

Texas Christian Advocate.

LET THE STATE BE REDISTRICTED.

Something ought to be done to help the weaker conferences. To redistrict the State seems to be the more feasible plan.

The Texas Conference has nothing to boast of in the way of numbers. The influx of a foreign population in some portions of this conference is driving out the old settlers and the Church feels the change quicker than the State possibly can.

The East Texas Conference is third in the State as to numbers. We have in this conference a little over 23,000 members.

There is much missionary ground in this conference. There are some of the places now called circuits and even stations that need appropriations from the board to help carry on the work.

Looking the statistics of 1891, let us look at some facts which, if they have at any time been considered, it is wonderful strange that some one is yet to be found who will deal kindly with the East Texas Conference by pleading her cause.

(1) There are fewer stations in the East Texas Conference than in any of the conferences of this State.

East Texas Conference has ten stations. West Texas Conference has seventeen stations (reported in 1892).

North Texas Conference has thirty-nine stations. Northwest Texas Conference has forty-two stations.

It is seen by these figures that so far as station work is concerned—which is chiefly the financial strength of any conference—the other conferences of the State are from two to four times stronger than the East Texas Conference.

This same ratio will hold good in the comparative of the circuits and missions as well as in the stations. The Texas and West Texas Conferences are not so strong as to numbers as the East Texas Conference, but in territory and in wealth are much stronger.

The educational assessment is of the nature of endowment and is the best thing in sight for the present. It were foolish to discontinue it. I am not fighting Church schools; I am talking about the endowment of one—our central institution. Of course I am for "centralization," if that term suits Bro. Nichols. To attempt to fight the solid squares of the world, the flesh and the devil, and the massed batteries of skepticism and infidelity with struggling, scattered and enfeebled regiments is poor generalship.

The Texas Conference is assessed \$68 per pastoral charge. They are permitted to keep one-half of it, which reduces theirs to \$34.

The East Texas Conference is assessed \$66 per pastoral charge and is not allowed to keep one cent of it, yet the needs here are greater than in the Texas Conference.

The North Texas Conference is assessed \$65 per pastoral charge. This is a compact, growing conference, with her many cities and thrifty people.

The Northwest Texas Conference is assessed \$10,000, an average of \$52 per pastoral charge. The board appropriates to that large and growing conference \$1000, which reduces their assessment to \$17 per pastoral charge.

The West Texas Conference has a small membership, but steadily increasing—a vast field to occupy; has an appropriation of \$500, made by the Missionary Board, and is thus virtually tacked on to the whole connection for a meager support.

Now, Mr. Editor, it may not be possible to readjust conference lines, but eternal justice demands that these assessments be readjusted. The East Texas has no voice in the making of these assessments. The West Texas has Dr. Thrall, and we take our hat off to him. That is by far the pluckiest in the State (except the East Texas), even when you take of the appropriation.

Per pastoral charge, West Texas Conference, \$81; Texas Conference, \$68; East Texas Conference, \$68; North Texas Conference, \$65; Northwest Texas Conference, \$52. And yet Bro. Bishop writes—oh, so funny—a letter on Bros. Campbell and Sears. He need not plead a mission district. We have two over in this conference poorer than Vernon District.

There ought to be a readjustment in conference lines. This can be done. Now is not the time to give a plan or even suggest one. Let each Annual Conference at its next session appoint a committee, and let these several committees meet at some convenient place and perfect a plan for the redistricting the State. Let this plan be placed in the hands of the delegates elected to the General Conference to be presented to that body for such action as it shall deem wise and proper.

Bro. Nichols' article smacks too much of provincialism. Provincial Methodism is, and has always been, out of order. Local investments for local profits is not in accord with the genius of Methodism or Christianity in earnest.

A real Methodist is for those enterprises which will magnify, dignify and glorify Methodism. The question of location is secondary. For this reason I am pleading for the Southwestern University—for its complete equipment and ample endowment.

This will dignify and glorify Methodism in every corner of our State. There is not a pastoral charge in any conference that would not get warmth and inspiration from its helpful growth. The educational assessment is of the nature of endowment and is the best thing in sight for the present. It were foolish to discontinue it. I am not fighting Church schools; I am talking about the endowment of one—our central institution.

I can't conceive of a better plan for swamping it. Bro. N.'s "whale" argument is a brilliant one. The truth of the matter is, we must choose between the support of a "whale" of our own and the raising of minnows for the "whales" of other people.

ENGLAND.

We stand in sad need of a whale. If for no other purpose, we need one to swallow the shipwrecked Jonahs of our ill-starred educational ventures and land them on "terra firma," as heralds of impending doom to the Nineveh of skeptical culture.

Let us quit this business and go now to the rescue of our baby Moses at Georgetown, that in the years at hand he may become for us a great educational law-giver.

