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WE are almost daily in receipt of requests for renewals, including back numbers of the ADVOCATE. We are anxious to comply with the requests—yet, because of the rapid increase in our circulation, endeavoring as we do to meet the demand, we are frequently left without a copy of an issue. We are, therefore, frequently unable to meet the request for back numbers.
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MANY of our religious exchanges have what may be intended for a "funny column." We are getting a little sore on the subject of seeing Texas held up to ridicule in these excerpts. For instance we clip the following from a Southern Methodist paper. When it is known that Texas has a very stringent law against carrying deadly weapons except in frontier counties liable to Indians raids, it will be difficult to see where the laugh comes in:

"Good church members in Texas trust in Providence, but they also believe in keeping their powder dry. Thus we read that at a recent general baptism in that State the other day, when the fourteen candidates walked down to the water, fifteen revolvers were deposited on the bank of the stream, that of the preacher making the fifteenth."

Here is another from a Northern periodical of the same denomination:

"Two old Texas rangers, who had just helped to bury a neighbor, were talking about religion; and one asked the other how pious he thought it was possible for a man to get in this world if he was in real earnest. 'Wa'al,' said the other, reflectively, 'I think, of a man gets so 'he can swap steers or trade horses without lynin', 'at he'd better pull out for the better land afore he has a relapse.'"

SOUTHERN METHODISM.

Bishop Paine has declined visiting the Virginia Springs, and has returned to his home in Mississippi. We trust that rest has renewed his strength.

A revival is reported in Macon, Ga., in which about seventy conversions are reported.

Dr. McFerrin has been in Memphis, holding, in company with the pastors, a meeting in the interest of the Book Concern. The Western Methodist reports the meeting, but does not give the net results, but intimates that it is less than should have been raised.

The Raleigh Christian Advocate reports a revival at Edenton Street M. E. Church, South, at Raleigh, resulting in 162 conversions; and another at Person Street Church, resulting in 82 conversions.

Rev. W. M. Patterson, superintendent of our missions in the City of Mexico, urges the need of a training school, and suggests that such an institution be established as a special enterprise. He has several applications from young men who desire to preach, and need training.

Dr. McNally, of the St. Louis Christian Advocate, has been taking a week's rest. In that time he traveled 640 miles by rail, 50 by buggy; preached 5 times, and delivered three literary addresses, and came back to his labors refreshed. We understand that philosophy. When one is tired standing on one foot stand on the other, change the burden from one shoulder to the other; it rests a horse to change his gait. The same is true of editor or preacher.

The M. E. Church, South, has 798,862 members, and numbers 3,458 traveling and 5,772 local preachers; and her reports last year show an increase of 24,170. Is \$120,000 for foreign missions too much?

Judge Jas. Jackson, of Georgia, has been elected one of the vice-presidents of the American Bible Society.

EXETER Hall, London, which has been for half a century the annual meeting place of most of the religious and benevolent societies of England, is threatened with destruction.

Substitutes for Worldly Pleasures.

Not long since the writer was at church. The house was crowded. The minister opened the services in the usual way, reading for our instruction, and also as a preface to his subsequent remarks, the first part of the eighth chapter of the gospel by Matthew, and used for a text the 11th and 12th verses of the same. His discourse was replete with thought from beginning to end, and excited the thinking faculties of every adult in the audience. His principal object was to show the hindrances to the spread of the gospel from its first promulgation through the lapse of years to the present time. He dwelt at length upon the primitive state of the church, and elaborated every considerable hindrance, holding his audience spell-bound as he expatiated upon the infancy of the church, and the various hindrances that obstructed the spread of the gospel, thence on through the dark ages that intervened until he reached the present time. Here in the blaze of gospel day, even in enlightened America, in the nineteenth century, the hindrances seemed to have multiplied with the number of years through which the church had passed. But, to the utter astonishment of many of us, his principal hindrance at the present time, was that the church on receiving members into her fold endeavored to clip off all the pleasures and recreations of their former lives, without offering any substitute. At this point the minister paused for a brief moment, appeared somewhat in agonies, as the painter was over his Olymthian captive when he was so eager to paint the dying groans, so that he could portray more fully the sufferings of Prometheus, then held before the imagination of his spell-bound audience a deep drawn, highly colored picture of the sinner just emerged from the sinks of sin, closely shorn of all the pleasures of earth, of all the amusements and recreations attendant upon the sons and daughters of Adam's lost race whilst in a state of nature. Milton's picture of the Arch Fiend when first hurled from the battlements of heaven, exclaiming with all the fervor of his soul, "Me, miserable, which way shall I fly," was not more lifelike drawn. Then he held up before the gaze of our imagination the poor escaped sinner, surrounded by an unsympathizing church, gloating in human misery, and never once reaching forth a hand to offer the least substitute for all the gilded pleasures removed either by the scalpel of the church, or wrecked by the soul in its struggles to reach the shores of immortal bliss, upon which he had believed there stood millions with open arms beckoning him on, ready to receive him and heal with the 'balm of Gilead' all the festering sores inflicted by the pruning knife of the church of the living God in amputating the pleasures and recreations of life. But, alas! alas! no balm, no comfort, no pleasure, no recreation, not even sympathy, is offered by the members of 'Christ's Body' After holding before our minds this strange picture of sad disappointment, drawn in pathetic strains, the minister closed without even suggesting a substitute, leaving his congregation to grope in the dark in search of something to offer in lieu of the lost pleasures. Now, brethren, I fear that pruning knife and scalpel will thin out our congregations, and sinners will turn from us in horror; for none of us dare to offer anything beyond a reiteration of those of the bleeding Savior. More than he has offered we dare not. Can we do more? Shall we offer substitutes for him? Shall we sugarcoat his promises in order to cause the world to receive them? OBSERVER.

"Escape for thy Life."

Thirty years ago there stood in one of the squares of the town of Valenciennes a fine old Gothic tower. Its history I do not know; but at that time it was commonly called *le tour du beffroi*; because the alarm bell was hung within it; and as it was remarkably lofty, the watchman could see from its upper windows over a great extent of the country, and ring the tocsin when a fire or other cause of alarm occurred either in the town or in the neighborhood.

It was said that the tower itself gave certain signs of decay, and it was apprehended that before long it would fall. It leaned rather to one side; and, if it came down, it was feared that it would fall not toward the open square, but on a row of houses which lay to the left.

For some days the passers-by had seen small portions of stone or cement detaching themselves from the tower. The town architect confirmed the general apprehensions; and the inhabitants of the neighboring houses were officially informed of their danger, and received notice to quit at once their premises. Great was their alarm, and hurriedly they gathered together what they could of their goods and chattels, and removed to safer quarters.

One old woman could not be induced to leave any of her furniture or clothing behind her. Yet the tower seemed to lean more and more. Large bits of stone, under the pressure, fell down the side. Some one hinted that the old woman still remained in her house. Soon afterward she was seen at her door. The excited crowd called her to come away. She would not; but still continued to bring out old chairs, food and clothing. At length a generous young man rushed to her rescue, bringing her forcibly away, with whatever of her goods he could grasp in his arms. Shouts of applause greeted him on his return from his perilous and courageous expedition.

Every moment the final catastrophe was expected, when suddenly, whilst all eyes were fixed on the tower, the old woman made a rush into the house. "I must have another chair," she exclaimed, and disappeared inside the house. At the same moment, the tower, with an awful crash, fell, and crushed almost to powder the row of houses and all they contained!

A Sunday-school Hounded.

Last Sunday a little half-grown hound followed his mistress to church. The novelty of his surroundings led him to claim a place in the Sunday-school. After being kicked out a time or two, he was allowed to settle down in a corner of the church and remain during the recitation of the Sunday-school lesson, which was performed with more than usual interest. The lesson was the Holy Spirit promised. The Holy Spirit seemed to accompany the lesson. Much good feeling was manifest throughout the school. After recitation, the beautiful Sunday-school song, "O think of a home over there," was sung, till we came to the chorus. Brutus,

no longer able to restrain his feelings, deliberately rose to his feet, and with his nose elevated to an angle of forty-five degrees, joined the chorus with the hunter's melody, so peculiar to the hound tribe. To say the scene was ludicrous would hardly be sufficient. No one was reproved for smiling on that occasion. It was with difficulty the superintendent maintained his gravity. The concert was ended by a thoughtful youngster putting Brutus outside the house, where all well raised dogs are kept. I will moralize: Brethren and others should keep their dogs at home on Sunday, even if they must be chained. Whoever saw a dog at church that did not make himself conspicuous in some way? There are some little points of dog-etiquette. Who will stand security for a dog's behavior at church? I never saw a dog that did not seem to think it the height of politeness to act the dog in company. A beautiful, soul-stirring song was spoiled by a little hound-pup following the instincts of his nature in the church. I have known many good sermons injured by the noise of quarrelling and barking dogs. It is at all times difficult for the preacher to get the ear of sinners. How much more so when Satan has a dog to assist him in drawing their minds away from the word. I am just thinking that a great many wayside hearers are those who are trying to hear while dogs are growling and barking. M. B. S.

"I Wish He Had Lived."

The other day when a burly big driver of a cart backed his vehicle up to the alley gate of an old house in Detroit to dump out half a ton of coal, some children came out of the side door, and the driver beckoned them near and said: "Last time I was here one of the wheels crushed a bit of a dog belonging to one of you. I heard a great crying out, but I can't be stopping to look out for dogs on the street."

The children made no reply, but as they watched him unload the cart they wondered if he had little children of his own, and if he ever spoke kindly to them. He may have felt the burden of their thoughts, for suddenly he looked up and said: "Well, I own I am a bit sorry, and being as I knew as I was coming up, I brought along an orange to give to the child who owned the dog. Which of you is it?"

"The dog belonged to little lame Billy in that house there," answered a girl. "It was all the dog he ever had, and when you killed it he cried himself almost to death. He didn't never have any plaything but that little dog."

"And will you take him this orange?"

"I can't, sir, 'cos he's dead, and they're coming to take him to the graveyard pretty soon."

The driver looked up and down, seemed to ponder the matter, and then he crossed to the other house. The little coffin and its burden was in the front room, and two or three old women were wiping away their tears and talking in low tones. The driver put his hand on the closed coffin and said: "I didn't know it was his dog—I didn't know he was lame and sick. God forgive me if I made sorrow for him!"

The vehicle sent to convey the body to the cemetery drove up at that moment, and the burly big man continued:

"If he was alive I'd buy him anything he could ask. I can do nothing now but carry him softly out."

He gently took up the coffin in his stout arms and carried it out, his eyes moist and his lips quivering, and when he had placed it in the vehicle he looked up at the driver in a beseeching way, and whispered:

"Drive slow; drive slow! He was a poor little lame boy!"

The driver wondered, but he moved away slowly, and the coal cartman stood in the center of the street, and anxiously watched till he was off the cobblestones. Then as he turned to his own vehicle he said: "I didn't mean to, but I wish he had lived to forgive me!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

LEESVILLE, Gonzales Co. June 7. Weather extremely dry. No rain since April 24th. Am just back from a trip to Cuero, forty miles distant. Found it dry all the way. rain must come in a few days or all early corn will fail. Some cotton looking well and can wait for rain some time longer, but would do better if we had it now. —J. T. GILLET.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Nueces Co.—Our third quarterly meeting for station commenced May 31, and continued six days. We had some conversions and received eight into the church; four by letter and four by ritual. Keep up the postal department of the ADVOCATE. Induce your tobaccoist correspondents to use them; and also those who write on "disintegration and absorption."—H. S. T.

BELTON, Bell Co., June 10.—Last Friday Williamson Branch Council U. F. T., celebrated their fourth anniversary, with a grand picnic. All the councils in the county were invited, W. B. and Mt. Vernon councils had banners. Four speeches were delivered. They were good. Five or six hundred persons present. Plenty of dinner and of such quality as to satisfy the most exacting epicurean. It was a very happy occasion, and King Alcohol received a black eye; may it be a sore eye to him many a long year. A fine country and people at Williamson Branch.—J. S. CLOWER.

VELASCO, Brazoria Co., June 10. We held our second quarterly conference at H. C. on the 24th day of May. Our P. E. was not with us. Bro. G. H. Phair came in his place and preached two good sermons for us. The church was revived. Our P. E. is a worker and is liked all over the circuit. Chocolate and Austin bayous are improving. They have over paid their assessment and say they will pay more. They have a weekly prayer and class-meeting, and a good Sunday-school. The quarterly conference decided to have a camp-meeting this year, to be held on the east side of Bastrop bayou, to commence on first Thursday in July; and also to extend an invitation to yourself, Bros. N. A. Cravens and J. H. Shapard, of Columbia. Hope you will all come. We need a revival on our work. We lost twenty members last year, all young people; hope we will get them back again. The meeting is self-sustaining.—J. T. SHANNON.

GROESBECK, Limestone Co., June 9.—I suppose a few lines will not be amiss from Groesbeck and Central Institute circuit. I found this charge without a dollars' worth of church property and no prayer-meetings or Sabbath-schools. We now have prayer-meetings at both appointments, and two Sabbath-schools, that have been moving uninterruptedly for eighteen months, through winter's cold and summer's heat—manned by wide-awake officers and teachers and well supplied with our own literature. We have a parsonage and a nice plot of ground in Groesbeck and at the Institute. We have secured seven acres of land in one of the most beautiful groves in the country, the land has three good buildings on it, and is just the place of all places in the district for a high school. A noted place, good water, fine shade, and a school of high grade has been run there for eight years; and, by the way, we are to have a new Methodist church in Groesbeck. Contract let, and lumber ordered, and before the 16th of July, the time for holding our district conference, we expect, the Lord willing, to have it ready for occupancy, and we hereby cordially invite not only the itinerant part of the ADVOCATE force, but "our Shaw" and the force entire to attend the conference. We ask in Jesus' name the prayers of the preachers and people, that God may bless us with a great revival. —R. H. H. BURNETT.

