



Texas Christian Advocate

EDITOR'S NOTICES.

When articles are rejected, we must decline to give reasons therefor.

In preparing articles for publication write on but one side of the paper; otherwise your communications may be thrown into the waste-basket.

Articles refused publication will, in no instance, be returned to writers.

Obituaries should not be over twenty lines; eight words make a line.

Private letters to the editor should be marked "Personal."

Poverty of the Times—Words of Encouragement.

My dear brethren of the West Texas Conference, we will all soon be in our new fields of labor. Some of us will have to pass through severe conflicts. The times are exceedingly trying, nor can we tell when they will be otherwise.

Christ freely gives. Let us freely receive and freely bestow. It is our business to scatter the provisions of mercy liberally all around and to say to our numerous guests, Eat, O friend, drink; yea, drink abundantly, O beloved.

hot dispute. If we propose to have the victory we must not refuse to obtain it at the point of the sword. The Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, must never be sheathed nor must our shield of faith in this Sword ever be cast away, nor prayer ever be relinquished till the conflict be won.

Coffeenville Circuit--Protracted Meetings--Financial Matters and Other Items.

Our last protracted meeting on this work was held at Coffeenville, embracing the second Sunday in this month, commencing on Thursday night before. This was also our last quarterly meeting, and our excellent presiding elder was with us from the commencement, and, although he was in rather feeble health, he did some fine preaching.

I am sorry to say that we had a very small attendance of official members at the quarterly conference, and but little was done toward finishing up the financial business of the circuit.

I am not an "old croaker," nor do I believe that the times upon which we have fallen are worse than the times of our forefathers, or that the world is growing more wicked all the time; but there is one thing I do believe, and that is, with respect to this portion of the county: "The former days were better than these."

I am closing up my labors on the work, endeavoring to get ready for conference. The conference year is fast drawing to a close, and very soon our preachers will go up to Terrell to be "hired out" for another year.

has given us the victory. I speak for myself. By the help of the Lord I have had some success. We have had about sixteen accessions to the church; have baptized twenty children, will perhaps baptize a few more yet; have sold about \$120 worth of books, and secured about thirty-five subscribers to our church papers.

This has been the hardest year's work of my ministerial life, and yet I have not had the degree of success that it was my desire to have. But I am determined to toil on, toil ever, and devote myself earnestly and assiduously to the work of the ministry so long as I am able to work.

The Evil of the Times.

That we might be better understood we pen the following in conclusion: To remedy, correct and check the evils was the object of writing what we have penned. But without action, noble, God-like action, on the part of those to whom the spiritual welfare and happiness of the world is committed, the words penned, like all other articles written, will be but sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.

An immediate quarantine, if we were called upon to suggest, would be what we would advise, against any further encroachments in this direction from our common enemy. And especially to the schoolmen, and those immediately concerned, to whose charge and supervision the great work of education is committed, would we submit the following suggestions: Carry the matter to God in prayer, and by the help of Divine light and wisdom, examine closely the curriculum, and if need be, permit the ecclesiastical pruning knife or religious scalpel. Let it do its work.

There have been those that have objected to everything that is good ever since the world began, and doubtless will continue to raise their standards and array themselves to the end of time. But we write not to these, but for these; for the benefit of these. We hope we address the wise and the good:

Men who love God and wish in all things to keep His commandments. But to the point: Could not writers and readers draw more extensively from the greatest Book to be read in the world—the Bible.

Instead of parsing sentences that train the head for the world, parse and analyse those that qualify the heart for heaven; instead of drawing the figures of rhetoric from the infidel classics, draw from the Bible; instead of laying down premises and drawing conclusions in logic from worldly principles, reason of righteousness and temperance, and judgment to come; instead of puzzling the head so much in working examples and solving problems, and studying to cope with a worldly-minded world, let all these things be so fixed up from the first principles to the outer boundary lines of the great scientific of mathematics as to work out the great mystery of life.

shortness, death, heaven, hell, judgment, destiny, eternal life; work sums, demonstrate problems, figure on examples that reach conclusions like these. Thus on and on in every line, in every branch, in every school, in every book; by every one let this kind of heaven be diffused, this kind of light be disseminated, and we honestly believe it will turn the world upside-down, knock the bottom out of every whisky jug and ale keg, and so turn the tide of human affairs as to soon usher in the long-looked-for period, when the world will be brethren, and the knowledge of the Lord cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. J. R. CROWDER.