J. A. STAFFORD. GREENVILLE, TEXAS.

ARKANSAS NOTES.

We have spent the winter very pleasantly. Have had some cold weather; several times below zero. I weigh twenty-five pounds more than I did when I left Texas.

REMEMBER THIS CHILD.

On the evening of the 15th instant I took my Bible in my hand and went to visit and read the Scriptures and pray with a poor man by the name of J. N. Brumbelev, who was in the last stage of consumption.

whereupon I made an engagement to receive him into our Church at 3 o'clock the next evening, at which time, in company with my wife, Rev. Isaac Taylor and wife, Bros. Mueller and Hanks, Misses Starkey and Hees, I went to that humble tent and received J. N. Brumbelev into our Church and gave him the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and never shall I forget that evening and the look of satisfaction in the face of that almost dying man.

And never shall I forget his look, the look of his face when he said, "Now I am ready to go at any moment when I am called upon. Bless the Lord, I am ready to go." It seemed that heaven came right down into that humble tent, our souls to greet, and glory crowned the mercy seat, and I never expect to feel that heaven is really nearer until I shall sweep through the pearly gates, and then I expect to meet J. N. Brumbelev among the redeemed and blood-washed throng.

ROBT. M. CHENAULT, KERRVILLE, TEXAS, Pastor.

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GERMANY.



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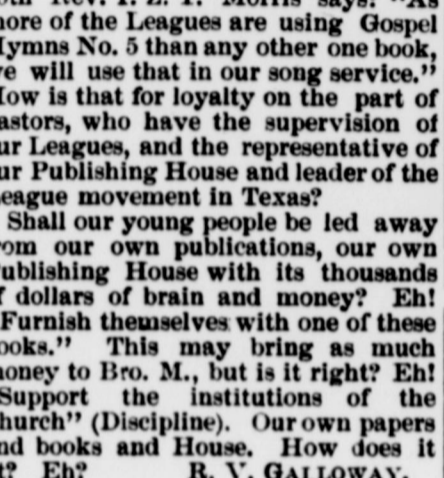
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The Doctors Agree.

All Lands Endorse It.

AMERICA.



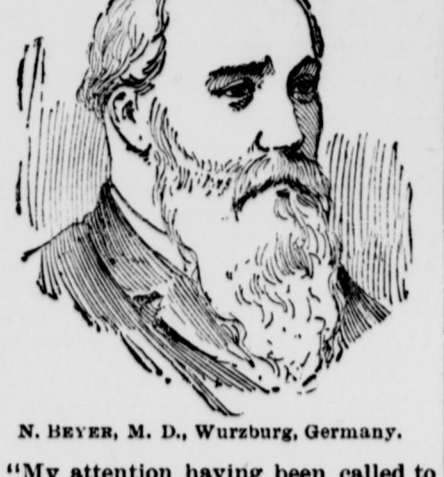
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Is convenient to the best mineral waters and bath houses. Good accommodations at reasonable rates. MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS.

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Evolutional.

THE SOUL'S EASTER.

Arise thou that sleepest and arise from the dead and Christ will give thee light.

Arise on the wings of joy today With the lilies of peace on thy brow.

Stay not at the door of thy sepulchre, sifter trust of repentance to shed, But trust in the infinite mercy of Christ, Who graciously suffered and died.

O glorify Jesus to-day: He loveth so well that he loves even thee And his mercy endureth for aye.

O turn from the door of thy sepulchre And turn to the door of thy Father's love; He will be a lamp and a guide to thy feet If ye follow the path that he trod.

O the old story is ever a new, The promises ever as sweet, Till ye reach the fair mansions that's waiting For you.

And rest at the dear Saviour's feet. JOSEPHINE DAVIS.

THE ARROW OF PRAYER.

Beware of excuses when you feel prompted to pray; they are arrows often shot from Satan's camp to work you harm.

Shoot up the arrow of prayer. In learning your lessons, or in whatever you do, a short prayer, reverently uttered ("Lord, help me!") will prove a blessing to you then and thereafter.

Marriages.

WHEELER-BLEDOR.—At the residence of the bride's father, in Upland County, Texas, March 16, 1893, by Rev. J. C. Carr, Mr. J. Wheeler and Miss Carrie Bledor.

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WALKER-WALKER.—At the Royal Hotel, Galveston, Texas, February 1, 1893, Mr. M. Walker and Miss S. E. Walker, Rev. J. C. Carr officiating.

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Obituaries.

The space allowed obituaries, twenty to twenty-five lines, or about 175 words. The privilege is reserved of condensing obituary notices.

REV. W. W. HENDERSON.

In the fall of 1876 Rev. W. W. Henderson transferred from Arkansas to the Northwest Texas Conference, and was appointed to the West Falls Circuit.

