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Christian Advocate

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Christian Advocate

CHRISTMAS.—As is our custom, we shall omit an issue of the ADVOCATE Christmas week.

This is the manner in which Dr. Redford, in one of his Texas letters to the Nashville Advocate, speaks of the chief editor of the TEXAS ADVOCATE:

I was greatly pleased to meet at this Conference the Rev. Dr. John, the enterprising and gifted editor of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

In 186-, I was a presiding elder. At a certain place, where the church was weak, I was entertained, in a most hospitable manner, in the finest house in the village.

It is reported that John Morrisey held two millions of dollars in stakes bet on the election. Owing to the uncertainty still hanging over the result, most of these stakes have been withdrawn.

The Danubian provinces seem doomed to be tyrannized over either by the Turks or the Russians, and, in either event, their condition is unenviable.

The New York Observer is grieved to note the fact that a large number of the wealthiest Presbyterian congregations in some of the leading cities, have pastors imported from Great Britain.

A number of correspondents of the Nashville Advocate are ventilating the question of preacher's debts. An "old Methodist" protests against having another preacher who leaves his charge owing personal debts.

ECREKA!—The great question settled on characteristic immersionist principles. The Christian (Campbellite) Society says all the different denominations of Christians can unite in one body.

The block recently burnt out in Corsicana is to be rebuilt with brick.

CHURCH ITEMS.

Professor Silliman, now in his 83d year, writes: "I feel that science and religion may walk hand in hand. They form two distinct volumes of revelation, and both being records of the will of the Creator, both may be received as constituting a unity, declaring the mind of God; and, therefore, the study of both becomes a duty, and is perfectly consistent with our highest moral obligations."

The St. Louis Christian Advocate asks, "How shall we reach the masses," and answers as follows: "Build plain, substantial churches near to where the people are, with seats free to all, let rich members, in real Christian humility and charity, feel for and worship with the worshipping poor. Let the ministry be clothed in its old-time simplicity and earnestness, prepared to preach the gospel to the poor, and let the wealthier portion of the congregation attend the services dressed plainly and neatly, as becomes the house of God, not costly, richly or gaudily, which is always out of taste in such places, and our word for it, the masses will soon be reached."

Rev. Dr. James A. Duncan has been re-elected President of Randolph Macon College. He had resigned the position on account of failing health. His health has improved.

Dr. Redford reports that Texas last year, bought more books of the publishing house than any other State, and the North Texas Conference bought more than any other conference in the connection.

At the request of his people, Rev. Dr. Temple G. Woods of the Medina circuit, has determined to remove to Pleasanton. The circuit parsonage at the Oak Island Church will be occupied the coming year by Rev. James G. Walker presiding elder of the San Antonio district. Rev. J. W. De-Vilbiss has left his home on the Medina and removed to Clinton, his new field of labor.

One thousand eight hundred ministers attended the Christian Convention, presided over by Mr. Moody, in Chicago during the last week in November.

The question of excluding the Bible from public schools was discussed in a meeting of Congregationalists in Connecticut. Dr. Bacon said: "It is absolute nonsense to exclude the Bible from the schools. Merely as a work of instruction, the Catholics should no more find fault with reading the Bible than with studying Homer. We must not be dictated to by any one who says that the best read of all books shall be excluded from the schools." To the question, "Suppose the Catholics should become a majority?" Dr. Bacon replied, "Then we must get another Mayflower, and seek a new land."

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

There is a prospect that the resumption of specie payment will not be long delayed. The House has passed what is called the silver bill, which proposes to utilize the product of the gold and silver mines. It provides for the coinage of silver dollars, to be received as legal tender unless the contract specifies payment in gold. During the past year the mines of the United States produced 846,750,000 in silver and \$38,500,000 in gold. Total coinage, gold \$38,178,962 50; silver \$19,126,592 50, besides 2260,350 in small coin; an increase of over \$14,000,000 over the coinage of the preceding year.

The State of Georgia takes the Democratic banner as having given the largest majority for Mr. Tilden. The next States are Kentucky, Texas and Missouri.

