

TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

BLAYLOCK PUB. CO., PUBLISHERS.

Official Organ of all the Texas and New Mexico Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

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

Vol. LII.

Dallas, Texas, Thursday, December 28, 1905.

No. 19

Editorial.

THE DIVINE PURPOSE.

God is love, and his love for his creatures was made manifest when he created man in his own likeness and image, and called him his child. "Adam was the son of God." God then demonstrated his purpose to make his children happy by preparing the very best possible home for them. In this home he anticipated and provided for his every want. When man proved himself a disobedient and ungrateful child, he loved him still. "God so loved the world as to give his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." This shows the Divine purpose was not changed, but that he still sought, as an ultimate purpose, to make man happy here and hereafter.

The commonly received idea is that God intends to make the righteous happy in heaven hereafter, but the lot of the good here and now is to be a hard one. The first part of this statement is true—we shall be happy in heaven if faithful—but that last part, that the lot of the righteous in this life is necessarily a sad one, is not warranted by inspiration. Our happiness here, as well as hereafter, depends largely upon ourselves. It must be remembered that while it is God's purpose to make his creatures ultimately happy, that this life is not the time nor place for final reward or punishment, but that we are on probation, and that in the exercise of our free will we elect to be obedient or disobedient. Hence, every providence, whether pleasant or severe, is alike intended to lead us to do his will, that we may be happy forever. These providences may involve sickness, poverty, bereavement and trouble of every sort, yet they are but the chastening of a kind and loving Father to bring them to final happiness. A kind father does not chastise for the punishment it gives, but to save the child from ruin. Often when we are bereaved of loved ones here, which break the chains that bind us to earth and strengthen the cords which bind us to heaven, we, like David, are ready to say: "He can not come back to me, but I can go to him."

Some men can not stand prosperity and good health without forgetting their obligations to God; therefore, as the purpose of our Father is to secure to his children final and eternal happiness, he sends such temporal affliction as is best calculated to lead such rebellious children to trust in him. But these chastisements never come except for the ultimate good of the creature; and when mercy and judgments fail to lead men to God and they prove incorrigible, then probation ends and the awards of a wicked life begin. But, as intimated above, misery, sadness and sorrow are not necessarily the normal lot of the righteous. But, on the contrary, all the legitimate blessings of this world belong, in a peculiar sense, to the Christian. The wicked world assumes the role of false honesty and admits that heaven and eternal happiness belong to the righteous, but claim all the joys of this life for the ungodly. The very reverse of this last statement is true.

God created this beautiful world for his children and gave them "dominion" over everything; while no legacy is provided for the wicked except death, "The soul that sinneth it shall die." It is, therefore, evident that the good things of this life, both temporal and spiritual, belong to the children of God. It is only by the sufferance of the Divine Father that they are permitted to enjoy the good things of this life for a season. It must be kept in mind, however, that God only gives to his people the degree of prosperity which is best calculated to redound to their eternal salvation. "All is well that ends well" is God's purpose toward his people. Hence, Paul says: "Godliness is profitable for all things, having the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come." And, again, he says to the Church in Corinth: "All things are yours * * * and ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's." And he further shows that when affliction becomes necessary for our ultimate good, these afflictions become our servants and "Work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." So that the little investment we make by suffering in this short life will yield infinite profits in eternal life. Hence Paul, in comparing "these light afflictions" with the profits to be realized, says: "I reckon the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." The blessings in this life come first and then heaven follows.

In the beatitudes of the Sermon on the Mount, Christ tells us "The meek shall inherit the earth," and then "The pure in heart shall see God." So that the young man who begins his business life with the motto, "The world owes him a living," begins with a rogue's motto. He may succeed in getting rich, but, like Dives, will at last "lift up his eyes in hell, being in torment." But if he begins with a pure heart and right purpose, and makes God's word his guide, he may, with confidence, expect that degree of success that is best adapted to his present and future happiness. An honest man may as consistently pray the blessing of God upon his business as he can upon his soul. He should engage in no business upon which he could not ask the blessings of heaven. How any man can do a thing, or engage in business inconsistent with the Scriptures, and then expect God to prosper him and his business, is unaccountable.

To sum up the whole matter: God originally created all things for the happiness of his children. When they sinned he loved them still, and at once made provision by which they might be restored, not to an earthly, but a heavenly paradise. When these new provisions for man's happiness crystallized into organic form, he rewarded the righteous with both temporal and spiritual blessings. Job, the like of whom there was none on earth, a perfect and upright man, was possessed of servants, herds and flocks and great wealth. So was Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The piety of David was rewarded with a crown and scepter. Nicodemus, who came to Christ by night, had great wealth. Joseph, who begged the dead body of our Lord and

placed it in his own new tomb, was rich in this world's goods; and after Jesus arose, as first fruits from the dead and made vacant the tomb, no doubt Joseph afterwards slept sweetly in the place sanctified by his Lord. So we conclude that poverty is not necessarily a virtue, and legitimate wealth is not a crime, but each is sanctified by the Father for the greatest good of his child.

THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE'S WISE WORDS.

Once in a while we reproduce the utterances of the Houston Chronicle, and we give below one of its editorials. Such a paper deserves well of the best classes of our Texas citizenship. It takes no extreme positions, but it has the courage to lift up its voice and proclaim the truth, regardless of the result. The editorial here quoted hits the nail squarely on the head. The better judgment of the people will see it sooner or later, and their aroused conscience will settle the debt they owe to the liquor business. A few more slaughters, a few more bloody tragedies, a few more premature widows and orphans, and their cup of endurance will be filled to the brim. There will come a reckoning before many years, and the dive will expiate its crimes on the altar of an indignant and outraged public sentiment. It has almost reached the limit; and the position of the Chronicle on the subject is a fierce indication of its coming doom:

"It is a remarkable fact that officers of the law permit dens of lawlessness and vice to exist and violations of the law to continue until, by the inevitable operation of the law of cause and effect, some dire tragedy results. They can but know that lawlessness begets lawlessness, and that if they wink at violations of law and neglect or refuse to perform their duty that they but encourage the lawless and thus become responsible for the results.

"Beaumont has upon the whole as good a set of officers as any city in the State, yet they have become so accustomed to seeing law (and indeed all kinds of) drinking dives open on Sunday that the enormity of the offense and the danger arising from such continued violation of law did not impress them, but when the quiet and peace of Sunday is broken by pistol shots, and two faithful officers are shot dead by a drunken negro loafer just emerging from a saloon open in violation of law, the officers suddenly awoke to the danger of neglect of duty and resolved to clean up and close up the dives.

"They are not the first set of officers who have hastened to 'lock the stable door' too late. They overlooked palpable violations of law until two good citizens are dead, two widows and six fatherless children remind them of inexcusable neglect. It is a dreadful price to pay for a lesson, but God grant it may sink deep into the hearts of every officer in Texas.

"There is another fact, as a newspaper of the people, the Chronicle would point out, and that is the origin of this whole tragedy: The dramatis personae were a saloon-keeper violating the law, a negro loafer drunk in

violation of law, officers permitting such violation through neglect of duty, and violation of law on their part, and the crowning cause, the presiding, inspiring demon of death and destruction—Whiskey.

"A few drinks of cheap, vile and poisonous decoction sold in violation of law inflamed and maddened the weak brain of an ignorant, depraved negro, and dead fathers and stricken, wailing widows and orphans are the result. There is no escape from this conclusion. It is a fearful, horrible, lamentable truth.

"Neglect of duty and violation of law as surely bring forth evil fruits as a seed brings forth its kind, and when combined with such neglect and violation is added the debasing, demoralizing effect of whiskey, we have a combination which breeds murder and every species of crime.

"Some time the people will awaken to the danger and horror of such a combination."

LAYMAN SPEAKS OUT IN MEETING.

We admire the Advocate in the fight it makes for the public morals of our great State. We enjoy seeing it contend for moral progress in the face of such hostile opposition as is shown it from time to time. We are proud to see it resent the scurrilous attacks made upon it for its defense of morality; and we enjoy seeing it refuse to be silent when silence would shield it from bitter reproaches, to which its duty exposes it. These labors can not help winning the Advocate a welcome in the heart of the citizenship of Texas.

As to the attitude the Post has assumed toward the influence of the Advocate, and also the ministerial world, we will say that the people of Texas will not long remain passive in seeing a paper throw itself across the progress of the moral influences of this State. Such articles as appeared in the Post of Dec. 11 are certainly embarrassing to the people of Texas. We are not surprised to know that an individual may be found who is low enough to utter such against ministers of the gospel, but we are embarrassed to see the Post gathering such literature from such ranks and offering it to the people of this State.

OSCAR W. HOOPER.
(A Layman.)

Shelbyville, Texas.

Trickery in matters of business, or in the affairs of the Church, may, now and then, give you an apparent advantage, but in the long run it does not pay. In fact, nothing can take the place of sincere and open dealing in your relation to men. At some stage of the game, trickery will defeat itself and injure the man who resorts to its practices.

Public opinion does not make a course of conduct right or wrong. A thing is right because it is right, or it is wrong because it is wrong. Right is sometimes unpopular and public opinion, for the time being, ridicules it; nevertheless, public opinion can not change the character of anything that quadrates with right. It will remain right, though the heavens fall.

Notes From the Field.

Livingston.

J. L. Russell. We were changed at our last conference at Pittsburg from Kellyville to Livingston. It is always painful to separate from our old friends. Many were the tokens of love and friendship bestowed upon us by the good people of the Kellyville charge. We shall always count them on our long list of friends. Fortunate the pastor who falls in the hands of these good people. They took us in as strangers, they stood by us until the train came to bear us to our new work. God bless them! Then when we reached Livingston after a run of 215 miles we were met by the brethren of our new charge and driven to the good home of Bro. J. E. Hill, where we were cared for until our goods had arrived and the parsonage was in readiness for us. We have received an open arm welcome. The pounding has been steadily coming ever since we moved in. We are expecting a good year.

Randolph.

H. H. Goode, Dec. 19: We arrived here on the 7th at about 7:30 p. m. Quite a number of the members and friends of the Church had gathered to meet us and dispersed before our arrival. When it was learned that we had come in several came back. Some of the women prepared a good supper and the men assisted in unloading our things. After supper we had prayer and the crowd dispersed. The pounding has been continuous from this place. Bro. Thomas Benton, from Edhub, brought quite a variety of eatables for the family, corn for the team and some cash. I have met three good congregations at the appointments filled, although the weather has been unfavorable. I am expecting a prosperous year.

Throckmorton.

W. P. Davis, Dec. 16: Last night we were completely surprised. The people of Throckmorton filled our sitting room so that there was hardly standing room. Our pounding consisted in sacks of flour, coffee, sugar, lard, spareribs, can goods, fruit and a nice box of superlative chocolate candy which my wife considered as a Christmas present. If you don't think Throckmorton is appreciative come over and see. As we came through Breckenridge we met and introduced ourself to the Sheriff. He stated that this section had little use for jails. No saloons out here. God help us to be humble and prayerful and never to grow lazy.

