

Texas Christian Advocate

Table with advertising rates: One-half inch one insertion, Each consecutive insertion, One inch one insertion, Each consecutive insertion.

Rates on Standing Advertisements:

To find price of an advertisement for a given time over three months, multiply the price of an advertisement for one month by the number of months, then deduct...

Omibus.

The dog that will follow everybody isn't worth a cent.

He cannot be accounted young who outliveth the old man.—Sir Thomas Browne.

Early and provident fear is the mother of safety.—Edmund Burke.

We may despise the world, but we cannot do without it.—Baron Wessenburg.

The touchstone by which men try us is most often their vanity.—George Eliot.

We ought as much to pray for a blessing upon our daily rod, as upon our daily bread.—Dr. Owen.

Holliness is not blind. Illumination is the first part of sanctification. Believers are children of the light.—Baxter.

They that do nothing are in the readiest way to do that which is worse than nothing.—Zimmerman.

The surest way of being deceived is to think yourself cleverer and more cunning than anybody else.—Rochefoucauld.

After a man gets to be eighteen years of age, he can't well form any habit; the best he can do is to steer the old ones.

Those people who are trying to get to heaven on their creed will find out that they didn't have through tickets.

Nature seldom makes a fool; she simply furnishes the raw materials and lets the fellow finish the job to suit himself.

The rude man is contented if he sees but something going on; the man of more refinement must be made to feel; the man entirely refined desires to reflect.—Goethe.

Nothing more hinders a soul from coming to Christ than a vain love of the world; and till a soul is freed from it, it can never have true love for God.—Bunyan.

Better to carry away a little of the life of God in our souls, than if we were able to repeat every word of every sermon we have heard.—De Sales.

None shall be saved by Christ but those only who work out their own salvation; we cannot do without God, and He will not do without us.—M. Henry.

Young man, learn to wait; if you undertake to set a hen before she is ready, you will lose your time, and confuse the hen besides.

An enthusiast is an individual who believes about four times as much as he can prove, and who can prove about four times as much as anybody else believes.

Let us keep our scorn for our own weaknesses, our blame for our own sins, certain that we shall gain more instruction, though not amusement, by hunting out the good which is in anything, than by hunting out the evil.—Kingsley.

Sunday School.

We are glad to learn that many pastors are now using the Sunday-school lessons—that is, the text of the lessons—at their weekly prayer-meetings. In this way the teachers have benefit of the pastor's exposition before teaching their classes.

Besides, it brings the Church and the Sunday-school closer together in their devotional exercises.—Visitor.

There are four hundred and fifty Protestant laborers in the mission-fields of China. The native churches are in many places becoming self-supporting, and what is better, are sending out missionaries into the regions beyond. Our mission in China is growing. We ask the children of our Sunday-schools to pray, and give what they can, for the conversion of the millions of heathen children in that great empire.—Visitor.

"He is a three-minute freezer," was the description of a cold and formal Sunday-school superintendent. Such a man as that would not be likely to keep up his school through the winter months. He is arranging just now for a vacation.

Every Sunday-school ought to have a large map of the Holy Land, suspended in such a position that it can be seen by all the school. Let the superintendent, or some competent person appointed by him, trace out the geographical points in every lesson. It may be done in five minutes.

At a recent Christian Conference in Dundee, Scotland, a subject of discussion for one afternoon was "Some ways of working for God every day." That is a good theme for a prayer-meeting. And after his discussion, those who have talked it over would do well to go and put some of the various methods suggested into practice.

There is a simple remedy for the complaint that the Sunday-school tends to keep the children from the Church service. Get the grown folks to go to Sunday-school, and there will be no difficulty—other things being as they ought to be—in getting the little folks to go to church. If old and young are brought together at one service, they can be at another.

On December 4th, 5th and 6th the first Sunday-school Congress of the Chicago German Conference met in Chicago, with sixty delegates. The burden of a valuable address by Dr. H. Liebhart, editor of the German Sunday-school publications of the Methodists, was that, while it is not an easy matter to evangelize adults from the Fatherland, the youth can be reached and readily molded through the agency of the Sunday-school. The German Methodists think that they have in Dr. Liebhart a man who among his brethren is a leader fit to rank with Dr. Vincent among the rest of us.

Not the great end of Sunday-school instruction, but its very beginning, should be the winning of the scholars to the Saviour. Unless the scholars already trust Jesus as their Redeemer, it is high time that they be led to this step of Christian decision. Now, not by and by, is the accepted time for such a step on their part. No teacher ought to be content to rest in hope for this result until an indefinite future. His best work is of but little value until this is secured.

Waste Basket.

A householder advertises rooms to let to gentlemen furnished with gas.

A sign on a Rochester street reads: "Joseph Amborn." The assertion cannot be denied, but the grammar is objectionable.

"When you have hit the bull's eye sit down and keep still; folks think then that you can hit any time you have a mind to do it."

A man never looks so helpless and insignificant as when standing around in a dry goods store waiting for his wife to get through trading.

Photographer—"Now, sir, if you will look a little less as though you had a bill to meet, and a little more as though you'd been left a legacy, you'll get a picture."

A little girl who had often heard her mother speak of her father, who was somewhat bald, as being a self-made man, asked her one day, if her father was a self-made man, why he didn't put more hair on his head.

A factious boy asked one of his inmates why a hardware dealer was like a boot-maker. The latter, somewhat puzzled, gave it up.

"Why," said the other, "because the one sold the nails, and the other nailed the soles."

A gentleman at a dinner party was seated next a young miss. He asked her if she was fond of ethnology. She said she was, but she was not very well, and the doctor had told her not to eat anything for desert except oranges.

A reporter being called to account for the statement that a certain meeting "was large and respectable" when only one other person besides himself was present, insisted that his report was literally true. "For," said he, "I was large, and the other man was respectable."

A good story is told of a physician in one of our suburban towns. After he had continued his calls on a lady patient for some weeks, she expressed her fears that it would be inconvenient for him to come so far on her account. "Oh, madam," replied the doctor, innocently, "I have another patient in the neighborhood, and thus I can kill two birds with one stone!"

EUREKA YEAST POWDER.—Adapted to the preparation of light, palatable and healthful bread. A powder that gives general satisfaction. We earnestly recommend all householders to give it a trial. See Rev. P. M. Goodwin's card.

Church Notices.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.

JEFFERSON DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Atlanta circuit, 1st Sunday in January. Soda Lake, 2d Sunday in January. Queen City, 3d Sunday in January. Mount Pleasant, 1st Sunday in February. Collierville, 2d Sunday in February. Gilmer, 3d Sunday in February. Longview, 4th Sunday in February. L. E. ELLIS, P. E.

SHERMAN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Whitesboro circuit at Harris Chapel, 1st Sunday in January. Dexter circuit, at Shiloh, second Sunday in January. Bonham circuit, 3rd Sunday in January. Bonham circuit, at Mt Pleasant, fourth Sunday in January. Sayoy circuit, at Sayoy, first Sunday in February. Pilot Grove circuit, at Pilot Grove, second Sunday in February. J. M. BINKLEY, P. E.

DALLAS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Lebanon circuit, first Saturday and Sunday in January, 1878. Trinity circuit, second Saturday and Sunday in January. Severe circuit, third Saturday and Sunday in January. The Abile circuit, fourth Saturday and Sunday in January. Plano and Caruth, first Saturday and Sunday in February. Honey Creek circuit, second Saturday and Sunday in February. Grapevine circuit, third Saturday and Sunday in February. Grapevine Springs mission, fourth Saturday and Sunday in February. Blythe circuit, first Saturday and Sunday in March. W. H. HUGHES, P. E.

PARIS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Honey Grove circuit, Honey Grove, Jan 5 and 6. Dodd City, Liberty, Jan 9. Blossom Prairie, Shady Grove, Jan 12 and 13. Ladonia, Mount Carmel, Jan 19 and 20. Cooper, Cooper, Jan 26 and 27. J. H. McLEAN, P. E.

SULPHUR SPRINGS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Sulphur Bluff circuit, 1st Sunday in January. Sulphur Springs circuit, 2d Sunday in January. Winsboro circuit, 3d Sunday in January. Winsboro circuit, 4th Sunday in January. White Rock circuit, 1st Sunday in February. Lone Oak circuit, 2d Sunday in February. Pittsburg circuit, 3d Sunday in February. THOS. M. SMITH, P. E.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Floresville, at Floresville, 1st Sunday in Jan. Medina, at Oak Island, 2d Sunday in Jan. San Antonio station, 3d Sunday in Jan. Seguin station, 4th Sunday in Jan. San Antonio City mission, at Selma, 1st Sunday in Feb. Leesville, 2d Sunday in Feb. Elm, at Sibley Elm, 3d Sunday in Feb. Rancho, 4th Sunday in Feb. District stewards will meet at Seguin Saturday before the fourth Sunday in January, 1878. J. A. G. WALKER, P. E.

COLEMAN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Helena circuit, at Helena, January 12, 13. Collierville circuit, at Collierville, Jan 20, 27. St. Mary's mission, at Pleasant Grove, Jan 20, 27. Beeville circuit, at Beeville, February 2, 3. Rockport circuit, at Rockport, February 9, 10. Corpus Christi station, February 16, 17. Lagarto circuit, at Lagarto, February 23, 24. Oakville mission, at Oakville, March 2, 3. The district stewards will please meet at Beeville February 2. R. H. BLAVIN, P. E.

SAN MARCOS DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Thompsonville, Zion, Jan 5 and 6. Blanco, Blanco, Jan 19 and 20. San Marcos circuit, Pleasant Ridge, Jan 26 and 27. Mountain City, Elm, Feb 2 and 3. San Marcos circuit, at San Marcos, Feb 9, 10. Gonzales circuit, Gonzales, Feb 16 and 17. Lockhart circuit, Lockhart, Feb 23 and 24. The district stewards will meet at San Marcos, in the Methodist church, at 2 o'clock, p. m., January 12, to estimate the preceding elder's claim and make the general apportionments to the several pastoral charges. G. A. FISHER, P. E.

VICTORIA DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Sandies mission, Jan 5 and 6. San Jacinto circuit, at San Jacinto, Jan 12 and 13. Boxville circuit, Jan 26 and 27. Texana, Feb 2 and 3. Hallettsville circuit, Feb 9 and 10. Clinton circuit, Feb 23 and 24. Montford circuit, March 2 and 3. Victoria, March 9 and 10. Lavaca River circuit, March 16 and 17. District stewards will please meet at Mossey Grove, January 26. A. A. KILGORE, P. E.