Including fifty-one counties created by the last Legislature, Texas now has two hundred and twenty-five counties. Elector

have been held in 150 of them. At the elections in 1875, the following counties gave Democratic majorities, and in 1876 Republican majorities: Comal, Robertson, San Augustine and Washington. The following gave Republican majorities both in 1875 and in 1876, Brazoria, Colorado, Fort Bend, Gillespie, Harrison, Jackson, Kendall, Marion, San Jacinto and Waller. All the other counties gave Democratic majorities.

An Ancient Texas Village. It seems to have escaped the notice of chronologists and historians, that Texas has probably the oldest settlement in the United States. It is Ysleta, the county seat of El Paso county. In 1537, twenty-eight years before the founding of San Augustine, Fla., Marcos de Niza, a Franciscan missionary, crossed the Rio Grande from the City of Mexico, and entered the village. Three years later it was again visited, (in the pompous language of the narrator, "captured") by the party of Spanish adventurers under Coronado.

When discovered, the village contained a population of eight hundred or a thousand Pueblo Indians. They lived in comfortable houses; raised species of cotton, which they manufactured into cloth, and produced an abundance of corn, garden vegetables, etc. The Spaniards introduced sheep, cattle and horses, from which were derived the immense flocks and herds afterwards found on the plains of New Mexico. These Indians were peaceable, and readily submitted to the haughty Spaniard whose language and religion they adopted; otherwise they did not materially change their habits or modes of life. They had perhaps lived there for centuries. At Taos, in New Mexico, was found a similar village, supposed to have been inhabited by the descendants of the ancient Aztecs. These Indians, after losing their independence became successively citizens of Spain, of Mexico, and at annexation, of Texas, and the United States. They are passive under all forms of government. A late newspaper correspondent writes thus of this ancient town: "Ysleta, thirteen miles below Franklin, is a village of Pueblo Indians numbering some eight hundred or a thousand souls. They are an industrious, inoffensive and honest people; have comfortable houses, and produce corn, wheat, vegetables and fruit, especially grapes, not only sufficient for their own use, but a surplus for sale."

By the returns of the Assessor, it appears that the city of San Antonio has property assessed at \$7,763,346. There are 2,323 city tax-payers. Total population as follows: American, English and Irish, 5475; Germans including Isacians, 5630; Mexican, 2750; Spaniards, 12; Italians, 15; French, 128; Swiss, 48; Hungarians, 5; Dutch, 6; Swede and Belgian, 8; Poles, 158; Chinese, 4; Africans, 2075; total population, 17,314. The number of churches and the places of worship are as follows, viz.: Catholic—San Fernando Church, St. Mary's Church, St. Joseph's Church (German), St. Albert Church (Polander), and Convent Chapel, 5; Episcopal, 1; Baptist, 1; Presbyterian, 1; Methodist, 1; German Lutheran, 1; Jewish Synagogue, 1; African, 4; total, 15.

A correspondent of the New York Observer pays the following compliment to the Texas Central Railway: "The construction of the Texas Central Railroad has been a promoter of religion, education and good morals in Texas. I have recently made a careful estimate, and find from Denison to Houston (not including Houston) there are sixty-eight new church buildings of all denominations; forty-one school-houses, and sixty-four Sunday-schools. To quite a number of these, the railroad company have made liberal donations of land."

The Krup gun, at the Centennial, weighs nearly twenty tons, and throws its formidable projectile fifteen miles.

The Independent of Hunt county, says Mr. Edes is turning his farm into an orchard. He has 2,500 trees of all kinds, and over 300 grape vines.

(Communicated.) Many Kinds of Methodists.

BY THEOPHILUS LUKE M. D.

Doubles, no kingdom of earth possesses so great a variety of subjects as Daniel's prophetic kingdom. It is a happy circumstance that the final success of Immanuel's kingdom does not depend, necessarily, upon poor humanity. Only a few members need be cited. Foremost stands Brother Gold, the class-leader in "the church at Philadelphia." He has a bright, cheerful countenance and a greater amount of gravity than any man in the church. In his conversion he was tried in the fire. He now dwells continually on the delectable mountains on that side which lies over next to Beulah. No matter by what surroundings he is compassed—among the rough ash-lars of the devil's quarry, or upon the airy plains of fashionable life—he never for a moment loses his own pure nature, nor amalgamates with any baser metals. The hammer of reproof only extends his sphere of usefulness. He has made from himself a wire exceedingly small, but on it he sends thunderbolts twelve thousand miles around the world. The devil has searched in vain for this wire. It is called "prayer for missions," (and money too). He is well versed in the doctrines and polity of his church, and several of our best church organs are always in his house. His bright charity hides a multitude of faults in his preacher, and he is ready at all times to do battle for him. He stands in the breach and meets the most trying tests. Water and fire alike, avail nothing against him; for he is Brother Gold, without a rival, without even an equal in the cause of his Master.