Millsap.

B. F. Alsop: I have been one round on my work and have found a good, whole-souled people; am well pleased with the outlook. The people on the entire work seem to be in sympathy with the preacher. Soon after we had gotten into the parsonage, the people of Millsap proceeded to express their sympathy by giving us a good pounding, for which we are very grateful and will remember them kindly as we eat the good things they so lavishly bestowed upon us, and will try to give them the very best service we can. We enter into the year with a fervent prayer that this may be a fruitful year to the charge.

Denton.

J. F. Alderson, Dec. 19: We have now been at Denton, our new charge, somewhat over a week. Were kindly received. Prof. J. S. Kendall, Bro. J. W. Bailey and wife and Rev. T. J. Simmons and others met us at the station and conveyed us to the parsonage, where were a number of good ladies and brethren to bid us welcome. Our reception was all we could desire. The pounding came Saturday evening—so lavish—and we are feasting yet and the day which is to end the carnival doth not yet appear. We are favor-

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ably impressed with friendliness, intelligence and warm-heartedness of Denton. There is here much work to be done for the Master. I trust under God, by the help of the Church, the work of the year may prove abundantly satisfactory in the growth and establishment of the Church and in the salvation of the unsaved. We desire that the large body of students attending these fine schools shall be duly impressed with Methodism as a mighty spiritual force for the salvation of the world. The opportunities for good here are large; the responsibility of the pastor of this charge is great. We are determined by the help of God to give this people this year the best work in our power. Pray for us.

Fate Circuit.

R. P. Buck, Dec. 18: We left Bonita in the Gainesville District, December 5, at 8:30 a. m., and arrived at Fate at 5 p. m. of the same day. We were very kindly received by the good people of Fate. Since conference they have placed about \$60 worth of new furniture in the parsonage; so the preacher and his family are very comfortably situated. The evening we arrived Sister Karnes sent us a nice, warm supper, which we appreciated very much. We have also had the usual pounding, consisting of many good things for the preacher and his family; since that time many other good things have found their way to the parsonage; among them, a nice turkey for Christmas. We have preached at two of the appointments and received three members into the Church. We are praying for and expecting the best year we have had since we have been in the conference.

Flatonina.

A. V. Old, December 18: After spending a delightful year with the Methodists in the Bexar Circuit, and carrying up to the conference, at Lockhart, the best report in many years, from that charge, the Bishop sent us to Flatonina. We were cordially received and made to feel at home upon arriving here. The year's work has started in a most promising way. My predecessor, Brother Passmore, is remembered and spoken of as a pastor greatly loved. It is delightful to hear the members of a Church speak in tender words about former pastors. It makes the new preacher feel hopeful of being appreciated, in spite of that humbling sense of unworthiness which somehow "clings to us still." We have paid our domestic mission and orphanage assessments in full and have more than half of our Rescue Home assessment in cash and the rest subscribed. Brethren, pray for us.

Eliasville.

H. P. Shrader, Dec. 20: We have been received kindly on our new charge. On the first night after our arrival quite a number of young people and some heads of families assembled and came to the parsonage, each bringing something substantial for the preacher and his family. It was quite a storm for a few minutes, but no harm was done and as a result many good articles for the table were left. They have our thanks. Also the brass band gave us some very fine music. It was soul-cheering and made us feel like we had come among friends. It put us in good spirits. They gave us "Nearer, my God, to Thee," and some other good, religious songs; also "Dixie." I was surprised to find a band here that could perform so well. They were very courteous and orderly. After they had rendered a few pieces they quietly went away. The older people remained and talked for a few minutes. It was a pleasant occasion. We believe we serve a good people and shall strive to do a good work.

Stephenville.

R. A. Clements, December 21: I am now in the town of Stephenville, P. C. of Stephenville Circuit. This is a new work formed by our Annual Conference. It consists of five appointments, surrounding Stephenville and all in easy reach. The pastor can drive to any one of his appointments in one hour's time. The board of stewards has been called together and made a liberal assessment for the P. C. They have only promised to pay nine hundred dollars to the P. C. this year, but they will do better after this year, as we have quite a lot of building to do. Since we arrived on the charge we have bought a nice little parsonage, located in the most desirable portion of the town. This property will cost us about one thousand dollars when we get it finished, repaired, etc., and we consider it an excellent bargain at those figures. We are now in a rented house, but expect to move into the parsonage by the first of January, 1906. We have funds enough in sight to begin a new house of worship soon after the holidays are

over. We hope to build one other church during the year. Stephenville Circuit is expecting to be the banner circuit of the Northwest Texas Conference when it is fully developed. We are finding a goodly number of Advocate readers. We hope to put it in every home on the charge. We have never met a more progressive and loyal class of Methodists than compose the Stephenville Circuit. We are determined by the grace of God to do the best work of our life this year.

El Campo.

A. F. Jones, Dec. 23: Having been appointed to the El Campo charge by Bishop Key at the late session of the West Texas Conference, we came, met the enemy, no the friends, and we are theirs. I trust every one will understand this. We have been cordially received, found a generous and earnest people. We came from the St. Louis Conference, but are Texans now, every interest we have being identified with the people we came to serve. There is a very cosmopolitan people or citizenship here, every State nearly being represented. We have not been pounded by the Church in a body, but nearly every day some one leaves a token of good will. Of course we receive the Advocate and find it invaluable to us. It should be in all the homes and we trust to assist in increasing its circulation. The Church paper is the preacher's best friend, or assistant. We have a good W. H. M. Society, and I believe as good official board as any pastor in the conference. They, in conjunction with the ladies of the Church or W. H. M. Society, put the needed furniture in the parsonage at quite an expense. El Campo was made a station only this year. We look forward to a good year's work for El Campo has a future, and if Methodism is true to itself and its history this will one day be one of the best charges in West Texas. Our first Quarterly Conference was held December 10 and 11, Rev. J. C. Wilson, the presiding elder, being present and preaching a strong, spiritual and consequently helpful sermon that was highly appreciated by all. We are grateful that we are so happily located and trust, through God's grace, to do much for the glory of his name and advancement of his cause. We ask to be remembered in your prayers, brethren. We are in love with our people and our work. Our predecessor labored wisely and God blessed his efforts, and the work will abide. Trusting we may likewise see the fruits of our labors, we leave it all in the Master's hands, and intend to labor zealously for souls. After all, it is not a question of the amount of personal good we get out of our work, our associations, the financial question, the social pleasures. Oh, no, the question is how many souls may I lead to Christ; how many hearts, bruised and suffering, can I bind up; how may I dry the tears from the faces of those afflicted; how many poor, sinful souls may I awake? Our mission is to the lost world. God help me to be true to that mission.

New Boston.

W. H. Vance, Dec. 23: Our reception by the good people of New Boston has been indeed sincere, and our welcome cordial. When we arrived, we found a pretty parsonage, nicely furnished and in care pro tem. of the good women of the Home Mission Society, who, despite the inclement weather, had made ample provision for our coming. They bade us be at home, and left us amid a generous expression of kindness in the shape of a huge "pounding," and a smoking dinner on the dining table. Every day brings new tokens in demonstration of the fact that New Boston knows how to take care of the preacher and his family. Surely the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places. We are pleased with our appointment, and are praying for a gracious year. So mote it be! We were indeed sad at our leave-taking of the good people of Naples charge. We can never forget them for their kindness to us in our first experience in the pastorate of our great itinerancy. May God's richest blessings ever abide with, and rest upon, them. Being a Methodist preacher, we obeyed orders, as a result of which we are here, happily and pleasantly situated, as intimated above. The kind heavenly Father grant that it may be for his glory.

Princeton Circuit.

W. E. Kirby, Dec. 24: At the recent session of the North Texas Conference the Bishop read us out for Princeton Circuit. Soon afterward we found ourselves on our way to Princeton, leaving behind us many friends at Copeville, where we had spent the first four years of our itinerant work. In due time, amid mud and high water, we reached our destination, found a nice five-room parsonage and a good people in waiting for us. We have just completed the round of the

five appointments, have been cordially received and we are well pleased with our work. Hope none of the brethren will be looking this way for at least four years. We find tracks of our predecessor, Rev. Samuel Weaver, and hear many good things said of him, which makes us the more sure that this people care for their preacher. Yes, we have been pounded in due and ancient form. Many thanks to all who engaged. We are very hopeful of a good year, and indications are all that we could desire.

Woodland and Kanawha.

H. K. Agee, Dec. 19: After having served Rosalia charge for three years, on December 4 we bade our friends there good bye. That evening at 7 o'clock we drew up at the parsonage gate at Woodland and were met by a large number of persons who gave us a royal welcome. The ladies of the Home Mission Society had a real nice supper awaiting us, to which we did justice. Supper over all had quite a jolly time socially. The Old Book was found, a lesson read, prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God were had, the company dispersed, leaving this new pastor and family feeling that, indeed, we were among friends and that we were at home among them. On Friday night following the young people of Woodland gave us a handsome pounding, for which they brought us under obligations to them. The following Monday night an alarm was made at the door, which was opened and the young people from Kanawha gave us another severe pounding, which we highly appreciate. An hour of pleasant enjoyment, prayers over, good-night said, and inventory had found quite a lot of nice things; no bones broken. We said in our hearts surely this is a good people and God has been gracious to us. So we have resolved to do the best year's work of life for them. Great grace rest upon them.

Proctor.

J. J. Canafax, Dec. 22: There may be icy mountains in Greenland, coral strands in India and sunny fountains in Africa, but right here in Proctor a big pounding was "pulled off" last Saturday night. It is quite sad to think that only man is vile, but the quantity and flavor of this sausage are enough to raise the drooping spirits of the most despairing pessimist on earth. Truth, poetry and fiction have either intrinsic or relative values according to our capacity for availing ourselves of such benefits; but where is the hungry preacher who don't know at least the intrinsic value of a generous pounding, especially where quality and quantity are so admirably combined. Married people, young men, blooming maidens and children, were present, all coming loaded. One handsome young man was hitched up to a small express wagon groaning under groceries. He performed as gracefully as a Jap to a jinrikisha. Groan girls were the teamsters. Garuda must have been a glorious place for pigs, but one of the prettiest prospective porkers I ever saw grunts gratitude for swill in the parsonage pig-pen. And don't be deceived by supposing there were no chickens as well as other live stock in that pounding. That is the sign and seal, you know, attesting the undying devotion of our ministry to Methodist orthodoxy. From a General Conference down to a monthly appointment on a circuit, no occasion is complete without them. Paul's time failed to tell of Gideon, Barak, and others, and mine fails to tell of sugar, coffee and sundry articles too numerous to mention. In conclusion, allow me and the members of my family to express our hearty gratitude to the generous donors of the best selected pounding stock I ever saw. Smiles will not suffice as compensation for such kindness, but we will try to do them good, much good and nothing but good.

