from generation to generation; that household duties well and honestly done entered into the character not only of the doer of them, but also of those for whom they were done; and every saint and angel in heaven will say "Amen!" when the highest crown of all is placed upon the head of some devoted servant of God who faithfully spent her life in what seemed to her only a daily round of common toil.—N. Y. Advocate.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, ss. LUCAS COUNTY.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that can not be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886. A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

HOW EVERY READER OF THIS PAPER CAN MAKE MONEY.

For several months I have noticed advertisements in different religious papers describing an improved Dish Washer. As I have grown so tired of washing the dishes the old way, I sent for information to Dept. L 9, Iron City Dish Washer Co., Station A, Pittsburg, Pa., regarding their Washer. They sent me one and I have found it to do just as they said it would. It washes and dries the dishes in less than one-half the time it usually takes, and I never have to put my hands in the greasy dish water. My little girl, aged 8 years, thinks it lots of fun to wash the dishes, and she can do it as well as myself. Several of my neighbors came in to see it work and they all wanted one. I wrote the company and they allowed me a commission. They also wrote and told me how to become their agent. I am now making \$10 a week and still attend to my household work. The Dish Washer sells everywhere. I show it and that makes the work easy. I understand they still want a few good agents, and anyone desiring to make money easy should write them. A CONSTANT READER.

TRUST GOD.

Kneel down, and part with that thing which has all your life stood between you and God, and so between you and happiness, and trouble will clear up as nothing else can make it. Every arch has its keystone. The jam of logs, which has become piled into apparently immovable obstruction, has a few key logs, whose loosening releases the whole. Every troubled condition has its secret, and it is usually some bosom sin. Let that go, though the effort strain you to exhaustion, and though life's outlook for a time looks so barren because of its departure that it seems as if cheer would never come again, and straightway heavenly energies find their field, and your prayer can be answered.—Sunday School Times.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS GOLD MEDAL, Paris Exposition, 1889 and the Chicago Exposition Award. THE MOST PERFECT OF PENS.



ON AND AFTER OCT. 19

THE GREAT T. & P. "SUNSET LIMITED,"

ONE OF THE FINEST TRAINS IN THE WORLD

WILL RUN SEMI-WEEKLY EACH WAY TO

LOS ANGELES

SAN FRANCISCO,

ALSO TO

St. Louis and Chicago

VIA

TEXAS & PACIFIC R'Y.

Through Dallas and Ft. Worth.

THE FASTEST TIME EVER MADE.

A Palace on Wheels.

See nearest ticket agent for further particulars.

E. P. TURNER, G. P. & T. A., DALLAS.

A SINGER SEWING-MACHINE

is not only the most useful thing ever devised for the family, but is distinguished for its beauty as an artistic piece of furniture. . . . .

THE BEST INVESTMENT ON EARTH, earning more in proportion to cost than any other purchase possible.

THREE DIFFERENT KINDS, either lock-stitch or chain-stitch.

BUILT LIKE A WATCH, at the largest and best-equipped factory in the world, where every machine is carefully tested on practical stitching.

SOLD ONLY BY THE SINGER MANUFACTURING CO. OFFICES IN EVERY CITY IN THE WORLD.

Henry Lindenmeyr & Sons PAPER Warehouse Nos. 31, 33, 35 and 37 E Houston St. (Puck Building, near Broadway.) P. O. Box 2865. NEW YORK

"The International Route" (International & Great Northern Railroad Co.) is the Shortest, Quickest and Best Line between

Points in Mexico, Texas, and Principal Cities North, East and Southeast. THROUGH SLEEPERS DAILY both ways between Laredo, San Antonio, Austin and St. Louis.

San Antonio, Austin, Taylor, Fort Worth, Dallas and Kansas City, Galveston, Houston, Palestine and St. Louis WITHOUT CHANGE.

Call on nearest Ticket Agent for full information as to rates, time of trains, etc.

D. J. PRICE, G. P. & T. A. L. TRICE, General Superintendent. PALESTINE, TEXAS.

Sewing Machine and Advocate \$22



SOLID TRAINS OF WAGNER BUFFET SLEEPERS

AND FREE RECLINING KATY CHAIR CARS

TO St. Louis, Chicago, Kansas City.

CLOSE CONNECTIONS TO ALL POINTS East, North and West.

FIRST-CLASS MEALS AT OUR OWN DINING STATIONS 50 CENTS.

Next Spring

Travel will begin to the Gold Fields of Alaska, and it is suggested that those who intend going to the

KLONDIKE

Will find THE DENVER ROAD the most satisfactory route in every particular by which water transportation is reached.