O-long to the Graphites.

BY DE DEE, JUNIOR.

Please give our compliment to "Simon, the Tanner, Doctor of Damascus, etcetera," with the sincere hope (desire and expectation) that his embargo upon the "graphs" will prove as effectual as the Texas quarantine against the yellow fever.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, Monday morning, Oct. 28, 1878.

I will be off in a few days for the "outside row." I feel the responsibility of the work, but in the fear of God I go cheerfully, and if I fall, my work is only done of earth.

The large steam cotton gin of Dillard & Smith was burned this evening; total loss. They have our sympathy; they are good men; their loss is heavy.

My friend, the Rev. T. C. Greenwood (Baptist), now in the practice of law at Luling, was much pleased and is much interested in our work on the Mexican border.

LIVE OAK MISSION, ST. ELMO, TEXAS, Nov. 7.—Have just closed a second revival meeting at Pleasant Hill. The first embraced the first and second Sunday of last month.

Rev. Phillip Brooks says: "Our Christianity must be growth. Christianity is knowing Christ. Knowledge only comes by experience, and experience takes time. I cannot know a person you introduce me to as I could know a truth clearly stated. I may be very glad to meet him, to begin an acquaintance on your recommendation; but I cannot know him till he shows himself to me. There is no influence that can help a man like the constant, half-unconscious presence of a friend whom he thoroughly respects and loves.

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Reminiscences of a Texas Itinerant.

NUMBER EIGHT.

The fifth session of the East Texas Conference was held at Paris, in November, 1849; Bishop Paine presiding. Two mortifying occurrences disturbed me at this meeting: First—Two Methodist preachers had just been turned out of jail, having been charged with forgery and horse stealing. Second—I was charged before the conference with having whipped a negro. The facts in the case were, briefly: The negro had entered my house, broken open trunks, scattered papers, stolen a gun, blanket, etc. When he was captured, I told the owner that I must either whip him to my own satisfaction; or prosecute him, which, under the law, would cost him his life. The owner consented that I might whip him till I was satisfied. I gave him a good whipping. All would have ended there, but for some free-soilers in the neighborhood, who thought it a great outrage, and caused the charge to be preferred against me. I plead guilty, and confessed that I would do the like again under the same circumstances. The Bishop pleaded in my defense, and declared that he would have done the same thing under the aggravating circumstances. The conference acquitted me. The Bishop perceiving some bitterness of spirit toward me in certain quarters, proposed to transfer me back to my old conference home and place me in a comfortable station. Under the circumstances, I confess the proposition presented a strong temptation. My wife and self in wretched health, my means exhausted, made our future in Texas gloomy indeed. Added to this, a spirit of envy and persecution in the church, and a few preachers to help. But upon reflection, I told the Bishop I had come to Texas to live, labor, suffer, and die, and I believed I would worry it through.

At this session my district was cut down to such dimensions that I could travel it with more convenience. I soon moved to Palestine, the head of the district, where the kind friends gave me a piece of land, and assisted in erecting me a neat and comfortable cottage, in which my wife and self felt once more at home among warm friends. The year passed away pleasantly; health returned; work enough to do on the district, and between quarterly meetings all my time was employed in fitting up our little home. As the next session of the conference was to be held at Palestine, the brethren undertook the erection of a church, 50x36 feet. This was quite an enterprise for that day and time. The members were generally poor, but spirited and liberal. By hard begging at home and in the country we succeeded in getting the house up and temporarily seated for the conference. During this year, (1850), there was a heavy immigration from the "States" to the counties of Anderson, Cherokee and Smith, indeed to all Eastern Texas. It was not uncommon in traveling through those countries to find families in camps, while they were cutting logs to build cabins, clearing lands, etc. There were no vacant houses to be obtained, or lands to be rented—all had been taken in the fall. The population in several counties had been doubled in that single year. This gave a large increase to our membership, and stirred and quickened the energies of the church. Our great drawback was the want of houses of worship of sufficient capacity and comfort to accommodate the congregation. We had some gracious revivals of religion on the district. The membership increased about one hundred per cent. Long will I, with others, remember some of the camp-meetings of this season. Many souls passed from death unto life.

