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EPWORTH LEAGUE.



Topics for Prayer-Meeting.

DECEMBER.

24. Christmas.—Luke 2:1-14.
25. The Final Account.—Matt. 23:31-46.

TOPIC FOR DECEMBER 17.

Hope.—Rom. 5:1-5.

Hope, like all other Christian graces, is based on faith. It is impossible to hope for anything if we have no faith in the means by which our hope is to find fruition. Having the promise of the glory of God through the merits of his Son if we believe, or trust, in him we hope for the fulfillment of that promise in proportion as we believe that it will take place. Hope may be considered as a faculty, and as the exercise of that faculty. As a faculty it is, like faith, a part and parcel of our being as men. It is born in us, and grows or is dwarfed in proportion as it is successfully exercised. It can be crushed out. Repeated disappointments weaken it; and there comes a time when after a series of failures men get to where they are "without hope in the world."

The elipsis in the above sentence, represented by the stars, is filled in the passage quoted with the phrase "without God;" and thereby hangs a tale—the same sad, oft repeated tale of man's attempt—

"To satisfy the cravings of an immortal appetite With the unsubstantial shades of Time!"

Hope will die if a man remains "without God in the world." It will struggle on for years and years, it may be, but in the end after illusion upon illusion has been dispelled and the poor wretch finds the world and its promises vain and hollow, hope dies, the spirit sinks, and death—the second death—ensues!

Even men of the world—men who are still looking in this life for "another peg upon which to hang their hopes"—acknowledge that so far "all is vanity and vexation of spirit." Mr. Pope voices the experience as well as the theory of the more thoughtful of unconverted men in that immortal couplet:

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast:
Nan never is but always to be blest!"

But the gospel promises blessings and the true believer bears testimony to the fact that—

"Blessings abound where e'er He reigns:
The prisoner leaps to loose his chains:
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest."

So we say to our souls as the Psalmist said to his: "Hope thou in God, for he is the health of thy countenance and thy God!"

OLD AND YOUNG.

CHILD'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

First William the Norman,
Then William his son;
Henry, Stephen, and Henry,
Then Richard and John;
Next, Henry the Third,
Edward, one, two, and three;
And again, after Richard,
Three Henrys we see.
Two Edwards, third Richard,
If rightly I guess;
Two Henrys, sixth Edward,
Queen Mary, sixth Henry;
Then James, the Scotchman,
Then Charles, whom they slew,
Yet received, after Cromwell,
Another Charles, too.
Next James the Second
Ascended the throne;
Then good William and Mary
Together came on;
Then Anne, Georges four,
And fourth William all passed,
And Victoria came—
May she long be the last!

LITTLE 'FRAID-CAT.'

"Little 'fraid-cat! little 'fraid-cat!"
The words were screamed in a shrill, childish voice, and were answered by, "Oh! please, do, Charley!" uttered in evident fright.

Miss Stanley started up from her desk and went toward the window, exclaiming: "That is Charley Ager teasing his cousin again. Why can't the child behave?"

The windows of the school-room were high, and as the children stood near the building she could not see them. "Charley," she called, "come up here immediately."

The voices ceased, and a moment later Charley entered the room. "What was the matter with Willy?" Miss Stanley asked.

"A honey bee was on him, and he was scared," Charley answered.

"Did you drive it off?"

"No, ma'am," and Charley hung his head.

"Why didn't you?"

"Because he's such a baby. Why,

a honey-bee ain't anything. It will go off if you let it alone; and, anyway, if it stings, it don't hurt much."

"But he was afraid of it, and you were not," said Miss Stanley. "A little gentleman will always help the weak and timid. You ought to be good to Willy, because he is so kind to your little sister. Now run home to dinner, or you will be late this afternoon; and, remember, a gentleman must be kind and gentle as well as brave."

Then Miss Stanley returned to her work and forgot the children.

Willy and Charley Ager were cousins, and they lived in a large house not far from the school. Charley had one little sister. The boys were eight years old, but Mabel was only five. They were both bright, good little fellows; but Charley was brave and manly, and fond of rough games, while Willy was very timid and quiet. His teacher sometimes feared that he would grow up cowardly, so she tried to teach him to be brave.

Every morning during the opening exercises of the school Miss Stanley took a few moments to tell the children a story of some great and good person. She always questioned them on the stories the day after she told them. The exercise was called "Moments with Heroes," and she hoped in this way to help the boys and girls to love the right and be courageous about doing it. She took great pains to impress upon Willy all the particularly brave deeds; but lately the boys had teased him and called him "fraid-cat" when they thought they would not be heard, and he seemed only to grow worse.

That afternoon none of the Ager appeared in school. This was very strange, for they were regular attendants, and Miss Stanley called at their home to see if any accident had happened. The next morning when it came time for the story, she said: "Children, we have talked about heroes for some time. Now I want one of you to answer the question, What is a hero?"

At first no one spoke, but after a little thought several definitions were given. Jenny Thomas believed a hero to be a person who saved another's life, and Joe Davis said a hero was a person who took pain in himself to keep another from having it.

"I like your definition very much, Joseph," said Miss Stanley, and she wrote on the board: "Hero: A person who takes pain to save another from having it."

"Was Martin Luther a hero?" asked Flo Adams.

"Yes."

"And those women who were drowned on the coast of Scotland rather than give up their religion?" Flo asked again.

"Yes, indeed," said the teacher.

"Then I think," said Flo, "that a hero is a person who does what's right, even if it brings pain."

"That is a good definition also. I will write that under Joseph's. Now I will tell you a story. It's about a very little hero to-day—a boy only eight years old. He wasn't usually a brave little boy, but was afraid of most things that other boys don't mind at all. He wouldn't drive a horse or go past a cow, and sometimes his playmates were unkind enough to call him disagreeable names. There was one thing which he was more afraid of than anything else, and that was a honey-bee.

Charley Ager was in his seat, listening intently, but when Miss Stanley had told that much of the story, he looked very much as if he would rather not have been there.

"Now, most of you boys and girls," the teacher continued, "are not at all afraid of them. I have known some of you get stung while robbing wild bees' nests, and think nothing of it. But if it were so painful that for two days you could not eat or sleep, or do anything but lie down and moan, I think none of you would let a bee sting you, if you could help it. This little hero of whom I am telling had twice been stung, and both times it had made him very, very sick; so it was natural that he should be afraid. One day, when he was out-of-doors with his five-year-old cousin, a bee came and lighted on his arm. He tried to push it away, but the bee grew angry, and darted at him again, and again he thrust it off; but this time it flew at his little cousin. He knew what pain a sting brought him, and supposed it would hurt her just as much. He also knew that a honey-bee could sting but once, because it can not withdraw the sting from flesh; and to save her from pain, just as it made a dash at her cheek, he put out his hand, and it stung him. Do you think a boy who would do a thing like that should be called 'fraid-cat' or hero?"

No one answered. They all knew she was talking of Willy Ager.

"What do you think, Joseph?" she said a hero was a person who took pain himself to keep another from having it. Is he a 'fraid-cat' or hero?"

"A hero," said Joe. But he spoke in a low tone; for he remembered how many times he had called Willy the other name.

"Then," said Miss Stanley, "I hope I shall never again hear Willy called a coward. He has proved that he is not entirely without courage. He is a timid, delicate boy, and we must help him grow strong and brave; but that can not be done by frightening and annoying him, but by encouraging him whenever we can, and setting him the very best example."

Miss Stanley was ready now to turn to the lessons; but Charley Ager stood in his place, awaiting permission to speak. His face was flushed, and his whole manner excited.

"What is it, Charley?" she asked.

"Miss Stanley," he said quickly, "I put that bee on Willy, to hear him holler. I didn't know it would hurt him so, and I am sorry I did it. Mother said I ought to tell you."

And then the little fellow, not too old yet to cry before the girls, sat down and sobbed aloud.

Miss Stanley glanced at the second definition on the board. Should she tell the boy he too was a hero, and perhaps lessen the good his confession would do him? Some of the other

scholars understood the glance, and looked sympathizingly at Charley.

The teacher walked over, and laid her hand gently on the boy's bowed head.

"I am sure," she said kindly, "that a boy who has so nobly owned his fault will try earnestly to do all the good he can, and never intentionally give any one pain. Now let us attend to our lessons."—Alice A. Smith, in the Sunday School Times.

SMALL ECONOMIES.

Small economies are always the order of the day with many people, but just now with more people than is usually the case. Instead of buying a new cloak this winter, as she hoped last winter to do, Mrs. Brown had her brown cloak dyed black, and made up with fresh trimmings, so that it looks like new. It is astonishing how the dyes will transform a faded cloak into a fresh one without ripping it to pieces, and return it with not a trace of a wrinkle in it; at so small a price, too.

You might think Mrs. Smith's hat a brand-new one, but it is the same velvet she has worn many years. She brushed and sponged and steamed it herself, and renewed the ribbons, and the milliner made it up on a new frame, and put a fresh aigrette in, and it is a very pretty hat at very moderate cost.

The economy of buying only intrinsically good material in the first place is realized when one comes to the making over period. There is hardly any fluit to the usefulness of a good piece of cashmere or serge. It looks well so long as a piece of it lasts. The same is true of almost every variety of woven fabric. When the mother has worn out a garment it may be made over for the children, and so its life be prolonged by many reincarnations, so to speak, until at last it passes into the rag or carpet stage, and then into "shoddy," if shoddy is made now.

A great deal depends as to the style of clothes or the way in which they are worn; that is to say, on the interior feeling of the person who wears them. If you wear your old made-over hat or cloak or dress as though it were just bought in the store, nine out of ten will think it brand-new, if they think anything at all about it, which probably they won't. We think so much more of our own coverings than we do of anybody else's, or than anybody else does of what is not on herself.

In the kitchen a great many economies may be practiced to the saving of grocers' bills. If the housewife buys her materials and makes her own baking powders, she does not help the manufacturer pay his advertising bills or for the labor and capital employed in making baking powder—small item, to be sure, in the grand total, but all grand totals are made up of items. If all the nice fat of meats is carefully saved and tried out, the butter bill will be materially reduced. It is cheaper to make one's bread than to buy it, and good homemade bread is a more nutritious article than the bread one buys. Stews, very palatable when skillfully prepared, are much cheaper than roast or broiled meats.

Ink and tooth powders are easily made at home, and a few pennies saved that way.

According to the statement of a wholesale grocer in this city, the sale of the necessities of life—as flour, sugar, butter, cheese—have not materially fallen off, but for far goods in the grocery line the demand is very slight. Our housekeepers must take Franklin's advice to the American people before the revolution, and "light the torches of industry and economy."—New York Advocate.

A SCHOOL-BOY'S LETTER.

I forward a genuine letter from a school-boy to his mother:

"MY DEAR MA: I write to tell you I am very reched and my chilblains is worse again. I have not made any progress and do not think I shall. I am very sorry to be such an expense, but I do not think this schule is any good. One of the fellows has taken the crown of my best hat for a target. He has now borrowed my watch to make a water wheel with the works, but it wont act. Me and him have tried to put the works back, but we think some wheels are missing as they wont fit. I hope Matilda's cold is better. I am glad she is not at schule. I think I have got consumption. The boys at this place are not gentlemanly, but of course you did not know this when you sent me here. I will try not to get bad habits. The trowsers have worn out at the knees. I think the tailor must have cheated you, the buttons have come off, and they are loose behind. I dont think the food is good, but I should not mind if I was stronger. The piece of meat I send you is off the beef we had on Sunday, but on other days it is more stringy. There are black beetles in the kitchen and sometimes they cook them in the dinner, which cant be wholesome when you are not strong. Dear Ma, I hope you and Pa are well, and do not mind my being so uncomfortable because I do not think I shall last long. Please send me some more money as I o.s.d. If you can not spare it I think I can borrow it of a boy who is going to leave at the half quarter and then he wont ask for it back again, but perhaps you wd. not like to be under an obligation to his parents as they are tradespeople. I think you deal at their shop. I wd. not mention it or I dare say they wd. have put it down in the bill.—Yr. loving but reched son,—"X.—" in London Spectator.

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PREPARING FOR THE EUCHARIST.

The fathers set much store by the matter of preparation for the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The apostle Paul counsels self-examination—"let a man examine himself and so let him eat." The devout of all times everywhere in Christendom have taken the same view of its sacred importance and have pursued, substantially, the same course in preparing for its celebration. The history of our Church shows that not a whit behind the chiefest in this respect are the people called Methodists. The pastor preached on the subject to his flock and the class leader exhorted the members of his class to get ready by self-examination, fasting and prayer for the solemn celebration of the sacred feast. The primary object of this sacrament is to "show forth the Lord's death until his coming again," but the occasion of its observance has always been considered as a time and season eminently calculated to strengthen and establish the faith of the communicant.

But we fear that in our times, in many places, the preparation for the Eucharist is "more observed in the breach than in the performance." Many people—even members of the Church—are often surprised on entering the house to see the elements on the table. They forget that it is "Communion Sunday," and so, after listening to a discourse often foreign to the solemn theme the bread and wine suggest, they hurry to the table in a thoughtless, perfunctory way and hurry back to their seats again without "discerning the Lord's body," and, per consequence, without being edified by what they have done!

It is not our province to dictate in this nor in any other matter to the ministry and membership of our Church, but we beg leave to suggest that a reform along these lines is badly needed, and that it can not begin too soon.

THE "NEW THEOLOGY."

