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G. C. RANKIN, D. D., EDITOR.

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Editorial.

THE BAPTIST STANDARD FIGHTS A MAN OF STRAW.

The Baptist Standard, whose editor is a party Prohibitionist, takes us to task in a recent issue because we stated a while back that a uniform high license on beer and liquor, instead of our present law discriminating against liquor and favoring cheap beer, would redound to the good of the people where local option does not obtain; and then its editor proceeds to set up a man of straw and to belabor him through about one column of its valuable space. Two-thirds of its editorial had no application to our position, but went into the discussion of the merits of local option and prohibition as a party measure. It sees no good beyond agitation in our present local option fight. If we held the opinion set forth in the Standard we would withdraw all support from local option. The Standard editor is a most excellent brother, but he has evidently fallen into the vagaries of his party prohibition associates, and he discards everything in connection with the liquor question except such measures as he thinks will totally extinguish it. Were such a thing possible we would agree with him without difficulty. But his views are impossible. We have to deal with this question as it is, and not as we would like for it to be. In many places public sentiment is overwhelmingly opposed even to local option. It is in favor of the open bar-room. Under such conditions we have got to deal with it in the best way to accomplish the most for the people. We prefer its total extinction, but that is impossible. Then we prefer local option, and we believe in the application of such methods as will bring it about. If this can not be effected, then we believe in putting upon the business the highest license possible until we can do better. This is the only expedient that can be adopted in an emergency. There are at least one hundred dives in this city that could be closed out by a uniform high license. Two of them are in the neighborhood of where this writer lives. Others of them are scattered throughout the resident sections of the city. To close out these places would be an unmixed blessing to our resident population, and it is the only relief toward which we can look until the people are prepared either for local option or prohibition. Any curtailment of the business is that much gained by the people. If we can not yet get what we want, then let us take all that is in sight under the circumstances. At the same time we do not believe in relaxing our efforts to put the business out of every community by legislation still more drastic. As a principle we do not believe in high license or low license, or license of any other character; but there are times and conditions in which we have to accept the best expedient at hand until we can do something better. If we can not get a whole loaf, which we infinitely prefer, then we will take a half loaf, rather than get nothing at all. Were we to follow the tactics and accept the dictum of the party Prohi-

bitionists we would not have a dry precinct or county in Texas. If we looked upon local option as they do, and as the Standard argues, we would discard it and hold out for the impossible—the total extinction of the traffic, or nothing. As it is we are willing to take local option wherever we can get it and hold on to it until we can get prohibition. But in the absence of both, and where they are impossible, we are willing for a uniform high license, as an expedient, to eliminate every dive and joint that is possible. But wherever public sentiment will go further and give us local option or prohibition, then we want no license of any sort. Public sentiment is stronger than law, and in dealing with the liquor question, we have to take public sentiment into our calculations. To take any other view of it is neither sane nor feasible. But in any and all events our war on the liquor business will never cease as long as there is an open grog shop in Texas. Our cry will ever be: On with the battle!

THE INFIDELITY OF DESTRUCTIVE CRITICISM.

In a recent so-called sermon by Rev. Lyman Abbott to the student body of Harvard University the following deliverance was made: "I believe in a God who is in and through and of everything, not an absentee God, whom we have to reach through the Bible or priest, or some other outside aid, but a God who is closer to us than our hands or our feet. Science, literature and history tell us that there is one eternal energy; that the Bible no longer can be accepted as ultimate; that many of its laws were copied from other religions; that the Ten Commandments did not spring spontaneously from Moses, but were, like all laws, a gradual growth, and that man is a creature of evolution, not a creation. No thinking man will say there are many energies. The days of polytheism are past. There is only one energy. That energy has always been working. It is an intelligent energy. No scientist can deny it. It was working before Christ's time, even as it is now. For three years the clouds broke and the light flashed through. Then they closed again. Yet God has a personality. We recognize it as we recognize the personality of a Titan or an Angelo. Only God is always working, always creating, whereas their work is done. God stands near us. The mother of a deaf, dumb and blind child gives her daughter one, two, three gifts without being recognized. Finally, there breaks through the child's intelligence the fact that these gifts, so kind, so loving, spring from the same source. It feels the mother's hand and face, then throws its arms around her neck and kisses her. Even so we, ever in the presence of God, come to realize his proximity and love. God makes for good, man's progress is progress upward, each day is better than the first." Dr. Abbott has always been off color in his orthodox, but as he grows older he is becoming more and more extreme; and in the above he has reached the limit of speculation as a Christian minister. Yea, he has gone be-

yond the limit and landed with skeptics and infidels. He has repudiated the Bible as a divine revelation and relegated Christ to the sphere of a human being, only a trifle superior to ordinary men. In the place of these he has accepted science as his Bible and energy as his God. We can account for this only upon the ground that having tampered for years with speculative vagaries inherent in science and religion, he has at last reached waters far beyond the depths of the finite, and in the infirmities of his old age his mind has lost its grip completely upon the verities of Biblical truths, and now we find him drifting upon a sunless sea without chart or compass. Just read the above quotation carefully and behold the frigid and somber character of his religious views. The fact is, when a man gives up the simplicity of his faith in God's Word and feeds his heart upon the husks of science and philosophy the Bible soon takes its place as a human production, God is moved to a far off distance and Christ vanishes from his thought and vision. With these great essentials gone from his life and practice he settles down upon a basis of pure rationalism and articulates his despair in meaningless terminology. No Christ, no ardent hope, no warmth of sanctified love. If this is the best that higher criticism can do for us, good Lord deliver us. We prefer the old Bible, the old faith, the blessed Christ and the Father—God. Without them religion is an iridescent dream.

A CONSECRATED BOARD OF STEWARDS.

The most important officers in the Church is the Board of Stewards. The Discipline is careful to specify what sort of men they shall be in life and character. They must be pious men, devout in spirit, pure in life and correct in conduct. They must be men whose standing in the community is such that their positions in the Church will reflect credit upon religion, otherwise they will injure instead of help the cause of religion. They must also be men of sound faith and clear knowledge, understanding our doctrines and loving them. A man ignorant of our doctrinal standards and of our history as a Church organization is not a proper representative of our Church, and he is out of place in the stewardship. He must also be a man of good, sound judgment in business matters, for in this position he is to conduct the business matters of the Church. He must know how to approach men on the subject, tell them in the proper way of the needs of the Church, so as to get money from them. And he must know how to keep a faithful account of such money and make the proper appropriation of it. Not only this, but he must be a man of good heart, be able to sympathize with the poor, devise means for the relief of the needy and keep track of such as need special spiritual work. Then, too, he must be loyal and faithful to his pastor. If he hears anything detrimental to his preacher, he must hasten to meet it in a manly way and give all possible assistance in removing the hindrance, what-

ever it may be. He must not make it a point to throw himself across his pastor's plans and try to obstruct his enterprise and progress. A contentious and narrow-minded steward can make himself hurtful to the growth and development of the Church. He must be broad and liberal in his views and stand by his preacher in all his righteous and needful undertakings. A Board of Stewards made up of such men is a veritable boon to the preacher and a blessing to the Church. He finds in them wise counselors, helpful supporters and spiritual co-workers. He can always depend upon them in times of need and under stress of circumstances. God bless the good, faithful, competent and religious steward!

FOR A GOOD MAN SOME WOULD EVEN DARE TO DIE.

There are people in this world so unlovable and repulsive that it seems almost impossible for us to have an affectionate feeling for them. We do not care to do them any harm, and we are even willing to do them whatever good we can, but we can not love them as we love others. There are others whom we admire. They are gifted with certain elements of genius. They paint or sing or play or speak well. But they are lacking in those other qualities that draw them to us in the bonds of love. We simply admire them. Then, again, there are those whom we respect. They have clean, upright characters. They contribute to the welfare of the community by their business talents. They are honest and truthful, but they are cold, inclined to be selfish and they have but little in common with other people. We do not love them, we simply respect them. But there are those whom we love affectionately and tenderly. They not only have the good qualities mentioned above, but they are kind, sympathetic, patient and forbearing. They respond to the suffering and distress of those about them. They feel a personal interest in us and we feel the same toward them. They have affinities for us and we for them. Their tastes and thoughts and inclinations are in common with ours. We go to them and unbosom our hearts. They are our fast friends when the days are propitious, and they are the same when the days grow dark and dreary. We love such people and they love us. You find among them now and then one who would almost be willing to die for us. Such people are friends. Without them life would lose half its charms and the circle of real friendship would narrow itself to minimum limit. Now think of it. Christ came and lived and died, not only for the unlovable, not only for those whom he respected and admired and loved, but for universal humanity. Under our limitations we love the few, admire and respect the many, and repel the great mass of humanity. But Christ has no law of limitation. His great heart takes in the conglomerate world and his religion makes admirable, respectable and loving characters out of those whose hearts are brought into kinship with his own. Wondrous one is this blessed Christ!

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GEORGIA MUSINGS.

Elymas and His Successors.

Paul and Barnabas were on their first missionary journey. They had reached a city in Cyprus where there was a pro-consul. He was concerned about religion, and he sent for them to tell him of the doctrine they held. They met there a certain renegade Jew, whom Luke calls a sorcerer, and he withstood them, and tried to turn the official from the faith. There was no hesitation in Paul's course. He denounced him as full of guile, and villainy, a son of the devil, a perverter of the right ways of the Lord. He pronounced a sentence of punishment on him, and it was carried out.

Has Elymas any successors in these days? Are there any people under the garb of religious teachers who are enemies of righteousness, who are children of the devil and who seek to turn men from the true faith? To ask this question is to answer it. The false religions which are seeking to turn men away from the faith are numberless. They are not open assailants, as are atheists, agnostics, deists; they often pose as truly Christian people, and are very much offended at being placed in the category of children of the devil. With some of these we have little to do in the South, but some of them are sadly in our way.

One form of this sorcery is that universalism which so emphasizes the fatherhood of God the universal atonement of Jesus Christ, as to make salvation a certainty, whether there is repentance, faith and holy living or not. This insidious error, by stressing unduly what is unquestionably a truth, that God is love, that Christ died for all, that punishment is corrective, and that sin brings its own penalty, draws the conclusion that the righteousness Christ requires, and faith in him, and conversion by the Holy Spirit's power, are not demanded, nor even expected. These Universalists because they are called Christian ministers, and because they stress certain Christian teachings and get through with certain forms, are greatly outraged when the minister of Jesus Christ does not recognize them as true teachers and as Christian brethren, but it is treachery to a trust when we meet them fraternally and encourage them in their work.

Another class who are seriously damaging the cause of vital religion under pretense of advancing its highest aims are those who accept Eddyism as the highest form of Christianity although it is no Christianity at all. Because attention has been directed to the supreme absurdity of the woman's claim to inspiration, and to her teaching about pain and disease being a mere delusion, and that the true treatment of diseases is by reading her book to the sufferer, we have turned our attention from her fatal teachings concerning sin and the Savior. It has been my painful observation that enthusiastic women who were ardent believers in Christian Perfection as taught by Mrs. Palmer, and of sinlessness and quietism and Solifidianism as taught by Mrs. Pearsall Smith, have become ready victims to Eddyism, and it was only a step from the position that "I am whiter than snow" to that that this is the true condition of all people. Using all the forms of the evangelical Church, singing songs which have a Christian sound, using Christian prayers, having even to testimony meetings, and the semblance of a holiness meeting, it has drawn into its fold some most excellent people, who are absolutely infatuated now by the old Buddhism of a perfect absorption into God and having no personal will at all. In our library building in Macon there is a regular service in a chapel used by a little group of these Eddyites, or, as they miscall themselves, Christian Scientists. You would suppose yourself, if you had examined their hymnal, that they were using the hymns of a Holiness meeting. The Jesus Christ of Paul and Peter and John, who made a propitiation for our sins and who is exalted a Prince and a Savior, is simply to them an elder brother, whose example is to be imitated, and we, like him, are all divine. So complete is the deception that the very elect are led into the trap, and in a paper of the Presbyterian order I found only last week an article which puts Eddyism as a beautiful form of true religion, and claims that David was a Christian Scientist. Because these people are well dressed and well behaved, because their words are sweeter than honey, and smoother than oil, and they are always prating of love and brotherhood, we are disposed to look on this detraction of our Lord as Savior as if it were a small thing. The Witch of Endor was not such a sorcerer as the Witch of Concord.

Another once powerful, but now decaying form of this sorcery, was Spiritism. It was the most fascinating and powerful form of religious heresy in my early life. As a protest against gross materialism as a proof of the existence of souls after death,

it drew into its folds many very pious people; but it drew many who were enemies to the cross, and soon the spirits began to attack Christianity as a religious system, and the children of the devil became manifest. It attracted great attention, and its seances and its revelations were of great interest. Its fruits were so evil that it has largely disappeared, but in some obscure places it springs into life.

Mormonism has fearfully seduced many of our poor and ignorant people. It, too, sought under pretense of being a purer form of exalted piety to turn men from the faith. It has, alas! succeeded, and the end is not yet.

Whenever any errorist seeks to turn men from the faith in an atoning

giving, as the Bible teaches, is a means of grace and ministers to spiritual growth, the pastor cannot afford to take the responsibility of interfering with the divinely appointed methods of grace and growth. The congregation that gave nothing the first ten months of the conference year and then paid all the assessments in full the last two months was not assessed enough. The assessment was not made as a bi-monthly assessment, but an annual assessment. No duty which is supposed to consume our energies and prayers and sympathies for twelve months can be performed in two months. (b) Early collections for missions are reasonable because the money is needed early. The missionaries in foreign fields and in home fields are paid quarterly. The

which time can be more profitably employed.

2. There are very few persons who will join. So much the better. Experience has shown quite conclusively that a small class is to be very much preferred to a large class. Some of the best work has been done in a class of five or six. The writer was told only day before yesterday of a Church where it was claimed that the conditions were so peculiar that it would be utterly impossible to find an evening when a mission study class could be held, and, if the time were found, no one would join the class. One of the members of that Church agreed to lead a mission study class on condition that the membership be limited to ten. When the committee came to secure enrollments there were nearly forty that wanted to join, but the leader rigidly held to his condition that ten should be the maximum size of the class, and it became necessary to organize other classes in that Church to meet the demand. Splendid work has been done in classes of four or five.

3. No leader. Missionary specialists have put in months of time and hundreds of dollars have been spent in preparing and printing Manuals, Helps and Suggestions for the use of the leaders in the conduct of the class hour. All of the experience of these specialists, together with splendidly prepared maps, libraries and reference books are placed at the disposal of the leader in order to enable him to conduct the class successfully without personally having to master the entire subject of Japanese missions. The Helps that are prepared for leaders include among many other things the exact selection of Scripture appropriate to the evening, suggestions for the assignment of the next lesson, suggestions for the review, a pronunciation drill, questions and answers on the lessons, a chart drill giving in miniature form an appropriate chart that may be reproduced by the class artist on a large sheet of paper or on the blackboard, illustrations suited to the lesson, suggestions of special topics that may be assigned to the members of the class for special investigation, and, in connections with each of these special topics, reference is made to the exact page of reference books where material on these topics may be found. Similar reference is also made to timely articles that are appearing in the current magazine.

With these helps furnished by the denominational boards it is possible for an experienced leader to conduct a class very successfully if the leader is but willing to give the subject earnest thought, prayer and time.

4. Our young people will not study. This is a really somewhat serious obstacle, and one not easily overcome, for it is true that a successful mission study class does require some work on the part of its members, but once begun, the work proves fascinating. The text book is an interesting story of missionary achievements, the side references open up new fields of knowledge, and persons who, it was thought, would give time to study missions, are found enthusiastically searching after new sources of information.

5. Our people are not interested in

person, by prayer and tactful effort, overcame the objections and enlisted one after another of the members until the mission study class came to be regarded as one of the essential and most fruitful missionary activities of the Church.

A MIDWINTER MISSION STUDY CAMPAIGN.

Never in any one year of twelve months has there been one-half as many young people enrolled in the study of Christians as there have been during the past three months. The popularity of the study has been a surprise to those leaders who had most carefully prepared and planned for it.

But the real mission study season is just now approaching. There is no better time for the organization of a Mission Study Class than in early January. The holidays are past, vacations are ended; there is an almost uninterrupted three months before Easter; winter is on; the evenings are long, and a better use of them can not be made than in the quiet study of the victories of prayer and of spirit-filled men out on the battle line of missions.

Nothing except the study of the Word of God will do as much to quicken a wavering faith or strengthen Christian purpose and character. The spiritual influence of mission study upon the individual life, and through that life upon the church and community, as well as upon the distant mission fields, is often most marked.

The Young People's Department of a number of leading Missionary Boards are uniting at this time to secure the organization of a large number of Mission Study Classes during January. The Epworth League in Southern Methodism must not be behind.

Most of the classes in the Young People's Societies will study one of the Forward Mission Study Courses. These courses consist of eight lessons, and a class organized in January, meeting once a week, will just have time to complete the course comfortably before the Easter season.

Th courses for the midwinter study campaign in the Epworth League are "Sunrise in the Sunrise Kingdom," a study of Japan by John H. De Forest, D. D., and as an alternate course "Princely Men in the Heavenly Kingdom," by Harlan P. Beach.

Special Helps are prepared for the use and guidance of leaders, and every effort is made by the Board of Missions to give assistance that will make it possible for even the most backward class to conduct a successful series of studies.

Persons who are preparing for a quickening of missionary interest, and a deepening of the spiritual life of the local church and the League should begin by organizing some movement for systematic missionary education. For suggestions for the organization and conduct of Mission Study Classes address Mr. John W. Shackford, Methodist Mission Rooms, Nashville, Tenn.

PARTLY DRY.

I notice with gratitude in your paper notice of so many counties in our great State being "dry," and a number "partly dry," and among the "wet"



Our New Church at Port Arthur, Texas.

Rev. F. M. Boyles, Pastor.

Christ under any pretense, he should be met as Paul met Elymas, the sorcerer. We are entirely too patient with these people. We should have some nerve in dealing with them. Charity, as we call it, may be treachery. Pauls language was very strong. Perhaps for these days of delicacy of speech it was too strong, but there should be no kind of doubt as to where we stand. I always admired the candor of Father O'Neil when Bro. Duncan, gushing as he always did called him "Bro. O'Neil." "As a man, Mr. Duncan, I am your brother; as a Catholic priest, I am not." But Catholicism, with all its evils, is not to be compared to Universalism, Eddyism, Spiritism or Mormonism and yet people who hold to these errors claim the right to be called good Christians when Christ the Savior is eliminated from their whole system. Methodism means something more than having Bishops, and moving at their mandate, and bearing the name of Methodists.

GEO. G. SMITH.

TO THE PASTORS OF THE TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The new conference year has begun, and it is safe to say that every one of you has begun to pray, plan and work for a successful year.

The primary purpose of this article is to call attention to the three resolutions passed at our conference at Marshall. The first of these resolutions urgently requests each pastor to make the most intelligent and zealous effort to report both assessments made for missions paid in full by March 1st. The second resolution urged presiding elders and pastors to faithfully observe Articles 361 and 362 in the Discipline. The third resolution refers to the circulation of the Go Forward.

The importance for early collection for missions can scarcely be overstated. It often occurs that the pastor decides, "for various reasons," that he will not say anything about collections in the early part of the year. As a result, these "various reasons" are insufficient and constitute a very dangerous commodity to keep on hand, and usually wind up the year's report with "the collections are a little short, Bishop." Just a little reflection will show the wisdom of early collections. (a) Early collections secure money that late collections cannot possibly get, viz., from people who die during the year or move away or suffer business reverses or manage to get mad at the preacher just before conference. (b) Early collections secure money that make easy what might otherwise be a burden. The average member can more easily pay his annual contribution to the benevolences in two, or even three installments, than in one. An increase in the annual sum given is far more probable if more payments than one are made. (c) Early collections are wise because the pastor and people who have the conscience to pay a good per cent of the annual assessments early are almost sure to pay all the assessments in full by conference.

The earnest pastor cannot afford to ignore the fact that early collections are reasonable as well as wise. (a) If

General Board at Nashville, when funds are short, makes note in bank and pays the quarter's drafts, even though it has to pay six per cent interest on all loans. If our conference, with its \$8400, had forced a six months' loan for an equal amount interest to the amount of \$222 would have been from the stream of our foreign funds. That conference that jubilantly reports assessments in full, but waits till the end of the year to do so, ought to feel in honor bound to add six per cent to the amount. In the case of our home missionaries, if we have not the money on hand to pay any particular quarter we do not borrow it, but make the missionaries wait. He needs it, but must wait because we preachers have not taken the collection. (c) Early collections are reasonable because the amount given by the individual is too small for us to destroy much of the good done in a worthy cause by encouraging delays and selfishness in a great enterprise of God's church, which demands haste and fidelity.

Our faith in early collections is so firm that we feel sure if our 190 pastors will, with all their hearts, make an intelligent and zealous effort through the months of January and February, by the first of March they will report all the assessments for missions in full. And at Pittsburg next December we will report the Texas Conference as paid for missions \$19,900.

JOS. B. SEARS,

Conf. Miss. Sec.

Crockett, Texas, Dec. 27, 1904.

THE MISSION STUDY CLASS—SOME OBJECTIONS.

Obstacles will be encountered in an attempt to organize a mission study class, but they merely test our purpose. What really worthy enterprise ever succeeds without either smashing through, or quietly, tactfully circumventing a few obstacles? We note the following among the objections that we hear to the organization of mission study classes:

1. No time. It does seem as if there were really not enough evenings in the week to enable us to meet all of our Church and social obligations, but it is to be noted that most people have approximately seven evenings each week more or less at their disposal and they presumably appropriate these evenings for the things that are most important in their lives. If we really have convictions that the study of the progress of Christ's kingdom is an important, helpful study, we will find time for that study somewhere in the seven days and nights of the week. We find time for other things, and the discovery of time for mission study may merely call for a change of emphasis as to what things are of truest worth. It has been noted that "Miss Pleasure usually has no difficulty in finding an evening for her whist party, and Miss Culture usually in some way manages to find time for her Brown-ing Club." If we are equally in earnest as to the importance of mission study, we will find time for it some way, and the testimony of those who have been enrolled in study classes indicate that there are few ways in



New Parsonage at Corrigan, Texas.

Rev. J. J. Rape, Pastor.

missions. No better reason could be given for the organization of a mission study class than the fact that at present people are not interested. Their lack of interest merely indicates lack of knowledge, and there is no better way to get them interested than to gather them once a week around a library table for the united prayerful study of missionary heroes and heroisms.

After all, the best answer to all objections is faithful prayer that the obstacles may be removed. Not infrequently has a most successful class been organized and conducted in societies where at the beginning only one person had any sympathy whatever with the suggestion, but that one

counties this (Hemphill) is included, which is partly dry, and has been for a year, having voted it out of Canadian on Dec. 20, 1902, and I trust it may never return. You are giving us a splendid paper, and it does me a great deal of good, and I certainly think you are aiding the cause of temperance wonderfully in your timely remarks in its favor. Long may you and your efficient corps of helpers prosper in the good I feel sure you are accomplishing. I feel that the Advocate is a part of my family.

MRS. THOS. DUNCAN,
Canadian, Texas.

The man with a crooked creed can live a straight life—but he doesn't.

Devotional and Spiritual

THE HABIT OF DOING ONE'S BEST.

This habit of always doing his best enters into the very marrow of one's heart and character; it affects his bearing, his self-possession. The man who does everything to a finish has a feeling of serenity; he is not easily thrown off his balance; he has nothing to fear and he can look the world in the face because he feels conscious that he has not put shoddy into anything, that he has had nothing to do with shams and that he has always done his level best. The sense of efficiency, of being master of one's craft, of being equal to any emergency; the consciousness of possessing the ability to do with superiority whatever one undertakes will give soul-satisfaction which a half-hearted, slipshod worker never knows.

When a man feels throbbing within him the power to do what he undertakes as well as it can possibly be done, and all of his faculties say "Amen" to what he is doing and give their unqualified approval of his efforts—this is happiness, this is success. This buoyant sense of power spurs the faculties to their fullest developments. It unfolds the mental, the moral and the physical forces, and this very growth, the consciousness of an expanding mentally and of a broadening horizon, gives an added satisfaction beyond the power of words to describe. It is a realization of nobility, the divinity of the mind.—Orison Swett Marden, in Success.

EACH HIS OWN LAMP.

One of the most serious thoughts about life is its individuality, St. Paul puts it in a sentence when he says, "Each man shall bear his own burden." We are in danger of forgetting this truth. We think so much of our lives in their mutual relations that unless we are careful, we lose sight of our individual responsibility. The duty of helping each other is so impressed upon us that we sometimes forget that in the deepest experiences of life we cannot help each other, nor can we receive help from others. Each one has to stand for himself. Each one should think of himself, as an individual, standing alone before God, having no companionship in the most vital affairs of life, and should seek to realize the responsibility of this position.

Each one of us must get the love and mercy of God into his own heart by a personal faith in Christ. Each of us must have a lamp of his own and must have it filled and burning. No one can walk in the light of another's torch. No matter how holy a wife is, how earnest she is, her husband cannot stand in the light of her lamp; he must have his own lamp or walk in darkness. In our Lord's parable, five of the ten virgins had a reserve of oil and their torches blazed out brightly on the midnight darkness. Why could not the other five have paired with these, two walking beneath each torch? But each one must have her own light or be left outside the shut door. In the parable, the foolish virgins, in their hour of need, cried to the wise, "Give us of your oil; for our lamps are going out." But we know the answer, "Peradventure there will not be enough for us and you." Perhaps it seems to us that the wise ought to have given part of their oil to the poor foolish ones.

A deep moral truth lies in this part of the parable. The grace of God is something which cannot be given by one to another. There are points in life at which no one can help his friend. For example, two young men pass through their school life together. One is diligent, faithful, industrious, improves every opportunity, and stands at length on the threshold of active

life, well equipped for its duties. The other loiters and trifles, is not diligent, wastes his time, does not improve his privileges and opportunities, and faces his life work at last without any adequate preparation for it. The one takes up his burden and bears it nobly. He has prepared himself for it. But the other staggers under the load and cannot carry it. In his despair, he appeals to his friend for help. Gladly would the other help him, but it is impossible. He cannot give him his trained powers, wisdom, discipline of mind, skill of hand, that alone would fit him for his duty.

The same is true still more positively in moral and spiritual life. Character is personal and cannot be given by one to another. The woman who has, through years of heart culture, acquired control of her temper, cannot impart her sweetness of spirit to her sister who needs the same gentleness for a great emergency, and who has not acquired it for herself. The brave soldier cannot share his courage with the pale, trembling recruit who falls in the battle by his side. If one is in great temptation and lacks strength, and his friend beside him is strong and victorious, the friend cannot give him of his strength to help him to overcome. If one is in sorrow, and uncomforted, another beside him who has learned the lesson of divine comfort, cannot give his friend of his peace to calm and quiet his perturbed spirit.

You must have Christ for yourself. You must see the Lamb of God with your own eyes. You must have your own oil for your lamp or it will go out in the darkness.—Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

WOMAN AS DAUGHTER.

Not every household in the land has its darling ministering daughter, but no household is complete without one. Into what need of the hour does she not fit, what longing of the heart does she not fill?

I am supposing, dear rosebud of the little wilful thorns, that you are willing to bloom in the home borders, that you are not anxious for a wider career than home offers you! These are days of restlessness and aspiration beyond the bounds of home, and young women are invited on many sides to step into a sphere that seems wider than the somewhat circumscribed circle of home interests. A girl conscious of her own ability, with the knowledge that she can successfully compete with others, may often say to herself, "Have I the right to fold my talent in a napkin; shall I not thus be guilty of unfaithfulness and waste? An ambitious and wide-awake young girl often chafes against the hampered conditions of her lot, and wishes she might without question do with her life as she pleases. And in this she is not to be blamed, nor for this should she be hastily condemned. The point of view must be regarded, and the twentieth century atmosphere weighed in the balance.

This being conceded, may we not urge upon our thoughtful daughter, that she shall continue at home, filling every little space and crevice with sunshine and sweetness, when her family does not ask or suggest her going beyond it? Father and mother are at the top of the hill. Their steps must soon begin to tread the descending slope. They gave of their self-denial, their vigor, their generosity, to educate you, dear Dora, dear Madeline, when you were younger; they spared no pains that you might have the very best they could obtain for you. Now they are weary. They find the honey growing thin on the daily bread. They need fun in the house, the stimulus of the

younger life. Your voice, your ideas, your mirth, your impressions, the touch of the new generation, are important to them, and you may be to them at this period, as the tide to the barren shore, flooding them with gladness and filling them with hope.—Margaret E. Sangster.

LEND A HAND.

- Lend a hand to the tempted.
- Lend a hand to souls in the shadow.
- Lend a hand to the student at school.
- Lend a hand to those who are often misjudged.
- Lend a hand to the soul crushed with unspeakable loss.
- Lend a hand to the poor fighting the wolf from the door.
- Lend a hand to those whose lives are narrow and cramped.
- Lend a hand to the boy struggling bravely to culture his mind.
- Lend a hand to the young people whose homes are cold and repelling.
- Lend a hand to those whose surroundings are steadily pulling them down.
- Lend a hand to the prodigal sister—her life is as precious as that of the prodigal brother.
- Lend a hand to the girl who works, works, works, and knows nothing of recreation and rest.
- Lend a hand—an open hand, a warm hand, a strong hand, an uplifting hand, a hand filled with mercy and help.—The Silver Cross.

We have need of patience with ourselves and with others; with those below and those above us and with our own equals; with those who love us and those who love us not; for the greatest things and for the least; against sudden inroads of trouble and under our daily burdens; disappointments as to the weather; or the breaking of the heart; in the weariness of the body or the wearing of the soul; in our own failure of duty or others' failure toward us; in every-day wants or in the aching of sickness or the decay of age; in disappointment, bereavement, losses, injuries, reproaches; in heaviness of the heart or its sickness amid delayed hopes. In all these things, from childhood's little troubles to the martyr's sufferings, patience is the grace of God, whereby we endure evil for the love of God.—E. B. Pusey.

THE MINISTRY OF SORROW.

Two women gowned in mourning sat side by side. Every lineament of one face bore the seal of inward conflict, for her only daughter had recently been taken away under circumstances unusually sorrowful. This bereavement left every fiber of her being rigid with a feverish tension which burned away all quieting grief-drops ere they fell. Days passed, but time brought no healing for her rebellious suffering.

The other mourner, at threescore and ten, had been suddenly bereft of her husband; in loving sympathy for more than fifty years the two had shared life's burdens and its pleasures. Now, in feeble health and with scanty income, she must walk her sunset path alone. But placid and trustful, in the sure hope of a near reunion with her loved ones, she waited in peace and patience. Though often disciplined by sorrow, her brave heart received its chastening as a proof of love divine which changes not. Each year she grew more saintlike, her chief joy to minister to those who mourn. The afflicted turned to her as flowers bend toward the sun, and the grace of consolation clung to her as a beautiful garment.

Did not the sharp lance of anguish enter her soul, too, when she was bereaved? Ah, yes, but the Comforter came also to heal and to restore, and brought her peace. But why does not the younger woman who sits beside her put away the

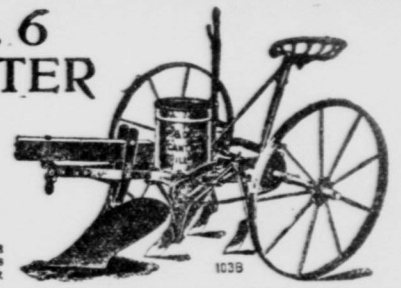
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It Saves ONE MAN HORSE Plow Stock

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FOR CIRCULARS AND PRICE ADDRESS THE MANUFACTURERS: **PARLIN & ORENDORFF CO.** DALLAS, TEXAS.



MIDDLE BREAKER MOULD-BOARD WITH DETACHABLE POINT, AS SHOWN IN CUT, FURNISHED WHEN DESIRED AT SMALL ADDITIONAL COST.

sack-cloth and ashes of her mourning? Why does the shadow of her repining follow her everywhere, and the sight of her desolate face bring heartache to all who love her? Alas, the Gethsemane cup of her life has held no drops of loving compassion for the sorrows of other mourners. Her own woe, as an unceasing guest, has followed her everywhere and always. Her hands have offered no balm of consolation to other wounded spirits. Her sorrow, her loss, her grief, have been cherished as something more sacred than that of others. She would not admit the Great Comforter to her soul's dwelling-place, and pathetic beyond description is the pallor, the weariness of her sad face. Its hopelessness is heartrending. A bereaved life without a sustaining Christ is sad enough, but such a life in bitter rebellion, saddest of all.—Irma T. Jones.

TAKE LIFE EARNESTLY.

Take it as an earnest, vital, essential matter. Take it just as though you personally were born to the task of performing a noble task in it—as though the world had waited for your coming. Take it as though it was a grand opportunity to do and to achieve, to carry forward great and good schemes, to help and cheer a suffering, weary, it may be a heartbroken, brother. The fact is, life is undervalued by a great majority of mankind. It is not made half as much of as should be the case. Now and then a man stands aside from the crowd, labors earnestly, steadfastly, confidently, and straightway becomes famous.—Selected.

MAKING DUTY A DELIGHT.