UVALDE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Benton City circuit, January 5, 6, 1878. Uvalde circuit, January 12, 13. Frio City circuit, January 19, 20. San Antonio circuit, at San Antonio, Jan 26, 27. Bandera circuit, February 9, 10. Kerrville circuit, February 16, 17. Menard circuit, at Menard, Feb 23, 24. Brady City circuit, March 2, 3. W. T. THORNBERRY, P. E.

NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

STEPHENSVILLE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Glenrose circuit, at Fredell, Jan 5, 6, 1878. Meridian circuit, at Spring Creek, Jan 12, 13. Meridian circuit, at Meridian, Jan 19, 20. Granbury circuit, at Granbury, Jan 26, 27. Sunday Creek mission, at Mt. Pisgah, Feb 2, 3. Stephenville circuit, at Stephenville, Feb 9, 10. Bulletin at B. B. B. school house, Feb 16, 17. Jonesboro circuit, at Felton, Feb 23, 24. Gatesville circuit, at New Hope, March 2, 3. Pecos circuit, at Pecos, March 9, 10. The district stewards will please meet me at Spring Creek Church, six miles west of Meridian, Jan. 12. Now, brethren, don't fail. J. P. SWEET, P. E.

WEATHERFORD DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Weatherford et, at Wade's Chapel, 1st Sab in Feb. Weatherford et, at Goshen, 2d Sab in February. Bethesda, at Bethesda, 3d Sab in February. Aetna, at Aetna, 4th Sab in February. Jacksonboro, at Jacksonboro, 1st Sab in March. Springtown, at Walnut Creek, 2d Sab in March. Edwara, at Garrett's Creek, 3d Sab in March. Graham, at Graham, 4th Sab in March. The district stewards will please meet me in the Methodist Church, in the city of Weatherford, at 1 o'clock, p. m., Wednesday, after the fourth Sab in January, 1878. They are as follows: W. W. DAVIS, J. W. DUBOSE, C. LEMMONS, W. A. SWEET, J. E. WILSON, J. W. POLK, J. W. PETERSON and Bro. Vandy. My postoffice is Weatherford. T. W. HINES, P. E.

WACO DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Waco station, January 5. Marlin circuit, at Marlin, January 12. Galvest and Hearne, at Oakley, January 19. Bosqueville circuit, at Harris Creek, January 26. Waco circuit, at Cotton Wood, February 2. Bremond circuit, at Bremond, February 9. East Waco circuit, February 16. Kosse circuit, at Kosse, February 23. Mount Vernon et, at Mount Vernon, March 2. Wheeler circuit, at Pickard's Grove, March 9. The District Stewards will meet at Bremond on Saturday, January 9, at 12 o'clock. The following is a list of the stewards: Davis, Garley, Henry, Williams, T. O. Harris, Asbury-Lillard, Jesse Seriggs, Thos. Saxton, D. E. Ledbetter, W. B. Morrow, A. L. Teagarden, J. L. Dupuy. W. GOSNOR, P. E.

CORSICANA DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Dresden circuit, at Critt's Creek, Jan 5, 1878. Mt. Calm circuit, at White Church, Jan 12. Thornton mission, at Manure, Jan 19. Groesbeck et, at Central Institute, Jan 26. Centerville circuit, at Centerville, Feb 2. North Leon circuit, at Liberty, Feb 9. Buffalo circuit, at Buffalo, Feb 16. Patriot circuit, at Patriot, Feb 23. Corsicana circuit, at Byrdstown, March 1. Mexia circuit, at Forest Glade, March 8. The district stewards will please meet at Mexia on Friday, March 7, at 11 a. m. It is very desirable that every one be present. JOHN S. MCCARTHER, P. E.

WAXAHACHE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Rice and Chaloud, at Rice, Friday, January 4. Waxahatche station, Wednesday, January 9. Waxahatche station, Thursday, January 11. Waxahatche mission, at Pleasant Grove, Jan 12. Waxahatche circuit, at Centerville, Jan 19. Hillsboro circuit, at Hillsboro, Thursday, January 24. Mildred, at Post Oak Grove, January 26. W. G. YEAL, P. E.

GEORGETOWN DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Belton station, first Sunday in January. Georgetown circuit, second Sunday in January. Salado and Davilla circuit, third Sunday in January. J. W. GOSNOR, P. E.

Georgetown circuit, fourth Sunday in January. Liberty Hill circuit, first Sunday in February. Georgetown and Round Rock station, second Sunday in February. Leon circuit, third Sunday in February. West Falls circuit, fourth Sunday in February. Cameron circuit, first Sunday in March. Rockdale circuit, second Sunday in March. Black Land circuit, third Sunday in March. The preachers will please inform me of the place their quarterly meeting if any change of place should be necessary to suit the Sabbath. I have appointed to each preacher as the time of his quarterly meeting. Address, South Boque, McLennan county. THOS. STANFORD, P. E.

BRECKENRIDGE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Breckenridge circuit, at Breckenridge, 4th Sab in January. Fort Griffin circuit, at Fort Griffin, 1st Sabbath in February. Bellville circuit, at Bell Plains, 2d Sabbath in February. Coleman circuit, at Coleman, 3d Sabbath in February. Eastland circuit, at Eastland, 4th Sabbath in February. Sabina circuit, at Slep Springs, 1st Sabbath in March. Palo Pinto circuit, at Riverbend, 2d Sabbath in March. Cleot circuit, at Ark Arbor, 3d Sabbath in March. Belknap circuit, at Belknap, 4th Sabbath in March. The District Stewards will please meet me at Breckenridge, Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in January. My postoffice is Breckenridge, McLennan county. J. G. WARREN, P. E.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

PALESTINE DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Palestine station, January 5, 6. Athens circuit, at Athens, Jan 12, 13. Kickapoo circuit, January 19, 20. Rusk and Jacksonville, January 26, 27. Cherokee circuit, February 2, 3. Tyler station, February 9, 10. Crockett circuit, February 16, 17. Palestine circuit, February 23, 24. Trinity circuit, March 2, 3. District stewards will please meet me at Palestine, January 5. D. P. CULLIN, P. E.

BEAUMONT DISTRICT—FIRST ROUND. Jasper circuit, at Peachtree, January 12, 13. Newton circuit, at Burkville, January 19, 20. Wolf Creek mission, at Wolf Creek, Jan 26, 27. Homer circuit, at Homer, February 2, 3. Moscow circuit and Smithfield mission, at Bold Spring, February 9, 10. Woodville circuit, at Woodville, Feb 16, 17. Hardin mission, at Big Thicket, Feb 23, 24. Wallisville circuit, at Inside Prairie, March 2, 3. Beaumont circuit, at Beaumont, March 9, 10. District stewards will please meet me at Woodville, without fail. E. L. ARMSTRONG, P. E.

To the Ladies.

Every Lady should use BUTTERICK'S CELEBRATED PAPER CUT PATTERNS, and save dress makers' bills and endless trouble. Every Pattern guaranteed to fit perfectly. Send for catalogue.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING CO.

GALVESTON, TEXAS.

DR. C. W. BENSON'S Celery and Chamomile Pills are prepared expressly to cure sick Headache, Nervous Headache, Dyspeptic Headache, Neuralgia, Nervousness, and Sleeplessness, and will cure any case. Price 50 cents, postage free. Sold by all druggists. Office, No. 106 N. East street, Baltimore, Md. 12-12

The name Cashmere Bouquet, as applied to Toilet Soap and Perfumery, is registered and patented by a trade-mark by Colgate & Co., New York. Purchasers, however, need hardly be warned against infringements; the genuine article is so universally esteemed as to have made the name Cashmere Bouquet and Colgate & Co. nearly synonymous. 16-6

Given Away.—A superb pair of 688 Chromos, worthy to frame and adorn any home, and a Three Months' subscription to Lister's Hygienic, charming 16-page literary paper, full of the choicest stories, Poetry, etc., sent free to all sending Fifteen Cents' stamps taken to pay postage. The names of J. L. Patton & Co., 162 William street, New York, guarantee every one Double Value of money sent. Newsdealers sell LISTER'S Hygiene at price seven cents. 16-1000

New and Wonderful!

An Invention that Should have been Discovered Twenty Years Ago.

The Wilson Sewing Attachment!

For repairing, without patching, all kinds of rips, tears and holes in table linen, underclothing, handkerchiefs, men's, women's and children's clothing, silk and cotton socks and stockings, and every other conceivable article that has a tear or hole in it that requires "darning up." No skill whatever required to attach or use it. Remelting with the WILSON NEEDLE ATTACHMENT is as much more neatly and readily done as stitching with the Wilson Shuttle. The time saved over hand work, in fact, the part repaired is scarcely noticeable as having been repaired.

Free with each Wilson Shuttle Sewing Machine.

This great novelty has just been invented, and is controlled absolutely by the Wilson Sewing Machine Company, and can not be procured, or allowed to be used on or with any Sewing Machine but the Wilson, without extra price; and then only at the discretion of the Wilson Sewing Machine Company.

This new and wonderful invention is simply an arrangement of the WILSON NEEDLE ATTACHMENT, and is a TWENTY FIVE PER CENT. IMPROVEMENT over the WILSON ATTACHMENT, which has one furnished free, and each purchaser will be provided with a printed license to use it, without extra charge.

WILSON SEWING MACHINE CO.

Sole Owners and Manufacturers.

BLESSING & BRO.

Dealers for Texas, 174 Tremont Street, Galveston, Texas. Same entrance as Blessing's Photograph Gallery.

L. F. PRICE, PRICE & WILSON, J. H. WILSON. Attorneys and Counselors-at-Law, Room No. 5, (Ballinger & Jack Building.) GALVESTON.

Mr Joseph H. Wilson is Commissioner of Deeds for the State of Louisiana.

Marble! Marble!

Ten thousand dollars worth of fine MARBLE, Italian and American Marble, the finest in the South. Also all sizes of GRAVE STONES.

from Ten Dollars up, from two to six inches thick at about half the old price, at least at the cost of marble and work. All other work to estimate at about cost for September, October and November for cash or approved acceptance here in Galveston. A. ALLEN & CO.

FROMMER'S TRADE BOOK BINDERY

AND BLANK BOOK MANUFACTORY 70 and 72 STRAND, near Tremont, GALVESTON, TEXAS.

We offer special inducements to interior patrons. Write to us above.