CANTON, Smith Co., June 2.—Methodist Sunday-schools.—Why can we not have a Methodist Sunday-school in every town and community where we can get ten children? We can if we will. Some say that it will not do in a union-house, nor where Methodists are in the minority. Let me tell about our school in Canton: About two months ago we organized with about thirty members. The community is chiefly Baptist, and we have a union-house. There was a

union school in operation with about sixty or seventy members when we organized. What is the result? We now have about seventy members, including officers and teachers. Those who opposed the move at first now send their children and give liberally to support our school. We asked our friends to give us a fair trial before condemning us, and the result is they are well pleased with our effort to save the youth of this community. If God be for us, who can be against us? Will our brethren all over Texas try this, especially on Overton and Troupe circuit? The ADVOCATE is a welcome visitor in our family.—C. D. WILSON.

WOOD, Panola Co., June 9.—Seeing nothing from Buena Vista circuit, and our pastor being unable to use his right hand in writing, I send you this note. The weather is very dry, yet rain in a few days will suffice. Religion will about compare with the church of the Laodiceans. Bro. Watkins, our pastor, is very diligent, stirring us up to a sense of our duty. There are some indications, however, of the wanderers' return. I have already hinted at our beloved preacher having to use his left hand for writing; but when he comes to preaching it is vice versa and no mistake; for he rightly divides the word, giving to each his portion in due season, whether he be saint or sinner. He is beloved by all who love God and His cause; but rather to the contrary by those who serve the devil and obey his mandates. He is plain and uncompromising in regard to any of the stratagems of the devil in the plays, the dance, the church festivals, and all of which are fast bringing reproach upon our beloved Methodism. O, for more preachers of his stamina.—J. B. ARMSTRONG.

DAINGERFIELD, Morris Co., June 10.—The new church at Hayes' Springs, on the East Line Railroad, was dedicated Sunday last by Bro. M. H. Neely, of Jefferson. The East Line Company ran an excursion train both ways (from Jefferson and Daingerfield), and the whole country was covered with the people. At an early hour it was discovered that the house would ill accommodate even the ladies, and a proposition was made to adjourn to the grove around the springs, which was done accordingly. At 11:30 A. M., the crowd having quieted as much as possible, divine service began. Brother Neely's main fort is pulpit oratory; but on this occasion, notwithstanding the confusion, he seemed to let loose his surcharged artillery of "logic on fire," toned and sanctified by the divine unction. Few, if any, went away unfed, and the verdict of all was that it was a grand triumph. Much honor is attached to Bro. R. G. Sewell, who, since conference, has built two new churches and a splendid parsonage—and all under very inauspicious circumstances. May the Lord of the vineyard send more such workers into it.—J. W. HILL.

PINE HILL, Rusk Co., June 11.—I was called upon to attend a Sunday-school picnic on the 24th of May, at Caledonia, and of course I went, and I have not repented. I was truly glad to be there because I met with Bro. J. B. Hall, preacher in charge of Pine Hill, and who added no little to the interest of the occasion by a well-timed and appropriate speech to the Sunday school children, and then there was a host of the Garrison family, my old Georgia acquaintances, who know just how to make a preacher feel at home on such occasions, and a large concourse of people, the most orderly, genteel and polite with whom it has been my fortune to meet in some time. We met in a bottom, one mile from Caledonia, and after seats were arranged and the people seated, the exercises opened by singing, reading of the scriptures, then singing and afterwards prayer by the writer; then Brother Hall's telling speech. I then exhorted after him on the subject of parental obligation in the religious training of children. Mr. Truit, of Shelby county, editor of the *Champion*, then addressed the audience in appropriate remarks in reference to the courtesies extended to him on the occasion, and, of course, as editors always do, alluded in a modest way to the claims of his excellent paper. Then such a dinner as the good ladies of Caledonia spread before us, it is useless to attempt a description. Taken all in all, it was a success.—J. C. A. BRIDGES.

Our Postal Cards.

BRYAN, June 14.—Please let me say that "altars have been erected," as written by me, and not "created," as printed in your last issue.—H. V. PHILPOTT.

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Our Postal Cards.

FORT WORTH, Tarrant Co., June 9.—We are laboring on in the fifth week of our meeting. Hope smiles reviving round. All glory to Jesus.—M. H. WELLS.

SPRINGTOWN, Parker Co., June 10.—Money scarcer than at any time since the war, and a drouth for five weeks. Corn suffering; wheat and oats light; one-half a crop of cotton may yet be made, if it rains in time.—W. A. PATTERSON.

Beaumont, Jefferson Co., June 9. Mistakes are not haystacks; if so, I would buy me a pony. Beaumont is in Jefferson county. Had a fine rain here on 5th inst. The church is being painted. At Orange received five by letter, baptized one infant.—W. T. BURK.

CORSICANA, Navarro Co., June 7. Please correct mistake in Brother Mackey's letter from this point, in issue of June 7th. The assessment for home missions is \$48, instead of \$28. We expect to pay \$50 within the sixty days. Have sent the treasurer of Foreign Mission Board, J. W. Manier, of Nashville, \$25.—JAMES CAMPBELL.

MADISONVILLE, Madison Co., June 11.—Closed a meeting at Madisonville on the 8th inst. Had ten added to the church, five by certificate and five by profession of Christ. Baptized three adults and two children. Members of the church brought nearer to each other and to Christ. Crops suffering for want of rain. Health not generally good.—G. S. SANDEL.

TEXANA, Jackson Co., June 9. The third quarterly meeting is past. Owing to sickness, the preacher in charge was absent. The Presiding Elder, Bro. Killough, was on hand, and the brethren say, did fine work. The finances were well up, as is the custom of this people. A good rain a week ago—bland smile on all faces. We are now enjoying roasting-ears and mellons.—M. A. BLACK.

VELASCO, Brazoria Co., May 30. Weather is dry again, but crops may be fine yet. No voting done here for senator. We are prospering religiously. There will be a self-sustaining camp-meeting at the ferry, on Bastrop Bayou, beginning Thursday before the first Sunday in July. Provision will be made for entertaining visiting ministers only.—SAMUEL H. WILLIAMS.

TRINITY COUNTY, June 8.—The people of Trinity county and other counties, will be bound to suffer if the farmers don't get rain within ten days. Five weeks to-night since the last rain. Corn is suffering very much; cotton not suffering so very much. We have a good Sunday-school at this church; (Pleasant Hill, M. E. Church, South.) Our pastor is a good man and a good preacher.—AUSTIN BRASHER.

JACKSBORO, Jack Co., June 7.—Third quarterly meeting for Jacksboro and Center Station over. Bro. Price, P. E., was with us in the power of the spirit. The church revived; two adults baptized, and five united with the church. Weather very dry; grass, corn and cotton dying for want of rain. If it does not rain within ten days our country will be almost ruined.—W. V. JONES.

DAVILLA, Milam Co., June 11.—Just closed a precious meeting at Friendship, five miles east of this place. Christians advanced in knowledge and grace; fourteen additions to the church; twelve conversions. Examination of Davilla Masonic Institute progressing to the satisfaction of the large crowd in attendance. Heat 99°. Drouth disastrous to farming. Health good.—H. M. GLASS.

FORT WORTH, Tarrant Co., June 9.—Burglars entered through a broken window a back room of this parsonage Saturday night last. The room was used as a general wardrobe and place of deposit for articles of clothing not in use. They displayed good taste in taking the most valuable articles, and enough to make the loss seriously felt. We are much damaged. This is our first loss of the kind in that way.—M. H. WELLS.

WEBBERVILLE, Williamson Co., June 5.—Basket meeting was a pleasant and profitable time; a large congregation; many more than the house would hold; a delightful love-feast at 9 o'clock, and church conference in the evening. The brethren have proposed to take hold of the peculiar characteristics of Methodism, and we hope for great improvement in the future. Two Methodist Sunday-schools now on the Austin circuit, and at least one new church-house, it is believed will be built. Three united with the church.—NELMS.

GRANBURY, Hood Co., June 10. Comanche Council formed with sixty members; twenty-nine male and thirty-one female members. I. T. Jumell, W. P. Stephenville Council with about fifty-five members, D. McD. Barclay, W. P. Granbury Council with fifty-six members, Rev. W. I. Moore, W. P. Eighteen councils organized this trip in the Northwest. Rain much needed.—YOUNGE.

WILLOW POINT, Wise Co., June 10.—Having never seen anything in the ADVOCATE from this part, I thought I would send a card. Our preacher is no gum-log; hard at work. Five weeks since rain. Crops suffering; not much wheat raised. First ripe peach the 3d of June; variety, O Mixon. Religion on the rising ground; prayer-meeting revived.—BLACK JACK.

WACO, McLennan Co., June 7.—Brethren on missions have been drawing upon me and selling their drafts to parties unacquainted with our economy and usages. So far I have honored these drafts; but the treasury is empty, and no more drafts will be cashed until collections are made and sent in. Brethren, do not jeopardize the credit of the Board by drawing without instructions that the money is on hand.—SAM P. WRIGHT, Acting Treasurer.

CARTHAGE, Panola Co., June 11. We are doing the very best we can at Carthage, under all the circumstances. The church is in rather a cold state, though there are some signs of spiritual life. Our congregations are tolerably good, and I have noticed marked attention and seriousness to the preaching of the word. We are laboring and praying for a revival of religion. Our Sunday-school is in a flourishing condition. Crops in Panola are suffering for rain. You shall hear from me again.—J. C. A. BRIDGES.

HACKBERRY, Lavaca Co., June 9. Our camp-meeting will begin on the 26th of June, and will be held half a mile above the Hallettsville and Weimer crossing of Nixon creek. Third quarterly meeting to be held at S. N., first Sunday in July, which we hope will be a camp-meeting as well. Let every one pray for God's blessing on these efforts. Are suffering much from drouth. A pity you have to say "nix" against tobacco.—WM. G. COCKE.

HILLSBORO, Hill Co., June 10. \$25.00 Reward.—One dark chestnut sorrel horse, eleven years old; fifteen and one-half hands high; bald face; two white feet; crest-fallen; branded M.

One light sorrel horse; fifteen hands high; streak in the face; collar marked; branded Z. I. The above reward will be paid for any information leading to the above described property. Address, J. J. DAVIS, Hillsboro, Hill Co., Texas.

Wearsville, June 3.—Sabinal Canyon is the most beautiful spot in Texas. I know whereof I speak. If a man can live here and not be religious, he must be very hard. Fine rains; crop prospects better; fine grass; stock doing well; outlook religiously brightening. Some interest among the people, have commenced holding a two days' meeting. Preacher's wants well supplied. Can't you, Mr. Editor, come to our district meeting to be held in Centre Point, the first Sunday in July?—WM. MONK.

RICHMOND, Fort Bend Co., June 14.—We have succeeded in painting our church very nicely outside. The money was raised by the ladies. Last year they painted it inside. Its appearance is very much improved. Finances for the support of the gospel are very meagre. My collections for conference are being taken up with but little success. The missionary assessment upon the work is \$1,121 per member. Quite a number of families are leaving for the summer.—O. T. HOTCHKISS.

TYLER, Smith Co., June 12.—Garden Valley circuit very dry; crop prospects very gloomy. Some religious interest. Twenty-five have joined the church since conference; seven infants baptized. Second quarterly meeting over. Finances low. Paid the preacher to date, \$85.50. Presiding elder in place. Have up to this time preached seventeen times on Garden Valley circuit, and the year but half gone. How is that for high? Will soon commence a series of protracted meetings.—C. H. SMITH.

CENTRE, June 11.—Garden Valley circuit is alive. Bro. Smith is moving on with his work. Revivals expected and beginning to appear. Congregations too large for the houses, even in the week. Van Zandt county settling up rapidly with workingmen and women. Without rain in a little while, bread will not be made. No money now;

all gone. Preachers living on hope. Oh! what will it be after awhile? Send some one to our district conference at Marshall, the 26th inst.—R. W. THOMPSON.

SAN MARCOS, Hays Co., June 9. We closed, a few days ago at this place, a meeting of great value to the church. The membership was much revived and strengthened; three conversions and additions to the church; Bros. Perry and Garrett helped. Parsonage well on toward completion. Very dry; all grain crops injured; cotton yet doing well. Just back from Jacob's well. It is funnel-shaped, thirty feet deep, and full to overflowing, yet so clear as to reveal a pin at the bottom.—J. S. GILLET.

LEESVILLE, Gonzales Co., June 9. Rev. E. Y. Seale has an interesting meeting going on at Rancho. Was there two days. On Sabbath had an excellent communion—congregation large. At night quite a number came forward for prayers. Hope he will have a glorious revival, and that you will hear of it. Weather still very dry and warm. Some sickness; many complaining about various things. Corn-meal \$1.00 per bushel; flour (Texas) \$4.00 per hundred. Plenty of places here for sale. If you see any buyers, send them up for good bargains.—R. M. LEATON.