More anon. J. W. F. BUFFALO RANGE, WEST FERRY.

Ways to Pay or the Advocate.

"The year is most out for the Advocate, and I reckon we will have to do without it next year," said Mrs. Hamilton, after a few moments of silent reflection. "O, mother, don't say so," quickly responded her daughter Annie. "We are in debt, my child, and must curtail expenses as much as possible." "Don't diminish our food for the mind, mother; if you must retrench, commence with some of the luxuries in which we indulge—tobacco and snuff, for instance. They are neither improving nor beneficial." "Dear me! You know I cannot do without my snuff; and your papa cannot do without his tobacco."

"But, mother, the ADVOCATE costs only five cents a week. One little piece of tobacco less every week, a small quantity of snuff less, one cigar less, one glass of beer less, or one ride on the street car less, would pay for the paper for an entire year, and mother,

since there are four of us to read the paper, we might divide the expenses, and that would be one cent and one-fourth for each of us to save from some indulgence." "Well, child, if you can get your papa and Fred to do with less tobacco, I'll try to do with less snuff." "Well, mother, I'll go and see right now." "O, brother, here you are reading the ADVOCATE!" "Yes, Annie, do you want it?" "O, no; but mother is talking about stopping it. She says we must economise somewhere. But we can't do without the ADVOCATE; that would be like losing an old friend. Would you do with less tobacco, or one cigar less a week?" "Yes, I'd quit it altogether rather than do without the paper." "Brother, if you will leave off smoking, I'll leave off dipping; and what we save by giving up such indulgences would pay for several papers; and I'm sure it would do us much more good in reading matter."

"Agreed; and I've been thinking that we need more reading matter. A good literary and scientific paper would be money in the pocket; and a lady's magazine would be useful to you and mother. Is it true a paper costs so little? Only five cents a week! why, any one could save that much, and never feel it. It never occurred to me before how easy it is to have a good religious paper."

"Yes, brother, only save five cents a week from some useless indulgence, and we may have an excellent weekly paper to read and enjoy at leisure hours." NORA. ANDERSON, TEXAS, Nov. 1, 1878.

SALUTING IN THIBET.—The customs of different countries are so widely different that what is considered rudeness in one is politeness in the other. This is strikingly seen in the mode of salutation in Thibet. There, when one gentleman meets another and wishes to be polite to him, he not only takes off his hat but sticks out his tongue and scratches his right ear. Such a salute among us would be sure to cause mortal offense, and would be likely to suggest another kind of licking. But the people of Thibet are decidedly queer. Their lamas, or priests, are their doctors; and when they have not the drug they want at hand they write the name of it on a piece of paper and give it to the patient to swallow. They say it does as well, and in the case of some drugs this is quite impossible. They also pray with a medicine. A prayer is written on a cylinder, and every time this is turned the prayer is supposed to be uttered. After the barrel has been turned rapidly for a while it will go round itself; and thus a man may go on with his devotions while he is busy about something else. Another way of multiplying devotions is for a man to make the circuit of a temple, carrying a load of prayer-books. He imagines that he thus repeats all the prayers in the book at once.

REVERENCE IN THE PULPIT.—The pulpit is a sacred place. It is the altar of God. It is the audience-chamber of Jehovah into which the preacher and man of God enters to deliver solemn messages, and make supplications for the sins of the people, and offer praise and thanksgiving. There he stands between the living and the dead in sin.

