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NO. 15.

Texas Christian Advocate.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE

FORTY-FIFTH SESSION.

For the second time in life Rusk, Texas, has been blessed with the world-renowned event of the sitting of a Methodist Annual Conference. To say that the little capital of Cherokee county, nestled among a cluster of hills spotted with boweries of green pines and scar-leaved oaks, was not interested in the event would be to say what can be said of no town which has once enjoyed that privilege. An annual conference is an occasion not only to the hospitable people entertaining it, but to the vast multitudes of people living in its territory. Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, Campbellites, Roman Catholics and sinners are interested in its proceedings and results. The man or the town who has never seen one has missed a good thing. The small boy was never more jubilant over the show bills of a circus than Rusk was at the conference. The people came out to see it, they looked at it, and admired it. They threw up their hats and shouted: "Long live the conference." They took it home with them, fed it, lodged it, caressed it, and enjoyed it. When it got ready to leave they followed it to the train, cried and begged it to come back again. The conference also hated to leave, but had to go. It wrung its hands, cried, wiped its eyes, cried again, and said farewell, but hoped not forever.

P. S.—The above is partly figurative.

THE OPENING.

There was nothing really remarkable about the opening save it was about like all other occasions of the kind. A little before the appointed time, while only a few preachers had entered the church, Bishop Key took his place in the pulpit. He is a tall, elderly-looking gentleman, dressed not extravagantly, but with a little patriarchal, but some say, looks more like a wholesale merchant than a bishop. In the pulpit the toss of his shoulders and the parabolic throw of his voice reminds you that he has seen and heard the departed McTyeire. He read a Scripture lesson from the fifth chapter of Matthew, and announced hymn No. 228, which seemed to have been written for the occasion, and in fact was, more than a century ago.

Dr. Elton Foster, of the New York Conference of the M. E. Church, North, offered the prayer.

B. R. Bolton, the secretary of the last conference, then called the roll, and was elected secretary of the present session, with J. F. Archer assistant and A. J. Frick and Leon Sonfield statistical secretaries.

D. F. C. Timmons and Lacy Boone were elected editors of the minutes. The hours for adjournment and the conference bar were fixed and the conference was ready for business, with the following standing committees appointed on the nomination of the beloved presiding elders:

Public Worship.—U. B. Phillips, J. T. Smith, E. C. Dickinson.

Conference Relations.—A. Little, W. W. McAnally, J. M. Mills, W. A. Sanyer, C. H. Smith, G. W. Langley, T. T. Booth.

Books and Periodicals.—D. F. C. Timmons, J. C. Calhoun, Chas. Sterne, J. M. McCarter, J. T. Stark, A. C. Neal.

Temperance.—C. F. Smith, A. G. Scruggs, R. V. Ridley, J. W. Shuford, C. F. Fisher.

District Conference Records.—G. A. LeClerc, W. F. Davis, Dr. J. S. Collins, D. W. Towns, G. W. Collier, G. R. Hughes, A. B. Waskom.

Bible Cause.—H. H. Vaughan, D. P. Cullen, W. L. Pate, M. G. Jenkins.

CONNECTIONALISM.

The Methodist Church is connectional or nothing. The common bond of all its conferences and local churches in one great system and communion is one chief glory. All of its interests are one. No annual conference is allowed to pass without a reminder of this fact. No sooner is the conference ready for business than is begun the reading of various papers on the common interests of the church. The East Texas Conference no more than others is wanting in that respect. Among these papers was included the already famous fiscal and personally complimentary report from the House at Nashville. It spoke of great prosperity in business, called-in and out-standing bonds, mentioned new books, and spoke of genial editors and noble sons of noble sires, etc. In some of its flights it out-soared and out-spread the wings of a certain editorial bird whose name shall not be called at present. We have not been informed whether the production will be offered for insertion in the next edition of Field's Scrapbook. If so, we take this occasion to speak for a copy.

SOCIABILITY.

The Methodist preacher is peculiarly a sociable institution. Sociability is a part of his calling. It is his *vita motus et habitus sine qua non*. Now and then you will find the unsociable specimen, but he is a sort of Javert among his brethren. The preacher on the poor mis-

sion, fat circuit and rich station is alike rich in the friendly feeling. Nowhere does the sociable cup overflow more freely than at an annual conference. Hand-shaking and brotherly intercourse is the order of the occasion. This sociability is not confined to the circle of membership, but every minister of any denomination, who comes to the conference, and whether on business or simply visiting, is introduced, greeted with welcome and invited to partake of the joys of the brotherhood. Under this head the following visiting brethren were introduced:

VISITORS.

Revs. P. C. Archer and J. W. Lively, of the North Texas Conference; F. T. Mitchell, D. D., E. L. Armstrong, G. W. Riley, Sam'l P. Wright and R. C. Armstrong, of the Northwest Texas Conference; Elton Foster, D. D., of the New York Conference; W. B. Rankin, D. D., Bible Agent;—Wycough, pastor of Presbyterian Church, at Rusk;—Martin, Pastor of C. P. Church, at Rusk; Van Valkenburg, of New Orleans, and J. W. Heidt, D. D., Regent of Southwestern University, and member of North Georgia Conference.

THE BELOVED P. E.'S.

The examination of character is one of the interesting as well as one of the important features of the conference. The beloved presiding elders are important factors in the examination. Their relations to the preachers make them the main channels of information to the conference in respect to the lives and usefulness of the pastors under their oversight. Upon the other hand, the pastors under them know most about their characters and efficiency. It is very proper and convenient, therefore, that the beloveds should be examined first, that they may be freed from anxiety and prepared to bear a good testimony in the case of the dear shepherds. When the beloved's name is called he rises and gives a general account of his district, and not infrequently a recital of his religious experience. Then the dear pastors take him in hand and ventilate his good qualities before the conference, if he have any; if not, they compare him to those who have. The ventilation at this conference crystallized in the following statements:

T. P. Smith, presiding elder of Marshall district, "Fine preacher and looks after all the work nicely." John Adams, presiding elder of Tyler district, "Wise of men, hard student, clear and forcible preacher." U. B. Phillips, presiding elder of Palestine district, "All that could be desired as presiding elder; puts both hands and feet into the work." J. W. Johnson, presiding elder of San Augustine district, "Very fine presiding elder." R. M. Sproule, presiding elder of Beaumont district, "The most sacrificing presiding elder; would be glad to have him four more years."

THE ROLL OF HONOR.

When a traveling preacher becomes infirm by reason of age, or worn out in the work, so as to be physically unable to bear the hardships of itinerant life and the regular duties of the pastorate, he is put on the Roll of Honor. He is allowed to sit down and rest. To them, however, it seems to be the greatest hardship to retire from the field of hottest battle, and it is not without reluctance that the post of honor is accepted. The East Texas Conference has nothing to be ashamed of in its class of supernumeraries, but is honored in having upon its roll such a list of names. The first name called on this roll was that of R. S. Finley, D. D., who is nearly seventy-four years of age and has been preaching the gospel fifty-three years, having begun in the traveling ministry in 1836. A leader of men, he has been a leader in his conference. A man of great preaching and executive ability, he would have adorned the Episcopal chair had he been called to that office. Then were called W. N. Bonner, eighty years of age, and preacher thirty-five years, still active in mind and body; R. M. Kirby, born in 1819, joined the church and commenced preaching in 1836; Richard Menifee, converted in 1826, and commenced preaching in 1839—eighty years of age; H. M. Booth, absent; A. D. Park, fifty-six years of age and preacher forty years. These all gave a good testimony. The conference got happy and sang songs of praise.

ITINERANT COLLEGE.

Every annual conference has a theological college, and like the conference itself, it is itinerant. It is located on wheels. It has a faculty of fifteen professors, three of whom are placed at the door of the college to say who are able to enter. The curriculum comprises a course of study extending through four years. The faculty and classes gather at the seat of the conference the day before the opening for the annual examination. In the examination of character before the conference, after the beloved presiding elder, supernumeraries and supernumeraries, the undergraduates are examined first. When their names are called they report their work and retire from the room. The faculty reports the results of the examination and the beloved elders represent their lives and work, and the conference determines their status. The results of the examination of character and other work will be found in the minute business.

MINUTE BUSINESS.

Chas. B. Smith was admitted on trial.

J. L. Wyche, J. W. Bradford, E. R. Large, O. C. Fontain, Houston Twomey and V. A. Godbey remain on trial. J. S. Murphy was discontinued at his own request.

Wm. Sproule, J. D. Burke, L. F. Smith, J. M. Porter, H. G. Scuddry were admitted into full connection. G. W. Langley, J. C. H. McKnight, A. G. Scruggs, Leon Sonfield are deacons of one year.

Traveling preachers ordained deacons are: Wm. Sproule, J. M. Porter, W. P. Pledger, H. G. Scuddry.

Local preachers ordained deacons are: Thos. B. Vinson, John T. Everitt, J. B. Luker, James S. Wilson, Jesse G. Gilbert and J. S. Murphy.

The traveling preachers ordained elders are: M. D. Long, C. F. Smith and A. J. Frick.

Chas. B. Smith, local preacher, was ordained elder.

Silas M. Thompson, H. W. Hawkins and H. T. Pitman were located at their own request.

The supernumeraries are: W. N. Bonner, W. M. Wainwright, S. H. Nettles, J. B. Hall, L. F. Smith.

The supernumeraries are: R. S. Finley, L. C. Crouse, R. Menifee, R. M. Kirby, H. M. Booth, A. D. Parks, W. H. Ardis.

Delegates elected to General Conference: Clerical—Jas. Campbell and John Adams. Alternates T. P. Smith and U. B. Phillips. Lay—Smith Garrison and J. R. Hearstall. Alternates—S. W. Turner (local preacher) and T. W. Ford.

Under question twenty the character and official administration of all preachers were examined and passed without objection.

Transfers received Revs. Jno. F. Neal and G. W. Riley, from Northwest Texas Conference.

A telegram was received from Tyler, asking for the privilege to entertain the next conference and the conference went into the election at once. Four or five places were put in nomination and Tyler was selected.

APPOINTMENTS.

Marshall District.—T. P. Smith, P. E. Marshall Station—H. G. Scuddry. Marshall Mission—R. W. Thompson. Harrison Circuit—J. W. Lively. Deberry Circuit—J. M. Porter. Centennial Mission—Houston Twomey. Halvick Circuit—W. P. Pledger; S. H. Alexander, supernumerary. Lovvick Station—J. S. Fowler. Kilgore Circuit—G. W. Langley; T. B. Hall, supernumerary. Church Hill Circuit—W. W. McAnally. Henderson Station—J. S. Matthis. Henderson Circuit—E. R. Large. Troop and Overton Circuit—L. H. Smith. Alexander Institute—L. Alexander. Editor Texas Christian Advocate—James Campbell.

TYLER DISTRICT.

JOHN ADAMS, P. E. Tyler Station—D. F. C. Timmons; W. N. Bonner, supernumerary. Tyler City Mission—O. C. Fontain. Augusta Circuit—L. A. Burt. Crockett Station—J. C. Calhoun. Crockett Circuit—Supplied by T. W. Boynton. Trinity Circuit—A. J. Frick. Also Circuit—A. G. Scruggs. Hooper Circuit—Chas. B. Smith. Rusk Station—B. R. Bolton. Jacksonville Station—J. F. Archer. Cardinale Circuit—E. Smith. Lawrence Mission—Supplied by J. B. Luker. State Prison at Rusk—J. C. Woolam.

San Augustine District.

J. W. JOHNSON, P. E. San Augustine and Section—Leon Sonfield. McIrose Circuit—J. M. Smith; L. F. Smith, supernumerary. Jackson Circuit—G. W. Riley. Center Circuit—W. L. Pate. Shelbyville Circuit—J. F. Burke. Cardinale Circuit—E. Smith. Beckville Circuit—L. C. Crouse. Mount Enterprise Circuit—Supplied by T. B. Vinson. Seacocks, Garrison and Lutkin—J. L. Dawson. Sex on Circuit—Supplied by I. F. Pace. Lion Via Circuit—J. D. Donagan. Centennial Mission—G. Hughes. Hemphill Mission—A. D. Long. Martineville Mission—Supplied by T. M. Pledger.

Beaumont District.

F. J. BROWNING, P. E. Beaumont, First Church—J. V. Ridley. Second Church—To be supplied by F. G. Watson. Orange Station—W. A. Sanyer. Jasper Station—R. M. Sproule. Jasper Circuit—Wm. Sproule. Livingston Circuit—J. M. Porter. Woodville Circuit—J. C. H. McKnight. Osceola Circuit—J. M. McCarter. Orange Circuit—E. T. Bracher. Burkville Circuit—J. L. Wyche. Sunset Circuit—N. A. Godbey. Colmansville Circuit—To be supplied by John D. Rogers. Liberty Circuit—To be supplied by J. W. Cullen. Sabine Pass Mission—J. W. Bradford.

TRANSFERRED.

W. B. Patterson, to Northwest Texas Conference, and stationed at Oak Cliff. H. C. Parrott, to North Texas Conference, and stationed at Gariand. H. H. Vaughan, to Northwest Texas Conference, and stationed on Marytown Circuit.

STATISTICS.

MEMBERSHIP. District. Local Preachers. Members. Gain. Marshall..... 17 3514 160 Tyler..... 24 5118 310 Palestine..... 34 4223 357 San Augustine..... 24 5314 135 Beaumont..... 24 3384 259 Total..... 143 20,792 1201 Total last year..... 150 20,614 Increase..... 7 178

CHAIRMAN. District. Local Preachers. Members. Gain. Marshall..... 17 3514 160 Tyler..... 24 5118 310 Palestine..... 34 4223 357 San Augustine..... 24 5314 135 Beaumont..... 24 3384 259 Total..... 143 20,792 1201 Total last year..... 150 20,614 Increase..... 7 178

BAPTISMS.		
Districts.	Adults.	Infants.
Marshall.....	98	65
Tyler.....	277	150
Palestine.....	185	105
San Augustine.....	164	141
Beaumont.....	191	174
Total.....	621	715
Total last year.....	543	569
Increase.....	78	146

CHURCHES.		
Districts.	No.	Value.
Marshall.....	36	\$3,400
Tyler.....	403	\$39,839
Palestine.....	294	\$34,625
San Augustine.....	49	\$36,650
Beaumont.....	29	14,635
Total.....	1999	143,710
Total last year.....	1923	133,175
Increase.....	76	9,535

PARSONAGES.		
Districts.	No.	Value.
Marshall.....	9	\$1,558
Tyler.....	10	6,575
Palestine.....	9	5,169
San Augustine.....	7	4,400
Beaumont.....	7	4,400
Total.....	45	\$21,138
Total last year.....	38	\$7,550
Increase.....	7	13,588

OTHER CHURCH PROPERTY.		
Districts.	Value.	Money Ex.
Marshall.....	\$ 9539	\$1700 70
Tyler.....	3770	2837 39
Palestine.....	1645	2717 55
San Augustine.....	1245	1423 25
Beaumont.....	1438	889 00
Total.....	\$16,928	\$9629 77
Total last year.....	\$16,349	9549 49
Increase.....	579	484 81

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.		
Districts.	No. Schols.	Teachers.
Marshall.....	29	223
Tyler.....	51	324
Palestine.....	37	235
San Augustine.....	27	130
Beaumont.....	29	245
Total.....	192	1198
Total last year.....	185	1078
Increase.....	7	120

MISCELLANEOUS.		
Districts.	No. Schols.	Money Ex.
Marshall.....	1401	\$419 80
Tyler.....	2214	329 72
Palestine.....	1572	439 31
San Augustine.....	1344	209 25
Beaumont.....	1640	349 65
Total.....	8669	\$1869 33
Total last year.....	8786	1919 35
Increase.....	394	49 95

RAISED FOR MISSIONS IN SUNDAY SCHOOLS.		
Districts.	Money Raised.	Other Objects.
Marshall.....	\$353 00	\$1391 99
Tyler.....	27 25	604 50
Palestine.....	1 65	9 29
San Augustine.....	1 65	347 25
Beaumont.....	1 65	347 25
Total.....	\$384 20	\$2336 40
Total last year.....	137 50	841 78
Increase.....	246 70	1511 62

FOREIGN MISSIONS.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$ 615 00	\$ 663 50
Tyler.....	770 00	800 00
Palestine.....	730 00	607 50
San Augustine.....	770 00	607 50
Beaumont.....	410 00	300 00
Total.....	\$3305 00	\$3280 00
Total last year.....	\$272 00	\$263 50
Increase.....	2533 00	2645 50
Decrease.....	117 50	65 85

CHURCH EXTENSION—EDUCATION.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$ 205 00	\$ 139 75
Tyler.....	230 00	214 69
Palestine.....	205 00	112 75
San Augustine.....	211 00	201 00
Beaumont.....	140 00	21 00
Total.....	\$891 00	\$729 19
Total last year.....	\$91 45	\$74 70
Increase.....	800 55	654 49
Decrease.....	10 90	36 26