SOUTHWELL.—Charlotte, the beloved wife of Rev. John Southwell, was born February 1, 1833, at Eye, in England, and died January 9, 1893, near Harvester, in Waller County, Texas.

HERRINGTON.—Miss Addie Herrington was born September 3, 1870, and died near Brushy Creek, Texas, November 24, 1892.

CAMPBELL.—W. J. Campbell, the subject of this obituary notice, was born in South Carolina, York County, August 16, 1858, and died near Turner'sville, Coryell County, Texas, December 16, 1892.

MARKHAM.—Sister Nancy Elizabeth Markham died at her father's residence near Red Lick Church, Bowie County, Texas, March 15, 1893.

MARRY.—Little Cullie, daughter of A. L. and Margaret Mabry, was born in Hood County, Texas, September 3, 1884, and died March 3, 1893, after a brief sickness of four or five days.

D. M. WOOD.

WADE.—John T. Wade was born May 17, 1818, in Maury County, Tenn. In 1847 he moved from his native State and settled in South Alabama.

BRANN.—J. G. Brann, son of Rev. O. and Mrs. M. J. Brann, was born in Warren County, Tennessee, February 14, 1867; died in Waco, Texas, February 14, 1893, aged twenty-six years.

WOOD.—Margaret Octavia, oldest daughter of R. M. and C. E. Wood, was born July 13, 1877, and died in Erath County, Texas, February 15, 1893.

KOKERNOT.—D. L. Kokernot was born in Germany in 1806. Coming to this country in 1830, he located at New Orleans, La., where he remained until 1836, when he came to Columbus, Texas, at which place, in 1845, he professed religion and joined the M. E. Church, South, of which he was a faithful member until his death, which occurred at his home in Gonzales County, Texas, December 10, 1892.

WITHERS.—Little Nannie, daughter of George M. and Jennie Withers, was born at Joshua, Johnson County, Texas, July 14, 1884, and died at Mineral Wells, Texas, March 15, 1893.

BILLS.—Mrs. Helen Bills, wife of J. A. Bills, daughter of W. D. and S. A. French and sister of Rev. J. W. French, was born July 29, 1863, and died March 17, 1893, after a lingering illness of several months.

SHELTON.—Wm. Shelton was born in Alabama, August 31, 1823; moved to Arkansas in 1834; in 1843 he was married to Miss Sarah Sledge; in 1856 he moved to Marlin, Falls County, Texas, where he spent the most of his Christian life.

TAYLOR.—Died on March 1, 1893, Bro. Henry Taylor. He was residing at the home of his son, Allen, in this county. Bro. Taylor was born in North Carolina in 1805, and moved to Texas in 1854, when he settled in San Saba County, where he lived until 1890, when he came to this county.

WILSON.—Just a month and eight days ago God gave to Bro. and Sister Elijah Wilson a sweet little babe—too sweet to have been named, and so we simply call her "Baby Wilson."

SWANEY.—Alexander Nathaniel, son of J. B. and Mary Swaney, departed this life March 16, 1893. He was a great sufferer all his life, but God in his providence has taken him to the beautiful home above, where all suffering is over.

SHARP.—On March 11, 1893, Miss Effie May Sharp passed into her heavenly inheritance. At the home of Hon. J. F. Cunningham, of this place, she had all the attention loving hands and hearts could give.

ALLISON.—Sister Ida Allison was born July 13, 1856, and was married to W. E. Allison, April 22, 1882, and died March 8, 1893.

DANIEL.—Joe Daniel, son of Capt. J. N. and E. E. Daniel, was born in Austin County, Texas, April 26, 1877; was converted and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Cotulla, under the pastorate of Rev. J. W. Holt, September, 1893.

DUNCAN.—Mrs. Amanda A. Duncan, daughter of G. W. and M. M. Lemons, was born in Cherokee County, Texas, March 25, 1874; departed this life March 14, 1893.

STONE.—Mrs. Melinda Stone (nee Ratcliff), was born in Arkansas, on the 12th of April, 1825; professed religion at fourteen years of age and joined the Methodist Church, and thence until the close of her life was a devout, unwavering Christian under all circumstances.

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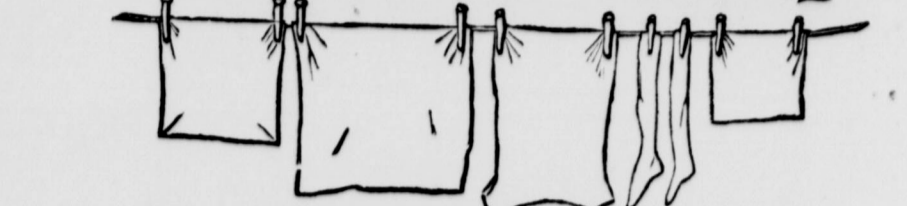
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