THE REASONS

Why your ticket should read via THE DENVER ROAD

ARE { Shortest Route, Quickest Time, Grand Scenery

And a Through Tourist Sleeping Car Line Between Colorado and Portland,

Necessitating but one change of cars between Fort Worth and Portland, reaching the

Northwest Seaports with

Economy, Luxury and Comfort via

THE DENVER ROAD

(Fort Worth & Denver City Ry.)

Eli A. Hirschfeld, D. B. Keeler, A. G. P. A. G. P. A. Fort Worth, Texas.

Christmas Excursions

TO THE

OLD STATES

December 21 and 22, 1897.

THE SANTA FE ROUTE

will sell Excursion Tickets from all points on its line in Texas and Indian Territory to all points in

Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia.

Rates will be one fare for the round trip, and tickets will be limited to thirty days for return. For detailed information as to rates, routes and time schedules call on any Santa Fe ticket agent, or address

J. P. WRIGHT, Traveling Passenger Agent, Dallas. W. S. KEENAN, General Passenger Agent, Galveston.



# DR. PRICES' CREAM BAKING POWDER

Awarded  
Highest Honors, World's Fair  
Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair.

## WORK FOR THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Annual Conference is over, and the delegates to the General Conference are elected, and now we may suggest some work for that honorable body without laying ourselves liable to the accusation of being a candidate for delegate.

There has often been confusion and doubt in the minds of members of the Joint Board of Finance as to how they are to interpret and apply the law directing the distribution of conference funds to the various claimants. The directions upon this subject in the Discipline, paragraph 332, page 142, are so general and latitudinous that members of the Joint Board, composed of half lay and half clerical, with widely different views of the practical application of the law, become confused, and in some instances, without being fully satisfied in their own minds whether exact and equal justice has been done to all parties, consent to the apportionment. With the lights before them, and with the various and sometimes contradictory interpretation of an indefinite and general law, they have conscientiously done the best they could, and yet if the law had been clear and explicit the results might have been quite different.

The present law very properly and wisely requires the Joint Board to distribute the conference funds to the claimants in "accordance with their best judgment of their several necessities," without giving the Board any rule by which they are to be guided in making up their judgment. We propose, therefore, to let the present law remain just as it is, and to add rules for the future guidance of the Joint Board in making up "their judgment," so that the law when amended shall read as follows:

It shall be the duty of the Joint Board—

(1) "To receive all moneys collected as conference collections or otherwise, and distribute the same to superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased members of the conference, according to their best judgment of their several necessities; provided, however, that in cases of equal necessity, the Board shall take into account the time of active service rendered by the claimant." They may inquire: (a) Who among the claimants are wholly without means of support? (b) who have some means, but which are insufficient? and (c) have any ample means?

(2) It shall be the duty of the Joint Board to report to the conference at as early a date as practicable, which report may lie on the table subject to amendment or correction until the final distribution of the funds.

Now for my reasons for suggesting the aforesaid amendments. The first three additions assume that all claimants are equally worthy in the eye of the law and that the only difference is in the degree of their actual necessities. If these rules are followed, they preclude the possibility of partiality in the distribution. With a knowledge of the amount to be distributed, and if the claimants are correctly graded according to the above directions, viz., "their several necessities" being the predicate in law, then the apportionment between the several claimants becomes a matter of simple mathematical calculation, which will be impartial and infallibly correct—thus relieving

the Board of unpleasant and often unjust criticism. The present law makes "necessity" the sine qua non, even if the Board "take into account the time of active service rendered." The law recognizes every ward of the Church as equally worthy, but can not with truth recognize them all as equally needy; therefore the importance of a rule by which the comparative necessities may be equitably graded. To make invidious distinctions between those who have equal rights in law is contrary to the teaching of Christ. I do not believe it is ever intentionally so done.

The third amendment we propose for the government of the Board will prevent the taking of bread from the mouths and clothing from the bodies of the hungry and naked, and giving them to those who do not need them.

The conference collection is in no proper sense a salary, but is a charity pure and simple. Therefore to appropriate any part of it to those who have ample means is a diversion of the money from the purpose for which it was collected. It was collected, not for the well-to-do, but for the necessitous, and I doubt whether any man ever contributed to this fund believing it would be appropriated to those possessed of ample means. The conference collection is regarded by all our people as the most sacred charity of our Church. It is one to which they most readily respond, and all will agree that it ought to be apportioned with godly fidelity.

It is a fact known to every preacher that the report of the Joint Board of Finance is always made the last day of the conference, and usually at the last session, when all the preachers are anxious to get their appointments and in a hurry to get home, and thus practically cuts off careful deliberation upon the report. Our fourth addition, which requires the Joint Board to report early in the session, and to lay on the table until the final distribution, will obviate this unfortunate state of affairs. It affords every preacher an opportunity to give the Board the advantage of any information he may possess, and enables every member of the conference to vote intelligently upon its final adoption.