The new theology, so-called, a kind of blustering protest against Calvinism which has sprung up in New England in the last few years, poses as the great light to guide the universal Church amidst the breakers of modern skepticism. Its sympathizers—for it can hardly be said to have any leaders—point with pride to the fact that it renounces the horrible doctrine of decrees and spreads out its hands in an invitation to all men to be saved.

Some outsiders, who are much better acquainted with the writings of skeptics than with those of any Christian denomination, join in the chorus of applause for the "advanced thinkers" who have presented so much better an idea of God than that heretofore held by "the Churches."

This state of things is calculated to make Methodist people smile. To hear those New England ranters come

out against decrees at this late date and claim to be the pioneers in the field, when Methodism has occupied an anti-decree position from the beginning, is positively funny! Where have those fellows been all this time? What have they been reading? They are advertising their ignorance of current thought, to say nothing of the history of the last hundred years, every time they open their mouths! New theology, indeed! We do not need it.

Our theology is new itself—New Testament theology; and while those little Calvinistic clubs are bickering and fussing over how to get away from the "horrible doctrine" of infant damnation, the millions of Methodism, unchanged in creed and unmoved by any school of thought save the school of Christ, are marching on to the conversion of the masses and the conquest of the world.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT IT?

There used to be a blank in our preachers' reports to the Annual Conference for the "value of books sold." To circulate our books and periodicals was considered a part of every itinerant's work. It is so now, but we seldom hear of that work being done. If it is done, it is no longer officially reported.

It would seem that our people had either quit reading, or that another agency had taken the pastor's place in the distribution of our literature.

But neither of these things are true. Our people—all the people—read more now than ever before; and no efficient agency supplies them with the publications of our Church.

But they are being supplied, abundantly supplied; but, alas! the supply is not only not Methodist, but is in most cases in violent antagonism to the very genius and spirit of Christianity itself. The presses of the country are running day and night to meet an increasing demand for the merest trash, much of which is too indecent and filthy to be sent through the mails, but is hawked on the streets, sold on the cars and peddled through the country from door to door!

A Chicago paper says that in the last ten years the demand for any kind of religious literature at the book stores in that city has well-nigh ceased, while the rush is on and still growing for sensational stuff, mostly of the vilest character.

The Ram's Horn, published in the same city, says that these vendors of literary trash have their colporters on the streets day and night. That they haunt the precincts of the public schools where they encounter the children on their way to and from school and sell them their vile and filthy publications without the knowledge or consent of their parents. And they go farther than this. Encouraged by the protection or connivance of the municipal authorities and by the increasing demand for their pernicious prints, they are making a house-to-house canvass with a success that is absolutely alarming to those who look ahead and contemplate the disastrous effects of such debasing causes! No wonder that Chicago is honey-combed with infidelity and anarchy! It would be a miracle were it otherwise; and unless something is done to check the sowing of these dragons' teeth, it may be safely prophesied of the Windy City as of ancient Troy:

destruction hangs o'er yon devoted wall,
And nodding Ilium waits the impending fall!

But Chicago is not the only place in this nation where these dread causes are at work. The whole land is being flooded. Infidel and semi-infidel literature is shaking loose the public mind from its hitherto high standard of morals as based on the authority of God's Word, and is thereby paving the way for the introduction of the lowest class of reading known to this or any other age. The Seventh Day Adventists, whose main point is the overthrow of the Christian Sabbath and who have the sympathy and no doubt the material support of every class of enemies to Christianity, are sowing the country down with their books and tracts; and while the public mind is thus diverted to the silly controversy about a rest day, the avowed infidel and the vendors of immoral literature get in their work before the people know it. Here, Most, the anarchist, and Bob Ingersoll, the atheist, can cheerfully join hands with any so-called Christian sect that sets itself against the established order of the Christian world—especially when their peculiar work is to tear down, and who harp on a hobby instead of thundering against sin!

Attention has already been called in these columns to the pernicious work of the train butcher in singling out an unsuspecting boy and displaying to him those vile and obscene illustrated books, chock-full of the basest and most degrading language and pictures. The writer of these lines has made it his business on several occasions to watch these butchers and ascertain the character of literature they clandestinely offered to sell to boy passengers traveling alone. It is hard to catch them, for they keep a sharp eye upon adult passengers—especially

upon those whom they take to be decent; but several instances have been noticed recently where they have used every means possible to sell their victim pamphlets, the contents of which would degrade the mind of the worst man in the nation. Now, what is the remedy for all this? We suggest: (1) Let the attention of our legislators be called to these facts, and insist upon the passage of the most stringent laws against the sale or gift of obscene literature; and (2) let our preachers and people use every means in their power to circulate our clean and wholesome publications, thereby cultivating the public taste for what we feed it on, and fortifying the public conscience against the "singing of those songs" which do not conduce to the edification of our people.

MISSIONARIES TO BE PROTECTED.

Mr. Cleveland calls attention in his recent message to the murder and maltreatment of American missionaries in some foreign lands, and urges upon Congress the necessity of more careful consideration for American citizens engaged in missionary work all over the world.

IS IT SO EVERYWHERE?

The Texas conferences are full and running over. In some cases preachers have been forced to take mere nominal appointments. Several took supernumerary and superannuated relations who, but for the crowded condition of the conferences, might have been read out as effective. The transfers came pouring in upon us, and the candidates for admission and readmission were as numerous as usual, if not more so. Several of the latter were rejected more on the ground of there being no room for them than a lack of fitness, while a number of the former were passed on "to other conferences," or snugly tucked away in the Bishop's pocket.

We are not advised as to the condition of other conferences in this respect, but if they are as badly crowded as we are in Texas, it is time to change our petition and pray the Lord of the harvest to enlarge the vineyard rather than to increase the laborers.

Candor compels us to say, however, that while we have all we could ask in the matter of quantity, the quality of the laborers might be graded up without any danger of going beyond the Pauline standard. It can not be denied that we have a number of men on our rolls who have given but few proofs of their ministry; and yet year after year they are to be "provided for," while stronger and more efficient men are turned away without work!

This is a serious matter, and while it is much easier to point out a defect than to suggest a remedy, we beg leave to mention one or two facts which tend to perpetuate this abuse and which in all conscience ought not so to be:

First, our conferences are too careless in admitting men into full connection. After a two years' trial their gifts and graces, if they have any, ought to sufficiently appear as to furnish a prophecy of what they are going to be and do as itinerant preachers; and if it is seen that they are unfit for the work they should be promptly discontinued. It is not every good man who can adapt himself to the work of a traveling preacher. Many good and efficient local preachers, whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life and whose sheaves will be many at the final harvest home, would have crippled their own usefulness and hampered the work of the Church had they undertaken the delicate and peculiar work of an itinerant in our ministry. Let all such men "after strict trial and due examination," who make the mistake of attempting to travel, be discontinued.

Secondly, the presiding elders as a rule are too tender-footed when they come to represent their men. The phrase, "gun log," is a sufficient proof of this. We make no war on those much-burdened and often misunderstood brethren when we say that in the interest of truth and of the Church they need a little more backbone.

When a member of the conference becomes heavy and gets to be a drag upon the hands of the cabinet, if he will not voluntarily retire, let his presiding elder move his location.

We are aware that it takes grit and grace to do this; but those qualities are just what the "elder" needs in the superlative degree if he properly fulfills his responsible office. Let him tell the truth, if the heavens fall, without malice in the fear of God and with an eye on that bar where both he and the man he represents must shortly meet to make their final audit before the Lord.

LOCAL PROHIBITION.

One by one the precincts and counties of Texas are adopting local option. The daily papers have little or nothing to say of this steady march of prohibition, but there is scarcely a week passes in which a county or some precinct in a county does not vote on the question, and in the great majority of cases the "Pros" get the victory.

Even in Dallas County, in the midst of which the whisky devil has his seat, every precinct outside of the city is "dry;" and if the friends of law and order will keep an eye open upon these Dallas dens and report any violation of the law, many of them will have to close for lack of business.

In the meantime, let every good man, woman and child talk prohibition and spread and cultivate a sentiment against this greatest curse of this or any other age—the open saloon.

THE YELLOW BACK NOVEL IS THE CAUSE.

In an article in the North American Review for November, entitled, "Highwaymen of the Railroad," by William A. Pinkerton, the great detective, the writer says concerning the modern train-robbing epidemic: "It is largely due to the general business depression and to the reading of yellow covered novels by country lads, whose minds thus become inflamed, making them easy victims of professional thieves who invite them to join their schemes. Once a boy starts as an amateur he is likely to become infatuated with the work, and he then sticks to it until he is imprisoned or killed."

MAY MOVE HIS WASHING.

Ever since the union of all Italy and the destruction of the temporal power of the Roman Pontiff, that cunning ecclesiastic has been playing in the role of prisoner, thereby creating much sympathy among the members of that communion and greatly augmenting the annual flow of "Peter's pence" from the faithful of every land.

People outside of Italy—especially Roman Catholics—are astonished at the growth of republican sentiment under the very shadow of the Vatican, and they "wonder how the wonder is" that Italian Catholics should not only suffer the "Holy Father" (!) to be so maltreated, but should actually join hands with those who lead the sacrilegious crusade against his God-ordained and apostolic rights!

The fact is that distance, which lends enchantment to every other view, makes no exception in this case. Those people who are on the ground and see from day to day the hollowness and hypocrisy of papal pretensions are sick and getting sicker of the ridiculous farce dishonoring to God and destructive to human liberty! The great masses in that country, and especially in that city, while full of superstition and dwarfed by a thousand years of priestcraft and ignorance, are gradually waking up to their rights as a nation and as individuals.

The rumor is now afloat that the Pontiff and his immense wealth are in danger, and that a move of the papal headquarters may be expected at any time. Several places have been suggested as the possible future home of the Pope, the United States among others. There is no doubt that this country is the proper place for Leo, for the masses of our people are densely ignorant of the butcheries and burnings of that bloody hierarchy; and there are fools and toadies enough here to keep that venerable Dago's toe quite clean, from kissing it from day to day.

TOUGH ON THE BISHOP.

A good one is going the rounds on Bishop Fitzgerald. It is reported that "somewhere down in Georgia" a Methodist preacher came across a Baptist colporteur who, among other books, was selling the "Life of the James Boys." The good Arminian felt called upon to remonstrate with his aquatic brother against the circulation of such poisonous literature, when the deep-water disciple replied: "What! you object to the 'Life of the James Boys' when at the same time you are selling 'Fitzgerald's California Sketches'?" The reporter of this interview left just then.

LET US HAVE PEACE.

This ADVOCATE is no fighter, and it does not enjoy a fray carried on by others. When it hears the challenge to "tread on the tail of me coal!" and sees the black-thorn shillalah flourish for the cracking of heads, it takes to its heels.

But when the contention is between those who "be brethren," it feels called upon to put in a word of protest and to counsel peace. That word it now puts in, and would kindly suggest to the editors of the Nashville Christian Advocate and the Tennessee Methodist that it is about time to give their readers and the Church at large a rest on the matter of the "Winslow Resolution."

OPENED THE DANCE WITH PRAYER.

WOLVERINE, Mich., Dec. 4.—Henry Murtagh, a teacher in dancing and music, took a strong part in Rev. Charles Houston's revival meetings in this place. The revival was a success, and Murtagh's music helped to stir up great religious fervor. But when it was over he said to the clergyman: "One good turn deserves another. You must now attend my opening dancing party."

After a long argument, Mr. Houston said that he would attend the party if he were permitted to open the proceedings with prayer. The dancing master consented. Last evening there

was a queer sight in the principal hall in Wolverine. A gay assembly of young people decked out for dancing, and including many recent converts, knelt on the floor while the clergyman prayed fervently that none might be laid away in their hours of amusement. When the prayer was concluded the orchestra sounded for a quadrille, and every number on the program was danced. Rev. Mr. Houston has captured the town.—Globe-Democrat.

Yes, and the devil has captured Mr. Houston.

LET IT CONTINUE.

The "poundings" have already begun. Several are reported in this issue of the ADVOCATE.

Let this good work go on. Let every charge go and do likewise. The money value of what is given on those delightful occasions is the smallest consideration in the premises. The good will and appreciation of the people expressed in this substantial manner not only does the givers good and supplies the parsonage with necessary things, but it inspires the pastor with confidence in the loyalty and affections of his people and girds him for better services for them and their children.

If the paper is not up to the standard this issue, it is due to the fact that the senior editor has been absent the past two weeks attending the sessions of the Texas and East Texas Conferences. His report of the first appeared in our last number, and that of the latter comes up on our first page this week.

The senior editor of this paper was elected to the General Conference from the old East Texas, along with the very Rev. J. T. Smith. It is a good team. Smith is long and lean, and the senior is round and compact and heavy set. They will furnish a fine average.

Some people are afraid to invest money in the Lord's business and yet they hope to reap a big reward for having given away a few old clothes.

The man who claims to love the Lord in the Church on Sunday and claims more than his due on Monday deceives no one—not even himself.

The Church member who failed to meet his assessments for the support of the ministry last year will be mighty restless when the new preacher begins to talk about frauds in the Church.

MARK GUY PEARSE has a homily upon the crossing of the Red Sea in a late number of The Preacher's Magazine in which he makes a point worthy of note: "The Israelites had their baptism—'They were all baptized upon Moses in the cloud and in the sea.' All, the infants as well as the adults; sprinkled by the spray and the rain. The Egyptians were immersed!"—Central Christian Advocate.