AUSTIN, Travis Co., June 10.—The prolonged drouth has seriously injured the crops, and farmers are low spirited. Business of all kinds dull. Health of the community good. Religious interest at a low ebb, and the outlook gloomy. Vice of all kinds abounds, to a degree that is alarming. All the churches seem to be slack in their discipline, and it is difficult to draw the line. We heard a terribly wicked man say, yesterday, that the glaring sins of the city were alarming, even to him. Bro. G. W. G. Browne, has fully recovered from his late illness.—H. B.

DALLAS, Dallas Co., June 10.—Thank you, Mr. Editor, for stopping the very unedifying controversy on tobacco. Intelligent, well-balanced people regard it as only a question of taste, and while there is so much sin in our land, in the name of reason and conscience let us battle against sin only. Getting along well as common; Sunday-schools doing rather better than in former years. We need a gracious revival of religion all over our country. Weather very dry; wheat and oat crop light. Farmers discouraged. "Lord increase our faith."—M. H. CULLUM.

BOSTON, Bowie Co., June 10.—The farmers are beginning to wear very long faces here on account of the dry weather. Crops are suffering some; no rain of any consequence in over five weeks. What strange creatures we are; how ready to complain! Work has been commenced on the St. Louis Railroad, about eight miles south of this place. The road will miss Boston about six miles, and then we will be nearly midway between two roads, and Bowie county will have more miles of railway than any other county in Eastern Texas.—W. W. HORNER.

HOMER, Angelina Co., June 9. Our protracted meeting at this place closed last night; it was a grand success; it lasted nine days. Bro. M. H. Jones came to our relief. Sunday night, the 1st inst, Bro. M. Donegan of Melrose circuit, and J. T. Smith, of Linn Flat circuit, came up Monday night. Bro. M. gave us two good sermons and left. Bro. S. stayed until this morning. He preached every night with great power and liberty to the astonishment of all, for he looks just like a boy. The Holy Ghost fell on all; some twenty conversions and twenty-five accessions to the church. Total, ninety-two this year. Pray for us.—J. M. BOND.

MASON, Mason Co., June 10.—From the Minutes before us, we see that Brady City mission was served by—. He preached to six hundred people, and had a membership of one hundred and one souls, seventy-seven of whom have this year (1878) been gathered in. Two hundred people preached to is a large estimate. There are but seventy members on the roll, some of whom did not know they were members until the preacher told them. The largest of these classes was organized four and the next largest three years ago. The members, and those who are acquainted with that work, repudiate that report.—J. K. WALLER.

WEST FALLS, Falls Co., June 5. Our third quarterly meeting was held at Cedar Spring, embracing the first Sunday in this month. The meeting is still going on with some interest; two conversions to date. Reported this quarter, thirteen conversions and thirty-three accessions. West Falls circuit now has a parsonage, donated by Sister Wildes. The house alone is valued

at \$200. Sister Wildes is in her eighty-fifth year, but is still doing good for the church. We think we will have the house in good condition for the next preacher. Our camp-meeting will commence Friday before the second Sunday in July, at Powers' chapel. Come, brethren.—C. S. MCCARVER.

MARSHALL, Harrison Co., June 12.—A dear friend and relative, a member of our church, and daughter of a dearly loved Methodist minister, writes me that she is not satisfied with her spiritual condition, and earnestly requests my prayer. She feels that her case is a desperate one, and I feel that a united effort will prevail with a merciful Father. Will not every good brother and sister who reads this card, offer for her one fervent, faithful prayer before they sleep? God knows for whom they pray. Is not that sufficient.—METHODIST.

GRAPELAND, Houston Co., June 9.—We are moving on smoothly on Crockett circuit. The people are kind and generous. Many are awake to their eternal interest. The church generally is at work holding up the hands of their preacher, and he feels, under God, that Crockett circuit is nearing a gracious outpouring of the spirit of God; have already been some conversions and several accessions. Nothing strange has occurred on the circuit of late. We need rain, as we think, very much. Impossible now to make a full crop; but we shall trust in the Lord, and expect to be fed. "The saving kindness of our God is better than life."—THOS. T. BOOTH.

LINN FLAT, Nacogdoches County, June 10.—Saddled and Suted.—A good steward of our circuit, with the help of friends, presented us a new saddle, "on which never man had sat." We mounted it and went to Homer to help Bro. Bond hold a meeting. He trotted us through for seven days and nights. The Lord came down and blessed the people; and when we went to leave, they blessed us with a twenty-five dollar suit of clothes, besides other valuable presents and three dollars and twenty-five cents for ferrage, and it only cost ten cents for the round trip." No wonder Bro. Bond loves his people, and we hope he will not be jealous if we say we love them, too. God bless them and him.—J. T. SMITH.

CENTRE POINT, Keer Co., June 11. All members and delegates coming to the district conference, to be held at Centre Point, Kerr county, commencing Thursday before the fourth Sabbath in July, will please drop me a card, that I may provide homes for them. We, remembering Dr. John's promise at the last conference, have already arranged a home for him.—J. H. TUCKER.

[This suggests a difficulty. How can one man, and not a large one, be in a half dozen places at the same time? In making up the plan of his circuit, the editor often finds himself on one side of this big State of Texas, with three or four calls from the other. It will take some time to get round, but the circuit-rider will keep at it.—ED.]

EVERGREEN CHURCH, Hamilton Co., June 9.—Weather very dry. No rain since the fifth of May; corn and cotton need rain badly. Health very good. The church interests improving; we have a fine Sabbath-school—about fifty pupils enrolled. We had an interesting meeting on the 1st inst., conducted by our worthy pastor, Bro. Gailoway, and the local ministers in this neighborhood. We like Bro. G. very much. He is doing good work on this part of his circuit; he is building up our little church wonderfully; with the aid of the churches and the benevolent people of Hamilton, and Bro. G.'s perseverance, we will soon have a neat parsonage.—BETTIE DENISON.

WHITESBORO, Grayson Co., June 9.—If they would take our papers, or read our good books, they would become intelligent Methodists. A young man wants to get ready to preach, and he was raised by Methodist parents, but came to me and asked: "Are there any schools in the church?" "What must I do to become a preacher?" "Do I get my license at Austin?" "O shame on that father! That seemed to be a good and sensible boy. A doctor of our church asked me once (two years ago), "Where is Bishop Bascom this year?" "In heaven." "What!" This spring I was asked "Where is Bishop Soule now?" Well, well, we must teach, as well as preach, and circulate, circulate the papers.—ISAAC S. ASHBURN.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., June 3.—I saw in the ADVOCATE a few weeks ago an inquiry after one Rev. G. W. Fleming. Bro. F. was a member of Pacific Conference until three years ago, when he located, on account of his health, and is now residing near Henleyville, Cal. He is in good odor among us.

Please let his friends know. I have lost the notice, or I should not trouble you. We are having serious financial trouble over here. Master Willie Lambuth has just arrived from China on a visit to friends in Michigan—reports all well over there. Your paper is steadily growing better. I am proud of it as a journal of M. E. Church, South. I am trying to do well, but without money it is hard.—W. B. PARSONS.

CUERO, DeWitt Co., June 3.—"Fleetwood's Life of Christ is a standard publication. It can be had for six cents. See advertisement." I find the above endorsement in the ADVOCATE of the 7th inst. I wish to inform you that when you send the six cents, you will get a two or four-page pamphlet, in which they offer the Life of Christ for five dollars. Now, which would you call it—a lie or a humbug, if when you send six cents on a firm's promise for a five-dollar book, you get a worthless pamphlet? I consider such advertisements "objectionable matter."—WM. AIRHEART.

BIG CREEK, San Jacinto Co., June 7.—Election over. Local option greatly distanced. How strange it is that men prefer evil to good; darkness to light; death to life. "It is hard to kick against the pricks," yet men do it, thus inflicting their own torture. Drouth still continues; has not rained immediately in this section since 27th April; corn seriously damaged and failing rapidly. Sugar-cane doing poorly; too dry to till; bad stands, only from seed cane, as rattoons all failed from extreme cold winter. Cotton not lost much yet. Going to pull down old church (which is a very poor one) next Monday morning, and commence building a new one on the ruins thereof; lumber all on the ground. Think we can worship God more acceptably in a better house. Want to complete it in time for last quarterly-meeting.—WM. MANUAL.

HOPE, Lavaca Co., June 9.—A good prognostic. An earnest prayer was offered in the ladies' prayer-meeting the other evening, that "back-biting might cease." Another sister was heard to say that she was "sorry that she went to a certain place, for she was drawn unthoughtedly into the whirl-pool of evil speaking." Now, Mr. Editor, I am tempted to comment a little, but will desist, with the understanding that this is to be placed in a conspicuous place, and that you are to take it as a text, and for one month withdraw your battering-ram from the gambling hell, and turn it loose upon this tongue, which the Apostle says "is set on fire of hell." If you will do this, and all the readers of the ADVOCATE will say amen to above prayer, a gracious revival will follow, or I am a false prophet.—J. W. VEST.

MOSS BLUFF, Co., June 10.—Vehemently and uncompromisingly he urged it upon his Christian friends, a few Sundays ago at Shiloh, to "follow their Lord and Master's example and be buried in the watery grave, etc." Facts: "They of Jerusalem and Judea, and all the regions around about Jordan, were baptized before Christ came to John, Matt. iii; 5-13, and Mark 1: 5-9. Our Lord was not baptized until after all the people; Luke, v: 21. Who believes that the Savior waited until the end of John's ministry, and after he had baptized thousands came to 'set an example.' Absurd! Christ's baptism had a meaning. Second quarterly meeting passed. Bros. Morse and Sproule on hand and full of zeal. Circuit in good shape. Crops drying up; farmers got the blues. Prospects for the future gloomy.—R. M. BAKER.

JONESBORO, Coryell Co., June 2. Yesterday, at 9 o'clock A. M., we united in matrimony, Mr. E. C. Horton, of Hamilton, and Miss Nannie P. Scoggin, of this community, at the residence of the bride's father, Rev. D. D. Scoggin. On receiving and unfolding the license, what do you guess we found inclosed? Why the "marriage fee." That was a "happy idea." Thank you, Bro. Horton. Hope all the young men who are yet to be married will "do likewise." The preacher is sure not to make a mistake and return the fee with the license to the clerk's office. The time for holding our third quarterly conference has been changed from the first Sunday in July to the fifth Sunday in this month. We are to have a camp-meeting at Hurst, on Hog Creek, commencing Saturday before third Sunday in August. We invite brethren from every "quarter" to be with us and work for Jesus.—F. C. STEPHENSON.

The pope is said to be preparing an enclical protesting against the bill passed by the Italian parliament requiring civil marriage to precede the religious ceremony.

COMMENCEMENT

CHAPPELL HILL FEMALE COLLEGE

CHAPPELL HILL, TEXAS.

June 6, 1879. 7:30 P. M.—JUVENILE ENTERTAINMENT.

June 8, 1879. 10:30 A. M.—ANNUAL SERMON, Rev. L. M. Lewis, D. D., A. & M. College, Texas. 7:30 P. M.—SPECIAL SERMON, Rev. F. T. Mitchell, D. D., Brenham, Texas.

June 10, 1879. 7:30 P. M.—ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Mrs. S. J. Pitts, Teacher.

June 11, 1879.—Commencement Day. 9:30 A. M.—COMPOSITIONS, By Young Ladies.

10:30 A. M.—ANNUAL LITERARY ADDRESS, Mr. Dudley Wooten, Austin, Texas.

11:30 A. M.—DIPLOMA AWARD ADDRESS, Rev. G. W. Briggs, Galveston, Texas.

7:30 P. M.—ANNUAL REUNION. Invitation general. All welcomed.—G. A.

Next Session Begins Sept. 1, 1879. E. D. PITTS, President.

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Sunday School

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS. BY R. M. MOORE. REVIEW—SECOND QUARTER—1879.

The lessons of this quarter cover a wide range of Christian duty. The patient man of Uz is assailed by Satan, as man never had been before, or has been since; but he failed to dislodge him from his entrenched faith in God; and so he had to retire baffled, beaten, a convicted liar. Haman, an enemy of God's chosen people, plots their destruction, and erects his gallows for Mordecai, who scorned to do him honor; but Mordecai and Esther appeal to God against the inhuman Prime Minister and his bloody law, and Haman hangs on his own gallows. Isaiah, the prophet of seraphic spirit, utters his ringing prophecies in a luxurious, voluptuous, sensual and idolatrous age, assuring humanity of the coming of the promised Messiah, of His suffering, and of His call for a thirsting world to come and drink the waters of life, "without money and without price." To this Micah adds his most beautiful picture of Christ's reign of peace, when the sword is beaten into a plow-share; and when every one sits unmolested, "under his own vine and fig tree." Joel foretells the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as verified on the day of Pentecost; and fearful trials, as experienced in the passing away of governments then, and in the subsequent destruction of Jerusalem; and as yet to come in the last judgment. Ezekiel, from the river Chebar, near Babylon, gives us the fall of Tyre, and his vision of "dry bones"—a double type of national restoration, and the resurrection to life eternal. Zechariah reminds us of the needs of the spirit, that man's might is naught; and that God's eyes run to and fro on the whole earth. And Malachi closes with an appeal to man to consecrate himself to God, and warns him of the time coming, when He will separate the righteous from the wicked.

FIRST LESSON—April 6, 1879—Job xxxiii: 14-30; sanctified Affliction; Time—about 2000 or 3500 B. C.; Place—land of Uz, east of Judea; Rulers—likely, Sethos, King of Assyria; and Amenophis, King of Egypt.

GOLDEN TEXT. My son, despise thou not the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him.—Heb. xii: 5.