This scribe does not claim credit for originality in these suggestions. This method of procedure has been substantially practiced for perhaps more than a quarter of a century by one of the oldest and largest conferences in the Church South. Therefore its constitutionality will not be attacked, as it has had the tacit indorsement for all these years of every Bishop who has presided over that conference.

Disavowing any intention in any wise to censure anybody or anything in the past, we write hoping the General Conference will in its wisdom adopt these suggestions, or something better, for the future guidance of the Joint Board, that equal and exact justice may be done in meting out the charity of the Church to those for whom it may be collected.

W. H. HUGHES.

## CORRECTION.

In giving the list of lay delegates from Northwest Texas Conference, you have my name "J. D. Robinson." This is "much wrong." Please correct it. Cordially,

JAMES M. ROBERTSON.  
Meridian, Texas.

## RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

The Lone Star Sunday-school passed the following resolutions:

Whereas, It has seemed good to our Almighty Father in heaven to remove from our midst to a world of peace and happiness our father and brother, W. H. Blutworth, and

Whereas, the intimate relations long held by the deceased with the members of this Sunday-school render it proper that we should place upon record our appreciation of his services as a minister and a noble worker in the Sunday-school; therefore,

Resolved, That we deplore the loss of Bro. W. H. Blutworth, with profound feelings of regret, softened only by the hope that his spirit is with those who, having fought the good fight on earth, are enjoying perfect peace and happiness in a better world; while we realize our great loss, heaven has gained a bright jewel, who passed from earth to heaven bravely, peacefully and with-

out a murmur. What a glorious triumph.

Resolved, That we tender to his bereaved children our sincere condolence, and our earnest sympathy in their affliction at the loss of one who was a devoted father, a true minister of the M. E. Church, South, and a noble Sunday-school worker.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be placed on our minutes, and one sent to his attentive daughter, Mrs. Mollie Gregg, and one to the Texas Christian Advocate for publication.

LOU H. YOUNG,  
WILBER CHANEY,  
Committee.

Simon Peter was worth ten Andrews, so far as we can gather from sacred history, and yet Andrew was instrumental in bringing him to Jesus. You may be deficient in talent, and yet be the means of drawing to Christ one who will become eminent in grace and service.—Spurgeon.

No lot has been so hard this year but that it might possibly have been a little harder. Is it not so? Then be thankful in due degree.—Michigan Christian Advocate.

## POSTOFFICE ADDRESSES.

Rev. James P. Rogers, San Marcos, Texas.  
Rev. C. L. Ballard, Kingston, Texas.  
Rev. Z. V. Liles, Las Cruces, N. M.  
Rev. W. M. Leatherwood, Round Timbers, Texas.  
Rev. C. A. Evans, Forreton, Texas.  
Rev. W. S. May, Alvord, Texas.

## UNANSWERED LETTERS.

Nov. 25.—John Helpinstill, sub. W. A. Bowen, subs. W. W. Graham, subs.  
Nov. 26.—J. L. Massey, subs. J. R. B. Hall, sub. G. W. Harris, sub. O. P. Kiker, change. F. M. Winburn, has attention. C. H. Smith, sub. S. J. Vaughan, sub. J. A. Hyder, has attention. D. A. Gregg, subs.  
Nov. 27.—J. R. B. Hall, sub. C. B. Garrett, change made. A. E. Carraway, sub. D. A. Gregg, subs; two letters. M. K. Little, has attention.  
Nov. 29-30.—James A. Walkup, o. k.; thanks.  
Dec. 1.—H. V. Philpott, o. k. J. L. Massey, sub. V. G. Thomas, sub; other matter has attention. A. W. Wilson, sub. J. L. White, subs; two cards. G. S. Sandel, sub. William Sproule, sub. H. G. Williams, sub.  
Dec. 2.—W. T. Melugin, sub.  
Dec. 3.—John S. Davis, sub. E. R. Edwards, sub. J. W. Blackburn, sub. S. L. Ball, o. k.  
Dec. 6.—W. H. Brown, subs. I. M. Woodward, change. G. E. Sandel, has attention. J. Haralson, o. k. T. J. Duncan, sub. I. W. Clark, sub.  
Dec. 7.—J. H. Wiseman, sub. R. F. Dunn, sub. Charles A. Corry, subs. M. H. Major, sub. C. W. Godwin, sub.  
Dec. 8.—C. R. Wright, subs. B. R. Bolton, change. Richmond Heizer, sub. R. E. Bonner, sub. J. R. Wages, o. k.