A CARD.

Just as I was starting to my Quarterly Conference at Milford the morning of the 10th I got a letter from Alonzo Monk, Jr., in which great sympathy was expressed on account of my severe illness followed by a worse relapse. Bro. Monk was also glad to hear that I was a little better. This letter was highly appreciated. Later I went to Ennis, arriving a few minutes before time to preach, and found Dr. Bishop with a text ready to preach himself. He was scarcely expecting his presiding elder, because just a day or two before our itinerant Zampogna Talker Morris had told him that said elder was down at Grandview with a severe relapse from a bad case of pneumonia. Now comes the Advocate, sympathizing with the presiding elder of the Waxahachie District on having learned that the same had been wrestling with grip, and that, too, notwithstanding I had just a few days before dined with the publisher of the Advocate at his home in Dallas! Maybe it was the "consumption" at the publisher's table Dr. Rankin got



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mixed up with the grip. One thing is certain: there was a tenacious gripping of backbones, turkey and good things. Another thing is certain: the presiding elder of the Waxahachie District has not been sick a minute since the session of the Annual Conference. Wrestling with the grip! My! my! I never had such a thing in all my life. I have heard that rich people have grip and poor people have had colds. I have had a few of the latter, but never the grip. I leave that for members of wealthy corporations like the Texas Christian Advocate. I do not wonder that the editor has had so much trouble with that disease. Neither have I ever been afflicted with a case of pneumonia. Neither has the Waxahachie District been sick. The preachers are all doing well and "faring sumptuously every day" on backbones, spareribs and country sausage. The people are pleased with them, and there is a general advancement in salaries and a fine spirit of hopefulness. This district is not an air ship like the Brownwood, neither is she trying to explore the North pole, nor the moon, but she is still in the swim—was in it all last year and is still afloat. The presiding elder has preached every Sunday since conference, and has held seven Quarterly Conferences, one of them in the rain with no member of it present except the preacher in charge. The stewards could not leave their comfortable firesides. This same elder once upon a time traveled thirty-five miles in a buggy facing a north wind loaded with rain and sleet to hold a Quarterly Conference in a little town in order to accommodate the preacher who wanted to leave on a trip immediately afterward. There were present the presiding elder, the preacher in charge and a local preacher. The poor, delicate stewards were afraid to venture out on Church business in such weather, notwithstanding they all lived in town. The stewards of the Venus Circuit, however, know how to get there through slush and black mud, and then to vote a nice advancement on the preacher's salary. There are lots more like them in the Waxahachie District. At Alvarado, the presiding elder, after having got lost in that great city and wandering around in the dark through slush and mud, was greeted at the church with a great crowd. The house was also beautifully decorated. What other presiding elder can boast of a beautifully decorated church and a house full of people on a dark and muddy night at a mid-week Quarterly Conference? Yes, she is in the swim and confidently expects to make the landing all right. This wrestler with grip and pneumonia hopes that he will have held two or three more Quarterly Conferences by the time this card appears in print. The writer now expresses his appreciation of the kindly-meant sympathies tendered him, but hopes the real sick brother, the Rev. George Campbell, of Hubbard City, has by this time entirely recovered, and that for the rest of the year he will enjoy as good health as this member of the Campbell clan has enjoyed since conference. JAS. CAMPBELL.

P. S.—In justice to Bro. R. E. Goodrich, I will say state that the Quarterly Conference for Alvarado was preceded by a wedding. The writer hereof occupied one of the seats reserved for the family, as he was one of the family—I. e., the human family. J. C.

The new City Directory of El Paso, just issued, contains almost 16,000 names, heads of families and persons employed, an increase of several hundred over last year, and, multiplying this by two and a half to estimate the population of the city, which is the usual course, it gives El Paso a population of 82,125 people, an increase of over 2000 in a year. Compared with the estimate of 1901, when the population was placed at 21,000, according to the same method of figuring, the increase is remarkable.

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OUR CHINA LETTER.

The late session of our conference was held in Soochow. Dr. A. P. Parker was elected President. The business of the conference proceeded smoothly and satisfactorily. The preachers were in their places. The reports manifested considerable progress in all parts of the field. A considerable number were received into the Church and a large number were enrolled as probationers. The question of self-support, which is attracting so much attention now, is being solved. One preacher said that his circuit offered to pay him more money than he could conscientiously receive. He was returned to that work, and no doubt he will be wholly supported by the people. There are other works that are almost self-supporting. I may say that all of the charges pay a part of the preacher's salary, unless the work has recently been opened.

During the conference, the afternoons were devoted to religious services. A programme was made out, and speakers assigned to certain subjects, so that those who attended were greatly benefited. A month before the conference was to convene, a request was sent to each member of the conference requesting that definite prayer be made for the blessing of God upon the meeting. The results were what one would naturally expect. A fine spirit pervaded the meeting.

The preachers were instructed, their hearts refreshed and prepared for the work of the new year. One preacher said to me that this conference was the first we have had, that is in the matter of a spiritual uplift. And I agreed with him.

On Sunday night we met together to partake of the emblems of the broken body and shed blood of our Lord. The church was packed with people. Afterwards, we enjoyed an old-fashioned experience meeting. It was astonishing, really, to hear the testimonies of boys and girls to the saving grace of our Lord! There was a young lady received into the Church. She also stood up and told her experience, and it was blessed to hear. She is a student in the Laura Haygood Memorial School. Her people are wealthy, and are ranked among the great of the nation. They live in Wu-Sih, a city forty miles away toward the N. W. She said that she had not informed her parents of her intention to join the Church, and that she did not know what stand her father would take in regard to the matter, but that her trust was in Jesus. She entertained some fears of trouble. Late news from Soochow inform us that in a meeting a week ago, this young lady arose and said that in answer to a letter she wrote to her father, he told her that if she had decided to be a Christian, he had no objections, provided she fulfilled the requirements. He wrote her that there were three classes of Christians, first, those who join the Church for the hope of help, second those who join for the purpose of carrying out some wickedness under cover of the Church, and thirdly those who are sincerely believers in Christ. He wrote, "My daughter, if you are a Christian, I want you to be in the third class."

The past year has been a good one for the Soochow University. There were eight young men who professed faith in Christ and joined the Church. A good religious atmosphere pervades the school. In consequence of the boycott the number of new students, entering at the opening of the fall term, was small; but I am glad to relate that not one of the former students has left the college in consequence of the boycott. And it is a question of a few weeks, only, when the work will take on its normal healthy growth.

Our hospital in Soochow is now among a very few leading ones in the Empire. And in some respects I suppose it is the first in China. The people are in such close sympathy with this work that they stand ready to render any help in connection with it that Dr. Park may suggest. Also there is a medical school in connection with it, and this is the Medical Department of the Soochow University.

The work in this district is making steady progress. It is growing and spreading much as it did in America in the early days. The circuit is our plan of work. And it has never failed, where it has been faithfully followed.

My own charge is making most encouraging advances. In this city the work is prospering. The old Gospel is being applied to all classes—the gambler, the opium sot, the thief, etc., with like effects, as in America. One of our leading men in this Church today, was, four years ago, a confirmed gambler. He knew not how to do anything else. But the Lord saved him and opened up the way for him to make an honest living. He had a taste for photography, and we encouraged him, till now he is making a good living, and is an exhorter in the Church. So it is that the Church of God is gloriously triumphing in China.

There are signs of much spiritual progress among the preachers and members. The hungering and thirsting after higher living and closer walking with God are apparent. This is a most hopeful sign of the working of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the people.

In a former letter I may have mentioned that our son, Robert, was so unfortunate as to dislocate his left elbow while on our voyage to China. Now, I am thankful to say, that he is almost entirely well. He has the use of the arm, but cannot straighten it fully. The physician says a little time will be necessary for him to have full use of it.

I often think over the happy times I had at home with the preachers and people. The many kindnesses shown me will never be forgotten. May our God continue to pour out his rich blessings upon his servants in this work of saving souls!

Also I must express my high appreciation of the great work our Advocate is doing for all good causes. May a thousand prayers ascend every day on your behalf.

J. L. HENDRY.

Soochow, China.

OTHERS BESIDES ITINERANTS.

Please allow a few lines of dissent concerning the position assumed by M. H. Wells in your issue of the 7th of December. He says "that a call to preach means to itinerate till death or absolute disability relieves from the obligation."

It is not for me to sit in judgment on the call made upon Brother Wells. But I can not believe that such a call is made upon all preachers. There is no Scriptural authority for it. Church history is against such a position. And our Methodist economy for more than a hundred years has shown the wisdom of adopting a broader view of a divine call to the ministry. Variety is everywhere seen in the works of God, both in nature and grace. Brother Wells, whose articles I always read with interest, has allowed himself to be entrapped into a narrow sentiment unworthy of him and of the head of the Church. In Ephesians we read, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

How much Methodism owes to preachers other than itinerants it would be impossible to tell. My good Brother Wells, let us not hinder, but help, those who are called to preach in other spheres than the itinerancy. They are as much called of God as we are, I have ever found them great helpers of the itinerants and useful in the communities in which they live. Faithful laborers are they in the vineyard, and their reward is sure.

J. H. BRUNNER.

Hiwassee College, Tenn.

"A SYSTEM OF COLPORTAGE NEEDED."

Bro A. L. Scales calls for views on the above subject. His plan combines the book agent and evangelist. His colporteur must be a good revivalist, have a gospel tent, hold meetings and assist pastors in meetings. Now, we have men that do that and possibly we ought to appoint more and define and regulate their work; but can we make them sell books. Such men are specialists; bookselling is out of their line and they will not do it more than the pastors. If there is any better way to distribute our literature than by the pastors, I think it must be just a plain book peddler. He should be able to pray in families and preach ordinarily well on Sundays if where his services are needed, but his work is to sell books. He should have a suitable wagon and team. The publishing house should furnish books to be paid for when sold, or returned in good condition. The man should be appointed to this work by a Bishop, have right of way in our charges and the co-operation of the pastors and people, should make his report and have his character passed at conference. The usual discounts should pay all expenses. If twenty-five to forty per cent of his sales will not support him, then he does not sell enough to be worth keeping in the field, and he better quit and let the pastors do the work.

F. J. PERRIN.

Georgetown, Texas.

OUR HOLSTON MAP.

BY REV. J. H. BRUNNER, D. D.

A new feature in Hoiston Annual is a map of the conferences composing the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. For this addendum we are grateful to Dr. Burrow, the enterprising Secretary of the conference.