MINISTERS.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$15 00	\$14 75
Tyler.....	15 00	14 75
Palestine.....	15 00	14 75
San Augustine.....	15 00	14 75
Beaumont.....	15 00	14 75
Total.....	\$75 00	\$73 25

PAID PRAECHEURS.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$ 205 00	\$ 139 75
Tyler.....	230 00	214 69
Palestine.....	205 00	112 75
San Augustine.....	211 00	201 00
Beaumont.....	140 00	21 00
Total.....	\$891 00	\$729 19
Total last year.....	\$91 45	\$74 70
Increase.....	800 55	654 49
Decrease.....	10 90	36 26

PREACHING DURING THE WEEK.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$ 89 50	\$ 87 75
Tyler.....	85 00	80 00
Palestine.....	80 00	75 00
San Augustine.....	80 00	75 00
Beaumont.....	54 50	52 25
Total.....	\$409 00	\$390 00
Total last year.....	\$365 50	\$347 25
Increase.....	\$43 50	\$42 75
Decrease.....	\$ 174 50	\$ 234 24

BISHOPS.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$ 89 50	\$ 87 75
Tyler.....	85 00	80 00
Palestine.....	80 00	75 00
San Augustine.....	80 00	75 00
Beaumont.....	54 50	52 25
Total.....	\$409 00	\$390 00
Total last year.....	\$365 50	\$347 25
Increase.....	\$43 50	\$42 75
Decrease.....	\$ 174 50	\$ 234 24

CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS AND OTHER OBJECTS.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$ 325 00	\$ 324 25
Tyler.....	295 00	288 00
Palestine.....	305 00	295 00
San Augustine.....	301 50	270 00
Beaumont.....	126 00	123 00
Total.....	\$1352 50	\$1300 25
Total last year.....	\$1166 00	\$1166 00
Increase.....	\$186 50	\$134 25
Decrease.....	\$ 193 00	\$ 29 25

JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall.....	\$ 325 00	\$ 324 25
Tyler.....	295 00	288 00
Palestine.....	305 00	295 00
San Augustine.....	301 50	270 00
Beaumont.....	126 00	123 00
Total.....	\$1352 50	\$1300 25
Total last year.....	\$1166 00	\$1166 00
Increase.....	\$186 50	\$134 25
Decrease.....	\$ 193 00	\$ 29 25

Assessed for conference claimants for the year 1890, \$1,400, and apportioned as follows:		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall District.....	\$ 320	\$ 320
Tyler District.....	290	290
Palestine District.....	300	300
San Augustine District.....	300	300
Beaumont District.....	190	190
Total.....	\$1,400	\$1,400

Assessed for Bishops for year 1890, \$410, and apportioned as follows:		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall District.....	\$100	\$100
Tyler District.....	85	85
Palestine District.....	85	85
San Augustine District.....	85	85
Beaumont District.....	55	55
Total.....	\$410	\$410

Assessed for printing minutes for 1890, \$100, and apportioned as follows:		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall District.....	\$ 22	\$ 22
Tyler District.....	20	20
Palestine District.....	20	20
San Augustine District.....	20	20
Beaumont District.....	18	18
Total.....	\$100	\$100

Received for conference claimants, bishops fund, delegates, and printing minutes from the five districts for the present year, 1889:		
Districts.	Assessed.	Paids.
Marshall District.....	\$ 235 25	\$ 27 75
Tyler District.....	208 00	50 00
Palestine District.....	250 00	65 25

Texas Christian Advocate.

SUNDAY TRAINS, STREET CARS, RAILS, ETC. REV. L. L. VICKETT.

We object further to the patronage of these Sabbath-breaking institutions because their running is a violation of the Golden Rule. "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." (Matt. vii. 12.) I maintain that every patron of an institution that is robbing its employees of their Sabbath day, while it is so doing, is a party to its sin against the laboring man. No Sunday trains, street cars, livery stable, newspaper, etc., can run on Sunday without patronage. The owners do not carry on their business on the Sabbath for pleasure simply, but for profit. They will not run without support. This being true, every patron is a party to their sin both against God and man. If it is not a sin to patronize these things in their violations of the fourth commandment, it is no sin to the owners who run them; and, vice versa, if it is a sin to run them as owner, it is a sin to encourage and make the Sunday running possible as patron.

Only two classes are involved in this wholesale transgression of the commandment and robbery of the laboring man. Is it not robbing the laborer to require him to give up his day of rest and worship? And is not this the very thing that is done by all these lines of Sunday business? Is not robbing a man of his Sabbath day very nearly like robbing him of his soul? How would the reader like to try the journey heavenward without the help to be had in the observance of the Sabbath? As I would not like to have the Sabbath, with its holy privileges, taken from me or from my family, I am not at all willing to join any godless corporation in withholding from its laborers the priceless boon of the holy day. "As ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." We insist that the owners and the patrons of every Sunday train, postoffice, newspaper, street car, and other line of business which works its employees on the Sabbath, are alike guilty of doing to others what they would not have done for themselves, if they profess any regard whatever for the Sabbath.

Daniel was required by the king and the princes to stop his prayers for thirty days, but I imagine none of my readers would have been willing to have joined with the princes in thrusting him down into the den of lions. But how much better is it in this land of Bible light and liberty to force a poor man with the wolf of want into abandoning his Sabbath of rest and worship? True the workmen are not all Daniels, else they would be true to God and the right and take the risk. But I had rather take Daniel's place than that of his persecutors, and I had about as soon take the place of some of these oppressed workmen in the judgment, though they have toiled through the sacred Sabbath hours, as to stand with the conscienceless corporations and the heartless and backslidden church people who patronize these evils.

What would be said of church members of to-day who would join a Pharaoh in his cruel oppression of an over-taxed Israel? Yet is not this thing done here our eyes? Do not the Goulds (Goulds?) and other corporation managers say to the million of over-worked laborers that they must forget God, trample his commandment under foot, and surrender every Sabbath evening or forfeit their position—their living it is. Yet with this truth before their eyes, are there not thousands of professed Christians, yea, even preachers, who lend the sanction of their patronage to the perpetration of the evil?

A professor of the Christian religion who lends his vote and patronage to the liquor traffic, that its baleful influence may be perpetuated, is looked upon as a moral monstrosity, a very plague spot upon the body spiritual. Yet how much nearer holiness and heaven can we expect a Sabbathless people to get than a drink-cursed people? When we lose our Sabbath can we reasonably hope to be a sober people? When the world, the flesh and the devil break down our holy Sabbath, how far will the national ship be from the masthead of intemperance?

From out of the depths of sorrow the wives and children of thousands of toiling men are sending up their prayers, moistened with their tears, that the husband and the father, the brother, the son, may have a day of rest and worship in every seven. God will surely answer their prayers, and his curse may fall upon many a prosperous enterprise and many a thoughtless patron.

I have frequently spoken to conductors about this matter, and I find that they are crying out from a sense of injustice and oppression. An agent told me a short time since that working on Sunday hurt his conscience, but he had quieted the voice of conscience somewhat by the fact that a great many church members and some preachers rode on the trains on Sunday. They were thus stumbling blocks to that man's soul. The voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me. Reader, keep the Lord's day and defend it.

I will send ten copies of my little book, "The Holy Day," to any one address for \$1, strictly cash with order, and devote the whole amount to a special fund I am raising to support a missionary in Japan. Let individuals, Sunday-schools, etc., send in their orders.

DAINGERFIELD, TEXAS

AN EXPLANATION EXPLAINED.

It is a pity that Bro. H. A. Bourland's native kindness of heart has led him to attempt an explanation of what needed no explanation, to-wit: why Bro. C. H. Ellis was located by the

Northwest Texas Conference at its recent session. Bro. Ellis endured an ordeal severe enough to make it proper and right never to allude publicly to the matter again. But since Bro. Bourland tries to explain what cannot be made plainer than the conference reporter's laconic, but strictly correct, "by the conference" put it, his explanation needs explanation or rather correction. Having been advertised as the reporter this writer will be held responsible for such correction if needed. Bro. Ellis' character was not "left in doubt" so far as its moral element is concerned. Conferences do not locate their members for immorality. Of course "every brother would have gladly voted to pass his character if he had confessed to the violation of the law" and had promised amendment in the future, for nobody ever saw a whole conference try as hard to save a man. Bro. Bourland is mistaken when he speaks for all of us and says "that he is a sound Methodist no one doubted." It was upon the very ground of his unsoundness as an itinerant Methodist preacher that this writer voted to locate him. Bro. Ellis' action in not going to his circuit touches the Methodist itinerancy at its most vital point. We must accept the voice of the bishop, after he has consulted his cabinet of presiding elders, as the voice of God, or our system goes to pieces. Bro. Ellis was located by the Northwest Texas Conference for refusing flatly to do this. Simply this and nothing more.

SAMUEL P. WRIGHT.

AN EXPLANATION.

Allow an old Confederate soldier to concur with Judge Sterling Fisher in the patriotic sentiments expressed in your issue of the 5th inst. And at the same time to call the Judge's attention to the fact that the stanza in hymn 899th is composed of three lines of seven, and one of six syllables; while the old John Brown song, which so infamously caricatures the Hon. Jefferson Davis, is composed of 11s and 7s, with the 7 converted now and then into a 6. The similarity in the melody likely caused the tunes to be thought to be identical; but the plantation negroes of the South sang, Say, brothers, will you meet us, long before John Brown's body lay mouldering in the tomb.

The old-time chivalry will never die out of the South. I protest it is not rebellion. It claims the heroes of the North and of the South; but it will not allow, for a single moment, contempt to be poured upon that peerless statesman and fallen hero, Jefferson Davis. JOHN F. NEAL. COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS.

PRACTICAL HITS—RECEIVING THE NEW PREACHER.

READ THIS PIECE, FRIEND. Your new preacher has just arrived, or will be on in a few days. Go to church and hear him by all means. Remember he is your pastor now, and receive him heartily.

When the sermon is over go up and speak to him, and tell him who you are and where you live, and ask him to come to see you. Don't see that phrase that had its origin in some unsocial, half-civilized ice-berg, "call when passing." The next time you see him speak to him again, and if he fails to recognize you and call you by name and locate you, don't be surprised out of your wits and declare the new preacher is distant. Remember that he is in a strange community, meeting strange faces and names every day, and there is hardly one man in ten thousand that can get names and faces fixed in his mind by meeting just once. There are some people that never meet any sociable folks. They are all distant. It is accounted for on the same principle that one looking through green spectacles sees no other color but green. Or take Solomon's explanation of it. Prov. xviii:24: "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly."

Sometimes Methodists move into a town and hold their letters for months, and rarely ever attend church, or, if they do, slip in and take a back seat and out again as soon as benediction is said, and never give the preacher any chance to meet them. And after months the preacher accidentally hears of their whereabouts and that they used to be Methodists and by this time they are backslidden just about enough to deny that they ever were Methodists, or compromise by saying: "I did join once when I was a child."

When your preacher comes to see you don't entertain him by telling him of the failures and imperfections of his predecessor. It will not be entertaining to him, besides it will make him look into the future with dark forebodings, remembering his time is coming "by and by."

Don't get mad and say ugly words about the appointing powers for not sending back the preacher you had last year. It may be he didn't want to come back. He felt a delicacy in telling you so, your know. Co-operate with your new preacher, he may be better than your old one, after all. When he denounces the sins of the day "holier" Amen as loud as you can "squall," and don't take sides with the devil's tender-footed goats against your preacher. The labors of many preachers are lost on the desert air, because the church will not hold up their hands. When the world, the flesh and the devil can find a few weak-back church members to join them in opposing the preacher, it is fine capital to add to their diabolical stock. Don't send off for some one else to bury your dead, or say the marriage ceremony. Your pastor is the proper person to attend to all these duties. Your preacher is better acquainted, perhaps, with his brethren than you are and is supposed to know who he wants to help him in his meetings, and let him invite his own help. A pastor once had a meeting running and another brother helping him, and about preaching time

a second brother reported who had been announced by a layman to preach at that hour, so things were a little confused.

I think we preachers should observe to be very careful when an invitation comes to us from another brother's charge to attend to official duties and find out whether the invitation comes on account of any bad feeling toward the pastor, and if so our rule should be to promptly not go. I feel sure that about nine-tenths of such invitations come on account of bad feeling. No preacher can afford to cater to any such a spirit.

The time has come for Methodism to stamp out forever this abominable practice of repudiating her pastors. Let the whole church and ministry shout, Amen! C. G. SHUTT. LANCASTER, TEXAS.

REV. EDMUND J. WILLIAMS.

The death of Rev. Edmund J. Williams, which occurred in this city on the 2d inst., removed from our midst one of the few links that bind us as a church to the historic past. He was born in 1812 in Montgomery county, N. C. His father and mother were staunch Methodists and mingled in the heroic scenes of those first years when Methodism was being planted in the new world. At the age of sixteen he was converted. That was before the day of the "stand-up-and-be-counted" way of getting religion. His was a deep conviction, and after an intense agony of soul he came out into the clear sunlight of conscious acceptance with God. But so memorable was the transaction that more than sixty years afterward he said: "I could just as easily doubt my very existence as my conversion on that day." Soon after this God called him to preach. The call was distinct and he heard it, but hesitated to answer. He was naturally timid and felt conscious of a lack of education and tried by every means to have himself excused. Not that he feared the hardships, or labor, or dangers of itinerant life, but it was the awful responsibilities of a watchman that made him tremble and wait. But at the age of twenty-three he completely surrendered at the cross. The church took him, gave him a commission and sent him forth against the strongest roots of the enemy. That commission he preserved pure and unswayed and never gave it up until he laid it down at the Master's feet. In 1835 he joined the Tennessee Conference, and among that noble band he, from the first, found a place of honor and esteem. When this conference was divided his lot fell in with the North Mississippi Conference, where he filled many important and difficult stations, and his name was still on that honored roll when he died.

He was always feeble in body and the great grief of his life was his inability to respond with active service when the trumpet called to battle. During the last twenty years he was a great sufferer. This gave him occasion to test in the crucible of affliction the gospel which he had preached to others. Surely if there had been any flaw in it, if there were any emergency of life it could not meet, he could have found it out in a ministry of more than fifty years and such a seige of suffering. Yet his testimony to the last was clear as a sunbeam and with unshaken confidence. He was a patient sufferer. During protracted and most excruciating pain scarcely a murmur escaped his lips.

He was very happy in his family life. He was married in 1838 to Miss Almira P. Smith, a niece of Dr. J. B. McFerrin. Faithfully they walked together the journey of life, and now that he is gone, she feels bereaved. The home is lonely, but she sorrows not as those who have no hope. God gave them four children. A bright boy of ten years was already in heaven. Two boys and a daughter are left to honor his memory and profit by his example. His death was as peaceful as an infant's slumber. So quietly did he take his leave that the watchers scarcely knew when he was gone.

He came to Texas in the spring of 1887 in order to be with his boys. His life was a benediction to the church in Fort Worth, and now that he is gone the universal verdict is: "A good man has gone to his reward."

The church should never forget these noble old men, the pioneers, who, by their self-sacrificing labor, made possible the grand superstructure of Methodism of which we to-day are justly so proud. They labored and we have entered into their labors. They sowed the seeds and we reap the harvest.

May the comforting promises of the gospel he preached be the solace of his bereaved family, and may the Christ whom he served bind up their bleeding hearts. JOHN M. BARBUS.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE METHODIST LAITY.

Rev. Arthur E. Gregory prepared a program for the opening of Hatfield Chapel so full of events that we are compelled once more to return to the subject. On Wednesday, the 6th inst., the services were continued at the chapel. In the afternoon the president of the conference preached a special sermon, and in the evening a public meeting was held, over which Mr. R. W. Perks, of Chislehurst, the Liberal candidate for the Louth Division of Lincolnshire, presided. At this meeting Mr. Gregory once again sketched the history of the movement for the building of a new chapel. There is only one remark, however, to which we need refer, as the history is well known to our readers. Mr. Gregory said that certain good friends had written to him to the effect that they did not sympathize with the movement, and they had likewise withheld their money. We ourselves can scarcely recognize such people as "good friends" of Methodism. The chairman delivered an important address, in which he reviewed the

position of Methodism, sketched reforms that were in his opinion necessary, and amid frequent applause, laid stress upon the necessity of encouraging the laymen in Methodism to take a lively interest in the spiritual life of their church.

Mr. Perks said that he did not wish that night to revive old controversies, and, after all, it was not surprising that landed proprietors closely allied with the Anglican Church, having in their hands so much of the patronage of the establishment, should steadily resist the growth of Dissent. It would be, perhaps, a more useful thing to look at themselves as a religious, ecclesiastical, and social force, rather than at the Church of England. Were they, as a spiritual organization, proceeding from strength to strength? He (the speaker) did not hesitate to express his strong conviction that, having regard to the enormous forces brought into the field by Wesleyan Methodism, the vast wealth of the body, the large army of lay workers, the self-sacrificing labors of the ministers, and the variety of their church organizations, Methodism had, during the Queen's reign, made poor progress. While the population of Great Britain has practically doubled during the Queen's reign, the number of members of society—that is to say, the only people who were strictly entitled to call themselves Wesleyan Methodists—had only grown from 307,000 to 420,000. The circuits had increased from 404 to 780, the ordained ministers from 924 to 1,579, 25,000 lay leaders, and 15,000 lay preachers, and a gigantic array of Sunday-school teachers, and yet, taking the test of conational progress, they had this paltry result to show. How was it?

