

Texas Christian Advocate. Family Reading.

The Suppression of Vice.

"What is everybody's business is nobody's business." The work of breaking up lotteries, gambling halls, and those establishments which send forth vile books, etc., falls under this category.

"I charge that the theater is the channel through which the filth and pollution of low and lascivious play-writers is poured into the ears of young men and young women, thus poisoning the very spring of our social life."

"I charge that the great mass of what has been put upon the boards of the Chicago theaters the last year has been trash of the most unadulterated description, often passing into the realm of the vulgar, and of the most revolting hand-bills of the theaters, and out of the mouths of theatrical press-writers, I have brought the proof that these charges are true."

"What if it be also true that this dark program of the theater is padded with the knowledge that they could not long elude the vigilance of its members? In years past we have seen the need of such work, and in recent years we have become conscious that it has restrained a great deal of evil. The Truth, of New York, says:

"In his annual report last month, Mr. Anthony Comstock reviewed at length the objects of the society, and defended its right to suppress not only obscene literature, but all kinds of forms of vice, such as lotteries and gambling houses, which made it possible for the society in New York, similar organizations have been effected in other parts of the country, and are actively engaged in the cause."

"In no year," says Mr. Comstock, "have there been so few advertisements offering obscene matter. Still, during the past year we have received numerous complaints, and of these, fifteen came directly from schools or colleges, and twenty-four were where obscene matter had been sent to ladies and girls through the mails."

"The speaker in connection with the subject of lotteries, referred to the proclamation against them by Governor Cornell, in the summer of 1880, and the support of Attorney Rollins, which made it possible for the society to close up more than fifty prominent gambling dives of this order. These lotteries advertised extensively; now but two or three papers will receive their advertisements."

"Taking these tendencies at their own showing, their income amounted to nearly \$10,000,000 a year. The managers were rich, defiant and arrogant. It seemed as though they owned the police and some of our courts. At one place, in particular, could be seen a line of ticket buyers, kept in order by a uniformed officer of the law, while the law was being openly violated in his presence. Since October, 1880, we have arrested 172 of these criminals, convicted 67, and most of the others are now under indictment, awaiting their trial. We have secured \$17,450 of fines to the public treasury, and the record shows that with three or four agents, this society has secured more convictions in sixteen months than 2,300 best police in the world secured in five years previous, with 300 open gambling dens in this city, and nine lotteries in full blast."

Mr. Comstock said that half the criminals arraigned in this city were twenty-one years old or under, and he attributed this disgraceful state of affairs to the "half-dime periodicals and novels, which fill the minds of boys with criminal fancies." These he reviewed at length and strongly condemned, whether published under the guise of fiction, art, medical works, or classical translations, and containing all that is objectionable to the police.

them to the public gaze, so clad that to the eye of the audience they seem, and are meant to seem, almost naked! You do not need to be told why this is done. I charge that the shafts of wit flowing across the stage are often feathered from very obscene fowl.

I charge that the theater is the channel through which the filth and pollution of low and lascivious play-writers is poured into the ears of young men and young women, thus poisoning the very spring of our social life. I charge that the great mass of what has been put upon the boards of the Chicago theaters the last year has been trash of the most unadulterated description, often passing into the realm of the vulgar, and of the most revolting hand-bills of the theaters, and out of the mouths of theatrical press-writers, I have brought the proof that these charges are true.

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"The opposition which most embarrassed our movements came from the police. First came an order that no warrant for a policy gambler should be executed without notifying the captain of the police in whose precinct the place was next, that no officer should execute a warrant against a policy gambler brought from the magistrate by our Secretary. Accordingly a bill was introduced into the Legislature which would permit our agent to execute his own warrant, strange as it may appear, though there were several bills introduced before the Committee on Religious and Charitable Societies, yet at none of them was a single gambler to oppose this measure. The opposition was almost entirely from superintendents Walling and three or four of his assistants."

can dispel the gloom which gathers about the grave. As long as there are pale sufferers with the light of heaven in their eyes, and the joy of redemption in their hearts, the infidel will be a failure. He might as well go and bombard Gibraltar with his fist.