This lesson is a part of the argument of Elihu, after listening to those older than himself, who shows that God permits suffering in order to lead men to Himself, and that affliction is not in itself a penalty for sin. Satan had challenged God to test Job's fidelity; God had allowed the test to be made; and when Satan had taken away his wealth and children, he exclaimed, "blessed be the name of the Lord," and when his whole body was foul corruption, he asks, from a heap of ashes: "Shall we receive good and not evil at the hand of God?" The lesson is, that man can abide the test that Satan proposed, and that God seals instruction to us in several ways, and especially by afflictions.

SECOND LESSON—April 13, 1879—Job xlii: 1-10; Prosperity Restored; Time, Place and Rulers same as in last lesson.

GOLDEN TEXT. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful and of tender mercy.—Job. i: 11.

In the test of Job, Satan had ventured beyond his usual prudence, and had slunk away from his failure. The three friends of Job had essayed the solution of a problem beyond their strength—the problem of good and evil, as the allotment of man. And Elihu, wiser than they, had sought to unveil truth beyond his reach. Whereupon God speaks from the gathering storm and, in answering Job, confutes and confounds his accusers. Job confesses his frailties, seeks pardon and obtains it. God then directs his self-righteous friends to come to Him through Job as a mediator. They comply and Job is further blessed, and his wealth is returned him double.

THIRD LESSON—April 20, 1879—Esther iv: 10-17; Queen Esther; Time—479 B. C.; Place—Shushan; Rulers—Xerxes, King of the Medo-Persian Empire; and the Archons in Greece.

GOLDEN TEXT. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.—Psalm xxxvii: 5.

There are good reasons to suppose that Xerxes, or Ahasuerus, assembled his princes for 180 days to take council about his proposed invasion of Greece, and that he deposed Vashti at the close of the council. Then followed that disastrous campaign, wherein he went out with five millions, and returned four years thereafter with five thousand; and made Esther queen instead of Vashti. Haman worked himself into place by flattery; but there was one in the king's service

who would not bow to him. To avenge himself on him, he secures a decree for the slaughter of his race, the remnant of the captive Jews who yet remained in the land of their captors. Mordecai appeals to Esther, and Esther, at the peril of her life, appeals to the king. The haughty Haman is hanged on his own gallows; and Mordecai and Esther, who put their trust in God, succeed.

FOURTH LESSON—April 27, 1879—Isa. xlii: 1-10; The Coming Savior; Time—715-698 B. C.; Place—Jerusalem; Rulers—Hezekiah, King of Judah; Sargon, King of Assyria; and Numa Pompilius, King of Rome.

GOLDEN TEXT. And lo a voice from heaven, saying, this is My beloved son, in whom I am well pleased.—Matthew iii: 17.

Isaiah, the poet prophet, in this lesson, speaking for God, calls on Judah to behold His chosen one, on whom His spirit rests; describes Him as one of mild, gentle voice; of a loving and sympathetic nature; and yet of a firm and resolute will—persisting in His work until His kingdom is established on earth. He further asserts God, the Creator of all things, as calling Him for a righteous purpose; then leading and protecting Him as the promised Mediator of His people, as a light for the Gentiles; as one to open the eyes of the blind, to liberate the sin-bound prisoners, and to lead the world from the darkness of death to the light of life. He declares God jealous of His honor and glory. The prophet adds that, as his former predictions came to pass, the people should have faith in his new predictions. He closes by calling on all, on land and sea, to sing a new song in praise of the coming Messiah.

FIFTH LESSON—May 4, 1879—Isa. lvi: 1-12; The Suffering Savior; Time, Place and Rulers same as in last lesson.

GOLDEN TEXT. Who his ownself bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.—1 Peter ii: 24.

Isaiah here lifts the curtain of time and reveals clearly to view the seed of the woman bruised, which Abel's sacrifice and Abraham's offering typified. He describes minutely the rejection of his message; the gradual growth of His gospel; the disappointed expectations on account of His humble origin and unpretentious life; His griefs; his unappreciated mission; His bearing our sins; man's proneness to wander from the paths of rectitude; Christ's arrest; the mockery of his trial; His untimely taking off; His ignominious burial with the wicked; Joseph's placing Him in His own tomb; Christ's brief life, and the prolonged reign of His truth; the satisfaction of His atonement; and his splendid triumph, and the triumphs of all His.

SIXTH LESSON—May 11, 1879—Isa. lv: 1-11; The Savior's Call; Time, Place and Rulers same as in fourth lesson.

GOLDEN TEXT. In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus cried, saying: if any man thirst let him come unto Me and drink.—John vii: 37.

The theme of this lesson is a priceless message to man. It is the midnight cry of humanity's watchman, that "all is well." It is the generous call of our bounteous Father to come to the waters of life and to come to His royal table, that we may drink and thirst no more; that we may eat and live. He pleads with us not to spend our money for that that is not bread; and our labors for that that satisfies not. He pleads with us to heed His message and live, points out His witness and leader, and the nations flocking to His banner. He commands us to seek Him; to turn from our own ways to God's ways. He then forcibly contrasts our thoughts with His thoughts; likens His mercies to rains and snows, that vitalize the earth; and finally assures us that this call to man will not be fruitless.

SEVENTH LESSON—May 18, 1879—Micah iv: 1-8; The Savior's Kingdom; Time—likely between 742 and 726 B. C.; Place—Moresbeth of Gath; Rulers—likely, Hezekiah, King of Judah; and Sargon, King of Assyria.

GOLDEN TEXT. The law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.—Micah iv: 2.

Micah presents a vivid picture of the peaceful reign of the King of Righteousness. Nations beat their swords into plow-shares and their spears into pruning hooks, and forget the arts of war. As a result, peace and plenty abound; every one sits unmolested, under his own vine and fig tree. We see people crowding the gates of Zion, and God's people walking in His ways forever. We see God gathering in the weary, and maimed, and making the faithful of His people a strong nation; and we see the Great Shepherd of life, in the tower of His strength, sheltering the lambs of His fold.

EIGHTH LESSON—May 25, 1879—Joel ii: 28-32; The Holy Spirit promised; Time—likely between 810 and 800 B. C.; Place—likely in Jerusalem; Rulers—Uzziah, King of Judah; Jeroboam II, King of Israel; and Abaris, King of Assyria.

GOLDEN TEXT. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy

Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me, both in Jerusalem and in Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.—Acts i: 8.

The records of Joel are brief, but bright. His name, "Jehovah is God," is prophetic of his calling. His three chapters are models of beauty, vigor and sublimity. His style is pure and poetic. He gives three prophecies; the plague of locusts, with the drouth and famine that follow them; the effusion of the Holy Spirit, after a harvest of plenty; and the day after judgment, when the Lord will utter His voice out of Zion and will shake the heavens and earth. In this lesson we have some of the richest promises of the whole Bible, coupled with some of His most fearful threatenings. He promises the Holy Spirit to all that call on Him; and holds up the symbols of His wrath to them who neglect or refuse to serve Him. As short as the message of Joel is, it is enough to save a world; for it contains the broad promise that "who-soever shall call on the Lord shall be delivered."

NINTH LESSON—June 1, 1879—Ez. xxxvi: 7-14; The Prophecy against Tyre; Time—857 or 588 B. C.; Place—By the river Chebar, near Babylon; Rulers—Zedekiah, King of Judah; Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon; Pharaoh Hophra, King of Egypt; and Eth-baal, King of Tyre.

GOLDEN TEXT. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away.—Matt. xxiv: 35.

Here the prophet Ezekiel gives a clear and minute description of the fall of Tyre, then more than two thousand years old. It was a famous Phoenician city, noted for its commerce and wealth. She had laughed at the calamity of Jerusalem, and had mocked her in her distress, then besieged by the great Babylonian King, Nebuchadnezzar; whereupon Ezekiel holds up the bitter chalice to her own lips. He tells her how her daughters shall fall by the sword in the fields, and how a large army from the North will invest her with forts, towers and engines of war; and then he reveals to them that army of horsemen and chariots coming, shaking down the walls of the city; rushing into her gates; treading her streets into ruin; dividing her rich spoils; pillaging her palaces, and hushing every note of joy and mirth.

TENTH LESSON—June 8, 1879—Ez. xxxvii: 1-10; The Valley of Dry Bones; Time—587 B. C.; Place and Rulers same as in last lesson.

GOLDEN TEXT. It is the spirit that quickeneth the flesh; prothitt nothing; the words which I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life.—John vi: 63.

Ezekiel, by the direction of God, visits "the valley of dry bones," fit symbols of the dead nation in a captivity, to all human appearances, as strong as that of death. Those fleshless, unsightly bones, bleaching under a hot sun, were not a pleasant sight. Nothing could be more hopeless. Yet those dead bones typified dead Judah and dead humanity, and man in the bondage of sin. The clothing of those bones with flesh and the breathing into them the breath of life prefigure, not only the restoration of Judah to national existence, but the redemption of man and his resurrection to life eternal. The lesson is vital with instruction and full of hope. It teaches that no one is so dead in sin but God can cause the regenerating breath of love to enter into him and he shall live; it teaches that God can clothe that which is dead and unseemly with beauty and strength; and that He can gather at last every one of His righteous dead into His kingdom, though every bone be severed from bone and mingled with mother earth.

ELEVENTH LESSON—June 15, 1879—Zech. iv: 1-14; The Need of God's Spirit; Time—520 B. C.; Place—Jerusalem; Rulers—Darius I, King of the Medo-Persian Empire; Zerubabel, Governor of Judea; and Tarquin, the Proud, King of Rome.

GOLDEN TEXT. Not by might, nor by power; but by My spirit saith the Lord of hosts.—Zech. iv: 6.

Judah had just been restored, but her temple was not yet rebuilt. The builders had been interrupted, and their zeal had cooled down. The difficulties were many and great. Their neighbors, subjects of the same general government at Babylon, were inimical and being idolatrous, they secured a decree from an idolatrous king suspending the rebuilding of the temple; but through the zeal of Zechariah and Haggai the original decree of Cyrus was revived. This had been done about one year prior to the date of this lesson. The prophet sees in a vision the golden candlestick with its seven lamps, its bowl above, with its two olive trees—one on each side—symbolic of the future church, as the outgrowth of Israel restored, and the temple rebuilt; and he goes to Zerubbabel with the message that he would succeed in his work—"not by might, nor by power; but by My spirit, saith the Lord of hosts;" and he assures him of entire success, and hears the songs of triumph as the temple is completed.

TWELFTH LESSON—June 22, 1879—Malachi iii: 8-18; Consecration to God; Time—about 430 B. C.; Place—Jerusalem; Rulers—Darius II, (Nothus), King of the Medo-Persian Empire; Nehemiah, Governor of Judea; Alcibiades, Archon of Athens; and the Tribune rule Rome.

GOLDEN TEXT. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels; and I will spare them, as the man spareth his own son that serveth him.—Mal. iii: 17.

More than 100 years have elapsed since the first colony returned from captivity. Judah had been restored to her own beloved Jerusalem; but she was never liberated from servitude, nor from her bondage to sin. Malachi, the last witness against her in the old dispensation, arraigns her and her priesthood for flagrant crimes, and nails them to the bulletin of time. He holds them up as boastful, self-righteous sinners, who, like many now-days, never could discover their own sins, though they were numerous and grievous. He repeats their blasphemous declarations, that it was a vain thing to serve God; that the ungodly prospered; and that the wicked were not punished. Then, in contrast with these, he states how God would hold the names of those who feared Him in His "book of remembrance;" how he would preserve them as His choice jewels; and finally, in the end, that there would be a wide gulf between the righteous and the wicked.

We would further condense the lessons as follows:

- 1. Satan fails; affliction sanctified.
2. Faith unailing; prosperity restored.
3. Esther's faith; Haman hanged.
4. The coming Christ saves from sin.
5. The suffering Savior, a saving Savior.
6. The Savior comes, and calls all men.
7. Christ's church; a righteous reign.
8. Prophetic promise; Holy Spirit
9. Tyre threatened; pride perishes.
10. Dry bones live; the dead raised.
11. Not by might, but by right.
12. Arrogance answered; the righteous remembered.

ARCHBISHOP Purcell's debts are officially reported at \$3,097,651, and his assets at \$1,181,569, of which \$418,536 is classed as "doubtful."

Church Notices.

BEAUMONT DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Jasper sta, 1st Sunday in July. Newton cir, 2d Sunday in July. Woodville cir, at Spurgerville, 3d Sunday in July.

DALLAS DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Bethel cir, June 21, 22. Grapevine cir, June 23, 29. Grapevine cir, July 5, 6. Methodist cir, at Van Alstyne, July 12, 13. Plano cir, July 26, 27.

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. San Antonio sta, at Selma, June 21, 22. San Antonio sta, June 23, 29. Gervill cir, at Brownboro, July 5, 6. Junction sta, July 12, 13. Mason and Brady sta, July 19, 20.

SAN MARCOS DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Lockhart cir, at Luling, June 23, 29. Gonzales cir, at Denton's Creek, July 5, 6. Thompsonville cir, at Hill's school house, July 12, 13. Meridian City cir, at Wimbler's, July 19, 20. Seguin sta, July 26, 27.

CORPUS CHRISTI DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Rancho, at Bundick's, June 21, 22. Helena, at Riddellville, June 23, 29. The District Conference for Corpus Christi District will convene at Beeville Thursday, July 3, at half past three o'clock. Let the brethren all be on hand, and the preachers come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

STEPHENSVILLE DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Carlton cir, June 21, 22. Elysian Fields, July 5, 6. Jonesboro cir, July 5, 6. Duhan cir, July 12, 13. Meridian cir, July 19, 20. Stephenville and Corinth sta, at Corinth, August 2, 3.