It was not that the people did not join Methodism. They did; but they did not stay. During the last five years they had only added 10,000 persons to the membership of Methodism. It was an astounding and appalling fact that during the last decade a quarter of a million people had joined the Methodist Church and gone out again. They might call these people backsliders, and speak of them as lapsing into the world, but there was the startling truth that each year 25,000 people in Great Britain left the Methodist societies.

Now, what was the reason? He felt that the enormous growth and the valuable service rendered by a cheap religious press, which brought religious instruction into the homes of the people, had much to do with it; and he would not be dealing frankly with them if he failed to say that the financial basis on which their class-meetings rested had, in his judgment, much to do with the annual disappearance of this great mass of supporters.

Methodism would, he thought, prosper or decline just in proportion to the influence which the laymen of that body exerted in shaping the public policy and rousing the spiritual life of their church. The laity must take a far more active part in the legislative and executive work of their church. If this were not done the effect must be as disastrous as it had been in other communities which had allowed the initiative and control to pass from the hands of the laymen into those of the clergy and ecclesiastics. An eminent and unusually well-informed Wesleyan minister had recently described the ministers of Methodism, the ordained preachers, by the way, and not the local preachers, as the "central directive body." He had claimed for them the functions of "leaders as well as teachers, captains as well as pastors." The connection required, he said, this central "permanent council" of ministers "united by a lifelong sacred bond in Christian consecration." This eminent Methodist writer, and no one would dispute his ability or influence, declared that the "chiefs must gather in council," and he claimed that what he termed the "preaching brotherhood," again excluding the 15,000 local preachers, had made Methodism what it was. Now, as a Methodist layman, he, the speaker, was not prepared to accept this position or to admit these extraordinary and novel claims.

But if the laity lapsed into this position it would be their own fault. He believed that the effective co-operation of the laity was an essential condition to the purity and progress of an evangelistic church. Prominent Methodist laymen were found to-day in large numbers in Parliament, in the county councils, in the front rank of local municipal life, upon the political and philanthropic platforms of England. How was it that so many of them did not attend the conference, and those who came so soon went away? The proceedings of the conference were largely technical and statistical. There was little opportunity afforded for the discussion of great religious and social problems of the day. Educational questions, the great temperance conflict, socialism and Christianity, musical services in town and country chapels, the relations of the church to dissent in villages, the great labor problems in their relation to Christianity, women's work in the church, Sunday-school administration, Methodism and the cross, the attitude and teaching of the church on war, the progress of Methodism abroad—these were all questions of supreme public interest, but seldom discussed in the Wesleyan Conference.

His (the speaker's) solution would be a triennial Methodist Church congress for the British Methodist churches. He then advocated the reform of the three years' system, the enlargement of

the districts, and the setting apart the chairman to the work of the districts, the admission of women to the district councils of the church, and a Methodist press and literature under the joint control of ministers and laity.

Mr. Perks gave £25 to the funds, and promised an equal sum when the liquidation of the debt was possible. Mr. Munt, of Highgate, to whom much of the success of the movement is due, was the next speaker, and he was followed by the president of the conference, who observed that as Wesleyans they did not intend to die, nor to be killed, and the sooner people of all ranks knew that the better. Probably the incident in connection with Hatfield might be more far-reaching than many supposed. The day had come when the voice of England must ask for a sites bill for places of worship, and the more exalted the personage who rendered this necessary, the better it would be for those who needed the sites. He urged them not to be discouraged by the chairman's remarks. Wesley's followers to-day numbered 27,000,000, and if they counted their numbers by the number of their communicants, as did other churches, their membership would have a very different aspect to that presented.

Mr. Robert W. Perks, the son of an eminent president of the conference, and himself one of the most influential of our younger laymen, made a remarkable speech at Hatfield last week. We publish elsewhere an authentic report of it. Mr. Perks is very dissatisfied with the progress of our church during the reign of our present Sovereign. He says that since 1837 our society members have "only grown from 307,000 to 420,000." It is scarcely fair of Mr. Perks to judge us exclusively by this severe test. He knows, although many of his uninitiated readers will not know, that no other church in the world reckons its adherents in this way. By any test, for example, that the Church of England or the Church of Rome would employ, our numerical strength in England to-day is near 2,000,000 than the figure he gives. But apart from that, he completely ignores the disastrous schisms which, since the Queen began her reign, have robbed us of at least 150,000 society members, and many times that number of adherents. It took us twenty-six years to recover the number of society members we reported at the outbreak of the last agitation; and those were the very years during which the population was advancing by leaps and bounds. We can never recover the great position we wantonly sacrificed then. That suicidal strife is still the main cause of the awful leakage from our membership. It emptied many of our most important chapels, it greatly enfeebled us in all parts of the country, and it filled our ecclesiastical leaders with preternatural timidity. The fear of another "agitation" led them for many years to set their faces like a flint against all innovations. It is the memory of those terrible days which still leads some excellent men to regard the Forward Movement with so much suspicion. Not a few of our ministers and of our senior lay officials are yet under the spell of the reaction which followed the last and most terrible of all our fratricidal struggles. Hence their great reluctance to adapt Methodism to the changed circumstances of the New Era. Mr. Perks strangely overlooks the main factor in the sad problem he discusses.

We are sure, also, that he is mistaken when he says that "during the last decade a quarter of a million people have joined the Methodist Church and gone out again." If he will look into the registers of any of our churches, he will find that the people who have "gone out" are not, as he assumes, the same people who have "joined" during the period, but a totally different class of people. The majority of the new members of the last decade have been the fruit of great revivals of religion, and the majority of those which have "ceased to meet" have been people whose names have been cleared out of the class-books when the influx of new members permitted that operation to take place without reducing the net number returned annually to the conference. Our comparatively stationary condition is due to the fact that English Methodism is simultaneously experiencing two opposite movements—a forward and a backward movement. On the one hand, we are gaining new converts on an absolutely unprecedented scale. No famous revivalist of the past ever witnessed so many conversions as our connectional and other evangelists now witness. When before have we of our fathers seen a thousand inquirers in one week? But on the other hand this enormous gain is almost neutralized, not by the falling away of the new converts—they never stood so well—but by the wholesale defections which take place when our services and methods are not adapted to "the majority outside." There is no reason whatever why the recent successes of London, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Luton, and other places should not be repeated everywhere. There is no reason why the great combined movement at Bolton should not be imitated in every great center. We are glad to know that it is about to be imitated at Leeds.

We believe these inspiring triumphs

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are going to be witnessed all over the land. Not a week passes now without a report from some town or village of adaptation, development, and advance. The fact is that Mr. Perks' complaint is at least ten years behind the time. There never was a moment in our history when there was less occasion for lamentation than there is to-day. The Church Times will, probably, be confirmed in its delusions by Mr. Perks' misleading statistics. But before ten years have passed away, even the Church Times will be unable to shut its eyes to the fact that Methodism is renewing its youth. The temperance work of George Maunders and Charles Garrett is at last carrying all before it. The noble social Christianity of Dr. Stephenson's Children's Home is bearing precious fruit in every direction. The daring evangelism of Alexander McAulay is stirring the whole land. The culture of Arthur, and Moulton, and Dallinger is rendering splendid service. Methodism is once more in the very van of aggressive soul-saving Christianity. Never within living memory were our prospects so bright as they are to-day.

At the same time, we heartily and entirely agree with Mr. Perks that "the laity must take a far more active part in the legislative and executive work of our church." We also emphatically endorse his further conclusion that if the laity do not actively participate, it will "be their own fault." Mr. Perks is dissatisfied with the part the laity play to-day. So he ought to be. But whose fault is it? Ever since this journal was founded we have been contending, in season and out of season, for the rights and privileges of the laity. We have alienated the sympathies of some excellent ministers whose support we should have valued very much. All last year we fought for the rights of the laity in the conference. But during the whole of that time not a single layman took the trouble to support us. The only layman who entered the lists at all was Mr. Beauchamp, and he came to advocate clerical supremacy! We fear that even now the majority of our representative laymen are only half alive to their duties and their privileges. All the reforms which Mr. Perks advocates will be discussed and, if desirable, conceded, as soon as our laymen take the trouble to fill their proper place in the councils of our church. —Methodist Times (London).



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Edited by Members of the Senior Class. MARY OGBURN, BESSIE MANSUM, Editors for December.

Among the Hebrews. To the tourist in search of nature in its wildest and most varied grandeur, untouched by the hand of art, and scarcely conscious of the existence of man, I would say, "Go to Oban; stop there, and at your leisure enjoy the picturesque excursions that radiate from this lacustrine capital of the Western Highlands."

The traveler bent on pleasure or intellectual improvement looks most eagerly for those places replete with historical associations—places he has so often frequented in thought that they have become familiar friends; so at Oban, one naturally turns to "far-famed Staffa" and Iona, sacred with so many memories of true piety and Christian devotion.

Comfortably settled on one of the little streamers that leave the city early in the morning, we turned out of the bay under the shadow of the crumbling walls of Dunolly Castle, gray with lichen and green with ivy, the home of the haughty race of Lorn, the scene of the taking of the brooch of Bruce, the "Lay of the Last Minstrel"—that apple of discord at the wedding feast of fair Edith Lorn.

To one that has seen it, the name of the Sound of Kerrara will bring visions of all the beautiful possible to combinations of blue water and green hills. If fresh from the ocean voyage one will be more impressed by the water; here it is clear and placid as a mirror, with scarcely a ripple, reflecting the deep blue of the sky above; the soft, misty atmosphere has the effect of the cool shade of dark foliage; the peace and calm around, undisturbed by the gentle motion of the little boat, comes like a breath from the land of eternal rest.

To the South rose the Pass of Jura and disappeared in the over-hanging sea of mist; to the West, the hills of Mull moulded as smoothly as huge mounds, the sharp outlines softened by the haze and distance. There is a mysterious, weird charm given to the mountain scenery of Scotland by the mists that hover over the rugged peaks like guardian angels, shedding a gentle, peaceful radiance over all.

An occasional ray of sunlight stealing through reflects a thousand different hues and colors. Continuing around the island of Mull, we reached Iona, a spot for centuries sacred to king and peasant as the home of piety and learning. Now, after the lapse of years, no traveler to whom the name of Saint Columba is known can tread upon its shores and look upon its crumbling monuments without a feeling of reverence and devotion.

The spirit of the truly pious saint seems to dwell there still. Early in the sixth century the Irish monk, Columba, with twelve comrades came to this lonely island seeking solitude and seclusion that they might entirely consecrate themselves by self-sacrifice and meditation to what they conceived to be the true service of God. Here they founded a monastery and for many years, with no companionship but the wild sea birds and the breaking of the waves on the rocky shores of the opposite islands, they gave themselves up to the service of God, it not with the intelligence, at least with the zeal of the early apostles.

Several centuries later, in the days of Romish rule, a cathedral and nunnery were built, and St. Oran's Chapel and Iona became the seat of learning and religion of the West. The ruins are fine specimens of early pointed architecture and Celtic art. The fine proportions and beautiful Runic carving of the famous cross of St. Martin make it a most valuable relic. It is, however, as the place where "the mighty kings of three fair realms are laid" that Iona is most interesting. After years spent in gratifying ambition and selfish passions, with hands stained with blood and hearts blackened with sin, the Macbeths and haughty chiefs of MelCoid and McLean, true to the instincts of frail humanity, turned their dying eyes to the lonely home of the pious Saint as their last hope and refuge.

Many thanks are due the Duke of Argyll, the present proprietor of the island, for the care he has taken to preserve the interesting relics it contains. Leaving this historic ground we passed on by "Ulva's Isle" and Inch Kenneth, the site of "Castle Dara," to Staffa. The coast all along on either side shows a basaltic formation until it culminates in this superb columnar structure. Rising abruptly out of the sea, a mass of perpendicular rock, crowned with green, Staffa could not fail to catch the eye of the tourist and inspire him with interest. Leaving the large boat for a small one, we were rowed into the first opening in the rock. No architectural ruin can surpass in staleness and beauty of outline the lofty polished columns and gothic arches of Fingal's Cave. It is one of Nature's masterpieces. In the two other caves are fine columns, but their beauty is marred by the curved and irregular outline. In this loneliness, the weird cry of the sea birds that find their home in its dark recesses, the roar of the sea, the silent majesty of the rocks, give a grandeur to the scene beyond description, and proclaim to the world, "The hand that made it is divine." The monk of Iona needed nothing else for his faith to feed on than this handwork of God. It was the Jerusalem towards which he might lift up his face in prayer.

After gathering together his reluctant passengers, the boat turned homeward around the point, calling at Tobermory, into the Sound of Mull. Here we found attraction that at least softened the regret of leaving Staffa. For the first time, the Mowen Falls, charmingly familiar to every tourist, were seen in irregular, rugged outline against the horizon of soft mist. Here and there on rocky promontories were the moss growing in the strongholds of the "Lords of Iona." One will unconsciously fall a day-dreaming, drifting back to the days when the sombre old walls echoed to the treat of proud names and crested chiefs; when at the sound of the slogan the green hills, now deserted, were alive with the gay plaid and bonnet of the clansmen; when the shrill notes of the bagpipe were caught up by the mountains and wafted back softened and made musical. Near the eastern end of the Sound of Mull, on the mainland, is the handsome ruin of Ardornish Castle; only a part of the donjon tower now remains. Here was laid the scene of the "Lord of the Isles"; where the Bruce, with his few faithful followers found shelter from a stormy sea. Scott has given many fine descriptions of these islands and one thinks of him constantly. The Scotch people adore Scott, not as a novelist, upon which undoubtedly his literary reputation rests, but as a poet. Burns, the sweetest of singers, they care for only through a feeling of pride in the rank given him by the outside literary world.

Out of the Sound of Mull we turned into the entrance of Loch Linnhe. I lifted my eyes to enjoy the fair scene before me, for there can not be found a more magnificent grouping of mountains and hills. Far to the left is Ben Nevis, monarch of the Gierocoe hills, and indeed of the highlands; in front, Ben Cruachan, towering far above the Argyllshire hills, that rise around its base in picturesque groupings; to the far left the Pass of Jura; behind, the huge double peaks of Ben More and the Hebronn hills. Here we had drunk our fill of this gorgeous scene as it had dissolved in mist, and we found ourselves under the walls of Dunolly and again in the Bay of Oban.

About the Lesson.

LESSON XII, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22.

CLOSE OF SOLOMON'S REIGN.

I Kings xl:26-43.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man." (Eccles. xii:13)

MEMORY VERSES, 42, 43.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. What is this lesson about? The close of Solomon's reign. 2. What is the Golden Text? "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man."

3. What is the date, and the place? About 980 B. C., and "in the way," leading out of Jerusalem. 4. Who was Jeroboam? The son of Nebat.

5. Where did he live? In Zereda. 6. What did he do against the king? He lifted up his hand against the king.

7. What two things led him to do this? Ambition for place and the prophecy of Ahijah. 8. What work was Solomon engaged in? Building Millo.

9. In what way did he come to notice Jeroboam? He saw the young man was industrious. 10. In what way did Solomon honor him? He put him over the men at work.

11. What took place as Jeroboam was once going out of Jerusalem? The prophet Ahijah, the Shilonite, found him. 12. Who was he? We do not know.

13. What did he do? He tore his new garment into twelve pieces. 14. What did he do with ten pieces? Gave them to Jeroboam.

15. How many tribes were left with the house of David? One. 16. Why does the Lord promise one tribe? For David's sake.

17. Why was the kingdom taken from Solomon? Because he worshiped false gods. 18. What did Solomon try to do? To kill Jeroboam.

19. Whither did Jeroboam flee? To Egypt. 20. How long did he stay there? Till Solomon's death.

LESSON SURROUNDINGS.

Intervening Events.—The present lesson covers in part the same period of time as the last; hence the events recorded in I Kings xii:14-25 are not strictly "intervening." An account is there given of two adversaries who harassed Solomon during his reign: one, Hadad, and Edomite, who escaped the slaughter in the days of David, and allied himself with the king of Egypt; the other, Rezon, who established himself in Damascus.

Places.—The city of David; some place in the vicinity of Jerusalem; the land of Egypt.

Time.—The death of Solomon took place about B. C. 975, according to the usual chronology. The prophecy to Jeroboam may be dated ten years earlier, some time after the completion of the palace, and very shortly after the prediction in the last lesson.

Persons.—Jeroboam; Solomon, Ahijah the Shilonite; Shishak, king of Egypt; and Rehoboam.

Incidents.—The advancement of Jeroboam; a prediction symbolically made to him; the explanation of it by the prophet Ahijah; the flight of Jeroboam to Egypt; a summary of Solomon's reign.

Parallel Passages.—II Chronicles ix:29-31 (corresponding to verses 41-43 of the lesson).