SOUTHERN OIL TANK COMPANY. JERVEY, PETTIT & CO.

We are introducing into Texas our Celebrated Illuminating or Coal Oils, Only in what are known as THE RAILROAD TANKS.

ONLY IN TIN CANS AND BOXES.

Our barrels are manufactured at our TANK STATION, and do not LEAK. Merchants should purchase oils always in barrels, as the profit arising from the sales are much larger than when purchased in cans. We sell 20-gallon tanks at factory prices, adding freight. We deal in:

Kerosene or Coal Oil, Paroline, Read-Light Oil, Insurance Oil, Safety Oil, Gasoline, Lamps, Lanterns, Chandeliers, Burners, Lamp Chimneys, And all appliances of the business.

Our terms are lower than any other establishment in the State.

Special attention given Lubricating oils

FOR SALE.

ONE TAYLOR GIN—65 SAWS,

FOR

\$50 Only! Only \$50!

(Freight to be added.)

Bought at a bargain, and holder has no use for it. Address Drawer No. 4, Advocate Office.

MOODY & JEMISON, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, AND COTTON FACTORS

129 Strand, Galveston.

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PEARL ST. New York.

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LEE, McBRIDE & CO., Cotton and Wool Factors

General Commission Merchants, 214 STRAND, GALVESTON, Hendley Building.

AND

General Commission Merchants, RICE & BAULARD,

PAINTS, OILS, GLASS, Wall Paper, Window Shades, ARTISTS' MATERIALS, ETC., At their old stand, 77 Tremont Street, Galveston.

GALVESTON AND NEW YORK Regular Weekly Steamship Line.

Consisting of the following named steamers: STATE OF TEXAS.....Capt. Nickerson CITY OF SAN ANTONIO....." Pennington RIO GRANDE....." Bolger CITY OF HOUSTON....." Stevens FRIEGHT AND INSURANCE at the LOWEST RATES.

One of the above named steamships will leave New York every SATURDAY, and Galveston for New York every WEDNESDAY, and on SATURDAY when the trade requires.

For freight or passage apply to J. N. SAWYER, Agent, 21 Strand, Galveston.

C. H. MALLORY & CO., Agents, 153 Maiden Lane, New York.

GREAT REDUCTION.

We are still manufacturing the newly celebrated Pure Heart CISTERNS, but at greatly reduced prices. Packed in barrels ready for shipping. Each Cistern fully guaranteed as represented. Respectfully,

R. B. GARNETT, Nos. 106 and 108 Church St., opp. Tremont Hotel, P. O. Box 496.

Take Notice.

The undersigned having resolved to Discontinue Mercantile Pursuits, and desiring to go into the stock raising and farming business exclusively, has decided to Close out his Large Stock of

BUGGIES, CARRIAGES, WAGONS, Etc., Also the most Complete Assortment of HARNESS, SADDLERY, and SADDLERY HARDWARE

In the State. This announcement is not a bogus effort to attract custom. The undersigned means to sell out

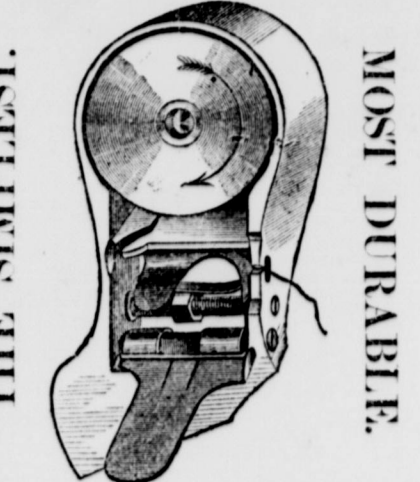
Within the Next 90 Days. And to that end offers his entire stock at cost

J. C. GORHAM, Manufacturer of Saddles and Harness, dealer in Buggies, Carriages, Saddlery, Saddletry Hardware, Plantation and Spring Wagons, corner Tremont and Mechanic streets, Galveston.

A Chance for Some Live Business Men.

A. S. JOHN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, (Ballinger & Jack Building.) GALVESTON, TEXAS.

THE NEW AMERICAN SEWING MACHINE.



THE SIMPLEST. MOST DURABLE.

And the BEST SEWING MACHINE in the world. Using the world-renowned Self-Threading Shuttle and a Self-Setting Needle. Light running and noiseless.

O. L. GEER, Manager, 170 Tremont St., Galveston, Texas. Agents wanted.

GALVESTON, HOUSTON & HENDERSON RAILROAD.

On and after SUNDAY, DEC. 23, 1877, Trains leave Galveston daily, Sundays, excepted, at 2:00 P. M., 9:45 A. M., and 5:35 P. M.

Trains leave Houston daily, Sundays excepted, at 7:45 A. M., 11:30 A. M., and 9:55 P. M.

ON SUNDAYS Trains leave Houston at 7:45 A. M., and 11:30 A. M.; Leave Galveston at 2:00 A. M., and 9:45 A. M. For G. H. & S. A. Railway, and H. & T. C. Railway, take the 2:00 A. M. Train Daily.

For Columbia and points on the Brazos River, take the 9:45 A. M. train on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

For International and Great Northern take the 9:45 A. M. Train.

SURE AND CERTAIN CONNECTION.

All trains will wait for trains of connecting lines that are delayed. The road-bed and track having been placed in perfect order, and new iron and ties put in, it is superior to any in the State, and is enabled to make faster time than ever before, coupled with perfect safety. For full and reliable information regarding all routes and rates, apply to Ticket Office, 116 Tremont street, or at Union Depot, Galveston.

H. M. HOXIE, Manager.

O. G. MURRAY, Gen. Pass. Agt. J. H. CROWLEY, Master Transportation.

THE CENTRAL ROUTE!

The connecting link between the Trunk Lines of the NORTH and EAST and the GREAT MEXICAN on the SOUTH, forms the Great Through Route and Main Artery of Commerce and Trade. TO ALL PORTS, and offers the Best Route on Quick Time, with more Comfort, better Accommodations, and Greater Security than any other Line. Buy your Tickets and ship your Freight by the

HOUSTON & TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY.

PULLMAN PALACE DRAWING ROOM and SLEEPING CARS run through from Houston to St. Louis

Texas Christian Advocate

I. G. JOHN, D. D., Editor.

Associate Editors. By action of the Joint Board of Publication...

ANOTHER CONFERENCE YEAR.

Another round of conferences is ended, and the preachers have been assigned to their fields of labor.

OUR APPOINTMENT.

Is it a pleasant or a hard one? This is with the most of us our first thought when we hear our names announced in connection with the field to which we have been assigned.

OUR VOWS.

Possibly the best thing we can do will be to renew our consecration to God. Suppose we open our Bible and read on our knees Paul's charge to Timothy.

five employ, to preach as our Master will approve. We have on hand a fair supply of good sermons—we think so at least.

BEGIN EARLY.

We are pastors—shepherds appointed to watch the flock of Christ, and lead them to the richest pasturage.

OUR MISSIONARY COLLECTIONS.

This year should not be less than one dollar per member. There is not a circuit that cannot raise this amount—many can raise more.

OUR CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS.

How often we miserably fail in meeting this debt the church owes to its worn-out preachers, and the widows and orphans of noble-hearted men who have died in the work.

OUR SCHOOLS.

The success of important enterprises is dependent on the faithful co-operation of the preachers. We have men of piety and culture in our various institutions of learning.

THE PRESS.

The press has its mission. Joseph Cook, in a recent discourse, stated a fact with which every religious journalist is familiar, viz: That the secular press is almost universally under the dominion of the skeptical philosophy of the day.

In many Christian homes the secular press is supplanting the Bible and excluding a sound and healthful religious literature.

fers the sensational story, or the coarser Police Gazette, to the records of Christian truth and expression, or the advocacy of religious life and effort. To meet this evil we must circulate our own literature.

HOTEL FOR THE DEAD.

In one of the old cities of Europe there is a hotel for the dead. It is filled up with every elegance and convenience that modern civilization can provide for such an establishment.

All this outlay and precaution has been suggested by the possibility that even the skillful physician may be mistaken, and that instead of death the sick man or woman may have sunk into a deep, pulseless, breathless trance, from which they may possibly awake.

Over forty years have passed since that hotel for the dead was built, and many guests have been laid on its downy beds, but in all that time those keys have never sent out their warning message, and the bell has never sounded a warning note.

And yet for the next forty years that hotel for the dead will find occupants. The thought of waking up from a deep trance amid the darkness of the sepulcher and of the death struggle in the coffin is so full of ghastly horror that men will be eager to secure for themselves and others this safeguard against such a terrible doom.

Could men take in the realities of life and its issues the remote possibility of such a fate would not so profoundly appall them as the fact announced on the authority of Divine revelation that when the body dies

if the soul does not again return to its mortal habitation it will rise from its earthly environments to live and act in a new and more wonderful state of being. It is not strange that men guard against the possibility of being buried alive, but the wonder is that they will deliberately risk the possibility of the eternal death of the soul.

GHOSTS.

We are on the threshold of a new year. Ere its months shall be numbered, we may be confined and buried. Where will we rise? In the gloomy sepulchre of the eternally dead? or in the mansion Christ went before us to prepare?

As the old year is closing its career and preparing to retire from active service, we sit watching the dull flame of the evening fire fast sinking into the mass of embers, save when a leaping flame glances up and lights the picture of some departed friend.

While a clearer religious faith and a more reasonable philosophy have relieved us and our children from all fears of the old ghostly superstition, still there is left us a walk along the boundary of the supernatural, where lessons of wisdom and truth may be gathered.

A WHOLESALE MURDER IN A BLIND TIGER'S LAIR.

We have heard of an institution in this little railroad town—Grapeland, Houston county—known by the euphonious cognomen of Blind Tiger. The name is said to have originated in Crockett, and is applied to the illicit sale of intoxicating liquors where the local option law has prevailed.

In this little town the tiger has adjusted his lair with more than ordinary skill, under the name of drug store and ten-pin alley; and, according to information received, is doing a flourishing business with a few drugs and plenty of whisky.

ual communion. In how many other ways they help us, we know not; but by the sick bed, in the dying hour, in the passage to Heaven, they minister. The modern Spiritualist can't take from us the consolation which this religious tenet affords.

Along with this lesson of the spirit world comes another suggestion: Like the shadow which attends us in the sunlight, so there follows us an image of our own creation, an image of what we hoped to be.