Let us not live fretful lives. God will never stretch the line of our duty beyond the measure of our strength. We ought to live with the grace of the flowers, with the freedom of wave and wind. Without question this is God's ideal of human life. We are expected to do no more than we can do with the time granted us, with the tools, the material, and the opportunity at our disposal. We serve no Egyptian taskmaster who watches to double the tale of bricks, but a generous Lord who waits to make our duty our delight.

"If our love were but more simple. We should take him at his word. And our lives would be all sunshine in the sweetness of the Lord." —Rev. W. L. Wilkinson.

SYMPATHY'S LIFTING POWER.

A world without sympathy would be a cruel abiding place. Those who have suffered and received expressions of true sympathy from friends would hardly dare think what their sufferings would have been without a spoken word of comfort from a living soul. We are often tempted to feel that any word of sympathy we may speak or write to another at a time of special trial is not worth the doing; that so many such words will be spoken to that one that our own will count for nothing. The prompting to keep silent in another's time of sorrow is a false one. Spoken sympathy is as a mantle of love; it comforts, strengthens and inspires. Our Lord Jesus Christ longed for sympathy. There is no more affecting

passage in the record of His life than that which tells of the failure of his chosen and dearest friends to watch and sympathize with him in the hour when his soul was "exceeding sorrowful." There has never been a word too much of sympathy spoken to a sorrowing one. Sympathy's emanation forms a great force that uplifts and strengthens. It is needed by the weak; it is still more needed by the strong. It is within everyone's power to give it. —Sunday-school Times.

In how many cases the hasty temper flashes out and does its work with the precision and the pain of the swift stiletto! Singularly enough, the hasty word oftenest wounds those we love. We know the weak points in the armor of our friend; we are aware of his caprices, and are ordinarily tender and compassionate even of his vanities; but there dawns a day when it is written in the book of fate that we shall be as cruel as loving. We are cold, or tired, or hungry. So politeness fails us, fortitude vanishes, and we say that which we repent in sackcloth and ashes. But though the hasty word may be forgiven, it is not forgotten. It has flamed the crystal of our friendship; there is a shadowy scar on the gleaming surface.—Harper's Bazaar.

"EARLY WILL I SEEK THEE."

In a world where there is so much to ruffle the spirit's plumes, how needful that entering into the secret of God's pavilion, which will alone bring it back to composure and peace! In a world where there is so much to sadden and depress, how blessed the communion with Him in whom the one true source and fountain of all true gladness and abiding joy! In a world where so much is ever seeking to unhallow our spirits, to render them common and profane, how high the privilege of consecrating them anew in prayer to holiness and to God.—Archbishop Trench.

True goodness is like the glow-worm in this, that it shines most when no eyes except those of heaven are upon it.—Hare.

HABIT'S CHAIN.

Certain Habits Unconsciously Formed and Hard to Break.

An ingenious philosopher estimates that the amount of will power necessary to break a life-long habit would, if it could be transformed, lift a weight of many tons.

It sometimes requires a higher degree of heroism to break the chains of a pernicious habit than to lead a forlorn hope in a bloody battle. A lady writes from an Indiana town:

"From my earliest childhood I was a lover of coffee. Before I was out of my teens I was a miserable dyspeptic, suffering terribly at times with my stomach.

"I was convinced that it was coffee that was causing the trouble, and yet I could not deny myself a cup for breakfast. At the age of 36 I was in very poor health, indeed. My sister told me I was in danger of becoming a coffee drunkard.

"But I never could give up drinking coffee for breakfast, although it kept me constantly ill, until I tried Postum. I learned to make it properly according to directions, and now we can hardly do without Postum for breakfast, and care nothing at all for coffee.

"I am no longer troubled with dyspepsia, do not have spells of suffering with my stomach that used to trouble me so when I drank coffee." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Look in each pkg. for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

Secular News Items.

We imported the last fiscal year from Africa \$25,965 worth of peanuts.

A dispatch dated Dec. 30 from Port Arthur, Texas, says: "Capt. James Wilder, master of the steamship North-eastern, now going to pieces on Diamond Shoals, was too unwell to sail on her and she went out under charge of the first officer, Capt. Wilder rapidly grew worse and died at 6:40 p. m. today. His death was due to aggravated bronchial trouble. Capt. Wilder is well known in the maritime circles of the Gulf, having sailed as master on many good vessels and made many successful voyages. It is considered here a strange coincidence that master and vessel perish so far apart and so near the same time. His home is in Brooklyn, N. Y."

At the congress for the better observance of the Sabbath, held recently in St. Louis, Rabbi Hirsch, of Chicago, said: "Whenever any nation ceases to recognize or observe the Sabbath, that nation has passed the period of its usefulness and is on the decline. The Sabbath is and has been the working man's salvation. We may differ on the manner of its observance, but its essential importance and its divine mission in the universal scheme of things can not be ignored."

If the views of Senator Foster and other Senators are sound, there is really ground to suspect that the arbitration treaty with Great Britain was actually drawn with a view to the collection of competing bonds, still held against the Southern States. Several Southern Senators who have been examining the treaties have raised the question as to whether under them the bonds of Southern States issued during the reconstruction period could be arbitrated and declared valid. They have given notice that if the treaties provide for the adjudication of such bonds they will oppose them until an amendment is inserted, which in express terms will declare that bonds of a State shall not be arbitrated.

The agitated state of public opinion throughout Russia over the reforms apparently continues unabated. The war has distinctly taken a second place. Despite the Government's warning to the press the papers discuss the situation pointedly, but guardedly. While the understanding is that the committee of ministers intends, in considering the various reforms outlined in the Imperial manifesto, to consult with the classes interested, the fear is quite openly expressed that the proposed measures may be smothered by the cumbersome bureaucratic ministry before they are eventually crystallized into laws, thus sharing the fate of many former beneficent intentions of the monarch.

In a report submitted to Chief Justice Alvey, of the District of Columbia Supreme Court, the Grand Jury recommended the establishment of a whipping post as a means of punishment for wife beaters. This penalty was first suggested in President Roosevelt's annual message to Congress, and the Grand Jury recently took it up for discussion. By a majority vote it recorded its approval of the whipping post, not only for wife beaters, but for petty larceny offenses.

The Treasury Department has issued a review of treasury operations for the calendar year 1904. The treasury receipts for the calendar year 1904 were \$549,000,000, and expenditures (including the Panama payment) \$562,000,000, a deficit for the year of \$22,000,000. As compared with the previous calendar year, the receipts show a falling off of \$8,000,000 and the expenditures an increase of \$50,000,000. The decrease in customs receipts was \$300,000. Civil and miscellaneous expenditures increased \$15,000,000; War Department \$9,000,000, Navy Department \$2,000,000, pensions \$2,000,000 and interest \$1,000,000.

Clearings of the banks of New Orleans will reach \$1,000,000,000 for the year 1904. It is a record-breaker, showing that figures from Jan. 1 to Dec. 29 are \$962,227,921. With two days to be added, the amount will reach very nearly the \$1,000,000,000 mark. This makes an increase of \$134,517,071 for the year.

By direction of the President, Capt. Robert L. Howse, Sixth Cavalry, now stationed at Fort Keogh, Mont., has been appointed commandant of cadets at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., from June 15, 1905, to relieve Lieut. Col. Charles J. Treat, Artillery Corps. Capt. Howse was one of the officers charged by Lieut. Miles with having abused and ill treated Filipino prisoners. These charges were the subject of two searching investigations, one conducted in this country and the other in the Philippines, and discussed thoroughly and resulted in the complete exoneration of the officer.

The last of a shipment of 1,000,000 pounds of barreled beef has been sent from the Cudahy Packing Company at

Sioux City, Iowa, to the besieged Russians at Port Arthur. All four of the Cudahy plants have been working overtime to fill the Russian order. The problem of getting the meat to the besieged army is left to the Russians to solve. The last shipment of 1,000,000 pounds was captured by a Japanese mosquito fleet just as it was rounding an island off Japan and was delivered to the besiegers instead of the besieged.

Cuba shows an immigration of 20,211 in 1904, as compared with 13,191 in 1903, says an exchange. As to nationality, these immigrants comprised 16,176 in 1904, and 10,931 in 1903; Americans, 1,262 and 1,124; English, 338 and 388; Italians, 274 and 247— together with a few Germans, French, Mexicans and Syrians, in both years. That the population and affiliations of Cuba will continue to be Spanish, largely, seems to be indicated by these figures.

Mrs. Celia Parker Woolley, a very wealthy woman of Chicago, and a writer of wide reputation, and holding a prominent position in Chicago society, has determined to establish her residence in the levee district of that town, the very center of the negro population. "It is, in fact, one of the worst slums of Chicago, but there Mrs. Woolley is going to make her home, giving up one of the most luxurious residences in the fashionable sections to go there to rescue the blacks from vice and squalor and ignorance."

President Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Growers' Protective Association, has issued a call for an interstate convention to be held at New Orleans Jan. 24 and 25, 1905. Among the matters for consideration to be acted upon are the following, according to the call: Financing the entire spot cotton business for the South; creating a bureau of statistics for the benefit of the producers; establishment of a cotton exchange in each State through which our cotton can be sold to the manufacturers; organization quickly of the cotton producers in each cotton-growing county; reduction of cotton acreage and use of commercial fertilizers for 1905 of not less than 25 per cent; adoption of a local warehouse system to meet the demand of both farmers and bankers throughout the South; to make New Orleans the leading cotton exchange in the United States, and the formation of a close alliance between all the Southern agricultural organizations now in existence for mutual co-operation and protection.

Chauncey M. Depew, of New York, will succeed himself for a term of six years as United States Senator from the State of New York, continuing as the colleague of Senator Thomas C. Platt, who has four years to serve. Gov. Odell announced that the case had been settled and Chauncey M. Depew would be the only one in the Republican caucus.

According to reports, the wheat crop of Argentina this year will be 4,120,000 tons, an increase of about 800,000 tons compared with last year.

A. D. Lewis, a white man, thirty-three years of age, whose home is in Chicago, was lashed in the woods near Natchez, Miss., and ordered out of the State. Lewis was being taken to the county convict farm to serve a sentence for insulting ladies on the street. As he was being taken to the farm a crowd of six white men took him away from the guard. They entered the woods three miles from town, stripped him and gave him sixty lashes on the back, then placed him on a train and ordered him to leave the State.

John H. Landis, superintendent of the United States mint in Philadelphia, announced that the available silver bullion of the country has been exhausted. Unless Congress takes prompt action to relieve the situation by authorizing the purchase of more silver bullion for coining purposes or by accepting a suggested temporary remedy, he said, commerce will be greatly hampered next year as a result of a \$10,000,000 shortage in small silver coin. The prevailing condition of the country collateral also entails wholesale discharges of mint employees to take effect Jan. 1, and unless relief is obtained from Congress the regular mint force will be cut down to a nominal number, within a few months.

According to the preliminary report of the Interstate Commerce Commission for the last fiscal year, the average of gross earnings per mile of railway was \$9.410. This average is \$152 higher than that of last year and is higher than any average ever reported to the Commission. Of the gross earnings per mile \$2,581 resulted from the passenger service and \$6,592 from the freight service. The cost of operating was \$256 per mile more than last year.

Conditions in Morocco apparently have entered on a critical stage, according to cable advices received at the State Department from Hoffman Philip, the acting American Consul General at Tangier. After reciting the indefinite postponement of French mission, the recalling of the military mis-

sion by the French Consul and the warning of all French subjects away from Fez, Mr. Philip adds that the foreign ministers, excepting himself, were awaiting instructions. Mr. Pierce, the third Assistant Secretary of State, promptly notified Mr. Philip directing him in the event that serious trouble should appear imminent to advise American citizens in Morocco to come into Tangier. The Consul General is directed to observe strict impartiality and to keep the department fully informed.

The United States played Santa Claus to the world at large according to reports secured from Superintendent Joseph Elliott of the money order department of the New York postoffice. From December 1 to December 24, the night before Christmas, no less than 334,684 international orders were forwarded to other lands from this city and these orders called for \$4,667,620.90.

The following telegram is from Fort Gaines, Ga., and is dated December 28: The farmers and merchants of Clay County met at Fort Gaines and decided to burn their share of 2,000,000 bales of surplus cotton. A starter was made to day when a bonfire was made of cotton on the streets of Fort Gaines. It is not yet determined where it will stop. They have decided to set the pace and are moving determinedly. A large crowd paraded with much spectacular ceremony. The object is to show that the farmers are ready to sacrifice a few bales for the benefit of the masses. The fire is still burning and excitement is increasing.

Postmaster General Wynne's investigation of polygamous postmasters in the State of Idaho is likely to open up the whole question of Mormon Federal office holders. President Roosevelt is considering the discovery of half a dozen of polygamous postmasters made by Mr. Wynne and the report to be made to the Senate, and it is not improbable that a general investigation of all United States officials in Utah, Idaho and other States in the West having considerable numbers of Mormons will be made.

Hon. William Randolph Hearst has foresworn office holding. He says he will not return to Congress, nor be a candidate for Mayor of New York City, nor for President of the United States.

While Emperor Nicholas' manifesto on Russian reforms, coupled with the Government note of warning on the same subject, leaves no doubt that it is the firm intention of the Emperor to maintain unimpaired the autocratic principle, and not yield to the zemstvoist demand for a National Legislature, the program of reforms outlined is a broad one and if it had not been preceded by the agitation of the last few months would probably have been accepted with universal acclaim in Russia as extremely liberal. The raising of the peasants to an equality with other citizens of the Empire is alone practically second only to the emancipation of the serfs, but hardly less important are the guarantees which the manifesto directs to be incorporated in the laws for the protection of the personal liberty of the people against the abuses of administrative arbitrariness.

Baron Keigo Kiyounra, President of the Imperial Japanese Commission to the World's Fair, has written a letter to Colonel Fountain, commander of the Jefferson Guards, at the World's Fair, requesting a detailed report of the police methods used at the St. Louis Exposition, as well as available data as to the number of arrests, accidents and number of men on duty between certain hours and the amount of area they policed. This information is desired by the Mikado.

An old house in Sunset Park, one of the landmarks of Brooklyn, has burned. It always has been thought the house was used as a hiding place for Charley Ross immediately after he was kidnaped in Philadelphia. The house was a relic of revolutionary times and recently has been used by a park watchman for shelter. Mischievous boys skating on the park lake snowballed the old watchman and when he gave chase one of the boys crept up to the house and set it on fire.

Should Senator Foraker again attempt to press an amendment to any Philippine bill abolishing the tariff on Philippine products with the exception of sugar and tobacco and reducing the tariff on those to 25 per cent of the Dingley rate, he will probably meet with much opposition at the hands of the Senators whose States are interested in the production of beet and cane sugar.

Complete figures of the recent Presidential election show that Mr. Roosevelt received a plurality over Judge Parker of 2,547,578 votes, and a majority over all competitors of 1,746,768 votes. The total vote was nearly a million less than in 1900. Considering the natural increase in the number of possible voters, this was a remarkable falling off. It apparently

points to abstentions on the part of Democrats. In fact, Judge Parker's vote was 1,277,772 less than Mr. Bryan's four years ago.

A report from London states that Princess Radziwill has decided to bring action against the executors of the estate of Cecil Rhodes, with the object of vindicating her character from accusations of her personal relations with Mr. Rhodes. Princess Catharine Radziwill was sentenced to two years' imprisonment by the Supreme Court of Cape Colony April 30, 1902, for forging in connection with notes purporting to have been indorsed by Mr. Rhodes. It was alleged by the London papers that Mr. Rhodes' death was due to the worry which she caused him and to the fact that he was obliged to return to South Africa in the hottest of the weather to prosecute the case against her.

In 1902 Russia supplied over 11,500,000 tons, or more than 51 per cent of the world's product of petroleum; the United States produced not quite 10,000,000 tons, or 41 per cent of the world's product. The rest was divided among Galicia, a province in Austria, 573,440 tons; Roumania, 320,000 tons; Sunda Islands, 380,000 tons; India, 180,000 tons; Japan, 120,000 tons; Germany, 50,000 tons; South America, 15,000 tons, and Italy, 2800 tons.

President Roosevelt is devoting some time at present to considering important appointments in the diplomatic and consular service of the government, which are to be made formally by him at the beginning of the new administration next March. It is known he has decided upon several changes. Joseph A. Choate, ambassador to the Court of St. James, has indicated that he does not desire longer to continue as the representative of this government in Great Britain, and he expects, when relieved, to return to America to look after his personal interests here. He will be succeeded by Whitelaw Reid, proprietor of the New York Tribune, who was one time Minister to France.

Dr. Chadwick has returned from Europe and is now in Cleveland, where he is charged with being connected with the fraudulent dealings of Mrs. Chadwick. He claims to be innocent and declares himself and daughter bankrupt. His daughter, he says, has lost a fortune of over \$200,000.

Quite a sensation has been sprung in the Episcopal Church through charges brought by Rev. Ingram Irvine, of Huntingdon, Pa., against the Bishop of his diocese, Bishop Talbot. He charges the Bishop with writing in secret defamatory letters against his character. He claims to have incurred the enmity of the prelate because he refused communion to a divorced woman. The case will be thoroughly investigated by a board of inquiry.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

Events have happened rapidly the past week round Port Arthur. Gen. Nogi's forces made great headway in capturing one fort after another, and in blowing up the fortifications of the Russians. Death from shot and shells as well as from disease so thinned the Russian ranks as to make resistance further impossible. Add to this the exhaustion of their ammunition, and they were left helpless. So there was nothing for Gen. Stoessel to do but to blow up the ships in the harbor, burn whatever of their scanty supplies still left, and sue for terms of capitulation. So the army that went into Port Arthur eleven months ago numbering 40,000 men, encased in the best fortified place in the world, had to lay down their arms with only 6000 fighting men in the service, with their forts battered to pieces. They were at the mercy of the Japanese troops, and they were given liberal terms of surrender, as follows:

Tokio, Jan. 3.—(Evening).—A telegram from Gen. Nogi, giving the text of the capitulation convention, was received this afternoon. It is as follows:

Article 1. All Russian soldiers, marines, volunteers, also Government officials at the garrison and harbor of Port Arthur are taken prisoners.

Art. 2. All forts, batteries, warships, other ships and boats, arms, ammunition, horses, all materials for hostile purpose, Government buildings and all objects belonging to the Russian Government shall be transferred to the Japanese Army in their existing condition.

Art. 3. On the preceding two conditions being signed as a guarantee for the fulfillment thereof, the men garrisoning the forts and batteries on Etz Mountain, Sungshu Mountain, Antze Mountain and the line of eminence southeast therefrom shall be removed by noon Jan. 3, and the same shall be transferred to the Japanese Army.

Art. 4. Should Russian military or naval men be deemed to have destroyed objects named in Article 2, or to have caused alteration in any way in their condition in the existing time, the signing of this compact and the negotiations shall be annulled and the Japanese Army will take free action.

Art. 5. The Russian military and

naval authorities shall prepare and transfer to the Japanese Army a table showing the fortifications of Port Arthur and their respective positions, and maps showing the location of mines, underground and submarine, and all other dangerous objects; also a list showing the composition and system of the army and naval services at Port Arthur; a list of army and navy officers, with their names, rank and duties of said officers, a list of army steamers, warships and other ships, with the numbers of their respective crews, a list of civilians, showing the number of men and women, their race and occupation.

Art. 6. Arms, including those carried on the persons, ammunition, war material, Government buildings, objects owned by the Government, horses, warships and other ships, including their contents, excepting private property, shall be left in their present positions, and the Commissioners of the Russian and Japanese armies shall decide upon the method of their transfer.

Art. 7. The Japanese Army, considering the gallant resistance offered by the Russian Army as being honorable, will permit the officers of the Russian Army and Navy, as well as officials belonging thereto, to carry swords and to take with them private property directly necessary for the maintenance of life. The previously mentioned officers, officials and volunteers who will sign a written parole, pledging that they will not take up arms and in no wise take action contrary to the interests of the Japanese Army until the close of the war, will receive the consent of the Japanese Army to return to their country. Each army and navy officer will be allowed one servant, and such servant will be specially released on signing the parole.

Art. 8. Non-commissioned officers and privates of both army and navy and volunteers shall wear their uniforms, and taking portable tents and necessary private property, and commended by their respective officers, shall assemble at such places as may be indicated by the Japanese Army. The Japanese Commissioners will indicate the necessary details therefor.

Art. 9. The sanitary corps and the accounts belonging to the Russian Army and navy shall be retained by the Japanese while their services are deemed necessary, caring for sick and wounded prisoners. During such time such corps will be required to render service under the direction of the sanitary corps and accountants of the Japanese Army.

Art. 10. The treatment to be accorded to the residents, the transfer of books and documents relating to municipal administration and finance, and also detailed files necessary for the enforcement of this compact shall be embodied in a supplementary compact. The supplementary compact shall have the same force as this compact.

Art. 11. One copy each of this compact shall be prepared for the Japanese and Russian armies, and it shall have immediate effect on signature thereof.

THE FALL OF PORT ARTHUR.

After eleven months of awful fighting between the Japanese and the Russians with the slaughter of untold thousands of human lives, Port Arthur finally surrendered to the victorious Japanese General, Nogi, last Monday. The whole civilized world drew a breath of relief when the announcement of the capitulation was made. Such has been the destruction in progress around that fated city that mankind rejoice that it has come to an end. The Russians were shut up in that fortress last February, with an army of 40,000, with all the munitions of war, and with a great fleet floating in that harbor; but they marched out last Monday with less than 6000 men, their munition of war all consumed, and their whole fleet lying at the bottom of the sea, or disarmed in neutral ports. The small army surrendering is in a pitiable condition. The most of them are wounded and all of them nearly dead from hunger and disease; while the whole population is either moved out, starving or dead. No such human slaughter has been known in the history of modern warfare. The Russians were brave and courageous, and held out till utterly exhausted; while the Japanese fought with the merciless fanaticism, associating itself with the contemplated fear of their homes and native land. They have evinced a bravery and heroism unequalled by any race of people in modern times. Why Gen. Stoessel continued his struggle during the past few months with no hope of rescue, knowing that his doom was sealed, is past finding out. Of course the world will write him down a great hero because he thus braved the inevitable at the cost of the blood and woe of his men, but to those who feel an interest in humanity will ever look upon the scene as one of human butchery that could have been prevented. What effect this event will have upon the progress of the war awaits to be seen.

Fight the good fight of faith.

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Notes From the Field.

NORTHWEST TEX. CONFERENCE.

Canyon City.

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Hale Center Circuit.

G. F. Fair, Plainview, Dec. 29: Our new presiding elder of our new district has made us a visit, and held the first Quarterly Conference for Hale Center Circuit.

Bertram Circuit.

Jas. A. Pledger, Dec. 30: I am now serving Bertram Circuit. Bertram is situated on a branch of the Central Railroad between Austin and Burnet.

Munday and Gore.

Ed R. Wallace, Dec. 30: I am returned to this charge to finish my quadrennial term. Some of the members thought it rather unwise to make these two places a charge, but wise or otherwise it is done, and the stewards at least seem well pleased.

Seventh Street, Temple.

A. W. Hall: It was with sad hearts that we packed our household goods and turned our backs upon the good people of Glenrose charge.

new furniture to the parsonage to the amount of about \$70, and our stewards are making liberal provision for the pastor. The first Quarterly Conference was set for the 18th and 19th of December.

Marfa.

W. Sherlock-Huggett, Dec. 27: For our Sunday school we had an unique entertainment. Instead of a Santa Claus we had a visit from the shepherds and the Wise Men, who distributed the gifts from the tree, after they had seen the representation of Mary and the Babe in the manger.

Abbott.

N. M. McLaughlin, Dec. 27: On Nov. 25 we left Morgan for this place. For every kindness shown me and my family during our three years' stay with the people of Morgan and Walnut Springs charge we are profoundly thankful.

Richland.

Z. L. Howell, January 2: We arrived in the little town of Richland about a month ago; have made one round and half the way the second time. The parsonage is a three-room cottage; we have a nice garden spot and a small orchard.

Carlton.

J. H. Watts, Dec. 29: We are again settled in Carlton for our fourth year, and have been received by this noble people with a truly Christian hospitality.

conference. They continued until yesterday about noon, when the climax was reached. Just about the time that we were expecting dinner to be announced, there was a rap at the door, the door was opened, and, O! what a crowd of men, women and children in the yard and still coming.

Morgan Mill Mission.

J. M. Owen: Last year was a fairly good year with us, and we start off very well this year. I have had C. L. Ballard at Morgan Mill; he preached a series of strong doctrinal sermons. Some said he read Scripture that they did not know was in the Bible.

Abilene.

E. B. Bynum, Jan. 2: Our pastor, Bro. Daniel L. Collie, recently transferred from El Paso, the New Mexico Conference, is now thoroughly installed, and is entering upon what promises to be the most prosperous year in the history of our Church at Abilene.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.

White Rock.

W. J. Bludworth, Jan. 2: We were returned to this station from conference at Bonham. Have had a very cordial reception. The usual pounding and many tokens of appreciation have found their way to the parsonage.

We have been greeted with good congregations and have started splendidly on the new year. The Sunday-school is interesting, and Leagues are doing splendid work.

Ponder and Krum.

Minor Bounds, Jan. 2: We made haste immediately after conference for our new field of labor. We parted with many good friends at Montague, but find as many and as good at Ponder and Krum.

Forney.

R. F. Bryant, Jan. 2: We have started on our second year in this charge. While we were away attending conference the good women took possession of the parsonage, put down new matting, which was very much appreciated.

Mt. Vernon and Pine Forest.

Jno. E. Roach: It was hard to be torn away from so many kind friends on the Campbell Circuit and leave an atmosphere so perfectly congenial. Their manifold acts of kindness to me and their zealous labors with me for the Lord endeared them to my heart.

Lake Creek Circuit.

J. W. Blackburn, Dec. 28: One more Sabbath and we will have completed our first round of appointments for Lake Creek Circuit. Our reception has been very cordial indeed. The pounding that came so soon after our arrival was all that could be desired.

Ben Franklin and Pecan Gap.

N. C. Little, Dec. 28: Immediately after conference we packed our goods at the parsonage in Greenville, where we spent three delightful and happy years. We were loth to say good-by to our many friends who had been so unsparing in kindness and gifts to us.

boiled oats and corn for Dick (pony), enough to do for several. We have preached three times at appointment. Married one couple, A. M. Merrell and Miss Callie Gray. They are among the most popular, young people of Pecan Gap. Next came the Christmas tree at the Methodist Church. It was beautifully laden with choice and elegant presents.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Alice.

C. W. Perkins, Dec. 12: On the night before Thanksgiving we heard a rumbling sound and looked out the front way from the parsonage, and there was Master Burdette Graham with a number of other boys, with a wagon load of things for this preacher and family.

Seguin.

F. B. Buchanan, Jan. 2: A warm welcome awaited the pastor and family on their arrival in Seguin. Arriving before daylight, we were met at the depot by Rev. H. G. Horton and escorted to the hospitable home of Dr. and Mrs. S. S. Beakley. After breakfast we came to the parsonage. We found it renovated from top to bottom; new mattings and linoleums on the floors, the kitchen newly furnished throughout, and all of the furniture revarnished.

Secular News Items.

We imported the last fiscal year from Africa \$25,965 worth of peanuts.

A dispatch dated Dec. 30 from Port Arthur, Texas, says: "Capt. James Wilder, master of the steamship North-eastern, now going to pieces on Diamond Shoals, was too unwell to sail on her and she went out under charge of the first officer, Capt. Wilder rapidly grew worse and died at 6:40 p. m. today. His death was due to aggravated bronchial trouble. Capt. Wilder is well known in the maritime circles of the Gulf, having sailed as master on many good vessels and made many successful voyages. It is considered here a strange coincidence that master and vessel perish so far apart and so near the same time. His home is in Brooklyn, N. Y."

At the congress for the better observance of the Sabbath, held recently in St. Louis, Rabbi Hirsch, of Chicago, said: "Whenever any nation ceases to recognize or observe the Sabbath, that nation has passed the period of its usefulness and is on the decline. The Sabbath is and has been the working man's salvation. We may differ on the manner of its observance, but its essential importance and its divine mission in the universal scheme of things can not be ignored."

If the views of Senator Foster and other Senators are sound, there is really ground to suspect that the arbitration treaty with Great Britain was actually drawn with a view to the collection of carpetbag bonds, still held against the Southern States. Several Southern Senators who have been examining the treaties have raised the question as to whether under them the bonds of Southern States issued during the reconstruction period could be arbitrated and declared valid. They have given notice that if the treaties provide for the adjudication of such bonds they will oppose them until an amendment is inserted, which in express terms will declare that bonds of a State shall not be arbitrated.

The agitated state of public opinion throughout Russia over the reforms apparently continues unabated. The war has distinctly taken a second place. Despite the Government's warning to the press the papers discuss the situation pointedly, but guardedly. While the understanding is that the committee of ministers intends, in considering the various reforms outlined in the Imperial manifesto, to consult with the classes interested, the fear is quite openly expressed that the proposed measures may be smothered by the cumbersome bureaucratic ministry before they are eventually crystallized into laws, thus sharing the fate of many former beneficent intentions of the monarch.

In a report submitted to Chief Justice Alvey, of the District of Columbia Supreme Court, the Grand Jury recommended the establishment of a whipping post as a means of punishment for wife beaters. This penalty was first suggested in President Roosevelt's annual message to Congress, and the Grand Jury recently took it up for discussion. By a majority vote it recorded its approval of the whipping post, not only for wife beaters, but for petty larceny offenses.

The Treasury Department has issued a review of treasury operations for the calendar year 1904. The treasury receipts for the calendar year 1904 were \$549,000,000, and expenditures (including the Panama payment) \$562,000,000, a deficit for the year of \$22,000,000. As compared with the previous calendar year, the receipts show a falling off of \$8,000,000 and the expenditures an increase of \$50,000,000. The decrease in customs receipts was \$900,000. Civil and miscellaneous expenditures increased \$15,000,000; War Department \$9,000,000, Navy Department \$23,000,000, pensions \$2,000,000 and interest \$1,000,000.

Clearings of the banks of New Orleans will reach \$1,000,000,000 for the year 1904. It is a record-breaker, showing that figures from Jan. 1 to Dec. 29 are \$962,227,921. With two days to be added, the amount will reach very nearly the \$1,000,000,000 mark. This makes an increase of \$134,517,071 for the year.

By direction of the President, Capt. Robert L. Howse, Sixth Cavalry, now stationed at Fort Keogh, Mont., has been appointed commandant of cadets at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., from June 15, 1905, to relieve Lieut. Col. Charles J. Treat, Artillery Corps. Capt. Howse was one of the officers charged by Lieut. Miles with having abused and ill treated Filipino prisoners. These charges were the subject of two searching investigations, one conducted in this country and the other in the Philippines, and discussed thoroughly and resulted in the complete exoneration of the officer.

The last of a shipment of 1,000,000 pounds of barreled beef has been sent from the Cudahy Packing Company at

Sioux City, Iowa, to the besieged Russians at Port Arthur. All four of the Cudahy plants have been working overtime to fill the Russian order. The problem of getting the meat to the besieged army is left to the Russians to solve. The last shipment of 1,000,000 pounds was captured by a Japanese mosquito fleet just as it was rounding an island off Japan and was delivered to the besiegers instead of the besieged.

Cuba shows an immigration of 20,211 in 1904, as compared with 13,191 in 1903, says an exchange. As to nationality, these immigrants comprised 16,176 in 1904, and 10,031 in 1903; Americans, 1,262 and 1,124; English, 338 and 388; Italians, 274 and 247—together with a few Germans, French, Mexicans and Syrians, in both years. That the population and affiliations of Cuba will continue to be Spanish, largely, seems to be indicated by these figures.

Mrs. Cella Parker Woolley, a very wealthy woman of Chicago, and a writer of wide reputation, and holding a prominent position in Chicago society, has determined to establish her residence in the levee district of that town, the very center of the negro population. "It is, in fact, one of the worst slums of Chicago, but there Mrs. Woolley is going to make her home, giving up one of the most luxurious residences in the fashionable sections to go there to rescue the blacks from vice and squalor and ignorance."

President Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Growers' Protective Association, has issued a call for an interstate convention to be held at New Orleans Jan. 24 and 25, 1905. Among the matters for consideration to be acted upon are the following, according to the call: Financing the entire spot cotton business for the South; creating a bureau of statistics for the benefit of the producers; establishment of a cotton exchange in each State through which our cotton can be sold to the manufacturers; organization quickly of the cotton producers in each cotton-growing county; reduction of cotton acreage and use of commercial fertilizers for 1905 of not less than 25 per cent; adoption of a local warehouse system to meet the demand of both farmers and bankers throughout the South; to make New Orleans the leading cotton exchange in the United States, and the formation of a close alliance between all the Southern agricultural organizations now in existence for mutual co-operation and protection.

Chauncey M. Depew, of New York, will succeed himself for a term of six years as United States Senator from the State of New York, continuing as the colleague of Senator Thomas C. Platt, who has four years to serve. Gov. Odell announced that the case had been settled and Chauncey M. Depew would be the only one in the Republican caucus.

According to reports, the wheat crop of Argentina this year will be 4,120,000 tons, an increase of about 800,000 tons compared with last year.