That point has been made so often in Texas that even our backwoods' exporters would consider it a chestnut.

BRO. STEWARD, keep your eye on that pounding business. It is all right to pound the preacher—every one ought to be pounded—but be careful that in the midst of such jubiliations your people do not forget the quarterly meeting and question 8.

SOME people show their gifts in a trade and their graces in a prayer-meeting talk.

The man who slanders another in order to boost himself will find that in sawing off the limb he has been standing on the wrong side of the instrument.

WHEN you send your son to a university, for heaven's sake give him something to protect his nose, so that you will know him when he graduates.—Dallas News.

If you send him to the Southwestern University, at Georgetown, Texas, his nose and all of him, physically, mentally and morally, will be protected.

LET the persecuted man wait his time with patience, for the Lord is the friend of the oppressed.

WHEN the devil peeps in on a Board of Stewards, each of whom owns a good home, and listens to their wranglings over a \$600 allowance for the Lord's servant, their pastor, his Satanic majesty goes into a paroxysm of delight.

NO HEARER has any right to criticize his pastor unless he has been praying for him.

BROTHER, what does your wife and children think about your religion? They are the best judges of what you really are this side of heaven.

DID it ever occur to the reader of this paragraph that to try to belittle another did not put any premium upon his own character?

THE experience of every intelligent observer of men and things is, that we would love each other more if we knew each other better.

THE New York Independent has a symposium on "Public and Private Health, Healthful Occupations, Sleep, Typhoid Fever and Drinking Water, and Sanitary Reform," etc., by Drs.

S. W. Abbott, Henry H. Lyman, J. F. A. Adams, Victor C. Vaughan and Mrs. H. M. Plunkett. Dr. Abbott quotes the mortality tables of the British Registrar-General, which contain so much that every one ought to know that we publish the entire excerpt in our Grab Hooks' department this week.

ANY unprejudiced listener to the reports of the preachers at conference is compelled to admit that the charge against the ministry of being poor financiers is without foundation. No class of men can live as well, dress as neatly and feed as many dead beats as the average preacher on the salary he gets.

REV. W. F. LLOYD has resigned his position as editor of the Epworth Methodist. Rev. I. Z. T. Morris is hereafter to be managing editor, with J. I. Mulkey as business manager.

WE have received the initial number of the Western Christian Index, edited by Rev. F. P. Gibson, Jay W. Taylor, business manager, and published at Fort Worth, in the interest of the Colored M. E. Church in America. We welcome it to our list of exchanges.

PERSONALS.

—The address of Rev. C. S. McCarver is Memphis, Texas.

—The address of Rev. W. B. Walker will be Lamesco, Texas.

—Gov. Hogg is out in his annual tour of inspection of the various State institutions.

—The postoffice address of Rev. C. B. Frazier is Kaufman, Texas; and that of Rev. Harry May is Galveston.

—Rev. W. M. Shockley acknowledges the receipt of a present from the people of Williamsburg, and thanks them.

—The Van Alstyne News says that the return of Rev. J. A. Wyatt to that station meets the approbation of everybody. They always want "Old Jim" back.

—Rev. N. W. Keith, of Uvalde, Texas, desires to thank the good people of Williamsburg for a present sent him by the hand of Bro. John Williams.

—Rev. D. J. Martin, who goes from Sulphur Springs Station to Kaufman for another year, called at this office en route to his new charge one day last week.

—Bros. Spragins, Clark and Hanson were returned at the late session of the North Texas Conference to their several charges in this city, much to the delight of their people.

—The postoffice address of Rev. J. P. Childers is Huntsville, Texas. Brethren desiring his help in their meetings will address him at once so that he can arrange his plan of work.

—Concerning the reception of Rev. S. R. Hay by the Church at Belton, the Journal of that city says: "The Methodists are delighted with their new pastor, both as a preacher and as a man."

—The Sunday-school at Timpon passed flattering resolutions concerning Rev. C. F. Smith who has been serving them for the past three years. The resolutions were signed by Mrs. A. F. Bryan, and Messrs. W. T. Avery and Homer Garrison.

—Judge Bryant, of the Federal Court, located at Paris, Texas, and which has jurisdiction over the Indian Territory, is enforcing the law to the letter against whisky sellers in that country. Let every good man give the Judge his best smile.

—Rev. B. R. Bolton, pastor of our Church in Waxahachie, made us a pleasant call on his way to visit his parents at Jacksonville, in Cherokee County. He reports his beautiful new church nearing completion and that it will be ready for occupancy by January 1.

—We have received the following card and we regret that we can not be present. Our blessings on the young couple: Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Smith request your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Pearl, to Mr. John Peyton Royall, Wednesday, December 20, 1893, 7:30 p. m., at the Methodist Church, Palestine, Texas.

—Rev. J. F. Archer was removed from the South Dallas charge by Bishop Wilson at the late session of the North Texas Conference and stationed at the goodly little city of Whitewright. We bespeak for him a cordial greeting by the people of that place if he gets what his merits deserve.

—Rev. Edgar C. McVoy, who has served the Oak Lawn charge in this city during the past conference year, has been changed to the pastorate of our Church at St. Jo, Texas. We heartily commend this young brother to the good people of that place and pray that the joint labors of pastor and people may be abundantly blessed.

—Dallas Methodism has the services of three new preachers this conference year: Bro. Thredgill at Trinity, Bro. Carter at South Dallas and Bro. Lewis at Oak Lawn. All these men are young, unmarried and have the reputation of being fine workers in the vineyard. We look for a big upward move along all lines in Dallas Methodism this year.

—Hempstead News: Rev. G. C. Stovall has been appointed pastor of the M. E. Church at this place. Mr. Stovall has been pastor at this place before, and doubtless has many friends here that will be glad that he is coming to Hempstead again. We have been associated with him some in the past, and we learned to love him as a Christian brother.

—Speaking of Rev. H. O. Moore, the late pastor of our Church in Terrell and who goes to State Line Church, Texarkana, this conference year, the Terrell Times Star has the following good words to say: "Mr. Moore is a close student and a fine preacher. His congregations at Terrell for most of the

year have been usual, and his able and his friends would return to year."

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year have been larger by far than usual, and he has preached some very able and instructive sermons, and his friends would have been glad for him to return to Terrell for this conference year.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Rev. J. J. Clark, pastor of our Willow Street Church, Sherman, Texas, to Miss Lucia F. Childress, of Willis Point, at the Methodist Church, in that place, December 27, 1893. Bro. C. is one of our most promising young preachers, and his choice is a young lady of rare Christian culture, a helpmeet for such a man. The ADVOCATE lifts its old "Stetson."

Hempstead News: Rev. J. M. Nickles, who has labored earnestly and faithfully for the last year as pastor of the M. E. Church at this place, has been transferred to the Southwest Missouri Conference. Mr. Nickles has done Hempstead great good by his earnest and bold defense of religious and moral principles. He will long be remembered by friends he has won in this city.

Rev. C. D. Carter, who was appointed to the South Dallas charge at the late session of the North Texas Conference, is a son of Rev. C. W. Carter, presiding elder of the New Orleans District. Loder of the New Orleans District, who was for quite a while the editor-in-chief of the Christian Advocate published in that city. Bro. Carter, Jr., is twenty-seven years old; has been preaching six years and is unmarried. We predict a good year for South Dallas.

The Alabama Christian Advocate says of the late Dr. Chas. Force Deems, pastor for many years of the "Church of the Strangers," New York City: "Dr. Deems was a scholar of no mean reputation. He was a graduate of Dickinson College, and so distinguished was his standing, that he was elected to the Chair of Logic and Rhetoric in the University of North Carolina. Soon after this he began to preach and continued to preach in connection with teaching until he went to New York, not long after the war. Here he won fame as a preacher and took a place in the front ranks. The late Cornelius Vanderbilt was so impressed with him that he gave \$50,000 to purchase Mercer Street Presbyterian Church for his use, which he used till he fell under his last illness. A great and good man has fallen on sleep."

SOUTHERN METHODISM.

News, Views and Personalities.

Rev. Abe Mulkey is engaged in a good meeting at Liberty Hill, Texas.

The following delegates were elected from the Memphis Conference to the General Conference which meets in the city of Memphis next May: Clerical—Warner Moore, G. W. Wilson, W. T. Harris, A. R. Wilson and J. H. Evans. Alternates—R. H. Mahon and W. A. Freeman. Lay—J. R. Pepper, J. H. Harrison, A. J. Hawkins, S. F. Rankin and W. P. Lee. Alternates—W. L. McDonald and T. B. King.

The following statistics were reported at the recent session of the Memphis Conference: Local preachers, 240; members, 53,378, net increase, 2706; infants baptized, 1146; adults baptized, 3624; Sunday-school scholars, 29,308; value of churches, \$785,411; value of parsonages, \$119,486. That conference passed the following resolutions and resolutions concerning the question of evangelists: Whereas, It is evident that the work of unauthorized, self-styled evangelists, many of whom are traveling at large throughout the country, is, in the main, an evil of great magnitude, producing confusion of doctrine, unseemly wrangling, and diverting means which should be used in the regular work among our people—in a word, division in its spirit and its effects; therefore, Resolved, That all such non-authorized, self-styled evangelists be refused the use of our houses of worship. 2. That our members everywhere are urgently advised and requested to give no connection or support to such men, either by attendance upon their services or the contribution of means for their support. 3. That our pastors, wherever able to do so, should conduct their own revival meetings. 4. That if assistance be needed at any time, they call to their aid the brethren in the regular pastorate, or such local preachers as are in full sympathy with them, and in harmony with the usages and regulations of our Church.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.

West End, Galveston.

E. L. Shettles: The Bishop said I was the man for the West End for this conference year. I had a full report from the West End, which means all collections in full, and a good increase in membership. I want to use the ADVOCATE to help me, and shall try to get all my people to take it.

St. James Church, Galveston.

E. D. Mouzon, Dec. 11: We are already feeling at home. Though it was past midnight when we arrived, we were met at the depot and carried to a warm parsonage. Next morning we found that the good women had filled the pantry with things needful. Large congregations greeted me yesterday. Our welcome has been hearty. We have good hope for the future.

Conroe.

J. R. Murray: Bishop Hendrix returned me to this work. I arrived at home last Tuesday morning and received a warm welcome back to Conroe. Friday night, just after I had received the ADVOCATE and settled down to reading of the warm reception and hearty greetings that the brethren are receiving, I heard a tapping at the parsonage door. I answered the call, expecting to meet a sister that I had employed to build a fence around the parsonage, when I was met by, "Are we the first?" I took in the situation at once. We were to be pounded. Very soon almost all the young people of our town, and some of the older ones, came trooping in, bringing many nice things. This expression of kindness was all the more appreciated when we were informed that it was gotten up by the

young men and in a very short time. Notwithstanding the inclement weather we had an excellent prayer-meeting Wednesday night, and preached three times yesterday to good, and, with one or two exceptions, very attentive congregations.

NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Liberty Hill.

C. G. Shutt, Dec. 13: Glorious meeting in progress; 9 additions to the Church yesterday. Bro. Abels "shoots in where they are at." The meeting at Leander will begin on Sunday, December 17, 7 p. m.

Lorena.

J. H. Wiseman, Dec. 11: We have packed and unpacked. The wreckage is over the back fence, while the remnant furnishes the parsonage. Kindness prevails. Preached yesterday and received one by certificate.

Dublin.

E. Hightower, Dec. 7: This scribe was in his new charge the first Sunday after conference. The stewards had made a liberal assessment when he arrived. We have been pounded. Dublin station starts off well.

Valley Mills.

George W. Harris, Dec. 12: We are back on our old circuit but in a new parsonage neatly fenced and furnished, and have had a glorious pounding. May the Lord bless these dear people and help me to be a blessing to them.

Mart.

N. M. McLaughlin, Dec. 12: I have received a warm welcome on Mart Mission the third year. Everything in perfect harmony. Have married a couple of my young people; received 3 members into the Church; secured two subscribers for ADVOCATE since conference.

Blooming Grove.

Sam C. Vaughan, Dec. 8: On returning from Church at night, November 30, I found a big crowd at my front gate. They entered, spent a while pleasantly, and we prayed together. They unloaded a delivery wagon, and we will have plenty to eat for weeks to come. God bless these good people of the various denominations and help us to be to them a true and faithful ministry in holy things.

McGregor.

Sam'l Morris, Dec. 12: I am here attending a glorious meeting, conducted by the Rev. J. H. Collier, Jr.; commenced Saturday night; congregations are large and attentive; penitents and conversions at every service; weather beautiful; glorious things are expected. Bro. C. and his singer, Bro. Moore, are to go from here to Crawford next week.

Cleburne.

H. A. Bourland, Dec. 11: Have had a good beginning in Cleburne. On yesterday, 10th inst., house full. Seven additions, 1 conversion. One hundred at the League meeting and a spiritual time. I thank God and take courage. We are looking forward to a good year. If God be for us, who can be against us? Much work is laid out. We are expecting the meeting of the State Epworth League and have the promise of a visit from Sam Jones in the spring.

Mansfield.

J. H. Stewart, Dec. 6: Hardly had this preacher and wife unpacked in their new home when the good people of Mansfield, headed by the Ladies' Aid, brought down upon them a perfect storm of good things for the kitchen and dining-room. God bless them! We expect by the help of the Lord to give them a good year's labor. We are delighted with our new work. They love their former pastor, Bro. Cox, very much.