While we pen these hasty lines to the ADVOCATE, there lies not far from us the lifeless form of poor Butler, carved and cut to death—to say nothing of the anguish of an aged, pious mother, whose lamentations can better be imagined than described; while John Penick lies on a couch in great suffering from wounds which, in all probability, will soon be fatal.

By wisdom and heroic effort we may realize our life dream, or if it elude us in this, we may meet it in the far off future life.

But where is the shade of the old year to be caught up and wrought into tangible reality. Its visions of worldly success have faded away; its promises of religious life and purity have been dissipated in sinful pleasures; its prospects of peace and plenty have been blackened by war and famine.

Several of the county officials have been indicted by the grand jury. One was indicted for permitting gaming in a house belonging to him and under his control. This is a move in the right direction. We have good laws; but we are cursed with poor officers in many portions of the State.

THE SAN ANTONIO HERALD SAYS SEVERAL OF THE COUNTY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN INDICTED BY THE GRAND JURY.

Others will be sent soon. Everybody wants the ADVOCATE. I will send you many subscribers this year, I think.

REV. B. HARRIS' address is Lockhart instead of Seguin, as heretofore. Announced by request.

white man and negro over the stakes of a game at the alley, which forms part of the tiger's lair.

Results: A young man of respectable family by the name of E. H. Butler was stabbed by a negro named Dennis Johnson, and was dying. Three others were cut by the same negro—two Penicks, John and Jacob, brothers—the first supposed to be fatally, and the second badly, but not dangerously.

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Texas Christian Advocate

Table with 3 columns: Rate type (e.g., One-half inch insertion), Duration (1 mo., 2 mo., 3 mo.), and Price.

ADVERTISING RATES: To find price of an advertisement for a given time over three months, multiply the price of an advertisement for one month by the number of months; then deduct.

THE KINDERGARTEN GUIDE.—We have received Numbers 1, 2 and 3. It is an illustrated hand-work, designed for the self-instruction of kindergartners, mothers and nurses.

OUR ARTIST IN CUBA.—By G. W. Carlton.—This is the title of an amusing little book sent us by J. D. Sawyer, of Galveston.

THE PEOPLE'S CONDENSED LIBRARY.—This is a compendium of universal knowledge—historical, scientific, mechanical and statistical, comprising the origin and history of important discoveries and inventions, and many things not known.

THREE LESSON HELPS FOR 1878.—The National Sunday-school Teacher. Terms, yearly subscriptions, \$1.50, invariably in advance; single numbers, 15 cents; clubs of five or more, sent to one address, \$1.25 each.

TESTAMENT WALL MAP OF PALESTINE, especially designed to illustrate the International Sunday-school lessons, St. Louis, from Jan. 1 to July 1, 1878.

INDEXED DIARY.—The Marginal Indexed Diary, or Daily Record Book, published by the Erie Publishing Co., Erie, Pa., is the best thing of the kind yet issued.

MARRIED.—GRAVES.—FOOT.—December 16, 1877, by the Rev. Wm. M. Shockey, Dr. Graves, of Sandy Point, and Miss Fannie E. Foot, of Oyster Creek Station, Brazoria county, Texas.

THE HISTORICAL CHURCH REGISTER.—We have received from Logan D. Dameron, agent Advocate Publishing Company, St. Louis, a copy of the revised edition of this very valuable publication.

FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE is a valuable publication. It is conducted by Charles Force Deems, D. D., pastor of the Church of the Strangers. Price \$3 per annum, postpaid.

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THE GENERAL MARKET.—(Quotations are not applicable to small orders but represent cash prices for large lots.)

Table listing various goods and their prices, including items like Flour, Corn, and various oils.

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Large advertisement for \$250 Pianos, featuring the text 'New Square Grand Rosewood Pianos for \$250.'

Advertisement for D.M. FERRY & CO'S SEED, featuring an illustration of a seed packet and the text 'FREE TO ALL ILLUSTRATED DESCRIPTIVE PRICED SEED CATALOGUE FOR 1878.'

Advertisement for WEBSTER'S PATENT Button-Hole Worker, featuring an illustration of the machine and the text 'Patented June 27, '71, and Feb. 3, '74.'

Advertisement for CHICKERING PIANO, featuring an illustration of a piano and the text 'The DUNHAM Pianos, the HARRISMAN Pianos, the J. P. HALE Pianos, Each Piano sold by his house is warranted for 3 years, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.'

Advertisement for VICK'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE, featuring an illustration of a flower and the text 'Fifty pages, 300 illustrations, with Descriptions of thousands of the best Flowers and Vegetables in the world, and the way to grow them.'

Advertisement for Wanted, featuring an illustration of a woman's face and the text 'Ladies of Texas!!! When ordering Millinery goods of any description, don't forget to order direct or through your commission merchant from E. JOHNSTON & CO., Cor. Post-office and John-street, Galveston, who has on hand all seasons of the year as fine goods as can be found in any Millinery store south of Mason & Dixon's Line, and at prices that would break up and put into bankruptcy less than your trip here for those who would dare to sell as cheap as HE. Hats from 50 cents up; Wings, from 25 cents; Flowers, from 10 cents up; Hair Bands, from 25 cents; up to 75 cents. Send for catalogue, price list, or further information, as above.'

Advertisement for Model Printing Press, featuring an illustration of the press and the text 'MODEL FOR HOLIDAYS AND OTHER DAYS. GET THE CELEBRATED Model Printing Press. \$3. Nothing in the world would please your eye so much, And Upwards in quality. Our new \$2 press will do the finest kind of eight of label work, while our \$10 one will do three-fourths of all the printing required for any business house. Send ten cents for 100-page illustrated instruction book, called "HOW TO PRINT," and also a sample copy of handsome new paper, "THE MODEL PRINTERS' GUILD." J. R. HATCHADAY & CO., Inventors and Manufacturers, 723 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, Pa.'

Large advertisement for 'OUR \$10.00 ELEGANT PREMIUM GIFT!' featuring an illustration of a woman and the text 'MARRIAGE OF JOSEPH TO MARY! THE MOTHER OF CHRIST! The subject of this beautiful Engraving is taken from St. Matthew, Chapter 1, Verses 24, 25, and 26: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Then Joseph being raised from sleep, and told of the Lord had hidden him, and took unto him his wife: and he knew her not till she had brought forth her first-born son; and he called his name JESUS.' OVER 32 FIGURES ARE REPRESENTED. The original painting of this Engraving is by the world-renowned artist "Raphael." The German Edition of this Engraving, with its beautiful present you, free as a Premium Gift, retails at \$10.00 per copy; our American Edition, of equal value and merit, retails at \$16.00 per copy. This valuable Engraving is over 2 feet wide by 3 feet long, and is a masterpiece of art. GIVEN AWAY as a Special Premium to our Patrons. Send to American Art Union, 130 Elm Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and secure this valuable New-Year's Gift. Only the postage, wrapping, and mounting charges are added to the price of the Engraving. For artistic merit, size, and beauty of design, we have never seen its equal.—Christian World. CUT THIS CERTIFICATE OUT, AS IT IS WORTH \$10.00. CUT THIS OUT. On receipt of this Certificate, together with 25c. to pay postage, wrapping, and mounting charges, we will send you the \$10.00 valuable and Biblical Steel Engraving—2 feet wide by 3 feet long—illustrating the scene of the MARRIAGE OF JOSEPH TO MARY, THE MOTHER OF CHRIST. Send for Engraving at once, together with 25c. to pay my postage, with full address, stating post-office, county, and State. Address all orders to THE AMERICAN ART UNION, 130 Elm St., Cincinnati, O. OUR \$10.00 NEW-YEAR'S GIFT'

Texas Christian Advocate

JOINT BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

The ADVOCATE having been returned to the direct control of the Five Annual Conferences, is now published under the direction of the following Joint Board of Publication: WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE—John W. DeWitt, O. A. Fisher and J. G. Walker.

Subscription Rates. Per annum (in advance) \$2.50 Six months 1.50 Three months 1.00

Religious Life in Palestine when Christ Appeared, and How He Dealt with It—No. 2.

As for the Sadducees, while they present themselves but seldom to the reader of the Gospel history, not a trace is to be found of their having any popular following, or having for their object to proselytize. In fact, the free-thinking liberty which they took to themselves was all they appeared to value; and, provided this were allowed them, they seemed willing to let the Pharisees cast the network of their spiritual influence over the people as they pleased.

wrath to come?" Antagonistic, though they were in principles and in temper alike, they were both exercising a deadly influence on the public mind; the Pharisees, because they came in between the soul and God, in all matters of faith and practice, lording it over and enslaving the conscience; the Sadducees, because they shook themselves, and as many as they infected with their spirit, loose from the authority even of Scripture itself, whenever it came in collision with what they deemed reasonable.

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In entire contrast with these, all the cases of sincere and "anxious inquirers" among the rulers belonged to the Pharisaic class. Nicodemus is the first and most notable of these, "a man of the Pharisees, a ruler of the Jews." That his companion in the burial of our Lord—Joseph of Arimathea—was of the same class, we may reasonably conclude, because while as a "counselor," as Nicodemus was, his discipleship was like Nicodemus', "secret, for fear of the Jews;" because he is described as "a good man and a just;" terms descriptive of the stricter and more honest class (compare Acts xxii, 12); and because it is said of him that he was one of the "waiters for the kingdom of God," a phrase not at all applicable to the Sadducean notions of religion.

As to the eternal reward of grace, its distance is so short and uncertain that if men were not infatuated, it is a wonder that it is not constantly observant to their minds, and that its glorious brightness does not dazzle their eyes. A good man is never sure that Heaven is at an hour's distance from him. Then the pleasures of sin and troubles of duty are so fleeting and shortened that they are scarcely felt when they presently vanish. It looks like a willful contempt of happiness for one not to make the utmost efforts to towards a life of faith and holiness, when one is under such vast obligations, has such vast encouragements, and but such insignificant hindrances; when the assistance offered is so powerful, the present pleasure so great, the labor so short, so little; the reward so near, so certain, so glorious, so lasting—yea, everlasting. It looks like a choosing of misery when one takes the course that leads to it; though he is sure that eternity is not far off at the furthest he can possibly expect; when he knows not but the next moment may land him on that unknown shore, and plunge him into an abyss of wretchedness; when he runs that risk for pleasures which he is not sure whether he shall ever attain to, and which he is sure will vanish away like shadows.—Selected.

VEGETINE

Strikes at the root of disease by purifying the blood, restoring to life and imparts to healthy action, invigorating the nervous system.