COMANCHE DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Burnet, at Rockvale, June 21. Llano, at Honey Creek, July 5. Saffers, at Wallace, July 19. Mountain mission, July 26. Brownwood, August 2.

SHERMAN DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Pilot Point, 2d Sabbath in June. Bonham station, 3d Sabbath in June. Denton cir, at Dixon's chapel, 4th Sabbath in June. Pilot Grove cir, at Hill's, 5th Sunday in June. Bonham cir, July 19, 20. Whitesboro cir, at Whitesboro, Thursday at 10 A. M., preceding 2d Sunday in July. Dexter cir, at Belle's, 3d Sunday in July. Whitesboro cir, 4th Sunday in July. Collinsville cir, at Farmington, 1st Sunday in August.

SULPHUR SPRINGS DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Sulphur Springs sta, 5th Sunday in June. Emory cir, at Enon Ridge, 1st Sunday in July. Gilmer cir, at Soud Chapel, 2d Sunday in July. Sulphur Bluff cir, at Sulphur Bluff, 3d Sunday in July. Pittsburg cir, at Leesburg, 4th Sunday in July. Greenville sta, 1st Sunday in August. White Rock cir, at White Rock, 2d Sunday in August. Sulphur sta, at Wisdom, 3d Sunday in August.

District Conference at Sulphur Springs, June 26, at 9 o'clock, a. m. R. LANE, P. E.

JEFFERSON DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Atlanta cir, 4th Sunday in June. Soda Lake cir, 1st Sunday in July. Green City cir, 2d Sunday in July. Texarkana sta, 3d Sunday in July. Boston cir, 4th Sunday in July. Kelleville cir, 5th Sunday in August. Coffeyville cir, 2d Sunday in August. Mt. Pleasant cir, 3d Sunday in August. Dainierfield cir, 4th Sunday in August. Kelleville cir, 5th Sunday in August. The Jefferson District Conference will meet at Linden, Cass county, Texas, on Wednesday before the 5th Sunday in July, 9 a. m. A full attendance desired. Preachers from other districts invited. L. B. ELLIS, P. E.

WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Ferris cir, at Prairie Grove, 2d Sunday in June. Waxahachie sta, at Cedar Hill, 4th Sunday in June. Lancaster and Wesley cir, at Lancaster, 5th Sunday in June. Milford cir, at Houston Creek, 1st Sunday in July. Emory and Palmer cir, at Palmer, 2d Sunday in July. Reager cir, 3d Sunday in July. Emory sta, at Burham, 4th Sunday in July. Sims cir, at 5th Branch, 1st Sunday in August. The District Conference for Waxahachie District will begin Thursday morning before the 5th Sunday in June, at Lancaster. CHAS. E. BROWN, P. E.

FORT WORTH DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Fort Worth cir, at Alamo, June 21. Arlington cir, at Gibson's, June 23. Groves Creek, at Nolan's River, July 5. Hillsboro cir, at camp-ground, July 12. Fort Graham cir, at Fort Graham, July 19. Covington cir, at Peoria, August 2. Fort Worth sta, August 9. District conference at Arlington, July 25, at 10 o'clock a. m. Introductory sermon July 24, at 8 o'clock p. m., by Rev. W. Vaughan. HORACE BISHOP, P. E.

WEATHERFORD DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Lake City cir, at Willow Pond, June 21, 22. Eldorado cir, at Pleasant Grove, June 23, 29. Greenwood cir, at Springfield, July 5, 6. Christian sta, at Springfield, July 12, 13. The District Conference will be held at Wade's Creek, commencing on Thursday, before the 5th Sunday in August, at which time we expect to have a self-supporting camp-meeting. We respectfully invite ministerial brethren generally to attend in a big camp-meeting on the 2d and 3d of August. W. PRICE, P. E.

GEORGETOWN DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Belton cir, at Rock Church, June 21, 22. Liberty Hill cir, at Liberty Hill, June 28, 29. Green and Round Rock, at Green, July 5, 6. Sugar Land, at Pleasant Hill, July 12, 13. Rockdale cir, at Arguin's Chapel, July 26, 27. Rockdale cir, San Gabriel cir, Salado and Davilla, at Lebanon camp-ground, Aug. 2, 3. The District Conference will convene at Liberty Hill, at 9 a. m., on Thursday, June 26, 1879. Let all the delegates come. The Rockdale, San Gabriel, Salado and Davilla circuits agree to attend in a big camp-meeting on the 2d and 3d of August. J. FRED COX, P. E.

TEXANA DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Concrete cir, June 21. Clinton cir, June 28. Hallettsville cir, July 5. Lavaca sta, June 19. Woodville cir, July 26. The Texana District Conference will convene at Mossy Grove camp-ground, July 19, at 7 o'clock. A. A. KILGOUR, P. E.

CORISCANA DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Dresden cir, at Mt. Zion, June 21, 22. Mt. Calm cir, at Oak Hill, June 28, 29. Marquette sta, at Tacker's school-house, July 5, 6. Buffalo cir, camp-ground, July 12, 13. Thornton cir, at Thorn Hill, July 26, 27. Centerville cir, at Leona, Aug. 2, 3. North Leon cir, at Ringold, Aug. 9, 10. District Conference at Groesbeck, July 16. JAS. MACKAY, P. E.

BRECKENRIDGE DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Sabanaa cir, at Jewell's 3d Sunday in June. Eastland cir, at Allen's school house, 4th Sunday in June. Palo Pinto cir, 5th Sunday in June. Belton sta, South Pecos, 3d Sunday in July. Taylor sta, South Pecos, 3d Sunday in July. Coleman cir, south Pecos, 4th Sunday in July. The District Conference will convene at South Pecos, on Wednesday, July 16, at 9 o'clock. J. G. WARREN, P. E.

DALLAS DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Bethel cir, June 21, 22. Grapevine cir, June 23, 29. Grapevine cir, July 5, 6. Methodist cir, at Van Alstyne, July 12, 13. Plano cir, July 26, 27. The District Conference will begin Thursday, 9 o'clock a. m., July 24, at Plano. The opening service will be at 9 a. m., at 11 o'clock. The camp-meeting at White Rock (Clark & Bryan camp-ground), will begin August 22. The editors are earnestly invited. W. H. HYDES, P. E.

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. San Antonio sta, at Selma, June 21, 22. San Antonio sta, June 23, 29. Gervill cir, at Brownboro, July 5, 6. Junction sta, July 12, 13. Mason and Brady sta, July 19, 20. District Conference at Center Point, Kerr county. Camp-meeting commences on Thursday, before the 4th Sabbath in July, at 10 o'clock. W. T. THOMPSON, P. E.

SAN MARCOS DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Lockhart cir, at Luling, June 23, 29. Gonzales cir, at Denton's Creek, July 5, 6. Thompsonville cir, at Hill's school house, July 12, 13. Meridian City cir, at Wimbler's, July 19, 20. Seguin sta, July 26, 27. San Marcos sta, August 2, 3. The District Conference will meet at Luling, on Thursday, June 26, at half past seven, p. m. Let every pastor see that the quarterly conference journal is present for examination at the Discipline direct. O. A. ESTER, P. E.

STEPHENSVILLE DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Carlton cir, June 21, 22. Elysian Fields, July 5, 6. Jonesboro cir, July 5, 6. Duhan cir, July 12, 13. Meridian cir, July 19, 20. Stephenville and Corinth sta, at Corinth, August 2, 3. The District Conference for this district will convene at Cove Springs, eight miles west of the town of Meridian, July 16, at 9 o'clock a. m. J. P. MURKETT, P. E.

COMANCHE DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Burnet, at Rockvale, June 21. Llano, at Honey Creek, July 5. Saffers, at Wallace, July 19. Mountain mission, July 26. Brownwood, August 2. District Conference at Lower Cherokee, in San Saba county, August 14, at 9 a. m. C. H. ELLIS, P. E. San Saba, Texas.

WACO DISTRICT—THIRD ROUND. Calvert and Hearne, 5th Sunday in June. Remond cir, 1st Sunday in July. Koss cir, 2d Sunday in July. Mt. Vernon cir, 3d Sunday in July. Wheelock cir, 4th Sunday in July. District Conference will convene at Calvert, embracing the 1st Sabbath in August; conference will convene Thursday before, at 9 o'clock, a. m., sermon Thursday night, by Saml. F. Wright. May we have a full attendance. THOS. STANFORD, P. E.

MARSHALL DISTRICT—SECOND ROUND. Mineola, June 21, 22. Elysian Fields, July 5, 6. Delegates to the District Conference will be elected at these quarterly meetings, and a full attendance of all the members is expected. District Conference at Marshall, June 26 to 29. Conference will be called to order at 9 o'clock a. m., on the 26th. THE ADVOCATE is earnestly requested to answer to roll-call. We hope to have full attendance of all members, and a large number of visiting brethren. Will Bishop Keener come? R. W. THOMPSON, P. E.

CHAPPELL HILL DISTRICT—SECOND ROUND. Lexington mission, June 21, 22. Giddings circuit, at Giddings, June 28, 29. Giddings mission, at Giddings, June 28, 29. T. W. ROGERS, P. E.

VALUABLE TRUTHS. If you are suffering from poor health, languishing on a bed of sickness, take cheer, for Hop Bitters Will Cure You. If you are simply ailing, if you feel weak and dispirited without cause, by knowing why, Hop Bitters Will Revive You. If you are a miser and overtaxed yourself with pastoral duties, or a mother, worn out with care and work, Hop Bitters Will Restore You. If you are a man of business, weakened by the strain of your everyday duties; or a man of letters, toiling over your midnight work, Hop Bitters Will Strengthen You. If you are young, and suffering from indigestion, or growing too fast, as is often the case, Hop Bitters Will Relieve You. If you are in the workshop on the farm at the desk, anywhere and find that your system needs cleansing, toning or stimulating without intoxicating, Hop Bitters is What You Need. If you are old, and your pulse is feeble, your nerves unsteady, and your faculties waning, Hop Bitters Will Give you New Life and Vigor. Try Hop Cough Cure and Pain Relief. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

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Texas Christian Advocate

SHAW & BLAYLOCK - Publishers.

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Special Notice to Subscribers.
 Almost every mail brings us requests about as follows: "My time of subscription is out. I can not well do without the ADVOCATE; so please continue it, and I will send you the money in a short time." We never continue the paper in such cases. Let it be so understood. To do so in all cases would necessitate the opening of several thousand additional accounts in our books. This of itself is a good and sufficient reason. There is, however, another: we are not supposed to know the financial responsibility of our subscribers; and to resort to an indiscriminate credit system would subject us to the just charge of being indifferent business men. Subscribers who wish their paper continued must send the money, unless they subscribe through some of the preachers or specially appointed agents. In which case they, the preachers, become personally responsible to us. This is a rule to which we make no exception.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK.

The papers and our correspondence inform us that rains have been especially fine along the line of the Houston and Texas Central road.

We hope the people of the two great sections lately separated by a serious unpleasantness will soon understand and appreciate each other. Henry Ward Beecher recently lectured to immense congregations in Nashville and Memphis, and was cordially greeted; and Governor Colquitt, of Georgia, addressed audiences of thousands in Brooklyn, New York, and elicited tumultuous applause.

THE American Board has decided to use \$125,000 of the Otis legacy of nearly a million dollars to establish a mission in Central Africa, in the Nyanza region. The site of the mission will probably be west of Lake Nyanza. Mr. Arthington, of Leeds, gives the board \$15,000 toward the mission.

MANY of the negroes who went to Kansas are returning to their old homes on the Mississippi river. When they saw so many poor white families destitute of food and clothing they became distrustful of Kansas as a new Canaan, and preferred to return to the cornfields of Egypt.

OUR brethren of the Protestant Episcopal Church recently held a council at Austin, and a convocation was called to meet at Houston on St. Bartholomew's day. We are not exactly posted as to the difference between a council, a convocation and a convention in the nomenclature of "the church."

ONE of the Presbyterian general assemblies, in discussing question of Sabbath desecration, condemned in unmistakable terms the habit of reading secular papers on Sunday. Might not a Christian as well mingle in the business of the world as to read all about it in his secular paper on the holy Sabbath?

THE Master warned his disciples to beware of covetousness; and St. Paul classes this vice with idolatry and other gross sins, in which the children of disobedience walk. It is about time the voice of the church, through the religious press and the pulpit, was lifted up against this growing and all consuming vice.

CHURCH DEBT RELIEVED.—We announce with pleasure that the debt which has been hanging over St. Johns church, Galveston, has been provided for. The debt amounted to nearly \$19,000. Notwithstanding the hard times, the members and friends of the church raised by subscription, \$10,000. The balance will be raised by bonds, redeemable in three and six years. With this burden removed, the pastor and people may, with good heart, work for a revival.

THE civil authorities of Prague, Austria, where missionaries of the American Board have maintained public services for more than a year, have, for some reason not assigned, directed that no more such meetings be held, under penalty of \$50 fine or twenty days' imprisonment. The persons attending these meetings are only permitted to attend services of the churches recognized by the State.

GAMBLING-HELLS CLOSED.

