

Texas Christian Advocate.

CACTUS TO BRO. ELLIOTT.

Bro. F. H. C. Elliott writes some things in the ADVOCATE that I most heartily endorse, and to which I agree. He is a "candidate for a deeper work of grace, for a more complete consecration, for the prayers of the brethren, for the influence of the Holy Ghost, and for the city not made with hands."

I believe it is generally admitted and taught by the best talent among us that the missionary spirit—a disposition of heart to spread the gospel of saving grace to the uttermost ends of the earth—is the truest test of the genuineness of our holy Christianity, and of individual Christ-likeness.

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR PASTOR.

DEAR BROTHER: You have lately begun your work among us, and have sought to enlist our sympathy, prayers and assistance in its due performance.

The sacred office of pastor is not one to be lightly assumed, or indifferently regarded. Called to it of God, and the sanction of the church, it requires both wisdom and grace to meet its obligations.

If I, wishing to raise my children free from the taint of tobacco, by teaching them its pernicious influence, what hope have I that my counsel and warning will be accepted when our pastor, whom they are taught to respect and honor, chews and smokes the vile weed in their presence?

I put these questions plainly, and you cannot dodge the answer. If we were to change places you could easily perceive that I, as your pastor, could

not innocently neutralize your influence with your children by doing in their presence what you taught them to be wrong. Don't attempt to shield yourself by pleading the number, respectability and piety of those who chew and smoke. You cannot lose your identity in this crowd.

FREE LITERATURE. REV. C. M. KEITH.

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HELP. (NUMBER ONE.)

Santa Anna, Texas, is a new western town without a house of worship. The Methodist church is now about half completed. Work has been suspended on account of lack of money, and the ladies of Santa Anna are making special efforts to assist in raising the required amount of \$450.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE RECORDS AND DISTRICT CONFERENCE RECORDS. A RECORDING STEWARD.

I have been a recording steward now for three years, and my book has regularly gone to the district conference for examination and correction. A committee on Quarterly Conference Records is appointed and they pass sentence on the same, which is read before the conference then in session, and is then forever, as far as any practical benefit is concerned, hidden from view of men.

A FORTUNATE MISTAKE. The following is vouched for as absolutely true. A church in Georgia, which had been distinguished for its

peace and prosperity, unfortunately became involved in petty spites, until they grew to such proportions that all the influence of the conservative element could avail nothing in bringing about an amicable adjustment of prevailing differences.

CHRISTIANITY YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER. SAM'L B. THOMAS.

Man is necessarily a religious animal. In his inner nature there is an embryonic blossom ready to expand its budding petals under the genial warmth and light of Christianity.

Hundreds of years ago when earth was rocked in the cradle of infancy, paganism, that dreadful harbinger of vice and crime, had spread its direful wings athwart the then known world.

The birth of that Judean peasant in the "Bethlehem manger," opened the way for fallen man's redemption. Alone with a corrupted, enraged and maddened world, this homeless wanderer offered peace and mercy to fallen creation.

Let us see what Christianity has done for the world. Where are the nations of barbaric splendor that once had dominion over all earth? It is needless to say that the influence of that "once buried and dishonored king" caused them to sink into an untimely grave.

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IMPATIENCE WITH REGULARITY. An unmistakable tendency of the present age is to go out of the usual paths in everything. It is the era of invention and novelty.

This element is in the church as well as in society, and the world of commerce and business. Plain, straightforward preaching and going to church, worship and doing good not of a sensational sort, is at a discount with such men.

A favored way with this tribe of propitiating favor among our people, and of protecting themselves from unfavorable criticism, is to refer to the early history of Methodism, and claim that all that mighty work of God was done by despising starchy and stiff regularity and the uniform formalism which watched the corpse of spirituality in Great Britain.

The famous jurist, Blackstone, made the round of all the leading preachers of London, in the earlier part of the reign of George III., and declared that he heard not a single sermon which had more of the gospel in it than the writings of Cicero, and that it would have been impossible to know from what he heard whether the preacher was a follower of Confucius, of Mohammed, or of Christ.

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and Every Sunday. When "the usual service" shall in no case be dull or hum-drum, there will be few "itching ears" turned to listen to strange people and strange things.

A distinguished and useful pastor of a large church (Presbyterian) in New York said: "After I was settled over my church, for about fifteen years, we used to receive into the church, on their profession of faith, from twelve to twenty persons every year. But we had no revival. Then there was a great revival among us, and we received in six months more than all we had received before in three years.

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Dyspepsia. Sick Headache, Foul Stomach, Bileousness, will be avoided and the food that is eaten contributes its nourishing properties for the support of the natural waste of the body.

THE GREAT TWIN REMEDIES... These are Peppermint, the great Tonic, and MAN-ALIVE, the great System Revolver. They were not torn together, but they act together, and they act together with a system and an effect of the most powerful character.

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HINDERCORNS... PARKER'S GINGER TONIC... TIMKEN SPRING VEHICLES... CURE FITS!... OPIMUM... SCIENCE HILL... Hills Business Colleges... CISTERNS

Devotional. MY MOTHER'S HYMN... Like patient saint of olden time, With lovely face and almost divine— So good, so beautiful and fair, Her very attitude a prayer.

Practical Religion. Giving up sinful practices or pleasures—or even questionable ones—is not enough. Such negative religion will not last long, or avail much. Genuine piety is a positive thing; it is doing right, it is keeping Christ's commandments. Pulling up weeds does not make a garden in the bright May days.

Obituaries. KERR—John Thomas Kerr, infant son of John B. and Mary M. Kerr, born May 23, 1887, died April 22, 1889, aged two months and sixteen days.

Roberson.—T. J. Roberson, (nee Simmons) was born in Benton county, Tenn., Nov. 30, 1850, and died in Erath county, Texas, April 17, 1889.

Marriages. GEORGE—AKENS—Married by the Rev. W. C. Caperton, in Hamblin, Texas, May 1, 1889, by the Rev. W. C. Caperton, Capt. A. H. Watson to Miss Dea A. Hamblin.

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SUTTERFIELD.—Mrs. L. B. Sutterfield, wife of A. W. Sutterfield and daughter of B. F. and Elizabeth McClung, was born Dec. 23, 1820.

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REEDLOVE.—Susan E. Reedlove, son of W. H. Reedlove and Susan E. Reedlove, was born Feb. 10, 1878, and departed this life March 23, 1889.

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Dress the Hair. With Ayer's Hair Vigor. Its cleanliness, beneficial effects on the scalp, and lasting perfume commend it for universal toilet use.

Ayer's Hair Vigor. Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by Druggists and Perfumers.

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