Is not a vile, nauseous compound, which simply purges the bowels, but a safe, pleasant remedy which is sure to purify the blood, and thereby restore the health.

Is now prescribed in cases of Scrofula and other diseases of the blood, by many of the best physicians, owing to its great success in curing all diseases of this nature.

Does not deceive invalids into false hopes by purging and creating a fictitious appetite, but acts nature in clearing the system, purifying the whole system, leading the patient gradually to perfect health.

Was looked upon as an experiment for some time by some of our best physicians, but those most incredulous in regard to its merits are now its most ardent friends and supporters.

Says a Boston physician, "There is no equal as a blood purifier. Having tried many wonderful cures, after all other remedies had failed, I visited the laboratory and convinced myself of its genuine merit. It is prepared from bark, roots and herbs, each of which is highly effective, and they are compounded in such a manner as to produce astonishing results."

Is acknowledged and recommended by physicians and apothecaries to be the best purifier and cleanser of the blood yet discovered, and thus speak in its praise who have been restored to health.

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DR. CARL MURRAY HAS OPENED ROOMS FOR THE TREATMENT OF ALL CHRONIC AND NERVOUS DISEASES, AND FOR GENERAL PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

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Diseases of the Eye and Evidels, of the Ear and Throat. Especially attention called to NASAL CATARRH and its accompanying maladies.

Constitutional diseases, such as Scrofula, Rheumatism, Glandular Swellings, skin diseases and all those diseases for which men and women go to Hot Springs, cured promptly on the principle of no cure no pay.

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THE BEAUTIES OF HERBERT, by Bowditch Hawley D. D. A perfect gem, containing Herbert's glorious poems, household proverbs and immortal essays.

PURELY VEGETABLE. IT HAS NO EQUAL. CAUTION: As there are a number of imitations offered to the public, we would caution the community to purchase the genuine.

National Sunday-School TEACHER, H. C. Hazard, Editor. Best and most thorough Teachers' Help published.

The Scholar's Weekly. A new eight-page paper for the pupil, entirely devoted to the lesson.

The Little Folks. A Beautifully Illustrated paper for Primary Classes for four Sundays in each year.

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How to Be of Law and Form YOUR OWN LAWYER. Men, Property Owners, Tenants, Trustees, Guardians, Public Officers, etc.

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ALLEN'S Lung BALSAM. The Great Remedy for curing Coughs, Cold, Consumption, Asthma, etc.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS, Execute all work with neatness and dispatch.

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\$2500 a year. Agents wanted. Business legitimate. Particulars free. Address J. W. WORTH & CO., St. Louis, Mo.

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KNOW THYSELF. A New Medical Treatment of the NERVOUS SYSTEM, a book for everybody.

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There are Fourteen Schools covering a full course for young men in English Language and Literature, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry and Geology, Mathematics, Ancient and Modern Languages, Metaphysics, History, Book-keeping, Theology, Psychology and Hygiene.

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N. T. BURKS, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Science. Professor English Language and Literature, History and Political Economy.

P. C. HRYBEK, A. M., Professor Latin, Greek and Hebrew. S. G. SANDERS, A. M., M. A., Professor Modern Languages and Book-keeping.

W. P. FLEMING, M. D., Professor Physiology and Pathology. D. D. DASHIELL, JR., A. B., Tutor of Preparatory School.

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Three Hundred Pupils. Our citizens are united as to their school interest. These and many other advantages make Waxahatchie an attractive educational point.

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S. A. HOLT, A. M., Professor of Ancient Languages and Sciences. MRS. E. H. HORNOR, Primary.

MRS. BERTHA GORDON, Gymnastics, Vocal and Instrumental Music. Special attention given to the physical development of children.

Free of Charge. We also give Vocal Music Free. We invite parents to consider these and the many other advantages offered by MARVIN COLLEGE.

1877 1877 DISTRICT CONFERENCE HIGH SCHOOL, 5

SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS. MAJOR JOHN M. RICHARDSON, President.

Devoted to the co-Education of the Sexes. Course thorough and practical. Tuition, \$20 to \$50 per Annum.

BOARD \$10 to \$12 PER MONTH. Healthy location and moral community.

GOOD BUILDING AND FURNITURE. Teachers' Requisites of every kind will be furnished. Send for circular.

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WYN'S Eureka Yeast Powder. Good, Pure, Healthful, Highly Commended by prominent Physicians.

ALLEN'S Lung BALSAM. The Great Remedy for curing Coughs, Cold, Consumption, Asthma, etc.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS, Execute all work with neatness and dispatch.

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FREE. MAMMOTH OUTFIT TO EVERYBODY. Mammoth outfit free with first order.

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FOR THE HOLIDAYS

LORD & TAYLOR NEW YORK.

WE INVITE ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS OF OUR ESTABLISHMENT. THE LOW PRICES AT WHICH OUR GOODS ARE MARKED, HAVE SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON, AND PARAGONS WILL BE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE, THIS SEASON'S IMPORTATIONS GIVING US AN UNEQUALLED STOCK OF GOODS.

BLACK SILKS, handsome and durable, all widths, \$1.00 to \$3.50. THE GREAT AMERICAN INDESTRUCTIBLE SILK, \$1.50, \$1.25, and \$1.50.

PLAIN COLORED SILKS, new shades, commencing as low as 50c. per yard, and at \$1.00, same quality of last season at \$1.25.

IN DRESS GOODS there is richer display of colorings and brilliant effects this season than for many years past.

Shawls, Mantles and Wraps. India Valley Cashmere Shawls from \$100.00 up.

Ladies' and Children's Suits and Fine Under Clothing. These departments embrace everything pertaining to Female Costume, suited to all ages and circumstances.

HOSIERY. Ladies' Misses', and Children's Hosiery from \$1.50 a dozen, up to the finest quality.

FURS. Alaska Seal Scaques, from \$45.00 up. Alaska Seal Mitts, from \$5.00 up.

GENTS' FURNISHING. DRESSING GOWNS, SMOKING JACKETS AND CAPS, SCARFS, TIES, UMBRELLAS, GLOVES, AND OTHER ARTICLES FOR GENTLEMEN.

GLOVES. Kid, Silk, Lisle Thread and Merino Gloves of the new colors and shades in great variety.

Our Goods are all first-class. We make a point to fill all orders exactly and to the interest of purchasers.

Having struggled twenty years between the world and death with ASTHMA, I experimented by compounding roots and herbs and inhaling the medicine.

FOR ONE DOLLAR I will send by mail 14 choice Geraniums, or 7 Roses and 7 Geraniums, to please. Lists sent FREE. TYRA MONTAGNEY, Mattson Ill.

JUST PUBLISHED. The Paragon of Holiday Books for Musical People.

"The Great Tone-Poets," BEING SHORT MEMOIRS OF THE GREATER COMPOSERS.

BY F. CROWEST. A valuable, convenient and beautiful work for musical readers.

Nothing could be of greater service to the musical student than this elegant work.

Bound in Cloth, \$1.50. Sent, post-paid, upon receipt of price. Published by JOHN CHURCH & CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.

AND 805 Broadway, New York.

TAKE NOTICE. WE have received a new stock of Stationery, including Envelopes, Pencils, Penholders, Golden Pens, and a piece of valuable jewelry.

FREE. MAMMOTH OUTFIT TO EVERYBODY. Mammoth outfit free with first order.

REVOLVER FREE. Seven-shot BROWN & SON, 138 and 138 Wood Street, Pittsburg, Pa.

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This exonerates the Rangers from the charge of murdering helpless prisoners in their charge.

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France.

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It is reported that Don Carlos has been ordered to quit France partly because of ex-Queen Isabella's overtures to him. These overtures are supposed to express her displeasure at the marriage of Alfonso.

Gen. Bressalles has been placed on the retired list. The following is said to be the occasion of the order:

Gen. Bressalles called the officers of the garrison into his room and communicated to them instructions which seemed to indicate a *coup d'état*. He also made a speech to them about how orders were to be executed, saying, in case of insurrection or commotion, if the insurgents resorted to the stratagem of placing women and children in their front, the soldiers must fire notwithstanding. Major Laborde hereupon protested and resigned his sword. Gen. Borri, Minister of War, on an investigation placed Gen. Bressalles on the unattached list and dismissed Major Laborde for insubordination.

President MacMahon warmly repudiates having ever contemplated a *coup d'état* and asserts that as far as he is aware nothing was intended beyond precautions against armed resistance which some papers threatened, should the government have demanded dissolution. Ex-Queen Isabella, in a letter to the *Figaro*, repudiates the charge that she was in a conspiracy with him against King Alfonso, and asserts that her relations towards Don Carlos were only those which grew out of their relation, he being her nephew, for whom she ever entertained an affectionate regard.

The *Epoque*, published at Madrid, states that Don Carlos was expelled from France at the request of the Spanish Government.

It is reported in Paris that the Spanish Government has broken off all relations with ex-Queen Isabella.

The Eastern War.

On the 24th the Servians, after eight hours severe fighting, captured Akpalanka with three Krupp guns. Loss of the Turks, seven.

Premier was present the 25th when the bombardment of Nisch commenced.

A Reuter's dispatch says the Erzeroum investment is nearly complete. Russian infantry are massed in the northern part of the plain, and the bombardment of the place and interruption of telegraph lines imminent.

The London *Times'* correspondent at Vienna says the rejection of the Turkish note by the Powers has enabled the war party at Constantinople to recover full sway.

A Russian war steamer has returned to Sebastopol, after a cruise in the Bosphorus, with a captured Turkish transport with 700 prisoners.

Austria has protested through Prince Wrede, her diplomatic agent, against Serbia extending her action, either warlike or revolutionary, to Bosnia or Herzegovina. Serbia has given formal assurance of the strictest orders restraining hostilities in the direction of Bosnia.

On the 26th ult. the Montenegrins defeated a body of Turks occupying entrenched positions between the river Bollado and the town of Ducigno.

A Reuter's dispatch says the British fleet has left Biscay Bay for the Gulf of Vaila, near Smyrna. The Servians have occupied Leskovatz and Kurshumlje.

Turkish prisoners at Plevna are dying of starvation and cold.

The Servians have captured Piorol, about 35 miles southeast of Nisch.

The bridge across the Danube at Nikopolis has been destroyed by ice.

A Berlin special to the *Times* says that Russia is sounding various Mediterranean States relative to the opening of the Dardanelles.

The London *Advertiser* says, officially, that the Sultan has solicited the British Government to approach the Czar with a view to bringing about negotiations for peace, and the British Government has consented to do so.