It will be seen by the announcement in other column that the gambling-hells of Galveston are closed. This marks the revolution which has come over public sentiment in the past three years. Our readers will remember the sneers which greeted the assaults made by the ADVOCATE on this monstrous evil. Gambling-houses were then open by day and night, and men high in social positions were found among their patrons. During the past year the fact has been noted that no man who had respect for his standing in social or commercial circles dared to stand in the crowd which once could be found around the far-table. With this class, gambling—if indulged in at all—is hidden behind the blinds of club-rooms and private resorts. And now the Chief of Police, sure of the moral support of the people, announces the law is supreme in our city, and on last Tuesday night there was not a gambling-house open within the corporation. The Chief of Police not only deserves the approval, but should receive the cordial support of every good citizen. The gambling ring has been a power in this community, and the man or men who break it up will have rendered a service to society that should command its gratitude.

A SUNDAY TRAGEDY.

Ex-Detective Ike Rector Shoots Another Colored Man through the Heart—The Murder Committed within a Stone's Throw of Police Headquarters in a Gambling Hell.

The above head-lines, which appear in the Galveston News of the 17th over the details of the bloody affair, tell another story of vice and violence which will go out to the world, leaving its dark blot on the good name of our State. The place, the men, the deed, are all suggestive. The gambling-hell where the bloody deed transpired has been notorious for a long time. There has not been a street gamin on our sidewalks who could not have told the police what was going on within its walls. The police officer in that section who was ignorant of its existence and character ought to be supported by public charity as an imbecile. There is not one who will attempt to cover up his neglect of duty by such a confession of stupidity. It has been a plague-spot which has tainted the atmosphere of that part of the city until citizens in the vicinity have protested in vain against its existence. All the parties concerned were colored. The proprietor of the den was an ex-detective. The quarrel began over their cards about twenty cents. Hot words were passed, loaded down with oaths—how naturally these things run together—there is a smell of whisky in the room and reeking in every breath; a blow is given, and then a bullet bores its way through heart and lungs, and the dead man is stretched on a table, waiting the coroner's inquest. Then follows the arrest, and next we are to have the trial, which will cost the city and state enough to keep on duty an efficient police for many months.

We render the present Chief of Police the honor due for his efficiency in certain lines, and we listen patiently to the plea that he has begun his work and will go through with it. That he has a heavy task to perform in clearing the city of these evil-doers, none can deny; and yet we echo the inquiry from hundreds of the best of our citizens when we inquire what is the cause of this strange delay? Why is it that the law can be enforced against the unhappy women, whose names appear in our daily police reports, while the stalwart gambler can ply his craft by day and night until, with revolver in hand, he slaughters a fellow-being over the gambling-table, and another tale of crime is added to the long list which already disgraces our land?

Since the above was placed in type, the Chief of Police in Galveston has made good his pledge that the law should be enforced, and issued an order that every gambling-house should be closed.

Last Tuesday night, for the first time in the history of Galveston, there was not a house in the corporation where the gambler was plying his craft in open violation of law. The proprietors of these establishments, when informed that the order to close them was issued, were so well satisfied that the Chief of Police meant business that they closed their doors without waiting the visitation of the officers. We congratulate Galveston that she has given the world this proof of the supremacy of the law. The voice of public sentiment has been heard. Law, long a dead letter, has been vitalized by the moral sense of the people. Let good citizens in every town and city in our State speak out, and the gambling-hells, with their record of vice and violence, shall no longer curse our land and bring on our State the reproach of lawlessness, which so long has burdened her fame.

CATHOLICS AND THE SABBATH.

We have a somewhat singular case on hand. A zealous Catholic meets us with the complaint that the Morning Star and Catholic Messenger, the organ of his church in New Orleans, in a recent article, grossly misstates the position held by the Catholic Church on the Sabbath question. We find said article to be a criticism of a late deliverance of the Presbyterian Council in Saratoga, in which the growing custom of reading secular papers on Sunday is condemned. We give an extract from the article in the Messenger:

"The fact is that the Presbyterian attitude on the Sabbath question is an exaggeration, a hobby, a heresy. It assumes that the whole and exclusive business of a Sunday is to worship God. This is very pious, etc., but it is not true. The chief business of Sunday is rest from labor. The church has commanded, indeed, that certain acts of public worship must be on that day performed by all Christians, but these acts by no means occupy the whole day nor any great fraction of it. This is a commandment added by the church. The Jewish commandment for keeping holy the sabbath specified no other requisite thereto but abstention from labor. This does not, however, imply perfect vacuity of mind nor inactivity of body. On the contrary, a certain amount of recreation is far more refreshing and restorative than the irksome tedium of absolute quiescence during a prolonged period."

While our Presbyterian friends may possibly reply that the above statement of their attitude on the Sabbath question is in itself an exaggeration, as they do not overlook the fact that the Sabbath is a day of rest as well as a day of worship, our Catholic friend comes to the front and charges the Messenger, the organ of his own church, with heresy. In proof of this charge he has placed in our hand the Catholic Catechism in use in the diocese of Boston, and points out the answer to the question: "In what does the sanctification of these days (Sunday and Festivals) consist?" This we must confess does jingle most inharmoniously with this confession of faith as to the Sabbath question in the above extract from the Messenger. Here it is:

"It consists of two things. The first is, to abstain from all servile work; from all commerce and manual labor which is not necessary for the worship of God, the nourishment of our body and the support of life. The Christian should remember that the most servile of all servile work is sin, which reduces the soul under the slavery of Satan; and that however unlawful it may be to work on Sundays and holidays of obligation, it is far more criminal, as St. Austin remarks in more than one place, to spend the whole day in dancing, in profane diversion and gambling than to employ it in labor."

The second is, to sanctify ourselves by cleansing our consciences, returning to God by penance, and applying ourselves to what relates to His worship, and the duties of piety and religion. Among these duties of piety and religion the church has particularly specified one, which she has made a great obligation, and under pain of sin. That is, to assist at the holy sacrifice of mass, the first and most august of all acts of religion. In establishing this commandment, the church does not mean to exempt Christians from the obligations of performing other works of piety, in keeping holy and sanctifying the holidays. A single holy action does not suffice to sanctify the whole day, and can not authorize the employment of the rest of the day in secular affairs, or diversions, however innocent."

Our Catholic friend also complains of the Sunday picnics of French, and Italian and other societies with which the quiet of the Sabbath of Galveston is so frequently disturbed and the sanctity of its hours are so openly desecrated. He tells us that while the cathedral is often almost empty when the holy sacrifice of mass is being celebrated, that hundreds of Catholics are to be found among the pleasure-seekers who spend the hours devoted by the command of God to worship and rest in dancing, ball-playing and similar diversions. We agree with

our zealous Catholic friend that this is wrong. The Sabbath of our fathers is openly trampled under foot, and Catholics and infidels, both of foreign and native growth, join hands in the sacrilegious task.

Our friend may well be startled when he compares the dogma of his church, with this plea for its open violation in the organ of his church and from the pen of a priest; but it will not surprise those who trace in church history the policy of Rome in adjusting its dogmas and demands to the masses whom it seeks to control. It can be a prop to the crowned heads of Europe, and at the same time the champion of self-government in Republican America. The skill with which her priests can engraft the ritual of Rome upon the superstitions of paganism may be seen in existing modes and symbols of worship among the Mexicans of our western borders. The editor of the Messenger knows what he is about. He marks the tendency in New England civilization to react from the Puritanism of other days, and rush into infidelity and other isms which have found root in that soil; while the Sabbath and other landmarks of Christianity are yielding before the tide of rationalism pouring in from Europe, and he aims to catch the American mind on its rebound by adjusting the demands of the church to the growing liberalism and licentiousness of the age. This movement of the representatives of Rome shows the wisdom of the children of this generation, and many who prefer a formal religion which demands no act of self-denial to an open and deliberate renunciation of Christianity itself, may find in Catholicism the refuge they desire. In the meantime, if the Sabbath is preserved, Protestantism must achieve the work. The policy indicated by the Messenger is so fully in accord with the tastes and wishes of the masses, that it will find a numerous following. German rationalism, French infidelity, the patrons of the beer garden, the picnic, the dance, and the theatre will unite in a compact which, unless Protestantism is true to her traditions, will, one of these days, make Sunday in America what it is in the cities of Germany and France. If this earnest Catholic is alarmed, the Protestant should not slumber when the Sabbath of his fathers is assailed.

WASH YOUR OWN HANDS.

A leading Northern journal rakes up from different points in the South outrages which have been reported through the press, and from this data derives the conclusion that outrages against law and disregard for life are the chief characteristics of Southern civilization. A judge has been killed by a desperate man, and it would have its readers believe that no judge south of Mason and Dixon's line is safe. Two men high in social position got into a desperate affray and one is shot to death and the other badly wounded, and it rushes to the conclusion that such affairs are among the daily pastimes of which the first-class Southerner is particularly fond. This sort of reasoning may be very satisfactory to that paper, and may be accepted without question by the Northern reader; but if it be applied to the North, and its own papers be allowed to furnish the facts, we can prove that the North is a terrestrial pandemonium. Suppose we take the case of the discovery of a human body packed in a barrel, in one of the New England States, and assert that murdering men and cramming their mangled bodies into barrels and rolling them into dark ravines, are common incidents in New England life, and that there society is modeled after the famous thugs of India! There are noted thoroughfares in New York and Chicago where no decent man, with ten dollars in his pocket, would dare to walk at midnight unless he is under the protection of a police officer. Dark stories are told of bodies fished out of the water with marks of the murderer's hand on the crushed skulls or perforated bodies; and now and then a young and

handsomely dressed woman is taken to the morgue with marks of brutal violence on her person. Would it be just to assert that these deeds of darkness represent scenes on which the gas-light of all the cities of the North flash every night, and that the moral sense of the people is so debased that these ghastly crimes fail to awaken a sense of horror? Rothschild, who now lies in jail in a Texas town for assassinating his mistress in cold blood, hails from a Northern city. Shall we infer that the average citizen in his Northern home finds a representative in this cowardly assassin? In the columns of every daily we have the details of the trial of a young lady for shooting a female friend. Does this prove that young ladies in her region are in the habit of wearing revolvers belted around their persons? A father, in the town of Pocasset, Massachusetts, in a religious frenzy, butchered his babe, while his wife aided and abetted the unnatural crime. Shall we assume that this fanatical deed reveals the true inwardness of New England piety? No man of ordinary intelligence will question the fact that crimes of the darkest dye are fearfully prevalent; and neither North nor South have cause for self-complacency, when each daily telegraph tells its terrible story of human lives sacrificed on the shrine of passion or of greed. While lamenting the evils which pervade society, let us be just to each other and seek to remedy the evil by elevating moral sentiment until the officer of the law becomes a terror to evil-doers, and the whole land be purged of the bloodstains which now proclaim its infamy. It does not lessen the horror of the Pocasset tragedy to point out some Southern outrage, nor render the slums of Northern cities less foul in their moral stench by sketching a Southern desperado. Nor may the South find consolation that in the police records of Northern cities there is a darker background of crime than can be furnished by the bowie-knife regime of the Western frontier. Each has its own task to perform, and it will be wise if it meets the demand with that honesty and resolution that its importance requires.

DISTRICT CONFERENCES.

We see that some presiding elders are calling for the journals of the quarterly conference to be sent to the district conference for examination. A proposition to require this was emphatically voted down at our last General Conference when recommended by the Committee on Revisals. The functions of a quarterly conference are organic and fundamental. That body hears complaints, tries appeals, licenses preachers, and authoritatively appoints stewards and holds them responsible. The district conference is merely an advisory ecclesiastical gathering that could be dispensed with without destroying the integrity or impairing the efficiency of the system known as Methodism. It was recently introduced and may be discontinued. After a brief discussion, the General Conference voted emphatically not to subject the quarterly conference to the control of the district conference. Neither the preacher in charge, nor the presiding elder, nor the district conference, has the control of the quarterly conference records. Paragraph 8th of the section on quarterly conference requires that body "to see that all its proceedings be faithfully recorded by a secretary chosen for the purpose, in a book to be kept by the recording steward." And that steward is responsible to the quarterly conference for the faithful discharge of this duty. On this subject we find the following paragraph in the Richmond Christian Advocate, signed by Dr. Peterson, of Virginia, a member of the Committee of Revisals at the late General Conference: "The impression prevails in some quarters that the direction given to district conferences to inquire into 'the manner in which the records of the quarterly conferences have been kept' (see Discipline, page 54,) makes it necessary that the

quarterly conference journals should be taken to the district conference. But this is not the meaning of the law. The general conference not only did not so intend, but was opposed to having it done, as is plain from the fact that a recommendation of the Committee on Revisal, requiring the records of quarterly conferences to be sent to the district conferences, was voted down at the same time the above regulation was adopted."

EARTHLY TREASURE.

We do not remember ever to have seen so distinct, emphatic and unanimous a declaration against the passion and policy of "getting rich" as that afforded by the death of Bishop Ames. It is universally conceded that he died worth too much for a bishop, though his estate is variously rated at from \$50,000 to \$250,000. He left nothing to the educational or church enterprises. Hence, perhaps, these tears. The late Bishop Hamline was rich; but he endowed a university and gave multiplied thousands to evangelical and eleemosynary institutions. Bishop Coke was rich; but he spent all for the glorious cause of missions. But Bishop Ames was not noted for his liberality while he lived, his friends hoping that his will would redeem his character from the taint of covetousness; but it does not. And now his case proves an exception to the general remark, that of the dead nothing but good is to be spoken. One editor, without a due reverence for the "Episcopal office" called him "Dives in a shad-bellied coat," and all his eulogists express regret that he died worth so much, and omitted the usual legacies to church enterprises. In the eulogy pronounced in the church in Boston in which Ames was ordained bishop, his colleague, Bishop Haven, said:

"He was fortunate or otherwise in accumulating wealth. It came easy to him—too easily, perhaps; but the defect attending such accumulation was alike easy. It is not easy for a clergyman to increase in riches, and not have set his heart upon them. It is not germane to his profession. He can increase in scholarship, governmental ability, pulpit renown, and not be covetous of these proper results and rewards of his profession. But accumulation of wealth is not ministerial—is, in fact, anti-ministerial. And he that too assiduously seeks money is in danger of becoming its idolator. Grand as have been the vision and the aims of this churchman, the means afforded to further those aims have not been commensurate. A little hardness the heart revealed when these appeals came before it. May we hope that the reported accumulations which he acquired may ultimately find outlets upon the many great church enterprises he inaugurated or so wisely expanded?"