LESSON SUMMARY.

God gives men opportunities, that they can improve or spoil, according to their own choice. That is a teaching of this lesson on the close of Solomon's reign, as it is a teaching of many another narrative in and out of the Bible record.

God gave a grand opportunity to Saul; and Saul wasted it by making himself the center of all his actions. God gave a grand opportunity to David; and David improved his opportunity to the extent of always acknowledging God as supreme, even though David failed to conform his conduct unvaryingly to God's commandments. God gave a grand opportunity to Solomon, with the records of Saul and David before him as helps to him in an understanding of duty; and Solomon wasted his opportunity by using his wisdom and power for his own benefit, and by rendering honor to false gods. And now we find God proffering a new opportunity to the young man Jeroboam, which it is for the young man to improve or to waste, as he shall decide.

In each and every case God's assurance that went with the proffered opportunity was practically the same: "It shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that which is right in mine eyes, to keep my statutes and my commandments; . . . that I will be with thee, and will build thee a sure house." It matters not whether one has the imposing presence of Saul, the courageous faith of David, the surpassing wisdom of Solomon, or the tireless energy of Jeroboam—unless he will be true to God, his end shall be a sad one, whatever be the favorable signs of his beginning.

The lesson that God would impress on Saul and David and Solomon and Jeroboam is a lesson that every one of us would do well to heed. Whatever our opportunities—and they are many and great to every one of us—it is for us to succeed or to fail in life according as we decide to serve God wholly and

unselfishly, or to give God a half-hearted service, and to make ourselves as important a factor as God in all our planning and doing.

ADDED POINTS.

A young man who has no superior advantages to start with, may come, like Saul and David and Jeroboam, to an exalted position in life; while a young man who has every advantage in the beginning, like Absalom, may make an utter wreck of himself. It is not so much the place he starts from as the spirit he shows in his place, that helps a man toward an exalted position in his maturity.

It is not always a gain to a young man to get the idea that he is going to be greater than he had before dared to suppose. So long as he thinks that attention to his present business is his hope of success, a young man has every inducement to be faithful in his daily duty; but when he is led to believe that his present business is a small matter in comparison with what he is going to have in charge, he is likely to neglect that business, and to be in trouble in consequence.

Is it not strange that when those kings were plainly told, in olden time, that, if they would obey God's commandments, they should have unflinching prosperity, but if they turned away from God they should lose their kingdom, they so uniformly chose the evil way with its sure results of evil? Were they so very different in this thing from those persons whom we know most with all in our day?

With all his wisdom, and all his power, and all his glory, Solomon was unable to prolong his life for a single hour. He had to leave this world at God's call, and give an account of himself to God. It would have been better for Solomon, while he was here as well as afterward, if he had had this truth in mind in the use of all that God gave to him here. Even if Solomon failed to live in view of the end of living, is that any reason why he should so fail?

Old and Young. [Written for the Texas Advocate. A CHRISTMAS GREETING. T. H. V.]

Go! ring loud each bell, And let strains of sweetest music swell In remembrance of the lowly stranger. Sing some sweet and heavenly anthem, Making mention of the manger And the babe of Bethlehem.

Prince of peace! child of glory! How I love it—"the old, old story." We thank thee for each blessing given, And cherish fondest hopes of heaven: In humbleness we praise thee thus—O blessed Jesus, gently lead us.

"Peace on earth, good will toward men"—Raise higher still the joyous anthem—Till heaven's blue vault echoes the strain: "The Lamb! the Lamb! he liveth again!" Oh matchless name! oh sweetest story! Sing it ever, ye hosts of glory!

"GOOD-BYE—GOD BLESS YOU!" I like the Anglo-Saxon speech, With its direct revealings— It takes a hold and seems to reach Way down into our feelings; That some folk deem it rude, I know, And therefore they abuse it; But I have never found it so— Before all else I choose it. I don't object that men should air The Galilei they have paid for; With "an revoir," "adieu, au revoir"— For that's what French was made for. But when a crouny takes your hand At parting to address you, He drops all foreign lingo and He says, "Good-bye—God bless you!"

This seems to me a sacred phrase With reverence impressed— A thing come down from righteous days, Quaintly but nobly fashioned; It well becomes an honest face; A voice that's round and cheerful; It stays the sturdy in his pace And soothes the weak and fearful. Into the porches of the east It steals with subtle unction, And in your heart of heart appears To work its gracious function; And all day long with pleasing song It fingers to caress you I'm sure no human heart goes wrong That's told "Good-bye—God bless you!"

I love the words—perhaps, because, When I was leaving mother, Standing at last in solemn pause We looked at one another, And I—I saw in mother's eyes The love she could not tell me— A love eternal as the skies, Whatever fate befell me; She put her arms about my neck And soothed the pain of leaving. And, though her heart was like to break, She spoke no word of grieving. She let no tear bedim her eye, For fear that might distress me, But, kissing me, she said good-bye, And asked our God to bless me. —Eugene Field, in the Chicago News.

DAUGHTERS OF LIGHT.

The great wood-box which stood in the hall between grandma's room and papa's study was always regularly filled by Tom each morning after Jack Frost set in his card; but now Tom was going to college, and who would provide grandma's cheerful blaze or keep Dr. Broadman's fingers from stiffening as he wrote those stirring pages which every Sunday warmed the hearts of his people?

"We shall have to hire Joe Hallock to come every day and attend to it, though I hardly know how we can afford it, my dear," said the doctor to his wife, whose heart and hands were always full to overflowing in consequence of her taking into them the whole parish, besides its legitimate occupants; namely the doctor grandma, Tom, Bess, Marion, Kitty, and Baby Ted.

"I suppose we shall for we can't ask Mary, with all her work and her rheumatism, to carry up that wood every day." Bess and Marion were engaged in

teaching Ted to "sit" for his picture, but when they heard this, and saw the serious faces of their father and mother, they looked at each other earnestly for a moment.

They were twins, and so thoroughly one that Tom said: "When Bess is hungry give Marion a cookie, and it is all right."

Marion's eyes asked a question, and Bess nodded.

Then they marched up to papa and Marion said: "Must it be a boy to fill a wood-box?"

"A boy? Why, no; I don't know as it must. But it needs strong arms and stout legs; does a girl have those?"

"I think Bess and I together could do it," said Marion, and she stretched out her arms and looked solemnly at them, while Bess surveyed first one well-filled brown stocking and then the other.

"Try it, then, my girls, and if you find it too hard Joe shall come to the rescue, but you will still be papa's little helpers; for if there be first a willing mind it is accepted according to that a man bath, and not according to that he hath not."

But not one stick of wood nor one basket of kindlings did Joe carry, although the two flights of stairs between the wood cellar and the wood-box often seemed to stretch out to a great length.

"Tired, darling?" grandma asked once, as Bess knelt, with rosy cheeks, to push a crooked stick on the andirons. Those crooked sticks had threatened defeat, for, as Marion said, they were such mean things they wouldn't let another stick come near them; but grandma had smothered that difficulty out beautifully by saying that her fire looked so pretty when the sticks were crooked that she was ready to tell a story for every crooked stick that was brought.

In response to grandma's "Tired, darling?" came the brave reply: "No, indeed, grandma. We are papa's little helpers; he said so; and, grandma, don't you want to hear a secret?"

"Very much, dear."

"Well, don't let any one know, but we heard Tom telling Will Penrod about our wood-box plan, and he said: 'If those youngsters stick to it I'll never say die.' So we mean to stick, no matter how heavy it is."

"Not only papa's little helpers, but brother Tom's," said grandma, as she laid aside her book and took up her knitting, which the children knew meant getting ready to begin the crooked-stick story.

And they were even more than that, for no one in the house could resist the influence of such sunny determination. The promptness with which they each morning set about their self-appointed task stirred Mary up to the rebuking of her rheumatic bones, which had served often as an excuse for tardy meals and neglected duties.

"An is it achin' yez be, to kape a splint tindin' yez all the day when there's plenty to do? See the bones in the legs o' them swate childer, a bindin' and breakin' wid the sticks they be luggin'! Arrah, it's not Mary Killorin will set down wid yez till the wurruk is away."

"And John?—how is John?" Uncle John had just returned from Europe, and was asking about all the family, especially, of course, about the nephew who was his namesake.

"Oh, John is doing splendidly," replied John's mamma. But in another moment a slight shade crossed her face, as she added, quietly: "There is only one thing that troubles us about John—he is so careless about how he looks. I kept thinking that he would outgrow it; but he is seventeen now, and he seems to notice less than ever that his coat needs brushing, or even that his hands need washing. I have to call his attention to it just as I did when he was a little bit of a boy."

"Oh, well, that is not exactly a fault, Lizzie."

"Oh, no, not a fault, of course," said little Mrs. Tyrrel, eagerly. "But it seems a great pity." And she sighed.

"Yes, it is a great pity. But what have you done about it?"

"Everything." And again little Mrs. Tyrrel sighed. "At first I tried to be patient, and just call his attention to it. I thought that after a while he would be ashamed to be spoken to so often about it; but he never is; he doesn't mind it in the least. Whenever I say to him, 'John, your coat, or your hands, need looking after,' he laughs good-naturedly and says, 'So they do,' and runs off cheerfully to attend to it, and then the next day he comes into the parlor just as untidy as ever. It isn't that he doesn't mind being shabby; it is simply that he doesn't discover that he is shabby. As soon as you tell him of it he is as anxious as anybody to appear better."

"Humph!" said Uncle John. "So that didn't work. What did you try next?"

"Why, then I tried punishing him; but it didn't make any difference."

"And then?"

"Then I tried rewarding him. Every week that he did not have to be spoken to about it his father gave him a dollar."

"That's good; at least that's better than punishing. But it seems that didn't work, either?"

"No; not for any length of time. And then we tried a bigger reward. Sam Williams, his most intimate friend, had a beautiful seal ring given him on his birthday. John wanted one very much, and we told him if we didn't have to speak to him about his clothes or his hands for a month, we would give him a handsome seal ring. But he has not won it yet. The queer part of it is that he wants to reform himself, and really tries, but it seems as if it were impossible."

"Humph!" said Uncle John. "A little later he went down town, and

when he returned he said that he had a few little gifts for the family as a token that he had not forgotten them during his absence.

"I did not buy them in Europe," he explained, "for I did not want to take the time then to select them or to pack them, and I didn't want to carry them about all over Europe. I have noticed that it is generally the thing which pleases a person, instead of the place it came from; so I concluded to wait till I came home, add what the duty would have been to the amount I should have spent over there, and get something pretty for you here. You ought to like this watch, Nellie, a great deal better for its being made in your own country. There's a handsome set of cut glass coming up for you this evening, Lizzie, and a rose-wood desk for Herbert will be here to-morrow. Here's a bangle for you, Kitty, and a silver cup for the baby; and this little thing, John, I picked up for you at Tiffany's to-day."

"O, mother," exclaimed the delighted John. "It's a seal ring! Isn't it a beauty?"

"It's rather a nice one, I think," said his uncle, carelessly. "How does it fit?"

"Fits perfectly!" and the hero of the hour stretched out his hand triumphantly.

"Quite a success, isn't it," was all his uncle said. But John's hand was suddenly withdrawn, and a slight flush crossed his face. Nobody had said anything, but for the first time in his life, he had noticed himself, as he stretched his hand out on the table before his uncle, that it was not quite the hand of a gentleman, in spite of the ring.

When his father came home, the presents were, of course, the excitement of the moment.

"See my ring, father," cried John; and again he laid his hand flat on the table to exhibit it. He looked about the room at the others with an especially triumphant air, which seemed to his mother and uncle to mean more than ring. It seemed to say, "Look at my hand! just look at my whole hand!" and they did look, and both noticed that John had taken great pains with it. The hand itself was immaculately white; the nails were cut properly, and looked as if the young man had spent his entire afternoon polishing them; and the ring fitted perfectly.

"It's very handsome, indeed," remarked his father, "and I'm glad to see, my son—" but he never finished his sentence, for Uncle John trod on his toe, and he understood that no notice was to be taken of John's improvement in anything but rings. According to Uncle John's theory, John was to reform himself, and not be nagged about it during the process.

"I think I'll run up and put on some clean cuffs before dinner," said John, suddenly; "I must set off the ring as much as I can!" and he ran lightly upstairs to his room, while Uncle John smiled comically at his mother.

It will not be necessary to enter into all the details of John's complete reformation. It took time, but it began with clean cuffs, worked up through clean collar and hankercieff, and down to the blacking of boots, till the careful brushing of his coat and hair marked the gradual development into a young man affectionately dubbed by his relatives as the family dude.

"Yes," Uncle John would say, nodding confidently to his sister, "that's the way to do it: reward him first and make him ashamed not to live up to it."—Harper's Young People.

Washing Clothes

or cleaning house with ordinary soap is like rolling a heavy stone up hill; it takes main strength and a good deal of it. The same work done with Pearlina is like rolling the stone down hill—it's easy; quick; true; goes right to the mark; and with very little labor.

All dirt must go before PEARLINE. It robs woman's hardest work of its drudgery—a praiseworthy theft, by the way. The question is—does it or does it not hurt the hands, clothes or paint? We tell you it don't—but we are interested (as well as you)—so ask your friends who use it; you'll find most of them do; the annual consumption is equal to about three packages a year for every family in the land. But better yet—get a package (it costs but a few pennies, and every grocer keeps it) and try it for yourself—your gain will be larger than ours.

Beware

Peddlers and some unscrupulous grocers are offering imitations which they claim to be Pearlina, or "the same as Pearlina." IT'S FALSE—they are not, and besides are dangerous. JAMES PYLE, New York.

Hollow-ground Razor.

No. 1861, Patent Hollow-ground Razor, \$1.50 each. This razor is made especially for us. We put our name on each one as a guarantee of their superior excellence. We have been using and selling this razor since 1874. We send one by mail on receipt of price, at our risk, if ten cents is added to pay registry. The above illustration is about one half the size, the blade being about 5 1/2 inches long and the handle the same length. This razor is especially adapted for cutting a heavy, stiff beard. This razor is of the best quality, and holds a keen-cutting edge. It is a pleasure to shave with R. C. P. BARNES & BRO., 609 W. MAIN ST., LOUISVILLE, KY.

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Texas Christian Advocate.

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CHRISTMAS. The great amount of conference matter this week forestalls a special Christmas number of the ADVOCATE. We hope our readers, however, will remember whose birth is celebrated at the Christmas festival.

JEFFERSON DAVIS-THE CHRISTIAN. The ADVOCATE gives in the following the substance of what Rev. John R. Allen, of Dallas, said in a sermon concerning the private life and Christian profession of the Hon. Jefferson Davis:

Few have been the careers so varied as his, yet in it all, in camp, in Congress, in executive mansion, in private life, in youth and old age, he maintained a reputation of unimpeachable personal purity. His private character is without blot. And no wonder, for he professedly drew his strength from Christ.

You see that old man, broken in fortune, broken in health, disappointed in ambition, blasted in fame by heedless tongues? His step is yet firm, his eye yet bright, and his countenance serene and happy. What does it mean? It means that he has learned to put his trust in "Oae that careth for him," to draw his strength from an unseen and inexhaustible source, to lean upon an arm invisible but tender and strong.

to the haven of peace, to "the rest that remaineth for the people of God." Mr. Davis was a devout Episcopalian. But for many years he has been an honored guest of Bishop Keener, at Sea Shore camp-meeting, and has enjoyed a Methodist revival.

This grand figure, colossal in size, scorned and torn by thunderbolts of wrath, but leaning serenely and trustingly upon the arm of Jesus, and finding in circumstances of utter despair, joy and peace in him, exemplifies what noble characters the Christian religion can make, and the uplift this religion gives its followers when all else is gone.

So Mr. Davis, developed, strengthened, purified, by the very fires that consumed his earthly work, and blasted his earthly hopes, stands as one of the high examples of what God can do with and for the child whose highest hopes he thwarts, and whose work he rejects.

A METHODIST CONGRESS. Mr. Perks, the Wesleyan Methodist layman, whose address we copy from the (London) Methodist Times in another place, suggests a triennial congress of British Methodists as a remedy for existing evils and a means of progress.

What the Papers Think and Say. The Louisville Presbyterian Observer does not believe in having the wicked to lead the worship of God's people. What God wants from us is that we offer the "sacrifice of praise" which is "by him" (Heb. xiii:15), that is, by faith in Jesus Christ.

The St. Louis Republic gives an item of national expense: The Secretary of the Treasury notifies congress that the appropriation necessary for pensions for the ensuing year is \$101,021,002. This is an increase of \$20,000,000 a year since President Harrison qualified. It is \$17,000,000 more than the entire expenses of the government in 1860; \$60,000,000 more than the entire expenses in 1850, and over four times as much as the entire expenses in 1840.

Since my notice in the ADVOCATE, the 12th inst. I have received a call for an extra meeting of the Board of Editors of the South-western University by eight members of the Board.