All operations in the Russian army at Rustchuk have been suspended by the snow, which is two feet deep.

The vanguard of the Russian division, after a very difficult march over snow mountains and frozen foot paths, has occupied the Balkan passes between Aral Konak and Sophia. The Turks were completely surprised.

A request of the British government for information whether Russia is disposed to enter into peace negotiations has been received at St. Petersburg. Nothing definite in the way of reply is announced, though those in position to be informed are of the opinion that Russia will make no harsh reply to the steps taken with the object of preparing the way for peace, but will show herself accessible to any earnest effort for the restoration of peace.

The cold weather has arrested the Russian onward movement.

The Turks have withdrawn from all positions along the River Lom.

The London *Times'* Vienna correspondent reports that Russia has replied to England's note, that if Turkey desires an armistice she must apply direct to the Russian commander-in-chief. Though this is perhaps conjecture, it is probably the spirit of the answer that will be received. The cold weather and deep snow will suspend active operations, and it is likely the winter's enforced inactivity may incline both parties to listen to terms of peace. Russia will dictate her own terms.

Miscellaneous.

A new assessment has been levied for the completion of the great Roman Catholic Cathedral in New York. A half a million of dollars is needed for the spire and interior decoration. It has already cost about \$2,000,000.

It is expected that President Hayes will send in a message this month in which he will re-assert his purpose of reform.

An anthracite coal combination has been perfected in New York, which secures the reduction of its production so as to advance the price. The fact that the miners will suffer because their work will be stopped, and that the poor may perish from cold because fuel will be so high are small matters when the profits of millionaires are in question.

An awful famine has appeared in the Northern provinces of China, and that government appeals to Great Britain and the United States for aid. When did one heathen nation ever help another in like distress.

Two sailing vessels and a steamer will sail from the United States in February and March under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy with goods for the French Exposition.

A Russian journal claims the capture during the present war from the Turks of 704 cannon, 29 Pashas, and 73,128 officers and men.

A naval court of inquiry reports the *Huron* a staunch and seaworthy vessel, and attributes her loss and consequent loss of life to bad seamanship.

The channel of the South Pass of the Mississippi has now a channel twenty-two feet deep, and two hundred feet wide, and Capt. Eads is therefore entitled to his second half million of dollars from the government of the United States.

Last year the profits of British postoffices amounted to over six millions of dollars.

A deposit of refined coal oil has been struck in the Holden Run district, Pennsylvania, free from the impurities of petroleum, so that it can be used at once, giving a brilliant light without smoke or odor.

The telephone has been worked between Columbus, Ohio, and Chicago, a distance of 375 miles. Will wonders never cease.

The house of the Prince of Montenegro has been blown up. The design was to kill the Prince. He was absent and escaped.

The new iron bridge built on the Ashtabula to replace the one that fell last winter at the cost of so many lives, has been completed and trains run over it.

Over \$15,000,000 in gold and silver have been coined this year, about the amount coined last year, and yet the people are short of pocket money. Who has it?

New quicksilver mines have been discovered in California. The deposits of cinnabar ore in that State seem to be enough to meet the wants of the world. The low price of quicksilver is making some of the mines unprofitable.

The report of Lieut. Walton, of the Life Saving Service, who was ordered to investigate the circumstances in connection with the recent wreck of the *Huron*, is severe on a fisherman who saw the wreck at 1:30 p. m. of the day of the disaster. Instead of reporting the disaster promptly, though he heard the cry of distress and saw the vessel in a perilous position, he neglected to give warning till the afternoon. He could have given warning in twenty minutes if he desired. Instead of so doing he went home, ate his breakfast, and did not return till 7 o'clock. The delay caused the loss of a number of lives.

Case, the ex-President of the Security Life Insurance Company, has been sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. He was charged with swearing that the company had \$215,000 in cash, when it had, as was proved on examination, only \$900 in possession; and he swore that the company had \$350,000 in real estate, when it had hardly \$80,000.

Prof. Riley, the entomologist, says the Northwestern plains are the breeding place of the locust. The soil is neither too wet or dry for them. He says no two successive hatching will take place if they are molested. He asks our government to appoint a police to co-operate with that of Canada to burn the prairies in the spring where the eggs are hatching, and in smoking the old insects off them on their approach to the grain region. By this means, he thinks, the scourge might ultimately be removed.

Texas Items.

Three hundred and five bales of cotton were shipped from Pittsburg the week ending the 8th ult. The population of that town is increasing rapidly.

Lumber can be bought in any quantity, at East Texas saw mills, at from \$6 to \$10 per 1000 feet.

An employe went into the lint-room of Col. Swift, in Nacogdoches county, with a lighted candle; and now everybody knows that lint caught fire, and the gin, with ten bales of cotton, were burned.

A man in Sherman has a halberd of the time of Charles II.

New comers can remain in the Immigrants' Home at Palestine free of charge for thirty days.

The East Texas University at Tyler has been sold under a mortgage by the East Texas Fire Insurance Company.

J. H. Aldridge, of J. H. Aldridge & Co., of Stephenville, visited our city this week. His store and entire stock were burned last Saturday night. Loss about \$20,000. No insurance. The *Empire* printing office was also consumed. Our friend Aldridge has our sympathy. But his pluck, enterprise and credit will bring him out.

The people of Hunt county are to vote for or against a new courthouse.

The cotton crop of Texas in 1852 sold for \$3,200,000. That of 1876 brought \$25,331,700, showing an increase of about a million per annum.

A man, by name of Grenet, has bought all the Alamo property, San Antonio, except the church, which Bishop Pellicer reserved, hoping it would be purchased by the State or city.

Fayette county, at the last term of the court, contributed 18 convicts to the penitentiary.

Within one week, men were arrested in Dallas, Houston, and Corsicana for wife-whipping.

A Mrs. Spivy, and her two daughters, in Hunt county, planted, cultivated and picked two bales of cotton. It sold for 10 cents per pound.

Wild turkeys sell for 15 cents a piece at Castroville.

One farmer in Grayson has planted 300 acres in rye.

A man in Houston has made a chair out of ox horns.

A farmer in Grayson found 18 tramps asleep in his hay stack. He thought he was over-cropping.

A piece of iron weighing 130 pounds was found in a bale of cotton near Houston recently. People will be careless.

A Dallas county farmer utilizes a mud hole in a lane near his house by charging ten cents for every wagon which dodges it by going through his field.

A young lady in Red River county has made three bales of cotton off of five acres of land which she cultivated herself. Such a girl will do to "tie to."

Orange trees in the vicinity of Austin are so loaded with fruit that the limbs have to be supported by props.

The Palestine *Advocate* says the tramp who can travel can work. The trouble is to make the tramp think so.

The Denison *News* reports three lady teachers of public schools ordered by their landlords to seek new boarding houses. The city has not money to pay the teachers and the teachers are turned into tramps.

Dr. Nichart, of Whitesboro, recently killed a hog which made 520 pounds of pork.

Cotton mills will, ere long, be in operation on the Frio. Northern capital is building them.

A table in Austin is made up of sixty varieties of Texas timber.

It is thought that the cotton shipments of Waco this year will be upwards of 30,000 bales.

Atlanta, Cass county, is four years old and has 1200 inhabitants.

Col. W. A. Fort, of Waco, having bought the Odd Fellows' building at sheriff's sale, immediately conveyed the third floor to the Odd Fellows lodge.

Cooke county has raised a twelve pound turnip.

The first five miles of the Denison and Southeast Railroad is nearly completed.

The *Observer* says the new penitentiary begins to show finely. The material is excellent and the work first-class.

Land in Fort Bend county can be bought at from fifty cents to \$50 per acre. Wild bottom lands can be bought at from \$2 to \$5 per acre.

Mr. Tansey, of Fayette county, made three barrels of sugar and 348 gallons of syrup on 2½ acres of ribbon cane.

Dallas county claims the biggest hog two years and five months old which weighed 850 pounds.

Beef is to be shipped in refrigerator cars to Cincinnati from Dallas. Fall wheat in Fayette county is looking well.

Six hundred immigrants passed through Texarkana the 20th ult.

The remains of a mastodon have been found in a sand pit near Dallas.

Mule eared rabbit hunts are popular now in some parts of Texas.

The citizens of Belton are moving toward the establishment of a telegraph line to that point.

Fifty additional cottages are needed to supply the call of tenants in Denison.

Two tan-yards and a boot and shoe and harness shop are in successful operation in Linden, Texas.

The telephone is in successful operation between Galveston and Houston. It is in the G., H. & H. R. R. office.

A Dallas item tells of a man running down Elm street yelling at the top of his voice that he was pursued by five of the biggest kind of snakes. And Bell county wants to get rid of prohibition.

Church News and Views.

The First Baptist Church of Baltimore has sent out 41 ministers.

Mr. Moody is forty years of age and Sankey thirty-seven.

There are upward of 70,000 Sunday schools in the United States, with about 6,000,000 scholars.

The Baptist clergymen of Philadelphia have fixed the tenth day of January as a day of fasting and prayer on account of the hard times.

In 1873 the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America comprised 200 societies; now it has grown to a membership of nearly 600 societies.

Two more Episcopal clergymen—Rev. H. Van Rensselaer, New York, and the Rev. F. Mackall, Baltimore—have withdrawn, and joined the Roman Catholic Church. They were young deacons.

In England the Congregationalists and the Free Communion Baptists are forming organizations for mutual co-operation, and in some instances organic union.

The colored M. E. Church in America now has four Bishops; 600 traveling and 582 local preachers; and 80,000 or 90,000 church members.

Mr. Edward Kimble, a layman, is acquiring considerable notoriety as an extinguisher of church debts. His last achievement was at Cambridge, Mass., where he succeeded in paying off a little incumbrance of \$75,000 on the First Congregational Church. He has already relieved twenty-six churches from embarrassing indebtedness. He is a poor man; and operates upon the principles, and succeeds in opening the purse-strings of his congregations, who plank down the needful.

At the late session of Austin (white) Conference of the M. E. Church, in Dallas, Texas, eight ministers received appointments, one of whom has since the adjournment of the Conference united with the M. E. Church, South. The Austin Conference includes all their white American congregations in Texas. Four charges are supplied by local preachers.

Of the 391 missionaries sent by the Board of Commissioners for foreign missions, 227 were women.

The congregation at San Marcos, Texas, served by J. S. Gillett, has determined to build a parsonage.