Bro. Silverman is a local preacher in "the church at Pergamos." He is as faithful to his calling as a man of his order can well be. Though some of the Pergamites teach the doctrines of Balaam and of the Nicolaitanes, yet he disputes with them face to face. However, he does not have one-sixteenth of the influence of Bro. Gold. He has many poisonous, caustic elements in his nature, and his enemies have ascertained various methods of bringing them out at the most inopportune moment. Sometimes, when endeavoring to "speak the truth in love," his nature becomes suddenly fired. Upon these occasions, instead of bringing in the balm of Gilead, he burns everything around, indiscriminately, with fire, and blackens the purest subjects he touches. His enemies often taunt him. Though he abhors those who proclaim, "Great is Diana of Ephesus," yet they know he often makes a curiosity which he calls "Diana's Silver Tree." His opposers, led by Demetrius, often bring him to shame by proposing, in view of his skill, to add him to their craft.

Then, at certain times, he shows greater affinity for wealth than is consistent with the religion which is opposed to "covetousness, which is idolatry." At times he will cleave to a copper cent with great tenacity. At such times his servant always tells the church steward and the elder, "master is not at home to-day." At such times he sells his silver candlestick, and buys a larger one. It has often been hinted by some of the "Nicolaitanes" (through malice, no doubt) that Bro. Silverman is of German origin. Bro. S. often gets happy and shouts, and makes a great parade of his being "an old-fashioned Methodist."

Bro. Virgil Augustus Mounted Brass is an influential member of "the church at Laodicea." He is true to the letter, "neither cold nor hot." Heat would melt him to tears, and these he says "belong only to weak-minded people and to women." Cold would expose him to being knocked to pieces by the heavy thumps of

life. One thing he is good for is boxing for joints where friction is greatest. Being rather yielding, and a compromiser, he "keeps things quiet" among quarrelsome brethren. At times he imitates Bro. Gold, but it is only a shimmer and a glitter, and all is over. Being named for a great Roman poet and his royal patron, he is decidedly classical in his literary tastes and culture. He admires Shakespeare and Milton, and diligently cultivates the English essays. He defies Sidney Smith, and is an astute gentleman, a la mode Chesterfield. He is profoundly versed in sacred history as well as in profane. He can tell one the exact year of the world, according to either the Nesharian or the Alexandrian chronology in which the apostle John ceased as the voice of one crying in the wilderness, and made his voyage to Rome to stand before Constantine to plead for religion. He thoroughly understands ethnology, and believes that man, especially the negro, degenerated from a monkey. He relishes geology, and thinks the Mosaic cosmogony should be "so revised as to meet the demands of a progressive age." Ask him for some church money, and he descends most eloquently upon the hand Providence has in spreading the gospel. He winds up by giving a twenty-five cent fractional currency, saying to the helpless beggar (preacher): "Silver and gold have I none." He prays in public, and exhorts at big meetings, which, some how or other, close very shortly after. He attends church about four times a year, when his wife and daughters "take the rag off of the bush" by their extravagant displays of silk and jewelry. Upon these occasions the preacher "spreads himself" for if they take a stand against him he will soon "know which side of his bread is buttered." They talked once of making Brother B. steward, but Mr. Dives, a wealthy worldling who paid liberally, said he would not help any church in the world that had such a stingy fellow for steward as he knew Brass to be.