THE New York Methodist says some sensible things to the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church (North) respecting the resolutions passed at their recent session, regarding the Todd-Pollard matter in Arkansas. They say they "have reason to believe" the arrest of these men was made "in order to deter them from their ministry," and assert that the arrest was made "without any accusation of crime." The Methodist very properly suggests that the bishops should have published the proof of these statements. The haste with which the Northern Methodist press and their bishops have sought to make capital out of this affair reveals an unwholesome and unfraternal state of mind. The Methodist recalls the verdict of the jury in the case, and the fact that Mr. Pollard has denied that he was the author of the charges which appeared in the New York Christian Advocate. The editor of that paper has now a favorable opportunity of demonstrating to the world that his eloquent address on fraternity before the Southern Conference was not a piece of consummate acting on his part. We confess that, with this sectional bitterness of representative Northern Methodists, fraternity is becoming a weariness.

A letter published in the Pittsburg Advocate brings out the additional fact that the officer who made the arrest is neither a Southern man nor a Democrat. He has been in Arkansas but two years, came there from Minnesota, and is a well-known Republican. Can not the church leave the work of manufacturing political capital for the coming campaign to the demagogues who have undertaken the job?

Texas Christian Advocate

Enclosing and Ornamenting Grounds of Southwestern University.

It was well said by a friend early in the year: "It will never do for everything to improve in appearance about Georgetown except the university. The church must and will now begin to give moneyed aid."

An article under the above caption appears in the ADVOCATE of the 26th of April, signed by Joe Jones. If I thought Mr. Jones to be an old man, we might on that account pass his article by; but as the tone of "No. 4" suggests that he is a boy, we feel free to notice him.

Furnishing the parsonage is the work in hand, and he very properly assigns the ladies to the task. To this we heartily respond, Amen! and find no fault with his plans, until he calls a halt to horrify us with the cry of "no money."

Death enters and there is no defense. His time there's none to tell; He'll in a moment call them hence To heaven or down to hell.

Are we, as mothers, training our children in the way they should go, that when they are old they may not depart therefrom? If so, happy are we with the blessed assurance of their salvation.

There is no truth more plainly or forcibly presented to the minds of men, both by observation and the Scriptures, than that of man's mortality. Men may entertain differences of opinion on matters of minor importance, but on this there is unity of sentiment.

I closed the second round of quarterly meetings on this district on last Sabbath, at Forestburg, on the Rosston circuit. The district is filling up and widening out, mainly from immigration.

Young lady, how often have you stood by the bedside of dying saints and, in the language of Fiddello, wiped the death-sweat from the brow of the afflicted, and heard

their exultation in a dying hour? And thou art yet a spared monument of the mercy of Jehovah. Remember, therefore, that the goodness of God should lead to the repentance—to the cross of Christ.

Death is a welcome messenger to the Christian. For if to the true and upright life on earth is but the germ of death, and death the development of a higher state of existence, what a transcendently glorious prospect is opened up to the faithful!

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An unknown person has sent \$40,000 to Mr. Spurgeon to be used for charitable institutions.

DR. HENRY C. RILEY is to be consecrated bishop of the Mexican Church, June 24th, and thus become the first bishop of that organization.

THE receipts of the British and Foreign Bible Society from all sources were last year \$1,015,000. There is, however, a deficit of nearly \$60,000.

DR. SOMERVILLE, the Scottish evangelist, who recently returned from an evangelistic tour in Australia and New Zealand, is about to visit the Continent of Europe on a similar mission.

THE Southern Presbyterian Church lost by death 33 preachers last year; ten of them dying of yellow fever. The ministerial force of the church is decreasing, the new ministers numbering less than half as many as the deaths.

DEVIL—EVIL—VIL. My little friends, please read and spell every word of the above correctly. Leave off the first letter of the devil's name, and you have evil; leave off "e," give "i" the long sound, and you have "vile;" leave off the "v," and you have "il;" then spell the last syllable backward, and it spells "lie."

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Benson's Capcine POROUS PLASTER. A WONDERFUL REMEDY. There is no comparison between it and the common slow acting porous plaster.

PATENTS. REJECTED. Inventors sketch of your device; we make examinations and advise as to patentability free of charge.

C. A. SNOW & CO., Opposite Patent Office, WASHINGTON, D. C. Dr. Greenville Dowell. RESIDENCE—Twenty-fourth and Market Sts.

JOHNSON BROS. & CO. Wholesale House, Retail House, 600 & 602 Broadway, 34 E. 11th Street, NEW YORK. Union Square, N. Y.

HALL'S VEGETABLE SICILIAN HAIR RENEWER. This standard article is compounded with the greatest care.

Discovered at Last! A PERFECT AND Cheap Protection from Lightning! Dr. B. T. KAVANAUGH, of Houston, has been appointed general agent for the State of Texas.

Patent Chambers' National Lightning Protection Co., of Cincinnati, O. This rod is based upon a new discovery in electric laws.

5 NEW 5 BOOKS 5 For Temperance Gatherings: HULL'S TEMPERANCE GLEE BOOK! Received with the greatest favor.

THE GOSPEL OF JOY! By Rev. S. ALMAN and S. H. PECK. Nothing fresher, newer, brighter or better of the kind has ever appeared.

HOME ARTS. A MONTHLY FOR ALL AGES. Devoted to the Arts. That beauty Home and make it attractive.

SMITHSONIAN'S Asthma REMEDY. The only permanent cure for Asthma known to medicine.

Texas Christian Advocate

News of the Week.

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate, on the 12th, a bill appropriating \$40,000 for mileage and per diem was passed under suspension of the rules. Bills for terms of courts in Twenty-second District passed. On the 13th, a resolution appropriating \$25 for a United States flag, to be hoisted on the capitol, was adopted. Resolution was adopted that the Comptroller give information in regard to the following matters: 1. Whether the appropriation of 1876 of the sinking fund for the year ending August 31, 1877, \$100,000; for the year ending August 31, 1878; for the year ending December 31, 1878, \$333,333.33, is still in force; and if so, why has not the same been expended in purchasing outstanding bonds of the State? 2. Did not the law require an amount equal to two per cent. of outstanding bonds to be annually set aside as a sinking fund; and if so, why in the estimated liabilities in reports of your department is this item omitted? 3. What is, if any, the amount due the sinking fund prior to January 1, 1879, under the laws in force, if any, requiring it to be set aside? The issue as to the Governor's policy was tested on the 14th in the Senate, on the following resolutions offered by Mr. Stewart: "Whereas, the Legislature, at a regular session, in the general appropriation bill for 1876 and 1880, did provide for the maintenance of schools and for payment of interest accruing upon the bonded debt, and for sinking fund to be applied to the payment of said bonds, all of which items were vetoed by the Governor; and, whereas, there is an honest difference of opinion existing among members of this body as to what amount of money can be justly appropriated for the support of public free schools, but all are agreed that the interest and credit of the State require that prompt action shall be had in providing for the payment of interest that is accruing on bonds of the State held by creditors, and which appropriation has been recommended by the Governor in his message to the called session; and, whereas, a bill is now before the Finance Committee of the Senate, which provides for the payment of said interest and the setting apart of said sinking fund, and contains no other proposition about which a conflict of opinion might arise and cause delay; therefore,

Resolved, That the Finance Committee be instructed to report said bill making appropriations for interest and sinking fund at as early a day as possible, and that they do not report any bill compelling the interest and sinking fund appropriation with any other appropriation."

Mr. Gooch submitted the following amendment to Mr. Stewart's proposition: To strike out all after the words "can be justly appropriated for the support of public free schools," and insert the following: Whereas, sound public policy demands that interest on the debt be promptly paid where it can be done without impairing the ability of the actual government to protect life and property; and, whereas, there is a sufficient sum to pay interest due July 1, 1879, which it is believed can be appropriated without incurring the risk of impairing the efficiency of the actual State government for the next two years, whether the laws tying up one-fourth of the revenue be reached or not; and, whereas, it is believed by many to be uncertain whether more than the amount named can be appropriated for that purpose unless the laws tying up one-fourth of the revenue can be repealed; therefore,

Resolved, That the Finance Committee be instructed to inquire whether a bill cannot be at once reported appropriating interest for July 1, 1879, without incurring the danger of impairing the efficiency of the actual government in the present state of laws and if it can be done to report such a bill at once. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 17 to 12.

On the 15th, the following was offered by Mr. Edwards: Whereas, the past policy of levying and collecting taxes separately for school or other purposes, and of tying up or segregating any portion of the revenue in any other mode than by appropriations made periodically by the Legislature, is unwise and detrimental to the management of the State finances; therefore,

Resolved, That the clauses in the tax laws, and other laws regulating schools, levying and collecting the one-fourth tax or setting apart the same, be repealed before any appropriation for sinking fund or schools is made by this Legislature.

By Mr. Gooch: To amend by

adding the word "before" the words "or at the same time." Adopted as amended.

On the 12th, in the House, the following resolution was offered: That it is the constitutional duty of the Legislature to provide an efficient system of free schools; one-fourth of the revenues may be appropriated for that purpose, when current expenses are first provided for; therefore, that the Speaker appoint a special committee of five to ascertain what amount can be appropriated for schools. The question as to the committee to whom this resolution should be referred caused considerable discussion, and the issue was considered in some sense a test vote. Those approving the Governor's policy resisting its reference to the Committee on Education, and those opposing it urging its reference to a special committee. It was referred to the Committee on Education by a vote of 48 to 36.

Senate bill making appropriation for mileage and per diem of the Legislature passed.

On the 14th, the Governor sent in a message, which proposes the following matters for legislative action: A law permitting both civil and criminal jurisdiction to be transferred from the county to district courts in any of the counties, and where such has been or may be done to provide how former judgments and proceedings shall be transferred or executed. An amendment of the law for the collection of taxes, so as to require tax collectors to force the collection of taxes during the time of the year that the people have most money to pay them before the 1st of March in each year. An amendment of the law passed by the Sixteenth Legislature relating to the penitentiaries, declaring what buildings within the walls of the penitentiary at Rusk shall be erected, together with their quality and purpose. An amendment of the quarantine law, so as to allow guards to be appointed and employed by the Governor, upon recommendation by the State health officers, at certain channels and other places which are not under the control, or not convenient to any local board of health, to be subject to the directions of the State health officers as to their duties. An amendment of law relating to proceedings in the Land Office, and the issuing of patents and requiring parties to pay for patents when issued; and also to authorize patents to be delivered where the money was deposited in pursuance to law with the former Commissioner, but which is not now to be found there and has not been accounted for by one of his predecessors, as shown in the report submitted by Captain Walsh, Commissioner of General Land Office. Amendment of bell-punch law in respect to the appropriation and to define its application to druggists, if deemed doubtful. A law for the postponement of taxes for a few months, as requested by petitioners of Smith county, should the Legislature deem proper. Also calling attention to the importance of additional appropriations to the departments of the Comptroller, Adjutant-General, Judiciary, Insurance, Statistics, History and Treasury.

WASHINGTON.

The President has signed the amendatory judiciary bills.

In the Senate, bill to continue Gen. Shields' pension of \$100 per month to his wife and children; also to grant a pension of \$50 per month to Mrs. Fletcher Webster.

In the Senate, the army bill has been read the second time, and referred to Committee on Appropriations.

The House legislative appropriation bill excited much debate in the Senate. An amendment appropriating \$15,000 for the Bureau of Education was adopted, after which the bill passed.

A bill to allow any telegraph company to land ocean cables on the coast of the United States was passed.

On the 13th, both political parties in the Senate held caucuses, but neither reached any agreement on subjects under consideration.

The Spofford-Kellogg contest is continued.

The army appropriation bill reported back to the House strikes out the fifth section, which provides that each member of the graduating classes of the military academy of 1879 and 1880 may elect to receive \$750 and mileage to his place of residence, and thereby becomes ineligible to appointment in the army, except in the event of war, until two years after graduation; and a clause is inserted in the bill by the committee to repeal the existing law, which prohibits any promotion in the corps of engineers to fill a vacancy above the rank of colonel. The sixth section, providing that no money appropriated by this act is appropriated or shall be paid for subsistence, equipment, transportation

or compensation of any portion of the army of the United States to be used as a police force to keep the peace at the polls, at any election held within any State, is retained in the bill without any change whatever.

The bills introduced this session number 2330.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The sentence of death against Coward and Fields, at Houston, which was to have been inflicted on Friday of this week, June 20, has been commuted by Governor Roberts into imprisonment for life.

Garibaldi has left Caprera finally and will probably spend the remainder of his life in or near Rome.

Emigration from the North of England is on the increase. The destination of most of it is Australia and Manitoba.

The Prince of Wales has reduced the rents of all his farmers on the Duchy of Cornwall twenty per centum for three years.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has voted 500,000 francs for the relief of the sufferers by the eruption of Etna and the inundations on the Po.