Most of our religious exchanges take a position adverse to the appropriation of public funds to any except primary schools. The poor get very little benefit from institutions of a high grade. And it seems as unreasonable to tax the people to give a boy higher literary or scientific education as to tax the people to give him forty acres and a mule.

Father Chiniquy announces a fresh list of French Canadian converts from Romanism to the number of 109, all of whom have turned within the last few weeks.

The German Lutheran Synod of Maryland has been refused admission to the Union of the West, a body composed of Lutherans and Reformed Germans.

The Supreme Court of Rhode Island has decided that a hospital which is a charitable institution, is not liable for negligence or unskillfulness on the part of the surgeons in attendance.

The will of the late Gardner Chilson, of Mansfield, Mass., bequeathes \$25,000 each to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, American Baptist Missionary Union, and the American Baptist Publication Society; \$5,000 to the Society for the Relief of Indigent Baptist Ministers; \$5,000 to the Mansfield Baptist Church.

The Rev. James H. Eccleston, D.D., of Newark, New Jersey, has been elected bishop of the newly formed diocese of West Virginia. The Rev. S. S. Harris, of Chicago, has been elected bishop of the new diocese of Quincy, Illinois. The Rev. Dr. Knickerbocker has declined the missionary bishopric of Arizona and New Mexico.

Dean Stanley has invited the Rev. Dr. Stoughton, an eminent Congregationalist, to preach in the nave of the Westminster Abbey at the special services on St. Andrew's Day. This is the thick end of the wedge. The Dean began with Max Muller, a layman. Then came Dr. Caird, of the Scotch Kirk, one of Her Majesty's chaplains. Next old Dr. Moffat, the veteran missionary, and father-in-law to Dr. Livingstone. And now, without mitigation or excuse, there comes a Puritan of the Puritans, in his simple character as a minister of Jesus Christ.

Speaking on the subject of supplying growing cities with new churches, the Canada correspondent of the Nashville *Advocate* says: "Now, that such large centers of population are growing in our country, and it seems to be inevitable that cities will increase both in number and size, we should think it would be preferable to build less costly churches, but more of them. Colonizing, rather than centralizing, is the process and plan of nature, and the church would not be any the worse by copying nature in this respect. Mission churches and Sunday-schools among our outlying population, must ever be the agencies to uplift those who are sometimes regarded as the outcasts and dangerous classes who are growing up around us."

A correspondent of the Nashville *Advocate* discusses the question of eligibility to the church membership, and says there is a difference of opinion and in administration among Methodist preachers, some requiring a personal, justifying faith, while others receive those who have made no profession of such a change as is implied in conversion. The Discipline of the church is a very safe guide for a Methodist preacher. He will there find it written that "there is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these societies, 'a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and be saved from their sins.' But where this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits."

A "layman," in the Nashville *Advocate*, rather likes the plan of mortgaging church property to pay debts due the pastor. Other parties have to mortgage their property to pay their honest debts, and why not the church? He adds: "Now, if a few churches were mortgaged and sold to pay these honest debts, perhaps it might lead to a more correct view of the sacredness of such contracts." A provision in the Discipline seems to stand slightly in the way of carrying out "layman's" views. In speaking of the duty of the Joint Board of Finance it says: "In no case shall any preacher have a claim on the church he has served, as of debt, after his pastoral connection has ceased."

In the pastoral address recently put forth by the Bishops of the M. E. Church, we find the following: "There are the public schools, how much do they need of your vigilant oversight and Christian direction? Would it not be well for the Christians of Texas to look a little into the manner in which the public school fund is administered, and the management of our public schools?" If the Christians of our State would interest themselves in this great question of paramount importance, our school money would not be squandered, nor would our public schools become nurseries of vice and infidelity. Our public schools ought not to become sectarian; but they ought to become felt factors in the development of the intellect and improvement of the morals of the youth of the State.

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It is reported that Don Carlos has been ordered to quit France partly because of ex-Queen Isabella's overtures to him. These overtures are supposed to express her displeasure at the marriage of Alfonso.

Gen. Bressalles has been placed on the retired list. The following is said to be the occasion of the order:

Gen. Bressalles called the officers of the garrison into his room and communicated to them instructions which seemed to indicate a coup d'etat. He also made a speech to them about how orders were to be executed, saying, in case of insurrection or commotion, if the insurgents resorted to the stratagem of placing women and children in their front, the soldiers must fire notwithstanding. Major Laborde hereupon protested and resigned his sword. Gen. Borril, Minister of War, on an investigation placed Gen. Bressalles on the unattached list and dismissed Major Laborde for insubordination.

President MacMahon warmly repudiates having ever contemplated a coup d'etat and asserts that as far as he is aware nothing was intended beyond precautions against armed resistance which some papers threatened, should the government have demanded dissolution. Ex-Queen Isabella, in a letter to the Figaro, repudiates the charge that she was in a conspiracy with him against King Alfonso, and asserts that her relations towards Don Carlos were only those which grew out of their relation, he being her nephew, for whom she ever entertained an affectionate regard.

The Epoch, published at Madrid, states that Don Carlos was expelled from France at the request of the Spanish Government.

It is reported in Paris that the Spanish Government has broken off all relations with ex-Queen Isabella.

The Eastern War.

On the 24th the Servians, after eight hours severe fighting, captured Akpalanka with three Krupp guns. Loss of the Turks, seven.

Premier was present the 25th when the bombardment of Nisch commenced.

A Reuter's dispatch says the Erzeroum investment is nearly complete. Russian infantry are massed in the northern part of the plain, and the bombardment of the place and interruption of telegraph lines imminent.

The London Times' correspondent at Vienna says the rejection of the Turkish note by the Powers has enabled the war party at Constantinople to recover full sway.

A Russian war steamer has returned to Sebastopol, after a cruise in the Bosphorus, with a captured Turkish transport with 700 prisoners.

Austria has protested through Prince Wrede, her diplomatic agent, against Serbia extending her action, either warlike or revolutionary, to Bosnia or Herzegovina. Serbia has given formal assurance of the strictest orders restraining hostilities in the direction of Bosnia.

On the 26th ult. the Montenegrines defeated a body of Turks occupying entrenched positions between the river Bollado and the town of Ducigno.

A Reuter's dispatch says the British fleet has left Biscay Bay for the Gulf of Vaila, near Smyrna. The Servians have occupied Leskovalz and Kurshumlje.

Turkish prisoners at Plevna are dying of starvation and cold.

The Servians have captured Pierol, about 35 miles southeast of Nisch.

The bridge across the Danube at Nikopolis has been destroyed by ice.

A Berlin special to the Times says that Russia is sounding various Mediterranean States relative to the opening of the Dardanelles.

The London Advertiser says, officially, that the Sultan has solicited the British Government to approach the Czar with a view to bringing about negotiations for peace, and the British Government has consented to do so.

All operations in the Russian army at Rustchuk have been suspended by the snow, which is two feet deep.

The vanguard of the Russian division, after a very difficult march over snow mountains and frozen foot paths, has occupied the Balkan passes between Aral Konak and Sophia. The Turks were completely surprised.

A request of the British government for information whether Russia is disposed to enter into peace negotiations has been received at St. Petersburg. Nothing definite in the way of reply is announced, though those in position to be informed are of the opinion that Russia will make no harsh reply to the steps taken with the object of preparing the way for peace, but will show herself accessible to any earnest effort for the restoration of peace.

The cold weather has arrested the Russian onward movement.

The Turks have withdrawn from all positions along the River Lom.

The London Times' Vienna correspondent reports that Russia has replied to England's note, that if Turkey desires an armistice she must apply direct to the Russian commander-in-chief. Though this is perhaps conjecture, it is probably the spirit of the answer that will be received. The cold weather and deep snow will suspend active operations, and it is likely the winter's enforced inactivity may incline both parties to listen to terms of peace. Russia will dictate her own terms.

Miscellaneous.

A new assessment has been levied for the completion of the great Roman Catholic Cathedral in New York. A half a million of dollars is needed for the spire and interior decoration. It has already cost about \$2,000,000.

It is expected that President Hayes will send in a message this month in which he will re-assert his purpose of reform.

An anthracite coal combination has been perfected in New York, which secures the reduction of its production so as to advance the price. The fact that the miners will suffer because their work will be stopped, and that the poor may perish from cold because fuel will be so high are small matters when the profits of millionaires are in question.

An awful famine has appeared in the Northern provinces of China, and that government appeals to Great Britain and the United States for aid. When did one heathen nation ever help another in like distress.

Two sailing vessels and a steamer will sail from the United States in February and March under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy with goods for the French Exposition.

A Russian journal claims the capture during the present war from the Turks of 704 cannon, 29 Pashas, and 73,128 officers and men.

A naval court of inquiry reports the Huron a staunch and seaworthy vessel, and attributes her loss and consequent loss of life to bad seamanship.

The channel of the South Pass of the Mississippi has now a channel twenty-two feet deep and two hundred feet wide, and Capt. Eads is therefore entitled to his second half million of dollars from the government of the United States.

Last year the profits of British postoffices amounted to over six millions of dollars.

A deposit of refined coal oil has been struck in the Holden Run district, Pennsylvania, free from the impurities of petroleum, so that it can be used at once, giving a brilliant light without smoke or odor.

The telephone has been worked between Columbus, Ohio, and Chicago, a distance of 375 miles. Will wonders never cease.

The house of the Prince of Montenegro has been blown up. The design was to kill the Prince. He was absent and escaped.

The new iron bridge built on the Ashtabula to replace the one that fell last winter at the cost of so many lives, has been completed and trains run over it.

Over \$15,000,000 in gold and silver have been coined this year, about the amount coined last year, and yet the people are short of pocket money. Who has it?

New quicksilver mines have been discovered in California. The deposits of cinnabar ore in that State seem to be enough to meet the wants of the world. The low price of quicksilver is making some of the mines unprofitable.

The report of Lieut. Walton, of the Life Saving Service, who was ordered to investigate the circumstances in connection with the recent wreck of the Huron, is severe on a fisherman who saw the wreck at 1:30 p. m. of the day of the disaster. Instead of reporting the disaster promptly, though he heard the cry of distress and saw the vessel in a perilous position, he neglected to give warning till the afternoon. He could have given warning in twenty minutes if he desired. Instead of so doing he went home, ate his breakfast, and did not return till 7 o'clock. The delay caused the loss of a number of lives.