Haskell.

N. B. Bennett, Dec. 6: We reached our appointment, Haskell, November 29; found the parsonage in waiting, furnished throughout. The "Ladies' Aid" had been and left such things as a preacher and family need after having moved a long journey; in fact, it was a good pounding. May the Lord bless Haskell with a good pastor this year.

Morgan.

D. C. Ellis, Dec. 5: The itinerant wheel in its annual revolution dropped us among the good people of Morgan. The brethren upon our arrival put up a good cooking stove and a fire heater as parsonage property. I preached Sunday morning and evening to a small congregation in consequence of the cold weather, but had fine attention. Yesterday the people stormed us and pounded us with many good and valuable things. I could not make a speech; something got into my throat. May the Lord bless these good people.

Colorado.

J. H. Chambliss, Dec. 5: We had a pleasant move to this place; met with a hearty welcome; a good congregation last Sunday and a pounding last night. These are the facts; now let Bro. Hill put in the rhetoric to suit himself. I may be sanguine, but I am expecting a good year. But while I speak of the kindness of my reception on the new charge and would express my gratitude for the same, let me not forget the many tokens of kindness shown me by members of my former charge, especially those received in the latter part of my stay. With an earnest prayer for God's blessings upon both the old and the new charges, I cheerfully take up the duties of another year.

Mulkey Memorial, Ft. Worth.

T. S. Armstrong: I took possession of my very pleasant charge the first Sunday in December. Congregation large and inspiring. In the afternoon we held a meeting of the Union Epworth League. It was its first anniversary and the meeting was fraught with pleasure and instruction. I went to Corsicana Thursday for Mrs. Armstrong. We returned Saturday morning and found Sister Cox and Bro. Bowls with a carriage to meet us. Sister Cox is one of the heroines of itinerant Methodism in this conference. We reached the parsonage to find warm fires and the dining table spread with good things, and to our delight we found the parsonage elegantly furnished with the prettiest, newest furniture the Ladies' Aid could

buy. One room was furnished handsomely by the Young Ladies' Aid Society and the rest was done by the Ladies' Aid Society. God bless these good sisters. What could we do without them? We start off under most promising auspices and hope to make ourselves worthy of the kindness bestowed.

Zephyr.

C. S. Cameron, Dec. 10: We arrived at Zephyr, our new field of labor, safely, and are now very comfortably housed in the parsonage. On arriving here we were met at the train by several of the brothers and sisters and officials of the Church and escorted to the parsonage where a warm supper and a hearty welcome awaited us. The hour being late, 11 p. m., our goodly company soon dispersed, leaving wife and me to look around to find stored away meat, flour, sugar, coffee and other things (enough to last a month) too numerous to mention. May God bless the good people. We filled our appointments at Steps Creek. Had good congregation. Zephyr is looking up. ADVOCATE is remembered.

Gateville.

G. F. Boyd, Dec. 6: I leave here today for Wichita Falls, my charge for the coming year. I will say for the information of my brethren that my transfer from the Northwest Texas to the North Alabama Conference was a misapprehension upon the part of the one who wired me, and misinterpretation of the telegram upon my part. So, at my request, I was transferred to North Texas. A large congregation greeted the new pastor, Rev. J. R. Morris, Sunday morning, and the presiding elder, Rev. E. F. Boone, Sunday night. The people are pleased and so is the pastor. This writer is under many obligations to the people for favors to himself and family the past three years.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Bellevue.

L. P. Smith and wife, Dec. 11: Our conference closed at Wichita Falls last Monday morning, and we reached our home at Bellevue at 2:30 p. m. At about 7 o'clock the same evening a goodly number of our parishioners came to the parsonage, told us they were glad to have us back and left tokens of appreciation on the dining-room table; since then pound after pound has been left. Thanks to the donors. I think we can claim the first pounding.

Denton.

J. F. Pierce, Dec. 7: We enter hopefully on our second year's work at this place. Returning home from conference we found the good people of Denton in full possession of the parsonage, and the preacher and his wife received a warm and hearty welcome. The pantry was filled from top to bottom. May the "Giver of every good and perfect gift" make this the best and most successful year in the history of both the Church and the pastor.

Black Jack.

J. W. Beckham, Dec. 9: We were returned to this work by Bishop Wilson; have been kindly received. Last night, a little after dark, there was a rap at the door, and when it was opened there was a crowd of the good ladies with many good things for the preacher and wife—things which are useful and too numerous to mention; but with the rest, a fine rocking chair. May God bless these good people. We are going to build a Methodist church here this year.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Utopia.

J. W. Gibbons, Dec. 7: We reached our work in time to fill the first appointments after conference. Have had many tokens of appreciation on the part of my people; have preached at all of my regular appointments except one. Bro. Augustus Od came up to hold a meeting at this place, which lasted ten days; had 10 accessions to Church. All who attended the services were greatly revived. Quite a number reclaimed. This kept me from filling one of my appointments; but thanks be unto God that we have been enabled to begin our year with a revival which we hope to continue all the year. Bro. Od did most of the preaching, and we feel grateful to God and indebted to him for his help. Our people gave him a token of their appreciation in a substantial way, amounting to \$14.75.

Belmont.

W. O. Shugart, Dec. 7: We reached our new work next Sunday after conference; moved into the parsonage the next week. The brethren bought a new stove and other furniture for the parsonage. We have been kindly received by the good people of Belmont Circuit. Prospect fair for a good year's work. Rev. R. J. Deets dedicated our new Church at Oak Forest third Sunday in November, and held a week's meeting; had 45 conversions, 19 accessions to our Church, and 11 gave their names for membership in the Baptist Church. We had a good meeting and the Church greatly strengthened. Bro. Deets' singer, Prof. Wilcox, gave us good music. The brethren raised a liberal contribution for Bro. Deets and Prof. Wilcox. We are going to do our best to get the ADVOCATE in every Methodist family on this work.

NEW MEXICO CONFERENCE.

A Blow from the West.

J. C. Gage, Hope, New Mexico: On Saturday, December 2, we had a blow from the West that stirred the dust, but we were not surprised at the wind and dust; but with the storm came a number of the good people of the Hope community, and the surprise was when they began taking from their wagons boxes, sacks, packages, and a general rush was made for the kitchen, where they deposited their flour, sugar, butter and other things too numerous to mention, and the table was soon loaded with good things, and when everything was properly arranged the preacher and family were invited to the table, and after a feast of fat things we spent a while in pleas-



Royal Baking Powder Co.,
106 Wall St., N. Y.

ant conversation, and all joined in prayer with Bro. L. S. Right, after which the crowd dispersed, leaving the preacher and family to rejoice over the pounding.

ATTENTION, BRETHREN.

To the Preachers and Membership of Cisco District:

DEAR BRETHREN—I make this appeal to you with the view of stimulating you to greater zeal and energy for the Master this year than any one in the past. The conference year just past was one of remarkable prosperity to Cisco District, spiritually. I notice from statistical table in the ADVOCATE that our district takes the lead in number of Sunday-schools, and I see we had 1187 additions to the Church. Only one district ahead of us—Waco. It reports 1205.

I trust you will remember that these gracious manifestations of God's goodness and mercy to us bring with them corresponding responsibilities. This large increase of membership to us was principally from the ranks of the young. They are mere babes in Christ and must be fed with "the sincere milk of the Word" or they die. They have taken upon them the "yoke" of Christ and are ready to "learn of him." The awful obligation is upon us to feed them, and train them to be valiant soldiers for him. Will we do it? I trust we will. If we do not, what will be the consequence? Hear the Master: "But who shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matt. 18:6). Our Savior here uses the word "offend" in the sense to turn aside from the right, either by example or negligence.

Brethren, remember we are approaching a very critical period through which our young members must pass. I mean Christmas. Is it not remarkable that this of all "holy days," the most joyous, should be so completely wrested from the hands of Christianity by the wicked one, and instead of being a time of gladness, joy and worship, is prostituted by him into one of bacchanalian revelry?

A large per cent of the fallen among the young, and not a few older Christians, date their lapse to Christmas times. Brethren, we are not in a large measure responsible for such? Are we doing what we ought to prevent it? If not, "verily, we are guilty concerning our brother." Remember we are not only responsible for the good we can do, but for the evil we can hinder. I beseech you, my brethren, let us put our head and hearts together and work like Trojans to put out of the district eggnog and steam-drinking and hollering. Let us secure our people, especially the young, from these and other allurements of the devil. Let us spend Christmas as becometh Christians. Past mercies and blessings that still linger on our hearts demand of us greater consecration, intenser energy in spreading Scriptural holiness and a more burning zeal for God's glory.

Brethren, join me in holy purpose to do more and better for our blessed Lord this year. Let us by the grace of God take Cisco District for him. Great grace rest upon you all.

E. A. BAILEY.

To the young men of the CONFERENCE: Power gives power charms, to the old renewed youth. Try it.

WANTED.

A single man to do some work within the bounds of the San Marcos District, West Texas Conference. There is a field within the district where a young man could do good work. Address
REV. B. HARRIS,
Lockhart, Texas.

TEXAS CONFERENCE MINUTES.

The members of the Texas Conference (including presiding elders) will please send me at once their postoffice address. Please, brethren, do this before you lay this paper down.

O. T. HOTCHKISS.

VISITING COMMITTEES.

I hereby appoint E. H. Harman and G. C. Rankin a Visiting Committee from the Texas Conference to the Southwestern University. Also A. J. Wheeler and T. S. Willford Visiting Committee to Chappell Hill.

E. R. HENDRIX.

I have used Simmons' Liver Regulator for constipation for the last three or four years, and always when used according to the directions with decided benefit.

"HURRAH" WARRS, Editor Chief Justice of Ga.

NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE BROTHERHOOD.

The beneficiary members of this Brotherhood will please send me the names of those whom they wish to designate in their certificates as beneficiaries of the mortuary fees of the Brotherhood, to be paid in case of their death. We also want the postoffice address of every member of the society.

R. F. DUNN.

Cisco, Texas. Secretary and Treasurer.

Tired Professional Men

Use Horsford's Acid Phosphate. The tired professional and literary men will find nothing so soothing and refreshing as Horsford's Acid Phosphate. This is the testimony of thousands of these classes of men.

LA GRIFFE BOOK FREE.

Sent Post-Paid During December—Be Quick and Get One.

Nearly everybody is having la grippe now days, but what is still more unfortunate, a large per cent of those who are afflicted with this epidemic instead of getting well, as they ought to, will have chronic catarrh as the result. This is almost invariably the case unless Pe-ru-na is taken as soon as possible after the grippe begins. Every one who has observed the effect of Pe-ru-na during the last three epidemics of la grippe positively knows that this remedy will cure it permanently. The fact is, however, that a great multitude of people will not take Pe-ru-na, and the foundation for chronic catarrh will be laid. Here, again, Pe-ru-na is the only reliable remedy. Even in cases that the chronic catarrh has affected the lungs and the early stages of catarrhal consumption have been developed Pe-ru-na can be relied upon as a prompt and lasting cure. La grippe and catarrh are at present the two greatest enemies of life in the land. Pe-ru-na is a cure for either. Send for a copy of the latest book on these diseases. Sent free by the Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Company of Columbus, Ohio.

NOTES FROM THE WEST.

The first revival meeting since conference was that one at Oak Forest, under leadership of R. J. Deets. But now comes the good news that another meeting, and ten conversions as the result, has been held at Utopia, Uvalde County, conducted by a Bro. Augie Old.

Word comes from Llano District that help is greatly needed to put the district parsonage in a suitable condition to be occupied by the presiding elder and his family this winter. The good women of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society are moving to the help of this mountain work.

Such elaborate and refreshing religious notes come from the pen of blind old Dr. Thrall in San Antonio Express as to astonish one. We are looking for a series of articles from him on contemplated changes at the coming General Conference.

Over the river, near Seguin, are three appointments, and one or two settlements with fifty or sixty members, that by some uncontrollable circumstances were left off the list of any pastoral charge at late conference. They were of the old Nockout Mission. The presiding elders are now at work trying to supply this lack of service.

We are glad the San Marcos Circuit preacher has resolved to live within the bounds of his work, and not in San Marcos. Now let a good parsonage be built at once near a church and school-house.

W. F. Gibbons, of Carrizo Springs, writes that he is much pleased with his work. Any field suits Gibbons where there is work in abundance to do.

The new German presiding elder of West Texas District, M. E. Church, Rev. Mr. Deitz, will make his home in Seguin, and our German brethren are pleased.

Bishop Wilson hit the nail on the head in appointing J. T. Stanley to Seguin. Everything is moving right along under his leadership. His salary has been put at \$1000. District Stewards assessing \$100 for presiding elder, and other claims arranged for, making about \$1500 to be raised here the current year.

A proposition to tax Church property is now being seriously considered by the leading legislators of Mexico. There are 120 Catholic Churches in the city of Mexico alone, with annual receipts of about \$1,000,000 hard cash. When the wealth of the nations falls into the hands of the Church it is well to make it help support civil government.

H. G. H.

CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS.

To the Conference Claimants of North Texas Conference:

Please forward me your postoffice address so I can remit your allowance by J. Int Board of Finance at its last session.

J. A. WEAVER.

Treas. Joint Board Finance.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

"The Second Blessing in Symbol,"

By B. Carradine; L. L. Pickett, publisher of "Holiness," and other Religious Literature, Columbia, S. C.