The Holston territory is shaped much like the old-time preachers' saddle-bags, larger at the ends than in the middle. It takes in some of Georgia, then all of East Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia, with a strip of West Virginia. No other conference has such an irregular shape, nor such a variety of climatic conditions. In natural resources of wealth it excels every other conference in the connection, if not in all the world. Its population has no superior in natural endowments. The soldiers of this section turned the poised scales of the Revolution at King's Mountain, and defeated Pakenham at New Orleans and Santa Ana at San Jacinto, nor were they eiphers in the War of the Sixties. A long list of warriors, statesmen, jurists, writers, orators and educators has the Holston country produced, and no other territory of equal extent has given so many sons to the work in the ministry. From Holston territory swarms of emigrants go every year to find homes in other lands. Perhaps Texas has more citizens from Holston than has any other State; they followed Houston, Crockett, Reagan, Rankin and a host of other men of renown. But all the west abounds in Holstonites and their descendants, and so does Heaven.

Great has Holston been heretofore; greater is Holston to-day; greatest will Holston be hereafter. Unique as Switzerland is Holston. If there be a better country, all things considered, this scribe has failed to find it laid down in the maps of this lower world. Is there in all the continents any other section where the railway kings are making such contests for rights of way and terminals as in Holston territory? Business men are they—Holston Advocate.

REPORT OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION WORK IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS.

Last May the Young Women's Christian Association of the University of Texas sent to the churches of the various denominations in the State a letter, setting forth the purpose, condition and needs of the association work in the University. Financial aid was asked in order that we might be enabled to secure a secretary for her full time. A number of churches responded liberally to this appeal. We now feel that it is due the churches that are helping in this work to have a report of the work thus far accomplished.

Miss Batchelder, our secretary, and a number of the association women came in early to be ready for work at the opening of the University. A committee met all trains and assisted the young women in finding suitable boarding places. Committees were stationed in various parts of the University to assist them in their matriculation or to give any desired information. Tea and sandwiches were served during the entire week of registration in the women's study room. In this way the young women, just entering the University, were met in a pleasant and social way.

A number of women came to the University hoping to find employment, and thus pay their expenses. The association took up this matter this year and was successful in finding the needed employment. Every young woman, who came under such conditions, was located where she could support herself while attending school. The committee, having this feature of the work in charge, has already commenced to work it up for next year. The members of the committee are communicating with the High School Principals over the State, asking for the names of women, who desire to enter college in the fall, but are unable to do so for lack of means. By beginning early we hope to be able to locate more the coming year than we have the present session.

Special emphasis has been laid upon attendance upon church and Sunday school services. Twenty Bible classes for students have been formed with an enrollment of about 150. (This does not include the enrollment of University young men.) The reports from the various churches indicate an unusually large and regular attendance upon Sunday-school and church services. One church worker said that he attributed the increased attendance and regularity to the work done among the students by the students. Three classes for the study of missions have been formed among the University women. The chapel exercises have been emphasized by the association. The attendance has increased from an average attendance of 50 to that of 150.

Special music has been provided for these exercises.

We have now a membership of 212 in the association, with an average attendance of 120 at the regular weekly meeting.

We have not asked for financial help away from home without doing our best at home. The young women of last year pledged \$225 for this year's work. At a meeting this fall \$180.00 was pledged by this year's undergraduates. We have in the past two months raised and expended more in the work than we have in the five preceding years together. With the money we have ourselves raised, together with what has been so generously contributed by others, we see our way clear to keep up the present work through January, perhaps through February. Our secretary is a spiritual woman, of good judgment and tact. She is doing a fine work among the women of this institution. We feel that the success of the work this year is due, in large measure, to the fact that we have had a secretary who has had time to plan the work and the ability to wisely guide the efforts of our workers. We feel that the work will suffer if we are not able to retain her services during the entire year. We heartily thank those who have helped us. We earnestly desire those who have not yet aided in this great work to come and share it with us.

The local churches realize that much has been accomplished, but that there is much more to be accomplished, and they are working as they have never worked before. The churches over the State can be of great assistance to the local churches in building up this work.

MRS. R. L. BROWN,
From Advisory Board.
ROBERTA LAVENDER,
NELLIE M. HALL,
Special Committee.

PERSONAL.

The postoffice address of Rev. J. L. Yeats is Inverness, Fla. He writes: "I send loving greetings to my many Texas friends. I hope some one will yet send me a copy of the Texas Conference minutes of 1900, held at Rockdale."

NOTE FROM PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

We have just closed a nine days' meeting at this place which resulted in doing great good for our Church and city. Rev. Abe Mulkey, the "Texas Evangelist," helped us in the meeting, preaching twice each day during the week and ofener during the Sabbaths. Bro. Mulkey is a very remarkable man. He is full of humor and preaches in the kindest spirit possible. The crowds that attended our meeting were the largest perhaps that ever attended the preaching of the gospel in Phoenix. The last Sunday night of the meeting the main auditorium, the lecture room and the choir room were filled to the uttermost, with many standing against the walls during the whole sermon; even then many were turned away not being able to find room. Excursion trains were run over the Southern Pacific during the meeting. Twenty-seven persons gave their names for membership. We paid Bro. and Sister Mulkey, including traveling expenses, \$250. Then to our great joy more than enough was raised to liquidate the great church debt of \$4,910, \$5,260 being the amount raised.

HAROLD GOVETTE,
Phoenix, Arizona.

Lloyd Griscom, United States Minister to Japan, arrived in New York Dec 13, coming by way of San Fran-

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disco on a short leave of absence. He talked interestingly about Japan. Her condition after the war, and present prospects in the Far East. Since the war, Mr. Griscom said, the Japanese people have settled down to their regular occupations. The Government is busy paying off its war debts and adjusting its finances. The whole aim of the Japanese is toward industrial expansion. At present all their efforts are turned in that direction. As to the after-peace rioting, Mr. Griscom said that the dissatisfaction over the peace of Portsmouth was merely temporary and had become unimportant now. The feeling of discontent has entirely disappeared and the Japanese people feel great gratitude toward the American people and particularly to President Roosevelt for bringing about peace. The Mikado issued an edict telling the people that there was a Government caring for their interests and advising them to attend to their regular occupations. The people obeyed as they obey everything emanating from the Mikado. Mr. Griscom emphatically declared that after the excitement due to the first news from Portsmouth had subsided the people sided unanimously with the Government and recognized the wisdom of making peace with Russia. He was asked about Korea and the Japanese protectorate. "Korea is not strictly in my province," he said, "and although I saw Marquis Ito shortly before his departure from Japan to Korea, the Korean question has developed since I left Japan. People in the United States are better informed concerning Korea than I am. I saw Admiral Togo frequently before my departure from Japan," the Minister added. "He told me that he intended to visit the United States with his fleet next autumn after first paying a visit to England, Japan's ally. I told Admiral Togo that he would be cordially received, as the American people are always glad to welcome a brave man."

With the Season's Greetings

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Office of Publication—Corner Ervay and Jackson Streets.

Published Every Thursday at Dallas, Texas

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

G. C. RANKIN, D. D. Editor

SUBSCRIPTION—IN ADVANCE.

ONE YEAR \$2.00
SIX MONTHS 1.00
THREE MONTHS50
TO PREACHERS (Half Price) 1.00

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A NEW DEPARTMENT PAGE.

We have many special interests in our Texas Methodism, and each one is of sufficient importance to demand special treatment. It is our purpose to open a page to be known as our Educational Department, and, at our request, Dr. John M. Moore will take charge of it. We have four Educational Secretaries representing our four conferences, and we want to give them all the latitude possible. We have several leading educational institutions and we want to forward their interests. No advertising matter concerning these several schools will go in as reading matter in this department. But matter of general interest to the Methodist public will find a place in it. We will turn over to Dr. Moore the question of arranging with the other Secretaries the help they are to extend to him. In addition to the work of these officials, he will also enlist others, and we hope to make one of the most readable departments in the Advocate. Matter on the subject of schools and education will be addressed to Dr. John M. Moore, 257 Live Oak St., Dallas, Tex.

A GOOD PAMPHLET.

Rev. W. W. Horner, of the Texas Conference, has written and published a pamphlet of the subject of: "A Missionary Church; its power and influence." It treats the work of missions in a clear and concise manner, shows the money debt we owe to God in helping to spread the Gospel, and calls attention to a large list of valuable books from which may be gathered all the information necessary to a correct understanding of the subject in its broadest view. It can be ordered, either from the Branch House or from the author, and it only costs ten cents.

NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE JOURNAL.

The Journal should have been distributed among that brethren last week, according to our custom, but there has been unavoidable delay. It will be sent out in a very few days. Mr. J. E. Haneagan, the Joint Agent of the Clergy Bureau at St. Louis, has been furnished with that part of the Journal that contains the appointments. In writing for your permit, simply refer to our Journal of 1905, which he will keep on file in his office. Each pastor will be supplied with four copies of the Journal. If he desires extra copies, they may be had at 10 cents each.

W. B. ANDREWS,
Editor N. W. Texas Conf. Journal.

A USEFUL COMPLIMENT.

W. C. Everett, of the Publishing House, is always thinking of something useful for the preachers. He got up a most convenient pocket-book for them some time ago with the compliments of the House; and all of them used it to good advantage. At the recent conferences he had a very helpful memorandum tablet. Now he has brought out a Presiding Elder's Portfolio—we do not know what else to call it. It is especially for the presiding elders. It is made of handsome morocco, has a large pocket for a tablet and convenient places for stamps, envelopes and the like. It is adapted to the use of the man who travels and has to write under all circumstances. It is a sort of writing desk with all the supplies within itself. He was kind enough to include the editor, but it is exclusively for presiding elders. The brethren will greatly appreciate this compliment, as it will meet a long-felt want.

PERSONALS.

We had a pleasant call last week from Rev. A. C. Pickens, of the Indian Mission Conference.

Rev. L. A. Hanson, of the Anna charge, called to see us recently. His is a new charge, but under his pastorate it will soon take shape. He is noted for bringing things to pass wherever he goes.

Rev. and Mrs. S. J. Vaughan, of Colorado, has issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Letta, to Mr. Pat H. Flinn, and the wedding will take place in the Methodist Church in Colorado January 2, 1906.

Rev. George M. Boyd and Miss Helen Mar Kinkead were married December 21 at the Park Avenue Methodist Church, Nashville, Tenn. Bro. Boyd is the son of Rev. G. F. Boyd, of Gatesville. He is a Texas boy and we extend good wishes to the happy couple.

Rev. J. W. Blackburn, of Como, has had a warm reception; the Methodists, Baptists, other Church members, and the outsiders gave him a severe pounding recently. The parsonage was loaded down with good things, and the preacher's family and the people were all happy in each other's fellowship and good will. Next?

In a private note from Rev. M. A. Turner, of Bartlett, we learn of the death of Burt Mueller, son of Rev. J. G. Mueller, pastor of our German Church in Bartlett. He was just twenty years old and his illness was of short duration. We extend our sincere sympathy to Brother Mueller and his family, and pray that God's grace may sustain them in their sorrow. He died December 20.