For the Children.

UNCLE IKE'S CORRESPONDENCE. MARYSVILLE, Cook county.—Dear Uncle Ike: Will you permit me to join your Testament class? I attend every Sunday-school here, and I attend every Sunday. I have got two premiums in Sunday-school for reciting the best lessons. I am ten years old the 6th of this month, and will commence in the class on that day. I take an interest in reading the letters in your Testament correspondence. I will ask my little cousin one question: Where is the word "girl" found in the Bible.—JIMMIE CRUTCHFIELD.

ELKHART, Anderson county.—The giant King Og, of Bashan, was the only one remaining of the giants of which was destroyed by the children of Ammon, son of Lot, in the land of Ar. His bedstead was about five feet wide by twelve feet long. He must have been about eleven feet six inches high. Where do we get the above information, and is it correct?—UNCLE JAMES.

CISTERN, Fayette county.—Dear Uncle Ike: I have two sisters who want to join your Testament class. Their names are Mollie and Alice. I joined the church at Bro. Thomason's last appointment here, the first Sunday in this month. I want to live a Christian, so that I may be prepared to meet those who are now enjoying the sweetest of heaven. I want you and Bro. Thomason to pray for me, that I may live right in this world and gain a crown of eternal glory in the better world.—NANNIE LEWIS.

MARSHALL, Harrison county.—Dear Uncle Ike: Allow me to write you a letter, and tell you what a large, interesting Sunday-school we have. We have 225 scholars. Bro. Hearstill is our superintendent. And I think a great deal of him; and I love Mrs. Matilda Price, who is a teacher, and I love anyone except mamma. Papa is my pastor, and preaches twice every Sabbath. My little sister Emma and I belong to the "Earnest Workers," which is the name of our missionary society. We meet twice every month. Reading the letters in your paper makes me want to study harder and be a better little girl than I am. I attend school at the Masonic Female Institute. Dr. Stuart is my principal. He is so good to us all that we love him very much. He is a preacher, and he has him from the "Life of Bishop James."—IDA D. WAGES.

RED ROCK.—Dear Uncle Ike: I would like to have my name added to your Testament class. Mamma takes the ADVOCATE, and I have been reading your letters for more than a year. I wanted to join you but could not write well enough. I hope you can read this and will not throw my letter in the waste basket. I am ten years old, and have read more than half your Testament. I want to ask my little sister a question. How came Methuselah to be the oldest man when he died before his father? We have got a good Sunday school here now and I love to go much. I have two little brothers, one five and a half years old, the other three, and a sweet little baby sister, nearly two years old, named Nettie, and I have a little brother in heaven. I wish I could see you; papa and mamma say they knew you when they were little children and they loved you. Brother and I have a mission here. We sold a good many chickens last year; I have five now that will soon be old enough to sell. Uncle Ike I wish you and my little cousins would pray for me that I may be a good girl.—MINNIE A. E. OLIVER.

The answer of Thos. M. was right, only the printer left the I out in the place of an s in the word Bashan. We must get the printers to go to Sunday-school. Johnnie's name is in the class. Uncle Ike hopes Johnnie will be a good man as the preacher who baptized him. He may be a good man if he does not become either a preacher or a bishop.

Uncle Ike was glad to hear from little Emma, and she had not only all the boys will find the sailor, if they have not already found him, at the post-trusted meeting. Uncle Ike wishes he could have a cool drink out of that nice spring at Annie's home. He would like to see that sweet baby sister. He thinks a nice baby sister of the oldest things in the world. Annie must help her mamma take care of the baby and her little brothers.

A friend of Uncle Ike, whose little Willie is away from home, found some of the pictures of some prominent public men and sent them to Willie, with a brief account of each one. We can all see the pictures, but have copied the descriptions: The first picture is Hon. Isham G. Harris, United States Senator from Tennessee. Willie's pa writes under the picture: "I can remember the old gentleman because of his high forehead, which goes clear over his head to his shirt-collar—in other words, he is bare-footed on the top of his head. Ask grandma and Aunt Fannie to show you somebody of whom the lies have a better account of. That is what all this old gentleman is."