1888; \$21,000,000 more than the total expenses of the Brazilian monarchy for 1885; nearly three times as much as the total expenditures of Canada for 1887; \$10,000,000 more than the total expenses of China for 1886; nearly seven times as much as the total expenses of Denmark for 1887; nearly three times as much as the total expenses of Mexico for 1887; over twice as much as the total expenses of the Netherlands for 1887; eight times as much as the total expenses of Norway for 1887; over eighty times as much as the total expenses of Paraguay for 1887; over twelve times as much as the total expenses of Persia under the "Oriental splendor" of the Shah in 1886; over seven times as much as the total expenses of Peru in 1887; as much as the combined total expenses of Turkey, Switzerland, Siam and Servia in 1887; and over four times as much as the combined total expenses of Venezuela, Uruguay and Bolivia for 1887.

CHRISTMAS-GOOD WILL TO MEN. JEAN PAUL.

It was Christmas Eve. The palatial residence of Mr. Arnold, the opulent banker, was brilliantly illuminated. Even the spacious garden surrounding the same was bathed in lustre. Bengal lights and theatre-fire of different colors gave to shrub, bush and tree bewitching expression.

Five years elapsed. Again it was Christmas Eve. Thousands of homes were happy with Christmas-trees, presents and suitable hymns. Merry laughter of children echoed from every room. The blinds were not closed. Pedestrians traversed the streets, inspecting the different Christmas-trees, beautifully decorated, illuminated with hundreds of wax-tapers, with appropriate gifts for the little ones suspended from the boughs.

Another twelve months had been entombed by Father Time. Again it was the evening preceding our Lord's natal day. The eye of eyes is Christmas Eve. The home of Mr. Arnold had undergone strange changes. Not the building, nor the surroundings, but the thoughts and affections of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold had experienced a thorough metamorphosis.

PASTOR'S MEMORANDUM BOOKS. The supply of this book has been exhausted. By arrangement with the author we will soon issue a revised and improved edition. All who have used the book commend it as the best yet published. It may, however, be susceptible of some improvements. All suggestions in this direction should be sent to Rev. J. T. L. Annis, Big Springs, Texas.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY. Since my notice in the ADVOCATE, the 12th inst. I have received a call for an extra meeting of the Board of Editors of the South-western University by eight members of the Board.

A full attendance desired. May God direct. J. M. HINCKLEY, President Board.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE

(Continued from first page.)

take the collections publicly, as required by the Discipline. The preacher should not allow a few sensitive persons to persuade him that the people will not tolerate public collections. If the preacher is in earnest, they will listen to him.

The Sunday-school Board held its anniversary on Thursday night. It was mainly an entertainment, conducted by J. R. Heartail, of Marshall. A cross was erected of thirty-two boards, each having the name of the Divine Persons, or of some Christian grace printed upon it in large letters.

The Rev. J. T. Smith knows how to entertain a conference. He was assisted by our young friend, the Rev. Leon Sonfield, who is never happier than when obliging. This scribe moves they two be elected to the permanent position of conference entertainers.

This scribe, together with Bro. Taffy, of the ADVOCATE office, shared the elegant hospitality of Mrs. Philloe.

One of the pleasant attachments to the conference was a dining at the palatial hotel, in New Birmingham. The whole conference, with their wives, were invited, and the invitation was accepted. The hotel is magnificently finished inside with native pines.

The Women's Missionary Society held its anniversary Sunday at 3 p. m., Mrs. M. E. Thompson in the chair. Bishop Key conducted the religious services.

It is not often that a preacher who has been a presiding elder for a number of years can adjust himself successfully to the work of the pastorate. It is difficult for the wholesale merchant to return to the details of retail business.

The Rev. Sam P. Wright was called on for a five minutes' speech at the Sunday-school anniversary on the subject, "The relation of parents and children, their duties and obligations." On the first part of the subject he was equal to the emergency, but the latter end stamped his thoughts. This was quite natural, as Sam P. has much experience in the relations, but like other parents whose table is surrounded with olive plants, dislikes to talk about duties and obligations.

Bishop Key has the correct idea of controlling a conference. He recognizes the fact that love is the greatest of forces in controlling men, and rules in that power. He is as gentle as a lamb, and of the kindest disposition toward all.

The Missionary Anniversary was held Saturday night, at which Rev. Sam. P. Wright was appointed to "address," but when the time arrived he had fled to other parts. So the addressing fell upon Dr. Elon Foster and Rev. E. L. Armstrong-or rather, Dr. Foster addressed and Armstrong begged. He begged until he was not the only man tired. The amount raised was \$205.15.

The following is an extract from the report of the Committee on Books and Periodicals: THE TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, our conference organ, deserves particular mention. The editor, Rev. James Campbell, has been fully equal to his task, and during the past year has given to our church a most excellent paper. It is cause for rejoicing to your committee to learn of the steadily increasing circulation and usefulness of THE TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

Your committee concur with the Board of Publication and the Bishop in the appointment of Rev. G. W. Owens, of the Northwest Texas Conference, agent to travel within the bounds of the State in the interest of the ADVOCATE, etc. The committee desire to say, however, that still it will be necessary for the preachers and laymen to redouble their efforts to sustain our home paper and to increase its circulation.

One pastor reported no collection for church extension, and gave as an excuse that the home church was in debt, and that Dr. Morton told the church that under the circumstances they ought not to pay church extension. The Bishop remarked that no church has a right to rob the poor in order to enrich itself, and when you go back give my love to that good people and tell them I don't think their excuse a good one. I beg leave to differ with Dr. Morton.

Some churches are too selfish. You feed yourselves and if there is anything left give the scraps to the poor. "Love seeketh not her own" is the spirit of the gospel.-Bishop Key.

When the body has vitality enough to slough off all unsound matter it is a sign of health. The same is true of the church. Cutting off the dead branches is a sign of life.-Bishop Key.

Brethren, you have a personal interest in the circulation of the ADVOCATE. The charge where the church paper is circulated the most is the best educated charge. It is the duty of the preacher to give his people the means of education. A preacher in Arkansas told me that if he knew that he could remain on a charge two years he would take \$25 from his own pocket and invest it in the circulation of the conference organ.

The conference adopted a memorial to the General Conference in reference to rearranging conference boundaries.

"Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord deceitfully." They say it ought to be translated slowly. Let us read it that way. We have business men among our laymen who look upon the slovenly way of doing business as a near approach unto crime. Let us be more accurate in making out our reports and keeping our books.-Bishop Key.

I think the grandest sight on earth is to see seventy-five or one hundred preachers saying send us where you think we ought to go, and as many charges saying send us the men you think we ought to have.-Bishop Key.

Owing to the many discrepancies occurring in the reports, Bishop Key thinks that a course of bookkeeping should be added to the course of study. Something certainly ought to be done. A book of instruction on how to keep church records, make statistical reports, etc., would be a good thing.

Inasmuch as the time for observing a week of prayer for missions has heretofore been appointed in the summer, when the pastors are generally engaged in revival meetings, the conference adopted a paper requesting the board to appoint a time later or earlier than the usual time.

Rev. J. C. Woolam is one of the veteran members of the conference, but still maintains strength to go in and out among his brethren. The only complaint brought against him when his name was called, was that he is in the penitentiary, and a motion was made to let him stay in. The Bishop said he thought it a good place for him, but he thought the State should pay him a better salary. Bro. Woolam is the chaplain of that institution, and is a very necessary officer in more ways than one. He not only breaks the bread of life to the prisoners, but through his influence the convicts become more obedient to the laws of the place and make better workers and servants. The State would lose a great help if it should dispense with a chaplain, besides it would be a great disgrace to the State to make no provision for the moral and religious wants of its convicts. The State pays Rev. Mr. Woolam for this service the small sum of \$600 per annum. Considering the service rendered and the wealth of the great State of Texas, this is shameful. A salary of \$1000 would be nothing comparatively for Texas to pay the chaplain of the State prison at Rusk.

HOME CONFERENCES.

Personal. -C. L. Ballard's postoffice is Valley View, Texas.

The postoffice of Rev. W. K. Simpson is Weatherford, Texas.

The postoffice address of Rev. Samuel Morris is Florence, Texas.

The postoffice address of the Rev. J. W. Kizziar is Granbury, Texas.

The address of Rev. S. H. Brown is Martindale, Caldwell county, Texas.

Rev. M. L. Perry's postoffice address is Benvenue, Clay county, Texas.

Obituary.

J. P. Childers, Dec. 11: I wish to say through the columns of the ADVOCATE to those friends who sent me money last year to put a fence around Rev. B. F. Johnson's grave, that I received \$7.50, and I bought Sedwich wire, and Bro. D. McCameron and the brethren of Center Point have put the fence around the grave.

Beckwiths.

A. P. Payne, Dec. 9: We are returned to this work for the third year and was made to feel quite contented and happy by the hearty reception given us. We arrived at the parsonage Nov. 22d and had only just got fairly settled when we were visited by quite a number of citizens, filling the house and a great many did not get in. After a

very appropriate address by Bro J. P. Lamar, the supplies were brought in, consisting of all kinds of provisions in sufficient quantities to supply the family for a long time. We also had some nice presents of dry goods; the purse was not forgotten. May the Lord bless these good people and prosper them temporally and spiritually is our prayer.

Navasota.

C. L. Spencer, Dec. 11: I served as chaplain to-day to the largest audience that has ever been known to assemble in Navasota, at the memorial services for our ex-Confederate chief, Jefferson Davis. I believe when the history of the day is written up that it will be the grandest display and manifestation of sentiment of the kind ever known in history.

Springtown.

J. H. Trimble, Dec. 11: Our first quarterly conference yesterday; presiding elder present; salary assessed; finances good. Our people gave us a welcome back to this work. Parsonage crowded with the good sisters of this town. Dining table just loaded with good things to eat. Groceries enough to run us one month or more. I take this method of expressing our gratitude to the good people of this town for the kindness shown. A good brother gave me a nice gun this week. I think I shall kill some game soon.

West Circuit.

Jno. R. Steele: This circuit is thriving and resolving to do better than last year. We are very well pleased. God continues his blessings. With blessings we have sometimes to chronicle events of great sadness to us. One of our very best men, E. B. Cammack, by certificate came to us the 4th Sunday in November, 1889, in health, and died the next Friday-delirious from the beginning. We had so much sweet communion with him. We know God took him. Leaves a wife and four grown sons.

Killeen.

Marion Mills, Dec. 11: I commence my work on the Killeen circuit with hopes of success. I meet a kind people here. I suppose we might count ourselves in line with those who are pounded, as flour, sugar, coffee, rice, fruits and fish have found their way to our house, for which we feel very thankful to our friends, and the Giver of every gift. We have sold the old parsonage, which stood near a mile from town, and are rebuilding in town. We also expect to commence the erection of a church house soon in Killeen. There have been persons at almost every appointment, so far, asking Christians to pray for them. We do hope to be able to lead them ere long to the fountain opened up in the house of King David for sin and uncleanness. We have a good school at this place-three teachers employed. Not many ADVOCATES taken on the work. I hope to be able to increase the number soon.

A Storm at Cedar Hill--An Eastern Cyclone.

B. A. Thomason, Cedar Hill, Dec. 9: For several years I have known what was in a natural sand storm out West, but last Saturday night I learned just what constituted a social cyclone east. We just moved to Cedar Hill last Thursday-wife and children having mumps-and was not entirely unpacked and straightened when the storm arose. A few hail stones, as it were, the size of a can of fruit or a sack of flour, fell just before sundown, but the first real wane rolled in the door after sun set. When three good sisters, laden with good things, arrived, followed by Prof. G. A. M. Starks, the instigator perhaps of the whole racket. From the beginning of the storm till 9 o'clock at night the house and yard were full of people. I could not tell a Methodist from any one else. What a supper we had! So many people to eat, and yet so many good things left. Well, we are enjoying them now, and if we were a little surprised and frightened at first, we will say as did the girl: "Scare me again," just whenever you please. May God's richest blessings rest upon the people of Cedar Hill and Red Oak circuit.

Big Valley.

W. A. Gilleland, Dec. 8: Big Valley mission may be put down as number one in a few things: First, there is one member on the work who prays with his family. Second, one member who prays in public. Third, about one who will lead in singing. Fourth, one TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE taken. Of course in the above I do not include the preacher and his wife, for they both pray in public, hold family prayer and read the ADVOCATE. There are only twenty-four members on this mission. They are poor people; that is, none of them are rich. The missionary appropriation is only one hundred dollars. Please send me fifty copies of the ADVOCATE for free distribution on my mission. [They will be sent with pleasure.-Ed.] Other preachers write of the parsonages being nicely prepared for them on their arrival on their new work; but there is nothing of that kind on this work. Instead of that, this preacher was left to get him a house the best way he could, and having no money to pay rent with, and no prospects of getting any for that purpose, he is forced to farm some in order to procure a house for his family. Most of my preaching places were once other works, but have been left out for several years. At one place where I intend preaching there is a very respectable looking Methodist church-house that has not been used for several years.

Bandera.

Henry T. Hill, Dec. 10: The first quarterly conference of Bandera circuit for the year 1890, was held at Medina City Dec. 7th and 8th, 1889. The salary of preacher in charge was fixed at \$450. The district stewards had put this circuit's share of the presiding elder's salary at seventy dollars. He told the circuit stewards that they

Bro J. P. might cut his claim down and they cut it down to sixty-five dollars. I know of an instance in which the steward thought the proportion of the presiding elder's claim to the preacher in charge's claim was unjust; so they reconsidered the action of the first quarterly conference at the second and raised the preacher's claim a hundred or two. I make no comment. Paid preacher sixty dollars, but the good people of Bandera had previously pounded the preacher and family and we start off with pleasant feelings and grateful hearts, resolved if possible to do a better year's work than any year of our past. There are no kinder people than we serve. I expect to send you a good list of subscribers to the ADVOCATE this year.

What's the sense in saying that Cataract cannot be cured when Dr. Cascarin Remedy is so sure and positively certain that the proprietors offer \$500 reward for a case of Cataract which they cannot cure. The cure of the medicine is made by dissolving one fifty-cent package of the powder in water. Sold by druggists; 50 cents.

Get the ice house ready so that it can be filled at the first opportunity.

Hill's Business Colleges at Waco and Dallas offer facilities superior to those of any like institution in the south for imparting a thorough and practical business education within the shortest time and at the lowest expense. Graduates from these schools are widely successful in business pursuits. These Colleges received, over all others, the five and only premium conferred by business colleges at the late Dallas Fair. Write for illustrated Catalogue.

"THE BACKWARD BOY" is often the most difficult member of the family. His possibilities, and the best way of bringing out his talents, are to be discussed in the coming volume of the Youth's Companion, by President J. B. Angell, of the University of Michigan; President C. K. Adams, of Cornell; and President D. C. Gilman, of Johns Hopkins.

"Buds of Hope," devoted to the study of the international Sunday-school Lessons for 1890, edited by J. H. Hardin, Cincinnati, Ohio, standard Publishing Company; Louisville, Ky., Guide Printing and Publishing Company. This is a most useful, entertaining and instructive work.

Cascarin is an excellent remedy for children; mild in action and pleasant to take.

NOTICE TO PREACHERS OF THE N. W. TEXAS CONFERENCE.

DEAR BROTHERS: Let us remember the resolution passed at the last session of our conference at Belton, providing for a Christmas collection for Church Extension. We raise our full collection and forward to J. K. Lane, treasurer, at Liberty Hill. Three churches are now waiting for the appropriation made at our last meeting.

ASA HOLT, President.

M. K. LITTLE, Secretary.

Malaria is an unseemly poison in the air and is inhaled into and affects the entire system. Cascarin effectually destroys it.

The great cow, "Lady Baker," a Holstein owned by T. B. Wades of Iowa City, Iowa, was sold at auction, at the Fat Stock Show, for \$800. She has made thirty-four pounds of butter in a week; and it seems probable she has brought far more than that sum for such a cow. Still we believe she is pretty well aged, and sold cheap, doubtless, on that account. The great Jersey, Mary, in which many thousands were offered—\$40,000, we believe—was afterwards sold in her old age for \$2,300.—Exchange

THE NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE MINUTES.

The minutes have been in the hands of the printer some days, and are being pushed through as fast as practicable. The assessments made by the Joint Board of the conference upon the new basis in the report of the Board as adopted by the conference have been followed except the fractions of a dollar, which are stricken out, but so as to make the aggregate the same. This was done for convenience to all concerned. The reports of committees and boards had to be condensed in order to bring them within the space allowed by the money appropriated; yet there will be some extra cost. The accounts ordered by the conference for Southwestern University, by some oversight, was not apporportioned to the districts, and I took the responsibility of doing so, and have sent the amounts for each district to the presiding elders.

C. I. McWHINER.

Travel Stories for the Young.

A young man, who visited the Centennial exposition as a child, was recently heard to admit that all the best things he saw at the Memorial Hall and other buildings were pieces only made impression enough to remain in his memory. One was a chubby little boy crying because he had to say his prayers; the other was really not scripture at all, but only a patent cast iron fountain, painted white, from which a stream fell splashing upon an umbrella held aloft by a laughing boy and girl. Could there be a better illustration of the constitutional limitations of the child mind? There was little profit, seen in a perfunctory tour of an unintelligible art gallery. There is as little in reading unintelligible books.