A. D. Lewis, a white man, thirty-three years of age, whose home is in Chicago, was lashed in the woods near Natchez, Miss., and ordered out of the State. Lewis was being taken to the county convict farm to serve a sentence for insulting ladies on the street. As he was being taken to the farm a crowd of six white men took him away from the guard. They entered the woods three miles from town, stripped him and gave him sixty lashes on the back, then placed him on a train and ordered him to leave the State.

John H. Landis, superintendent of the United States mint in Philadelphia, announced that the available silver bullion of the country has been exhausted. Unless Congress takes prompt action to relieve the situation by authorizing the purchase of more silver bullion for coining purposes or by accepting a suggested temporary remedy, he said, commerce will be greatly hampered next year as a result of a \$10,000,000 shortage in small silver coin. The prevailing condition of the country collateral also entails wholesale discharges of mint employees to take effect Jan. 1, and unless relief is obtained from Congress the regular mint force will be cut down to a nominal number, within a few months.

According to the preliminary report of the Interstate Commerce Commission for the last fiscal year, the average of gross earnings per mile of railway was \$9.410. This average is \$152 higher than that of last year and is higher than any average ever reported to the Commission. Of the gross earnings per mile \$2,581 resulted from the passenger service and \$6,592 from the freight service. The cost of operating was \$250 per mile more than last year.

Conditions in Morocco apparently have entered on a critical stage, according to cable advices received at the State Department from Hoffman Philip, the acting American Consul General at Tangier. After reciting the indefinite postponement of French mission, the recalling of the military mis-

sion by the French Consul and the warning of all French subjects away from Fez, Mr. Philip adds that the foreign ministers, excepting himself, were awaiting instructions. Mr. Pierce, the third Assistant Secretary of State, promptly notified Mr. Philip directing him in the event that serious trouble should appear imminent to advise American citizens in Morocco to come into Tangier. The Consul General is directed to observe strict impartiality and to keep the department fully informed.

The United States played Santa Claus to the world at large according to reports secured from Superintendent Joseph Elliott of the money order department of the New York postoffice. From December 1 to December 24, the night before Christmas, no less than 334,684 international orders were forwarded to other lands from this city and these orders called for \$4,667,620.90.

The following telegram is from Fort Gaines, Ga., and is dated December 28: The farmers and merchants of Clay County met at Fort Gaines and decided to burn their share of 2,000,000 bales of surplus cotton. A starter was made to day when a bonfire was made of cotton on the streets of Fort Gaines. It is not yet determined where it will stop. They have decided to set the pace and are moving determinedly. A large crowd paraded with much spectacular ceremony. The object is to show that the farmers are ready to sacrifice a few bales for the benefit of the masses. The fire is still burning and excitement is increasing.

Postmaster General Wynne's investigation of polygamous postmasters in the State of Idaho is likely to open up the whole question of Mormon Federal office holders. President Roosevelt is considering the discovery of half a dozen of polygamous postmasters made by Mr. Wynne and the report to be made to the Senate, and it is not improbable that a general investigation of all United States officials in Utah, Idaho and other States in the West having considerable numbers of Mormons will be made.

Hon. William Randolph Hearst has forewarned office holding. He says he will not return to Congress, nor be a candidate for Mayor of New York City, nor for President of the United States.

While Emperor Nicholas' manifesto on Russian reforms, coupled with the Government note of warning on the same subject, leaves no doubt that it is the firm intention of the Emperor to maintain unimpaired the autocratic principle, and not yield to the zemstovist demand for a National Legislature, the program of reforms outlined is a broad one and if it had not been preceded by the agitation of the last few months would probably have been accepted with universal acclaim in Russia as extremely liberal. The raising of the peasants to an equality with other citizens of the Empire is alone practically second only to the emancipation of the serfs, but hardly less important are the guarantees which the manifesto directs to be incorporated in the laws for the protection of the personal liberty of the people against the abuses of administrative arbitrariness.

Baron Keigo Kiyounra, President of the Imperial Japanese Commission to the World's Fair, has written a letter to Colonel Fountain, commander of the Jefferson Guards, at the World's Fair, requesting a detailed report of the police methods used at the St. Louis Exposition, as well as available data as to the number of arrests, accidents and number of men on duty between certain hours and the amount of area they policed. This information is desired by the Mikado.

An old house in Sunset Park, one of the landmarks of Brooklyn, has burned. It always has been thought the house was used as a hiding place for Charley Ross immediately after he was kidnaped in Philadelphia. The house was a relic of revolutionary times and recently has been used by a park watchman for shelter. Mischievous boys skating on the park lake snowballed the old watchman and when he gave chase one of the boys crept up to the house and set it on fire.

Should Senator Foraker again attempt to press an amendment to any Philippine bill abolishing the tariff on Philippine products with the exception of sugar and tobacco and reducing the tariff on those to 25 per cent of the Dingley rate, he will probably meet with much opposition at the hands of the Senators whose States are interested in the production of beet and cane sugar.

Complete figures of the recent Presidential election show that Mr. Roosevelt received a plurality over Judge Parker of 2,547,578 votes, and a majority over all competitors of 1,746,768 votes. The total vote was nearly a million less than in 1900. Considering the natural increase in the number of possible voters, this was a remarkable falling off. It apparently

points to abstentions on the part of Democrats. In fact, Judge Parker's vote was 1,277,772 less than Mr. Bryan's four years ago.

A report from London states that Princess Radziwill has decided to bring action against the executors of the estate of Cecil Rhodes, with the object of vindicating her character from accusations of her personal relations with Mr. Rhodes. Princess Catharine Radziwill was sentenced to two years' imprisonment by the Supreme Court of Cape Colony April 30, 1902, for forging in connection with notes purporting to have been indorsed by Mr. Rhodes. It was alleged by the London papers that Mr. Rhodes' death was due to the worry which she caused him and to the fact that he was obliged to return to South Africa in the hottest of the weather to prosecute the case against her.

In 1902 Russia supplied over 11,500,000 tons, or more than 51 per cent of the world's product of petroleum; the United States produced not quite 10,000,000 tons, or 41 per cent of the world's product. The rest was divided among Galicia, a province in Austria, 573,440 tons; Roumania, 320,000 tons; Sunda Islands, 380,000 tons; India, 180,000 tons; Japan, 120,000 tons; Germany, 50,000 tons; South America, 15,000 tons, and Italy, 2800 tons.

President Roosevelt is devoting some time at present to considering important appointments in the diplomatic and consular service of the government, which are to be made formally by him at the beginning of the new administration next March. It is known he has decided upon several changes. Joseph A. Choate, ambassador to the Court of St. James, has indicated that he does not desire longer to continue as the representative of this government in Great Britain, and he expects, when relieved, to return to America to look after his personal interests here. He will be succeeded by Whitelaw Reid, proprietor of the New York Tribune, who was one time Minister to France.

Dr. Chadwick has returned from Europe and is now in Cleveland, where he is charged with being connected with the fraudulent dealings of Mrs. Chadwick. He claims to be innocent and declares himself and daughter bankrupt. His daughter, he says, has lost a fortune of over \$200,000.

Quite a sensation has been sprung in the Episcopal Church through charges brought by Rev. Ingram Irvine, of Huntingdon, Pa., against the Bishop of his diocese, Bishop Talbot. He charges the Bishop with writing in secret defamatory letters against his character. He claims to have incurred the enmity of the prelate because he refused communion to a divorced woman. The case will be thoroughly investigated by a board of inquiry.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

Events have happened rapidly the past week round Port Arthur. Gen. Nogi's forces made great headway in capturing one fort after another, and in blowing up the fortifications of the Russians. Death from shot and shells as well as from disease so thinned the Russian ranks as to make resistance further impossible. Add to this the exhaustion of their ammunition, and they were left helpless. So there was nothing for Gen. Stoessel to do but to blow up the ships in the harbor, burn whatever of their scanty supplies still left, and sue for terms of capitulation. So the army that went into Port Arthur eleven months ago numbering 40,000 men, encased in the best fortified place in the world, had to lay down their arms with only 6000 fighting men in the service, with their forts battered to pieces. They were at the mercy of the Japanese troops, and they were given liberal terms of surrender, as follows:

Tokio, Jan. 3.—(Evening.)—A telegram from Gen. Nogi, giving the text of the capitulation convention, was received this afternoon. It is as follows:

Article 1. All Russian soldiers, marines, volunteers, also Government officials at the garrison and harbor of Port Arthur are taken prisoners.

Art. 2. All forts, batteries, warships, other ships and boats, arms, ammunition, horses, all materials for hostile purpose, Government buildings and all objects belonging to the Russian Government shall be transferred to the Japanese Army in their existing condition.

Art. 3. On the preceding two conditions being signed as a guarantee for the fulfillment thereof, the men garrisoning the forts and batteries on Etz Mountain, Sungshu Mountain, Antze Mountain and the line of eminence southeast therefrom shall be removed by noon Jan. 3, and the same shall be transferred to the Japanese Army.

Art. 4. Should Russian military or naval men be deemed to have destroyed objects named in Article 2, or to have caused alteration in any way in their condition in the existing time, the signing of this compact and the negotiations shall be annulled and the Japanese Army will take free action.

Art. 5. The Russian military and

naval authorities shall prepare and transfer to the Japanese Army a table showing the fortifications of Port Arthur and their respective positions, and maps showing the location of mines, underground and submarine, and all other dangerous objects; also a list showing the composition and system of the army and naval services at Port Arthur; a list of army and navy officers, with their names, rank and duties of said officers, a list of army steamers, warships and other ships, with the numbers of their respective crews, a list of civilians, showing the number of men and women, their race and occupation.

Art. 6. Arms, including those carried on the persons, ammunition, war material, Government buildings, objects owned by the Government, horses, warships and other ships, including their contents, excepting private property, shall be left in their present positions, and the Commissioners of the Russian and Japanese armies shall decide upon the method of their transfer.

Art. 7. The Japanese Army, considering the gallant resistance offered by the Russian Army as being honorable, will permit the officers of the Russian Army and Navy, as well as officials belonging thereto, to carry swords and to take with them private property directly necessary for the maintenance of life. The previously mentioned officers, officials and volunteers who will sign a written parole, pledging that they will not take up arms and in no wise take action contrary to the interests of the Japanese Army until the close of the war, will receive the consent of the Japanese Army to return to their country. Each army and navy officer will be allowed one servant, and such servant will be specially released on signing the parole.

Art. 8. Non-commissioned officers and privates of both army and navy and volunteers shall wear their uniforms, and taking portable tents and necessary private property, and commended by their respective officers, shall assemble at such places as may be indicated by the Japanese Army. The Japanese Commissioners will indicate the necessary details therefor.

Art. 9. The sanitary corps and the accounts belonging to the Russian Army and navy shall be retained by the Japanese while their services are deemed necessary, caring for sick and wounded prisoners. During such time such corps will be required to render service under the direction of the sanitary corps and accountants of the Japanese Army.

Art. 10. The treatment to be accorded to the residents, the transfer of books and documents relating to municipal administration and finance, and also detailed files necessary for the enforcement of this compact shall be embodied in a supplementary compact. The supplementary compact shall have the same force as this compact.

Art. 11. One copy each of this compact shall be prepared for the Japanese and Russian armies, and it shall have immediate effect on signature thereof.

THE FALL OF PORT ARTHUR.

After eleven months of awful fighting between the Japanese and the Russians with the slaughter of untold thousands of human lives, Port Arthur finally surrendered to the victorious Japanese General, Nogi, last Monday. The whole civilized world drew a breath of relief when the announcement of the capitulation was made. Such has been the destruction in progress around that fated city that mankind rejoice that it has come to an end. The Russians were shut up in that fortress last February, with an army of 40,000, with all the munitions of war, and with a great fleet floating in that harbor; but they marched out last Monday with less than 6000 men, their munition of war all consumed, and their whole fleet lying at the bottom of the sea, or disarmed in neutral ports. The small army surrendering is in a pitiable condition. The most of them are wounded and all of them nearly dead from hunger and disease; while the whole population is either moved out, starving or dead. No such human slaughter has been known in the history of modern warfare. The Russians were brave and courageous, and held out till utterly exhausted; while the Japanese fought with the merciless fanaticism, associating itself with the contemplated fear of their homes and native land. They have evinced a bravery and heroism unequalled by any race of people in modern times. Why Gen. Stoessel continued his struggle during the past few months with no hope of rescue, knowing that his doom was sealed, is past finding out. Of course the world will write him down a great hero because he thus braved the inevitable at the cost of the blood and woe of his men, but to those who feel an interest in humanity will ever look upon the scene as one of human butchery that could have been prevented. What effect this event will have upon the progress of the war awaits to be seen.

Fight the good fight of faith.

Notes From the Field.

NORTHWEST TEX. CONFERENCE.

Canyon City.

J. E. Stephens, Dec. 27: We have begun our fourth year with much to encourage us. We have had the largest pouncing of our lives. The first Quarterly Conference; four splendid sermons by our beloved, and reports good; \$50 raised in the salaries, and encouraging signs for a revival. We are planning for the best year of the four.

Hale Center Circuit.

G. F. Fair, Plainview, Dec. 29: Our new presiding elder of our new district has made us a visit, and held the first Quarterly Conference for Hale Center Circuit. All our people who have met and heard Bro. Griswold preach are delighted with him. We think he is the right man for presiding elder for this new large district. We had good Christmas services morning and evening at Hale Center, and took a collection for our Orphans Home and received \$17 in cash and good subscription. We are hopeful for a successful year in this new field. We solicit the prayers of all the brethren and sisters.

Bertram Circuit.

Jas. A. Pledger, Dec. 30: I am now serving Bertram Circuit. Bertram is situated on a branch of the Central Railroad between Austin and Burnet. This is a good little business town with some 15 stores. It is one of the strongest local option towns in the State. We have a small jug (express) business. Our Church is the strongest of the four organized here. My work consists of three preaching places; all of them have good houses. Two of our houses will be repainted in the near future. Money almost in hand to do this work. Bertram Circuit has the honor of having the best parsonage in Llano District. Now Llano, San Saba and Center Point folks may have to be shown. Yes, to be sure the pouncing came on in Methodist style that was in due and ancient form, and still they pound away. Dr. Rankin, the turkey came also. For all these things we are thankful; but, far above all this, our people on the whole seem to be willing to co-operate with us. Bro. Harris, of the Northwest Texas Conference, and Allen, of the West Texas Conference, also others that have precious friends here. Happy New Year to all the brethren.

Munday and Goree.

Ed R. Wallace, Dec. 30: I am returned to this charge to finish my quadrennial term. Some of the members thought I rather unwise to make these two places a charge, but wise or otherwise it is done, and the stewards at least seem well pleased, and I believe the membership will strive to sustain the record of the past. I was sorry indeed to give up my stewards that I had to part with in giving up a part of my charge. First, I had to give up N. A. Steed and J. M. Cassle. Then Thompson, Thorp and others. These men are as true as steel. Bro. Thorp has had an extremely close call (fever), but thank the Lord he is up again, but little Henry is now down. May the Lord keep him to bless the world. When we nominate men for the responsible office of steward we usually seek men who have some business sense and know how to handle men. But we should always have godly men for stewards—men whose lives the Church will not be ashamed of; and such mine are. Our conference collections are as heavy as before the charge was cut down. And the same we expect for the presiding elder. I called the stewards to meet last Tuesday, but it was so cold only four came. We did not fix the salary. We go to pound the Baptist preacher to-night.

Seventh Street, Temple.

A. W. Hall: It was with sad hearts that we packed our household goods and turned our backs upon the good people of Glenrose charge. It was our first charge—our first love. We had gone there, at the call of duty, when the town had just been swept by a cyclone; devastation was upon every hand, sorrow and death in many homes, and our church bereft of her pastor. From the first, our hearts were drawn to the people and during the two and one-half years that we labored among them, their love was deepened and strengthened. No preacher could ask to serve a better people, and we continue to pray that God's richest blessings may rest upon them and their new pastor. We arrived at Seventh St., Temple, in time to preach the first Sunday after Conference, and were greeted in true Methodist style. We had large audiences both morning and night and a very gracious service at each. We are delighted with our reception in this new field of work. Our good ladies of the W. H. M. S. have kindly added

new furniture to the parsonage to the amount of about \$70, and our stewards are making liberal provision for the pastor. The first Quarterly Conference was set for the 18th and 19th of December. Dr. Chapman was with us on Sunday night and preached an excellent sermon. On Monday night the business session of the Quarterly Conference was held and we had scarcely reached our parsonage home when a large crowd of our people entered the doors and "pounded us" in the good old-fashioned way. Dr. Chapman spoke very tenderly of a pastor's life to the people and their pastor prayed as but his trembling lips could pray, that God would help him to minister to them in spiritual things as graciously as they had ministered to us in temporal things. After a short while spent in pleasant conversation, the good people went to their homes and left the pastor and his family happy in heart and strong in the faith that they who walk uprightly shall want no good thing. Our people have captured us, and now we earnestly pray that we may be a true shepherd to them, leading them into green pastures and beside the still waters." We wish the Advocate abundant success for the coming year.

Marfa.

W. Sherlock-Huggett, Dec. 27: For our Sunday school we had an unique entertainment. Instead of a Santa Claus we had a visit from the shepherds and the Wise Men, who distributed the gifts from the tree, after they had seen the representation of Mary and the Babe in the manger. On our arrival home we found that our cottage had been the scene of a great assault and the larder seemed to be spread all over the front porch. A second bombardment in about a month; but we survived the shock, and soon had things all straightened out. The good people of Marfa had followed the example of the people at Fort Davis, and enriched our larder by a handsome donation of provisions. The Junior Epworth League made a nice present of beautifully decorated earthenware. To all of these generous friends we are thankful and highly appreciate their kindness, while our hearts go out in gratitude and thankfulness to our bountiful Father above who put such thoughts into their minds, which find their expression in such a practical manner.

Abbott.

N. M. McLaughlin, Dec. 27: On Nov. 25 we left Morgan for this place. For every kindness shown me and my family during our three years' stay with the people of Morgan and Walnut Springs charge we are profoundly thankful. Our reception here has been such that we are now feeling very much at home. Just after our arrival quite a number of our ladies came to look after our temporal needs and left with us \$21.65 to supply us with such furniture as was mostly needed. In just a short time the ladies of Bell Springs, led by Sisters Howell and Young, raised \$7.25, and said, "This is not all; more will follow." We have been assured that everything necessary to furnish our home and make us comfortable will be forthcoming. One round on the charge has been made, and the indications are that we are serving a good and appreciative people. With faith in God we face the future, and shall invest our entire being for the salvation of souls.

Richland.

Z. L. Howell, January 2: We arrived in the little town of Richland about a month ago; have made one round and half the way the second time. The parsonage is a three-room cottage; we have a nice garden spot and a small orchard. A few days after arriving we received a good pouncing. Almost every family in town was represented. After passing through the dining room and depositing their gifts, they marched to the front room. There were too many to attempt to seat them. A song or two was sung and little Fannie Powell recited a piece entitled "Our New Preacher." After prayer and a few minutes of pleasant conversation the crowd left almost as quietly as they slipped up. The largest half of the crowd were children. "They are the seed corn of the church." I have never seen the day I did not love children, and I hope I may never. Our Quarterly Conference convened the 11th inst. Presiding Elder Barcus preached two able sermons. We are glad to tell you we had the pleasure of sending \$7 to the orphans of Waco as a thank offering from Richland charge. We expect to pray, hope and work for the accomplishment of great things this new year.

Carlton.

J. H. Watts, Dec. 29: We are again settled in Carlton for our fourth year, and have been received by this noble people with a truly Christian hospitality. Some tokens of appreciation began from the day we returned from

conference. They continued until yesterday about noon, when the climax was reached. Just about the time that we were expecting dinner to be announced, there was a rap at the door, the door was opened, and, O! what a crowd of men, women and children in the yard and still coming. They came in and took charge of the parsonage for a time; preacher and wife trying their very best to gather their wits so as to make the best of the occasion. Dinner was soon announced, and a fine one it was; the table was well loaded; we all ate and were filled. I was reminded of the loaves and fishes. It looked like, after we had all eaten and some sent to the poor and sick, that we could hardly miss what was eaten; and groceries were left to last some time, as well as some cash to defray other expenses. When dinner was over, we spent some time socially, had prayers, and the crowd dispersed. With the sympathy and prayers of such good people as these, a preacher may expect to succeed. May God bless these good people and give us great success in our work again this year.

Morgan Mill Mission.

J. M. Owen: Last year was a fairly good year with us, and we start off very well this year. I have had C. L. Ballard at Morgan Mill; he preached a series of strong doctrinal sermons. Some said he read Scripture that they did not know was in the Bible. I think he did much good for the Church. This is a place where there is almost every ism. At Wesley Chapel we are moving forward. The membership has just put a nice organ into the church here. We have some good people and two good local preachers. Bro. Dover is too old to do any active work now, but still stands by the Church with his means and prayers, and his noble wife is a great blessing to the Church. Bro. Logan is a true, good man, a good preacher and a great help to the pastor; in fact, I don't know how I could get on without him much less the Church. He magnifies his office. Sister Logan is a quiet Christian woman, just such a woman as a good preacher needs. At Sylvan, the finest little appointment I ever saw, are the Ferguson family—seven boys and girls—and they all belong to the Church, and are active Christians, and then the Hathaways and the Perkins and Roberts and many others. They are the kind of folks that say we will pay the preacher so much, and pay him more than they promise. I do want this to be a great year on my charge. I want many souls saved. My postoffice is Stephenville, Texas.

Abilene.

E. B. Bynum, Jan. 2: Our pastor, Bro. Daniel L. Collie, recently transferred from El Paso, the New Mexico Conference, is now thoroughly installed, and is entering upon what promises to be the most prosperous year in the history of our Church at Abilene. It is not saying too much when we state that all Abilene is pleased, and the Methodists are delighted with him and his most estimable family. Bro. Collie seems to have the faculty of getting at his congregation in a most happy way, and his family impress everyone quite favorably. He is a good preacher and a faithful pastor. He has inaugurated some plans and methods that work finely and promise excellent results. His daughters are musicians of rare ability, and with their addition to our choir it has improved, and now we believe we have the best music in West Texas. The officials of the Church seem to be aroused to their responsibility, and are in sympathy with the pastor in his forward movements. They are determined to make this a banner year for Abilene. To start with, they raised the salary of the pastor from \$1,400 to \$1,600, and then took upon themselves some \$125 extra for the P. E. and the general collections. We hope to follow this up with strong, concerted action for all the different interests of the Church. Brother Morris, our new presiding elder, is in love and favor with Abilene and the district, and we expect results from him. His delightful family is an addition to our town, and we hope to show them, from time to time, how much we appreciate their presence. Altogether, we have two of the best pastors in the conference, and we bespeak great things for Abilene for the current conference year. In closing this, we give as a special item the collection on the first Sunday in the new year, the Orphanage assessment. This was raised, with a little extra, and it will be forwarded at once, thus helping Brother Vaughan in his work.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.

White Rock.

W. J. Bludworth, Jan. 2: We returned to this station from conference at Bonham. Have had a very cordial reception. The usual pouncing and many tokens of appreciation have found their way to the parson-

age. We have been greeted with good congregations and have started splendidly on the new year. The Sunday-school is interesting, and Leagues are doing splendid work. The Golden Link Society and the Juveniles (both foreign mission societies) are strong and active. A happy New Year.

Ponder and Krum.

Minor Bounds, Jan. 2: We made haste immediately after conference for our new field of labor. We parted with many good friends at Montague, but find as many and as good at Ponder and Krum. Reception royal; pouncing fine. Then that wouldn't do. One of the best and truest women we have (Sister Dale) moved among the good people and soon our parsonage was nicely fixed up. So we have a good work and are trying to do good. Many of my people read the Advocate.

Forney.

R. F. Bryant, Jan. 2: We have started on our second year in this charge. While we were away attending conference the good women took possession of the parsonage, put down new matting, which was very much appreciated. A few days after conference the good people gave us one of the best pouncings we ever had. We have never had a more encouraging beginning in any charge; have received so many kindnesses; have had seven additions to the church since conference; our new presiding elder, Rev. O. S. Thomas, preached for us two good sermons the third Sunday in December; he made a good impression on all. We feel greatly encouraged as we begin the new year.

Mt. Vernon and Pine Forest.

Jno. E. Roach: It was hard to be torn away from so many kind friends on the Campbell Circuit and leave an atmosphere so perfectly congenial. Their manifold acts of kindness to me and their zealous labors with me for the Lord endeared them to my heart. We have been given a very generous reception here. A characteristic pouncing, warm words of welcome, and large, attentive congregations are some of the evidences. Former pastors have wrought well here and endeared themselves to these people. There is a field for usefulness here still, and I am anxious to gather some of the fruits of such efficient labors as have been put forth here. Orphanage assessment paid, parsonage improved, members dismissed and others received by certificate are some of the works already done. Junior League and W. H. M. Society have been active during the holidays to bless the orphanage with toys and clothing, and the Rescue Home with fruit. We expect a good year.

Lake Creek Circuit.

J. W. Blackburn, Dec. 28: One more Sabbath and we will have completed our first round of appointments for Lake Creek Circuit. Our reception has been very cordial indeed. The pouncing that came so soon after our arrival was all that could be desired. Really, it was the most huge affair that ever fell to the lot of this scribe, and it keeps coming. We have been made to feel that our lot this year is again cast among a kind and generous people. On our former charge we left good people and many strong friends, who expressed their regret and disapproval at what they thought was to us an unnecessary move; but they are Methodists, and will receive with open arms and hearts their new pastor. Our Board of Stewards has met and advanced the preacher's salary \$100 over the assessment of last year, and say they will pay it. The parsonage has been overhauled and refurnished. The leading spirits in this worthy enterprise was the Woman's Home Mission Society, organized by our worthy predecessor, Bro. J. N. Hunter. We would record our sincere desire to render unto this people the best year's service of our lives.

Ben Franklin and Pecan Gap.

N. C. Little, Dec. 28: Immediately after conference we packed our goods at the parsonage in Greenville, where we spent three delightful and happy years. We were loth to say good-by to our many friends who had been so unsparing in kindness and gifts to us. Ben Franklin and Pecan Gap have received us graciously. They are enterprising towns on the Santa Fe Railroad. Ben Franklin is eighteen miles from Paris, and is one among the oldest settled communities in this part of the State. At our coming the brethren were on the ground to render every assistance needed. Our goods were soon in the parsonage and unpacked without any cost to us. By the time wife and children arrived a nice supper was in waiting on the table, prepared by some very noble, amiable and happy Christian young ladies. Yes, the pouncing came too on the same evening, and it was complete in kind and quantity. We will live well for many days. Uncle Holley Waller brought

boiled oats and corn for Dick (the pony), enough to do for several days. We have preached three times at each appointment. Married one couple, Mr. A. M. Merrell and Miss Callie Graves. They are among the most popular young people of Pecan Gap. Next came the Christmas tree at the Methodist Church. It was beautifully laden with choice and elegant presents, among which this scribe was remembered—two sacks high patent flour, and something nice for the wardrobe. May God's richest blessing rest upon the donors this year. The footprints of many a weary itinerant are here. My predecessors from first to last are all kindly spoken of, which makes us feel that we are among a kind and appreciative people. They have gone vigorously to work repairing the parsonage and church, and will begin cementing the cistern in the morning. Ben Franklin is to have a new bank opened up about the first of the new year. New stores are going up as well. We have a new school building and a splendid school. Prominent among the old landmarks here are Uncle Billie and Mark Foster, Uncle Enoch Walters and Holley Waller, along with some others. We are very much pleased with our young people at each appointment. They are very kind and courteous to us. We are working and praying that the Lord may give us a gracious year in our Zion on this charge this year. My postoffice for the present is Ben Franklin, Texas.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Alice.

C. W. Perkins, Dec. 12: On the night before Thanksgiving we heard a rumbling sound and looked out the front way from the parsonage, and there was Master Burdette Graham with a number of other boys, with a wagon load of things for this preacher and family. And such a pouncing we have never received during a ministry of fifteen years! When every thing was estimated at the cash price we found that it amounted to \$50, and one man came the next morning and brought \$5 in cash, making \$55 in all. We learned later that this pouncing was of our Home Mission Society, led by Sisters Newberry and Dubose. These are women who never do things by halves. We appreciated these gifts, not because it was an expression of love and good will, as we were told that everyone gave something who was called on outside of church members. We appreciated these gifts because of another greater fact that we are the servants of God, and they gave to us not as individuals, but as representatives of Christ. I believe this prognosticates a glorious revival this coming year, which you may expect to hear from.

Seguin.

F. B. Buchanan, Jan. 2: A warm welcome awaited the pastor and family on their arrival in Seguin. Arriving before daylight, we were met at the depot by Rev. H. G. Horton and escorted to the hospitable home of Dr. and Mrs. S. S. Beakley. After breakfast we came to the parsonage. We found it renovated from top to bottom; new matings and linoleums on the floors, the kitchen newly furnished throughout, and all of the furniture refurnished. The W. H. M. Society had labored for a week to accomplish these results. Mrs. C. E. Tips, a friend of the Church, begged the privilege of furnishing the kitchen, and left nothing undone to make it complete in all of its appointments. This is a pleasant charge. On every hand we hear words of appreciation of former pastors. The members seem to take delight in speaking well one of another. A spirit of harmony and good fellowship pervades the Church. We found the Church well organized—Sunday-school, Epworth League, W. H. M. Society, W. F. M. Society, Young People's Home Mission Society, Mite Box Brigade and Baby Roll. (If there be any others, I have not discovered them.) Our congregations fill the house and we have a good prayer-meeting. Rev. H. G. Horton, a superannuated member of the West Texas Conference, lives in Seguin, and is a blessing to the Church and community. He is a walking encyclopedia of historical facts. He is a great help to the pastor, wise in counsel, safe in judgment, cultured and courteous, sweet-spirited and consecrated. When he met us at the depot and welcomed us to Seguin, I thought of the days of long ago, when this same "H. G. H." in response to the call of duty, went out from the Annual Conference to mount his horse and to plunge into the wilderness. In those days there was no W. H. M. Society to prepare the parsonage for the incoming pastor. No delegation from some well organized Church went out to meet the ambassador of Christ. Circuits in those days were almost as large as some of our present districts. The preacher dodged Indians, swam swoll-



The ease of manner and the appearance of satisfaction which pervade a well dressed woman, arise from a confidence in her own attractiveness. Her toilet is winning because it is becoming—her womanly instinct is responsible for its becomingness—and as her gown has been washed with Ivory Soap it looks new and she is content.

The Home Circle

THE OLD YEAR.

Swaying branches bare in the moonlight clear
Whisper requiem for the dying Old Year;
Each one may hear it, the soul listening well;
Each one listening will feel his heart swell
To the memories waked by the Old Year's knell.

Do the memories waked by this music strange
Over the past Old Year in gladness range?
Vibrate no strings that are touched by regret?

Is there nothing we would wish to forget
Ere the seal on the record book is set?
Jewels of Peace! Have we had them in-
wrought
Ever in love-crowns with gems of sweet
thought?
And with them are garlands of joy en-
twined?
N'er then "the past Old Year" regret
will find.

Whether we joy or grieve, our hearts
shall praise
Our Father in heaven, who lengthened
our days
Over the past let us linger no more,
"Doing" our watchword—giving of Love's
store—
Laying up treasure by thought and by
deed
And tenderly soothing the hearts that
bleed,
Now with resolves like these the whis-
pering air
Doth tune to buoyant home the branches
bare.

(MRS.) E. J. GURLEY.

KEEPING GRANDMOTHER MARK-
HAM COMPANY.

Grandma Markham was lonely: that was the beginning of it. She wrote a letter to mamma, and mamma began to read it aloud.

"Dear children and grandchildren," that is the way she begins. "I am as well as usual." She never was ill in her life, really ill, so she could not see to her house. She told me so herself when she was here last winter. "John is as well as usual"—he's her hired man—"Eliza is as well as usual"—she's her hired woman. "Dr. Thompson is laid up with a sprained ankle"—he is grandma's doctor. "Minister Parish worked too hard during his vacation, and now he is able to do only his necessary duties. So I have no calls from either. I miss them much, I am very lonely. I"—

Mamma stopped reading aloud, and,

after reading a moment to herself, looked at us. Then she thought a little.

What could grandmother have written? Perhaps she had sent for mamma to make her a visit, and she was thinking whether it would do to leave us to keep house. I should think so, indeed; four of us!

"Grandma wants me to send one of my girls to keep her company this winter."

"Oh-h-h!" You see it was this way: Grandma lived in a big house out in the country. It was a delightful place in summer, but the dreariest place in winter.

"She is an old lady, and she is lonely; she needs some one to cheer her up," said mamma, looking at each of us to see who would offer to go.

"I couldn't leave my studies," said Marian. "Mamma wouldn't allow me to, would you, mamma?"

"I should not permit the studies to stand in the way, if you were willing to go," said mamma.

"Send Carry," said Marian, "she can go as well as not; and she would do better than I at the cheering-up business."

"Oh, I couldn't go, possibly," said Carry, quickly. "I have a class in the Sunday school, and my name is down for half a dozen different things in the Young People's Society. And besides all that, mamma could not spare me, could you, mamma?"

"Yes, I could manage somehow to do without you for grandma's sake," said mamma with a smile.

"Oh, mamma send Blanche," begged Carry; "she has no school and no church affairs to keep her at home, and she never touches the housework, so you would not miss her."