Next is the picture of Hon. James B. Beck, United States Senator from Kentucky. He says of him: "This gentleman is one of the best posted men on finances in the South—that is, he knows a great deal about money. I am afraid he is a little like your papa—he knows more about the money of the country than about his own money." Next is about Hon. S. B. Maxey, United States Senator from Texas. "This Texas man is a fine specimen of the true gentleman. Though a great man, he is as polite as a little boy or a negro servant as he is to the President of the United States. All men are generally polite to those above them; the true gentleman is equally so to those beneath him. Papa wants his General to resemble Uncle Ike." Next is Hon. J. H. Reagan, member of Congress from Texas. "Here is another great Texas man, and his greatness is growing, because he is spending most of his time and talents to force great monopolies into a position where the law will make them do right, and not permit them as they do now sometimes to oppress the people, if not rob them. He looks a little fierce in the picture, but he is a very kind-hearted man notwithstanding." Next, Hon. A. Hawkins, Governor of Tennessee. "Papa does not know much about this gentleman; he don't belong to papa's party. May be that's the reason. He is the brother of a

Texas Methodist preacher, however, who is a good friend of your papa; so you can kiss him 'for his brother.' Next is Hon. J. Proctor Knott, Member of Congress from Kentucky. "This gentleman can say more real good funny things than almost anybody. Does 'my General' know any man who 'knots a heap'? That's what Proctor Knott does."

Now was not that a nice letter for Willie's papa to send to his little boy? Uncle Ike thinks if every little boy's papa when away from home would send to his little son a letter, it would not only make his boy feel very happy, but the impressions made might follow him all his life. Uncle Ike thinks big people do not take as much notice of little boys as they should. May be it is because he is little himself, and big people can look over his head. Anyway, it helps boys and girls very much to be remembered by their papa and mamma, who may be away from home. We would think more of a number of Congress who would write a nice letter to his little boy or girl at home than we would if we heard the member of Congress had eaten dinner with the President.

Real Politeness.

A boy about eleven years of age, a cripple by paralysis from infancy, was carried by his mother from the cars to the ferry at Jersey City. Just as they were leaving the train, a quiet, unassuming gentleman came to them, saying: "That boy seems too heavy a burden for you; will you allow me to carry him?"

The mother gladly assented, and the little fellow put his arms around the stranger's neck, and was carried to the boat and placed carefully in a good seat and there left with his mother until the boat had crossed, when the gentleman returned to his charge, and with a smile that lingered still upon the memory, and left that soothed and comforted, carried the boy to the waiting room in the New York depot. There, on being assured he could be of no further assistance, he bade the boy goodbye and left him, speaking cordially as he passed out to an elderly gentleman, who was just entering.

The grateful boy beckoned to this elderly gentleman and asked: "Can you give me the name of the gentleman to whom you just spoke?" "That is Bishop James of the Methodist Episcopal Church." That boy had never been taught to venerate Methodists or Methodism, but from that hour he was often heard to say that he knew at least one good man who was a Methodist. His lips never received the coveted strength, but God converted his soul, and he has become a devoted life to his salvation.—From the "Life of Bishop James."

"Mother, Are You a Christian?"

The day had been a very tiresome one to Mrs. B.— She had been trying very hard to finish some necessary sewing, and as it often happens at such times, the little ones seemed unusually fretful and troublesome, and had tried their mother's patience severely. At last bedtime had come, and the mother was looking forward to a few hours of real quiet. Little Gracie, a child of four years, was seated on the floor trying to find her toes, and after a few moments of thoughtful silence, she years old, and the other three, and a sweet little sister, nearly two years old, named Nettie, and I have a little brother in heaven. I wish I could see you; papa and mamma say they knew you when they were little children and they loved you. Brother and I have a mission here. We sold a good many chickens last year; I have five now that will soon be old enough to sell. Uncle Ike I wish you and my little cousins would pray for me that I may be a good girl.—MINNIE A. E. OLIVER.

Evidences of Conversion.