Cass, the ex-President of the Security Life Insurance Company, has been sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. He was charged with swearing that the company had \$215,000 in cash, when it had, as was proved on examination, only \$900 in possession; and he swore that the company had \$350,000 in real estate, when it had hardly \$80,000.

Prof. Riley, the entomologist, says the Northwestern plains are the breeding place of the locust. The soil is neither too wet or dry for them. He says no two successive hatchings will take place if they are molested. He asks our government to appoint a police to burn the prairies in the spring where the eggs are hatching, and in smoking the old insects off them on their approach to the grain region. By this means, he thinks, the scourge might ultimately be removed.

Texas Items.

Three hundred and five bales of cotton were shipped from Pittsburg the week ending the 8th ult. The population of that town is increasing rapidly.

Lumber can be bought in any quantity, at East Texas saw mills, at from \$6 to \$10 per 1000 feet.

An employe went into the lint-room of Col. Swift, in Nacogdoches county, with a lighted candle; and now everybody knows that lint caught fire, and the gin, with ten bales of cotton, were burned.

A man in Sherman has a halibut of the time of Charles II.

New comers can remain in the Immigrants' Home at Palestine free of charge for thirty days.

The East Texas University at Tyler has been sold under a mortgage by the East Texas Fire Insurance Company.

J. H. Aldridge, of J. H. Aldridge & Co., of Stephenville, visited our city this week. His store and entire stock were burned last Saturday night. Loss about \$20,000. No insurance. The Empire printing office was also consumed. Our friend Aldridge has our sympathy. But his pluck, enterprise and credit will bring him out.

The people of Hunt county are to vote for or against a new courthouse.

The cotton crop of Texas in 1872 sold for \$2,200,000. That of 1876 brought \$25,331,700, showing an increase of about a million per annum.

A man, by name of Grenet, has bought all the Alamo property, San Antonio, except the church, which Bishop Pellicier reserved, hoping it would be purchased by the State or city.

Fayette county, at the last term of the court, contributed 18 convicts to the penitentiary.

Within one week, men were arrested in Dallas, Houston, and Corsicana for wife-whipping.

A Mrs. Spivy, and her two daughters, in Hunt county, planted, cultivated and picked two bales of cotton. It sold for 10 cents per pound.

Wild turkeys sell for 15 cents a piece at Castroville.

One farmer in Grayson has planted 300 acres in rye.

A man in Houston has made a chair out of ox horns.

A farmer in Grayson found 18 tramps asleep in his hay stack. He thought he was over-cropped.

A piece of iron weighing 130 pounds was found in a bale of cotton near Houston recently. People will be careless.

A Dallas county farmer utilizes a mud hole in a lane near his house by charging ten cents for every wagon which dodges it by going through his field.

A young lady in Red River county has made three bales of cotton off of five acres of land which she cultivated herself. Such a girl will do to "tie to."

Orange trees in the vicinity of Austin are so loaded with fruit that the limbs have to be supported by props.

The Palestine Advocate says the tramp who can travel can work. The trouble is to make the tramp think so.

The Denison News reports three lady teachers of public schools ordered by their landlords to seek new boarding houses. The city has not money to pay the teachers and the teachers are turned into tramps.

Dr. Niehart, of Whitesboro, recently killed a hog which made 520 pounds of pork.

Cotton mills will, ere long, be in operation on the Frio. Northern capital is building them.

A table in Austin is made up of sixty varieties of Texas timber.

It is thought that the cotton shipments of Waco this year will be upwards of 30,000 bales.

Atlanta, Cass county, is four years old and has 1200 inhabitants.

Col. W. A. Fort, of Waco, having bought the Odd Fellows' building at sheriff's sale, immediately conveyed the third floor to the Odd Fellows lodge.

Cooke county has raised a twelve pound turnip.

The first five miles of the Denison and Southeast Railroad is nearly completed.

The Observer says the new penitentiary begins to show finely. The material is excellent and the work first-class.

Lands in Fort Bend county can be bought at from fifty cents to \$50 per acre. Wild bottom lands can be bought at from \$2 to \$5 per acre.

Mr. Tansey, of Fayette county, made three barrels of sugar and 348 gallons of syrup on 2 1/2 acres of ribbon cane.

Dallas county claims the biggest hog. The Commercial reports a hog two years and five months old which weighed 850 pounds.

Beef is to be shipped in refrigerator cars to Cincinnati from Dallas.

Fall wheat in Fayette county is looking well.

Six hundred immigrants passed through Texarkana the 20th ult.

The remains of a mastodon have been found in a sand pit near Dallas.

Mule eared rabbit hunts are popular now in some parts of Texas.

The citizens of Belton are moving toward the establishment of a telegraph line to that point.

Fifty additional cottages are needed to supply the call of tenants in Denison.

Two tan-yards and a boot and shoe and harness shop are in successful operation in Linden, Texas.

The telephone is in successful operation between Galveston and Houston. It is in the G. H. & H. R. R. office.

A Dallas item tells of a man running down Elm street yelling at the top of his voice that he was pursued by five of the biggest kind of snakes. And Bell county wants to get rid of prohibition.

Church News and Views.

The First Baptist Church of Baltimore has sent out 41 ministers.

Mr. Moody is forty years of age and Sankey thirty-seven.

There are upward of 70,000 Sunday schools in the United States, with about 6,000,000 scholars.

The Baptist clergymen of Philadelphia have fixed the tenth day of January as a day of fasting and prayer on account of the hard times.

In 1873 the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America comprised 200 societies; now it has grown to a membership of nearly 600 societies.

Two more Episcopal clergymen—Rev. H. Van Rensselaer, New York, and the Rev. F. Mackall, Baltimore—have withdrawn, and joined the Roman Catholic Church. They were young deacons.

In England the Congregationalists and the Free Communion Baptists are forming organizations for mutual co-operation, and in some instances organic union.

The colored M. E. Church in America now has four Bishops; 600 traveling and 582 local preachers; and 80,000 or 90,000 church members.

Mr. Edward Kimble, a layman, is acquiring considerable notoriety as an extinguisher of church debts. His last achievement was at Cambridge, Mass., where he succeeded in paying off a little incumbrance of \$75,000 on the First Congregational Church. He has already relieved twenty-six churches from embarrassing indebtedness. He is a poor man; and operates upon the principles, and succeeds in opening the purse-strings of his congregations, who plank down the needful.

At the late session of Austin (white) Conference of the M. E. Church, in Dallas, Texas, eight ministers received appointments, one of whom has since the adjournment of the Conference united with the M. E. Church, South. The Austin Conference includes all their white American congregations in Texas. Four charges are supplied by local preachers.

Of the 391 missionaries sent by the Board of Commissioners for foreign missions, 227 were women.

The congregation at San Marcos, Texas, served by J. S. Gillett, has determined to build a parsonage.

Most of our religious exchanges take a position adverse to the appropriation of public funds to any except primary schools. The poor get very little benefit from institutions of a high grade. And it seems as unreasonable to tax the people to give a boy higher literary or scientific education as to tax the people to give him forty acres and a mule.

Father Chiniquy announces a fresh list of French Canadian converts from Romanism to the number of 109, all of whom have turned within the last few weeks.

The German Lutheran Synod of Maryland has been refused admission to the Union of the West, a body composed of Lutherans and Reformed Germans.

The Supreme Court of Rhode Island has decided that a hospital which is a charitable institution, is not liable for negligence or unskillfulness on the part of the surgeons in attendance.

The will of the late Gardner Chilson, of Mansfield, Mass., bequeathes \$25,000 each to the American Baptist Home Missionary Society, American Baptist Missionary Union, and the American Baptist Publication Society; \$5,000 to the Society for the Relief of Indigent Baptist Ministers; \$5,000 to the Mansfield Baptist Church.

The Rev. James H. Eccleston, D.D., of Newark, New Jersey, has been elected bishop of the newly formed diocese of West Virginia. The Rev. S. S. Harris, of Chicago, has been elected bishop of the new diocese of Quincy, Illinois. The Rev. Dr. Knickerbacker has declined the missionary bishopric of Arizona and New Mexico.

Dean Stanley has invited the Rev. Dr. Stoughton, an eminent Congregationalist, to preach in the nave of the Westminster Abbey at the special services on St. Andrew's Day. This is the thick end of the wedge. The Dean began with Max Muller, a layman. Then came Dr. Caird, of the Scotch Kirk, one of Her Majesty's chaplains. Next old Dr. Moffat, the veteran missionary, and father-in-law to Dr. Livingstone. And now, without mitigation or excuse, there comes a Puritan of the Puritans, in his simple character as a minister of Jesus Christ.

Speaking on the subject of supplying growing cities with new churches, the Canada correspondent of the Nashville Advocate says: "Now, that such large centers of population are growing in our country, and it seems to be inevitable that cities will increase both in number and size, we should think it would be preferable to build less costly churches, but more of them. Colonizing, rather than centralizing, is the process and plan of nature, and the church would not be any the worse by copying nature in this respect. Mission churches and Sunday schools among our outlying population must ever be the agencies to uplift those who are sometimes regarded as the outcasts and dangerous classes who are growing up around us."

A correspondent of the Nashville Advocate discusses the question of eligibility to the church membership, and says there is a difference of opinion and in administration among Methodist preachers, some requiring a personal, justifying faith, while others receive those who have made no profession of such a change as is implied in conversion. The Discipline of the church is a very safe guide for a Methodist preacher. He will there find it written that "there is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these societies, 'a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and be saved from their sins.' But where this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits."

A "layman," in the Nashville Advocate, rather likes the plan of mortgaging church property to pay debts due the pastor. Other parties have to mortgage their property to pay their honest debts, and why not the church? He adds: "Now, if a few churches were mortgaged and sold to pay these honest debts, perhaps it might lead to a more correct view of the sacredness of such contracts." A provision in the Discipline seems to stand slightly in the way of carrying out "layman's" views. In speaking of the duty of the Joint Board of Finance it says: "In no case shall any preacher have a claim on the church he has served, as of debt, after his pastoral connection has ceased."

In the pastoral address recently put forth by the Bishops of the M. E. Church, we find the following: "There are the public schools, how much do they need of your vigilant oversight and Christian direction? Would it not be well for the Christians of Texas to look a little into the manner in which the public school fund is administered, and the management of our public schools?" If the Christians of our State would interest themselves in this great question of paramount importance, our school money would not be squandered, nor would our public schools become nurseries of vice and infidelity. Our public schools ought not to become sectarian; but they ought to become felt factors in the development of the intellect and improvement of the morals of the youth of the State.