At Thyatira, they have a Steward, who is "a case." His name is Bro. Green Backster. He is a pliant, finical gentleman, talks politics finely, and prefers going to the County Convention rather than to the quarterly meeting. His appointment as Steward caused some division. Many thought the one who "held the bag" ought to have "a good report of them that are without." He spends much time around public buildings, and deals largely in paper, which he always shaves, saying that it is "business." He dresses well, displays side whiskers and pronounces his mother tongue after the elegant (?) nasal style. He says "keow," for cow; "koid," for calm; "plawnt," for plant, and "bee-utiful," for beautiful. Some of the members have seen him visiting Madame Jezebel, whose house is "just around the corner." He takes many privileges on steamboats, drinks wine freely at hotels, and frequents dancing parties, club rooms and theatres, in order to learn disgust for immorality; but is evidently a slow student. He puts up at Delmonico's or at the Willard, when traveling, and liberally patronizes Miss Horseleach, who has two charming (?) daughters, to whom he has letters from the aforesaid Madame J., who is a relative. He obeys one Scriptural injunction—yea, two—"drink no longer water;" and "mind not your own, but another's things." He holds fast to that which he has (in his pockets), and is encouraged when he reads that "all are yours." Good judges of men hint that he will soon take the bankrupt law. Better judges, if he escapes wind and wave, that there is a sure word of prophecy in a very old book called the Bible, that the fire will finally overtake him. "He sure your sins will find you out," says the Bible, but he is as ignorant of it as Balaam's ass was.

The beef packeries of Aransas county are of large proportions. Mr. Holden, of Fulton, has been perfecting his ice machine for use in producing ice or reducing temperature of cars or the hold of vessels containing beef.

(Communicated.) Price-Caskey Debates.

ALVARADO, TEXAS, DEC. 14, 1876.

I thought to have noticed the Price-Caskey debate, recently had at Dallas, before this time; but on account of surveying the plan of the work laid by Conference, and getting on it, I have neglected to do so. The debate opened on Monday, the 27th ult., and closed on Saturday evening following. Two propositions, to-wit: "Infant baptism and church membership," and the "Design of baptism," were all that was discussed, owing to their inability to obtain a stenographer to report it; and they adjourned sine die.

The discussion was quite interesting. Logic and theology on one side; buffoonery and sarcasm on the other; "Thus saith the Lord," by Price; and "I assert," by Caskey—made up quite an interesting debate. Brother Price preserved all the way through that true dignity characteristic of a generous, heart-felt religion. Caskey, to the contrary, notwithstanding. One little incident may here be mentioned with interest: It was Mr. Caskey's forte to excite laughter by his sarcasm, and he never missed an opportunity to obtain the end. He had been carrying his point in that direction with the audience for several evenings, while Price made no attempt; but on the other hand, suppressed laughter. But all things founded in folly must have an end, and woe unto the end thereof. On Friday evening Price, in his closing speech, propounded questions to Caskey which greatly perplexed the learned (?) expounder of the word-theory, and in trying to see the point through Price's spectacles, amid his own confusion, quite a laugh at his expense was created. The next day, doubtless, the reverend gentleman walked the streets of Dallas, and peeped into every turner's shop in the place, to ascertain the art of turning the tables so nicely without much effort. But not succeeding to his satisfaction, the first thing to open the discussion on the following evening was to cry, in solemn accents: "Too much levity; entirely too much."

To reduce the matter to solid facts, Price is too much for Caskey. He cannot sustain the doctrine, especially when he crosses and differs with Mr. Campbell, taught by its learned founder, before the light of reason, revelation and history in the hands of Price. And we feel sure that Caskey will never again lip the name of Price in debate. If he does it will be an act of supererogation on the part of Price to accept.

Z. L. ANDREWS.

The Eastern Question. Turkey desires the prolongation of the armistice, and Russia is not ready for war, and the presumption is the armistice will be prolonged till March. No definite action has been had by the plenipotentiaries. It is said the Porte will reject any proposition looking to foreign occupation of her European provinces.

The Indian War. Gen. Sherman has advices from Gen. Miles to the effect that he has had a severe fight with Sitting Bull, in which the Indians were driven from the field, and are scattered on the Yellowstone. Many have taken refuge at Fort Peck, and are under charge of Gen. Neagen. Gen. Miles thinks the war is over for some years, and the hostile Indians will come in and surrender during the winter.