"Indeed!" said Blanche, giving her head a little toss, "what will you and the others do for gowns and hats, Miss Carry, if I desert you? And then I am in the midst of my painting lessons. It would be a waste of money and time and labor to stop now and get out of practice and forget all I have learned. You could not get along without your darning and patcher, your dressmaker and milliner, could you, mamma?"

"I think I would for three or four months," said mamma gently.

Then mamma looked at me and I knew she wished me to go.

"I will go and keep grandma com-

pany if you think I will do," I said; and I was frightened at the very thought of it as soon as I began to speak.

Marian and Carry and Blanche looked at each other queerly, and then at me. They did not want me to go, yet they could not make up their minds to go in my stead.

It was settled next day that I should go. I did not wait to get there to be homesick; I was homesick before I started. But I did not mean any one should know it.

If grandma had been a jolly kind of a grandma it would not have been so bad; but she was so stately and dignified! Her skirts stood out and took up a good deal of room, and rustled when she walked. She never said things for fun, and never smiled when other folks did.

Grandma met me at the platform. I was trying so hard not to cry; but I looked at her and gave her a smile. Trying to smile made it worse, somehow, and I wished I hadn't. But when she smiled back at me, such a kind smile, I couldn't hold out any longer, and I put my hands over my face and cried.

You see, I was not expecting that smile; I never saw her smile like that before. How I did feel to be crying before grandma, the very first thing, too! Thinking of this made me cry all the harder.

"Why, my dear!" said grandma—"why, my dear! did you not wish to come?"

"Oh, yes," I said; it's pretty hard work talking when you are crying. "I wanted to come; I am glad to have come. Please don't think I am crying because I have come."

I thought she looked displeased, and that she was wishing one of the older girls had come. I made up my mind I would not behave like a baby any more. I would try to act as old as my sisters and be just as good company as I possibly could.

We did not go into the dining room to eat supper. Grandma had a little table set right beside the fire, and it was so cozy. But, after supper, grandma sat and looked into the fire, just as if she had forgotten I was there. I heard the hall clock going tick-tick so solemn, and black shadows danced up and down the walls.

Grandma had had the lights carried out, because she wished to sit in the firelight a while.

"How do you get along with your music lessons?" asked grandma, just as I was wondering if she had gone to sleep, and thinking how terrible it would be to have an evening like this every day.

"This is my third year," I told her, "and I love it, grandma; I just love my music."

"There is no piano here," said she. "No," I said, "because you were so kind as to let mamma take it for us to practice on."

We talked music all the evening. I did not know grandma could be so interesting.

When I had been with grandma a week she asked me if I thought I could stay with her all winter. I told her I thought I could, and asked her if she thought I would do. "You are a dear little companion," she said.

I had tried to be grown up like my sisters, and had not cried, except after I had gone to bed.

"But," said grandma, "I do not like to see you so quiet. Young folks should be gay and happy."

"I thought"—I began, and then stopped.

"Oh!" said grandma, smiling a very bright smile, "you thought I wanted a little old woman for a companion." Then she laughed, and I began to think she might be a jolly grandma, after all.

The next week she began to invite the young people in the village to visit me, and sent her carriage for them; and just after Christmas she asked me how I would like to have a New Year's party. Now, wasn't that good of her? I was afraid it would be too noisy for her.

"Be as merry as you can," she said; "it will do me good."

I shall remember that New Year's Day as long as I live. It was sleighing and the brightest and sunniest winter day. We began it with a sleigh ride. Twelve boys and girls were invited. Some of us went in grandma's sleigh, and the rest in a big pung filled with straw. Coming home we changed about.

In the evening, just before it was time to go home, grandma said: "I am going to give Millicent something to begin the new year with, and I think you would like to see it."

She unlocked the music room door and pushed it open. The room was lighted with colored candles and decorated with grandma's ferns and begonias; and there, right before my eyes, was a splendid upright piano.

I gave a little scream, and ran right to it and began to play. I was just starved for my music.

How I played! It seemed as if I never wanted to stop. But all at once I remembered the party, and whirled

around on the music stool. They were looking so surprised and delighted. They began to cheer and clap their hands.

As I caught a glimpse of grandma standing behind them I wondered she had not allowed me in the music-room before. Then I remembered she had told me there was no piano there. I was too bewildered to do any more thinking, and we had some singing before the party went home.

Just as they were going out of the room I remembered grandma was going to give me something. I felt very much ashamed at having been so taken up with the music as to forget it. I ran up to her and asked as quick as I could.

How they all laughed. "Is it this good time?" I asked, puzzled.

"It is this good piano," said grandma.

"Why, you blessed Grandma Markham!" I said, and hugged her round the neck and cried.

I never knew a lonely minute after that, and that winter, instead of being the dreariest of my life, was one of the brightest.

But I have not told the whole story yet. Grandma sent me to the city to the Conservatory of Music twice a week, to take lessons. I was the happiest girl in the land.

When I went home in the spring, to stay until we all went to grandma's for the summer, each of my sisters said to me, "I wish I had gone."—Exchange.

DELLA'S LONG, DREARY DAY.

"Such a long, dreary day," said Della, putting away her book in despair. "It's too dark to read even close to the window, and I'm tired of everything else. What can I do, mamma?" and the little girl looked very doleful indeed.

"I should think Dolly would like to get up," said Mrs. Doane, pleasantly. "I think this is the third day since she was dressed and played with."

"I want something new," pouted Della. "Isn't no fun playing with dolls alone, anyway. I wish Helen would come over."

"In this rain? Where is the picture book you were making for auntie to take to the hospital when she goes home? You might finish that to-day."

"It's too dark to cut out pictures," said Della. "I think it is a mean shame it had to rain to-day and spoil everything."

The baby cried just then, so mamma had to leave the room, and after a few minutes Della went out to the kitchen to watch Nora as she bustled about the big range.

"Don't you hate rainy days Nora?" she asked.

"No, indeed," said the girl, promptly. "On rainy days your papa never comes home to dinner and I have the whole long afternoon to sew for Maggie. I don't mean I'm glad your papa can't come home, but when he doesn't, we have a lunch at noon you know, and your mamma always tell me to do as I please after that."

"Who is Maggie?" inquired Della.

"My little sister. She's the nicest little girl you ever saw, and she hasn't got any mamma like you have. Aunt Mary keeps her, but I make all her clothes, and it's coming time now for her to go to Sabbath school so she'll have to have more things. I love rainy days, for they give me time for Maggie. There in the old basket is a dress I'm making for her. You can look at it, if you want to, but I can't take my hands out of this bread."

Della looked at the dotted calico in the basket and then thought of the dear little white frocks her baby sister wore. Only a few minutes before she came to the kitchen little Grace had soiled her pretty dress and mamma had put on a clean one. "I don't believe Grace has a single calico dress," thought Della, and then she said aloud: "I guess it keeps you busy, Nora, if your sister is as bad about getting her dresses dirty as Grace."

"Maggie has to wear dark dresses for every day," explained Nora. "This is her best dress I'm making."

Della soon went soberly into the sitting room to tell mamma that there was a little girl not very far from their house who had not a single white dress, but who would be delighted with the dotted calico when Nora had time to finish it. "I'm glad Grace doesn't have to wear dark calico dresses," she said earnestly.

"Wouldn't that be just dreadful? If I hadn't spent all my money for papa's birthday present, I'd buy that poor little girl a dress."

"My dear little girl, there are lots of children who must wear rags all the time and have not even a calico frock for best. You may take that pretty white dress you outgrew last summer for a dress for little Maggie, if you will make it yourself. The goods is fine and new, and there is enough embroidery to trim it nicely."

"Do you think I could do that?" asked Della, with shining eyes. I'd

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be glad to be able to take it out and surprise Nora.

"Of course you can," said Aunt Belle, coming in in time to hear the conversation. "I'll cut it out right away. I know Maggie, and a sweet little girl she is, too. Run, dear, for the shears and dress."

Aunt Belle cut and basted and helped, and at lunch she and Della could hardly eat a bite they were so excited. They hurried back to the sitting-room, and their needles fairly flew through the pretty white goods. Della was just sewing some lace on the dainty underwaist when the door flew open and Bessie Ford came in all out of breath.

"What is the matter, Della?" she asked. "You said as soon as the sun shone you would be down to see me, and here it's been bright and pretty for two whole hours. What in the world are you doing?"

Della explained, and soon Bessie was working away with a needle, too. The little dress was soon finished, and a beautiful thing it was with its dainty ruffles and tucks. Aunt Belle did the hardest parts, but Della and Bessie helped till it was done, and then they carried it to the kitchen where Nora was just folding away her work to get supper.

"Did you get Maggie's dress finished?" asked Della. "Not quite," said Nora, with a little sigh. "My bread took more time than I thought, so I didn't have long to sew. Poor Maggie will be disappointed at not getting to Sabbath school next Sabbath, but I won't have any more time this week."

"How will this do for her?" and Della held up the pretty white dress. "Aunt Belle and Bess and I made it for her, and we hope she'll wear it to Sabbath school next Sabbath."

"What do you think Nora did, mamma?" said Della, when they were back in the sitting-room. "She kissed us both and then sat down and cried. Wasn't that odd? I don't know whether she liked it very well or not, for I never cry when I'm happy."

"I think Nora cried because she was happy though," said mamma. "She will enjoy seeing little Maggie in the new dress, but she could not express her happiness in any other way. And now where has the long, dreary day gone?"

"It was a beautiful day," cried Della. "Every rainy day I'm going to try to make some one happy and see if they are all as nice as this one."

"And so am I," said Bessie.—Hilda Richmond, in United Presbyterian.

To God above,
Whose name is love,
Our grateful songs we raise,
And lowly bow
Before him now
In humble prayer and praise

"All through this day,
In work or play,
Lord, lead us in thy way!
And may its close
Bring sweet repose,
With dreams of heavenly day!"
—Selected.

WEDDING INVITATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
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A cozy sitting-room, with morning sunlight streaming in, illuminating the plants in the bay-window, and inspiring the canary to fresh outbursts of melody. In a swinging cradle, a baby sleeping. Near the bay-window, a white-haired grandmother, slowly rocking, as her fingers fashion a dainty stocking for a dimpled, restless foot. In the center of the room, at a table filled with work, a young mother busy with her needle, while a golden-haired boy of three or four years hung on her lap by his elbows, and pleaded, "Read me just one story, mamma, please. You sews so much!"

"But I have to sew so much, Bertie, dear. Don't you want a nice new apron to keep your pretty suit clean? See how fine mamma makes it look," and she held up a little pocket half embroidered in a neat pattern of cross-stitch in white on a dark blue check.

"Now go out and play, Bertie, like a good boy, so I can get the collar and pockets embroidered ready for stitching before baby sister wakes up."

"Den let me kiss you first, mamma," said the boy with a downcast face.

A half-reluctant, indifferent cheek was turned to meet the rosy lips, as the mother's fingers flew in their fascinating task; and the baby exile, banished from his paradise of mother's presence, went out to amuse himself as only a lone child can, with playthings instead of a living, loving companionship.

Grandma sat quiet—she was always very quiet—but after a time she spoke gently.

"Mary, could you take the time to read again for me the letter from Robbie that came last evening?"

"Yes, certainly, mother, as soon as I fasten this thread."

Reaching into the crowded work-basket, Mary drew out a thick letter, addressed to herself, in a round, school-boy hand.

Her cheeks were pink with pleased interest at grandma's request, for Robin, her eldest born, now for the first time away at school was the delight of her heart. In the letter were these words:

"We are reading 'The Tempest' now in our English Literature class, and some of our boys can't understand it, and say it is very hard, but it all seems easy to me because, don't you remember how you read it all over to me last winter when I was getting well, and how I learned the parts I liked the best? And now I know what is coming next all the while. But it made me just a bit homesick at first, little mother, because I could see so plain just as you sat in that low rocker with the blue bows, in front of the bookcase, and I could almost hear your voice as you read it. The girls in our class couldn't read it so as to give the meaning at all."

The mother's voice sank into something very like a sob, but not of pain—oh, no!—as she read how she had, unconsciously, formed a standard of good taste and correct elocution for her boy. Grandma spoke.

"That is enough, Mary, my dear. I don't often preach to you, do I, daughter? But Robin has given me such a good text, and little Bertie has furnished such a perfect commentary upon it, that I must call your attention to both. That is very neat work you are doing, Mary. Now, can't you—you are so skillful—can't you do two kinds of embroidery at once?"

"I am not sure I understand you, mother. I was ready to be preached at, and you speak of my work," and she rapidly continued the pattern.

"My preachment concerns your work, daughter," said grandma. "I

New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc.

Our readers will be glad to know that the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, has proved a certain cure for all diseases caused by uric acid in the blood, or by disordered action of the kidneys or urinary organs. It is a wonderful discovery, with a record of 1200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly upon the blood and kidneys, and is a true specific, just as quinine is in malaria.

Among the many testimonials received is one from the Rev. W. B. Moore, D. D., of Washington, testifies in the New York Christian Witness that Alkavis completely cured him of Rheumatism and Kidney and Bladder disease of many years' standing. Many ladies also testify to its curative powers in disorders peculiar to womanhood.

So far the Church Kidney Cure Company, New York, are the only importers of this new remedy, and they are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free sample of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of Texas Christian Advocate who is a sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Diabetes, Pain in Back, difficult or too frequent passing water, or other affliction due to improper action of the kidneys or urinary organs. We advise all sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis entirely free. Address Church Kidney Cure Co., No. 404 Fourth Avenue, New York.

know your beauty-loving soul delights in this embroidery, but there is a better fancy work ready to your hand. Can not you, as your needle works the cross-stitch on the strong cloth that will outlast a year of playing, at the same time do that 'broiderly work of the mind and the heart that will outlast the ages, and give little Bertie such memories as Robin writes of—such culture of heart and head?"

"O mother! I just gave my whole time to Robbie. I was so grateful that he lived through scarlet fever and had his sight and hearing. I did everything I could to amuse him. It is like the dear boy to remember it all, he is so affectionate!"

"I know, Mary, that your children are all alike to your heart; but in your hurry of work you forget that they can never be babies but one short while, and that they need mother's presence, mother's love, mother's 'broiderly work on memory heart and conscience, more than they need pretty garments. What does lonely little Bertie care whether his play-blouse is plain or trimmed? He wants to be with mother. You will only have him as he is now for so short a time. You can be his center of love and light for only a few years at most. Shine, then, on your opening flower, and think sometimes of the lines,

"And now, alas! it seems so strange to me

That when I bore the crown of motherhood,

I did not kiss more oft and tenderly

The little child that brought me only good."

"See, Mary, baby is fluttering her little hands, the sweet bird! I will feed her for you. Do you call Bertie in—I hear his little feet in the hall—and try, my daughter, and see if you can not do two kinds of embroidery at once; and, if one kind must be given up, let it be the white cross-stitch on the blue check that you lay aside."

Mary called the little exile in, fitted his new collar, gave him some extra kisses, and seated him in his own red rocking chair at her side, with a book upon his lap, while she began, with a quickened heart-beat, to do two kinds of 'broiderly work at once.

When grandma came back with baby,

there was a flushed audience of one, asking eager questions, as mamma told about the little coat that Hannah made each year, and carried to the Temple to the little Samuel. She told all the beautiful and touching story, even to its sad closing words, "It is the Lord, let him do what seemeth good in his sight." Little Bertie, with a child's aptitude for the spiritual truth, grasped at once the meaning of godly resignation. And many were his questions.

"Did you be thankful for me, mamma?"

"Yes, dear," Mary's eyes filled as she remembered the utter bliss of that moment when first the warm little body was laid in her arms and her lips touched the rose-soft velvet cheek. Impulsively she bent and kissed the boy.

"And did you give me to the Lord, too, like Hannah?"

"Yes, dear," said Mary, "only you did not go to live in the church like Samuel."

Then followed a vivid account of his father's and mother's longings that their little boy might become a child of God, and of the many promises they had made to teach him to love and serve Christ; and Mary showed him his name and birthday written in the family Bible, with the prayer that it might be written in God's book of life.

"And will God call me, as he did Samuel, mamma?"

"Yes, Bertie, you will hear the voice of God, though you may not know it any more than little Samuel did, at the time he is speaking to you."

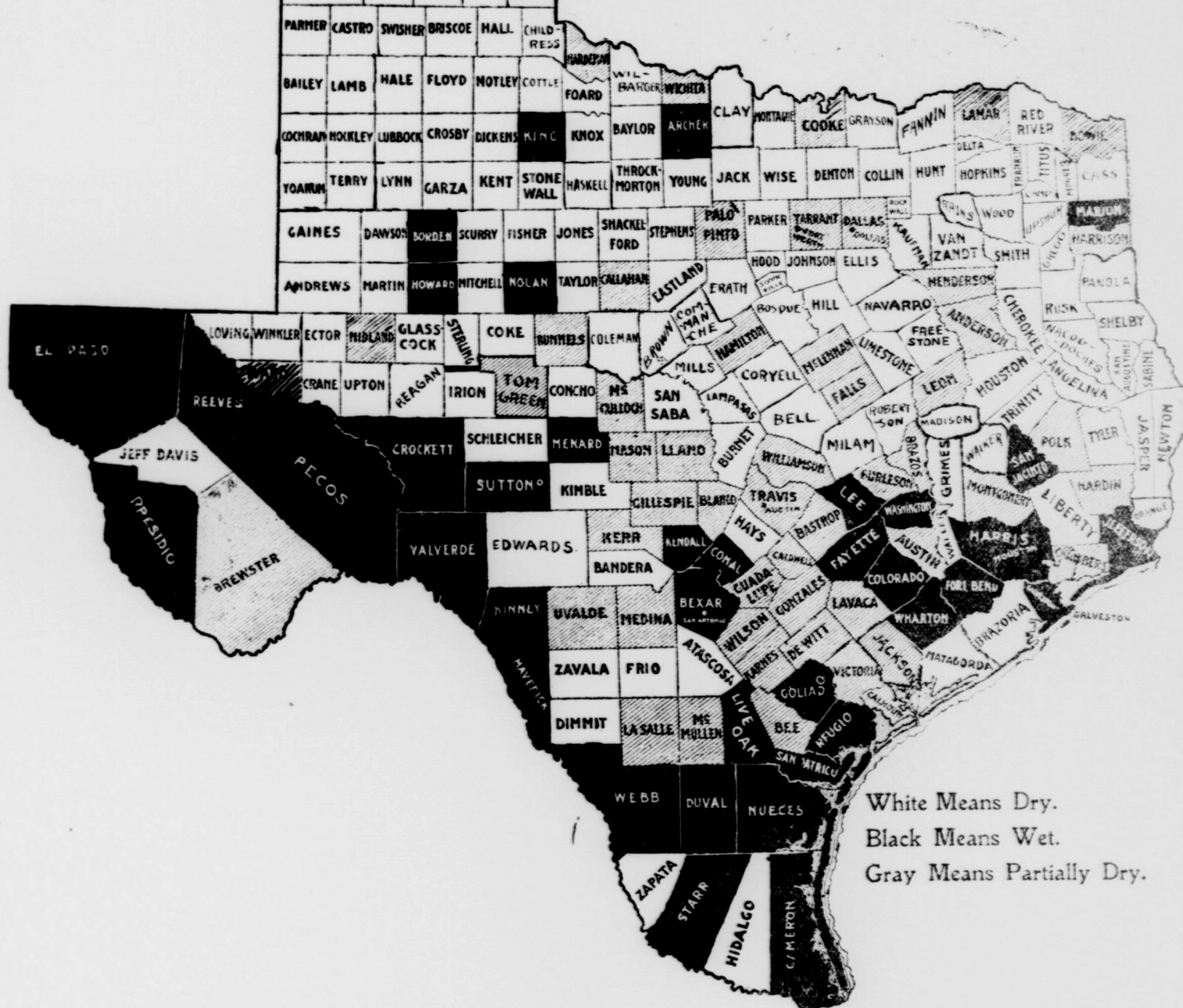
"Oh, I'll listen!" said the boy, dimpling with delight. Suddenly sobering, he asked, "Will God punish you and papa, if your boys are bad, as he did poor old Eli?"

"Yes, Bertie. It is the worst sorrow people can feel when their children are naughty. God made us so, because we love our boys so much we want them to be good."

"Oh, I'm going to be good now, mamma! I didn't know I was God's little boy and you'd promised God about me."

Bertie leaned back in his rocking-chair, and sat a long time absorbed in new and delightful meditation. In one little hour, the apron had been made ready for the machine work, and Ber-

LOCAL OPTION MAP OF TEXAS Showing the "Dry" and the "Wet" Territory.



White Means Dry. Black Means Wet. Gray Means Partially Dry.

tie had learned, first, that his mother rejoiced over him as a gift from God. Then he was not a bother, as he had sometimes feared when he seemed so much in the way of the work. Second, that he had been solemnly given to God. A new dignity, value and sacredness invested his life and personality, which he felt, but could not utter. Third, that his parents had promised that he should be good. Fourth, that his mother's sewing was a ministry of love, like that of the woman in the Bible. He would never feel jealous of her work again, when he wanted her. Fifth, that God would speak to him. Sixth, that if he was not good, his mother's heart would feel such pangs as Eli's punishment. Seventh, he learned the meaning of submission to God's just chastisements.

Some time after this a saintly woman who taught in Sunday-school said to grandma, "What a wonderful child your daughter's little Bertie is! He has a real religious experience. And such a memory! I called on some one in the infant class to tell some fact about Samuel, and hardly expected an answer from such wee-ones, and his little hand was waving at once, and he sprang to his feet at my nod, and gave the whole story of Samuel. I was greatly surprised. The foundation is laid for a grand Christian manhood—and he is not yet five years old."

"What a good boy Bertie grows to be!" said his father. "I am not with him constantly as you are, Mary, and I see a great change. A word from you, or even a look, checks him in any naughtiness, and he grows so generous and manly! He always was very affectionate."

The mother smiled a smile of deep heart comfort. Only the Father above knew the secret of her boy's obedience. No one missed the mother and child during the sacred moments spent in prayer together. He was a healthy boy, full of mischief, but with a loving heart, and she was a busy mother, often fretted by overwork and nervous tempers. But such tears as were shed never stained the work being wrought on mother and boy day by day.

Nor was her embroidery work all done by means of Bible stories, though these remained favorites. Years later, in a college class-room, a random

mention of the geese whose strident voices saved Rome, of the emblematic thistles of Scotland, or of the lilies of France, would call before the student's eyes a picture of his gentle mother, seated with her embroidery work, while he, a loving boy, sat by her side, and his mind was richly embellished with the facts that those about him were laboriously learning for the first time.

And what of the woman who so readily learned to do two kinds of embroidery at once. A deeper, holier love for her own children enlarged her heart to help to "mother" the homesick world outside. Her life was so full of sunshine and vigor as in her school days; her stated private prayers, in the company of childhood, and her study of the sacred word, made her spiritual life a daily glory and joy.

And grandma said again, "It is the 'broiderly work.'"—Mrs. McVean Adams, American Tract Society.

Happiness is the proper goal of human effort, and health is indispensable to it—take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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Spanking does not cure children of urine difficulties. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 187, Notre Dame, Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The chances are it can't help it.

Faith is a telescope; the vision comes from looking through it, not at it.—Ram's Horn.

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The Home Circle

THE OLD YEAR.

Swaying branches bare in the moonlight clear
Whisper requiem for the dying Old Year;
Each one may hear it, the soul listening well;
Each one listening will feel his heart swell
To the memories waked by the Old Year's knell.

Do the memories waked by this music strange
Over the past Old Year in gladness range?
Vibrate no strings that are touched by regret?
Is there nothing we would wish to forget
Ere the seal on the record book is set?

Jewels of Peace! Have we had them in-wrought
Ever in love-crowns with gems of sweet thought?
And with them are garlands of joy entwined?
Ne'er then "the past Old Year" regret will find.

Whether we joy or grieve, our hearts shall praise
Our Father in heaven, who lengthened our days,
Over the past let us linger no more,
"Doing" our watchword—giving of Love's store—
Laying up treasure by thought and by deed
And tenderly soothing the hearts that bleed.
Now with resolves like these the whispering air
Doth tune to buoyant home the branches bare.

(MRS.) E. J. GURLEY.

KEEPING GRANDMOTHER MARKHAM COMPANY.

Grandma Markham was lonely; that was the beginning of it. She wrote a letter to mamma, and mamma began to read it aloud.

"Dear children and grandchildren," that is the way she begins. "I am as well as usual." She never was ill in her life, really ill, so she could not see to her house. She told me so herself when she was here last winter. "John is as well as usual"—he's her hired man—"Eliza is as well as usual"—she's her hired woman. "Dr. Thompson is laid up with a sprained ankle"—he is grandma's doctor. "Minister Parish worked too hard during his vacation, and now he is able to do only his necessary duties. So I have no calls from either. I miss them much. I am very lonely. I"—

Mamma stopped reading aloud, and,

after reading a moment to herself, looked at us. Then she thought a little.

What could grandmother have written? Perhaps she had sent for mamma to make her a visit, and she was thinking whether it would do to leave us to keep house. I should think so, indeed; four of us!

"Grandma wants me to send one of my girls to keep her company this winter."

"Oh-h-h!" You see it was this way: Grandma lived in a big house out in the country. It was a delightful place in summer, but the dreariest place in winter.

"She is an old lady, and she is lonely; she needs some one to cheer her up," said mamma, looking at each of us to see who would offer to go.

"I couldn't leave my studies," said Marian. "Mamma wouldn't allow me to, would you, mamma?"

"I should not permit the studies to stand in the way, if you were willing to go," said mamma.

"Send Carry," said Marian, "she can go as well as not; and she would do better than I at the cheering-up business."

"Oh, I couldn't go, possibly," said Carry, quickly. "I have a class in the Sunday school, and my name is down for half a dozen different things in the Young People's Society. And besides all that, mamma could not spare me, could you, mamma?"

"Yes, I could manage somehow to do without you for grandma's sake," said mamma with a smile.

"Oh, mamma send Blanche," begged Carry; "she has no school and no church affairs to keep her at home, and she never touches the housework, so you would not miss her."

"Indeed!" said Blanche, giving her head a little toss, "what will you and the others do for gowns and hats, Miss Carry, if I desert you? And then I am in the midst of my painting lessons. It would be a waste of money and time and labor to stop now and get out of practice and forget all I have learned. You could not get along without your darning and patcher, your dressmaker and milliner, could you, mamma?"

"I think I would for three or four months," said mamma gently.

Then mamma looked at me and I knew she wished me to go.

"I will go and keep grandma com-

pany if you think I will do," I said; and I was frightened at the very thought of it as soon as I began to speak.

Marian and Carry and Blanche looked at each other queerly, and then at me. They did not want me to go, yet they could not make up their minds to go in my stead.

It was settled next day that I should go. I did not wait to get there to be homesick; I was homesick before I started. But I did not mean any one should know it.

If grandma had been a jolly kind of a grandma it would not have been so bad; but she was so stately and dignified! Her skirts stood out and took up a good deal of room, and rustled when she walked. She never said things for fun, and never smiled when other folks did.

Grandma met me at the platform. I was trying so hard not to cry; but I looked at her and gave her a smile. Trying to smile made it worse, somehow, and I wished I hadn't. But when she smiled back at me, such a kind smile, I couldn't hold out any longer, and I put my hands over my face and cried.

You see, I was not expecting that smile; I never saw her smile like that before. How I did feel to be crying before grandma, the very first thing, too! Thinking of this made me cry all the harder.

"Why, my dear!" said grandma—"why, my dear! did you not wish to come?"

"Oh, yes," I said; it's pretty hard work talking when you are crying. "I wanted to come; I am glad to have come. Please don't think I am crying because I have come."

I thought she looked displeased, and that she was wishing one of the older girls had come. I made up my mind I would not behave like a baby any more. I would try to act as old as my sisters and be just as good company as I possibly could.

We did not go into the dining room to eat supper. Grandma had a little table set right beside the fire, and it was so cozy. But, after supper, grandma sat and looked into the fire, just as if she had forgotten I was there. I heard the hall clock going tick-tick so solemn, and black shadows danced up and down the walls.

Grandma had had the lights carried out, because she wished to sit in the firelight a while.

"How do you get along with your music lessons?" asked grandma, just as I was wondering if she had gone to sleep, and thinking how terrible it would be to have an evening like this every day.

"This is my third year," I told her, "and I love it, grandma; I just love my music."

"There is no piano here," said she. "No," I said, "because you were so kind as to let mamma take it for us to practice on."

We talked music all the evening. I did not know grandma could be so interesting.

When I had been with grandma a week she asked me if I thought I could stay with her all winter. I told her I thought I could, and asked her if she thought I would do. "You are a dear little companion," she said.

I had tried to be grown up like my sisters, and had not cried, except after I had gone to bed.

"But," said grandma, "I do not like to see you so quiet. Young folks should be gay and happy."

"I thought"—I began, and then stopped.

"Oh!" said grandma, smiling a very bright smile, "you thought I wanted a little old woman for a companion." Then she laughed, and I began to think she might be a jolly grandma, after all.

The next week she began to invite the young people in the village to visit me, and sent her carriage for them; and just after Christmas she asked me how I would like to have a New Year's party. Now, wasn't that good of her? I was afraid it would be too noisy for her.

"Be as merry as you can," she said; "it will do me good."

I shall remember that New Year's Day as long as I live. It was sleighing, and the brightest and sunniest winter day. We began it with a sleigh ride. Twelve boys and girls were invited. Some of us went in grandma's sleigh, and the rest in a big pung filled with straw. Coming home we changed about.

In the evening, just before it was time to go home, grandma said: "I am going to give Millicent something to begin the new year with, and I think you would like to see it."

She unlocked the music room door and pushed it open. The room was lighted with colored candles and decorated with grandma's ferns and begonias; and there, right before my eyes, was a splendid upright piano.

I gave a little scream, and ran right to it and began to play. I was just starved for my music.

How I played! It seemed as if I never wanted to stop. But all at once I remembered the party, and whirled

around on the music stool. They were looking so surprised and delighted. They began to cheer and clap their hands.

As I caught a glimpse of grandma standing behind them I wondered she had not allowed me in the music-room before. Then I remembered she had told me there was no piano there. I was too bewildered to do any more thinking, and we had some singing before the party went home.

Just as they were going out of the room I remembered grandma was going to give me something. I felt very much ashamed at having been so taken up with the music as to forget it. I ran up to her and asked as quick as I could.

How they all laughed. "Is it this good time?" I asked, puzzled.

"It is this good piano," said grandma.

"Why, you blessed Grandma Markham!" I said, and hugged her round the neck and cried.

I never knew a lonely minute after that, and that winter, instead of being the dreariest of my life, was one of the brightest.

But I have not told the whole story yet. Grandma sent me to the city to the Conservatory of Music twice a week, to take lessons. I was the happiest girl in the land.

When I went home in the spring, to stay until we all went to grandma's for the summer, each of my sisters said to me, "I wish I had gone."—Exchange.

DELLA'S LONG, DREARY DAY.

"Such a long, dreary day," said Della, putting away her book in despair. "It's too dark to read even close to the window, and I'm tired of everything else. What can I do, mamma?" and the little girl looked very doleful indeed.

"I should think Della would like to get up," said Mrs. Doane, pleasantly. "I think this is the third day since she was dressed and played with."

"I want something new," pouted Della. "Isn't no fun playing with dolls alone, anyway. I wish Helen would come over."

"In this rain? Where is the picture book you were making for auntie to take to the hospital when she goes home? You might finish that to-day."

"It's too dark to cut out pictures," said Della. "I think it is a mean shame it had to rain to-day and spoil everything."

The baby cried just then, so mamma had to leave the room, and after a few minutes Della went out to the kitchen to watch Nora as she bustled about the big range.

"Don't you hate rainy days Nora?" she asked.

"No, indeed," said the girl, promptly. "On rainy days your papa never comes home to dinner and I have the whole long afternoon to sew for Maggie. I don't mean I'm glad your papa can't come home, but when he doesn't, we have a lunch at noon you know, and your mamma always tell me to do as I please after that."

"Who is Maggie?" inquired Della.

"My little sister. She's the nicest little girl you ever saw, and she hasn't got any mamma like you have, Aunt Mary keeps her, but I make all her clothes, and it's coming time now for her to go to Sabbath school so she'll have to have more things. I love to have more things. I love to have more things, for they give me time for Maggie. There in the old basket is a dress I'm making for her. You can look at it, if you want to, but I can't take my hands out of this bread."

Della looked at the dotted calico in the basket and then thought of the dear little white frocks her baby sister wore. Only a few minutes before she came to the kitchen little Grace had soiled her pretty dress and mamma had put on a clean one. "I don't believe Grace has a single calico dress," thought Della, and then she said aloud: "I guess it keeps you busy, Nora, if your sister is as bad about getting her dresses dirty as Grace."

"Maggie has to wear dark dresses for every day," explained Nora. "This is her best dress I'm making."

Della soon went soberly into the sitting room to tell mamma that there was a little girl not very far from their house who had not a single white dress, but who would be delighted with the dotted calico when Nora had time to finish it. "I'm glad Grace doesn't have to wear dark calico dresses," she said earnestly. "Wouldn't that be just dreadful? If I hadn't spent all my money for papa's birthday present, I'd buy that poor little girl a dress."