Brother T. H. Yarbrough, of Ennis, occasionally contributes to our columns, and he is one of our few poets whose productions always find a place in the Advocate. He is the son of a Methodist preacher, and his heart is kindly in its feelings towards all ministers. He recently passed through severe affliction, but his heart breathes a Christian spirit. At this writing his aged mother is quite ill at his home. We pray a blessing upon his household.

Sister D. T. Brown, of Terrell, the widow of the late Rev. D. T. Brown, was kindly remembered a while back by many good friends. They filled her harder with substantial tokens of love and otherwise left remembrances of their good will. This is an example worthy of emulation. We too often forget the wives and children of our deceased preachers; and above all other classes these ought to be borne in our hearts and minds. Good for those people at Terrell!

Mr. C. A. Nichols, who has been a teacher in our mission schools in Cuba for seven years, is now on a visit to his parents at Taylor. He has just received his degree of Doctor of Philosophy and Letters at the University of Havana, after a very fine examination, in which he received the highest grade given by this eminent institution. He is also an alumnus of Southwestern and Vanderbilt Universities. He will return to Cuba and take charge of Candler College in January. We are indebted to Rev. D. W. Carter, of Havana, for these interesting facts.

GAMBLING.

Sermon by Rev. C. B. Cross at the M. E. Church, South.

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." 1 Cor. 16:15.

The most deplorable thing in all the world is a wrecked life. Life, its influence, strength and power is a greater trust than all the riches, glories and honors of earth. Ruskin has said, "That it is a greater trust than ships and armies; you might cast them away, if you were their captain, with less treason to your people than in casting your own glorious power away, and serving the devil with it instead of men. Ships and armies you may replace if they are lost, but a great intellect, once abused, is a curse to the earth forever." The end of all government, human and divine, is man; man in the perfection and glory of his being. The man, therefore, who hinders his fellow-man in the accomplishment of life's great end, is not only an enemy to his race, but also an enemy of all law and order.

There are two questions I wish to settle by this discussion. The first one is: What is gambling? The second one, is it detrimental to business, moral and social interests? As to the first proposition, I shall direct your attention to some decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, and then to our State reports. Before referring to these reports, however, I will call your attention to the definition of gambling as given by one of our standard authorities, Funk and Wagnalls: "To play a game, especially a game of chance, for stakes; risk money or other possession on an event, chance or contingency, pretend to buy or sell, depending upon chance variations in prices for gain; as to gamble in wheat." I am sure most of us have a clearly defined idea as to what really constitutes gambling. I am equally sure that there are others who differ very materially in what they consider a gambling transaction. These are the men I hope to be able to reach in this sermon, for I have confidence in their sincerity. But a man's sincerity is no argument in favor of the correctness of his opinion. There is an underlying principle, and a very clearly defined principle, involved in every business transaction. The application of this principle to our business very clearly points out its nature. The question is frequently asked in business circles: Is dealing in futures gambling? Then a case is put like this: Suppose a merchant has 100 bales of cotton and needs his money; he cannot sell without loss, he believes it will go up until he could get a legitimate profit out of it, but he is compelled to sell; would it not be legitimate for him to sell the cotton and buy 100 bales of futures for \$100 and use the remainder of the money in trade? Simply apply the principle. He buys the 100 bales of futures, believing the price will go up. Suppose it goes up two dollars a bale, he makes two hundred dollars. Where does the two hundred dollars come from? The man who pays it has absolutely nothing to show for it. Suppose the price goes down and the buyer does not put up the margin; his one hundred dollars is gone. The man who got the hundred dollars gave nothing in return and the man who lost the hundred dollars has nothing to show for it. A gambler is a man who gets or loses something for nothing; a future dealer is one who gains or loses something for nothing. But let us see what the courts have to say on this important subject. In 14 American and English Encyclopedia of Law, Second Edition, page 609, we have this language: "The form of a future contract, which the law classes as a gambling contract, is that in which at the inception of the contract it is the intention of the parties there to not to deliver the chattels bargained for, but to settle differences only." Authorities from the Supreme Court of the United States and from the different States sustain this opinion. In the case of Irwin vs. Millar 110, the U. S. Supreme Court held: "A contract to deliver at a future day, when the real intent is to speculate on the rise or fall of prices and the goods are not to be delivered, but one party is to pay to the other the difference between the contract price and the market price of the goods at the date fixed for executing the contract, then the whole transaction constitutes nothing more than a wager, and is null and void." The Federal Courts have universally held that such contracts are wagering contracts. The Supreme Court of Texas, in the case of Seelgison vs. Lewis & Williams 215, held such a contract a wagering contract. Stayton, Associate Justice, delivered the opinion and said in part: "The transactions stated in the answer were essentially gambling contracts; with no facts to give them semblance of a legitimate business, and all such dealings but tend to unsettle fair and legitimate trade and to make market values to depend, not on supply and demand, but on fictitious elevation or depression in prices." In Meleher vs. Telegraph Company, 11 Federal report 195, we have this language: "Such a dealing amounts to a mere speculation upon the rise and fall of prices. It requires no capital except the small sum to put up margin and pay differences. It promotes no legitimate trade. Any impecunious gambler can engage in it with infinite detriment to the bona fide dealer. It enables mere adventurers at small risk to agitate the markets, stimulate and depress prices and bring down financial ruin upon the heads of the unwary. It enables the unscrupulous speculator with little or no capital to oppress and ruin the honest and legitimate trade. Corners and Black Fridays and sudden fluctuations in values are its legitimate progeny." In 1887, the Legislature enacted the following law: "If any person shall, directly or through an agent, or agents, manage or superintend for himself, or shall as agent or representative of any other person, firm or corporation, conduct, carry on, or transact any business which is commonly known as dealing in futures, in cotton, grain, lard, any kinds of meats or agricultural products, or shall keep any house or manage, conduct, carry on or transact any business commonly known as a produce or stock exchange, or bucket shop, where future contracts are bought and sold with no intention of an actual delivery of the article bought or sold, such person, whether acting for himself or for another as aforesaid, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor; and shall be fined in any sum not less than \$100.00 and not more than \$500.00, and in addition thereto shall be imprisoned in the county jail not less than 30 days nor more than six months, provided that each day that such business or house is carried on or kept shall constitute a separate offense." Wilson's Criminal Statutes, Art. 377.

The decisions cited above speak in no uncertain terms. The wayfaring man though a fool, need not err therein. They declare very positively that the "impecunious gambler," and the "unscrupulous speculator, with little or no capital, can oppress and ruin honest trade."

The question for us to decide, is whether we are men or children, whether we are going to sit idly by and see the manhood of our country debauched by the worst form of gambling, their fair name defamed, their souls sent to hell. Our courts leave out the moral feature; they simply discuss a cold, business proposition. It not only ruins the merchant and causes the failure of banks, but it often prevents the farmer from getting a legitimate price for his produce. The man who patronizes it in any way or permits it to operate in a community, according to the highest courts in all the States, is aiding in bringing down ruin on innocent men and children. This is not a matter of opinion, but of cold facts as determined by our courts. Last year more than \$125,000,000.00 were stolen from our banks by trusted clerks because they were not willing to labor month after month for a pittance of a hundred dollars a month when they might make a thousand in one day by speculation. If our business men are going to encourage this kind of ruin to the honest trade of the community by renting them a place to carry on their business, and the merchants are to encourage it by patronizing it, then who can tell when our banks and business men are going to fail? All the courts say it will bring ruin upon every form of business.

One other question; I am almost ashamed to refer to it because it seems so silly, still men ask silly questions and we must needs answer them. What is the difference in dealing in futures and dealing in any kind of produce? Each involves an element of chance. The difference is simply this: in one case you are dealing in a legitimate medium of exchange. The farmer has what the merchant and manufacturer want and do not have; the merchant and manufacturer have what the farmer wants and does not have; the merchant simply acts as a transmitter of these utilities from farmer to manufacturer, and from manufacturer to farmer. The merchant has a right to a legitimate profit for his trouble; the farmer is entitled to pay for his labor and money expended, and the manufacturer is entitled to profit on his goods. In handling these goods we exercise faith in God and men. In God, that He will send the early and the latter rains; in men that they will pay their debts. In buying futures, or in any other form of gambling, faith in God or men is not an element. You simply wager money on the rise or fall of prices. That makes the difference very clear to me; I hope it does to you.

At Marshall, a few months ago, they had a shotgun quarantine to prevent men who had been exposed to the yellow fever from entering the town. We have in our town a disease tenfold worse than yellow fever,

a disease that will wreck and ruin their souls, debauch their character, and destroy their manhood, and fathers who have sons and daughters are not resorting to the shotgun to drive it out, but are encouraging it by helping it to make a living. Suppose ten men feed a lion that is running loose in the town, are they responsible for its existence in the town? I have two little brown-eyed boys. I may not live till they are grown. I much prefer that they should die in infancy than to disgrace their name and ruin their manhood by gambling. I am to-night performing service for other men's boys that I would have them perform for my boys if I were dead.

I have necessarily answered the second question in discussing the principles involved in the first. In conclusion, I wish to give emphasis to this thought: the Supreme Court of the United States, as well as our own State courts, have held that signing a contract in a future deal simply to evade the law does not alter the nature of the contract. In other words, the courts have held that if a man buys 100 bales of futures, but in order to evade the criminal law, signs a contract for the actual delivery of the cotton, when he really has no intention of making a delivery, the dealer is criminally liable. God pity the man or set of men who are ready and willing to debauch the manhood of our country and threaten the ruin of business interests simply for the hope of gain. There is nothing more pitiable than for a man to have more property than manhood. Instead of turning the elements of trade into manhood, as God and nature designed, manhood is lost in trade.

Atlanta, Texas.

HOME AND STATE MAGAZINE.

The January number of Home and State Magazine will soon be mailed to its readers. It will be found replete with matter of much interest. Its reform department will attract attention, as it treats matters of interest to the Texas people at this particular time. It now has a circulation of nearly 25,000, and it is a factor to be figured with in the moral and civic progress of the State. The editor of the Advocate has charge of the editorial management of the magazine. If any of the readers of the Advocate fail to get their number of the magazine by Jan. 8, drop a postal to Home and State Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas.

THE CONFERENCES, ETC.