The Methodist Review of Missions for December. Published by order of the Board of Missions of the M. E. Church, South. Editors: I. G. John and W. R. Lambuth. Publishing House M. E. Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.; Barber & Smith, Agents. This is a fine number of the Review, containing much valuable information that ought to be in the possession of every Methodist in the land. Address I. G. John, Nashville, Tenn.

A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.

Church Societies and Epworth Leagues may replenish their treasuries by employing some prominent platform man to lecture for them. Col. Coyne, of land, John Temple Graves, George W. Bain, Col. J. P. Sanford, Sam P. Jones, Robert J. Burdette, and others of spotless Christian character may be had in Texas this winter. Write John A. Lomas, Weatherford, Texas, and he can tell you how to get the men and how to make your Lecture Course a success.

HOLIDAY RATES TO THE SOUTH-EAST.

The International Route will run a Special Excursion to accommodate holiday travel to the Southeast. Through coaches to Atlanta, Chattanooga and Birmingham without change. For details, see flyers and other advertising matter, or nearest ticket agent, or write D. J. Price, A. G. P. A., Palestine, Texas.

Jonas Aycoode (during the flirtation) "Would you like to have me tall, 'Tidy'?" Matilda (blushing)—"I'd rather have you 'round, Jonas'."

MANY PERSONS are broken down from overwork or household cares. Brown's Iron Bitters rebuilds the system, aids digestion, removes all bile and cures malaria. Get the genuine.

INQUIRY.

Miss Beulah B. Dillard, of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, desires to know of the whereabouts of her brother, Toliver Dillard. When last heard from, about twelve years ago, he was at Waverly, Walker County, Texas. Should any of her relatives see this notice they are requested to correspond with her. She asks other Texas papers to please copy this notice.

Keep the blood pure by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. If you decide to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla, do not be persuaded to take any other.

UNANSWERED LETTERS.

DECEMBER 6.

J. W. Sansom, sub. J. A. Warkup, sub. C. B. Smith, attention. W. V. Jones, sub. J. B. Elder, sub. W. S. P. McCullough, attention. I. L. Mills, sub. J. A. Wallace, sub. J. J. Harris, sub. J. D. Huggins, sub. C. C. Davis, sub. 2 cards. J. C. Russell, change. E. L. Shettles, sub. Theophilus Lee, has attention. Jno Heipenstall, sub.

DECEMBER 7.

R. T. Woolsey, sub. G. W. White, has attention. A. H. Hussey, sub. T. M. Price, sub. D. T. Holmes, sub. D. C. Ellis, sub. Samuel Morris, sub. W. R. Crockett, sub. P. H. Hensch, sub. stopped; thank you. R. S. Helzer, sub. Samuel Morris, sub. B. A. Thomason, sub.

DECEMBER 8.

A. M. Eubank, sub. stopped. S. J. Drake, sub. W. Wootton, sub; change made. W. V. Jones, sub. Samuel Morris, sub. W. M. Leatherwood, sub. S. W. Turner, has attention. J. P. Skinner, sub. J. A. Phillips, sub.

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY MRS. FLORENCE E. HOWELL.

All matter intended for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Florence E. Howell, 23 Madison street, Dallas, Texas.

A FEW THOUGHTS ON "THE MORE EXCELLENT WAY."

I am glad to see that my Texas sisters are finding "The More Excellent Way."

Often times has the Savior "been wounded in the house of his friends." Many well-meaning Christians have resorted to suppers, festivals, entertainments, etc., in order to raise funds for Church purposes, honestly believing this the only way to reach the pockets of the greatest number.

Grant the truth of this, yet does it not educate wrong? It certainly is not the Scriptural plan.

In the law as given to Moses only free-will offerings were to be accepted. In the days of Ezra and Nehemiah it was the same. It was straight out giving for a specific purpose.

Paul tells us: "give as the Lord hath prospered us; to give liberally, for the Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

Would it not be better to educate our people according to the Scriptural plan than to encourage them to expect something in return? Hire Christians with sweet words and policies to give to the cause of Christ? Surely this compares with the polluted bread, the sick, the lame, the blind, mentioned in Malachi 1.

Were we sure that such things in themselves were not wrong, yet who is familiar with and has not observed the envyings, the unkind criticisms, the dissensions that are oftentimes the results, saying nothing of the burden of labor that usually falls to the lot of a few?

The intention of these lines is to encourage my sisters in "The More Excellent Way." The title has never been repealed. Our Lord demands it, and he will accept as a sweet savor our free-will offerings. Sell the eggs and butter that you would make into a cake for a supper, together with the chickens, hams and turkeys and give the money. Use your needles, address wrappers for newspapers, sell good books, teach school, or music. Some plan for making money will suggest itself to you only make the effort.

Again, not many of us can say with a sweet little acquaintance, when she said: "Mamma, I have self-denied until there is nothing else to self-denial."

We could save many nickels and dimes if we only tried the self-denying plan—in street car fare, in less elaborate attire, in servant's hire, in general economy, and money thus saved would so swell the Lord's treasury that questionable means would be unnecessary, and we would be blessed with his acceptance and approval. Our auxiliary finds it no trouble to raise the assessment for specific work. The President divides the amount pro rata. For instance, suppose we have fifteen members and the amount is \$20, each member pays \$1.33, which will aggregate \$20.25.

We have one year in which to pay it, and if paid monthly would be only a fraction over 11 cents per month. This plan gives the poorest a chance, and this special fund for specific work is obligatory upon each individual member. Now, let those who are able to give more do so in thank-offerings, to the Training School, or in any channel that duty or heart may dictate.

A GEORGIA SISTER.

SOME men and women, remarks the Outlook, have a genius for getting the most out of their surroundings. They will get ease, refinement and variety out of an income which yields another only the bare necessities of life. There is no magic about this skill, although it often seems to be a gift quite as much as an acquirement. It is, in reality, a fine intelligence brought to bear on the problem of practical living; it is a very close and exact adjustment between opportunities and resources. By thought and skill to make one wise dollar do the work of two stupid dollars is to accomplish positive good for one's self and others. The easy wastefulness, the indolent prodigality of much of our living betrays intellectual obtuseness; to secure a large income and get inadequate returns from it is to be wise on one side of life and stupid on the other. Many men have this partial and fragmentary ability; they are successful money-makers, but incompetent money spenders. The man who adds intelligence to a dollar practically doubles it; he gets as much out of his income as his neighbor who multiplies it by two, for purchasing power is the test of value. The woman who, with small means, maintains and diffuses that atmosphere of repose and ease which is a woman's supreme contribution to a home is a notable contributor to the sum total of happiness.

Most of us lack the genius for getting the most out of things. We carry with us a sense of failure, of being baffled by things which we ought to brush out of the way. One must make liberal use of brains in small as in great things in win complete success. To make circumstances take the impression of our purposes rather than to be shaped by them is one of the real satisfactions of life, and this can be done only by those who put intelligence and thought into expenditure as well as into income.—Selected.

THE DUTIES OF DISTRICT SECRETARIES W. H. S.

In replying to Mrs. E. C. Nichols, on District Secretaries, their duties, their obligations, their possibilities, opportunities and capabilities, I desire to say I feel in harmony with you in every idea advanced, and will endeavor to co-operate with you in any effort to bring all of our conference societies and District Secretaries to this conclusion. I candidly believe the District Secretary should have charge of all the societies, adults and juveniles, in her district, and be furnished with funds to enable her to visit these organizations and every unorganized field, and use all her efforts to the best of her ability to effect an organization at every preaching place and every station in her district. And, my dear sisters, let's pay our tenth into the

Lord's treasury, and we will be able to do the work, remembering it is God's work. He commands it and it must be done.

My experience as District Secretary is that she has a grand opportunity for accomplishing much good. I feel so encouraged every visit I make, for I can see the people are willing to be instructed and anxious to do their duty. Our duty is to be in earnest, be prayerful; go sow the seed and leave the results with God. He will water it, and if we work earnestly, honestly, by-and-by "we will reap if we faint not." What I've done is all at my own expense, and I often wish my means were so that I could visit my whole district. My soul is all ablaze with this grand work. I feel that God is so good to us. We owe him our time, our talent, our money. May every District Secretary be fully awakened in this important work and realize her great responsibility in regard to it. Be up and doing, trusting God to give us the increase. Oh, think of the millions of souls dying in darkness! Let's pray for success.

MRS. MIRA C. JOINER,
WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS.

Old Gentleman—"My, my! I don't like to see little boys cry. Boys who get hurt should act like men." Boy—"Boo, hoo! Then I'd get hit-licked for swearing!"

Cataract in the Head

Is undoubtedly a disease of the blood, and as such only a reliable blood purifier can effect a perfect and permanent cure. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier, and it has cured many very severe cases of catarrh. Catarrh oftentimes leads to consumption. Take Hood's Sarsaparilla before it is too late.

Hood's Pills do not purge, pain or gripe, but act promptly, easily and efficiently. 25c.

"Gadsby, the evangelist, who went out West was shot dead recently." "How did it happen?" "During a camp-meeting he turned suddenly on a cowboy and asked if he was prepared to die."

EVERY MAN SHOULD READ THIS.

The excitement of life, careless living and present of business are making our boys old men before their time, and our middle-aged men, aged from loss of nervous vitality. If any young, old or middle-aged man suffering from nervousness, lack of health from any cause, will enclose a stamp to me I will send him the prescription, a genuine certain cure free of cost. Address Charles Gans, Box 855, Marshall, Mich.

Mrs. Wickwire—The idea! Here is a story in a paper about a woman suing for \$10,000 for the loss of only a thumb. Mr. Wickwire—Perhaps it was the thumb she kept her husband under.

BROWN'S IRON BITTERS cures Dyspepsia, Indigestion & Debility.

"Miss Parker—Maud—will you marry me? Let me be your protector through life, you—"

"Thank you, Mr. Jones, but I must decline. I am not a protectionist. When I marry it will be on a revenue basis entirely."

Pond's Extract has won a great reputation for forty years, curing cases of acute pain. Spurious imitations are dear at any price.

"Oh," she exclaimed, "my heart was in my boots." "I'm sure it was not," he whispered, "for how could so large a thing get into so small a space?"

HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.

The International Route will sell Holiday Excursion Tickets to St. Louis, Kansas City and Hamilton, Mo., Indianapolis, Ind., Cincinnati, O., Louisville, Ky., Memphis, Tenn., and New Orleans, La. Also to points in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Virginia, North and South Carolina, on December 19th, 20th and 21st, limited to thirty days from date of sale, at half rate or one limited fare for round trip. For rates, time of trains and other information, call on nearest I. & G. N. Ticket Agent, or address:

D. J. PRICE, A. G. P. A.,
Palestine, Texas.

CHRISTMAS EXCURSIONS.

E. P. TURNER, (no trouble to answer questions) Trust Co. building, Dallas, is the only Agent that can give you choice of routes via St. Louis, Memphis, Shreveport, New Orleans, or Ft. Worth. He will give reliable information relative to all routes, allowing you to take your choice.

PASTOR'S BOOK.

I am highly pleased with the Pastor's Book. I have been buying Pastor's Books, not half so well bound nor half so convenient and full in arrangement, and paying from 65 cents to \$1 for them. Annis' Book is the best in the world. Don't see how it could be improved upon.

J. C. RHODES,
BARKADA, ARK.

WELL PLEASSED WITH THE PASTOR'S BOOK.

The Pastor's Book came safely to hand. I am well pleased with it. All of our preachers should have it, and if they once see it they will feel their need of it.

W. A. S. CONRAD,
GRAVEL HILL, VA.

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STORY OF LIFE IN A CITY.

A Young Wife's First Experience With the Destroyer of Happiness.

She sat by the window, a smile of welcome lighting her childish face. The blue eyes were those of a child who had seen little of the hard realities of the world. The curly brown hair formed a fitting frame for a sweet face. As she sat there the glory of the dying sun lit up the window and formed a picture the reproduction of whose fairness might immortalize an artist.

The little assumption of maternity ails betokened a young wife. Her anxious glance at each group of home comers showed that she was watching for him. As each car, now loaded with its evening's freight of weary toilers, stopped at the corner of the street she gazed earnestly, then turned for a moment with a pretty pout of disappointment.

An hour and a half passed and still no sign of her husband. In her place the fair young woman watched the night life of the city, ever changing, yet always the same, unfold itself.

Half an hour more. The red shirted men and blue gown ladies of a Salvation Army corps marched to the corner and commenced an open air meeting. They were reinforced by an enthusiastic and vigorous band.

Nine o'clock struck, and the watcher had not left her post. Visions of danger to her husband filled her brain.

"Fred always comes home at 6," she murmured to herself. "Something terrible must have happened to him."

Another dreary hour was nearly over. She had not moved from her place to light the gas, and the room was in darkness save for the street lamp and the flaring torches of the Salvationists. They were singing a defiant hymn to a tune known among scoffers as "We Won't Go Home Till Morning," when she was startled by a shout, the sound of which seemed strangely familiar.

"Whoop!" roared a thick voice. "This 'ere, ole fellow 'ere the red shirt 'hic. We won't go home till mornin. H'ray!"

Through the crowd came the form of a man supported on either side by a friend. The woman at the window stood upright, her face pressed closely against the pane. A dizziness seemed to pass over her, and she grasped the curtains for support.

Up the steps to the door two men carried the maddened inebriate. He sank limply against the door.