Children's books should always be adapted to the child capacity. This is almost a truism. Take books of travel, for instance; here everything depends upon the hands of the compiler. A wise-wake, ingenious talk about the Eiffel Tower. The child is fairly fascinated. Suppose the same thing described after the manner of a lecture on mechanics. Watch him nod.

After a travel-book is a traveling companion. Think what kind of a person you would like to travel with and you know what kind of a travel-book they delight to read. Both must be bright, active, intrepid, dashingly and everlastingly good natured. The Clever one, who is a story teller into the bargain, is a double favorite. Just so the travel-book that is full of stories, that is, in fact, the best story, is bound to be written in the shadow of a doubt, the travel-book per excellence. D. Lothrop Company publish several that answer this description. "A. T. They could of every country under the sun are: "All Among the Lighthouses," "Pucky Sails" and "The Ignoramuses," by Mary Bradford Crowinshield; a series of "Polly Plights," by Edward Everett Hale and his sister, Miss Susan; "From the Hudson to the Nile," by David Ker; "Days and Nights in the Tropics," by J. H. Stoddard; "How They Went to Europe," and "The Golden West," by Margaret Sidney; "Out and About," by Kate Fannart Wood; and a score of others. Some are magic spectacles that adjust themselves readily to the peculiarities of individual vision and render the wonders of the world in enlarged and clarified images.

CHAPPELL HILL DISTRICT.—FIRST ROUND.

Brenham sta. Jan 4, 5
Chappell Hill sta. Jan 11, 12
Burton and Giddings, at Burton Jan 18, 19
Curtis sta. at Burton Jan 25, 26
Egin and Manor, at Egin Jan 25, 26
McIntosh cir. at Wadado Feb 1, 2
Bohr cir. at Belleville Feb 8, 9
-only and San Filo, at Sealy Feb 15, 16
Harrison cir. at Ashby Feb 22, 23
Eagle Lake cir. Wagon Lake March 1, 2
Hockley cir. at Hockley March 8, 9
Hempstead sta. at Hempstead March 15, 16
Independence sta. at Independence March 22, 23

The district stewards will meet in the Methodist Church at Brenham, at 2 o'clock on Jan. 3, 1890. The district stewards are J. N. Brown, J. M. Nicholson, J. C. Morris, J. B. Arvey, W. Owens, F. L. Monte, J. G. Johnson, D. J. Parker, O. Green, W. T. Willie, J. Page. A full attendance is earnestly requested. Brethren, the church has placed this responsible matter in your hands and has a right to expect a faithful performance on your part.

CALVEAT DISTRICT.—FIRST ROUND.

Hearne and Wheelock, at Hearne Dec 28, 29
Bryan sta. at Bryan Jan 4, 5
Kosco cir. at Kosco Jan 11, 12
Brenmond and Reagan, at Brenmond Jan 18, 19
Curtis sta. at Curtis Jan 25, 26
Jewett and Buffalo cir. at Buffalo Feb 1, 2
Fairfield cir. at Fairfield Feb 8, 9
Franklin cir. at Franklin Feb 15, 16
Crawville cir. at Crawville Feb 22, 23
Bryan's Prairie cir. at Bryan March 1, 2
Milton and Welborn, at Milton March 8, 9
Bryan sta. at Bryan March 15, 16
Rogers' Prairie sta. at Rogers' March 22, 23

The district stewards will meet at Hearne, Dec 27, at 1 p. m.

Habitual Costiveness causes derangement of the entire system, and the general diseases that are hazardous to life. Persons of costive habit are subject to Headache, Defective Memory, Gloomy Forebodings, Nervousness, Fevers, Dropsies, Irritable Temper and other symptoms, which unfit the sufferer for business or agreeable associations. Regular habit of body alone correct these evils, and nothing succeeds so well in achieving this condition as TOTT'S PILLS. By their use not only is the system renovated, but in consequence of the harmonious changes thus created, there pervades a feeling of satisfaction; the mental faculties perform their functions with vivacity, and there is an exhilaration of mind and body, and a perfect health that bespeaks the full enjoyment of life.

Tutt's Liver Pills REGULATE THE BOWELS.

A fly on the hand is worth two in the soup.

UNANSWERED LETTERS

December 11.—J. B. Guber, sub. J. H. White, sub. A. B. Trimble, sub. W. H. Laughlin, sub. J. I. Lowndes, sub. H. S. Thrall, sub. O. H. Beauchamp, will fit it. E. A. Smith, all gone forward. O. P. Thomas, sub. E. S. Boyd, sub. M. B. Chapman, change made.

December 12.—Daniel Morgan, sub. J. T. Woodworth, sub. M. K. Irvin, sub. R. A. Hall, sub. W. Perkins, sub. C. Rowland, sub. W. H. Terry, sub. J. F. Denton, sub. H. Bounds, sub. J. T. H. Miller, sub. J. B. Sears, sub. W. W. Graham, sub. Mac M. Smith, sub.

December 13.—J. B. Hawkins, sub. E. M. Myers, sub. J. Woodson, sub. W. E. Caperton, sub. G. W. Godwin, sub. C. E. Nathan, sub. W. W. Henderson, sub. C. H. Mayo, sub. G. S. Harv, two postal, sub. L. G. Watkins, sub. B. F. Jackson, sub. S. B. Ellis, sub. J. Z. Morris, sub.

Dec. 16.—E. H. Strook, sub. J. T. Brown, sub. Jno. S. McCarver, sub. W. T. Ayers, sub. A. G. Nolan, sub. O. P. Thomas, sub. J. F. Follen, sub. obituary paid. Joe T. Rodgers, sub. Wright, sub. L. G. Watkins, 4 cards, sub. J. W. Montgomery, sub. E. M. Murrill, sub. J. J. Ganatax, sub. E. B. Lane, sub. J. S. Davis, sub. E. Rector, sub. Wm. J. Sims, sub. M. B. Johnston, sub. J. A. Wyatt, sub. B. F. Badgett, sub.

Dec. 14.—W. V. Jones, sub. Samuel Morris, sub. S. A. Carter, sub. J. S. Tunnell, sub. J. S. Worth, sub. J. R. Randle, sub. J. L. Pierce, sub. H. O. Rogers, sub. J. M. Wesson, sub. W. P. Keith, sub. N. W. Keith, sub. W. A. Edwards, sub. H. C. Rogers, specimens sent. C. K. Wright, sub. W. T. Hodnett, sub; all right about responsibility.

Dec. 15.—Fred, sub. "through thick and thin." That refers to both C and B, don't fit. W. F. Clark, sub. C. S. McCarver, sub; he's conference man, but write when you want him. W. F. Clark, sub.

Teacher—"You're a perfect dunce." Pupil—"That's the first time you have marked me perfect in anything this term."

There are five B's now occupying the attention of Europe. Bismarck, Barmen and Boulanger are three, and Buffalo Bill is the other two.

Rheumatism is caused by lactic acid in the blood, which Hood's Sarsaparilla neutralizes, and thus cures rheumatism.

Cotton Reports.

Whitewright, 9 to 9 1/2 cents; Jefferson 11 cents; San Marcos, 9 to 9 1/2 cents; Bowie, 8.85 to 9 1/2 cents; Plano, 8.75 to 9.30 cents.

Ship Your Cotton to Wm. D. Cleveland & Co. HOUSTON TEXAS.

Best market in the State. Best facilities for handling. Satisfactory and prompt returns. Quotations and Stencils furnished free of charge.

We solicit consignments for our firms at Galveston and New York. Shippers can rely on liberal advances and reasonable terms. September 1, 1889.

W. L. MOODY & Co. J. R. MORRIS' SONS, 47, 49, 51, Main Street, Houston, Texas. HARDWARE, Stoves, Mill Supplies, Cane Mills, Evaporators. Agent for Zimmerman Paper Refrigerators, Rapid Freezers, Munson's Leather Belting, Boston Belting Co., and Blake Steam Pumps.

The SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORLD. will be sent to NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR 1890 FOR 25 CENTS. In lots of five copies or more to one address. Cash must be sent with each order before January 31, 1890.

A monthly magazine for teachers, pastors and families, 24 to 40 pages, good paper, clear type, evangelical in spirit, sound in doctrine. The ablest Biblical scholars have written for its columns.

FOR RENEWALS, Single copies, by mail, 60 cents per year; five copies or more, 45 cents each per year.

THE SCHOLAR'S PAPER. On the International Sunday-School Lessons. For 1890, monthly, only FOUR CENTS A COPY PER YEAR. In lots of ten or more copies to one address, 16 cents monthly. A four-page paper each month; 12 in a year for only 4 cents in clubs of ten or more.

The Sunday-School Union's Periodicals, 1890. Union Quarterly, 5 or more, 15 cents each per year. Primary Quarterly, 4 or more, 10 cents each per year. The Primary Paper, Monthly, 6 cents each per year. The Review Chart, 5 feet by 2 1/2 feet, \$1.00 per year. The Youth's World, 5 or more, 12 cents each per year. The Sunday Hour, 5 or more, 12 cents each per year. The People's Paper (monthly), 10 or more, 6 cents each per year. The People's Paper (semi-monthly), 10 or more, 12 cents each per year. The Picture World, 5 or more, 15 cents each per year.

Send for Specimens and Price List for 1890.

The Am. S. S. Union, 1122 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, 8 and 10 Bible House, New York.

Dyspepsia COTTON

Makes the lives of many people miserable, and often leads to self-destruction. Distress after eating, sour stomach, sick headache, heartburn, loss of appetite, a faint, "all gone" feeling, bad taste, coated tongue, and irregularity of the bowels, are early symptoms. Dyspepsia does not get well of itself. It requires careful, persistent attention, and a remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla, which acts gently, yet surely and efficiently. It tones the stomach and other organs, regulates the digestion, creates a good appetite, and by thus overcoming the local sympathy, the effects of the disease, banishes the headache, and refreshes the tired mind.

"I have been troubled with dyspepsia. I had but little appetite, and what I did eat I had to digest with great difficulty. I had a little heart-burn. In an hour after eating I would experience a faintness, or tired, all-gone feeling, as though I had not eaten anything. My trouble, I think, was aggravated by my business, which is that of a painter, and from being more or less shut up in a room with fresh paint. Last spring I took Hood's Sarsaparilla—two bottles. It did me an immense amount of good. It gave me an appetite, and my food relished and satisfied. The craving I had previously experienced, for GEORGE A. PAGE, Waterbury, Mass.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only by C. H. HOOD & Co., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass. 100 Doses One Dollar

The General Conference. In view of the fact that the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, meets in St. Louis in May next, where representatives will be present from all sections of the country; when the entire laws of the church and church government will be under consideration, and probably many changes made which will be of interest to all members of the church, we propose making it, for that period, the leading feature of our paper. The columns of the St. Louis CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE will contain the proceedings of the conference, concisely written up, together with many addresses, speeches and other matter, which will not likely be obtainable through any other source. Not only at that time, but from now on, the columns of the paper will be open to the consideration of all questions relating to the business to be brought before that body.

PROPOSITION.—Each and every preacher and church member is not only authorized but requested to secure all names, whether members of the church or not, who are desirous of receiving THE ADVOCATE, and collect from them, and send with each new name the sum of 20 CENTS, in advance, to which we will add 10 cents for postage. We will send the St. Louis CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE from the time of receiving the new names up to the 15th day of JULY, 1890.

Everything will be done that can be done to make THE ADVOCATE worthy of a universal circulation, and a representative of the questions relating to the general conference, and as one of the best of church papers in our connection. We hope all our friends of the ADVOCATE will at once go to work on this proposition, and not stop until the opportunity has been given to every name which we receive to become a subscriber to this FIFTY-CENTS proposition.

LOGAN D. DANERON, Mgr., 913 Pine St., St. Louis, Mo.

SANGER BROS DALLAS, TEXAS.

We Have Made a Remarkable Purchase of MEN'S CLOTHING

We have closed out the entire balance of a prominent High-Class Manufacturer Fall and Winter stock. The quantity almost staggered even us, but

FIFTY CENTS ON THE DOLLAR

had much to do with the final outcome of the purchase. We have never owned Fine clothing so low; in no instance nor in any place has it ever been sold so low as we propose to sell it. Sale begins Monday morning, when you will find on our first tables as you enter the department

THREE LOTS OF SUITS

that we consider the cream of our purchase. They are going to stay there until sold. That may mean one day; it may mean ten. A word to the wise is sufficient.

\$7.50 First lot consists of 180 suits all kinds of Fancy Cassimere and Corkscrew in frock and sack styles, made in the most perfect manner. None worth less than \$12.50 and many of them \$15.00. We offer you choice for \$7.50.

\$10 The next lot contains 255 suits that we offer choice of at \$10 a suit. They come in Worsteds, Cassimeres, Cheviots and Corkscrews, Frock and Sack styles. Comparative values of first lot are repeated in this. Our price, \$10.

\$12.50 The last lot has 330 suits in it, equally well assorted. It is almost a clothing store in itself. You can't help but get suited. Choice of this lot is \$12.50, and the values range from \$20 to \$25.

SANGER BROTHERS. 1890. Now is the Time to Subscribe! 1890.

"The Best Periodicals for Family Reading."

Harper's Magazine, \$1 a year. Issued monthly.

Harper's Weekly, \$1 a year. Issued weekly.

Harper's Bazar, \$1 a year. Issued weekly.

Harper's Young People, \$2 a year. Issued weekly.

Postage Free in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

"No Family can afford to be without them."

APPLY TO YOUR NEWSDEALER, NEWS-DEALER, OR TO THE PUBLISHERS, HARPER & BROTHERS, NEW YORK.

What is GASTORIA

Casteria is Dr. Sam'l Pitche's old, harmless and quick cure for Infants' and Children's Complaints. Superior to Castor Oil, Paregoric or Narcotic Syrup. Children cry for Casteria. Millions of Mothers bless Casteria.

Casteria cures Cough, Constipation; Sour Stomach, Diarrhea, Eructation; Green stools; Sleep; also aids digestion; Without narcotic stupefaction.

"I recommend Casteria for children's complaints, as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. AUSTIN, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 Murray St., New York.

GOOD GOODS! LOW PRICES!

We are no new comers, as we have advertised in the Christian Advocate for the last five years, and many of its readers are our patrons. Above are a few of our prices. We can send any of the above goods on receipt of price immediately.

IRICN & GIRARDET, Corner Fifth and Market Streets, LOUISVILLE KY

Amethyst, \$2.50. 8 Turquois and 2 Pearls, \$7. 2 Turquois and 1 Pearl—Baby Ring, \$1. Band Ring, \$7.00.

475,000 COPIES OF THE Double Christmas Number OF THE YOUTH'S COMPANION

Mailed to any address for FIVE cents.

Choice Stories—Twenty Pages—Finely Illustrated.

Free to Jan.

ANY NEW SUBSCRIBER who sends us \$1.25 at once will receive The Companion FREE to Jan., 1890, and for a full year from that date. This offer includes the Four Double Holiday Numbers and the Illustrated Weekly Supplements. Send Check, Money Order or Registered Letter at our risk. Please mention this paper. Address,

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, Boston, Mass.

Texas Christian Advocate.

A great pest fire has been burning near Geneva, Minn. It is estimated that 3,500 acres of land are burned over and 6,000 tons of hay destroyed.

One Fact is worth a column of rhetoric, said an American statesman. It is a fact, established by the testimony of thousands of people, that Hood's Sarsaparilla does cure scrofula, salt-rheum, and other diseases arising from impure state or low condition of the blood.

To allow stock to run down during the winter and expect to get them back again by extra feeding is no economy as the feed required to get them in a good condition will consume all that may possibly be saved.

We can truthfully say that in no instance has Morley's T-X-S Acute Tonic failed to cure Chills when taken strictly as directed.

Both wheat and oat straw should be saved that cannot be fed out to the stock to a good advantage can be used for bedding the stock and be converted in this way into a good fertilizer.

Cascarine is a sovereign remedy for kidney diseases. It banishes the pains usually felt in the small of the back and cleanses the whole system.

With any product when the price is low care should be taken to reduce the cost of production as much as possible and thus apply to butter as well as other products.

Indispensable to the Toilet. Darby's Proprietary Fluid cures chafing, eruptions, itching, sore throat, and inflamed or sore eyes; relieves pains from bites or stings of insects and sore feet; destroys all taint of perspiration or offensive smell from the feet or any part of the body; cleanses and whitens the skin.

Roots of almost any kind make a good feed for sheep during the winter, cut or slice them and sprinkle a small quantity of bran over them before feeding.

James T. Gott, Carmt. Ill. Says: He paid thirty-one dollars doctor's bill for his wife in one year, and one bottle of Bradfield's Female Regulator did her more good than all the medicine she had taken before.

When it can be done without too much inconvenience it will be found much the best to water the stock before feeding them.