"My dear little girl, there are lots of children who must wear rags all the time and have not even a calico frock for best. You may take that pretty white dress you outgrew last summer for a dress for little Maggie, if you will make it yourself. The goods is fine and new, and there is enough embroidery to trim it nicely."

"Do you think I could do that?" asked Della, with shining eyes. I'd

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be glad to be able to take it out and surprise Nora.

"Of course you can," said Aunt Belle, coming in in time to hear the conversation. "I'll cut it out right away. I know Maggie, and a sweet little girl she is, too. Run, dear, for the shears and dress."

Aunt Belle cut and basted and helped, and at lunch she and Della could hardly eat a bite they were so excited. They hurried back to the sitting-room, and their needles fairly flew through the pretty white goods. Della was just sewing some lace on the dainty underwaist when the door flew open and Bessie Ford came in all out of breath.

"What is the matter, Della?" she asked. "You said as soon as the sun shone you would be down to see me, and here it's been bright and pretty for two whole hours. What in the world are you doing?"

Della explained, and soon Bessie was working away with a needle, too. The little dress was soon finished, and a beautiful thing it was with its dainty ruffles and tucks. Aunt Belle did the hardest parts, but Della and Bessie helped till it was done, and then they carried it to the kitchen where Nora was just folding away her work to get supper.

"Did you get Maggie's dress finished?" asked Della. "Not quite," said Nora, with a little sigh. "My bread took more time than I thought, so I didn't have long to sew. Poor Maggie will be disappointed at not getting to start to Sabbath school next Sabbath, but I won't have any more time this week."

"How will this do for her?" and Della held up the pretty white dress. "Aunt Belle and Bess and I made it for her, and we hope she'll wear it to Sabbath-school next Sabbath."

"What do you think Nora did, mamma?" said Della, when they were back in the sitting-room. "She kissed us both and then sat down and cried. Wasn't that odd? I don't know whether she liked it very well or not, for I never cry when I'm happy."

"I think Nora cried because she was happy though," said mamma. "She will enjoy seeing little Maggie in the new dress, but she could not express her happiness in any other way. And now where has the long, dreary day gone?"

"It was a beautiful day," cried Della. "Every rainy day I'm going to try to make some one happy and see if they are all as nice as this one."

"And so am I," said Bessie.—Hilda Richmond, in United Presbyterian.

To God above,
Whose name is love,
Our grateful songs we raise,
And lowly bow
Before him now
In humble prayer and praise

All through this day,
In work or play,
Lord, lead us in thy way!
And may its close
Bring sweet repose,
With dreams of heavenly day!"
—Selected.

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EMBROIDERY WORK.

A cozy sitting-room, with morning sunlight streaming in, illuminating the plants in the bay-window, and inspiring the canary to fresh outbursts of melody. In a swinging cradle, a baby sleeping. Near the bay-window, a white-haired grandmother, slowly rocking, as her fingers fashion a dainty stocking for a dimpled, restless foot. In the center of the room, at a table filled with work, a young mother busy with her needle, while a golden-haired boy of three or four years hung on her lap by his elbows, and pleaded, "Read me just one story, mamma, please. You sews so much!"

"But I have to sew so much, Bertie, dear. Don't you want a nice new apron to keep your pretty suit clean? See how fine mamma makes it look," and she held up a little pocket half embroidered in a neat pattern of cross-stitch in white on a dark blue check.

"Now go out and play, Bertie, like a good boy, so I can get the collar and pockets embroidered ready for stitching before baby sister wakes up."

"Den let me kiss you first, mamma," said the boy with a downcast face.

A half-reluctant, indifferent cheek was turned to meet the rosy lips, as the mother's fingers flew in their fascinating task; and the baby exile, banished from his paradise of mother's presence, went out to amuse himself as only a lone child can, with playthings instead of a living, loving companionship.

Grandma sat quiet—she was always very quiet—but after a time she spoke gently.

"Mary, could you take the time to read again for me the letter from Robbie that came last evening?"

"Yes, certainly, mother, as soon as I fasten this thread."

Reaching into the crowded work-basket, Mary drew out a thick letter, addressed to herself, in a round, school-boy hand.

Her cheeks were pink with pleased interest at grandma's request, for Robin, her eldest born, now for the first time away at school was the delight of her heart. In the letter were these words:

"We are reading 'The Tempest' now in our English Literature class, and some of our boys can't understand it, and say it is very hard, but it all seems easy to me because, don't you remember how you read it all over to me last winter when I was getting well, and how I learned the parts I liked the best? And now I know what is coming next all the while. But it made me just a bit homesick at first, little mother, because I could see so plain just as you sat in that low rocker with the blue bows, in front of the bookcase, and I could almost hear your voice as you read it. The girls in our class couldn't read it so as to give the meaning at all."

The mother's voice sank into something very like a sob, but not of pain—oh, no!—as she read how she had, unconsciously, formed a standard of good taste and correct elocution for her boy. Grandma spoke.

"That is enough, Mary, my dear. I don't often preach to you, do I, daughter? But Robin has given me such a good text, and little Bertie has furnished such a perfect commentary upon it, that I must call your attention to both. That is very neat work you are doing, Mary. Now, can't you—you are so skillful—can't you do two kinds of embroidery at once?"

"I am not sure I understand you, mother. I was ready to be preached at, and you speak of my work," and she rapidly continued the pattern.

"My preachment concerns your work, daughter," said grandma. "I

New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc.

Our readers will be glad to know that the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, has proved a certain cure for all diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or by disordered action of the Kidneys or urinary organs. It is a wonderful discovery, with a record of 1200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly upon the blood and kidneys, and is a true specific, just as quinine is in malaria.

Among the many testimonials received is one from the Rev. W. H. Moore, D. D., of Washington, testifies in the New York Christian Witness that Alkavis completely cured him of Rheumatism and Kidney and Bladder disease of many years standing. Many ladies also testify to its curative powers in disorders peculiar to womanhood.

So far the Church Kidney Cure Company, New York, are the only importers of this new remedy, and they are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free sample of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of Texas Christian Advocate who is a sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Diabetes, Pain in Back, difficult or too frequent passing water, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis entirely free. Address Church Kidney Cure Co., No. 404 Fourth Avenue, New York.

know your beauty-loving soul delights in this embroidery, but there is a better fancy work ready to your hand. Can not you, as your needle works the cross-stitch on the strong cloth that will outlast a year of playing, at the same time do that 'broidery work of the mind and the heart that will outlast the ages, and give little Bertie such memories as Robin writes of—such culture of heart and head?"

"O mother! I just gave my whole time to Robbie. I was so grateful that he lived through scarlet fever and had his sight and hearing. I did everything I could to amuse him. It is like the dear boy to remember it all, he is so affectionate!"

"I know, Mary, that your children are all alike to your heart; but in your hurry of work you forget that they can never be babies but one short while, and that they need mother's presence, mother's love, mother's 'broidery work on memory heart and conscience, more than they need pretty garments. What does lonely little Bertie care whether his play-blouse is plain or trimmed? He wants to be with mother. You will only have him as he is now for so short a time. You can be his center of love and light for only a few years at most. Shine, then, on your opening flower, and think sometimes of the lines,

"And now, alas! it seems so strange to me That when I bore the crown of motherhood, I did not kiss more oft and tenderly The little child that brought me only good."

"See, Mary, baby is fluttering her little hands, the sweet bird! I will feed her for you. Do you call Bertie in—I hear his little feet in the hall—and try, my daughter, and see if you can not do two kinds of embroidery at once; and, if one kind must be given up, let it be the white cross-stitch on the blue check that you lay aside."

Mary called the little exile in, fitted his new collar, gave him some extra kisses, and seated him in his own red rocking chair at her side, with a book upon his lap, while she began, with a quickened heart-beat, to do two kinds of 'broidery work at once.

there was a flushed audience of one, asking eager questions, as mamma told about the little coat that Hannah made each year, and carried to the Temple to the little Samuel. She told all the beautiful and touching story, even to its sad closing words, "It is the Lord, let him do what seemeth good in his sight." Little Bertie, with a child's aptitude for the spiritual truth, grasped at once the meaning of godly resignation. And many were his questions.

"Did you be thankful for me, mamma?"

"Yes, dear," Mary's eyes filled as she remembered the utter bliss of that moment when first the warm little body was laid in her arms and her lips touched the rose-soft velvet cheek. Impulsively she bent and kissed the boy.

"And did you give me to the Lord, too, like Hannah?"

"Yes, dear," said Mary, "only you did not go to live in the church like Samuel."

Then followed a vivid account of his father's and mother's longings that their little boy might become a child of God, and of the many promises they had made to teach him to love and serve Christ; and Mary showed him his name and birthday written in the family Bible, with the prayer that it might be written in God's book of life.

"And will God call me, as he did Samuel, mamma?"

"Yes, Bertie, you will hear the voice of God, though you may not know it any more than little Samuel did, at the time he is speaking to you."

"Oh, I'll listen!" said the boy, dimpling with delight. Suddenly sobering, he asked, "Will God punish you and papa, if your boys are bad, as he did poor old Eli?"

"Yes, Bertie. It is the worst sorrow people can feel when their children are naughty. God made us so, because we love our boys so much we want them to be good."

"Oh, I'm going to be good now, mamma! I didn't know I was God's little boy and you'd promised God about me."

Bertie leaned back in his rocking-chair, and sat a long time absorbed in new and delightful meditation. In one little hour, the apron had been made ready for the machine work, and Ber-

LOCAL OPTION MAP OF TEXAS Showing the "Dry" and the "Wet" Territory.



White Means Dry. Black Means Wet. Gray Means Partially Dry.

tie had learned, first, that his mother rejoiced over him as a gift from God. Then he was not a bother, as he had sometimes feared when he seemed so much in the way of the work. Second, that he had been solemnly given to God. A new dignity, value and sacredness invested his life and personality, which he felt, but could not utter. Third, that his parents had promised that he should be good. Fourth, that his mother's sewing was a ministry of love, like that of the woman in the Bible. He would never feel jealous of her work again, when he wanted her. Fifth, that God would speak to him. Sixth, that if he was not good, his mother's heart would feel such pangs as Eli's punishment. Seventh, he learned the meaning of submission to God's just chastisements.

Some time after this a saintly woman who taught in Sunday-school said to grandma, "What a wonderful child your daughter's little Bertie is! He has a real religious experience. And such a memory! I called on some one in the infant class to tell some fact about Samuel, and hardly expected an answer from such wee-ones, and his little hand was waving at once, and he sprang to his feet at my nod, and gave the whole story of Samuel. I was greatly surprised. The foundation is laid for a grand Christian manhood—and he is not yet five years old."

"What a good boy Bertie grows to be!" said his father. "I am not with him constantly as you are, Mary, and I see a great change. A word from you, or even a look, checks him in any naughtiness, and he grows so generous and manly! He always was very affectionate."

The mother smiled a smile of deep heart comfort. Only the Father above knew the secret of her boy's obedience. No one missed the mother and child during the sacred moments spent in prayer together. He was a healthy boy, full of mischief, but with a loving heart, and she was a busy mother, often fretted by overwork and nervous tempers. But such tears as were shed never stained the work being wrought on mother and boy day by day.

Nor was her embroidery work all done by means of Bible stories, though these remained favorites. Years later, in a college class-room, a random

mention of the geese whose strident voices saved Rome, of the emblematic thistles of Scotland, or of the lilies of France, would call before the student's eyes a picture of his gentle mother, seated with her embroidery work, while he, a loving boy, sat by her side, and his mind was richly embellished with the facts that those about him were laboriously learning for the first time.

And what of the woman who so readily learned to do two kinds of embroidery at once. A deeper, holier love for her own children enlarged her heart to help to "mother" the homesick world outside. Her life was so full of sunshine and vigor as in her school days; her stated private prayers, in the company of childhood, and her study of the sacred word, made her spiritual life a daily glory and joy.

And grandma said again, "It is the 'broidery work.'"—Mrs. McVean Adams, American Tract Society.

Happiness is the proper goal of human effort, and health is indispensable to it—take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

People who spend their lives packing their trunks never go anywhere.

BETTER THAN SPANKING.

Spanking does not cure children of urine difficulties. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 157, Notre Dame Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The chances are it can't help it.

Faith is a telescope; the vision comes from looking through it, not at it.—Ram's Horn.

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OUR LOCAL OPTION MAP.

On page seven of this issue will be found our local option map. The white squares represent the totally dry, the gray the partially dry, and the black totally wet counties in Texas. This map is not absolutely correct, but it is nearly so. There may be two or three counties in the black list that ought to be either in the gray or the white; and there may be two or three in the white or the gray that ought to be in the black. But we have made the map as nearly correct as inquiry and work can accomplish it. The publication of the list of dry, partially dry and wet counties a while back helped us very much, as a number of corrections were sent in by different parties on the ground. All these corrections, however, do not appear in this map, but the most of them do. One other explanation: A number of counties in this map appear white when, in fact, they have liquor sold in them at the present. Yet the people voted them dry and the election was either reversed by the act of the Criminal Court of Appeals or the result is still tied up in the courts. But the will of the people in these counties, as expressed at the ballot box, made them dry; and they are dry in sentiment, if not in fact. So we place them in the dry column. This is true in counties like Lamar, Cooke, Haskell, Bowie, Orange and several others. A little later we will again publish our list, as we are still having it corrected, and it will then be perfect. However, the number of counties wet and dry will hardly be changed in their total very much since whatever inaccuracies there are exist as much in one case as the other. The map, therefore, tells its own story. It shows that along the Mexican border and in the counties in Southwest Texas and the Gulf, where the foreign and negro votes dominate, nearly all these totally wet counties are found; while in the western, the middle, the northern and the eastern portions of the State, where Americans do the voting, the counties are either dry or partially so, with but few exceptions. This fact will open the eyes of Texas voters; and it ought to open the eyes of brewers and wholesale liquor dealers. On with the battle!

No matter how great the profits the balance is always on the wrong side if the soul is not enriched.—Ram's Horn.

EDITORIAL BIRDSHOT.

Habits produce a harvest.

Good resolutions are easily broken.

Advice does not cost much, and often is not worth much.

It is not difficult to find faults in others when you search for them.

The more interest you take in worldly matters the less you take in Christ.

A Methodist at a dance or a card party is an ugly incongruity.

It is impossible to carry the world in your mind and Christ in your heart.

Paint plastered on the face of a woman is an evidence that she has the taste of an Indian.

If you go to the party and win prizes at cards, you are not in a frame of mind to teach a Sunday-school class.

Christ formed in the heart the hope of glory is about all the law that a Christian needs as the rule and guide of his life.

You can not always make bad people good by the enforcement of law, but you can protect the rights of others against those who have no respect for law.

While our Father is seated upon a throne which is high and lifted up, he is also in close touch with his children who place their trust in Him.

A FEW DAYS IN WILBARGER COUNTY.

There is a local option campaign on in Wilbarger County. It has been dry up there for two years, and the ants are very thirsty. So the pro committee asked us to come up and take a hand in the fray. We could not resist, and last Friday morning we left here for the scene of the conflict. We entered the county at Harrold, a town fifteen or twenty miles this side of Vernon. There found an appointment awaiting us. It was at night and at the Baptist church. The town is small and the entire precinct vote is not a large one. But we had a very good audience and spoke to them for more than an hour. At the close we organized a local option club and started them to work. Two years ago this was a strong anti box, but this time we will divide matters with them considerably. After the speaking we drove three miles out through the country to the home of Brother R. Cobb. He and his people are Methodists, and the only copy of the Advocate that goes to that office is to their house. The night was cool, but a good fire and a warm welcome made us feel very much at home. Brother Cobb and family formerly lived in Fannin County, near Ladonia, but for more than a dozen years they have been in the Panhandle. They have a good home and like that section. He farms and raises stock. When they have rain, wheat grows luxuriantly; but such is the uncertainty of the season, that they only average a very fine crop once in three years. In the meantime they have to take their chances on wheat and oats, and they plant kaffir corn, millet, and the like. This makes good feed-stuff and cattle thrive on it. If they had irrigation, that country would be the garden spot of Texas. But this is the problem. I enjoyed my little visit of a night and day in this good home, and in the afternoon Saturday, took the train for Vernon. Arrived there about night. Cyclone Davis was aboard to fill a few engagements during the week. Rev. W. R. Thornton, our pastor, was on hand to receive us. This is his first year at Vernon, and he found the local option campaign already on, and he pitched into it with all his might. He was even made chairman of the Executive Committee. After supper we repaired to the opera house, and found a large audience in waiting. Mrs. Zehner was there and had been speaking for sev-

eral nights. The temperature of the fight was already at fever heat. She is one of the best local option speakers and workers in the State. The gathering was ready for a red-hot speech, and we did our best to give it to them. They were responsive, and the effect was apparently good. Among those present was R. W. Hall, the "Panhandle orator." He lives there, and he is on the right side of all questions. He is also a Methodist. He is regarded as one of the most entertaining speakers in the State. He is eloquent, witty and unique. He is also a prominent lawyer and has a large practice. Sunday morning a large congregation greeted me at our Church. We have more than four hundred members. Nearly all of them are local option people. A few of them are not—something rare for Methodists. We preached them an earnest gospel sermon, and in conclusion applied it to the local option cause. Met many readers of the Advocate and felt very much at home. In the afternoon Mrs. Zehner spoke to a large crowd at the opera house, and she caught the people. She is a very strong and eloquent speaker; and she speaks like a woman—a wife and mother—and her words reach the heart. At night we met a packed house at the same place and addressed them specifically on the merits of the local option cause. Mrs. Zehner added a few more words and the enthusiasm was immense. If we do not win Saturday, the signs will fail. At two o'clock Monday morning we boarded the train, went to sleep, and woke up at Fort Worth, having ridden a distance of about 160 miles. Vernon is a fine town. It has a population of about three thousand. Its business is good, and its county jail has but one prisoner within its walls, and he is one brought over from a trouble that occurred in a saloon before local option went into effect. The peace and order of the community were never so good as now; yet a few men want the saloons brought back. But they are gone for good. The women are wonderfully interested in the present campaign. Brother Thornton is a live man and he works earnestly and prudently. It was good to be with him in this fight. We pray for him a fine year, and we believe he will have it.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT POPULAR.

The Medical Department of Southwestern University is growing more and more popular in the city. During the present week a large number of the alumni of the University met at the Commercial Club room, and after a good social time they passed resolutions indorsing the Medical Department, and pledging their cooperation with the movement to erect suitable buildings for the institution. Following this action, the Commercial Club met Tuesday night in regular session and gave an hour or so to the discussion of the building enterprise of the Medical Department. Dr. McReynolds, the Dean, and Rev. John R. Nelson presented the business part of the movement in clear statements, which were met with applause. Others present also spoke, and the Club tendered their help and encouragement in the movement. It is the purpose of those having it in charge to push the matter rapidly and to open the session of the school in the new buildings next fall.

TEXAS PERSONAL.

A note from Rev. Thos. Reece states that he spent a pleasant Christmas with relatives in East Texas.

Miss Ida Mason, of Terrell, and her aunt, Mrs. Connolly, of Dallas, made the Advocate a good visit recently.

Brother R. M. Wallace, a young layman of Trinity Church, this city, dropped in to see us a while back.

We were pleased to have a call from Miss F. M. McMillan, of Lott, the other day. She is visiting friends in the city and did not forget the Advocate.

Rev. T. J. Milam, now engaged as the Financial Agent of the Alexander Institute, was in the city last week and made the Advocate a brotherly visit.

Rev. J. P. Galloway passed through the city recently and did not overlook the Advocate people. He is always a welcomed visitor.

Rev. E. B. Thompson, of Crandall, was up a few days ago and dropped in to see us. He has a good field and is working it well.

Rev. Houston Pirtle, of Farmersville, was in the city the past week, and we got a glimpse of him on the street. He is improving in health.

Rev. W. F. Clark, of this city, has recently returned from a visit to relatives and friends in Louisiana. His health is good and he is in cheerful spirit.

Rev. J. B. Crawford, of Ellis County, was in the city on business the other day and made the Advocate a pleasant visit. He is a useful local preacher.

Rev. C. W. Hearon, of Cleburne, together with Brother Nowlin and family, who are faithful members of Brother Hearon's flock, made the Advocate a pleasant visit recently.

Mrs. G. A. Turner of Oak Cliff, made the Advocate a pleasant call the other day. With her was her mother, Mrs. Shegog of Ennis, who has been a subscriber to the Advocate for forty years, and she still takes and reads it with

the intelligent and business-like work of this committee as "the antics of these gentlemen." Every Sunday the Herald has the mouthings of "The Old Politician and the Young Reformer" under display headlines, and often in double columns. At the top of it there is an appropriate picture of a dilapidated old table with a whisky bottle and glasses placed upon it, and on either side of the table two significant characters. One of them is a swaggering old debauchee, and the other is a done-up dude, prematurely gone in his cups, and what follows is supposed to be the vaporings of the characters thus represented. Of course, the Times Herald is opposed to any movement that would interfere with the development of that sort of specimens of humanity. Hence it ridicules the work of gentlemen interested in local option. Of course it does! It has to take care of its constituency. Hence its "antics."

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT POPULAR.

The Medical Department of Southwestern University is growing more and more popular in the city. During the present week a large number of the alumni of the University met at the Commercial Club room, and after a good social time they passed resolutions indorsing the Medical Department, and pledging their cooperation with the movement to erect suitable buildings for the institution. Following this action, the Commercial Club met Tuesday night in regular session and gave an hour or so to the discussion of the building enterprise of the Medical Department. Dr. McReynolds, the Dean, and Rev. John R. Nelson presented the business part of the movement in clear statements, which were met with applause. Others present also spoke, and the Club tendered their help and encouragement in the movement. It is the purpose of those having it in charge to push the matter rapidly and to open the session of the school in the new buildings next fall.

TEXAS PERSONAL.

A note from Rev. Thos. Reece states that he spent a pleasant Christmas with relatives in East Texas.

Miss Ida Mason, of Terrell, and her aunt, Mrs. Connolly, of Dallas, made the Advocate a good visit recently.

Brother R. M. Wallace, a young layman of Trinity Church, this city, dropped in to see us a while back.

We were pleased to have a call from Miss F. M. McMillan, of Lott, the other day. She is visiting friends in the city and did not forget the Advocate.

Rev. T. J. Milam, now engaged as the Financial Agent of the Alexander Institute, was in the city last week and made the Advocate a brotherly visit.

Rev. J. P. Galloway passed through the city recently and did not overlook the Advocate people. He is always a welcomed visitor.

Rev. E. B. Thompson, of Crandall, was up a few days ago and dropped in to see us. He has a good field and is working it well.

Rev. Houston Pirtle, of Farmersville, was in the city the past week, and we got a glimpse of him on the street. He is improving in health.

Rev. W. F. Clark, of this city, has recently returned from a visit to relatives and friends in Louisiana. His health is good and he is in cheerful spirit.

Rev. J. B. Crawford, of Ellis County, was in the city on business the other day and made the Advocate a pleasant visit. He is a useful local preacher.

Rev. C. W. Hearon, of Cleburne, together with Brother Nowlin and family, who are faithful members of Brother Hearon's flock, made the Advocate a pleasant visit recently.

Mrs. G. A. Turner of Oak Cliff, made the Advocate a pleasant call the other day. With her was her mother, Mrs. Shegog of Ennis, who has been a subscriber to the Advocate for forty years, and she still takes and reads it with

interest. Editor Gillespie had charge of it when she began. It was a pleasure to have her call and speak a while to this editor.

Rev. Gibbs Mood has just entered his third year at Bowie with fine prospects for a good year. His health is good and he speaks hopefully of the outlook in his charge and throughout the district.

Mrs. M. E. Cox, of Giddings, and Mrs. W. D. Cox, of Dallas, were pleasant callers this week. The former has been a reader of the Advocate since the time it was called the Wesleyan Banner.

Rev. J. M. Holt, of Roysse, passed through the city this week to the Beaumont District to serve the Warren Circuit as a supply during the year. He is a most excellent man and will do good work.

Rev. J. E. Harrison, of San Antonio Female College, writes us that Vanderbilt faculty recently voted to allow his pupils the privilege of entering the University on certificates for a term of three years. This is a compliment.

Rev. F. A. Bond, late of the New Mexico Conference, but now of the Indian Mission Conference, passed through the city the past week on his way to his new work. He called on the Advocate force while in the city. We wish him success in his present field.

On January 11, 1905, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Fly, of Gonzales, Texas, will give their daughter, Madeline, in marriage to Thos. Paschal Traylor. The young couple will make their home in Victoria, Texas. The Advocate extends hearty congratulations and best wishes.

The District Stewards for the Bowie District recently met and advanced the salary of their presiding elder, Rev. T. R. Pierce, D. D., \$100 over the previous year. Bro. Mood writes us that the meeting of these officials was harmonious and enthusiastic. Dr. Pierce and family have recently passed through the deep waters in the death of their lovely daughter, Miss Florence, but the grace of God is sustaining and comforting them. They have the sympathy of their entire district and of friends throughout the whole conference.

The Houston Post recently contained the following merited personal: "Dr. H. M. Whaling, to the great satisfaction of his congregation, was returned by the Texas Conference to fill out the quadrennium as pastor of the Huntsville Methodist Church. During the three years of Dr. Whaling's pastorate the church has enjoyed large prosperity. The membership has been greatly increased, and the official board manifested its appreciation of the action of the conference in returning him for the fourth year by increasing the salary from \$1200 to \$1400. The Huntsville Methodist Church has long been recognized as one of the leading stations of the Texas Conference, and this action of the church in raising the pastor's salary tends still further to push it to the front in the conference."

CHURCH NEWS.

Dr. Charles Parkhurst, we are glad to see, has been unanimously re-elected editor of Zion's Herald.

A chorus of 1000 voices is training in Denver to welcome the Epworth League Convention of 1905.

Dr. W. B. Palmore sailed from New Orleans for Central and South America at 10 a. m., December 28.

The Methodist Episcopal Church closes its missionary year without debt and with \$20,000 on hand.

Another edition of Bishop Candler's new book, "Great Revivals and the Great Republic," has been issued.

Since last spring the number of Methodist preaching places in Puerto Rico has increased from thirty-five to sixty-three.

Rev. J. A. Howland, of the Florida Conference, died suddenly just a few minutes before Bishop Candler read the appointments.

Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, of Plymouth Congregational Church, Brooklyn, has withdrawn all lecture engagements that he may give his time and strength to evangelistic work.

Jefferson City, Mo., Rev. Evans Pattillo, pastor, has had a great revival. There were 180 added to the church. At one service seventy-six were baptized. This meeting makes Jefferson

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'January 5, 1905', 'City's Me Methodist the Misso', 'The M gave to m three gum of \$2', 'The Al received observanc throughout', 'The Me ing with g Memorial', 'During United P \$219, during the', 'The Chi thinks th dington, F di-t in th of age las', 'Rev. Jo known a church fo service in cently eng book.', 'Dr. S. A years in t location a cent sess ference.', 'The Me reports a membersh Church d year 1903. crease, b growing. 1904 over', 'C. S. work in four men t I have interior (be double ated for', 'Large work wel little to d hardest v station. We nec local pret extended Epwort and take prove of In some pastor's t the Leagu Leagues to the f', 'USED Wait Ci', 'LOOK TRAI', 'Grant Walt Establish 45'

City's Methodist Church the strongest Methodist Church in Missouri south of the Missouri River.

The Methodist Episcopal Church gave to missions last year through its three great societies the munificent sum of \$2,611,656.

The Alabama Methodist Orphanage received \$1,340.98 as a result of the observance of Orphans' Home Day throughout the State.

The Methodists of Georgia are rallying with great enthusiasm to the enterprise of opening in Atlanta a Wesley Memorial Hospital.

During the last twelve months the United Presbyterian Church contributed \$219,238 to foreign missions, and during the last fifty years \$4,000,000.

The Christian Advocate (New York) thinks that Mrs. Berrington, of Cardington, England, is the oldest Methodist in the world. She was 104 years of age last July.

Rev. John Mathews, D. D., so well known and loved in many parts of the church for his long and acceptable service in the pastorate, has been recently engaged in the preparation of a book.

Dr. S. A. Steel, after about thirty-five years in the itinerancy, was granted a location at his own request at the recent session of the Mississippi Conference. This will surprise his friends and acquaintances throughout the connection.

The Methodist Year Book for 1905 reports an increase of 22,817 in the membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church during the year 1904 over the year 1903. This seems like a small increase, but it shows the church to be growing. The increase during the year 1904 over the year 1900 was 135,061.

BRIEF NOTES.

H. G. H.

C. S. Mills says there is enough work in his Brownsville mission for four men. Let the Board of Missions consider that fact a year hence.

I have thought many of the small interior circuits and stations should be doubled up and less money appropriated for little home missions.

Large circuits and large stations work well. Some preachers have too little to do. Bishop McTyeire says the hardest work in the world is a small station.

We need more vigorous, progressive local preachers to help on these wide-extended circuits and missions.

Epworth Leaguers should go out and take charge of many services and prove of some help to the pastor.

In some places a large portion of the pastor's time is taken up in keeping the League straight and in order. Such Leagues should be promptly scattered to the four winds. I remember the

time when an irreligious League gave the pastor more trouble and annoyance than all the sinners in town put together.

B. Harris' letter to Advocate brought to mind the time when there was one lone Methodist preacher in San Antonio and he was also sexton of the church; one little Baptist company of twelve persons, and twenty-five Presbyterians. But we swung to 'em. One of the first Methodist preachers sent to Austin in the days of the Republic was Homer S. Thrall. His sleeping place for twelve months was on a blanket on the floor of a lawyer's office.

The first Methodist preacher sent to Corpus Christi was Bro. Haynie along with Taylor's army. His sleeping place was on two bags of government corn in an outhouse—but the climate was charming and the scenery beautiful. The devil was in the majority and there is little record of the work done.

The people of Seguin are making a strong effort to secure the permanent location of Blinn Memorial College, a German institution of the M. E. Church. The first Methodist preacher to live in Seguin was John W. DeVilbiss. The house he lived in is now the kitchen of a citizen. The second one to live here was Job M. Baker. The little 14-foot square house (concrete) in which he lived is still standing.

ALABAMA LETTER.

The year just closed has been one of the best in the history of Alabama Methodism. The Lord honored the labors of his servants with gracious revivals throughout the State, and there were during the year 7393 additions on profession of faith. The net increase in membership was 3878, the North Alabama Conference reporting a gain of 2009 and the Alabama Conference 1869. The financial reports of both conferences were the best in their history. There were substantial gains in amounts paid for the various connectional claims, and for the support of the ministry there was an increase of more than \$23,000 as compared with the previous year. Near \$50,000 was raised for missions within the bounds of the two conferences.

Bishop Wilson presided at the sessions of the Alabama and North Alabama Conferences, and his presidency gave general satisfaction. He is a great preacher, and as a presiding officer he can hardly be surpassed. He came to Alabama at a time when an unusually large number of changes were necessary by reason of the time limit, and the brethren were expecting a general "shaking up" when the appointments were announced. They were not deceived, for the Bishop fully met their expectations in this respect. Seven of the ten districts of the North Alabama Conference have new presiding elders, and about half the charges new pastors. There were not so many changes in the Alabama Conference, though more than usual.

Twenty-two young men were admitted on trial by the two conferences, and several were readmitted. As is evident from this statement, Alabama Methodism is not feeling so keenly that dearth of ministerial supply of which we have read so much. Two charges recommended thirteen young men for license to preach during the past year. We lost by death, however, an unusually large number of our conference members; the Alabama Conference seven and the North Alabama four. Only one of this number was on the effective list—Rev. T. F. Mangum, D. D., who went to his reward while presiding elder of the Eufaula District. Within a few days after the adjournment of the North Alabama Conference one of our honored superannuates, Rev. John S. Marks, passed away at his home in New Decatur. Brother Marks served many hard charges during the years of his effective service, and was pre-eminently a soul winner. His brethren held him in highest esteem.

The Superannuate Home movement in the North Alabama Conference has been a success. The agent, Rev. J. W. Norton, reports as a result of two years' labor twenty-four homes secured or pledged, and sixteen of that number already occupied by superannuates or widows of deceased preachers. About \$50,000 has been secured for this fund in homes, building lots, farms and cash. The Alabama Conference at its recent session decided to put an agent in the field, and Rev. J. W. Killough was appointed to that work. His salary was guaranteed by laymen of the conference. There is no doubt of the success of this movement in the Alabama Conference—they are never behind in any good work. This movement has helped rather than hurt the collection for conference claimants, the two conferences paying about \$1900 more for this cause than during 1903. Nor has it injured the connectional superannuate fund, for the Alabama Methodists have contributed liberally to this good cause.

Our educational interests are in better condition than for some years past. Each conference is sustaining its own male and female colleges, and without exception these schools report a good increase in number of students enrolled. We recognize the fact that these institutions must be amply endowed that we may successfully compete with State schools, and a vigorous campaign has been in progress in both conferences for the better equipment and endowment of our colleges. A fair measure of success has attended the labors of the brethren who have been representing this important interest, and we are confidently expecting better things for the near future. At the recent session of the North Alabama Conference it was decided to hold an institute for the young preachers of the conference during this year. A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements, and it is probable that the institute will be held at the North Alabama Conference College, at Owen-ton, the week following the commencement of that institution.