As I looked over the proceedings of the Texas Conference that seems to have absorbed the old East Texas Conference entirely, a deep sadness crept over me. Not alone on account of the loss of the name East, but a failure to recognize a single man at roll call who answered the roll call of 1857 when I was admitted on trial. It is true Brother John Adams was there, and probably Brother Alexander, both now superannuated, but where are the 73 men who were then members of the conference? Not one of them remain on the effective list. About eight or nine still abide on this side of the last river. Bro. Mat Neely is the only man of that conference who is still effective; and he is now beginning his fiftieth year as an itinerant. I am so glad that his bow still abides in strength, and I trust yet other years may be added to this able ministry. It now seems almost a crime in the opinion of some conferences for a preacher to reach the age of sixty-five or remain effective. The young are rushed to prominence and responsibility, while men of culture, brain and force of character are relegated to the shades of oblivion, to rust out, striving to get the needed things of life. The Joint Board of Finance are loaded down with men who are neither very old, nor, according to their own statements, at all physically disabled, who can preach, and will preach; they are told to stand aside, and are referred to the Committee on Conference Relations for superannuation. And by some sort of manipulation they are superannuated, without any reference to the question "Is the applicant really worn out in the itinerant service." See Disc. page 76, par. 163. How many in some of our conferences are superannuated according to the above quoted law? One of the class said to this writer: "I am not a worn-out preacher, nor is my health at all impaired; I can preach twice a day and do as much pastoral work as the majority of preachers, yet my presiding elder said he could not give me a charge, and referred me to the Committee on Conference Relations, and I was forced to acquiesce in this decision. And I will get more from the conference fund and from helping in revivals than I would from such charges as I have been filling." Another man of middle age who had been on the so-called honor roll for a year said to the committee: "I am in nowise a superannuate. I can do as much work as I ever did, and have

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A Bad Stomach

Lessens the usefulness and mars the happiness of life.

It's a weak stomach, a stomach that can not properly perform its functions.

Among its symptoms are distress after eating, nausea between meals, heartburn, belching, vomiting, flatulence and nervous headache.

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Cures a bad stomach, indigestion and dyspepsia, and the cure is permanent.

Accept no substitute.

worked side by side this year with the strongest men and led them day by day. He was placed on the effective list, and two days after, conferring with his presiding elder, he returned to the committee begging for superannuation.

Another superannuate, passing his three-score and ten years, and since his 21st year a traveling preacher, now entirely disabled, received from the Joint Board of Finance less than one-half of the sum paid another claimant, who says he is not in the least disabled, and can preach, travel, and do as much heavy labor as any man; while the same board donated to two or three other parties who are not lawful or legal claimants liberal sums.

This is unpleasant to write, yet it is true, and much more can be said along the same line, and will be written if necessary. The reports that I have seen of the conference is highly gratifying. In the Northwest Texas Conference the net gain in membership is stated to be 3,717, and I count a gain of thirty pastoral charges for the year.

Another very pleasing fact I glean from the reports of our Northwest

CANCER CURED.

Hon. J. T. Essary, prominent attorney of Morristown, Tenn., Ex-Mayor, Ex-Collector of Internal Revenue for Tennessee, Ex-Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Tennessee, relates his experience with Cancer.

October 27, 1905. Drs. Bye & Leach, Dallas, Tex. Dear Doctors—I think I had just and proper that I address you this letter (for publication, if you desire.) For seven years a lump had been forming on the left side of my face, near the corner of the eye, which at first gave but little, or no alarm, but it continued to enlarge.

There is no need of cutting off a man's cheek or nose, or a woman's breast, in the vain attempt to cure cancer. No use to apply the burning plaster and torture those already weak from pain and suffering.

Texas Conference, and that is the increase of the salaries of the preachers and the general collections. An average of \$1,950 was paid the presiding elders, and the pastors received an average of \$702, but the mission appropriation to domestic missions is not included in the above figures.

It was a marvelous occurrence when the conference elected seven clerical delegates on the first ballot. Somebody was no doubt disappointed in being "left to abide by the stuff."

By the way, Brother Rankin, will you please tell us through the Advocate, what is heresy in the M. E. C. South? Some of us do not know "where we are at."

I did want to tell you that I landed in Texas just 57 years ago. Have been a Methodist 55 years, and a preacher over 48 years. When I reached Texas in 1849, there were 82 itinerant preachers and 8,664 members.

UNANSWERED LETTERS.

Dec. 21—J. E. Buck, sub. J. H. Watts, sub. C. A. Evans, sub. W. F. Mayne, sub.

Dec. 22—J. D. Hudgins, sub. T. S. Barcus, sub. J. A. Laney, sub. G. W. Kinchele, sub. J. S. Huckabee, sub. J. C. Carter, sub. Atticus Webb, sub. L. P. Smith, sub. J. T. Bloodworth, sub. W. T. Harris, sub. J. D. Hudgins, sub. W. H. Terry, sub. J. L. Rea, sub.

Dec. 26—Ed R. Wallace, sub. R. S. Adair, sub. T. R. Pierce, sub. M. S. Hoichkies, sub. H. K. Agee, sub. W. D. Mountcastle, sub. R. W. Nation, sub. M. D. Hill, sub. J. B. Turrentine, sub. E. W. Solomon, sub. T. W. Sharp, sub.

Dec. 27—M. W. Rogers, sub. R. N. Brown, sub.

AN OPEN LETTER TO BRO. W. E. CAPERTON.

Dear Brother—I am not much concerned about hades, specially since you have given those living since Christ's resurrection a shorter route to paradise, avoiding the necessity of a lay-over in hades.

In your last article, of November 16, you say some things hard to be understood. For example: "This is the true Church; and in it I know of nothing that would in the least imply an organization. It is a divinely constituted organization."

How could they be with Christ a saved people, and saints, and not regenerated, I fail to see. Let us not forget that the question in dispute is whether Christ's Church had an existence before Christ used the language in Matthew 16:18.

There is no need of cutting off a man's cheek or nose, or a woman's breast, in the vain attempt to cure cancer. No use to apply the burning plaster and torture those already weak from pain and suffering.

that were the children of Abraham according to the faith. It is common with divines to speak of the Jewish and Christian Churches as though they were two distinct and totally different things; but that is not a correct view of the matter.

The good olive tree very beautifully represents the Church in the days of the apostles when separation was going on that divided the Jewish people into two factions—the loyal and the disloyal.

After the resurrection of Jesus, when all the evidence was before them, it was disloyal to deny that Jesus was the Christ; and those who did so separated themselves from the Church, while the faithful remained in the Church as aforetime.

Really, were the Jews vitally united to Christ and not members of his Church? We are talking about God's (Christ's) spiritual Church, which is constituted of those who are spiritually allied to him.

You mention the fact that Nicodemus needed regeneration, and reach the general conclusion from this special case that therefore "Every member of the Jewish Church had to be regenerated to become a member of Christ's Church, or body of Christ."

That logic limps. I, therefore, pass it by; but whatever else Nicodemus needed, he certainly needed to be instructed in the doctrines of his Church; hence Christ's rebuke: "Art thou a master of Israel and knowest not these things?"

THE HOUSEHOLD.

Strong hot vinegar will remove paint and mortar from glass.

Sugar should be bought in small quantities, as it dries and loses flavor if kept.

Keep a bottle of salad oil well corked, in a cold, dry place, and always in the dark.

A clam shell is better and more convenient for scraping a pot or kettle than a knife.

If ice is applied to a burned finger until it stops smarting, the skin will dry and leave no blister.

It is said that a sound, ripe apple placed in the tin cake-box will keep the loaves from drying or crumbling.

Dissolve a little fine white sugar in the last rinsing water when washing fine lace, and do not use starch.

Rub grease on the seams of new tin-ware, keep in a warm place for a day, and the article will not rust in seams.

Fill used cans with cold water, but let them soak away from the stove, as heat makes them harder to clean.

Starch and iron wide lamp wicks for oil stoves. They will not then cause trouble in fitting them into the burner.

A handful of dried orange or lemon peel kept in the cake-box or cookie jar is said to improve the flavor of the cake.

A novel pickle is made by combining sweet corn and cabbage, each cooked separately then scalded in sweet spiced vinegar and canned for winter use.

God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham." Isaiah preached like an old-fashioned camp-meeting preacher (see Isa. 55:1 and 6).

Were sins pardoned them—in other words, were people regenerated?

Psa. 103:12: "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

I gave some quotations in a former article to show that all the Jews did not turn against Christ—such as: "The common people head him gladly," "Behold the world is gone after him."

You seem to be opposed to the words "Added to the Church," but if those added to the Lord constituted the Church, then are not all who are added to the Lord added to the Church?

Fraternaly. W. H. H. BIGGS.

BRAINS—MALE AND FEMALE.

J. H. Brunner, D. D.

Are women smarter than men? They are, on an average, weaker than men in bodily strength. But in mental alertness they are never second best.

Scientific men have shown that, in proportion to their weight, females have a greater percentage of brains than have the males.

That logic limps. I, therefore, pass it by; but whatever else Nicodemus needed, he certainly needed to be instructed in the doctrines of his Church; hence Christ's rebuke: "Art thou a master of Israel and knowest not these things?"

THE HOUSEHOLD.

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A novel pickle is made by combining sweet corn and cabbage, each cooked separately then scalded in sweet spiced vinegar and canned for winter use.

North Texas Female College

and Kidd-Key Conservatory of Music and Art.

Sherman, Texas.

The first recital of the Vocal Department was given by the pupils of Mr. Louis Versel on the evening of the 15th. The program was a beautifully selected one, every number having a charm of its own and especially adapted to the individual pupil.

- The Nightingale and the Rose. E. R. Park Where the Poppies Grow. Barbour Miss Ethel Foster. Memories. Foote Love's Sorrow. Shetley Miss Etta Donagan. Violin Solo—Chant Sans Paroles. Tschakowsky Miss Louise Ball. Love's Serenade. Shelley The Swallows. Cowen Miss Lucille Stinnett. Cradle Song. Ries All for You. Hardelet Miss Olie Gilmer. Piano Solo—Inventions. T. S. Bach Sonata in E flat. T. Haydn Miss Annie Crocker. Obstinacion. Fontenailles His Favorite Flower. Lowitz Miss Fannie Furrh. Margarita. Meyer-Helmund Cherry-Blossoms. Garret Smith Miss Ada Call. Chorus—"Remember Now, Oh Holy Father." T. Maassenet For chorus, piano, pipe organ and solo. Violin Solo—La Cinquantaine. Gabriel Marie Lucille Woodward. Duets—Parting. Meyer-Helmund O That We Two Were Maying. Nevin Lillian Werner and Claire Phillips. The Night Has a Thousand Eyes. Shelley Four-Leaf Clover. Brownell Miss Maud Davis. Rose Fable. Hawley My Shadow. Hadley Miss Allie Scott. Till Death. Merscherson Old World Serenade. Meyer-Helmund Emma Caldwell. Vannah's Song. Hutzmann Serenade from Marietta. Meyer-Helmund Miss Bess Butler. Piano Solo—Concerto in E flat. Mozart Orchestra on second piano, Mr. Kruger. Miss Helen Norfleet.

Mrs. L. A. KIDD-KEY, President

To the Preachers and People of Gatesville District: Dear Brethren—We are entering on a new conference year. The Lord has given us three good years—good crops, good prices, good health.

CHURCH MONEY

by our method. For the sake of the advertising it gives us, we let you have all the profit. For particulars, address FRANK NEAT-RICHARDSON CO., Wholesale Sale Drugs, Louisville, Ky.