In detail the inward evidence lies very much in this way: First, a wonderful sense of change comes over the believer. Having been blind, and now seeing the glory and presence of God, there is a work of regeneration performed upon him, and he feels himself altogether transformed. A young girl once said: "Either the whole world is changed, or else I am. Everything seems so altered, for I was a dreamer, and now I am sober, and more; I was a man of strong passions, and it tamed me, and more." What can you say to such facts? Why, nothing. It must be with you as it was with the rulers of old. "When they say a man that was healed, standing upon his feet, and saying, 'see here,' says he, 'it healed me.' What do you say to such an argument? You had better let the man alone. So when the Christian is told that the Gospel is all nonsense; he replies: 'It tamed me, and more; I was a man of strong passions, and it tamed me, and more.' What can you say to such facts? Why, nothing. 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CONDEMNED CORRESPONDENCE.

21 Accessions-23 Conversions. DAVIS, Caddo Grove, July 11: I have just closed an interesting meeting at Prairie Springs, Marston circuit.

13 Accessions. J. W. HUNTON, Mt. Vernon, July 8: We had a good meeting at Owensville, five joined the church.

1 Accession. G. POWLEDGE, Madisonville, July 13: Our third quarterly conference is over. Rev. C. H. Brooks, our presiding elder, was on hand and filled the pulpit.

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Sunday in June I closed a meeting of great interest at Blackhawk, Waverly circuit. Six accessions: two by ritual and four by baptism.

20 Conversions. S. W. JOHNSON, Oak Dale, July 13: Our Baptist brethren are holding a protracted meeting in this neighborhood; up to the present there have been about twenty conversions and the work is still deepening and widening.

13 Accessions. J. W. ADAMS, Lovelady, Houston Co., July 13: The third quarterly meeting of Lovelady circuit, B. R. Bolton, presiding elder, began on Novel's Prairie last Saturday.

7 Conversions-5 Accessions. W. B. BONNER, Taylor, Smith county, July 15: Bro. P. Smith, preacher in charge Larissa circuit, commenced a meeting at Union Springs on the 8th and closed on the 13th inst.

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JAMES T. HOSMER, Seymour, July 9: The time of holding the Seymour camp-meeting and quarterly conference has been changed so as to commence on the 18th of August.

S. W. JOHNSON, Oakdale, July 13: Our camp-meeting embraces the first Sunday in August. It will be on the self-sustaining style.

J. FRED COX, Hillsboro, July 15: Please make the following corrections in an announcement of my meetings on Waxahatchie circuit.

G. B. KILLGON, San Marcos, July 11: Our circuit camp-meeting embraces the second Sunday in August.

J. F. SHERWOOD, Kellyville, July 14: First protracted meeting for Kellyville circuit just closed at Mims' chapel.

F. M. SHERWOOD, Mt. Springs, Cook county, July 11: A self-supporting camp-meeting to be held at Bluff Springs, about eight miles east of Gainesville.

J. E. EVANS, Brushy Creek, Anderson county, July 9: We had a good rain on the 31st inst at night.

M. H. CULLUM, Grapevine, Tarrant county, July 10: Memorial services were held here at Cochran's Chapel for Mrs. Helena Gillespie yesterday.

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CASTORIA. Old Dr. Fitcher's remedy for Children's Complaints.

CENTAUR. Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Gout, Quinsy, Sore Throat, Pains, Burns, Scalds, Pains in Back, Head, Tooth Ache, Head Ache, and all other local pains and aches.

THE GREAT HEALING REMEDY. A All Flesh, Bone and Muscle ailments on Horses and other Animals, its effect is instantaneous and permanent.

Liniment. CURE SICK HEADACHE.

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THE CONTRAST! While other Baking Powders are largely adulterated with Alum and other hurtful drugs.

DR. PRICE'S BAKING POWDER. It is a PURE FRUIT ACID BAKING POWDER. Made by STEELE & PRICE.

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SWEDISH INSECT POWDER. The only article known that will effectively, thoroughly, and permanently destroy and perfectly eradicate all Insect Vermin.

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CAUTION! BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS. There are numerous articles called Insect Powder very much resembling ours, but there is no other article that is strictly reliable. Ask for SWEDISH INSECT POWDER.

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