We regret that we cannot give as good report concerning the progress of the temperance movement in Alabama as comes to us from your great State. We rejoice with you and congratulate you upon the good work you have done. The dispensary movement has to some extent divided the temperance forces of our State, and our progress towards prohibition has been slow. The Anti-Saloon League of Alabama has lately been reorganized, however, and the friends of this movement are planning an aggressive campaign for the coming year. We need first a local option law, and expect to have it when the next Legislature convenes. Rev. S. E. Wasson, pastor of our church at Decatur, is acting superintendent of the league in Alabama. It is expected that at an early date a man will be put in the field to give his entire time to this work.

We of Alabama feel a great interest in the progress of Texas Methodism and rejoice that you are giving such good account of your stewardship. We have given you a good number of our men, and they seem to fare well at your hands and do good work. May 1905 be the best year in your history thus far!

We enter on another year believing that the Lord is with us, and therefore better things are in store for us. May we, by His help, be faithful.

J. S. CHADWICK.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY NOTES.

Dr. C. G. Carroll attended the athletic meeting at Waxahachie as Southwestern's representative.

Just before leaving for the holidays the Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Boyer, the vocalist, and Miss Seabury, the violinist, assisted the Review Club in their entertainment for the benefit of the Public School Library. These musicians are always well received.

Miss Merle Bowen, the popular instructor in elocution, spent the holidays in Mexico giving readings.

Dr. J. L. Hendry, returned missionary from China, addressed the Epworth League just before the holidays. He spoke of Rev. Ed. Pilley, a graduate of Southwestern University. Dr. Hendry's account of the social conditions was very interesting. The faculty has invited him to address the student body and faculty before he leaves for his work, on or about January 10th, 1905.

Nine young ladies decided to remain at the "Annex" during the holidays, but at the last moment one was telegraphed for. However, Dr. and Mrs. Allen took the best of care of the eight.

The popular lady teachers of the "Annex" who remained in Georgetown during the holidays were frequently entertained. Dr. and Mrs. Allen had the "annual Annex family dinner" on Christmas day. Tuesday they were entertained by Dr. and Mrs. Hver, and on Thursday Dr. and Mrs. Allen entertained again, including several members of the faculty and their wives, and Dr. Pettus on Thursday evening.

Santa Claus could not come to the Georgetown M. E. Church this Christmas, so he sent Mrs. Santa, who was laden with gifts for the school, the faculty and students who remained.

By far the most important event during the holidays was the marriage of Prof. S. H. Moore (former principal of the Fitting School) and Miss Stella Foster. Professor Moore crept in Monday, sent invitations to a few friends, including the faculty, and Tuesday evening was quietly married at 2:45 o'clock and left on the 3:40 p. m. train. The bride is a graduate of Southwestern University and is admired by her many friends for her sweet and engaging disposition. Professor Moore is absent on leave this session attending Columbia University, New York City.

BEATING THE DEVIL.

There is nothing outside of religion that beats the devil like Hill's "Sure Cure" for cigarette and tobacco cure. Dr. Hill, the man who made the discovery, lives at Greenville, Texas.

EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE.

At the recent session of the Texas Conference I received the following amounts from the following charges for the Episcopal residence, and have sent the same to Bro. G. W. Owens at Dallas:

Table listing contributions from various districts: Houston District, Brenham District, San Augustine District, Calvert District, Huntsville District, Palestine District, Tyler District, Marshall District, Pittsburg District, and Atlanta.

Total \$521 95. It is but just to state that many of our pastors sent their contributions to Bro. Owens, and therefore their charges do not occur in the above list. G. E. CAMERON, Treas.

MAGAZINE NOTICES.

The January number of Success is filled with most interesting matter. Special among its contributions is an article from its correspondent in the Orient, who is writing up the Russo-Japan war.

The January number of American Review of Reviews is before us. The special features of this number are an article by Dr. E. J. Dillon on "The Dawn of the New Era in Russia;" a remarkable series of reproductions of war pictures as published in Russia and Japan; an article (with portrait) on "Samuel Gompers, Representative of American Labor," by Dr. Walter E. Weyl; illustrated articles on "Pittsburg's Basic Industry—Steel," by William L. Scaife; "Pittsburg as an Industrial and Commercial Center," by J. E. McKirdy, and "The Aesthetic and Intellectual Side of Pittsburg," by Burd S. Patterson; a review of the recent comparative exhibition of American and foreign paintings in New York City, by Ernest Knauff (with reproductions of several of the paintings), and papers on "English Spelling of Russian Words," by Herman Rosenthal, and "What the People Read in Austria and Bohemia."

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The Sunday-School Department.

January 8: Subject, "The Witness of John the Baptist to Jesus."—John 1:19-34.

Golden Text: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."—John 1:29.

Location: Bethany beyond Jordan. A. D. 26.

Material: When John the Baptist was examined by a deputation of the religious leaders from Jerusalem (v. 19), he declared that he was nobody but a Herald as foretold in Isaiah (vs. 29-23), but justified his right to baptize, which they challenged (vs. 24, 25), by the presence among them of the One whom he was heralding (vs. 26-28). The next day he publicly called attention to Jesus, as the Lamb of God, the one whom he had intended by his previous words, and whom he had come to know as the Son of God by the divinely appointed sign of the Spirit's abiding on him (vs. 29-34).

An Analysis: The Testimony of John the Baptist: Jesus is Greater; Jesus is the Lamb of God; Jesus is the Son of God.

The World Evangelist says: I. John's Witness to the Jewish Deputation, vs. 19:28.

V. 19. The historic narrative begins with this verse. The other lesson is the prologue to the gospel. Here begins the record of the ministry and the person of the Savior.

A deputation from Jerusalem came to John. It was made up of priests and Levites, how many we are not told. It had the authority probably of the Sanhedrin back of it. It is indeed likely that the deputation was sent by the rulers. Their question to John was, "Who art thou?" No doubt they were instructed to ask this question. The authorities in Jerusalem had heard many things about John no doubt; they knew also that the people of whole country were excited and expectant. Accordingly, they wanted to know who John was, what his commission and his mission. John gives a very definite answer.

V. 20. "And he confessed and denied not; but confessed." This is not mere repetition. It is the most positive assertion concerning John's reply. He did not hold back anything, nor hide anything, nor insinuate anything. He directly and solemnly said, "I am not the Christ." This not only denies what may have been said about John by others, but it also denotes that he knows there is another who is the Messiah. Both words "Christ" and "Messiah" mean the Anointed One, cf. Luke 4:18.

V. 21. "What then? Art thou Elias?" These further questions of the priests and Levites indicate their desire to learn exactly who John is. One thing for them is settled; he is not the promised Messiah. Is he Elijah? They know that Elijah or one like unto Elijah was to precede the coming of the Lord, Mal. 4:5. John answered, "I am not." But they pressed their inquiry still further, "Art thou the Prophet?" (no doubt this is the true reading). It is a little difficult to determine just what they mean by the words. Perhaps this: the appearing of some one just before the advent of the Messiah who could be properly called a prophet; or that God had finally sent to Israel a prophet like unto Moses. Their questions indicate that John was held to be a very extraordinary man. His answer to the last question was a blunt "no."

V. 22. "Who art thou?" i. e., explain thyself, tell us what thy mission is and who has commissioned thee? They ask this because instructed so to do by those that sent them.

V. 23. "He said, I am the voice of one crying." Marvelous definition of himself. Hardly a man, scarcely a person, only a voice, articulated air that vibrates for a moment and then sinks into silence. A noble instance of genuine humility and self-effacement. "Make straight the way of the Lord," cf. Isa. 40:3. This was his mission to prepare the people for the coming of the Deliverer.

V. 25. "Why baptizest thou then?" The question opens to the explanation of John's work. What does his preaching and his baptism mean if he is neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?

V. 26. "I baptize with water." The other gospels explain that his baptism was connected with repentance, i. e., confession of sin, sorrow for sin, turning away from sin, and forgiveness of sin. When one thus repented John baptized him, as the sign and seal of his repentance and return to God. It is thus John sums up his whole work. But vs. 26, 27 show that John knew perfectly well that the Messiah was come, that he was unknown by Israel, but that he was so great and glorious that John was un-

worthy even to unloose his shoe latchet.

V. 28. "In Bethabara beyond Jordan." The term now preferred is Bethany. The place undoubtedly was beyond Jordan, and is not to be confounded with the Bethany near Jerusalem.

II. John's Witness to Christ Himself, vs. 29:34.

V. 29. "The next day"—the day following the visit of the priests and Levites. "John seeth Jesus"—why Jesus was coming to John at this time is not told us. Likely his baptism had already taken place and John now sees in him far more than he had ever before thought. "Behold the Lamb of God." How John came to know him as such is explained in the following verses. The title given the Savior denotes his sacrificial character and the imagery may be drawn from the lamb offered day after day at the temple, or more likely from Isa. 53:7 where we are told that the Messiah would be brought as a lamb to the slaughter. "The sin of the world." This states the great design of his offering.

It is to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. It is to atone for sin and expiate it so as to remove it altogether from those who accept him as their Savior. One should be careful in quoting this verse to use the singular "sin"—not "sins" as one so often hears. It is not the sins of the world he bears away, for that would mean universal salvation, but sin, i. e., the specific and concrete thing which God hates. The whole sentence means God's judgment on the thing sin and its explanation.

V. 30. "This is he," cf. Notes on v. 15, lesson for Jan. 1.

V. 31. "And I knew him not." Twice John says this, vs. 31, 33. The interpretation of this somewhat difficult statement seems to be this: that at the time of Jesus' baptism John did not know him in his true character as the Lamb of God; afterward he began to understand him more and more fully. One thing John did know from the beginning of his ministry, viz., that his work was to prepare the people for the Messiah and that Messiah might thus be manifested unto Israel. This was John's prime mission and he understood it from the beginning.

V. 32. "And John bare record," etc. The descent of the Spirit upon the Savior took place at his baptism. John saw it. Whether others did or not is very doubtful. To the Baptist it was a most convincing proof as to the real personality of Jesus. It was a sign that could not be mistaken.

V. 33. "Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending." He does not intimate when he had received this communication, but it was enough for John to enable him faithfully to perform his mission and to identify the Son of God. "Baptized with the Holy Ghost," cf. Matt. 3:11; Acts 1:5. After this unmistakable proof as to the Son of God John could know him as he had never known him before.

V. 34. "And I saw, and bare record," etc. This language does not mean that by the descent of the Spirit on him Jesus became the Son of God; not at all, but that he was recognized as the Son of God by John and that hereafter he is to be manifested as the Son of God. Foremore he was and is such, but now he is revealed to men in this character.

The Epworth League Department

Can communications intended for this department and exchanges with articles to be commented upon, should be sent to Gus W. Thomason, Van Alstyne, Texas.

State Epworth League Cabinet.

- President—Gus W. Thomason, Van Alstyne.
- First Vice-President—Rev. A. D. Porter, Mt. Calm.
- Second Vice-President—Miss Laura Allison, Austin.
- Third Vice-President—W. A. Palmer, San Marcos.
- Fourth Vice-President—C. A. Lehmburg, Fredericksburg.
- Secretary—Theo. Bering, Jr., Houston.
- Junior Superintendent—Mrs. C. W. Henry, Cleburne.

A CORRECTION.

The address of Rev. A. D. Porter, First Vice-President of the State League, is Mt. Calm, instead of Krum, as inadvertently stated in a recent issue. Our Leaguers will please bear this correction in mind when writing him.

NOTES.

Rev. J. B. Gober informs us that he has been promoted and is now President of the Paris District Epworth League Conference. Things will hum in that district this year.

President O. L. Hamilton, of the Frisco Chapter of the Epworth League, has our thanks for a cordial invitation to be present at a recent

jubilee service. Business matters detained us at home, much to our regret.

Our First Vice-President favors us with a message this week, and our readers are urged to look it up and read it.

Chairman Louis Barton, of the Epworth League Board, now stationed at Terrell, writes us that the North Texas Conference passed most favorably resolutions on the League Assembly enterprise. He adds this personal word: "You and Nichols have been added to the League Board." We appreciate the courtesy.

Elsewhere we publish the details of a generous offer by Dr. C. C. Cody, of Southwestern University. Look up the article and take advantage of the opportunity to secure a good book free.

The editor of the Epworth Era comes out in a strong editorial endorsing Dallas as the place to hold the 1907 session of the International Convention of Epworth Leagues. This is most significant and practically assures Texas of the great meeting. Our good friend Everett now has the tip to bring his forces together and organize for work. The matter is up to them.

Allan Ragsdale has set the wires to tingling with Denver preparations. We wrote the excursion master at Denver, in reply to an inquiry as to plans, that Allan was a little red headed and not exactly handsome, but on manipulating excursions he took the grand prize, gold medal, blue ribbon and everything else in sight! Now, watch him go into Denver next summer and see if we are not a prophet.

It is understood that if the Senior Police Commissioner of Dallas, our dearly beloved Blaylock, goes with the Texas crowd to Denver he will occupy a front seat in the front end of the train, so that in perambulating in his sleep he will have plenty of time to awaken himself before getting through to the rear platform. G. W. T.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT.

The first department of the Epworth League is not primarily a training camp, but a battle ground; it is not a gymnasium, but a field of labor. It is not a place where we train the young to pray, but where they pray; not a place where they take lessons in talking, but where they speak; not merely a place for instruction, but a place of actual doing, saying, thinking, acting. In my poor judgment the sooner we cease teaching our young people to attend the League in order to train for coming duties, and begin impressing upon their hearts and consciences that present responsibilities rest upon them, and that their bounden duty holds them to the proper discharge of the same in the active present, just so soon will the Epworth League begin to accomplish that whereunto it is sent.

The battle of Bunker Hill was not fought in order to train the Colonial soldiers for Trenton and Yorktown, but to defeat the British. They were doubtless better prepared for the battles to follow, but training was not the primary thought. So as the League meets Sunday afternoon the one great object should be to fight real battles and not merely for preparation. God grant that our Leaguers shall be greatly in earnest.

My fellow-Leaguers, life is too short to waste. Then let us act, "act in the living present, heart within and God o'er head." ALBERT D. PORTER, Mt. Calm, Texas.

FROM POTTSBORO.

At the regular business meeting Dec. 11 the following officers for next year were elected: G. A. Jones, President; Mr. Russell, First Vice-President; Bev. Flannery, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Addie Buckley, Third Vice-President; Miss Stella Greenup, Fourth Vice-President; Mrs. F. B. Haswell, Treasurer; Miss Fay Greenup, Secretary; Miss Mary Boyd, Organist, and Miss Media Hamneck, Agent for Era. FAY GREENUP, Secretary.

FROM FRISCO.

The Frisco League was organized May, 1904. We have 75 members, of whom about 40 are active members. The business meeting was held Dec. 16, 1904, and the following officers were elected: President, O. L. Hamilton; First Vice-President, Mrs. Abbie Allen; Second Vice-President, Miss Lela Gibson; Third Vice-President, Prof. D. J. Carithers; Fourth Vice-President, Miss Clifford Gunthram; Secretary, Mrs. L. H. Waxner; Treasurer, Sidney Duncan; Epworth Era Agent, Miss Gussie Higginbotham. All officers take great interest in their work. The League had an entertainment

Dec. 18, 1904, at the M. E. Church, South, and the church was crowded. We had a nice program. Every one was delighted. All present gave their very best attention. We are striving to make our League one of the best Leagues in the State. All work in harmony. Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. MARCIA MILLER.

A GENEROUS OFFER.

Prof. C. C. Cody, of Southwestern University, who at one time served the State League as Third Vice-President, has just informed us that he will donate to the League libraries in this State each a copy of the Life of Dr. Moody, of which he is the author. He has only a limited number of the books, and applications should be filed at once. All that is required is 12 cents per copy to pay postage. We are now reading this book of Dr. Cody's. The first chapter is worth \$5 to anyone who enjoys a good laugh. It deals with the school days of the subject of the book, and vividly portrays the hardships which make all urethrus akin in the days of their schooling. The book itself is an exceedingly interesting biography of a great man, the founder and first Regent of Southwestern University. A copy of it will be a valuable acquisition to any League library. It is neatly bound in cloth and retails for \$1.50. The offer of Bro. Cody to donate the books free is most magnanimous and deserves the sincerest gratitude of our Leaguers. In ordering a copy of the book address Dr. C. C. Cody, Georgetown, Texas, and enclose 12 cents in postage.

A principle in the heavens is a poor thing to pray to.

THE FACTORY SAYS: WE HAVE BEEN EARNESTLY AT WORK FOR SOME TIME IN AN EFFORT TO PRODUCE A TYPE OF SEWING MACHINE STAND THAT WOULD BE NOT ONLY DISTINCTIVELY CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR LINE, BUT ALSO COMPLETELY OUTCLASS ALL OTHERS AND MARK AN ERA IN THE TRADE—A STAND WHICH WOULD BE SO MUCH BETTER IN SO MANY WAYS AND SO MUCH HANDSOMER THAT IT WOULD AT ONCE STAND IN A CLASS BY ITSELF WITHOUT A RIVAL!



This is an AUTOMATIC LIFT drophead stand with an absolutely positive and easy action accomplished with mechanism of extreme simplicity. When the table leaf is swung over for sewing the head of the machine is automatically lifted to place and locked firmly, and when the leaf is moved the head is lowered into the dust proof receptacle provided for it. Nothing more perfect can be conceived, and no device for a similar object has ever possessed a fraction of the ease and certainty of action which are the essential features of this construction. The design of the woodwork is new, classic, elegant, artistically executed and exactly in harmony with the best modern ideas in high-class furniture. Nothing at all approaching it in artistic excellence has ever before been associated with a sewing machine; and it at once lends an air of dignified richness indicative of superior quality. Only the choicest grades of selected woods are utilized in the manufacture of this

stand, and the workmanship and finish are all that might properly be expected in connection with a superior article of this nature. This stand is made in one pattern only with four end drawers and a center or till drawer, as shown in the cut, and it is known as our No. 44. It is regularly furnished in quarter-sawn oak, which is our standard woodwork, but can be furnished in at an extra charge when required. The iron work is the very finest that unequalled facilities enable the factory to produce. The castings are perfectly smoothed and coated heavily with full gloss black enamel. The stand is of especially strong and rigid design, and more important than all, the belt wheel and pitman are fitted with anti-friction ball bearings which run about eighty per cent easier than any other form. To sum up briefly, this stand is designed and manufactured solely with the intention that it shall be wholly beyond the reach of competition or comparison.

Our prices, including one year's subscription to the Texas Christian Advocate, are as follows:

- Automatic Lift, No. 44 \$24.00
- Ordinary Drop-head \$23.50
- Upright \$22.00

The above prices will place the machine at the nearest freight depot of the purchaser. We pay the freight. Address,

BLAYLOCK PUBLISHING COMPANY, DALLAS, TEXAS.

You pay five times too much for lamp-chimneys. Buy good ones. MACBETH.

If you use a wrong chimney, you lose a good deal of both light and comfort, and waste a dollar or two a year a lamp on chimneys.

Do you want the Index? Write me. MACBETH, Pittsburgh.

THE IMPERIAL DALLAS' NEW HOTEL.

European Plan. Modern. \$1.00 to \$3.00 Per Day. THREE CAFES. T. H. GLANCY, M. D. WATSON, Proprietors.

NEW INVENTION!

Write for new booklet, Special Offer this month. Can you afford to neglect your health? Buy this new booklet, "The New Invention," which tells you how to get rid of all the troubles of the throat, nose, and ears, and how to prevent them. It is a booklet of 32 pages, and is worth its weight in gold. It is a booklet that every man, woman, and child should have. It is a booklet that will save you a great deal of money and a great deal of trouble. It is a booklet that will give you the best of health and the best of life. It is a booklet that is a real blessing to all who are afflicted with any of the troubles mentioned above. It is a booklet that is a real blessing to all who are afflicted with any of the troubles mentioned above. It is a booklet that is a real blessing to all who are afflicted with any of the troubles mentioned above.

Jan... A Re... the T... The w... patent... to cur... digest... which... The... ant... tain... pure... golden... lets... a name... Many... the di... lets... princ... client... of ray... some... Stua... bowel... cheap... and h... having... tive fo... If th... sisted... very s... no org... worke... This... Stuart... practi... and n... any tr... This... ly up... and si... stomach... ly dig... Stua... tired... compl... lated... They... sour s... meals... five pe... and u... useless... of "to... which... power... Stua... found... lar us... meals... better... Bri... D... Univer... Irvin... demon... of the... daily...

STRANGER THAN FICTION.

A Remedy Which has Revolutionized the Treatment of Stomach Troubles.

The remedy is not heralded as a wonderful discovery nor yet a secret patent medicine, neither is it claimed to cure anything except dyspepsia, indigestion and stomach troubles with which nine out of ten suffer.

The remedy is in the form of pleasant tasting tablets or lozenges, containing vegetable and fruit essences, pure aseptic pepsin (government test), golden seal and diastase.

Stuart's Tablets do not act upon the bowels like after dinner pills and cheap cathartics, which simply irritate and inflame the intestines without having any effect whatever in digestive food or curing indigestion.

If the stomach can be rested and assisted in the work of digestion it will very soon recover its normal vigor, as no organ is so much abused and overworked as the stomach.

This is the secret. If there is any secret, of the remarkable success of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, a remedy practically unknown a few years ago and now the most widely known of any treatment for stomach weakness.

This success has been secured entirely upon its merits as a digestive pure and simple, because there can be no stomach trouble if the food is promptly digested.

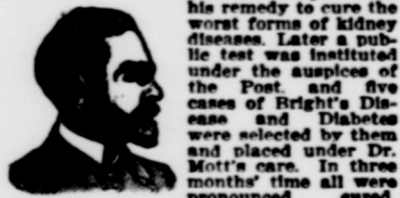
Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets act entirely on the food eaten, digesting it completely, so that it can be assimilated into blood, nerve and tissue. They cure dyspepsia, water brash, sour stomach, gas and bloating after meals, because they furnish the digestive power which weak stomachs lack and unless that lack is supplied it is useless to attempt to cure by the use of "tonics," "pills" and cathartics which have absolutely no digestive power.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets can be found at all drug stores, and the regular use of one or two of them after meals will demonstrate their merit better than any other argument.

Bright's Disease and Diabetes Cured.

University Chemist Acting as Judge.

Irvine K. Mott, M. D., of Cincinnati, O., demonstrated before the editorial board of the Evening Post, one of the leading daily papers of Cincinnati, the power of his remedy to cure the worst forms of kidney diseases.



Harvard University having been chosen by the Post to make examination of the cases before and after treatment.

Any one desiring to read the details of this public test can obtain copies of the papers by writing to Dr. Mott for them. This public demonstration gave Dr. Mott an international reputation that has brought him into correspondence with people all over the world, and several noted Europeans are numbered among those who have taken his treatment and been cured.

The doctor will correspond with those who are suffering with Bright's Disease, Diabetes or any kidney trouble, either in the first, intermediate or last stages, and will be pleased to give his expert opinion free to those who will send him a description of their symptoms. An essay which the doctor has prepared about kidney troubles and describing his new method of treatment will also be mailed by him. Correspondence for this purpose should be addressed to IRVINE K. MOTT, M. D., 87 Mitchell Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY.

An old superannuated preacher has developed an article that is a blessing to humanity. You can make money and be a blessing to others by handling it. It is as much in demand as bread when once used. Demand increases. Safe as Government bonds. You double your money. Only a few dollars needed to start. An agent wanted in every county. You can sell it at your home. Write to-day for information to Rev. C. H. Gregory, Conway, Ark.

CHURCH Furniture. Everything for the New Church. Wherever You Need for the Old.

BELLS. BLYMYER CHURCH BELLS. VOLUNTEERS BEING SOUGHT. MORE BELL TOWERS BEING BUILT. LOWER PRICES THAN EVER.

PISO'S CURE FOR SORES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in Sore. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION.

DESCRIPTION TO JESUS CHRIST.

Incomparable holiness is Thine. Embazon'd on Thy character it stands! Bright seraphs gaze upon it as they shine, Their highest admiration it demands.

Unsearchable Thy riches, too, as pure Thy character, O Jesus, Savior, Friend! I would no other wealth than Thine secure.

Time terminates with time—Thine shall not end.

Unbending rectitude—unbounded power—Their potent energies combine in Thee; Time present, past and future—every hour Speak of Thy greatness—greater still to be.

Immeasurable love—surprising grace Are found, alone, in Thee exemplified; Archangels try the lengths and breadths to trace, But fail to measure either ocean's tide.

And truth infallible is Thine—Thy word is truth; Thyself art truth's unebbing source; Truth emanates therefrom; Thy lips afford Unerring precepts—full of vital force.

Thou art the life, the sterling truth, the way. That leads from sordid earth to heaven high;

And all who bend to Thy indwelling sway Are mentioned for fruition in the sky.

Thou art Thy people's Prophet, Priest and King, Capacities no being else can fill; I recognize Thee such. Thy praise I sing; Low at Thy feet I sit in ashes still.

Marshall, Texas. JNO. B. TULLIS.

CHURCH EXTENSION NOTES.

H. G. H.

Members of West Texas Conference will please note the following: Applications for donations or loans should be in my hands by March 1, 1905.

Trustees will report to me what disposition has been made of the money donated to Churches.

Every deed must contain the trust clause as per Discipline.

Applications must contain attorney or County Clerk's certificate as to record of deed and trust clause.

If donations are not used in twelve months money reverts to the board and trustees are held responsible.

Send to Mrs. B. M. Hines, Uvalde, Texas, for blank applications to W. H. M. Society for help to build parsonages.

Send to me for the following blanks: Deeds to church and parsonage property; applications to General Church Extension Society for loans and donations; applications to Conference Society for donations.

Assure us you will insure your property as soon as the building is up if you want consideration at our hands. The General Society absolutely refuses to let out lands or donations to uninsured property.

Always ask for as small an amount as you can possibly get along on.

Don't go in debt expecting the board to pay you out. Don't pledge the help of the board to a building committee or on a subscription list. The board itself cannot do that.

Ask for a loan as a last resort. Debts are bad things.

Take up the Church extension collection—every cent of it.

Ventilate Church extension at District Conferences. Remember Methodism in a school house or under a brush arbor is a back number.

THE SUNDAY SERVICE.

Of the General Conference, 1784. Whatcoat wrote: (1) "agreed to form a Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the liturgy (as presented by the Rev. John Wesley) should be read."

Asbury said, "It was agreed to form ourselves into an Episcopal Church, and to have superintendents, elders and deacons."

Whatcoat was an Englishman; Asbury an American. Whatcoat sought to introduce an abridged ritualism; Asbury ignored the Sunday service in his Journal, so far as I have read.

Jesse Lee wrote: "At this time the prayer-book, as revised by Mr. Wesley, was introduced among us, and in the large towns and in some country places our preachers read prayers on the Lord's day. * * * After a few years the prayer-book was laid aside, and has never been used since in public worship.

The American Methodists of the eighteenth century rejected the Sunday service, although it was prepared and presented by Mr. Wesley himself, and strongly advocated by the Bishops, Asbury, possibly excepted.

In 1866, at New Orleans, the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, introduced some radical changes in the polity of the church, and while in that mood instructed the Book Agent to print Wesley's Sunday Service for use in the churches wishing it. That reprint had the same career as the original eighty years before. Very few copies of the Sunday Service were sold.

In 1784 the bulk of Methodists were in the South, and their refusal to adopt Wesley's prayer-book was largely the act of Southern people.

In 1866 the body of Methodists in the South said again they did not wish Wesley's Sunday Service.

Now a third offer to the church of a

Sunday Service is made by a commission appointed by the last General Conference. It is not a reprint of Mr. Wesley's Sunday Service, but introduces Gloria Patri and the Creed, two prominent parts of the Anglican Sunday Service. This service is not suited to rural congregations, and in towns and cities it is difficult of introduction because even in cities many of the most useful members object to its use. A pastor is not wise who will expend his energies in getting the new order of service to working, when by doing so he may lose the hearty support of some of his truest members. J. E. HARRISON.

MARRIAGES.

Hodges Renfro.—At the parsonage on Dec. 23, 1904, Mr. Walter Hodges and Miss Lula Belle Renfro, Rev. A. G. Scruggs officiating.

Powell-McGee.—At the parsonage in Detroit, Texas, Mr. W. R. Powell and Miss Sultie McGee, both of this place, Dec. 25, 1904, Rev. Atticus Webb officiating.

Augustus Terry.—Dec. 26, 1904, at the residence of the bride's father in Detroit, Texas, Mr. A. Augustus, of Blossom, Texas, and Miss Lula Bell Terry, Rev. Atticus Webb officiating.

Williams-McAllister.—At the Methodist Church in Detroit, Texas, Dec. 28, 1904, Mr. J. E. Williams, of Atlanta, Texas, and Miss Willie McAllister, of Detroit, Texas, Rev. Atticus Webb officiating.

Parker-Green.—At the parsonage of the First Methodist Church in Beaumont, Texas, Mr. G. C. Parker and Miss Martha Green, Nov. 17, 1904, at 3 p. m., Rev. V. A. Godbey officiating.

Self-McCracken.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Beaumont, Texas, Dec. 11, 1904, at 5:30 p. m., Rev. V. A. Godbey officiating.

Friar-Holmes.—At the residence of the bride's brother, Mr. A. V. Holmes, Dec. 15, 1904, at 8 p. m., Mr. John T. Friar and Miss Agnes Holmes, Rev. A. V. Godbey officiating.

Bowles-Smith.—At the residence of the bride's parents in Beaumont, Texas, Dec. 27, 1904, at 4:15 p. m., Mr. Iver Moten Bowles, of Oakdale, La., and Miss Olive Augusta Smith, of Beaumont, Texas, Rev. V. A. Godbey officiating.

Weiland-McDonal.—At the residence of the bride's father, A. F. McDonal, near Highland, Texas, Dec. 22, 1904, Mr. Martin Weiland and Miss Minnie McDonal, Rev. J. W. Harmon officiating.

Alphin-Urlick.—At Polytechnic College, Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 25, 1904, Mr. J. A. Alphin and Mrs. Urlick, of Kennedale, Texas, Rev. G. F. Winfield officiating.

Kelley-Hammock.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Kennedale, Texas, Dec. 18, 1904, Mr. J. D. Kelley, of Houston and Miss Ada Hammock, Rev. G. F. Winfield officiating.

Rainey-Sparks.—At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Berry at Ben Wheeler, Van Zandt County, Texas, Dec. 25, 1904, Mr. R. E. Rainey, of Sunset, Montgomery County, Texas, and Miss May Sparks, of Van Zandt County, Texas, Rev. J. F. Everitt officiating.

Smiley-Kennedy.—Dec. 25, 1904, near Big Hill, Texas, Mr. L. S. Smiley and Miss May Kennedy, Rev. F. M. Winburne officiating.

Lassetter-Rast.—At the home of the bride, near Rast, Van Zandt County, Texas, Dec. 25, 1904, Mr. E. J. Lassetter and Miss Effie Rast, Rev. J. F. Everitt officiating.

Bivin Wallace.—At the home of the writer, near Palace, Van Zandt County, Texas, Dec. 25, 1904, Mr. N. L. B. Bivin and Miss Lennie B. Wallace, all of Martin's Mill community, Rev. J. F. Everitt officiating.

Davidson-Purcell.—Dec. 25, 1904, at Hood, Texas, Mr. J. C. Davidson and Miss Lillie Purcell, Rev. W. B. Bayless officiating.

Field-Sells.—At the home of Mrs. Brady, in Hill County, Texas, Mr. S. T. Field, of Erath County, Texas, and Miss Alice Sells, of Hill County, Texas, Rev. R. V. Galloway officiating.

Colvin-Brown.—At the residence of Bro. Henry, Waco, Texas, the uncle of the bride, Mr. C. S. Colvin and Miss Goldie L. Brown, Rev. R. V. Galloway officiating.

Norsworthy-Christian.—At the parsonage in Hemphill, Texas, Nov. 17, 1904, at 8:30 p. m., Mr. A. L. Norsworthy and Miss Winnie Christian, Rev. W. S. Easterling officiating.

Ross-Cook.—At the residence of the bride's parents, near Bagwell, Red River County, Texas, Dec. 25, 1904, Mr. W. H. Ross and Miss Annie Cook, Rev. Thos. Gray officiating.

Greer-Morton.—At the residence of the bride's father, Dec. 25, 1904, Mr. Norman K. Greer, of Navasota, Texas,

TO ANY FARMER. Who will write us what style implement he expects to buy this Winter or Spring, we would be pleased to send him a handsome illustration of it, which also fully describes it. Address, Southern Rock Island Plow Co., Dallas, Texas. In writing us, please mention this paper.

THE SUCCESS SULKY PLOW. WE DEFY THE WORLD TO PRODUCE A RIDING PLOW THAT WILL GIVE AS GOOD RESULTS. IT HAS THE BEST MOULD BOARD FOR STICKY SOILS. IT PLEASES THE FARMER. PARLIN & ORENDORFF CO. DALLAS, TEXAS.



THE OLD VILLAGE CHURCH. I love th' dear old village church That stands beyond th' ridge, Nearby th' path that leads th' way Acrost th' rustic bridge. I love th' dear old high-back pews, Though hard ez iron they be, An' broken through th' winders are, They hev their charms fer me.

So fascinatin' is th' spot, That oftentimes I gaze To where our pretty village maids Sing gladsome songs uv praise. I love th' streaming sunshine, too, Acrost God's altar there, Each beam a ray uv hone fer me, And light uv angels fair.