## NATURE MEANT IT.

When Nature Put Iron Into Our Blood, She Meant It.

She didn't do it for fun. It wasn't an accident.

Our bodies need iron or we would never find it in the blood, in the gastric juice, in the chyle, in the lymph, in the bile, in the pigment of the eye, in the milk and in other natural secretions of the body.

What is the iron for? It is for strength. It is a food. It is necessary for certain processes of living.

The want of it makes us sick. How can we tell the want of it?

Paleness is a sign. Weakness, thinness, general debility, depression, nervousness, rheumatism, chills, ague, and lack of ambition and vitality.

All these mean the want of iron.

People who are always ailing, who catch cold and other diseases easily, who suffer from aches and pains, who are too weak to work and too depressed to enjoy life—such people need iron. Do you?

Many remedies for all these ills contain drugs and minerals that are never found in the body unless put there. Can they be natural?

Better take a medicine containing ingredients which nature uses herself in building up the body.

You wouldn't patch up an iron building with wood.

Dr. Harter's Iron Tonic puts iron in your blood. Iron in the form most easily used. Dr. Harter's Iron Tonic builds you up and makes you strong as iron.

It has been used by and has brought health to thousands. A letter received from one of the most prominent men in Ohio, Hon. J. W. Cruikshank of Troy, ex-clerk of the Supreme Court of Ohio, will serve as an example. He says:

"For the benefit of other sufferers, I consider it my duty to speak of Dr. Harter's Iron Tonic. My wife was an invalid for several years, had lost nearly all vitality; she could not eat and was reduced in flesh to an alarming extent. All medicines failed to give relief until we tried Dr. Harter's Iron Tonic, which restored her usual health and strength in a very short time. Words can not express our appreciation of this valuable remedy. It is certainly a wonder, and worthy of a place in every home."

Sold everywhere.  
Sample dose of Dr. Harter's Little Liver Pills and Book of Dreams mailed free.  
Address HARTER, Dayton, O.  
Dr. Harter's Little Liver Pills do the business.

# La Grippe Cured

This modern malady has become dreaded not more for its direct fatality than for the weakness of body and mind it leaves behind it. Prolonged debility, permanent prostration, melancholy and suicide follow La Grippe. For this disease there is no remedy superior to Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

"The best remedy for la grippe that I know of is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral."

Rev. JOHN K. CHASE,  
South Hampton, N. H.

"My wife and five children were taken down with la grippe, while the disease was so widely prevalent. I dosed them with Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and before using quite two bottles my family was restored to health. I know of several obstinate cases of the same complaint which were also cured by this remedy."

J. PARMINTER,  
Pauletta, Miss.

"I was cured of la grippe by the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral."

G. S. THOMPSON,  
Pub. "Signal," West Farmington, O.

# Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

is put up in half-size bottles at half price—50 cents.

With the Holy Spirit an ordinary man can do wonders. Without Him, an extraordinary man can do but little.

## A TEXAS WONDER.

One bottle of Hall's Great Discovery cures all kidney and bladder troubles, removes gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame back, rheumatism, and all irregularities of the kidney and bladder in both men and women. Also regulates bladder trouble of children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1.00. One small bottle is two months' treatment and will cure any case above mentioned. Send for Texas testimonials.

Waco, Texas, Sept. 5, 1895.—This is to certify that I had the kidney and bladder trouble, and that I used everything I could find in the drug line, but all to no effect until I used Hall's Great Discovery, which did my wife and I more good and gave us more relief than all the other medicines combined. It is a great medicine, and we heartily recommend it to all who may suffer with kidney and bladder trouble. Less than two bottles did the work.

A. S. FOSTER, 215 Mary Street.

E. W. Hall, sole proprietor, box 218, Waco, Texas. All orders promptly filled.

The devil don't care how loud a man prays on Sunday, if he can use him the remaining six days of the week.

## DO YOU LOVE MUSIC?

If so, secure one of the latest and prettiest Two-Steps of the day, by mailing Ten Cents (silver or stamps) to cover mailing and postage, to the undersigned for a copy of the

## BIG FOUR TWO-STEP.

(Mark envelope "Two-Step.")

We are giving this music, which is regularly fifty-cent sheet music, at this exceedingly low rate, for the purpose of advertising, and testing the value of the different papers as advertising mediums.

E. O. M'CORMICK,  
Passenger Traffic Manager "Big Four Route," Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Mention this paper when you write.

It is too much to have to scratch for a living and for relief also. Hunt's Cure will not help you in the former case, but will sure cure the Itch, Tetter, or Ringworm, Itching Piles, or it costs you nothing. Price 50 cents.

When a man makes a fool of himself, he generally does the job well.