Ex-Governor Routh is a happy man. The managers of his Leadville mine inform him that the mine during the past ten days has produced \$1,000 a day.

Of the 832 towns in the State of Illinois which have had local elections this spring 645 voted "no license," which is said to indicate a signal gain in moral sentiment of the State.

GLOUCESTER, MASS., June 13.—The small boat Uniform, in which are Mr. Goldsmith and wife, on a cruise around the world, has been spoken by the schooner Wachusa, from this port. All were well.

A Berlin dispatch says: "The Pope has submitted to Germany definite proposals for a compromise which should end the clerical controversy, but Government is disinclined to accept the proposals."

Palestine is to have a railroad from Jaffa (Joppa) to Jerusalem. Gen. F. D. Lovett, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has the contract for building it. It is to be a narrow-gauge, and the distance is about forty miles.

Grand Rapids has its bogus foreign count. He was handsome, plausible and audacious. The young women were bewitched by him, and he picked out Estina Sexton, married her, took her to Chicago on a wedding tour, stole her money, and deserted her.

Four elephants belonging to the King of the Belgians recently arrived at Aden, on the way from Bombay to Zanzibar. They are to be used in an experiment to ascertain whether elephants can be advantageously used as a means of transportation in Africa.

On and after July 1 next to all letters paid with insufficient postage will be affixed to them distinctive stamps equal in amount of postage due. The value of these "shortage stamps" will be paid by the parties receiving the letters. The custom heretofore has been to simply stamp "due three cents," or "due five cents," on the envelope.

A note found on the body of a suicide at Worcester, Mass., contained the following: "Don't think I am insane or anything of the kind. Simply, I can find no work at anything, from shoveling to steam engineering. I have tried over twenty cities and farmers without number, and rather than beg or steal do this act. My reputation is unsoiled."

The Turkish Ambassador, Mr. Masarus, is Dean of the foreign envoys accredited to London, where he has represented Turkey some forty years. He is much more an Englishman than a Turk, and one of his daughters is married to Mr. Heriot (son of an Episcopal clergyman), whose sister married Lord Wentworth, Byron's grandson. The Turkish Embassy is a very large abode in Bryanston Square, north of Hyde Park.

At the beginning of this century the Turkish government allowed only 300 Jews to live within the city of Jerusalem. Within the last ten years all restrictions have been removed, and there are now over 13,000 inhabiting their ancient capital. They have bought up the old houses and built a large number of new, and have established schools and hospitals.

There has been a terrible loss of camels in the Afghan campaign. Already the trade between India and Central Asia will be crippled simply for want of means of carriage during the next few years. Thousands of camels have perished from overwork and bad forage; and as these had been got together at high prices and with great difficulty, it is easy to understand the inconvenience that will be occasioned on the frontier.

From recent dispatches it appears that the King of Burmah is not disposed to keep his promise to the British government, but persists in the cruel policy which has aroused so much just indignation.

A dispatch to the London Daily News, dated at Mandalay, says: "Certain women of the royal family, for whose safety the British government stipulated, have been placed in irons and will probably be starved."

The Russian government has voted \$200,000 for the largest telescope that can be advantageously made. The object glass is to be over thirty inches in diameter, and probably will be manufactured in the United States. The director of the Polkova Observatory, Prof. Strune, is coming over this summer to examine the larger glasses in this country.

Baron Lionel Rothschild, the leading representative in England of the great European family of money kings, is dead at the age of seventy-one. He was not merely a financier, but was conspicuous in politics, and was elected to the House of Commons from London for many successive years, as representing liberal ideas and freedom of commerce.

Mrs. Hatch has for years been a conspicuous spiritual medium in Boston. Her specialty is the production of flowers from spirit sources. She gave a seance a few evenings ago at a private residence. The lights were extinguished, as usual, and the persons in the circle were enjoined to hold fast to each other's hands. Flowers were soon dropped here and there, and Mrs. Hatch began to explain how they had been brought from distant places by spirit hands. All the gas burners in the room had been connected with an electric lighting apparatus, and suddenly the room was brilliantly illuminated. The medium was completely exposed. In her lap was a pile of flowers, and she was caught in the act of tossing them in the air.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Cologne Gazette says that when one is arrested by the police the fact is kept secret, and every one who calls at the arrested person's house is also put under arrest. One of the persons arrested was a physician in good practice, and it so happened that at the time he was captured a child was taken ill in a family which he was in the habit of attending. During the night the child's illness became so alarming that the father went to fetch the doctor, but on arriving at the house he was seized by the police and carried off, despite his protests. The mother waited an hour or more, and finding that her husband did not return, went herself to the physician's house, where she, too, was arrested. Meanwhile the child remained alone in the house, and in the morning it was dead.

A few weeks ago Serge Lawrowski, one of the ablest detectives attached to the third department, was sent from St. Petersburg to Poltava with instructions to get at the secrets of the nihilistic organization there established. Arrived at Poltava, Lawrowski displayed great activity in guiding the searches of the local police, made many acquaintances in different characters, being an expert in changing his appearance and manner, and was hopeful of success in his mission, when his evil fortune prompted him to fall in love with the pretty daughter of a priest, named Achristoff. This girl, only seventeen years of age, was affiliated to the associations, and had been planted upon Lawrowski by order of the Poltava Committee with the object of betraying him into their hands. After a fortnight's ardent courtship, Mlle. Achristoff allowed herself to be persuaded to give her admirer a rendezvous by night in a garden just outside the town.

When Lawrowski reached the trusting place he was surrounded and seized by five masked men, armed with revolvers and knives, who bound him to a tree and then cut off his nose and ears. Bleeding and unable to shout for assistance, as he had been gagged by his mutilators, he remained where they left him in an agony of pain until early morning, when he was found senseless and all but dead from loss of blood. An open letter in his pocket contained the following ferocious announcement: "We cut off his nose because he is a sleuth-hound, and his ears because he has proved himself to be an ass, in that he paid court to one of us!" Mlle. Achristoff has vanished from Poltava, and all the efforts of the police to track her hiding place have been ineffectual. Meanwhile, Lawrowski lies in a hopeless condition; and even should he rally from the utter exhaustion induced by the hemorrhage suffered during that terrible night, he will bear hideous witness on his disfigured countenance as long as he may live to the pitiless anger of the Poltava committee.

FATHER HYACINTHE has addressed a petition to the French Government asking for recognition and a subsidy for the Gallican Catholic Church which he is trying to organize.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 12, 1879.

From our Regular Correspondent.

The extra session of Congress is rapidly approaching the final scene of the last act. The *dramatis personae* have passed before the country and posterity for a few brief months. They have recited their words with serio-comical effect and defect. On the 17th of June they will go home for a summer vacation. We have too many orators in Congress, and for some reason, or want of reason, they spend too much time in vindication. There is hardly a day that some senator or member is not in a vertical position before the country making what is called a personal explanation, or vindicating himself or his party from base aspersions, lies, etc., that some other honorable senator or member has foisted upon the public and history. Yesterday Senator Hill defended himself from a covert and malign attack upon record of his fifteen years ago; and Senator Morrill was also up to vindicate the Republican party. Our school books tell us that our system of government was originally composed of legislative, executive and judicial branches. But the great progress we have made in the last hundred years seems to demand another great governmental necessity—a branch for vindication and vituperation. For certainly this work is becoming too heavy for the legislative branch. If all the vindication and vituperation of Congress could be turned over to such a co-ordinate branch of the government as I have suggested, which might be composed of ill-tempered old women, there would be a great saving of time and treasure, a great *claircissement* of legislative business, and an improvement of fraternal feeling. Who really cares for Senator Hill's record in the Confederate Senate, whether assailed by Senator Blaine, or vindicated by himself? What has this to do with public policy and systems of public policy? And why must Senator Morrill vindicate the Republican party? There is its record; the world knows it by heart. All parties are good enough in the abstract, and bad enough in their individual components. Villainy and inconsistency is not the fault of a party, as of the human nature that is mixed up in it. Why will we blind ourselves with cant and grand prejudices and dance in procession headed by demagogues? It is not my intention to be personal, but rather universal, for the evil is everywhere. Parties, as seen in their representatives, are not phalanxes of principles, but rabbles of plunder and strife.

Next week Congress will pull out from the Capital, and political astronomers and microscopists will turn their glasses upon Ohio, where the preliminary skirmishes of a national contest have begun. Pardon the metaphor *abstruse ad Thurman* and *Sherman*, or, is it Grant, sailing up from the underworld? Many astute politicians (the many are always astute) think it will be Sherman instead of Grant, but those who stake their money on popular opinion, twisted out of all recognition by wire-workers and political machinists, are not ready to "put up" on either. Maine and New York both have favorite sons who will be heard from in the next nominating convention.

Perhaps no one rejoices more at the approach of the end of the congressional session than the newspaper correspondent. Never before has he found the work of making bricks with straw alone so laborious as during this extra session of caucuses and vetoes. He had exhausted his repertoire of anecdotes, about the naive and interesting personality of brilliant rural lawyers, doctors, farmers, etc., etc., who compose our National legislative galaxy, during the regular session and if this extra, extraordinary session had continued longer, he would not have been able to send you any more news than your correspondent sends herewith.

CARR.

A REMARKABLE POLICE DOG.—The St. Joseph (Mo.) Gazette has an account of a remarkable dog that recently died in that city. The first known of the dog is that ten years ago he mysteriously turned up at the residence of John O'Connor, where he remained for about two years. At the end of that time he became a voluntary member of the police force, and demeaned himself in such a manner as to gain the name of "Allen Pinkerton," after the noted Chicago detective. He followed the men about day and night—first one member of the force and then another. Many a dark night has he assisted the officers in discovering the whereabouts of tramps who had concealed themselves in empty barrels and boxes, and his terrifying bark has caused hundreds of petty thieves to take to their heels. He prowled about the darkest corners in the alleys, and

whenever an intoxicated man was found a yelp or two was sufficient to bring up the nearest officer to look into the matter. His well-known voice was relied on with as much confidence as the sound of a policeman's whistle, and it was always answered. At the roll-call he was prompt as any of the men, and on such occasions he was the pet of the office. He had the most wonderful sagacity, and appeared to almost comprehend the orders of the chief. Nearly every lady who visited the morning market knew the dog and spoke kindly to him, while the market women petted and caressed him whenever he came about, and always had a dainty morsel with which to tickle his palate. Of late years Allen has been growing feeble and for the past six months or a year he has been able to travel with his old associates but little. Since his health became poor he has made his home with ex-policeman James Hudgens. On a recent Thursday Allen was taken sick, and notwithstanding everything was done for the poor dumb animal that man could do, he calmly died on the following Tuesday.

CROCODILE TEARS.—Mr. Philbrick, among many other living curiosities, possesses an alligator about half-grown and an infant which is old enough to crawl and go about the yard unattended. A strange attachment existed between the alligator and the infant, the former being so docile that the friends frequently spent hours during the day in play with each other. The alligator would amble clumsily to his tank, take a sportive dive, and returning, he would embrace the little one, so to speak, and give unmistakable evidence of delight in receiving tender caresses in return. So secure seemed the friendship between them that Mr. Philbrick never thought of harm, and left the playmates to themselves to pass the time as suited to their inclination. The friendly relations did not last long, however, for Mr. Philbrick was startled recently, by agonizing screams coming from the back yard, and rushing out he found to his horror, that the alligator had bitten the little fellow's arm almost entirely off, the fraction of limb dangling by a slender bit of cuticle. The poor suffering little thing moaned and wept bitterly, and the alligator, seeing the distress he had created, crawled up to his victim and shed copious tears of sympathy, his expressionless countenance giving him the appearance of a subdued and sentimental ass. Mr. Philbrick severed the lacerated member, dressed the stub carefully, and the animal is now able to waddle about on three legs. We have often heard of "crocodile tears," but until Mr. Philbrick's statement our faith in their existence could have been easily shaken.—Tallahassa Floridian.

REMARKABLE ESCAPES.—The escape of M. De Chateaubrun during the Reign of Terror was indeed remarkable. He was not only condemned, but actually waited his turn at the guillotine, standing sixteenth in a line of twenty. The fifteenth head had fallen when the machine got out of order, and the rest had to wait till it was repaired. The crowd pressed forward to see what was the matter, and, as it grew dark, De Chateaubrun found himself gradually thrust into the rear of the spectators, and meeting a man simple enough or charitable enough to take his word that a joker had tied his hands and run off with his hat, had his hands set free and managed to reach a safe hiding place. A few days later he put himself beyond the reach of the executioner. Another remarkable escape was that of two women—a mother and daughter—who, traveling over a lonely road in a hired conveyance, were attacked by their driver, who, after pulling up in a lonely spot, demanded their jewelry, and upon their refusing tied the pair to the vehicle and seized the trinkets. Then, thinking himself that dead women could tell no tales, the ruffian drew out his knife, but slipping from his grasp it fell into a ditch. He plunged his hand in the water to recover the knife, and as he got hold of it a snake fixed its fangs in the would-be murderer's hand, and in ten minutes he succumbed to the poison and was past hurting anybody. The women were discovered by a party of villagers and soon released, but the corpse of the driver was let alone until the officers arrived at the place and did their official duty.—Exchange.

In the Episcopal Church during the five years from May 5th, 1873, to May 5th, 1878, there were eighty-five of the clergy deposed, for one cause or another, of whom twenty-two were deacons. This indicates a considerable degree of dissatisfaction with the work on the part of a large number of those who have entered upon it.