An' there where Parson Brown always Bows low his head to pray 'Fore he gives out th' sermon's text In his most solemn way. It's music to my ears although Th' organ groans sometimes, An' 'prent is th' melody When ring th' evenin' chimes.

"IS IT MOS' READY?" Such a little fellow, And thin and pale at that, For days he had had nothing to eat but potatoes. There were three in his family, mother, brother and baby sister, and they were all thin and pale. The father had gone away and left them—the old, sad story. The rent was due, and the landlord had threatened to turn them out if it wasn't paid. No wonder potatoes were all they could have to eat.

But one day a little woman with big white ties came in at the door, bringing a big basket. She set the basket down stirred up the fire and announced with a cheerful voice that she was going to get supper. But first a cookie found its way out of the basket into the little laddie's hand. They were all together in one room, and it was a little room at that, but mother was sick on the bed in the corner, the baby was too little to make any trouble, and this little fellow of three was too absorbed in what the strange visitor was doing to think of mischief. He went softly about, looking at the kitties on the stove or standing by the side of the busy deaconess, saying every little while, softly, but with indescribable pathos, "Is it mos' ready?"—Exchange.

HEALTH IS YOUR HERITAGE. If you feel sick, depressed, irritated; if food disagrees with you; if you are constipated, suffer from catarrh, or get tired with the least exertion, you are not getting out of life what you are entitled to. There is no reason why you should not be restored to a life of perfect health and usefulness. There is a cure for you and it won't cost a cent to try it. The Vernal Remedy Company have so much confidence in their superb remedy, Vernal Palmatoria (Palmetto Berry Wine), that they are willing to send, free and prepaid, to any reader of Texas Christian Advocate a trial bottle. You can try and test it absolutely free of all charge. The remedy is also sold by druggists everywhere. We advise every reader to take advantage of this generous offer and write to-day to the Vernal Remedy Company, 46 Roy, N. Y.

TOO DARK. An artist, when on his death bed, called for his masterpiece. It was the painting of a shipwreck, with dark clouds and raging seas, the only light a lurid one. "That cloud is too dark," he said. "I always thought it the right shade before, but now I see it is too dark; I must make it brighter," and with a last touch of his brush, he let a gleam of light illuminate the darkness. So Christ has taken away the sting of death, and by the light of his glorious resurrection has dispersed the clouds of darkness.—Anon.

HARTSHORN SHADE ROLLERS. Hear the cry of St. Stewart's Shade Rollers on label. Wood Rollers & The Rollers.

The Woman's Department

Conducted in the interest of the W. F. M. Society and the W. H. M. Society. Address all communications to Mrs. Florence E. Howell, 170 Mason Street, Dallas, Texas.

HYMN FOR THE NEW YEAR.

I take my pilgrim's staff anew, Life's path, untrodden, to pursue, Thy guiding eye, my Lord, I view; "My times are in thy hand." Throughout the year, my heavenly Friend, On thy best guidance I depend; From its commencement to its end "My times are in thy hand." Should comfort, health and peace be mine, Should hours of gladness on me shine, Then let me trace thy love divine; "My times are in thy hand." But shouldst thou visit me again With languor, sorrow, sickness, pain; Still let this thought my hope sustain: "My times are in thy hand." Thy smile alone makes moments bright, That smile turns darkness into light; This thought will soothe grief's saddest night: "My times are in thy hand." Should those this year be called away Who lent to life its brightest ray, Teach me in that dark hour to say: "My times are in thy hand." A few more days, a few more years— Oh, then a bright reverse appears; Then I shall no more say with tears: "My times are in thy hand." That hand my steps will gently guide To the dark brink of Jordan's tide; Then bear me to the heavenward side, "My times are in thy hand." —Charlotte Elliott.

IN THE END.

I hold not with the pessimist that all things are ill, nor with the optimist that all things are well. All things are not ill, and all things are not well, but all things shall be well, because this is God's world.—Robert Browning.

CUBA.

(A paper read by Mrs. J. C. Griffin, of Auxiliary W. F. M. Society, First Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas.)

Our President asked me to write a short paper on Cuba, to be ready during our annual week of thanksgiving and prayer. I will try to tell you some things about Cuba, without touching upon the political complications between Spain and Cuba which brought down upon the cruel and treacherous Spaniards the wrath of our Uncle Sam, who made haste to break the fetters of Spanish oppression, and set the Cubans free. On May 20, 1903, the beautiful flag of Cuba was unfurled, and this gem of the ocean expected to assert her independence and govern herself. Cuba is our neighbor, and not so far away when we think of leaving our home land at midnight on Thursday night, and waking Saturday morning in the harbor of Havana.

Cuba was discovered by Columbus, on October 28, 1492, during his first voyage. In shape the island is long and narrow, in some places 25 miles wide and in others 100 miles wide. Its area is about 750 miles. It is about the size of the State of Indiana. There are two entrances into the Gulf of Mexico, one to the northwest, the other to the southwest.

The coast of Cuba is generally low and flat. Situated within and near the border of the tropical zone, the climate is moist and warm. There are no diseases specially indigenous to the island. Yellow fever breaks out with the wet season, from May to October, on the sea coast, but is quite unknown in the interior.

The mineral riches of Cuba have not yet been explored to any extent, although it is known that gold, silver, copper and coal abound. Near Havana a thick slate is found, fit for floors and pavements. There also are found marble, Jasper, iron and native loadstone. Fine chalybeate springs abound.

Everything that grows in the tropics is found in Cuba. Those who have looked upon the beauty of the country, the fertile soil, and lavish growth, pronounce it "a country where every prospect pleases, and only man is vile."

I must not linger longer over the richness of this beautiful country, but turn and try to tell you something that has been done by our missionaries to counteract the baneful influence of the Roman Catholic Church. Cuba needs Christ, for little light has dawned except through the mission schools, and the gospel as preached by missionaries. As well as I can follow missionary

work in Cuba, I find that in 1898 the parent Board of our Church took Cuba under its control as a regular mission field, and that year Rev. D. W. Carter went out with Bishop Candler and began work.

In September, 1897, Miss Mary Bruce, under the auspices of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the M. E. Church, South, assumed charge of the Wolff Cuban Missions. Three mission schools, with eight teachers and 229 pupils, have grown and prospered, notwithstanding war complications. The Irene Toland School was established by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of M. E. Church, South, in September, 1902, in Matanzas, with Miss Rebecca Toland as principal. Mrs. Pelot, also under the Woman's Board, was first on the ground in Santiago. She soon gathered together a number of interesting children, and opened a charity school. At first there were eight pupils. The number now has increased to thirty-three.

I now come to tell you of our Eliza Bowman School, which was established by the Woman's Board, in September, 1900, in Havana, in a suburb called Vedado, three miles out of the city. But the resident portion of the city lies in these suburbs, and the distance to the city is easily covered by street cars.

Miss Hattie G. Carson, principal of the Eliza Bowman School, is carrying on the school in a rented house, much too small for the school, to say nothing of a home for the missionaries. Yet she goes forward, and this school has prospered from the beginning. The houses in that country are unsuited for school purposes. One of the teachers, in making her report of the situation of the work, says, "We have moved from one rented house to another, in hopes of finding one that would at least accommodate our school. The houses in Havana and elsewhere are usually built with one large room, and the others all small. The ventilation is bad. Little or no glass is used in the windows. In winter, to have light, we have to open the heavy shutters, and with the light take the cold wind, and sometimes the rain. The stone floors are more or less damp, and when it rains they are really wet. We would so love to have our own home, and not live in a rented house." Let us pray that the time may soon come.

I feel constrained to tell you about the beginning of this school, which lies so near the heart of our home workers in Texas. I hope to interest you, and open your hearts to pity the women who are giving their lives for the love of Christ, and to open your purses to their needs. When you cast in your thanksgiving offering, remember Eliza Bowman School in Cuba.

This is an account of the beginning of the school, as I have read it in a missionary periodical:

"In 1899, at the annual meeting of the Woman's Board, in Tulp Street Church, Nashville, Tenn., under the burning words of Mrs. Wightman, President of the Board, she urged her sisters to enter Havana, Cuba, as the open door for Southern Methodist Women, the heart of Mrs. J. H. Bowman, of Plano, Texas, was moved to ask the privilege to make the first donation to this great enterprise. Soon \$500 came unasked into the treasurer's hands for this school. It then became the life purpose of Mrs. J. H. Bowman to establish this school for the youth of Cuba, as a monument to the life and character of her sainted sister-in-law, Mrs. Eliza Bowman. This enterprise was the burden of her toll and prayers. The eldest son of Mrs. Eliza Bowman gave the princely sum of \$1000 for the school, which made it a success. The Plano Church gave \$300, and others made additional gifts."

On October 27, 1900, the school was opened, and entered upon the great mission of redemption to Cuba's lost children, and under the shelter of this home they shall find a Christian home and Christian hearts to welcome them.

May God's blessings rest upon all who have given of their efforts, their prayers or their money toward this grand work.

SEEING BEAUTY IN GOD'S WORD. "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law."—Ps. 119:18. In one of his helpful little volumes, the Rev. Dr. J. R. Miller tells of a young lady who purchased a book and read a few pages, but failed to become interested in it. But some months afterward he goes on to relate, she met the author, and a tender friendship sprang up, ripening into love and betrothal. Then the book had a charm for her heart. Love was the interpreter.

"Seeing beauty in God's Word," is much conditioned in the same way.

The Bible has infinite value in itself, but to reveal its richest treasures it needs love as an interpreter. To those who do not know Christ personally, it may seem uninteresting; but to those who know and love him, its every page becomes like a casket of jewels glowing with beauty and light; yes, even better, like a letter of love, quickening the heart throbs and filling the soul with rapture and with fresh and holy resolve.

An open eye means an illuminated page. To the unveiled vision what wondrous things are seen in God's ever precious Word—wondrous things as to the depths of his love, as to his forgiving mercy, as to his saving grace, as to his never failing help, as to his home prepared for all that love him, and a blessed eternity under the smile of his presence forevermore.—Rev. G. R. F. Hallock, D. D.

MATRIMONIAL COMMANDMENTS.

Matrimony has ten commandments. These were studied out by Theodore Parker shortly before the day of his wedding. They took the form of ten beautiful resolutions, which he inscribed in his journal. They were as follows:

- First.—Never, except for the best reasons, to oppose my wife's will. Second.—To discharge all duties for her sake freely. Third.—Never to scold. Fourth.—Never to look cross at her. Fifth.—Never to worry her with commandments. Sixth.—To promote her piety. Seventh.—To bear her burdens. Eighth.—To overlook her foibles. Ninth.—To save, cherish and forever defend her. Tenth.—To remember her always in my prayers. Thus, God willing, we shall be blessed.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

WALDING, KINYAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The Supreme Court of Colorado has ordered a sweeping investigation of the recent election. Alva Adams, Democratic candidate for governor, who appeared from the returns to have been elected, but who had declared that he does not want the office tainted with fraud, asked the court to open every Denver ballot box, but the order of the court goes beyond the mere examination of the ballots, and provides for an investigation of the registration lists, the campaign expenditures, and, in brief, all election matters.

FOUND AT LAST.

A perfect cure for cigarette habit. Dr. Hill of Greenville, Texas, discovered the remedy.

The true Christian studies the happy art of making the most of every one with whom he is thrown in contact—of recognizing in each soul and of eliciting from it that feature of heart and mind in which stands the relationship of that particular soul to God. It is this true self of our neighbor which we are required to love.—Edward M. Goulburn.

A Symphony in Gray.

In the 1905 Calendar of N. W. Ayer & Son, the Philadelphia Advertising Agents, is worked out a color scheme in grays and white so harmonious as to merit the above title.

On the back-ground of gun metal gray cover paper is developed in lighter tones their well-known medal trade-mark and motto "Keeping Everlastingly at It Brings Success;" the latter being the predominant feature of the design.

The calendar is a large one, fourteen by twenty-eight inches and designed for office or library. The figures are large and, being printed in white, stand out clearly across a large room.

Whether the popularity of Ayer & Son's calendar is due to the uniformly tasteful design, to their utility, or to the epigrams on advertising and business-building which fills the blanks left on the flaps, it is hard to say, but they have enjoyed a steady sale for years at twenty-five cents each; for this sum, which barely covers cost and postage, the 1905 edition may be had as long as it lasts.

FREESTONE COUNTY DRY.

This precinct voted on local option last Tuesday, Dec. 27, and the vote stood 111 for prohibition and 21 against it. This is the only precinct in Freestone County that had whiskey, and so you may put Freestone in the dry column. J. U. McAFEE, Cotton Gin, Tex.

SUPPLIED.

The vacant charge in the Weatherford District has been supplied. Thanks to all applicants. E. F. BOONE, P. E.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD.

Continued on Page 5.

en streams and oftimes slept in the woods far from a house, with no company but his pony and no pillow but his saddle. West Texas can never pay the debt it owes to such men as H. G. Horton, J. W. DeVilbiss, the Gillets and the rest of the "old guard," who, in the face of difficulty and danger established the kingdom of God and organized the Methodist Churches which are today our best appointments. Mill Creek, a prosperous farming community, has one-fourth of the pastor's time. The membership of this Church numbers 115. The people are cultured and religious and have contributed largely to making the pastor feel welcome. This Church has a good Sunday-school, Epworth League, Junior League, and Mite Box Brigade. We look forward to a good year in all departments of the work.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Jewett.

S. W. Thomas, Dec. 29: We are making a fine start at Jewett. Our reception has been most cordial. We expect a glorious year in this charge.

Center.

L. H. McGee, Dec. 26: We left the good people of Trout on Monday, after the second Sunday in December, and reached here the next day about noon, and as it has always been our good fortune, we received a warm welcome. A company of brethren and sisters met at the parsonage before the hour of our arrival, and made fires, and prepared a warm dinner, which not only made us feel welcome in their midst, but proved to us that they knew how to treat the preacher and his family, so as not only to make us love them, but to inspire us by the help of the good Lord to give them the best service possible. On the first night of our stay in the parsonage, a great company of men, women boys and girls, filled the house and took absolute possession, and ran things just to suit themselves, and by so doing they suited us also. The soundings was immense. The good things to eat are so many that it will be a feast in this preacher's home for weeks to come. Christmas is over and we have two unslaughtered turkeys in the coops, because of the many pressing invitations to eat with the people. We are delighted and well pleased with our appointment, and sincerely thank the good Bishop, and all others who had anything to do with our coming to Center, and humbly ask all who read this letter to pray that we may have a great revival in this town. On our move to Center, our baby girl, Lois, contracted pneumonia, but the dreaded disease was arrested, and held in check, by the skillful and attentive Dr. E. S. Carroll, and by the blessings of the Lord, through the prayers of this people, she was soon restored, for which we devoutly thank God and the people. Wishing the editor and all the readers of his great and good paper, a happy New Year, we close.

Queen City Circuit.

A. A. Kidd: We have been here about three weeks; we were lodged in the home of Brother and Sister W. C. Powell, who spared no pains to make our stay pleasant to us. Our predecessor did not move for a week after we came, and we took refuge at different places—mostly at Brother Powell's and Brother and Sister Ellington's. We got into the parsonage and the pounding began, and has not stopped yet, and we see no signs of its stopping. The ladies put some new furniture in the parsonage and they are building a new kitchen to the house. When completed we will move the cooking outfit into it and the dining-room outfit into the present kitchen, and will thus have another bedroom. They are just waiting for this move, then they will repair the new dining room and repaper the two front rooms. You see! They have already put electric lights in the parsonage. Queen City is made up of as kind and generous people as can be found anywhere. We are adopting the assessment plan for our financial plan, and it works like a charm. Queen City charge will not be one whit behind the best circuit in Pittsburg District at next conference. The Advocate is in high favor with these people. We will soon see what we can do for it. We earnestly pray God's blessings upon the good people of Queen City charge.

Roger's Prairie.

J. B. Gregory, Jan. 2: To all kindred and friends scattered abroad I send a New Year's greeting, and write this that they may know where I am, and know of my "state." I was kindly received by the good people in my new field. I find a kind and nice people and a pretty and good country. I prayed earnestly that the Lord would guide me to the place most suitable and best

for me to labor as pastor this year, so I accept it as divinely directed, and will do the best I can, and try to evade all mistakes of the past, and profit by lessons learned, and endeavor to be more cautious, more prudent, more diligent, more consecrated and useful, and an "ensample" of the flock, and feed them with wholesome food. I think all pastors should improve in usefulness as they advance in experience. I am in Madison County, fifteen miles north of Madisonville, thirty-three miles northwest of Huntsville. I pray that the Lord use me to the good of this kind people. I ask the prayers of all God's people to assist me in my labors in his vineyard.

Calvert.

G. E. Cameron: The first Sunday after conference we were in our new appointment. A good, nice, clean repapered parsonage. A good pounding, a hot dinner and many kindly faces greeted us. We have built a new fence about the parsonage, and have money enough with which to recarpet the church. Our congregations are of good size and constantly increasing. This marks the beginning of what we trust will be a good and prosperous year.

THE HARRISON SCHOOL. San Antonio Texas.

Correlated with Vanderbilt University. Young men can get room and meals for eleven dollars a school month. Write, J. E. HARRISON.

UNANSWERED LETTERS.

Dec. 29—H. M. Cosby, subs. J. E. Stephens, sub. D. L. Coale, subs. I. Z. T. Morris, sub. Luther O. Rogers, sub. S. P. Cherry, change made. Sam J. Franks, sub. A. B. Davidson, sub. J. M. Mills, subs. J. N. Hunter, sub. G. H. Collins, sub. Jas. A. King, subs. J. T. Bloodworth, sub. C. W. Dennis, sub. L. G. Rogers, sub. R. L. Jameson, sub. John A. Travis, change made. J. D. Dorsey, sub. G. M. Gardner, sub. Has attention. T. W. Ellis, sub. J. A. Laney, subs.

Dec. 30—A. B. Davidson, sub. H. M. Glass, subs. Ellis Smith, sub. C. G. Shutt, sub. Franklin Moore, sub.

Dec. 31—Neal W. Turner, sub. Chas. U. McLarty, sub. C. C. Childress, sub. J. T. Griswold, sub. J. A. Wyatt, sub. Geo. H. Phair, sub.

Jan. 2—M. K. Little, subs. S. W. Thomas, sub. J. F. Archer, sub. Chas. S. Field, sub. Thos. Gregory, sub. J. M. Mills, sub. L. B. Ellis, subs.

Jan. 3—R. F. Bryant, change made. J. F. Alderson, sub. C. B. Cross, change made. J. W. Cunningham, sub. S. Crutchfield, sub. C. V. Oswald, subs.

Jan. 4—Chas. S. Field, sub. S. L. Ball, subs. W. F. Mayne, subs. W. H. Harris, has attention. C. A. Evans, sub. C. B. Garrett, sub. S. W. Thomas, sub. W. P. Edwards, sub. C. L. Browning, sub. has attention. Jas. A. King, subs. E. S. Hursey, sub. J. A. Old, sub. H. J. Haynes, sub.

CHAIN OF 20 COLLEGES.

Draughon's Practical Business College Co., Waco.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an advertisement of Draughon's Practical Business College Co. This Company has twenty Colleges located in thirteen different States. Fine colleges in Texas. Draughon's Colleges have been established sixteen years. Draughon's Practical Business College Co. was incorporated about two years ago with a Capital Stock of \$200,000.00. Sixteen Bankers on Board of Directors. These Colleges are strongly endorsed throughout the country. Read the advertisement. Write or call for Catalog before entering elsewhere.

It is more important to get people doing religious service than it is to get them attending religious services.

READ THIS:

Greenville, Tex., Dec. 13, 1902.—Dr. E. W. Hall, St. Louis, Mo. Dear Sir—I have used your Texas Wonder. Hall's Great Discovery, myself and with my family for kidney and bladder troubles and can cheerfully recommend it to all persons suffering from such troubles, and firmly believe if its use is persisted in it will cure these diseases. Yours truly, J. H. ANDERSON, Deputy County Clerk.

TEXAS WONDER.

One small bottle of the Texas Wonder, Hall's Great Discovery, cures all kidney and bladder troubles, removes gravel, cures diabetes, seminal emissions, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, it will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Dr. E. W. Hall, sole manufacturer, P. O. Box 629, St. Louis, Mo. Send for testimonials. Sold by all druggists. Office, 2921 Olive Street.

RUB ON Painkiller and the Rheumatism's gone.

CONSOLATION.

Do they know each thought and frown
That must come through blinding tears?
Is it given them to feel
The burdens that we must bear?

UNTO THE LARGER GIFT.

Hester Hartman ran down the steps of her father's house, humming a gay tune. How glorious was the crisp, frosty December morning!

throat, which seemed suddenly to smother and strangle her. That one sentence beat through her brain, sealing against all other impressions.

Well he knew that his modest salary could never purchase for the girl such luxurious apparel as this. And if these were the things she cared for, if they were necessary to her happiness, then she was not the woman to face those sacrifices attendant upon the life toward which Alex MacDonald looked forward.

some wheel-chairs. Tell her to order whatever you need, and to send the bill to me."
What a day that was for Hester! First came the pleasure of telephoning the good news about the wheel-chairs to Marian Blake.

OUR BLACK BROTHER.
Brighter skies are breaking for the colored people in the South. We mention the South, particularly, because we are compelled to admit that there are more immediate signs of promise for the black man there than in the Northern States.

gomy negro. One might think this was not a hopeful item of news for Henry, but it indicated this fact—that there was at least one colored man in business in Montgomery, and he probably was in something more pretentious than the chicken business, or he would not think it worth while to go through bankruptcy.

Methodist Munitions. A Veritable Arsenal
Consists of Eight Guns, To-Wit:
Methodist Dynamite, or Immersion Exploded.
Our Polity Vindicated, or Why I Am a Methodist.

cused would escape or have a fair trial, would come under the federal law and be severely punished. The writer found that the declaration of Governor Jones is supported by every white man of position or influence in Alabama, and we doubt not the same is true of other Southern States.

Frost leads to fruit.—Ram's Horn.
A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.
I have been doing so well in the egg business that I feel it my duty to let others know how they can succeed.

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Our Polity Vindicated, or Why I Am a Methodist.
Twelve Reasons Why I Am Not a Campbellite.
Heaven's Dynamics, or The Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

FARM LANDS
ALONG
"THE DENVER ROAD"
IN
NORTHWEST TEXAS
(THE PANHANDLE)
Are advancing in value at rat of 20 per cent. per annum.
DO YOU KNOW OF ANY EQUAL INVESTMENT?
As our assistance may be of great value toward securing what you need or wish, as regards either Agricultural Properties or Business Opportunities, and will cost nothing. Why not use us?
Drop us a postal card.
A. A. GLIBSON, Gen. Pass. Agt., Fort Worth, Texas.

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.

ROACH.—Rev. Jostaneous Josey Roach was born in Maury County, Tennessee, June 4, 1818. When he was yet a child his father and family moved to McNairy County, Tennessee, where he grew to manhood. He was married to Miss Susan Elizabeth Londreth, of McNairy County, Tennessee, July 7, 1872. Of this union were born six children—three boys and three girls—all of whom have married except the youngest daughter, Claudia. The wife and all his children were about his bedside during his last hours. Bro. Roach was converted when a boy, but did not join the Church until his first born was baptized in infancy—in 1873. Two years later he surrendered to the call of God to the ministry, and was licensed to preach by the Quarterly Conference of the Church to which he belonged. He came with his wife and four children to Hunt County, Texas, in 1880, where, after a few years of hard toil, he was able to purchase the home from which he went to heaven. Two of his children were born here. He was a member of Hackberry Church (now Lane) for twenty-four years. To that Church he gave most faithful and effective service. At her altar all of his children were converted, and where they belong except Rev. John E. Roach, who is a member of the North Texas Annual Conference. Bro. Roach valued his license to preach above his earthly possessions, and he used them faithfully and zealously until his death. He was always an acceptable preacher in the Church where he held his membership. The influence of his life, sermons and prayers will ever live for good in old Lane community long after the present generation has passed away. He was ever watchful of the Church's interest, and guarded her doctrine with his whole heart and life. He was a man of decided conviction and very positive in their defense, but was very kind and charitable to other's opinions. The fruit of his life in his family is but the demonstration of the truth of God's Word. One son, an itinerant preacher, the other two officers in the Church, all true Christian men, and the three daughters are earnest workers and faithful members of their father's Church. He was a Methodist loyal and true, ever ready to do her bidding, and advance her interest by preaching when called on and whenever he had an opportunity to tell "the old, old story" he did it. He was instrumental in God's hand in leading many to salvation. He was his pastor's faithful friend, ever guarding his character and strengthening his influence. Many itinerants will remember the generous hospitality and rest received under his roof. But he is gone. After a brief suffering of less than a week with pneumonia he died Nov. 30, 1904, just as the sun was rising. Rev. J. M. Peterson, presiding elder Greenville District; O. S. Thomas, ex-presiding elder, and E. L. Spurlock, former pastor, buried him. A large concourse of people followed his remains to the grave, where he was buried near the Church of his love and labors. "Soldier of Christ, well done; rest from thy loved employ." We'll meet you again by and by in the world of fullest joy. May God bless his heart-broken family. E. L. SPURLOCK. Sherman, Texas.

PURSER.—Sister C. A. Purser was born October 22, 1844, in Marshall County, Alabama, and died December 6, 1904, in Big Springs, Texas. She was converted in early childhood and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was an exemplary member of the same as long as she lived. Her life was beautiful in devotion to God, loyalty to the church, and such other characteristics as go to make a useful Christian life. Having thus lived, she was ready when the summons of death came. The husband to whom she has been a faithful helpmeet for nearly forty years and the children and grandchildren all confidently believe she has already received the "abundance entrance" awaiting the good, and, by following her as she followed Jesus, they, too, may enter therein and never more suffer grief and sorrow. C. A. EVANS.

DICKSON.—On March 20, 1899, a precious little baby girl opened her eyes to the light in the home of E. R. and Daisy Dickson. How we loved her, and how she loved her two brothers, as she grew up; but we were only permitted to keep her three years, two months and six days. She got a fall from the porch, which was low, but fell in such a way that it caused partial paralysis. She lived a week and didn't seem to suffer any great pain. Just a thirst that could not be satisfied, as everything she drank came back as she drank it. How it wrung our hearts to hear her beg for water even to her dying breath. But, thank God, she is free from sorrow, pain, hunger and thirst, forever safe and happy, and through His precious blood we will be permitted to again clasp her to our yearning hearts. Little Doris died May 26, 1902. On a beautiful morning her innocent little soul went to the God who gave it. There had whispered a voice, 'twas the voice of our God, "I love thee; I love thee; pass under the rod." Her mother, MRS. DAISY DICKSON. Hillsboro, Texas.

McFADDEN.—Lucile McFadden, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McFadden, was born near Sterling City, May 22, 1900, and died of paralysis of the heart Dec. 18, 1904. As the family had recently moved to West Texas, the pastor's acquaintance with them was limited. But with sweet little Lucile, as with all children, she has gone to that Savior who suffered little ones to come to him. May the heart-stricken parents find his presence precious to them, and as they think of this precious sweet flower plucked from earth to bloom in the paradise of God may the fragrance of that life, though only a few years, be to them an inspiration of hope and may it enable their faith and trust to rise superior to all sorrow, knowing that if she cannot come to them they can go to her. To the fond parents and those who knew and loved her that short sweet life was not lived in vain. The remembrance of such a little messenger of love brings to us the comfort and joy as only God's angels of light can do. S. E. WILSON.

MARTIN.—Maria Jane, daughter of Jas. Alex. and Mollie Eva Martin, was born near English, Texas, March 20, 1900, and died on Rosen Heights, North Fort Worth, at 8:20 p. m., Dec. 6, 1904. Weep not, loved ones, as those who hope not, for the Spirit of the Father, who in love lent to you your bright-eyed, golden-haired treasure, tenderly kissed away her spirit and placed it safe in the arms of Jesus around the throne of God. You miss her happy chattering play with little Willie and their toys, and her interesting preparation for Sunday-school and joyful returning, but she's gone where 'tis an eternal Sabbath, and she makes heaven nearer and brighter to you. Grievous loneliness will often roll over your hearts, but the same sweet Spirit says, "Peace be still!" and "Of such is the kingdom of heaven." Lovingly, AUNTIE.

BRYANT.—Jessie Gage was born in Eastland County, Texas, April 4th, 1882; moved with her parents to New Mexico in 1887; professed faith in Christ under the preaching of her father, J. C. Gage, in 1892, and united with the M. E. Church, South, in 1900; afterward attended school at Paris, Texas, living with her uncle, C. G. Johnson. On January 1, 1901, she was happily united in marriage to W. A. Bryant, and in March returned to New Mexico with her husband and located in Roswell, where they lived happily together until the day of her death, which occurred Dec. 9th, 1904. She was a useful woman in the Master's cause; sweet spirited and patient during her sickness. She was ready when the Master called her, and entered into that rest which is for the people of God. May the loved ones that mourn her departure ever trust in the Savior she loved so well, and may the Holy Spirit comfort their bereft hearts. GEO. R. RAY, P. C.

EDGAR.—Mrs. Rebecca Edgar (nee Rebecca E. Walton) was born September 8, 1828, in Edgefield District, South Carolina. She lived there until 1849. Upon the death of her parents, she, with her brother-in-law, Mr. McDaniel, moved to Texas. After stopping one year in Mississippi they landed in Sabine County, Texas. Here, August 21, 1851, she was married to E. B. S. Edgar. Seven children blessed their home. Three died in early childhood, one after he had grown to manhood, and three remain to follow on. In 1866, as they were moving from Sabine to Madison County, her husband died, leaving her with four small children dependent upon her for their daily bread. Remaining a widow, she labored heroically for her children. She joined the Baptist Church in early life, and with them remained until 1892, at which time, with her son, she joined the M. E. Church, South, from whose ranks she was called above. Early in the morning of November 24, 1904, in the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. J. McWhorter, near Pankey, Grimes County, Texas, while surrounded by her children, grandchildren and loving friends, she quietly passed away. She was an ideal woman, loving mother and devoted Christian. To God be the praise for the gift of such a mother. To Him be praise for the promise of the resurrection in His own image. BY HER SON.

ALLISON.—Mary O. J. Allison (nee Johnston) was born in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Aug. 18, 1861, and was born again eleven years later, uniting with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of which she lived a thoroughly consistent member until the day of her death, Dec. 18, 1904. She was married to Bro. H. L. Allison April 8, 1884, and to this union six children were born, four of whom are now living to mourn the loss of a devoted and self-sacrificing mother. For ten years Sister Allison was a great sufferer, but with unusual patience and Christian fortitude she bore her affliction. In her religious life she was a quiet, unpretentious woman, but her spotless character demonstrated the fact of an undying faith in God. Just before death came she called her husband and children and said: "All is well with me; I am ready to go." With her family and friends she shared in the joys and sorrows of this life and truly a good woman has gone from us. N. M. McLAUGHLIN, P. C.

TEMPLETON.—It is with much sorrow that we record the death of Mrs. Isabel Templeton, of Cameron, Texas. Sister Templeton was born in Keatchie, DeSota Parish, Louisiana, Feb. 3, 1842. She moved to Texas in 1853 and was brought up in Matagorda and Wharton Counties. In 1861 she was married to Mr. Eli Frewette, who died in 1863. She was again married to Mr. W. N. Templeton, who, with their five children, still survive her. Sister Templeton was converted and joined the Methodist Church in 1868, under the pastorate of Louis Whipple. During all these years she lived a most exemplary Christian life, and was much loved in Cameron and Davilla, where much of her life was spent. Though called suddenly during the early hours of Wednesday morning, Dec. 21, 1904, the summons found her ready to meet her Lord. In her well-marked Bible we found this passage underscored, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Evidently she had lived in the faith of that promise, and now enjoys the reward of the faithful. May the Lord sustain the bereaved ones and give an unbroken meeting in the home of the blessed. C. J. OXLEY.

FREEMAN.—Otie Freeman, daughter of Bro. S. H. Freeman and wife, of Becker, Texas, was born May 30, 1893, and died Aug. 27, 1904. Otie had a sweet disposition; was devoted to her parents; and to her mother, who is of very feeble constitution, she was loving, tender and with the thoughtfulness of womanhood. Being the only girl in the family she was fondly cherished by all, and the more sadly missed when called away. She loved her Sunday-school teacher and her pastors next to her own parents; had a perfect record in her Sunday-school, and was working for a diploma. She will receive it in the Sunday-school above. She was very dear to the writer, who will cherish her memory through the mists and clouds of coming years till on the dawn of the morning of life eternal she presses his hand of welcome to the home above as she did so often here below. While not a member of the Church, I believe Otie lived the life of a Christian as God would have it lived by one of her age. She enjoyed family worship, and was regular at the prayer-meeting, and her faith in Christ was strong and with childlike simplicity. Such a life on earth must needs have a heaven prepared for it above. ATTICUS WEBB.