"Brace up, Fred. You're home. Your wife is waiting for you."

"Bes' little wife in world," said Fred gravely. "You're all ri', boys. Everybody's all ri'. Let's have nuzzler drink."

With almost plying hands the men opened the door and brought him in. "He was half asleep, and they turned into the room nearest the door to lay down their burden. Still by the window stood the little woman, her face pale as death and eyelids quivering.

"I'm awfully sorry, madam," began one of the men apologetically.

"Thank you, gentlemen. I think—I think I understand. Good night."

Left alone with that which was her husband, the wife burst into bitter sobs. She went over to the half unconscious mass that, smelling of whisky and tobacco, half lay on the sofa.

"Oh, Fred," she began.

"Whazzar matter? I'm all ri'," said the man sleepily. "Gimme jus' one more drink." And he dropped listlessly on the carpet, snoring in a drunken stupor.

There were horror and surprise in the woman's eyes. Never had she seen such a sight, and now it was her husband!

This was the handsome, talented Fred, always so bright and cheerful. To this sudden thing, reeking with the odors of his tempter, she was bound for life. Horrible! Horrible!

Out on the streets the Army band was commencing its last hymn—new words to an old and strangely sweet tune—and the cornet, followed at a more or less lengthy distance by the rest of the band, was struggling with the beautiful melody called "Home, Sweet Home." Its strains, strident and inharmonious, seemed to mock the mute despair of the woman crouched on the floor, her face buried in her hands.

Chicago News.

Temperance Work in Norway.

The Norwegian temperance people are agitating for temperance in a most vigorous manner, through the written as well as the spoken word. In some public places they are posting temperance pictures which illustrate the bad effects of drink as well as the benefit of total abstinence. This is an excellent idea; such pictures posted in public places will undoubtedly do a great deal of good. The Norwegian government has appropriated 7,000 crowns to aid the cause in its temperance work. The good cause is making good progress in Norway. Under the competent leadership, with which it has been blessed from the beginning, it is gaining ground year by year.—Union Signal.

Lord Roberts says he has under his command in India 14,000 British soldiers pledged to total abstinence.

Through the agency of the Missions to Seamen society over 5,000 sailors have been enrolled as total abstainers in Cork harbor alone.

Coffee palaces are a feature of Melbourne life, no less than \$10,500,000 being invested in them.

Temperance societies are being formed among the mujiks of Russia, the members undertaking to abstain from vodka for 13 months.

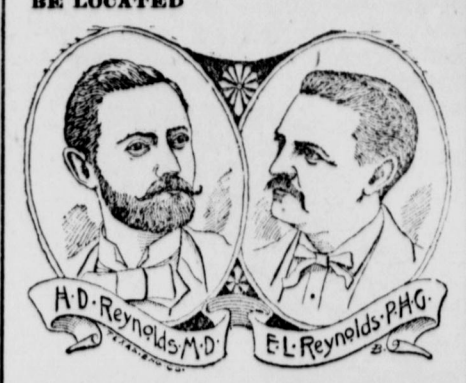
The Young Abstinents' union of China now numbers in its several branches at Shanghai, Foo Chow and other cities upward of 9,000 members.

A Congregational Temperance association for Ireland has been organized with Rev. W. Newman Hall, a nephew of Rev. Dr. Newman Hall, as its secretary.

And Joy Would Sit at the Hearth.

If the workmen should suddenly take it into their heads to take the earnings that they hitherto have used for intoxicating liquors and spend them for furniture, how much do you suppose would be let loose upon the furniture market? Not less than \$6,000,000 in four weeks. There would then be no stagnation of trade in the furniture market.—Exchange.

NASHVILLE, TENN., RIGHTLY NAMED THE ATHENS OF AMERICA, WHERE THE NATIONAL SANITARIUM WILL BE LOCATED



On account of our large practice in the South Central States a more central location was required by our many patients. In addition to other charities, Drs. Reynolds have decided to reduce

THE OIL CURE

To One Half the Regular Price, and add their Guarantee in every case for which their Discoveries have been Perfected. Their System of Home Treatment will enable all suffering from Chronic, Nervous, Malignant and Lung Diseases a short road to recovery. Address Drs. REYNOLDS, 149 North Spruce Street, Nashville, Tenn., for a Special Diagnostic Blank.

There is about as much sense in seeking an active politician who has the chance of his party as there is in seeking the opinion of a mother as to his beauty and smartness of her baby.

A "Trust" Which is Popular.

There is a great deal of indignation felt against trusts. The Sugar Trust, the Standard Oil Trust, the Welsh Tin Plate Trust, the English Salt Trust, and other combinations of the kind, are vigorously denounced, and it is a subject of controversy whether there are more trusts in England than America, and whether protection or free trade fosters them. But there is one form of trust against which no one has anything to say. That is the trust the public repose in Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Thought Him a Business Firm.

A well known New York clubman, speaking the other day of the marriage of Miss Flora Davis to Lord Terence Blackwood, son of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, recalls a story once much told of the latter.

When viceroy of Canada a score of years or so ago, the marquis had occasion to write to an American about some matter. In affixing his signature to the letter he made use of his double title.

The recipient of the letter misunderstood the marquis, and in reply addressed the envelope to Messrs. Dufferin & Ava and commenced the letter with "Gents."—New York Herald.

Makes His Face Tired.

A well known caricaturist living in this city complains of an ailment that is characteristic of his profession and that is, to say the least, unusual. "I get," he said, "face tired, and I mean by that to say that as I draw my face unconsciously assumes the expression of the people I am trying to represent in a distorted way, and as a result at the end of a couple of hours I find myself compelled to rest, not my eyes nor my hands, but my face. I do this either by lying down or by going out on the street with the determination of spending my time in looking at things and not at people, for I find I study their faces at the expense of my own. I take a keen delight in my work, and that is the reason, I suppose, that I am so sympathetic with it."—Philadelphia Record.

The Esthetic Domestic.

"I'll have to leave you," said the newly employed servant lady.

"Why?"

"Your directions to me are not sufficiently considered before they are presented."

"What do you mean?"

"This morning you said you would like a light breakfast, and then spoiled all harmony of color by demanding black coffee."—Washington Church Notices.

Church Notices.

1893
Jan. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
Feb. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
Mar. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
Apr. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
May 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
June 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
Aug. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
Sept. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
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Nov. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
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WEST TEXAS.

SAN MARCOS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.
San Marcos, at San Marcos, Dec. 15, 17
Gonzales, at Gonzales, Dec. 15, 17
Harwood, at Harwood, Dec. 15, 17
Lockhart, at Lockhart, Dec. 15, 17
Belmont, at Belmont, Dec. 15, 17
San Marcos, at San Marcos, Dec. 15, 17

WACO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.
Whitney, at Whitney, Dec. 15, 17
East Waco and Tenth Street, at East Waco, Dec. 15, 17
Morrow Street, at Morrow Street, Dec. 15, 17
Bruceville and Mooreville, at Bruceville, Dec. 15, 17

LORENA, at Lorena, Dec. 15, 17
Abott, at Abott, Dec. 15, 17
Valley Mills, at Coon Creek, Dec. 15, 17
Mart, at Mart, Dec. 15, 17
Missouri Avenue, at Missouri Avenue, Dec. 15, 17
Oakley Memorial, at Oakley Memorial, Dec. 15, 17
Covington, at Covington, Dec. 15, 17
Clyburn, at Clyburn, Dec. 15, 17
Meyers, at Meyers, Dec. 15, 17
Lipan, at Lipan, Dec. 15, 17

GATESVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.
Bee House, at Bee House Chapel, Dec. 15, 17
Gatesville, at Gatesville Chapel, Dec. 15, 17
Brookhaven, at Brookhaven, Dec. 15, 17
Anteen and Nolanville, at Nolanville, Dec. 15, 17
Copers Cove, at Copers Cove, Dec. 15, 17
Lampasas, at Lampasas, Dec. 15, 17
Lometa, at Pleasant Grove, Dec. 15, 17
Gatesville, at Gatesville, Dec. 15, 17
Gentry, at Gentry, Dec. 15, 17
Correll City, at Correll City, Dec. 15, 17
Jenabero, at Jenabero, Dec. 15, 17
Meridian and Rio City, at Hamilton, Dec. 15, 17
Irrel and Martin's Gap, at Martin's Gap, Dec. 15, 17
Meridian, at Meridian, Dec. 15, 17
Harmony, at Harmony Chapel, Dec. 15, 17

WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.
Waxahachie, at Waxahachie, Dec. 15, 17
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LLANO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND.
San Saba, at San Saba, Dec. 15, 17
Llano, at Llano, Dec. 15, 17
Round Mountain, at Round Mt., Dec. 15, 17
Cherokee, at Cherokee, Dec. 15, 17
Richland Springs, at Live Oak, Dec. 15, 17
Fredrick, at Fredrick, Dec. 15, 17
Steady, at Steady, Dec. 15, 17
Sterling City, at Sterling City, Dec. 15, 17
Llano, at Llano, Dec. 15, 17
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Waxahachie

DEVOTIONAL.

IT ALWAYS COMES.

It always comes—Spring, with its promise of new life and gladness to repeat its dear fulfillments to the world. To us who sigh and fret at its delays, and count, haphazardly, the passing days; who say, complaining, that the Spring is late, the earth is asleep, and the world is dead. One swirl of snow our hopes to martyrdom will banish swiftly. But the Spring-time comes.

It always comes—the Summer, with its suns distilling from them rich perfumes; its earthen, its grasses green and tall, and waiting for the rhythmic scythes strokes; its still, sweet nights, more odoriferous than the days, its rippling things, its blossoms bordered ways. Unto one chilling wind our faith succumbs. We say, "It is not near!" But still it comes!

It always comes—the harvest full and fair, despite our anxious, half-despairing care. Our trustless, wretched, and the growing blade as if it could not guard what he has made. Unabated and undiminished by our fears, its serried ranks uplift their shining spears. The harrow God has reared around our homes while we sit out, do nothing. Harvest always comes!

It always comes—God's help to human need, in measures often that our hope exceed; God's answer to the prayer our lips repeat, in common blessing, or in secret sweet. Does he not see how doubtful the heart is, how fearful ever the hand we reach to His? As if to us His presence were not near. Nor could be denied. Yet it is always here!

—Olive E. Dana, in Advance.

AFTER THANKSGIVING.

In what spirit do we take up the activities of life after Thanksgiving Day, so widely observed throughout the nation? Have our minds been awakened to a new sense of obligation to the Giver of all blessing? Has this new experience resulted in a more complete surrender of self to Him? Has it induced a full recognition of His innumerable gifts? Is the determination greater than ever before to honor Him with our lips and in the use of all our powers? In a word, do we enter upon our life-work with higher aims and with a deeper conviction that all we now are, or ever expect to be, is through the infinite love of Him "with whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning?"

The Thanksgiving period also should bring into our minds a deeper conviction in reference to our relations with our fellowmen. After the joyous amenities of Thanksgiving Day are over, will it be ours to have habitually a more generous judgment toward the erring, a more noble consideration of the needy, an increased appreciation of that which is commendable in the plans and deeds of men around us? Bowing thus before the infinite Father with a reverent and trustful spirit, exercising a more exalted charity toward all whom we meet in life, we shall be enabled through God's grace to prolong the Thanksgiving Day even to the very close of our earthly career!—Exchange.

MAKING HONEST MEN.

Who does not believe that on the honesty of our men depends the safety of our republic? And does not the honesty of our men depend in large measure on what their mothers are and how they were trained in boyhood and youth?

If those men lately convicted of fraud and embezzlement (an elegant term this for thieving) had been trained in boyhood to be just in swapping knives, not to cheat at marbles, not to take advantage of those less able than themselves, to be true to trusts reposed in them, does any one suppose they would now be filching felons' cells? The boy is father to the man. "As you are now," was the constant saying of a principal to his pupils, "you will be till you die. If you are faithful in your discharge of duty, obedient to law, reverent toward God now, you will be so when you are grown, and as long as you live."

In the children is mirrored the mother's soul and life. What she is impresses them more even than what she says or does. The delicate films of their consciousness are infinitely more sensitive than those on any photographic plate, and, unlike these, can not be destroyed or effaced. And when she sleeps in dust the images on them stand out clear and indelible in the hearts of her children.

STRUGGLING UP TO GOD.

To get safe through to-morrow? No, no! To be blessed by God—to know him, and what he is—that is the battle of Jacob's soul from sunset till dawn of day. And this is our struggle—the struggle. * * * Out of our frail and yet sublime humanity the demand that rises in the earlier hours of our religion may be this, "Save my soul!" but in the most unearthy moments it is this, "Tell me Thy name." We move through a world of mystery, and the deepest question is, What is the being that is ever near, sometimes felt, never seen; that which has haunted from childhood with a dream of something surpassingly fair, which has never yet been realized; that which sweeps through the soul at times as a desolation, like the blast from the wings of the angel of death, leaving us stricken and silent in our loneliness; that which has touched us in our tenderest point, and the flesh has quivered with agony, and our mortal affections have shriveled up with pain; that which comes to us in aspirations of nobleness? Shall we say, It or He? Who is He? Those anticipations of immortality and God, what are they? * * * Shall I call them God, Father, Spirit, Love? A living being within me or outside me? Tell me Thy name, Thou awful mystery of love! This is the struggle of all earnest life.—F. W. Robertson, D.D., from "Thoughts of God and Man."

THE LIFE BEYOND.