My father had a very bad case of Chills, and after trying whole bottles of several kinds of "chill cures" without effect, he bought a 50 cent bottle of Morley's T-X-S Acute Tonic, one or two doses of which broke the chills and before he had used all of one bottle he was enjoying perfect health.

Land can only be kept rich by applying plenty of manure and must be built up in the same way if poor.

Cascarine is purely vegetable, a home product, strictly a Southern remedy, and is especially adapted to diseases of this climate.

The only reliable vegetable substitute for cod-liver oil, which acts on the liver, blood, kidneys and stomach, and best anti-bilious purgative is Macauley's Compound, Indorsed by Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, and the Bishop of St. Louis, and a host of prominent people.

Provide separate racks for cattle and sheep; it is not a good plan to allow or rather compel them to eat together.

Consumption Cured. An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by a friend a copy of a remarkable formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections; also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all nervous Complaints.

Write-You are very late, John. Husband-I am, my very late. W.-I think you are half tipsy, too. H.-Almost wholly so. W.-Have you been at the lodge? H.-No, dear; I've been in a barroom.

No one but a woman knows how much a woman sometimes suffers with the derangements and diseases peculiar to her sex. No one, therefore, but a woman, knows how valuable Peruna is in such troubles.

There is always more or less waste in giving any kind of feed to stock on the ground and this waste increases the expense without a corresponding gain.

The bad man's motto: "There is room at the top." This top may be supplied with a good crop of hair by using Hall's Hair Renewer. Try it.

She-Do you love me? He-Well; I can't say that I do as yet, but love may come after marriage. She-Then it is my money you are after? He-Exactly so.

Reason-Why Bailey's SALINE AMENT should be used by all classes in preference to all others. It is the cheapest and most reliable purgative ever offered. It has stood the test and gained an enviable reputation wherever used. It is the only large size aperient that will cost 50 cents per bottle. It acts upon the stomach, liver and bowels, without nausea, griping or any trouble whatever. Its taste is pleasant, its action is mild and it never fails. It relieves sick headache, acid stomach and heartburn instantly. It your druggist don't keep it write J. P. Dromgoole & Co., Louisville, Ky.

He-Will you marry me? She-I'm sorry, but I cannot. He-I thought you loved me. She-You were wrong. I feel only friendship for you. He-Then you will be a sister to me? She-Impossible. I have brothers enough at home.

I handle all kinds of Acute Cures, but Morley's T-X-S Acute Tonic has the lead, because it never fails to give satisfaction. I sell more of it than all the rest combined.

The largest gold bar ever cast was turned out at the United States assay office at Helena, Montana, September 4. It weighed 500 pounds and is worth a little over \$100,000.

Pains in the small of the back are indicative of disordered kidney. Cascarine will restore their healthy action.

Dakota ranks as the finest wheat growing State in the Union. Indiana second; Iowa first in the average intelligence of population, first in production of corn and number of wives. New Mexico ranks No. 1 in grazing facilities. Ohio in agricultural implements and wool. Oregon in cattle raising, and Pennsylvania first in rye, iron and steel.

"I understand Mr. Wavering is dividing his attention between you and Miss Jones, (Lara)." "I fancy he is myself and is undecided in his mind to which of us to propose."

To the proprietor of Salvation Oil- Thou hast built a living monument. A cure for hives with little money spent. Salvation Oil, the greatest liniment.

The soap suds should always be carried out and either applied on the garden, around the fruit trees, or on the maple hoop. What fertilizers they contain is nearly always in a soluble condition.

I sell Morley's T-X-S Acute Tonic on a guarantee and never had a bottle returned. Every purchaser was perfectly satisfied and it cured several very stubborn cases. I know. JOHN S. BARTLETT.

When suffering from sick and nervous headache, take a few doses of Cascarine and be cured.

Secretary Rank has authorized the preparation and publication of a book giving the symptoms of the forms of common diseases incident to live stock, together with the established cures therefor, the text to be compiled by plates illustrating the same. This work will be issued first in bulletin form, and then published in book form for distribution as a public document.

No knife used in curing RUPTURE or PILES. No detention from business. NO CUTTING NO PAIN, and no PAY UNTIL CURED. Permanently located in Dallas for the last five years, and have cured more cases of rupture and various troubles than any other physicians in the southwest. Consultation free.

Office: 804 Elm St., DALLAS, TEX.

Special Notices. P. CHANEY, D. D. S., DALLAS DENTAL PARLORS, 709, 711 Elm St., DALLAS, TEX. Specialty- Preservation of the natural teeth. Telephone 340.

DR. GEO. WILKINS, THE DENTIST, who captured the first prize on Artistic Dentistry at the State Fair and Dallas Exposition, 1888. Teeth and everything else pertaining to Dentistry. Office at Cotton State Fair and Dallas Exposition, 1888. Full set teeth, \$5; gold filling \$1. Go and see how he does work cheaper and better than any other dentist in Texas. Office at 304 Main St. a.m. to 10 p.m. 805 Main street, corner Elm and Murphy, Dallas, Texas.

Church Notices. 1890 1889

Table with columns for months (Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June) and days of the week, showing church services for 1890 and 1889.

AUSTIN DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Austin, First Street..... Dec 22, 23 Austin, Twenty-fourth Street..... Dec 28, 29

FLOYD DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Floyd Street..... 4th Sun in Dec Trinity..... 5th Sun in Dec Oak Lawn..... 1st Sun in Jan Jan Mission..... 2d Sun in Jan Plano..... 3d Sun in Jan Westport..... 1st Sun in Feb Bethel..... 2d Sun in Feb

DALLAS DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Trinity..... 4th Sun in Dec Oak Lawn..... 5th Sun in Dec Jan Mission..... 1st Sun in Jan Plano..... 2d Sun in Jan Westport..... 3d Sun in Jan Bethel..... 4th Sun in Feb

VERNON DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Benjamin mis..... Dec 11 Childress and Quanah..... Dec 14, 15 Vernon mis..... Dec 21, 22 Amarillo mis..... Dec 28, 29 Wichita mis..... Jan 4, 5 Frazier mis..... Jan 11, 12 Mangum mis..... Jan 18, 19 Pampa mis..... Jan 25, 26 Seymour mis..... Feb 1, 2 Farmer mis..... Feb 8, 9 Tyeckmorton mis..... Feb 15, 16 The district stewards will please to meet me at Vernon, Dec. 20th, and remain over till Monday. J. W. HARLOW, P. E.

BROWNWOOD DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Santa Anna, at Santa Anna..... Dec 21, 22 Coleman sta., at Coleman City..... Dec 28, 29 Glen Cove mis., at Glen Cove..... 11 a. m., Jan 1 Hallinger cir., at Hallinger..... Jan 4, 5 Fort Chebur, at Sacket..... Jan 11, 12 Comanche and DeLeon sta., at DeLeon, Jan 18, 19 Comanche cir., at Fanning..... Jan 25, 26 Round Mountain cir., at New Hope..... Feb 1, 2 Ripley Springs..... Feb 8, 9 Carbon cir..... Feb 15, 16 Cotton Wood cir..... Feb 22, 23 W. T. MELUON, P. E.

EL PASO DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Bonito mis., at Eker's S. H..... 4th Sun in Dec Fensaco mis., at James Canyon..... 5th Sun in Dec Del Paso mis., at El Paso..... 1st Sun in Jan Del Rio mis., at Del Rio..... 2d Sun in Jan Silver City mis., at Silver City..... 3d Sun in Jan Ft. Davis mis., at Ft. Davis..... 4th Sun in Jan Pecos mis., at Midland..... 1st Sun in Feb JAS. M. STEVENSON, P. E.

SAN SABA DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. San Saba sta..... 4th Sun in Dec San Saba sta..... 5th Sun in Dec Junction city mis..... 1st Sun in Dec San Antonio..... 2d Sun in Jan San Antonio..... 3d Sun in Jan San Antonio..... 4th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 5th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 6th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 7th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 8th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 9th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 10th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 11th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 12th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 13th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 14th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 15th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 16th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 17th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 18th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 19th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 20th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 21st Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 22nd Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 23rd Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 24th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 25th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 26th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 27th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 28th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 29th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 30th Sun in Feb San Antonio..... 31st Sun in Feb M. A. BLACK, P. E.

WACO DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Cotton Gin cir., at Cedar Island..... Dec 21, 22 Lorena cir., at Lorena..... Dec 28, 29 Wooten cir., at Wooten..... Jan 4, 5

CLUBBING DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Hico cir., at Hico..... 4th Sun in Dec North Side cir., at North Side..... 5th Sun in Dec Grandbury sta., Wednesday before 2d Sun in Jan Faldy cir..... 2d Sun in Jan Pine Forest..... 3d Sun in Jan Gleason cir..... 4th Sun in Jan Action cir..... 1st Sun in Feb Groton cir..... 2d Sun in Feb Armstrong cir..... 3d Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 4th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 5th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 6th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 7th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 8th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 9th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 10th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 11th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 12th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 13th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 14th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 15th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 16th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 17th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 18th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 19th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 20th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 21st Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 22nd Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 23rd Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 24th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 25th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 26th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 27th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 28th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 29th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 30th Sun in Feb Temple cir..... 31st Sun in Feb W. L. NELMS, P. E.

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Pleasanton cir., at Pleasanton..... 4th Sun in Dec Cotulla and Pearall, at Cotulla..... 5th Sun in Dec Bel Rio..... 2d Sun in Jan Monte mis., at Monte..... Jan 14

WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Irene cir., at Waxahachie..... Dec 21, 22 Tracy cir., at Champan..... Dec 28, 29 Rice and Chattell cir., at Rice..... Dec 29, 30 Hriello cir., at Hriello..... Jan 4, 5 Jack O'Leary..... Jan 11, 12 Wesley and Rush cir., at Wesley..... Jan 18, 19 Waxahachie sta..... Jan 25, 26 Waxahachie sta..... Feb 1, 2 Waxahachie sta..... Feb 8, 9 Waxahachie sta..... Feb 15, 16 Waxahachie sta..... Feb 22, 23 A full attendance of official members is much desired for the district stewards will please meet me at Waxahachie, Dec. 21st. E. L. ARMSTRONG, P. E.

GEORGETOWN DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. George town cir., at Georgetown..... Dec 21, 22 North Belton, at Hazon..... Dec 28, 29 North Belton, at Three Forks..... Dec 29, 30 Corn Hill and Salado, at Belle Plain..... Jan 4, 5 Belton sta., at Belton..... Jan 11, 12 Temple cir., at Temple..... Jan 18, 19 District stewards met at Taylor, Dec 15th. HORACE BISHOP, P. E.

JEFFERSON DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Texarkana sta..... 4th Sun in Dec Jefferson sta..... 5th Sun in Dec Kellie and Kellie..... 1st Sun in Jan Queen City cir., at Queen City..... 2d Sun in Jan Coffeyville cir., at Murray League..... 3d Sun in Jan Atterton cir., at Atterton..... 4th Sun in Jan Gilmer cir., at Gilmer..... 1st Sun in Feb Dalingford cir., at Dalingford..... 2d Sun in Feb York cir., at York..... 3d Sun in Feb Pleasant, at Pleasant..... 4th Sun in Feb Kildare cir., at Kildare..... 1st Sun in March Pleasant, at Pleasant..... 2d Sun in March The quarterly conference for Texarkana district mission will be held in connection with the quarterly conference on Artistic Dentistry at the Methodist Church at Jefferson, on Wednesday, Dec. 19th. CHAS. B. FLADGER, P. E.

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SHERMAN DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Whitestone sta..... Dec 21, 22 Collinsville cir., at Ethel..... Dec 28, 29 Benham sta..... Jan 4, 5 Belle and Saway, at Belle..... Jan 11, 12 Pilot Point sta., at Pilot Point..... Jan 18, 19 Sherman cir., at Kenda's Chapel..... Feb 1, 2 Whitebright and Marvin, at Whitebright..... Feb 8, 9 Pottsboro and Preston, at Pottsboro..... Feb 15, 16 Denton cir., at Shiloh..... Feb 22, 23 Howe cir., at Howe..... March 1, 2 Pilot Grove cir., at Cross Roads..... March 8, 9 Anna mis..... W. MOURCADELLE, P. E.

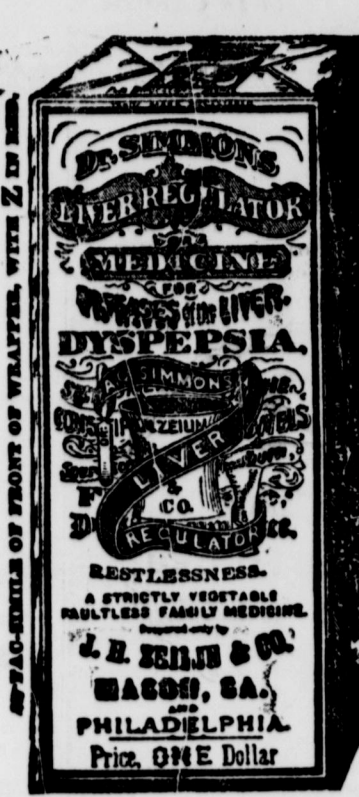
SULPHUR SPRINGS DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Campbell..... 4th Sun in Dec Carrollton..... 5th Sun in Dec Pine Forest..... 1st Sun in Jan Leeburg..... 2d Sun in Jan Quitman..... 3d Sun in Jan Cooper..... 4th Sun in Jan Lawrence..... 5th Sun in Jan Fairlee..... 6th Sun in Feb Sulphur Springs sta..... Feb 11, 12 Chico cir., at Chico..... Feb 18, 19 Lone Oak..... 4th Sun in Feb Woodland..... 5th Sun in Feb ministerial support and the distribution to each class in the several charges? Call your stewards early and start the work. GEO. T. NICHOLS, P. E.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND. Wichita Falls sta..... Dec 21, 22 Bellevue cir., at Bellevue..... Dec 28, 29 Montague and Belcher, at Belcher..... Jan 4, 5 Hutto cir., at Hutto..... Jan 11, 12 Burlington cir., at Liberty Chapel..... Jan 18, 19 Sunset and Crafton, at Sunset..... Jan 25, 26 Alvord cir., at Fanning Town..... Feb 1, 2 Fossil Lake cir., at Fossil Lake..... Feb 8, 9 Red River mis., at Willow Springs..... March 1, 2 Bowie cir., at Bowie..... W. E. MAY, P. E.

PARIS DISTRICT-FIRST ROUND.

1888

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CURE SICK HEADACHE, Headache, yet CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint.

ACHE, is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price. Pastor's Memorandum Book, PRICE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

Devotional.

THE PARADOX.

All sinful, beggared, and undone, What am I, God, that I should dare To think to seek thy burning throne, Or hope that thou wilt hear my prayer?

Will my Father hear? Many a soul trusts God in a general sense, but not so as to bring every thing to him, asking help and wisdom in every time of need.

Our existence is inspered in mystery. How many problems are there relating to the unseen world which the instinct of our nature impels us to inquire about, but upon which reason and the Scriptures shed no certain light?

Carry a pleasant or, at least, a placid countenance around with you. There is nothing gained by going up and down the streets with a sour, wrinkled, clouding visage.

Religion in its purity is not so much a pursuit as a temper, or rather it is a temper leading to the pursuit of all that is high and holy.

THE RIGHT WORK IN THE RIGHT SPIRIT. Did ever man exist in an army or join a regiment and expect to have nothing to do? No; but "soldiers of Christ" sometimes do, if we may judge of their thoughts by their lives.

There is a burden of care in getting riches; fear in keeping them; temptation in using them; guilt in abusing them; sorrow in losing them; and a burden of account at last to be given up concerning them.

All Christians must work. What would happen in battle if only the officers fought?—James Robertson.

MARRIAGES. JONES-HANNAN—At the residence of the bride's father, Nov. 5, 1889, by the Rev. Chas. H. Pease, Mr. John A. Jones and Miss Willie Hannan.

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RAY-PRICE—At the parsonage, at Indian Creek, Texas, Dec. 4, 1889, by the Rev. Jas. W. Story, Mr. W. E. Ray and Miss Lee Anna Price, all of Brown county, Texas.

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STRENGTH OF BAKING POWDERS

By Actual Chemical Tests. DR. PRICE'S... JOHNSON'S... ROBERTSON'S... HAYWOOD'S... RIDER'S... QUERRELL'S... CLEVERLY'S... PAYNE'S... DANKS & CO'S... BIRD'S... FERRER'S... HERRICK & CO'S... CHEPPEL'S... GIFF'S... SCHEMPP'S... BARKER'S... RAMSEY'S...

Fischer Pianos.

OVER 75,000 MANUFACTURED. Will. A. Watkin & Co., 737 MAIN STREET, DALLAS, TEX.

SCOTT'S EMULSION

Of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda. There are emulsions and emulsions, and there is a difference in the quality of the oil which constitutes an emulsion. Try it and you will see the difference.

SANGER BROS.

Dallas, - - Texas. ART AND HOLIDAY GOODS. The popularity of this department has more than maintained itself.

'L'ANGELUS,'

Millet's world-renowned picture that recently sold for \$110,800. This engraving is suitable for framing, and is the first of a monthly series of Artistic Favorites from the Master Painters of the world.