RECTOR.—Mrs. Harriet Caroline Rector (nee Kirk) was born in Alabama Aug. 19, 1825. With her family she emigrated to Texas in 1837. She was educated at old Rutersville College under Prof. Richardson. While there she was converted and joined the M. E. Church, South. She was married July 16, 1846, to Rev. Nelson S. Rector. To this union were born the following children: E. L. Rector, J. K. Rector, Laura A. Rector, Rev. A. E. Rector, Judge N. A. Rector, Rev. W. E. Rector, L. W. Rector, Mrs. Lizzie Eddins, Mrs. Ella Malone and Rev. G. C. Rector, all of whom survive her. She departed this life at Austin, Texas, March 3, 1904. These are the bare facts of a life whose true history can only be found in the Lamb's Book of Life. It was the writer's privilege to be associated with Sister Rector for more than two years as her pastor, and to live for some months in her home. Having thus known her he can testify to her beautiful Christian character and wonderful faith in God. Her faith was as the faith of a little child. While life brought to her a large share of its trials and sorrows, she never fretted over the past or worried about the future. She had "learned the wondrous secret of abiding in the Lord, and had found the strength and sweetness of confiding in His Word." I never remember to have seen her when there was not a calm, sweet smile upon her face. During her last years heaven seemed very near and real to her. Often in the Lord's sanctuary, and especially on sacramental occasions, I have seen her face illumined by a "light that never was on sea or shore," and her eyes seemed to have pierced the veil that divides the heavenly world from ours. Her presence in the congregation was always a peculiar help and inspiration to her pastor. Death came to her very unexpectedly, but she was ready. She retired one evening, apparently as well as usual. The next morning as the new day was dawning for us there dawned for her the morning of eternal day. The struggle with the grim monster lasted but one brief hour, and as it ended there settled upon her calm face a smile of triumph, and the light of victory was in her eye. Mrs. Rector was quiet and unassuming, and yet she exerted a wonderful influence for good on all who knew her. She was a blessing to her Church and community in a multitude of ways. Now that she is resting from her labors "her works do follow her." She exalted in the highest degree her divinely appointed sphere of wife and mother, and to-day the rich fruitage of her life is found in the ten noble, Christian men and women whom she reared. Every one of them is noted for the strictest moral integrity. Every one of them is a member of the Church and a leader in Christian work. Three sons are ministers of the gospel, one in the local ranks, one in Virginia, one in the German Mission Conference in Texas. How wondrously in His own providential way is God multiplying the influence of that quiet, saintly life! CULLOM H. BOOTH. Bastrop, Texas.

TEASLEY.—W. A. Teasley was born in Murray County, Georgia, Nov. 15, 1841, and departed this life Dec. 20, 1904, in Red River County, Texas, near Clarksville. He was converted some years before he moved to Texas. In 1886 he joined the M. E. Church, South, at Whiteoak in Red River County, about the year 1887. His membership was moved to Bethel Church some years afterward, where it was at his death. Bro. Teasley lived a very consistent life. He is dead, yet he speaks. He died in the triumphs of a living faith and went home to glory to await the coming of his loved ones. The home circle is broken, the chair vacant, and a loving father gone never to be replaced on earth. He leaves a sorrowing wife, four children and a host of ardent friends to mourn their loss; but they do not have to weep as those who have no hope. While Bro. Teasley was not as active in Church work as some men are, yet his consistent, godly life will ever be fresh in the memory of those who know him. Will say to the bereft wife and children, "Live close to the Lord and at the consummation of time, when the Lord and his angels come to make up their jewels, that Christ will select you and take you home to be with father forever more. Your pastor, H. M. COSBY.

LOVETT.—Mattabel Lovett was born in Mobeetie, Texas, Feb. 18, 1887, and spent the most of her brief and beautiful life on her father's ranch on McClelland Creek, in Gray County. Several years since, while a student in Clarendon College under the ministry of Rev. J. R. Henson, she was converted and united with the M. E. Church, South. She was faithful and consistent from that day till she was summoned home on Sept. 14, 1904. Her last illness was of about two weeks' duration, during which time she seemed conscious of the fact that the time of her departure was at hand; but she was not disturbed at the thought, for she had made peace with God, and calmly and peacefully she met the enemy and triumphantly passed over the river and is now safely housed in the fold above. Mattabel was the only child of her fond parents, and this providence is indeed a severe affliction, but they realize that God doeth all things well. And they expect to see her again in a little while, "when the mists have cleared away." She leaves a host of friends, for she seemed by her genial and happy disposition to be a general favorite with all who knew her. G. S. HARDY. Clarendon, Texas.

GARDNER.—Ruby, eldest daughter of Rev. George M. and Lily K. Gardner, was born in Sterling City, Texas, Jan. 3, 1895, and died in Aspen Hill, Tenn., Dec. 1, 1904. Oh, God, how mysterious are thy ways. From this Christian home is gone a bright, beautiful, loving little child, who would have received the best of training, while in other homes, where the children are not even taught right from wrong, all are spared. Sometimes we wonder why it is so. But there seems to come the answer: "Jesus doeth all things well." Little Ruby was laid to rest at Chestnut Grove Cemetery, where just a week before her uncle, Will Gardner, whom she loved dearly, was laid away to await the return of our Savior. While her parents' hearts are breaking their sorrow not as those who have no hope, for well they know they shall meet their darling on that bright and happy day when the dead in Christ shall rise. May we all strive to meet our innocent little ones. Her aunt, DAISY DICKSON. Hillsboro, Texas.

SIMMONS.—Mrs. Laura Bell Jones Simmons was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Jones. While an infant her parents moved to Newton County, Arkansas. When a child she was converted and joined the Methodist Church, and ever afterward remained a devoted and faithful servant of her Lord. She was married in 1891 to Rev. J. S. Simmons, who was a member of the Arkansas Conference. They labored together for ten years in that conference; then transferred to the Indian Mission Conference, where they labored for three years. Some years ago Sister Simmons' health began declining, and with the hope of benefiting her, Bro. Simmons transferred to the West Texas Conference at its last session and was sent to Amphion. Her health continued failing and death followed Dec. 24, 1904. She suffered long, but through it all was resigned to the will of her Lord. A devoted Christian, a true wife and a loving mother has gone to her everlasting reward. She leaves a heart-broken husband and three little children—a girl and two boys—to mourn their loss. May the God of all grace comfort and protect them. W. J. JOHNSON. San Antonio, Texas.

PRICE.—Daisy, the 2-year-old daughter of Stacy Price and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Sanders, was horribly burned and departed this life Dec. 16, 1904. The funeral services were conducted at Oakdale Church. We then laid her scarred little body to rest in the cemetery by the church there, to await the great judgment morning. Many people were present, thereby showing their deep love and sympathy. But some day God will wipe away all tears. Be comforted then, my dear friends, in the hope of eternal joy. MATTHEW C. DICKSON, P. C.

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Claret Hereford at Hereford 1 Channing Dasher at Hanford Chapel, Higgins, J Canadian, McLane, Cataline at Silverton Tulla, Mel

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Baby's Skin The baby's delicate skin can be kept beautifully fair, soft, smooth and free from blotches, pimples, eczema, sores and every skin affection by the use of HEISKELL'S Ointment Careful mothers everywhere have used it for half a century with unflinching results. Heiskell's Soap is perfect for the skin. At druggists, soap stores, ointment boxes, send for testimonials. JONASHEIS, HOLLIDAY & CO., Philadelphia.

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Tutt's Pills stimulate the TORPID LIVER, strengthen the digestive organs, regulate the bowels, and are unexcelled as an ANTI-BILIOUS MEDICINE, In malarial districts their virtues are widely recognized, as they possess peculiar properties in freeing the system from that poison. Elegantly sugar coated. Take No Substitute.

Allen's Lung Balsam will positively break up a deep, ranking cough past relief by other means.

WEST San At Eagle Pas Del Rio, Del Rio, Bexar cir Utopia cir Laredo, Uvalde, West End Sherman South Hei Travis Pa Prospect Carrizo St 1st Sun Aust Eagle Lab Columbus Weimar Cedar Cre 22 Cue El Campo Palacios, Rancho, a Leesville, Shiner, at Port Lavu Nursery, Cuero, 41 Clear Cree San Ml Staples, a San Ml Pleasant C Tilton, at Dripping 2 Beev Kenedy, J Rockport, Adams, Ja Oakville, Stockdale, Lavernia, Brownsville Hercul, a San A Sherwood, Ozona, Ja Sonora, at Paint Roc Sterling C Pontotoc, Mason, at Brady cir Brad y Cir, Milburn, a Junction C Menardville Llano Blanco, at Johnson C Bertram, Sunny La Jan. 31 Burket an 2 p. m Kingsland Feb. 11 Llano sta Kerrville Bandera a Feb. 2 Boerne, at Center Pol Liberty Hl San Saba Cherokee, Rockspring Barksdale, NORTHW Abil Merkel ml Putnam, a Clyde, at Capps, Ja Buffalo Ga Claret Hereford at Hereford 1 Channing Dasher at Hanford Chapel, Higgins, J Canadian, McLane, Cataline at Silverton Tulla, Mel Waxaha Palmer an Ferris Jar Forrester, Venus, at Alvarado, Bristol, Ja Ennis, Jan Milford, at Italy, Jan. Bardwell's Grandview, Red Oak, Lovelace, Dubi De Leon at Eastland at Cisco cir. Desdemona Carbon, at Duffau, at Bluff Dale Gien Howe Carlton cir Huckabay Morgan Ml The distr meet in D: Jan. 28, 24 Gatesvi Jonesboro, Turnersville Maxdale, a China Sprit Evansville, Gatesville, Copperas C Brownw Sipe Spring Rising Sta May, at Comanche

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

San Antonio District—First Round.
Eagle Pass, 2d Sun Jan.
Del Rio, Jan. 11.
Del Rio cir, 3d Sun Jan.

Austin District—First Round.
Eagle Lake cir, at Eagle Lake, Jan. 7.
Columbus sta, Jan. 10.
Weimar cir, at Weimar, Jan. 14. 15.

Cuero District—First Round.
El Campo, at El Campo, 2d Sun Jan.
Palacios, at Markham, 2d Sun Jan.

San Marcos District—First Round.
Staples, at Hunter, Jan. 7.
San Marcos, Jan. 8.
Pleasant Grove, at Martindale, Jan. 14. 15.

Beverly District—First Round.
Kenedy, Jan. 7.
Rockport, Jan. 11.
Matias, Jan. 12.
Oakville, Jan. 22.

San Angelo District—First Round.
Sherwood, at Knickerbocker, Jan. 7.
Ozona, Jan. 10.
Sonora, at Sonora, Jan. 14. 15.

Liano District—Second Round.
Blanco, at Fiat Creek, 3 p. m. Jan. 21.
Johnson City, at J. C. 10 a. m. Jan. 22.

Clarendon District—First Round.
Hereford sta, Jan. 7.
Hereford, Jan. 8.
Channing and Dumas, Jan. 14. 15.

Waxahachie District—First Round.
Palmer and Boyce, at Boyce, Jan. 7.
Ferris Jan. 8.
Forreston, at Forreston, Jan. 11.

Dublin District—First Round.
De Leon cir, at De Leon, Jan. 24.
Carbon and Gorman, at G. Jan. 25.

Gatesville District—First Round.
Jonesboro, at Jonesboro, Jan. 7.
Turnersville, at T. Jan. 8.

Bowling District—First Round.
Bryson, Jan. 7.
Jacksboro, Jan. 8.
Bonaville, Jan. 14. 15.

Paris District—First Round.
Marvin cir, at Reno, Jan. 7.
Blossom and Sylvan, at B. Jan. 8.

Greenville District—First Round.
Kingston, at Kingston, Jan. 7.
Greenlee, Wesley, Jan. 8.

Houston District—First Round.
Columbia, at Brazoria, Jan. 7.
Richmond, Jan. 14. 15.

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Comanche sta, Jan. 22.
Austin, at Gusting, Jan. 27.
Proctor, at Proctor, Jan. 27.
Indian Creek, at I. C. Feb. 4. 5.

Waco District—First Round.
Hewitt, Jan. 7.
Morgan and Walnut, Jan. 14. 15.

McKinney District—First Round.
Weston cir, at Anna, Jan. 7.
Princeton cir, at Princeton, Jan. 14. 15.

Vernon District—First Round.
Crowell cir, Jan. 7.
Paducah mis, Jan. 11.
Matafor cir, Jan. 14. 15.

Corsicana District—First Round.
Alma, Jan. 7.
Rice, at Rice, Jan. 9.
Dawson, at Dawson, Jan. 15. 16.

Colorado District—First Round.
Gail mis, at Gail, Jan. 7.
Gomez mis, at Gomez, Jan. 19.

Weatherford District—First Round.
Palo Pinto, at Graford, Jan. 7.
Santo, at Santo, Jan. 14. 15.

Brahm District—First Round.
Randolph, at Edhuber, Jan. 6.
Trenton, Marvin, Jan. 7.

Brahm District—First Round.
Chappel Hill, Jan. 7.
Scary, at Scary, Feb. 7. p. m. Jan. 13.

Tyler District—First Round.
Canton and Edgewood, at C. Jan. 7.
Aiba, at Golden, Jan. 14. 15.

Calvert District—First Round.
Fairfield and Dew, at F. Jan. 7.
Jewett, at Oakwood, Jan. 14. 15.

San Augustine District—First Round.
Garrison cir, at Caledonia, Jan. 7.
Timson sta, Jan. 8.

Marshall District—First Round.
Kilgore, at Kilgore, Jan. 7.
Ariston, at Ariston, Jan. 14. 15.

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Richmond, Jan. 14. 15.

Dallas District—First Round.
Wheatland, at DeSoto, Jan. 7.
Lancaster sta, Jan. 14. 15.
Cedar Hill and Duncanville, at Cedar Hill, Jan. 21. 22.

McKinney District—First Round.
Weston cir, at Anna, Jan. 7.
Princeton cir, at Princeton, Jan. 14. 15.

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Crowell cir, Jan. 7.
Paducah mis, Jan. 11.
Matafor cir, Jan. 14. 15.

Corsicana District—First Round.
Alma, Jan. 7.
Rice, at Rice, Jan. 9.
Dawson, at Dawson, Jan. 15. 16.

Colorado District—First Round.
Gail mis, at Gail, Jan. 7.
Gomez mis, at Gomez, Jan. 19.

Weatherford District—First Round.
Palo Pinto, at Graford, Jan. 7.
Santo, at Santo, Jan. 14. 15.

Brahm District—First Round.
Randolph, at Edhuber, Jan. 6.
Trenton, Marvin, Jan. 7.

Brahm District—First Round.
Chappel Hill, Jan. 7.
Scary, at Scary, Feb. 7. p. m. Jan. 13.

Tyler District—First Round.
Canton and Edgewood, at C. Jan. 7.
Aiba, at Golden, Jan. 14. 15.

Calvert District—First Round.
Fairfield and Dew, at F. Jan. 7.
Jewett, at Oakwood, Jan. 14. 15.

San Augustine District—First Round.
Garrison cir, at Caledonia, Jan. 7.
Timson sta, Jan. 8.

Marshall District—First Round.
Kilgore, at Kilgore, Jan. 7.
Ariston, at Ariston, Jan. 14. 15.

Palmer and Boyce, at Boyce, Jan. 7.
Ferris Jan. 8.
Forreston, at Forreston, Jan. 11.

Dublin District—First Round.
De Leon cir, at De Leon, Jan. 24.
Carbon and Gorman, at G. Jan. 25.

Gatesville District—First Round.
Jonesboro, at Jonesboro, Jan. 7.
Turnersville, at T. Jan. 8.

Bowling District—First Round.
Bryson, Jan. 7.
Jacksboro, Jan. 8.
Bonaville, Jan. 14. 15.

Paris District—First Round.
Marvin cir, at Reno, Jan. 7.
Blossom and Sylvan, at B. Jan. 8.

Greenville District—First Round.
Kingston, at Kingston, Jan. 7.
Greenlee, Wesley, Jan. 8.

Houston District—First Round.
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Houston District—First Round.
Columbia, at Brazoria, Jan. 7.
Richmond, Jan. 14. 15.

Harrisburg, March 8.
Sandy Point, March 11. 12.
White Oaks, March 15.
District Stewards meet January 10, at Shearn Church, 10 a. m.
Sam R. Hay, P. E.

Sherman District—First Round.
Bells, at Everhart Memorial, Jan. 7.
Trinity and Messenger, at T. Jan. 8.
Gordonville, at Shaady Grove, Jan. 14. 15.

Pittsburg District—First Round.
Texarkana, Hardy Memorial, Jan. 7.
Texarkana, Central Church, Jan. 8.
Winnfield, at Bridges Chapel, Jan. 14. 15.

Bonham District—First Round.
Randolph, at Edhuber, Jan. 6.
Trenton, Marvin, Jan. 7.

Brahm District—First Round.
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THE DOG'S LAMENT.

It's very hard to suffer and be still.
Our name's applied to every human ill.

Indeed, the very worst that's to be had.
A book is "dog cared" when it's been abused.

Alas! I think we're very hardly used.
A man's a "dog" because he won't be have.

A "puppy" is a fellow most uncouth—
A slur upon the flower of our youth;

A "hound" a villain of the deepest dye—
An insult to his dogdom's majesty;

And dog-days' finds us panting with the heat;
We scarce can blink our eyes, or lift our feet.

A dreadful thing, from which we dogs would shrink.
A "dogma" is a hard religious school,

A "dogged" person always plays the fool.
And dog-days' finds us panting with the heat;

Why—why—throw mud upon our noble name?
A dog's a dog thro' all the world the same.

—London Answers.

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—London Answers.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth.

Be sure to use that old and well-tried remedy.
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething.

Prayer is simply our expression when we become conscious of God's presence.—Ram's Horn.

Stockmen's Excursion to Denver.

On account of the annual convention of the National Live Stock Association and National Wool Growers Association, to be held at Denver, Colorado, beginning January 10, 1908, the Port Worth and Denver City Railway Company ("The Denver Road") announces a rate of one fare plus \$2 for the round trip, applicable from all points in Texas.

It doesn't pay to try to pass yourself off for more than you are worth; it tends to depress your market quotation.

It doesn't pay to lie, for your lies must all be kept on file mentally and in the course of time some of them are pretty certain to get on the wrong book. A liar needs a better memory than any one is apt to possess.

It doesn't pay to try to get a living without work. You will work harder and get poorer living than if you did honest work.

It doesn't pay to be a practical joker, unless you can enjoy the joke when you happen to be the victim.

It doesn't pay to rest when you ought to be at work; if you do, you are apt to have to work when you ought to be resting.

It doesn't pay to cry over spilled milk, neither does it pay to spill the milk.

A man may often trample with impunity upon a woman's deepest sentiments, but let him beware of poking fun at her spring hat.—Dr. S. A. Steel, in Work.

IT DOESN'T PAY.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Tyler District—First Round.
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Aiba, at Golden, Jan. 14. 15.

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North Texas Female College and Conservatory of Music and Art.

Sherman, Texas.

MY DEAR GIRLS:

As I stand at the portals of the New Year, the impulse comes to me to send greetings to the many young women all over the land who, during the past seventeen years, have passed in and out before me. In my mind's eye I look down the long procession as each passes on to take her appointed place—some to the simple hamlets to make glad the hearts that love them, others dispensing hospitality and charity from the luxurious homes of the great centers, and one far away laboring for Christ in the missionary field of benighted China.

To one and all, wherever you may be—whether in the Occident or the Orient—in the North or the South, I send greeting. May your hearts respond to the celestial hosts who at this Christmas tide sing, "Peace on earth and good will toward men." L. A. KIDD-KEY.

Mrs. Barry has returned from the State Teachers' Association in Corsicana, where her paper on "The Study of Literature as a Practical Factor in Education" was heartily applauded by that earnest and intelligent body of teachers.

The literary department of the North Texas College is controlled by high standards and ideals of education. These teachers know that text book knowledge is not all of education, or even of that part of it gotten in the school room. It is their aim to send forth these young women with well formed character, with such quantities of head and heart as will put them at once in touch and sympathy with humanity and interest with all animate nature.

The girls who remained with us during the holidays have enjoyed much good cheer and Mrs. Key's kind thoughtfulness provided pleasant diversions and amusements that they might not get home-socks or lonely.

The opening on the 2nd will bring together all her old ones and many new faces for the remaining school year. The college was never more prosperous. The new buildings are so commodious and comfortable it is a pleasure to live in them. Improvements are going on all the while. We are soon to have an additional room to the Art Hall to be used for modeling. And then we are dreaming of other things that we are not going to tell just now.

Mrs. L. A. KIDD-KEY, President.

BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Report of the Treasurer of Board of Missions, West Texas Conference, Dec. 31, 1904:

	Domestic.
Nov. 23—Balance brought forward	\$ 14 95
Dec. 7—W. T. Renfro, Lampasas	50 00
Dec. 21—A. L. Scarborough, San Saba	40 70
Dec. 27—A. W. Wilson, Lockhart	50 00
Total to Dec. 31, 1904	\$165 65

J. E. PRITCHETT, Treasurer.

NORTHWEST TEXAS BROTHERHOOD ATTENTION!

Do not let the pleasures of the season cause you to overlook your duty to the Brotherhood. The Ray call expires Jan. 17. Is your fee in the Secretary's hands? See to this at once. Many are yet to be heard from.

M. S. HOTCHKISS, Sec.
Temple, Texas.

TO PASTORS OF PARIS DISTRICT.

I hereby call a meeting of the pastors of Paris District to be held at Detroit, Texas, to be held Jan. 31st and Feb. 1st, to confer with reference of revival and missionary interests in the district. I expect every pastor to be present. A program will be sent you later. E. H. CASEY, P. E.
Paris, Tex., Jan. 2.

DEDICATION AT FARMERSVILLE.

Bishop Hoss will dedicate our Church at Farmersville January 29. All former pastors are very earnestly invited to attend. Brethren, we hope every one of you will come. The Farmersville people will be glad to meet you again. Everybody will be kindly welcomed.

A. R. NASH, Pastor.

YOUNG PREACHER WANTED.

Wanted—A young preacher, a single man preferred, for Crockett Circuit; a small parsonage and light pay, but a good opportunity for some faithful young man. Address

JOS. B. SEARS, P. E.
Crockett, Texas.

LOST FOREVER

All desire for tobacco. I took a cure from Dr. J. S. Hill, of Greenville, Texas.

A MATTER OF HONOR.

The last General Conference, believing that the Epworth Leagues of our Church were ready to pay the expenses of their own administration, ordered the General Board to assess ten cents per member each year on the Leagues for this use. The General Minutes show nearly four thousand chapters as in every way active last year. Of these four thousand only about one thousand have paid the assessment. This leaves from twenty-five hundred to three thousand that have failed to answer the call. Believing that the Leagues would readily and gladly meet this obligation, we went forward and took official and personal responsibility for a vigorous administration. The result has been that the League and the Era have been put on high ground. The Era takes its place with the great journals of the day. It is free from debt; but the Leagues have permitted their own fund to lag, and as a result the General Secretary is carrying on January 1 of this year an embarrassing balance against this assessment. This balance has been incurred in the administration of the office and to make the Era and the League a success. The obligation on him is both personal and official. It is a trivial matter for our Leagues. An average of fifty cents from each League would pay it, but for one man it is too much. Let our Leagues, therefore, take this matter up at once. Send all or a part of your assessment immediately. Take a collection in true Methodist style, and send it on to be put to your credit. The obligation is a sacred one. Meet it, and the League will go grandly on.

H. M. DU BOSE.

January 1, 1905.

STEWARDS' BOOKS.

The third edition of the Gallaway Stewards' Book will be ready for delivery by the time you read this. Send your orders at once to Nashville Publishing House, Dallas Branch or to myself. Price 75 cents per dozen; 40 cents for half dozen; 20 cents single copy.

R. V. GALLAWAY.

UNCLE JACK'S CAVE.

On a fork of Tavern Creek, back in one of the old States, settled a rather old character away back in the early 30's. This old man's name was John, popularly called "Uncle Jack," by the young people who grew up in after years in the surrounding country. As there was a big cave near the creek and at the bottom of a great cliff which stood on the land which Uncle Jack had "homesteaded," he was spared the trouble for many years of building houses and barns, for he simply became a cliff dweller—this cave serving the purpose of dwelling and barn and storehouse combined. Many years wore away, and Uncle Jack and his family were content to dwell with the horses and cows in the cave. By dint of a little farming and a good deal fishing and hunting, Uncle Jack, like his few rustic neighbors of white settlers and the remnants of roaming bands of Osage Indians, managed to make some sort of living. But, unlike these neighbors of varying types of ethnology, Uncle Jack did not believe that man is an immortal being. He often argued with his neighbors as follows: "A man can't live after he's dead. When he's dead, he's dead, just like a hog or goat." But Uncle Jack did not like the idea of annihilation. That was a bitter pill. So when this simple-minded man began to feel old age creeping over him, and when the shadows began to grow long in the evening of life, his mind instinctively sought for some way by which some sort of existence might be perpetuated.

For many years Uncle Jack had known of a small cave some sixty feet above the one in which he lived and some forty or fifty feet below the top of the perpendicular cliff. In this small cave he decided he wanted to be buried and have the mouth of the cave sealed up, so that his body might have a chance to petrify. With his own hands and such rude tools as pioneers usually have, he made a coffin for himself. The coffin was not needed for many years, however, and the writer is reliably informed that the neighbor boys often desecrated this sacred piece of furniture in Uncle Jack's cavern by dragging it to the creek which ran by and converting it for the time being into a rowboat. The time finally came when the coffin should be used for a more noble and glorious purpose. As per instructions, upon Uncle Jack's decease, his body was prepared for burial by a physician of the country by having the vital organs taken out, the cavity left thereby filled with common salt and placed in the coffin with salt packed all around it. In this condition the body was lowered by means of a windlass from the top of the cliff to the small upper cave, and, after having been placed therein, the mouth of the cave was sealed up with solid masonry. According to instructions, the body was to have been removed from its resting place at the end of seven years, at which time it was believed by

our subject that the body would be turned into stone, in which condition he hoped to exist forever. When the seven years had rolled around, however, the Civil War was being waged, and the good doctor who was to make the post-mortem examination was no longer in the country. A great picnicking ground has since been made out of the place by the parties who own it. A dancing pavilion has been built in the large cave that served Uncle Jack as a residence, and every year the owners advertise in the papers and by means of posters that Uncle Jack is to be taken out of his long resting place, and, as a result, each time a great concourse of people meet there to witness the solemn scene, but Uncle Jack still peacefully lies in his little cliff, made famous for having in its side "Uncle Jack's Cave." P. N. INGRAHAM.

NOTICE.

I want a preacher for Archer City—a young man or a man with small family. Salary not less than \$500. None less than first-class, with satisfactory recommendations, need apply. T. R. PIERCE, P. E.
Bowie, Texas.

THE RUBBERS THAT RAN AWAY.

Baby Jean was three years old, and grandpa was sixty-three. Baby Jean was tiny, but grandpa was almost a giant—he was so broad and tall. Strangers always looked surprised when the two walked down the street together, because it was so far from the top of Baby Jean's sun-bonnet to the top of grandpa's silk hat.

The two were great friends, and when they went to pass the summer in a cottage by the seashore, even Baby Jean's mother couldn't keep them apart. Where one went the other was sure to go.

Early in the season there was a Sunday-school picnic at Mt. Nebo, two miles away. None of Baby Jean's family wanted to go except grandpa, and he said he wouldn't go a step unless he could take Baby Jean. It happened that big white clouds covered the sky the morning of the picnic, and Baby Jean's mother said she was afraid it might rain and if it did, Baby Jean would get his feet wet and grandpa would get his feet wet, too, as she knew they would both wade around in the wet grass.

"We'll take our rubbers," said grandpa, so he hunted for his big, big rubbers, while Baby Jean found her tiny, tiny rubbers; and the tiny rubbers were so small they slid into the toes of the big rubbers, making all the family laugh.

Soon Baby Jean and grandpa were riding in the picnic wagon, while down in the hay, where no one could see, rode the big rubbers and the tiny rubbers.

When the picnic wagon reached Mt. Nebo the wind had blown away every cloud from the sky, and the sun shone bright and warm.

"We won't need our rubbers, after all," said grandpa; "so scamper away, Baby Jean, and we'll have a jolly time in this merry crowd."

It does seem as if the four rubbers in the bottom of the picnic wagon must have heard what grandpa said, because a little while after, when the horses trotted farther on, the big rubbers took the tiny rubbers and ran away, though they didn't like dry grass half so well as they liked grass that was dripping wet. It is natural for rubbers to prefer rain to sunshine.

More than once that day the laughing Baby Jean and her grandpa almost stepped on their own rubbers; but somehow the rubbers managed to keep themselves out of sight. Baby Jean and grandpa scarcely saw the ground anyway, and when it was time to go home all they could think of or talk about was the happy time at the picnic.

The next day it rained. O, it poured! Grandpa wanted to go to the post-office, and Baby Jean wished to go, too.

"But it rains," said Baby Jean's mother, "and you will get your feet wet."

"We'll wear our rubbers," announced Baby Jean.

"Sure enough!" added grandpa. Then he remembered something he had forgotten.

"Here, Dick," he called to Baby Jean's big brother, "won't you run over to the barn, where the picnic-wagon is kept and get our rubbers. You will find them in the hay."

Dick couldn't find the rubbers; they were not in the wagon.

"Then I guess we'll have to buy new ones," remarked grandpa, and he sent Brother Dick to the village store with money to buy the rubbers. In a little while Dick came back, grinning. He said there weren't any rubbers in town big enough for grandpa nor tiny enough for Baby Jean.

Sunday, the next day, it still rained. "Dear me," said grandpa, early in the morning, "Baby Jean and I can't go to Sunday-school to-day, just because my feet are too big and her feet

are too little! Dear, dear! It's too bad we lost our rubbers!"

"Dear, dear!" echoed Baby Jean, "it's too bad we lost our rubbers!" Long before church time a little barefooted, ragged girl, with a big bundle under her arm, came up the path and rang the bell.

"Here," said she, when grandpa went to the door, followed by Baby Jean, "I found these rubbers on Mt. Nebo, where you had a picnic. I was there yesterday huckleberrying."

"How do you know they belong to us?" asked grandpa, as he took the wrappings off the precious bundle. "I didn't see you at the picnic."

"Course, not; I wasn't there," answered the little girl, "but when I found the rubbers I knew there wasn't anybody on earth that has such big feet as you have, and I knew the little ones belonged to the baby 'count of her always being with you. Anyway, they didn't fit our family."

"O, ho, I see!" replied Baby Jean's grandpa. "Well, little girl, you come here to-morrow morning, and Baby Jean and I will take you to the store and buy you a pair of nice, new rubbers."

The little girl said that rubbers wouldn't be of any use.

"Why not?" asked grandpa.

"'Count of not having any shoes to wear 'em on," was the reply.

"Then we'll buy you a pair of shoes, too," grandpa promised.

"Stockings, too?" asked the barefooted one.

"Stockings, too," added grandpa, "for now, thanks to you, Baby Jean and I can go to Sunday-school."

"Perhaps the little girl will go next Sunday if she has new shoes and stockings," suggested Baby Jean's mother, who had been listening to all that was said, "especially if I get her a new dress and a new hat to-morrow morning."

O, how the ragged little girl smiled, and how glad she was many times during that long, happy summer that the big rubbers ran away with the tiny rubbers!

The rubbers themselves must have been thankful they were not left up on the mountain, for they never could have found their way home alone, and it is surely true that neither the big rubbers nor the tiny rubbers ever again tried to run away from grandpa and Baby Jean.—Francis Margaret Fox.

In a letter made public January 1, Andrew Carnegie has made an offer of \$263,000 for the rebuilding of the Maryland Institute of Baltimore, which was destroyed by fire last February, if the city of Baltimore will provide a site for the institution.

The Father of lights makes the family of light.

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL.

Few People Know How Useful it is in Preserving Health and Beauty.

Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines and carries them out of the system. Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.

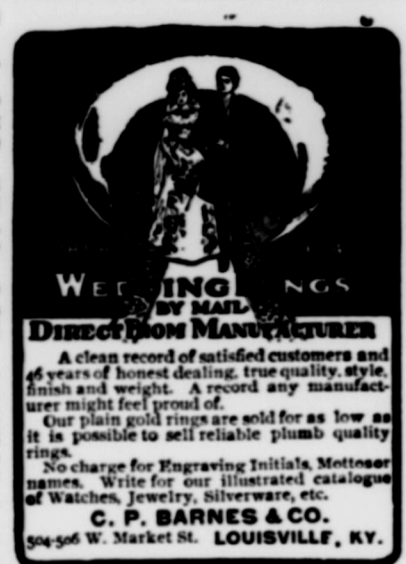
Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic.

It absorbs the injurious gases which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh.

All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and most for the money is in Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal, and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form or rather in the form of large, pleasant tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

The daily use of these lozenges will soon tell in a much improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath and purer blood, and the beauty of it is, that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but on the contrary, great benefit.

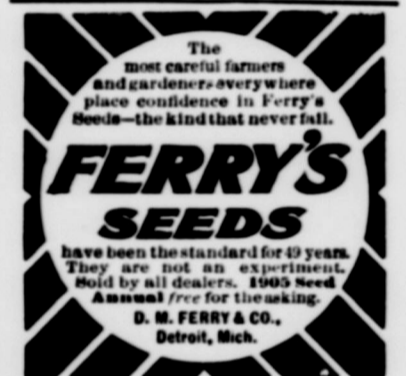
A Buffalo physician in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says: "I advise Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets."



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