There is no place on earth where human feet stand so burdened with fearful responsibilities to God and to man, as the pulpit of salvation. "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet," said God to Moses in the presence of the burning bush, "for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God," said Solomon. Invisible angels stand around every pulpit, and the Son of God is there looking on, and sees and hears.

No monarch of earth admits his subjects to his throne-room so heedlessly as many enter the pulpit—the throne-room of God. Many pastors and preachers enter the pulpit and reverently bend the knee in silent prayer. Others enter the pulpit as if in haste, and, without a pause, lay hold of the Bible—God's own book—and rudely turn over its sacred leaves as if it was a ledger or commonplace day-book. It is not suited to inspire a holy reverence in the hearts and minds of a worshipping assembly. It is not done "decently and in order," becoming the house of God.

The Newfoundland Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada has recently established a mission among the people of the Labrador coast, who are comparatively destitute of religious privileges.

The Missionary Society of the Evangelical Association received last year about \$82,000, which was expended on home and foreign missions. The net resources of the publishing House amount to \$282,292, into which \$500,000 has been





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PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

AGENTS sending us new subscribers or renewals will please attach to their signatures the word "AGENCY."

THE date on the address of your paper indicates the expiration of subscription. Renew at least two weeks in advance to prevent losing a number.

ADVERTISING RATES: One-half inch one insertion..... \$1.50

Table with columns for 'Space' and '1 Mo 2 Mos 3 Mos 6 Mos 1 Year' showing advertising rates.

CHANGES—Any advertisement may be changed monthly free of charge. For double column advertisements 25 per cent. added to the regular rates.

LADIES out of employment should secure territory to introduce that superb book for women, Buckeye Cookery and Practical Housekeeping.

Notice. The members of the North Texas Conference who intend bringing their wives to Terrell to attend conference will please inform me at once.

Notice. Applicants for admission on trial in the North Texas Annual Conference will meet the committee at the Methodist church in Terrell, Nov. 19th, at 9 A. M.

Notice. Dear Brethren—it is respectfully requested of each of you who will be accompanied by your wife to the session of the conference, to inform me at the earliest date practicable.

Notice. The undergraduates of the Third Year's Class will meet the committee for the same at the Methodist church, in Tyler, on Tuesday morning at nine o'clock, December 10th.

Notice. The Class of the Second Year, Texas Conference, will meet the committee at the Methodist church in Chappell Hill, Dec. 3d, at 9 A. M.

Notice. The friends and patrons of the old Davidson House will bear in mind that Mrs. J. H. Davidson has removed to the more convenient and commodious house known as the Central Hotel.

Just Issued. A new quarterly Conference Journal (printed forms) arranged for the order of business as laid down in the new Discipline.

Through arrangements made with Messrs. Blessing & Bro., photographers of this city, we are enabled to furnish individual photographs of the members of the West Texas Conference at the low price of \$2.25 per dozen.

Blessing & Bro. The old Established and Reliable Photographers of Texas.

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The Centaur Liniments are of two kinds. The White is for the human family the Yellow is for horses, sheep and other animals.

APPOINTMENTS OF THE NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE

BISHOP J. C. KEENER, D.D., Presiding.

Table with columns: APPOINTMENTS, PLEASER, POSTOFFICE. Lists names and locations for various districts.

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OUR POSTAL CARDS.

PERDIDO P. O., TEXAS, Nov. 4, 1878.—"Sow the seed by the wayside." Just after conference I entered the bounds of the Cibola circuit.

GUADALUPE COUNTY, TEXAS, Nov. 5, 1878.—We have a very peaceable neighborhood. The election passed off quietly.

SEGUIN, TEXAS, Nov. 2, 1878.—Fearfully dry here. Stock suffering in many sections. Mornings chilly.

BELTON, TEXAS, Nov. 2, 1878.—INCIDENTS.—At a dining in Fayette county a Mr. Scallon had 75 of his children and children's children in attendance.