MAY I CURE YOU.

If you have been suffering a month or more you have a chronic disease. The kidneys and glands are not carrying off the waste. YOU WILL NOT GET WELL TILL THEY DO. Carns Kidney Tablets will cure them, nature will do the rest. I have cured hundreds; I want to cure you.

THE SUCCESS SULKY PLOW

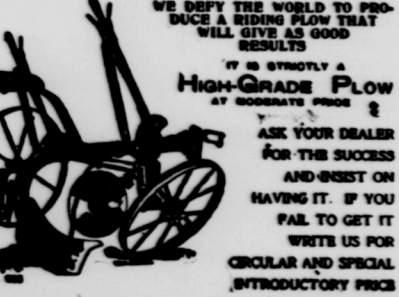
NO SULKY PLOW EVER PLACED ON THE MARKET HAS ATTAINED ANYTHING APPROXIMATING THE RESULTS THAT THIS SUCCESS HAS.

IT HAS THE BEST WORLD BRAND FOR STUBBY SOILS AND THE BEST APPROVED RETURN BEING THE BEST LAMBO BRAND.

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BETTER THAN ANY OTHER PLOW ON EARTH. BE MANUFACTURED AND MADE EVERYTHING THAT IS BEST IN IMPLEMENTS WAGONS AND VEHICLES.

WRITE US FOR YOUR WANTS. PARLIN & ORENDORFF CO. DALLAS



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.

BARKER.—Rev. Charles Henry Barker was born in Lincoln County, Tenn., February 15, 1824, and died in Midlothian, Texas, September 16, 1905. He came to Texas in 1848 and settled in what is now Ellis County. He was present, and one of the County officers, at the organization of Ellis County. He assisted in, and was one of, the charter members of the first Methodist Church in the County, the Waxahachie Church, and with him the last of the charter members passed away. He came to this community in 1859 and was at the organization of the first Church here in the old log school house on the hill, and later known as Harmony Church. He was licensed to preach June 13, 1860, Wm. Lamin, P. E., and preached his first sermon in that house. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Marvin at Waxahachie, Texas, September 30, 1886, and elder by same Bishop and at same place November 29, 1879. Having been converted early in life, and not having lived in sin, he made rapid development to a consecrated life. Bro. Barker was no ordinary preacher, but for one of his day and advantages he was an extraordinary minister. He was a sermonizer after the old Wesleyan type, and it was easy to follow his preaching. His clear analysis of a text, his keen perception of its meaning, together with his art of illustration, often brought a deep conviction to the unsaved, and comforted the saints. He was a model citizen and neighbor, harmless, helpful, cheerful and a benediction to all. He was a man of deep conviction as to a sense of duty, and bold to execute it. He had compassion for souls, and always had some one on his heart to lead to Christ. A list showed more than a score of names for whom he was concerned, and which he often "spread before the Lord." He was helpful to his pastor as a local preacher, always putting him first in all things. He was married to Miss M. E. Singleton in 1849. To them were born five children, Mrs. Ed Lowe, Mrs. W. L. Hawkins, Mrs. Thomas Newton, Mrs. B. F. Hawkins and Mr. R. P. Barker, of Bogas, I. T. He was again married to Mrs. Susan Fields in 1862. To this union there was born one child, Mrs. Ella Covey, of Dallas, Texas. These all survive him, a most remarkable fact, as he was more than eighty years old. His entire family are devoted Christians and have been very useful. This pioneer hero, this model man, this fearless minister has gone to his reward, and his kind are hard to find. Long live his memory!

M. K. LITTLE.

HENDERSON.—The subject of this sketch, James G. Henderson, was born in the year 1833 in the State of South Carolina; departed this life October 25, 1905, at his home in Omaha, Texas. When a small boy he moved with his parents to Texas. On January 7, 1857, he was married to Rebekah L. Shelburn. To them were born seven children, of whom three are living. Bro. Henderson gave his heart to God early in life and joined the M. E. Church, South. For a number of years he held the office of a steward. He was truly a loyal Methodist. He loved his Church and ever stood by his pastor. A kind father, an affectionate husband, a patriotic citizen and a noble man has quit the walks of men and entered into the joys of the life eternal at God's right hand. He waits and watches for loved ones left behind. May they be reunited in heaven.

W. H. VANCE.

RYAN.—Mrs. Mary Elizabeth, (nee Dalley), half sister of the writer, was born in Sabine Parish, La., December 28, 1862. Her father having died when she was quite a child, her mother was again married to W. F. Weeks, and in 1870 they moved to Angellina County, Texas. She was converted when about fifteen years of age and immediately joined the M. E. Church, South, of which she remained a faithful and consistent member until the

day of her death. She was married to W. F. Ryan, March 4, 1880. To this union were born eleven children, all of whom are still living and all of them are members of the Church except the three younger ones. The subject of this sketch was an unassuming, earnest Christian woman, and a loving wife and mother. After a short illness of typhoid fever she died in peace at her home at Couch, Karnes county, Texas, November 24, 1905, and on Sunday, November 26, surrounded by a host of relatives and friends, her body was laid to rest in the beautiful little cemetery at Runge to await the resurrection of the just. She died as she lived—with faith in God and in immortality. This word of comfort to her heart-broken husband and children: Your sorrow is not an endless one. Lean hard upon the everlasting arms, and as the lengthening shadows fall across your way let this additional tie in the homeland draw you thither.

A. J. WEEKS.

OWEN.—Rufus H. Owen, son of Rev. J. T. and Mrs. Roxey Owen, and brother of Rev. J. M. Owen, of Northwest Texas Conference, was born October 26, 1889; died December 3, 1905. He professed religion under his father's preaching and was received into the Southern Methodist Church by his father at the age of 9 years. Rufus was a good boy, full of life and promise. He loved the Church and Sabbath School—always had a perfect lesson. He would lead in prayer in Church and at home and was a joy and help to his parents; but his work is done and he has gone home to rest and to await the coming of father and mother and brothers and sisters and loved ones. So I would say, look up, loved ones, and we will meet him some sweet day in heaven. The funeral services were held in the church at Cow Creek, conducted by the writer and then we laid his body to rest, followed by a large company of friends, to await the resurrection.

J. E. MORTON.

BROWN.—On Friday, December 8, 1905, there was called from this earth Mrs. Mildred M. Brown, of Tioga, Texas. Some ten years ago her husband, William G. Brown, with whom she had lived for nearly 50 years, preceded her to that better country. She was past 78 years of age, passing the last mile stone October 12, 1905. Eight of her ten children live to mourn her departure—all except three of these were present at her translation. Sister Brown was a life-long Christian, an intelligent Methodist and the Church's friend. The preacher had no better friend and her hospitable home was shared by a multitude. The writer knew her for ten years and more, and during all this time her friendship was sincere, her devotion to God and the Church abiding even unto the end. She remained faithful unto death that she might wear the crown of life. She has gone, but her children know where to find her. Her daughter, Jennie, lived with her and for the last few years they were alone. How much this devoted daughter was to this now translated mother, this sweet girl shall not know until she gets to heaven. Goodbye, but not forever. We shall see Sister Brown again. Children, she waits for you. We'll meet her there!

LOUIS S. BARTON.

MORGAN.—Sister Wealthy Anne Morgan (nee Brasher) was born in Smith County, Texas, November 19, 1845, and departed this life at Center Hill, in Houston County, Texas, September 19, 1905. She professed religion and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in early life and lived a consistent Christian life until her death. She was married to R. G. Morgan September 26, 1875. To this union were born seven children, all of whom are still living. She suffered a long time, but she was so patient that one would scarcely know there was any pain about her. She was a kind and loving wife, a faithful and untiring mother and good Christian woman. She said to her brother, Rev. E. T. Brasher a few moments before she died, "I am ready to meet my Lord." A good, patient woman is gone from our midst but gone to live with Jesus. Weep not, dear husband and children, as those who have no hope. She was laid to rest in the cemetery at Zion to await the trumpet's sound. May we all meet her in the sweet by and by.

JAS. W. ALLBRITTEN, Pastor.

SUTTLE.—James Lane Suttle, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Suttle, was born in Hobart, O. T., July 29, 1905, and sweetly fell asleep at the home of his grandparents, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Walkup, Ft. Worth, Texas, November 13, 1905. Between these dates is written a little life of only three months and three weeks, but to loved ones who watched the gentle passing of the angel one it means

more than can be expressed. The first-born brought with it the ambition of the father and the loving hopes of a Christian mother. The flower so early plucked leaves behind the fragrance of its blooming. God gave and hath taken away, but his short life has not been in vain, for he has only gone before to point the way to the land of eternal bliss. Heaven alone will unfold the mysterious way of the Father's leading. "For now we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face."

DAISY L. SENSABAUGH, Fort Worth, Texas.

TAYLOR.—A good man has fallen asleep. We mourn our loss; Heaven rejoices for its gain. Born in Marion County, Texas, April 11, 1847, was regenerated and joined the Church at the age of 16. December 5, 1877, he was happily married to Miss Virginia Everett who, with five of the seven children, survive him to mourn their loss. Bro. Taylor lived well; it was not a wonder he died well. He was resigned and happy to the end—even gasping in death, "Approach my soul the mercy seat," and "O sing to me of heaven." So at last he sweetly passed to his reward. We buried him from the new church he just helped to complete at Mims Chapel. There followed to his last resting place the largest concourse ever seen in that church—both white and black. We commend his sorrowing ones to God and to the Spirit of his grace. We shall see him again in heaven by and by.

J. L. RUSSELL, Livingston, Texas.

BOATRIGHT.—The subject of this sketch, Luther Allen, the little six-year old baby son of Bro. and Sister G. L. and Mrs. Sarah L. Boatright, was born August 8, 1899, and died Dec. 18, 1905. Little Luther leaves four brothers and two sisters to mourn their loss, besides a sad mother and father. Oh, how hard to give up our dear children, though we know that they have gone to rest! Little Luther was so thoughtful and tender to his mother, and being the baby, she kept him so near her all the time, she will miss him so much. The home is so sad this dark morning. May the good God have mercy and send the Holy Spirit to comfort their sad hearts. But heaven is dearer than ever before. Look up, dear parents and brothers and sisters, little brother will meet you at the pearly gate with a smile and bid you welcome to his home and his Lord and your Lord. Only be faithful. Thank God we can meet our children again!

S. N. ALLEN, Daingerfield, Texas.

BROWN.—Little Celia Brown was born July 8, 1901; died December 7, 1905. Sweet little Celia was the little black-eyed pet of the home of Brother and Sister B. F. and Lillie Brown, members of the M. E. Church, South, at Hughes Springs, Texas. That awful disease, called membranous croup, was the cause of her death. Oh, how she suffered, but death came at last and relieved her sufferings, and the good Jesus took her home to live with him. She leaves two brothers and two sisters, besides the broken-hearted mamma and papa, to mourn for her. But we won't mourn as those who have no hope, for our blessed Savior says of such is (not going to be) the kingdom of heaven. So we will meet her again. Oh, what a darling she was! She would climb into the lap of her parents' pastor and love him so tenderly. Oh, how we appreciate loving children in the homes of our people. Look up, dear parents and loved ones, it won't be long until we will join her in that better land.