That fifteenth of First Corinthians, written to the most sensual and voluptuous City of Greece, how it shoots its light across the ages of the grave and shines bright over its farther gate! How it lifts up that graceless city through its saints into the heights of grace! How it riddles all mere psychic ascension and every attempt to abolish the bodily resurrection! How it sets forth with undying strength the steady assurance that our dead bodies shall live again. What a shout it sends through the hollow depths of hades! "O death, where is thy sting?"

O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." What a change from the fearful, wailing shades of Homer's heaven to this burst of rapture.

That is the new Greek against the old; Christian against heathen; God against Satan. These passages grow denser and more delightful as we draw toward the close. The letters have more in them than the gospels, Corinthians than Romans, John than Paul; and all consummate themselves in the grandest book in the world, the Revelation. What care we that we can not understand its trumpets and vials and horsemen and horns? We can not understand the convolutions of symphony, but we can the gentle melody that purrs through the roaring, surging, upheaving, mass of song. So through this book runs every stream of melody—the beatitude of the spirits of the holy dead. It opens with the promises of this bliss: "These shall follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth." "They shall sit on my throne." They shall be led to "living fountains of waters, and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

The grand old Greek saw only tears in the eyes of the dead; his mother, his leader, his servant, his greatest soldier, Hercules himself—all weal and woe. But the new grander Greek sees God wiping away all tears. Think how changed that book had Ulysses seen Jupiter wiping away his mother's tears! And so on and on through this book of disclosure appear harpers harping on their harps; crowds on a sea of glass mingled with fire, yet never breaking nor burning; rivers of water of life; trees laden with precious fruits, which drop their richness every month, until the glorious golden city breaks on our view, descending from God out of heaven, with its gigantic gates, each of a single pearl, its walls of specified precious stones, its light the Lamb, its temple the Lord God, its people the saints of the Most High.—From "Christ His Consolator," by Bishop Gilbert Haven.

TO SEEK responsibilities is foolishness; to shirk them when they come in the order of Providence is cowardice.

MARRIAGES.

CRENSHAW—FOKES.—At the residence of the bride's aunt, Mrs. Logan, in Milam County, Texas, November 23, 1893, Mr. D. S. Crenshaw and Mrs. M. B. Fokes, Rev. J. W. Kelley officiating.

HENDRICK—SEABERRY.—In the M. E. Church, South, at Liberty Hill, near Tyler, Texas, December 3, 1893, Mr. Wm. D. Hendrick and Miss Florence Seaberry, Rev. T. Booth officiating.

CORLEY—STONE.—At the residence of Rev. G. C. Field, at Hayrick, Cooke County, Texas, November 30, 1893, Mr. P. B. Corley and Miss Daisy Belle Stone, Rev. G. C. Field officiating.

SMITH—NELSON.—At the Methodist Church, in Mayfield, Milam County, Texas, September 12, 1893, Mr. J. D. Smith and Miss Belle Nelson, Rev. J. W. Kelley officiating.

LAWLACE—HUGHES.—At the residence of the bride's father, at Braucerville, Milam County, Texas, November 23, 1893, Mr. George Lawlace and Miss Dorman Hughes, Rev. J. W. Kelley officiating.

INABUIT—FORE.—At the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. Robt. Fuller, at Branchville, Texas, November 3, 1893, Mr. James Inabuit and Miss Ophelia Fore, Rev. J. W. Kelley officiating.

BENNETT—COMPTON.—WOOD—BENNETT.—In the Methodist Church at Horn Hill, Limestone County, Texas, December 1, 1893, Mr. W. E. Bennett and Miss Fannie Compton, Mr. T. M. Wood and Miss Mattie Bennett, Rev. Jno. A. Wallace officiating.

CABANIS—GERFERS.—At the residence of the bride's father, F. W. Gerfers, by Rev. Theo. R. Clendenin, Mr. Scott Cabanis, of Blanco, and Miss Janie Gerfers, of Kendall, Texas.

PICKETT—NEELY.—At the residence of the bride's parents, in Waxahachie, Texas, December 4, 1893, by the Rev. B. S. Bolton, Mr. William V. Pickett and Miss Julia E. Neely.

DUNAGAN—WEAVER.—At Rev. P. O. Tunnell's, Smith County, Texas, November 23, 1893, Mr. C. B. Dunagan, of Parker County, Texas, and Miss Ida V. Weaver, of Smith County, Texas, Rev. P. O. Tunnell officiating.

SMITH—REYES.—In the Tunk Creek M. E. Church, South, December 3, 1893, by Rev. Sam'l Morris, Dixon W. Smith and Miss Lydia C. Reeves.

OBITUARIES.

The space allowed obituaries, twenty to twenty-five lines, or about 170 to 180 words. The privilege is reserved of condensing all obituaries. Parties desiring such notices and appearing in full and written, should remit money to cover excess of space, to wit: at the rate of ONE CENT per word. Money should accompany all notices. Resolutions of respect will not be inserted in the Obituary Department under any circumstances, but if paid for will be inserted in another column.

REV. SAM. W. McMAHON.

Rev. Sam W. McMahon was born in Panola County, Texas, October 7, 1862; moved to Van Zandt County, Texas, with his parents 1873; was converted and joined the M. E. Church, South, under the ministry of Uncle Caleb Smith, September 15, 1880; married Mrs. Nollie Ann Graham December 3, 1885. Bro. McMahon died of paralysis, October 22, 1893, leaving a wife, three children, father, mother, three brothers and two half sisters. Bro. McMahon was a good and true man, a kind husband, a loving father, a good preacher and an humble Christian, a friend to the Church and his pastor. The Church at Oaklon has sustained a loss that will be hard to repair. Bro. Sam's sufferings were severe; but he bore them patiently, perfectly resigned to the Lord's will. I had the pleasure of being with him the day before he died. When I approached his bed he said to me: "I am almost gone; but it is all right. I am ready. The Lord's will be done, not mine." Then look up, father, mother, brothers, sisters, wife and children. Bro. McMahon is not here, he is over yonder, and you know where to find him. May God bless you.

E. R. LARGE, GRAND SALINE, TEXAS.

WALKER.—Sarah Frances Walker, daughter of Joshua and Margaret Davis, was born January 11, 1832, and died September 5, 1893, at her home near Gates, Tenn. In 1850 she was happily married to Marion W. Walker, who preceded her by only a few months to the land of rest. In 1866 she professed faith in Christ and joined the M. E. Church, South. These are the dates of the important events occurring in an humble and yet most beautiful and worthy life. Without exaggeration it may be said that she answered the wise man's description of a good wife and mother. In these relations she was faithful and beautified them by unselfish and loving devotion to her husband and children. So now "her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." "The law of kindness was in her tongue." We never heard her speak an unkind word to or of any one, and she seemed to possess that charity "that thinketh no evil." Goodness, simple, unaffected, was prominent in her beautiful life, and her influence over her home and over all who knew her was extraordinary, compelling their esteem and love for herself and reverence for her religious convictions and sentiments. We loved and honored our mother, and we cherish her memory, and we endeavor to imitate her beautiful life and follow her as she followed Christ. She died well, as might have been expected, full of faith, rejoicing in hope of a blissful immortality, perfectly conscious, desiring to depart and be with Christ, and to greet her ascended and crowned husband on the eternal shores. She calmly and peacefully "fell on sleep." Praise God for such a life! Praise God for such a mother! She and father sleep side by side in a lonely beech grove, where now stands a beautiful monument erected by their honored son, John R. Walker, Esq., whence the trump of God will awake them to the glories of the everlasting day. J. E. WALKER.

McELROY.—The death angel has again visited and taken from our fold, November 29, 1893, Sister Malvina McElroy, who was born in Yalobusha County, Miss., April 24, 1835; daughter of J. M. and K. H. Murray; came to Lavaca County, Texas, in 1851; was married to W. H. McElroy, in September, 1856; became a member of the Baptist Church at the age of fifteen, where she remained until 1883, then joined the M. E. Church, South, where she was loyal—at her post—when the summons reached her. She had been a sufferer from cancer; untold suffering was daily patiently endured, all hopes for recovery having fled. The steady approach toward the lurid waters of death was made with implicit faith in her Savior. When the brink of the Jordan of death was reached, the words, "Peace, be still," had been spoken, "And there was a great calm," her spirit, released from a diseased and suffering body, was taken to God who gave it, while her body, which had been tenderly cared for at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. A. Schroeder, was laid to rest in the resurrection morn in the peaceful cemetery at Toccoah, Texas. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." J. E. SAWDERS.

WILLIAMS.—Frederick W. Williams was born in Tennessee, July 21, 1821, and died near Irene, at the home of his son, W. L. Williams, November 30, 1893. Bro. Williams came to this portion of Texas in 1844; has lived here ever since until death called him to his heavenly home. He was one of the charter members of the old Salem Church and died a member of the same. He leaves a wife and seven children, all grown, to follow on. Bro. Williams met death calmly. He had suffered a great deal for six months. J. W. SANSON.

HITT.—Little Charles Conrad Hitt was born December 7, 1891. On November 14, 1893, after a short illness, he was removed from earth to heaven. We loved our little one so dearly we almost loved our Father's mercies in our selfish grief. But he has gone to join his little brother, Barron Earl, who was taken from us February 11, 1887. Two little photographs upon our memory, two little graves in the cemetery, and two little angels in the skies! "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." FATHER AND MOTHER, OGLESBY, TEXAS.

AYER.—Mrs. Mary Ayerett departed this life October 8, 1893, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. B. W. Magruder, with whom she lived, at Watsonville, Cal., after long, patient suffering. She was born in Patnam County, Ga.; was eighty years old; was converted in early life; joined the Baptist Church, and was the loving mother of twelve children; ten survive her. She had had her share of trials and hardships, yet all her life retained a pure, spotless character. Her meek and gentle disposition shed a radiance of joy to all who were with her. In her death she was wonderfully blessed; calling her loved ones around her, gave them the blessed assurance that all was well; then admonished them to meet her in heaven; bade them a fond farewell; fell asleep on Jesus. Grandmother is gone, but oh, how sweet to know that we can meet her again over there, where all is peace and love. Till then let us live in constant communion with our blessed Redeemer.

IDA E. HOUSER.

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THE WATCHTOWER.

The President's Message.

The President's message sent to Congress, which assembled in regular session on the 4th of this month, has been given to the public, and has been variously estimated by the press of this and other countries. The English and Canadian press were specially pleased with it.

It is rather lengthy and is largely made up of a review of the present situation at home and abroad.

There is not much in it that could be construed as radical upon any question discussed; but its general tone is conservative. This is especially true of the tariff question. On this point the message takes the middle ground between free trade absolutely and the high tariff policy of Mr. McKinley and the Republican party.

On the money question the tone is much the same as that of his message to the late special session. He hopes to see the money standard settled by an international money congress.

He thinks that Minister Stevens, who aided in the overthrow of the royal Government in Hawaii, transgressed the bounds of his authority, and that this Government ought to rebuke his presumption by restoring things as they were.

He opposes any entangling alliances of this with foreign Governments for any purpose, but speaks kindly of all the peoples with whom we have treaty relations.

He hopes the Chinese will register between now and the time after which the law deports them. Altogether the message is not a surprise, as the views of the President upon the several questions he mentions were pretty generally known.

The Sugar Bounty.

As a good deal is being said one way and another about the sugar bounty and the proposition of the Ways and Means Committee in Congress to reduce it one-eighth annually until it "ceases and determines," it may be proper to give our readers a plain statement about the whole business.

Before the McKinley bill went into operation July 1, 1891, there was a 2-cent tax on sugar which brought the Government about \$60,000,000 revenue; but that bill provides that the tax shall not only be taken off, but that the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay to the producer of sugar, testing not less than 90 degrees polariscope, from beets, sorghum or sugar cane grown within the United States, or from maple sap produced within the United States, a bounty of 2 cents per pound; and upon such sugar testing less than 90 degrees by the polariscope, and not less than 80 degrees, a bounty of 1 1/2 cents per pound.

Now it turns out that the whole bounty paid producers amounted to \$9,375,150.88, and the expenses detracted in testing sugar and other incidental amounts to \$138,566.30, making a total paid out of the United States Treasury as bonus to sugar planters, \$9,513,697.21. This latter sum, added to the revenue of 2 cents on the pound which the Government was getting before the McKinley bill went into effect, and which footed up \$60,000,000, will show a loss to the Government, by the action of that law, amounting to \$69,513,697.21. The number of people—producers subsidized in this way—were, all told, little and big, 6753. Five hundred and sixty of these were cane producers, and they got \$8,763,830.75. In Texas thirteen persons got \$174,943.80, a snug little sum in itself, to say nothing of the amount they got for their product in the markets of the country.

Will It Be Sugar?

The "Ways and Means" Committee have given their report to the public. It is a voluminous concern and will require time and study to understand

FREE.



PROF. MANLEY.

The Author of Harvest Bells.

Rev. W. E. Penn, the noted evangelist of Eureka Springs, Ark., says: "I was cured of Catarrh of the Bladder in 1886, by the use of the Aerial Medication, and it has proved to be a permanent cure; and I know of many cases of catarrh that have been cured by its use. Rev. J. H. Cason, of Russellville, Ark., was compelled to abandon preaching several years ago on account of lung trouble. I advised this treatment and after three months of its use he was cured and has been preaching ever since."

Rev. W. E. PENN.
MEDICINES FOR THREE MONTHS' TREATMENT FREE.