STEPHENSVILLE, TEXAS, October 25, 1878.—Cotton crops in Erath county are unusually large, and are being rapidly gathered.

FOOTPRINTS.—"What is that, father?" asked Benny. "It is a footprint, my son, and it is a sign that some one came into our front yard last night."

PERDIDO P. O., TEXAS, Nov. 4, 1878.—I attended Bro. Wool's Sunday-school last Sunday. There were over one hundred pupils present.

SEGUIN, TEXAS, Nov. 8, 1878.—Reached my first appointment Sunday, Nov. 3; had good congregations and well-behaved.

ROCKDALE, MILAM CO., TEXAS, Nov. 7, 1878.—The result of the election is a large Democratic majority. The closest contest in the county was between Livingston and Wolf.

PRAIRIE LEA, TEXAS, Oct. 25, 1878.—We desire through the Advocate to return our (Mrs. H. and myself) thanks to the ladies of Leesville circuit for the many tokens of kindness.

UNANSWERED LETTERS. J. M. Bond—subscribers..... M Hamlet—will hand to editor..... J. C. Clark—address changed.....

MERIDIAN, TEXAS, Nov. 8, 1878. We are now two days' drive from Belton, the site of our conference; find the people on the way well pleased with their preachers for the ensuing year.

A friend of ours has a little boy, who, on account of his mother being an invalid, has been under the special care of his nurse.

SEGUIN, TEXAS, Nov. 11, 1878.—Fine rain here night before last, November 9. Sun out; bright and warm again yesterday evening.

BELTON, TEXAS, Nov. 2, 1878.—Some years ago, a certain eminent Methodist preacher, on the text, "Train up a child in the way he should go," said the original was "she shignon, said by she shignon," which means "to sit them on a grindstone and grind them to a point."

LONDON, Nov. 8.—A Rueter telegram from Constantinople says Russia is establishing a second line of defense at Adrianople. Several prominent Turks believe that the attitude of the Russians in Roumelia will lead to war with England and Turkey.

PARIS, Nov. 10.—Count Schouvaloff was one of the passengers on the Russian imperial yacht Livadia, which was swamped and subsequently thrown on the rocks while on her passage from Livadia to Odessa.

LONDON, Nov. 8.—A special from Paris says the health of the Czar is becoming more unsatisfactory, and causes great anxiety. Count Schouvaloff has left Livadia for London, the state of the Emperor's health not now permitting the solution of the pending political difficulties.

The weather is cold and wet. Telegrams from northern and east Europe announces heavy snow falls, and that black frost covers the ground. The Swiss passes are blocked with snow.

"I don't understand you, father," Benny said. "Well, who made all these beautiful flowers, these splendid trees, the clouds in the sky, the great round earth, and the mighty sun flaming in the heavens, and started the bright moon to rolling round the world?"

"O, God, to be sure!" "Then all these things are but footprints of the Creator. They are the sign that there is a Creator, and that He has been here. See this ice-plant I hold—man could never have made; see all the glistening grass; hear all the chirping birds—man did not, could not, make them! God made them, and they are all simple 'footprints' of the great Creator, to prove to us that there is a good and great God whom we love, worship and obey. Do you understand?"

"Yes, father, I understand very well now, and I thank you for teaching me that lesson."

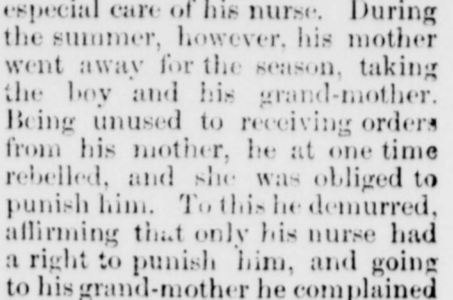
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WANTED—A GOOD MAN FOR EVERY STATE and Territory in the Union; fair salary paid. Call or address LaBelle Manufacturing Co., 26 Clark St., Chicago.

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SINGING CLASSES.

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