S. N. ALLEN.

Your Best Work

Cannot be done unless you have good health. You cannot have good health without pure blood. You may have pure blood by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla now. You cannot realize the good it will do until you try it. Begin taking it today and see how quickly it will give you an appetite, strength and vigor and cure your rheumatism, catarrh or scrofula.

All liver ills cured by Hood's Pills. 25c.

A man always finds what he looks for in a boy.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth.

Be sure to use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children cutting. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the only safe remedy. It never fails.

It may be that heaven is grieving over the gains we boast and rejoicing over the losses we grieve.—Ran's Horn.

Ring Worm Cured.

After a month of torment, perfect peace comes to a poor sufferer from tetter, ring worm or other severe itching skin diseases, using a box of Tetterine, the infallible cure for all skin diseases; fragrant, harmless, effective; used by physicians in their practice. Endorsed by druggists.

Only 50 cents a box at druggists, or by mail postpaid from the manufacturer, J. T. Shuptrine, Savannah, Ga., Bathe with Tetterine Soap, 25c. cake.

TO secure the biggest crops of corn, fertilizers must be used liberally. Apply at least 500 pounds to the acre—with 3 1/2 per cent. nitrogen, 8 per cent. available phosphoric acid, and 9 per cent. POTASH.

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Preparation for College, University, Teaching or Business under college graduates. Separate dormitories for boys and girls, each in charge of a teacher who assists pupils by precept and example. Healthful prohibition town. Pupils have advantage of several churches, and the use of a public library, besides the private library of the management. Write for announcement and special low rates for new year. LANDON F. SMITH, Pittsburg, Texas. Mention this paper.

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Located in the Panhandle Country constitute a vast proportion of those who are out of debt, possess an abundance of all that is necessary to comfort and easy hours, and own

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Those who are not so fortunate should profit by past experiences and recognize that these conditions are possible in

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as no where else for the reason that no other section now offers Really High-Class Lands at Low Prices

and that the Agricultural and Stock-farming possibilities of this section are the equal of, and in some respects better than three to five times higher-priced property located elsewhere.

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are advisable, as speculators have investigated and are fast purchasing with a knowledge of quickly developing opportunities to sell to others at greatly increased prices.

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sells cheap Round-trip tickets twice a week with stop-over privileges.

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Advertisement for Katy Service featuring a woman in a long dress and hat, with text: 'WHEN YOU TRAVEL SELECT A RAILWAY AS YOU DO YOUR CLOTHES KATY SERVICE (MISSOURI, KANSAS & TEXAS RAILWAY.) SUGGESTS COMFORTABLE AND CONVENIENT TRAINS. THE "KATY FLYER" AND KATY DINING STATIONS. MEALS MODERATE IN PRICE. UNSURPASSED IN QUALITY AND SERVICE. ONE PRICE 50c'

Advertisement for cough relief: 'COUGHS AND COLDS. Hoarseness or loss of voice immediately relieved. Nothing excels this simple remedy'

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PURE—WHOLESOME—RELIABLE

MADE FROM CREAM OF TARTAR DERIVED SOLELY FROM GRAPES,
IN WHICH DELICIOUS FRUIT IT IS FORMED BY NATURE IN
THE PRECISE COMPOSITION IN WHICH IT IS USED
IN DR. PRICE'S BAKING POWDER.

**Its superiority is unquestioned
Its fame world-wide
Its use a protection and a guarantee
against alum food**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TURN THE CAN AROUND

and you will learn what is the "power behind the dough." In the high-class powders it is cream of tartar, extracted from clean, delicious grapes, and that is healthful. In the low-grade powders it is "phosphate alum," or "sodium aluminum sulphate," which is also alum, a mineral acid, and that makes the food unhealthful.

Of what use are twenty-five ounces for twenty-five cents, if eight of these ounces are alum?

Food baked with alum baking powders is found to contain a portion of the alum unchanged!

The continued use of alum made food impairs digestion, causing dyspepsia. When buying baking powder, examine the label and take only a brand whose label shows it to be free from alum.

enters the parlor, walks anxiously about, lies down in the very midst of the circle with a wearied air that cannot be mistaken. If the visitors still remain, he will rise and yawn, then mildly whine, and with rapidly wagging tail seek his master's side, and look expectantly up into his face, as if to say: "Why don't they go, so we may retire?"

If these tactics fail, he will drop his ears and tail, and walk to the door, sometimes giving a sharp, cross bark, his whole manner indicating deep disapproval of such late hours.

Twice in his life he has done more than to hint at his wishes on occasions of this kind. One wet evening a stranger, who was calling upon Rex mistress left his rubbers near the hall door. With the privilege of an old friend, his call was extended beyond the hour for Rex's retirement. As usual, the dog displayed his sleepiness and evident opinion that the gentleman was outstaying his welcome, but no notice was taken of him, until, with an air of desperation, he marched into the parlor with one of the caller's rubbers, laid it at his feet and then quickly returned with the other, which he placed beside it. Then with a triumphant gleam in his eyes, he backed off, and stood looking at the stranger as if to say: "There, do you understand that hint?"

His second exploit was even more remarkable. On this occasion half a dozen people had been playing whist with his master and mistress. When the game was over, between ten and eleven o'clock, they still stood or sat about the room, engaged in conversation.

Rex was tired, and thoroughly out of humor. No one seemed to give a thought to him, and nothing that he could do attracted any attention. There were too many visitors to urge them all to depart by producing their overshoes, even if they wore them but a brilliant idea came to him. He dashed upstairs to the sleeping-rooms, seized his master's nightgown, which lay ready for use upon the bed, and, dragging it behind him, spread it at his master's feet in the parlor below, in full view of the assembled guests.

This stratagem was a brilliant success, for, amid shouts of laughter, and the consternation of the master, the callers said good-night.—Selected.

Catarrh Cannot be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The canal payrolls showed 17,000 names December 1. At the present rate of increase they will show 25,000 January 1.

The best that money can buy should be your aim in choosing a medicine, and this is Hood's Sarsaparilla. It cures when others fail.

POSTOFFICE ADDRESS.

Rev. D. P. Pulley, Cason, Texas.

"It would be as easy to pluck the stars from the sky as to wipe out from the earth those twinkling lights of love that shine from the windows of cottage and palace telling of the radiance within, the light of love that has its source in the hearts of one man and one woman joined together for better or for worse till death do them part."

READ THIS.

Waco, Texas, Dec. 29, 1902.—E. W. Hall, St. Louis, Mo. My Dear Sir—In 1894 I was a great sufferer from kidney and bladder trouble and your Texas Wonder cured me and I have never suffered since. I most heartily recommend it. Yours truly, A. E. FOSTER, 213 Mary St.

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 trouble 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, 2931 Olive Street.

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Persons wishing to secure land for the future will do well to write to C. S. Knott, who has been a surveyor and land man for many years in West Texas. I refer you to Rev. S. J. Vaughan, or any one of a hundred or more persons whom we have located. All lands are advancing. The lower plains have a bright future. Cotton has produced half bale this year. C. S. KNOTT, Colorado, Texas.

ALFALFA The greatest money maker ever introduced to Southern farmers. Makes good land better. Makes poor land good by enriching soil. Once well set lasts indefinitely. We are headquarters for this grand seed. Large importations now arriving from best German and Turkestan Growers. Imported seed has less injurious weed and grass than Home Grown, which we also furnish. We are booking orders for Fall shipment at very low prices, which are sure to advance as sowing season approaches. Write for Alfalfa Circular No. 6. Established 21 years. Holloway Seed & Floral Co., Dallas, Texas.

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The Home Circle

AT THE OCULIST'S.

The oculist's waiting room was nearly full, and Charlotte Fraser, delayed by unforeseen hindrances, received check number fifteen. That meant at least two hours of waiting. She glanced wearily about the room, although she was familiar with the various types of patients—the bored, the nervous, the stolidly enduring. Three or four were glancing idly through the magazines on the table; one was reading a letter; two, who evidently had come together, were talking in suppressed voices. "I suppose," the thought crosses the girl's mind, whimsically, "I suppose they really are as interesting as the average of humanity if one had any way of knowing, but how dull they all look here!"

The door opened again, and everybody looked up except the woman with bandaged eyes in the darkest corner. The newcomers were two, a little, brown-eyed old lady and a younger woman, apparently her daughter.

The old lady was talking, and she kept right on without a thought of listening ears:

"There, now, Ellen, you go right along and do your shopping. I don't need you here any more than a cat needs two tails. I'll have company enough, from the looks."

An amused smile went around the room. Ellen, after a low word or two, apparently agreed to "go along," and the little lady, with a quick glance round, dropped into a seat beside the woman in the corner.

"There wasn't any use in Ellen's wasting a morning sitting round with me," she said conversationally. "Sit tin round's real fidgety work, don't you think so?"

The woman looked surprised, but after a moment she answered, and the little old lady, not at all disconcerted, chatted on. Presently the woman, too, began to talk in a low, nervous voice, and before long the old lady's hand was holding hers. When she was called—she happened to hold the next number—everybody heard the last words:

"Don't you be discouraged, dear; it will come out all right."

For a moment after the bandaged eyes left the old lady sat silent; then she crossed the room to a chair beside a mother with a little girl. In three minutes she was telling about her own daughters, and learning all about the child. Everybody was

watching by this time, and the room held no bored faces.

When number fifteen was called, Charlotte went eagerly into the office.

"There is such a dear old lady out there!" she said. You ought to have her for an assistant. She's comforted six people and entertained all of us."

"Mrs. Pentland," the doctor replied, with a quick smile. "I hope she is not a serious patient?" the girl asked.

The doctor's face changed. "She is growing blind," he said gravely. "I can only delay it. The end is inevitable."

"Oh," the girl said with a quick breath. Then she added, softly: "Her heart will never grow blind."

"Never, Miss Charlotte," the doctor answered.—Youth's Companion.

A VERY IMPOLITE DOG.

A man in New York State is the owner of a small but pure-blooded Skye terrier, named Rex, whose intelligence is remarkable. Some of Rex's bright performances certainly are the result of reasoning power, which used to be regarded as the gift of the human family, only.

Rex sleeps at the foot of his master's bed, upon a soft rug of his own. He is a dog of good habits, better behaved than many children, in fact; but, like a child, he insists upon his rights; his own spot before the fire, his own corner of the sofa, his own bed, and, what is most interesting, his own bed-time.

Often in the evening, when the visitors remain beyond ten o'clock, Rex

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