To introduce this treatment and prove beyond doubt that it is a positive cure for Deafness, Catarrh, Throat and Lung Diseases, I will, for a short time, send (by express) Medicines for three months' treatment free. Address,
J. H. MOORE, M. D., Cincinnati, O.

and properly appreciate. That committee had no small job. They were to provide means to supply the necessary funds with which to run this Government. They found an empty treasury, a pension list unprecedented in the history of any people, costing more than the standing army of any nation in Europe, and a fluctuating and uncertain commercial situation that touched every citizen in the land. Added to this they were standing upon a platform which declared in favor of a "tariff for revenue only," and which denominated any excise measure that looked beyond this as "robbery."

No doubt they figured mightily. They wanted to reduce the number of articles bearing a tax, and the question was what articles shall those be and where shall the line be drawn? Iron, wool, salt, coal, ores and a number of other articles have been placed on the free list. They left the sugar bounty to be gradually repealed, but threw the responsibility upon the Congress as a whole to say just what should be done in the premises.

Then they figured some more. It turned out at last that they needed between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000 more than had been provided for, and now the question is, where will they get it? What will be taxed to bring that amount? There is whisky, there is beer, and there is sugar. The first it is claimed is taxed about all it will bear already; the second could furnish part of the amount; but the last—sugar—could meet the entire demand without increasing the price to any very great extent; and this, the Times-Democrat thinks, will be the scheme. That paper says:

The sugar tax is almost the ideal tax for revenue only, and it has the merit of being the sole tax namable that comes near being that ideal tax. For it puts only from one tenth to one twelfth of the accruing revenue into the pockets of the sugar-raisers, while the remaining nine tenths or eleven twelfths, amounting to \$50,000,000 or \$60,000,000, goes into the National treasury, without any trouble to collect, for the carrying on of the Government. If the Democratic majorities in Congress stand pat on the platform, the reimposition of the sugar tax to supply the needed revenue, is not only the sole obvious, it is also the sole logical, loop-hole of escape from the revenue difficulty.

Answering the objections of the free trade economists the same paper says: They forget that the British system, the nearest approach to absolute free trade there is, and the one to which they are in the habit of pointing as the economic ideal, allows the taxing of tea and coffee, which are in nearly as common use as sugar. Last year the Chancellor of the Exchequer raised the large sum of 3,421,769 pounds sterling from the taxation of tea, the people's beverage par excellence, alone.

Thus, on the strong grounds at once of logic and of our revenue necessities we anticipate, and anticipate with confidence, that the sugar clause in the new tariff bill will be altered to substitute a substantial tariff-for-revenue only sugar duty instead of the proposed diminishing bounty.

Utah Not Ready.

The political papers are discussing the probability of admitting the Territories of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah to the dignity of Statehood. The Democratic press, as a rule, is in favor of the move for obvious reasons: It will strengthen the power of the party in the National Congress.

We have nothing to say as to Arizona and New Mexico, but we doubt the propriety of admitting Utah at this time. Those Mormons pretend to have received a revelation that polygamy should cease among them, but the vision was not given until Uncle Sam had wiped out and loaded up his gun, and we fear that a people capable of so much hypocrisy and insincerity will do us no good as fellow-citizens in this decent Christian Union.

Not long since the New York Independent had a symposium on that question, and the several writers were lawyers, politicians, educators and preachers—all residents of the Territory—and it was a matter worthy of note that the preachers and teachers were a unit against Statehood, while most of the others, especially the politicians, were in favor of it. Those against it were of the opinion that, should the Territory be made a State, the mask would be thrown off and polygamy become a part of the State Constitution.

Let Utah's probation be extended a while.

Helping the Miners.

Gov. Rich, of Michigan, will most likely call a special session of the Legislature to provide for the pressing needs of the miners in that State, who, for lack of work during a great part of the year, are unable to get through the winter. It is estimated that \$150,000 will be necessary to meet their actual wants.

Our Navy.

Our standing army amounts to a mere nothing—only 25,000 men, and that number is quite sufficient for our current needs along that line. But we need a good navy, and that department of our Government has signified its purpose of creating a marine force equal to any of the European States. Nine large vessels have been launched

during the present year, and more will be ready for service in the near future.

The first thing the British know, the old song, "Britannia Rules the Waves," will be out of tune.

Finance and Trade.

Reports from the leading cities of the nation show a looking up on some lines of trade—especially in dry goods and groceries. The movement in cotton and grain circles is a little slow; but the trade is healthy, considering the fearful panic through which the country has passed.

Manufacturers are somewhat nervous and will remain so until the present tariff bill is finally agreed upon by both Houses of Congress.

Money is plentiful and interest low. The gold reserve, \$198,000,000, is the largest known in the history of the nation, and though there is a brisk export of the yellow metal which argues the sale of foreign securities in this country, there is no fear of the cash running low.

The low price in wheat and cotton is due to an over-production on one hand, and to gambling in futures on the other.

A New Doctrine.

Justice Brewer's decision in a railroad case coming up from Ohio involves a new doctrine, namely, that the term "laws of the State" used in regulating railroads by the Federal statutes does not mean the statutes of the States nor the decision of State Supreme Courts on those statutes. This has stirred up the legal fraternity all over the country, it is alleged, and Mr. Culberson aims to introduce a bill in Congress that will negative Justice Brewer's decision in so many words and provide further that railroad companies shall be, for judicial purposes, considered citizens of those States through which their lines run.

A Dead Issue.

The first issue that confronted the Pilgrim Fathers on the landing of the Mayflower was the Indian question, and from then until recently it has played no inconsiderable part in the politics and diplomacy of this nation. Many blunders have been made, first and last, in its treatment by the representatives of both white and red people, and the reader of history—especially the Christian reader—sees much to regret in the whole business.

But that question is no longer a live one. The Indians have all either submitted to the example or to the rule of the white man, and their history hereafter is to be the history of private individuals. The recent report of the Indian Bureau shows many gratifying facts and furnishes a few surprises. It shows that the Indians are increasing rather than becoming extinct; that the cessation of tribal wars and the prohibition of whisky in the territory accounts for this; that thousands of them are thrifty and industrious tillers of the soil; and that there are 250,000 of them altogether. It is believed that the policy of supporting them as children has been very deleterious to them, both as individuals and as a race, and that the more they are thrown upon their own resources the quicker and better will they develop into peaceful and useful citizens.

In bringing about the improvements noted in the report of the Bureau, the various missions of the Protestant—chiefly the Methodist—Churches have performed a leading part. Our Churches and schools have done more to redeem our Brother in Red from his savage state than all the soldiers and munitions of war our Government has ever sent to awe them into submission. What the Indian needs is the need of the pale face and of all men—it is the gospel of the Son of God.

Dallas Charities.

On Thursday, December 7, there was a mass-meeting of charitably disposed citizens in the parlors of the Oriental Hotel in this city to devise means whereby the worthy poor of Dallas might be helped during the winter now coming on. The meeting was largely attended, and it was agreed that the pastors of the city, with one lady from each Church and one representative from each charitable society should meet at the City Hall on the following Monday, December 12, and complete a plan of action. These met accordingly at the City Hall, where and when a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and such by-laws as they deemed necessary and report back to the meeting on the afternoon of the next day at the same place. These "rules and regula-

tions" are too numerous and would occupy too much space in the ADVOCATE were we to publish them; but suffice it to say that this organization agreed upon the following:

1. That a Central Committee, or council, be created to consist of five ladies, five ministers, five other citizens and the county and city chief executives, in all seventeen members.

2. That a circular signed by all the members of this Central Committee be issued to the public calling for cash donations of clothing and supplies of all kinds.

Resolved, That the Chairman as soon as practicable be requested and instructed to appoint a Committee upon Ways and Means.

3. That it shall consist of at least one man or woman from each Church, from each lodge, and each charitable organization in the city.

4. That it shall be the duty of this committee to provide money, fuel, clothing, and whatever else may be needed by the Central Committee for distribution among the deserving poor.

5. That contributions of whatever kind received by or through the Committee on Ways and Means must be deposited with the Executive Committee at such place as may be designated by it.

6. That the chairman of the Executive Committee shall have power to fill vacancies upon the Committee on Ways and Means.

The following outline of work was presented by Mr. E. H. Ryan:

1. A soup kitchen, to be in a central place in Dallas. The hours for soup to be from 6 a. m. to 10 a. m., and from 4 p. m. to 8 p. m.

2. A commissary to be attached to the soup kitchen, so that the person in charge of the kitchen can devote the hours between 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. to receiving donations of every kind, and also to delivering them out upon orders properly given by the person authorized.

3. From and after the hours of 8 p. m. a wagon ought to go to the principal hotels in the city and receive from them any scraps of bread, meat, etc., which might be left over after the day. Boxes, say cracker boxes, to be left at the several hotels for that purpose. All that is procured in this way to be put in the soup, which would thereby be much benefited.

In the commissary could be stored flour, sugar, coffee, tea, old clothes and such other things as might be sent in. The buildings the writer has in view are two small brick buildings on Elm Street, each of which is 12x60 feet, and both of which can be procured for \$30 per month, with room for office, etc., in them.

An account of all received and paid out on orders, as above stated, to be kept accurately, and at the end of the month the manager to report how many people were fed, to whom distribution was made and from whom received, such people to be thanked through the daily papers.

This was referred to the Central Committee.

Election of the Central Committee of Seventeen being in order, the following were chosen: Reva. A. P. Smith, E. L. Sprague, C. L. Seasholes, E. M. Chapman and M. M. Davis; Messrs. E. M. Chapman, P. S. Plouffe, W. H. Johnson, W. W. Leake and W. H. Taylor; Messrs. Philip Sanger, John H. Traylor, H. C. Stevenson, Joe Skope, W. N. Cox, Mayor Connor and County Judge Thomas F. Nash.

The election of permanent officers of the association being in order, the following were elected: President, John H. Traylor; Treasurer, Philip Sanger; Secretary, G. R. Reynolds.

The meeting then adjourned to meet to-morrow afternoon at the same place at 3 o'clock.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

TEXAS.

Fires—Car-stable and nine cars and sixteen mules burned at Dallas. The residence of W. E. Gorra-brant, at Marshall, was burned; loss, \$2500; insurance, \$1800. Stores burned at Temple; loss about \$50,000; insurance, \$11,000. Residence of W. H. Sawwell at Amarillo, Potter County; loss not given; no insurance. Fires occurred at Denison, Seymour, Glade-water and Vela; losses light. Farmersville had a \$38,000 fire on the 10th; mostly cotton and grain. The handsome school building at Ennis burned on the same night; loss, \$20,000; insurance, \$13,000. Other fires are reported at Kaufman—a gin and a few bales of cotton; at Tyler two residences; a residence at Odessa, Ellis County; several business houses at La Fayette.

Deaths—William Lane, a railroad man, was found dead in his bed at Eagle Pass. A man named Baker, living in Delta County, bought a whisky barrel, which proved to have about a gallon of the stuff still in it. He and his wife both drank some of it and died from the effects.

Pensions—Increase: G. W. Lott, King's Farm, Cass County. Mexican war survivors—Increase: John Hall, Del Rio; Edward Fayette, Springer, Haskell County. Reissue and increase: H. M. Shultz, Chilton, Falls County, Texas.

Postmasters—T. M. Smith, Acrey, Erath County; J. F. Martin, Grape-land; A. M. Sanders, Pine Hill; William Regland, Rector, Denton County, and J. T. Hamilton, Robert Lee, Cooke County.

A variety show, which was recently started in the city of Greenville to the great disgust of the citizens of that place, compromised a prosecution

brought by the city authorities by leaving the place, bag and baggage.

The National Bank at Plano was robbed one night last week by unknown parties who blew open the safe and took away \$10,000. Some weeks ago the officers of the bank received a letter purporting to be written by one of the "Dalton gang" to the effect that the Plano Bank would be robbed between the 21st and 25th of last month, but the matter was thought lightly of at the time, and after the 25th had passed was forgotten altogether. But though a little behind time the robbers came and they are gone and so also is the money.

GENERAL HOME.

Congress has called on the President for light on the question of Hawaii.

A Silver Convention met in Denver and prepared an address to the people of the United States urging that the Government have a money policy of its own without reference to the practices of other nations.

Van Allen, the man appointed by President Cleveland as Ambassador to Italy, concluded not to accept.

The President appointed as Chinese Inspectors Albert E. Mathews, of Pine Bluff, Ark., and Wing Ching Foo, of New York.

The Ways and Means Committee raised the tax on malt from 25 to 30 cents. Beer guzzlers will either pay a little more for that slop or use a poorer article.

The Akron, O., Iron Company passed into the hands of a receiver. Liabilities, \$500,000; assets, \$600,000.

FOREIGN.

The war in Brazil is still raging and the end is hard to foresee.

Affairs in Italy are in a fearful state, and from the latest advices that kingdom may touch the fuse that will precipitate all Europe in a blaze of war.

The Hawaiian trouble is still unsettled, though official news from there reached the President on the 12th, which may enable him to give Congress the information asked in regard to that matter.

A dynamite bomb was exploded in the Chamber of Deputies in Paris, France, on the 9th, which wounded about eighty people, some of them seriously. Several arrests have been made and a Nihilist plot discovered. The guillotine will go to work pretty soon, no doubt, and many, very many, heads will fall into the basket. Poor old France! It is hard for her to get along without a God!

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