MUSICAL ANALYSIS

By A. J. GOODRICH. A system designed to cultivate the Art of Analyzing and Criticizing, and to Assist in the Performance and Understanding of the Works of the Great Composers of Different Epochs.

Obituary-Texas.

Mrs. James Thomas, Waxahachie. Charlie Briggs, Groves Creek. Mrs. Mollie Garrett, Palo Pinto. Mrs. Rachel Prescott, San Antonio. R. C. Davis, Waco. William Skinner, Oak Grove. Mrs. Judge Lucky, Center. Nathan Hicks, Belden. Mrs. Burke, Howe. Dr. A. H. Macey, Sherman. William Sloan, Beaumont. Will S. Mullins, Corsicana. Mrs. Hannah G. Knight, Georgetown. Walter V. Hamilton, Winsboro. James Evans, near Granger. Jim Compton, Canton. Mrs. Barney Monroe, Canton. J. W. Gardner, Henderson county. Mr. Shook, Troy. John R. Johnson, near Clarksville. Mrs. Lulu Saunders, Trinity. P. Fizer, Waxahachie. W. A. Hawkins, Waxahachie. Miss Hawes, Waxahachie. Joe Lee, Austin. Isom Polk, Crockett. Child of L. A. Doran, San Saba. Henry A. Keyes, New Birmingham. Major A. J. Dorn, Austin. Revere Gonzales, San Antonio. Dr. Ed Randall, Galveston, in Chicago, Ill. Wiley Moore, Laredo. Infant of W. B. Sanders, Mt. Calm. Leslie Keeningsham, Avalon. Mrs. Nancy Nations, Auburn. Patrick McCracken, Waxahachie. Infant of T. B. Mitchell, Dallas. Little daughter of W. B. Crawford, in Chappell Hill neighborhood. R. C. Davis, McLennan county. Dr. Jno. S. Napier, Waco. J. J. Canada, Terrell. Wm. Piper, Terrell. Daisy Holden, Dalby. Child of Mrs. Dick Pirtle, Deport. Mrs. Bolce, Dallas, in Toronto, Canada. Dr. W. B. King, Waco. Dr. H. J. Henderson, Ladonia. Dr. Lillie Toomey, Dallas. Mrs. Emma Sewell, Stone Point. Arch Downing, Wills Point. Mrs. R. G. Hamilton, Will Point. Hon. W. W. Spivey, of Henderson, near Alvarado. Mrs. Ona Bruce, Aubrey. Jas. Graham, Booham. Jesse Scruggs, Marlin. E. J. Cromer, near Jefferson. Jas. M. Wright, Lodwick. Mrs. Annie P. Lewis, Gonzales. Mrs. Mary E. Garay, Gonzales. A. K. McDown, Dallas, at Raleigh, N. C. Miss Lula Caylor, Whitewright. W. W. Burns, San Antonio, at Mazatlan. E. A. Brakney, Dallas. Miss Julia Sims, Fort Worth. Edward Parish, Honey Grove. Mrs. Susan Lisman, Chatfield.

Gratifying to All.

The high position attained and the universal acceptance and approval of the pleasant liquid fruit remedy, Syrup of Figs, as the most excellent laxative known, illustrate the value of the qualities on which its success is based and are abundantly gratifying to the California Fig Syrup Company.

Texas Casualties.

James Harris was thrown from a wild horse in Denison and seriously injured on Dec. 13. Scarlet fever, in light form, was reported in Albany, Dec. 13. Rev. Arthur Jackson (colored) was shot and killed by W. Robert Carter, Dec. 12, in Dallas. Seven farmers were robbed by masked men on the Greenville road, near White-wright, Dec. 13. The Cleburne Chronicle building was burned last week. Three deaths from malarial fever and meningitis, causing great excitement, have been reported in Waxahachie recently. E. M. Ellis, a painter from Dallas, fell from a ladder in Denison, Dec. 10, and was seriously injured. On Dec. 12 the Phoenix Roller Mills, Sulphur Springs, burned to the ground. They were insured for \$5,000. There was a terrible steam boiler explosion at James Mowdy's gin, near Greenville, Dec. 11. The blast was thrown 300 yards. The boiler shed was blown to atoms, and pieces of iron fell in every direction. Holly George was badly scalded, but not fatally. The cause of the accident is not known. Geo. Gleason, Denison, Dec. 11, while chopping a tree, was severely injured by the tree falling on him. A boy named Doss, in Denison, while playing near a train, fell from a drawhead, struck his head against a rail, severely cutting it. Three or four cases of spotted fever were reported in Waxahachie, Dec. 13. Levi Grayman's wagon and team ran away with him on Dec. 13 in McKinney. He was thrown out and badly injured. A number of cases of scarlet fever were reported in Fort Worth, Dec. 10. J. P. Courtney's little four-year-old girl, near Deatur, while playing around her father's gin, Dec. 13, got her hands caught and both arms were sawed off. Mrs. Dr. Whittaker and Mrs. James Wright of Morgan, were seriously injured, Dec. 11, by being thrown violently from a road cart drawn by a runaway horse. The little son of E. C. Chamberlin, Dallas, was seriously injured, Dec. 11, by being run over by a horse and buggy. The Missouri, Kansas and Texas freight train blew out her crown sheet and knocked G. Q. Wolfolk, brakeman, out of the cab and scalded him seriously. Jas. Horton, freeman, was badly scalded. Wolfolk was taken to the hospital, Fort Worth, and Horton to Denison. Degan and Wallace, while coon hunting near Denison, Dec. 12, got lost in Red River bottom. They wandered all night and entered Denison at 11 a. m. with hands, faces and clothes torn by briars.

INFANTILE Skin & Scalp DISEASES

Secured by CUTICURA Remedies. FOR CLEANSING, PURIFYING AND BRACING the skin of children and infants and curing torturing, disgusting, itching, scaly and pimply diseases of the skin, scalp and blood, with loss of hair, from infancy to old age, the CUTICURA REMEDIES are infallible. CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite skin beautifier, externally, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood Purifier, internally, cure every form of skin and blood diseases, from pimples to scrofula. Sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, 50c.; SOAP, 25c.; RESOLVENT, \$1. Prepared by the PORTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CO., BOSTON, MASS. Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases."

Baby's Skin and Scalp preserved and beautified by CUTICURA SOAP. KIDNEY PAINS, Backache and Weakness cured by CUTICURA ANTI-PAIN PASTER, an instantaneous pain-subduing plaster. 50c.

J. C. Maneece, while feeding a gin, at Randolph, Dec. 13, got his fingers cut. Dec. 14, John Woods, near Ladonia, had his hand so badly torn in a gin that amputation was necessary. J. D. A. Harris, Dallas, was thrown from a buggy, Dec. 15, and his head struck the ground, causing a slight concussion of the brain. Penn Webb, Abbot, aged thirteen, was kicked by a horse over the eye, Dec. 13. The wound, though painful, is not serious. An unknown woman was instantly killed, in Dallas, Dec. 15, by the Rapid Transit train. Corn in Hill county has been damaged by rats. Laxador is working wonders, especially in cases of dyspepsia, headache and affections of the bowels, stomach and liver. It cures at once. The best friend to all mothers is Dr. Bull's Baby Syrup, which relieves the sufferings of children caused by fretfulness or internal pain.

Miscellaneous.

New York city has raised \$5,000,000 for the World's Fair. The four-story McClosky building, New Orleans, La., was burned Dec. 14. The lower floor was a restaurant, the upper floors a boarding house. A theatre company was occupying some of them. All the inmates escaped without serious injury. Some were slightly injured. December 14 five firms were burned in Dayton, O., with a loss of \$30,000. Col. Justus H. Rathbone, founder of the order of Knights of Pythias, died at Lima, Ohio, December 11. While witnessing "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in the theater, December 11, in Johnstown, Pa., an alarm of fire was heard, and the crowd, rushing out, was so great that thirteen were killed, seventy-five fatally wounded and others slightly. The horror was greater than the flood disaster, to the eyes of strangers. It was viewed with cool composure by those who had suffered in the flood. The North German Lloyd steamer Ems dropped anchor off the quarantine station, New York, December 10, bringing a story of fearful weather, great suffering and faithful work. Two men were lying in their berths with broken bones. The life boat was crushed. During the severest portion of the storm two babies were born in the steerage. Capt. Jungt had been constant at his post of duty, scarcely taking food and rest enough to keep him alive. The storm raged with more or less fury sixty-two hours. Mrs. Scott Lord, sister of President Harrison's wife, died December 11th, in Washington, D. C. The town of Salisbury, Mo., was awakened December 10 by an explosion in the postoffice building. Several houses were badly shattered and one man blown out of bed, but no one injured seriously. Gen. Hypolyte, the new president of Haiti, refuses to treat with Fred. Douglas. Secretary Blaine does not know what to do about it. Moses A. Shaw, for whom the authorities of Bradford and Tioga counties, Pa., have been searching, was arrested in Washington, D. C., December 13, for various robberies amounting to about \$900,000. Two thousand longshoremen, Savannah, Ga., struck Dec. 11th. At Kosciusko, Miss., \$22,000 was taken, December 11th, by burglars. No clue to the thieves. The federation of labor at the meeting in Boston, Dec. 13, passed resolutions urging the abolition of child labor before the age of fourteen years. The Merchants' Association held their annual meeting in Boston last week. Among the conspicuous visitors were ex-President Cleveland, Andrew Carnegie, H. W. Grady, and Gen. Clinton B. Fiske. The little son of Dr. Pommer, at Hollandale, Miss., was shot accidentally in the head by a man named Onsbey, who was shooting at Davenport. The boy will probably die. W. A. Cook, of Hinds county, Mississippi, sold a bale of cotton recently for 35 cents per pound at Vicksburg. The staple was nearly two inches long. Johnstown, Pa., is again threatened with food. The bridge across the Conemaugh at Woodvale was washed away Dec. 14. Robert Browning, the poet, died Dec. 13 without suffering. There was an explosion in the Belmez mines near Madrid, Spain, Dec. 13, in which several lives were lost. Fifteen injured persons have been taken out.

THE FALL OF THE CHRISTIANS:

An Historical Romance of Japan in the 17th Century. By Prof. W. C. Kitchin, Ph. D.

"The Fall of the Christians" is a history of the desperate struggle of Christianity against Paganism in Japan over two hundred and fifty years ago, as related in ancient manuscripts discovered by the author. There were then several thousands of Christians in Japan, and the attempt to exterminate them led to one of the most sanguinary struggles recorded in history. The heroism of the Christians, both men and women, and their fortitude under the most appalling dangers, as portrayed by Professor Kitchin, will enlist the sympathies of the civilized world.

THE LEADING WRITERS. CELEBRATED ARTISTS. SPECIAL FEATURES.

Herbert Ward, Stanley's Companion. Herbert Ward, the companion of Stanley in his explorations in Africa, is one of the few men connected with Stanley's African explorations who have ever returned alive from the "Dark Continent."

Life in British America, By Rev. E. R. Young. Being the adventures and experiences of Rev. E. R. Young, the celebrated missionary, and his wife during their residence in the Polar region twelve hundred miles north of St. Paul, in which Dr. Young narrates how he tamed and taught the native wild Indians of the Northwest; how he equipped himself for and how he made his perilous sledging and hazardous canoe trips when visiting all the Indian settlements within five hundred miles of his home.

Nihilism in Russia, By Leo Hartmann, Nihilist. Leo Hartmann, a fugitive from Russian authorities, has been connected with the most daring feats of the Russian Nihilists. Mr. Hartmann shows how the intelligent people of Russia are becoming Nihilists in consequence of the despotism of the form of government. A participant in plots to kill the Czar, such as the blowing up of the Winter Palace, he is able to give true information as to how this and other great schemes were accomplished. The situation in Russia is sufficient to increase the love of every true American for our form of government.

Into Mischief and Out, By Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. This is a story of college life. It describes, in a graphic manner, the troubles which overtake bright students who get into mischief, and their skillful manoeuvres to evade the consequences of their conduct.

Other Contributors for 1890 are: Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, Robert Louis Stevenson, Rev. Dr. H. M. Field, Mrs. Margaret Deland, Anna Shields, M. W. Hazeltine, Mrs. Florence Howe Hill, Josephine Pollard, Thomas Dunn English, Mrs. Madeline Vinton Dahlgren, Amy Randolph, George F. Parsons, Mrs. Harriet Prescott Spofford, Frank H. Converse, Col. Thomas W. Knox, Mrs. Emma Alice Browne, C. F. Holder, Rev. Dr. John R. Paxton, Mary Kyle Dallas, Dr. Felix L. Oswald, Rev. Dr. James McCosh, Marlon Harland, Rev. Emory J. Haynes, Prof. J. H. Comstock, Clara Whitridge, Julian Hawthorne, James Parton, Judge Abner W. Tourgee, Robert Grant, Harold Frederic.

The Character of the New York Ledger. The New York Ledger directs its efforts towards crowding out that trashy and injurious literature which is poisoning the minds of American youth. The Ledger appeals to the intelligence of the people, and depends for its support on that taste which prevails for innocent and amusing entertainment and healthful instruction.

ROBERT BONNER'S SONS, 279 William St., New York.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure. This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low cost, short weight alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO. 108 Wall St., N. Y.

Liddell, Hunter & Co.

JOBBERS AND DEALERS IN Machinery and Machinery Supplies. Engines and Boilers, Gas and Water Pipe, Vitriol Sewer Pipe and Fittings, Brass Goods and Fittings, and Plumbing Goods. General Agents for Texas Cotton Press Co. MANUFACTURERS OF "BOSS" PRESS. Office and Salesroom, 407 Main St., - - Dallas, Texas.

Advertisement for 'The Fall of the Christians' book, featuring a circular logo with 'GIVEN FREE TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS SOUVENIR POEMS' and a price tag of '\$2 A YEAR SIXTEEN PAGES EVERY WEEK'. The text describes the book as a historical romance of Japan in the 17th century, edited by Prof. W. C. Kitchin, Ph. D. It lists other contributors for 1890 and mentions that the book is published by Robert Bonner's Sons, 279 William St., New York.

Advertisement for D. Lothrop Company, Publishers, Books and Magazines, Boston. It lists various books for adults, young people, and children, including 'Melodies from Nature', 'The Secret Way', 'A Last Winter', 'Ideal Poems', 'Longfellow Remembrance Book', 'Rab and His Friends', 'A Dissertation on Roast Pig', 'Helps by the Way', 'New Every Morning', 'Panses for Thoughts', 'The Might of Right', 'Living Truths', and 'Thoughts of Beauty'. It also lists books for young people like 'The Story of the American Soldier', 'Our Asiatic Cousins', 'Around the World Stories', 'Sweet Brier', 'Naval Cadet Bentley', 'Dear Old Story Tellers', 'Our Town', 'The Story of Louisiana', 'Heroes of the Poets', 'Boy's Heroes', 'The Children of Westminster Abbey', 'How Success is Won', 'Magna Charta Stories', and 'Pleasant Authors for Young Folks'. Children's books include 'Three Little Maids', 'The Adventures of David Vane and David Crane', 'Lotus Bay', 'The Loss of the Swans', 'The Second Year of the Lookout Club', 'Plucky Swallows', 'Swanhill', 'Nursery Finger Plays', 'Real Fairy Folks', and 'Lothrop's Annual for 1890'. The advertisement concludes with 'D. LOTHROP COMPANY, Publishers, Books and Magazines, BOSTON. Send for Illustrated Descriptive List, free! Subscribe for Magazines now!'.

Advertisement for C. H. Edwards, Pianos and Organs. It lists various piano models like Chickering, Mason & Hamlin, Decker, Western Cottage, Wheeler, Kimball, and Matthews, Bridgeport. It also mentions 'Low Prices. Easy Terms.' and provides contact information: 'Write for Catalogue. C. H. EDWARDS, 733 and 735 Main Street, DALLAS TEXAS.'

Advertisement for Will A. Watkin Music Co., Steinway and Fischer Pianos. It states '737 Main Street, Dallas, Texas.' and 'Oldest and Best Line of Pianos and Organs in Texas, PRICES and TERMS as Low as Can be Obtained Anywhere.' It also promotes 'The Dingee & Conard Co's ROSES, HARDY PLANTS, BULBS and SEEDS.' and 'Pastor's Memorandum Book' for 25 cents. Contact information includes 'SHAW & BLAYLOCK, 25 CTS.' and 'THE DINGEE & CONARD CO., SEEDSMEN, West Grove, Pa.'

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off. It includes text like 'QUICKER', 'RA...', 'WILL A...', 'WORTH...', 'HART...', 'OUR...', 'INTER...', 'BUY NO...', 'Ask you...', 'Flexible', 'CAR...', 'IT...', 'P...', 'Sick Head...', 'to a Dis...', 'causing B...', 'remedial', 'Headache...', 'are equal...', 'and prove...', 'that will...', 'stimulate', 'even to th...', 'Ache the...', 'who suffer...', 'and these...', 'little...', 'they will', 'But after...