Abroad. The news from Mexico confirms the overthrow of the Lerdo government. Advices from Lower California report a reign of terror. The insurgent Gen. Marrino has levied a tax of \$24,000 on the people to support the government. Many families, with their effects, are crossing the line. Diaz has declined to proclaim Iglesias president unless he is allowed to name four members of the cabinet. This is refused by Iglesias, and the struggle will now be renewed between these two leaders.

The grasshoppers are leaving Goliad county after destroying vegetation to such an extent that the stock owners in some places are hunting a new range until the grass can come out.

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 23, 1876 THE JUST FOR THE UNJUST.

The following quaint dialogue, between Jesus, Justice and the Sinner, was written, we feel pretty confident, by Francis Quarles, a poet of olden time. Quarles flourished in the reign of Charles I, and died in 1644. He was styled by Rev. John Ryland, the "divine poet of the times."—Episcopal Register.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

BY L'ECLAIR. CHAPTER III.

They were all cloaking and making ready to go to the church on Christmas Eve to distribute the gifts from the large tree prepared for the Sunday-school scholars.

Marston remained with them during the night. Rosie learned from Mabel of the old friendship that had always existed between the two families, and her kind little heart rejoiced that the friends had been so opportunely restored to each other.

CHAPTER IV.

Christmas morning dawned bright and cloudless, but its golden rays fell on the still white face of Mabel's mother. As they were dear friends of the Rev. Arthur Marston, Col. Clayton insisted that Mabel should come to them for awhile, and that her mother should be buried from his residence. All that human sympathy and care could do was done to comfort the poor girl in her great loss, and again and again did she think of her sainted mother's beautiful trust in God, and humbly beg forgiveness for her own sinful doubts.

A month later Rosie and Mabel were seated on the rustic porch of the parsonage of the village where lived the uncle who stood in the place of a father to pretty Rosie Felton. Mabel had obtained, through the influence of kind Parson Meadows, the situation of village school mistress, with a salary sufficient for all her modest wants, and she made her home with Rosie, who was her uncle's housekeeper.

"What good little daughters I have," he said smiling on them both. "Have you any supper, little one?" turning to Rosie, "for your hungry old uncle?"

"Yes, indeed!" she answers; "supper is all ready and waiting for you as soon as you are rested."

"Ah! Mabel," he said as they were leaving the table, "here is a letter for you."

"Well, who is it from?" asks Rosie, teasingly.

"From my old friend, Mr. Marston," replies Mabel, and Rosie, for some reason, ceases her teasing ways at once.

Christmas morning dawns again upon Mabel—and this time she is sitting in her husband's home in the city, whither she came a happy bride one month before. Her life has grown strangely bright in the last year. The clouds have all rolled away from the sky and she watches the clear sunshine to-day with a heart purified by past sorrows, and grateful for all her present happiness.

darling happy and contented to-day." "More than contented," she replies dropping her head upon his shoulder; "inexpressibly grateful to God for all His precious gifts."

The Great Aquarium.

The mammoth Aquarium at Broadway and Thirty-fourth street was opened on Tuesday night to invited guests. There was speaking and a fish dinner. The whale taken on the coast of Labrador two months ago, arrived on Tuesday morning and was hoisted into his immense tank safely.

A large number of other fish have been received in the aquarium within the past few days. The salmon eggs have been placed in their troughs and are now undergoing incubation.

Robert B. Roosevelt, a prominent member of the Fish Commission, in his address claimed the respectability of pisciculture, holding this science to be of more value than that of horticulture or agriculture, and in which, he declared, the aquarium was of great assistance to the study of fish life.

A LOVING SON.—Arthur was the son of a poor widow who could hardly earn enough to buy food for herself and son. She had no warm shawl, and could not go to church in cold weather.

He kept the plan secret, bought the shawl, carried it home, and stealing up behind his mother, spread it out and laid it over her shoulders.

"What is my boy about?" cried the widow, starting from her chair. Then feeling the shawl, she grasped it and said, "Why, what's this?"

"A nice warm shawl for my dear mother to wear to church!" cried Arthur, clapping his hands and dancing around the room for joy; "isn't it a beauty, mother?"

KEEP YOUR TEMPER.—"I never can keep anything!" cried Emma, almost stamping with vexation. "Somebody always takes my things and loses them." She had mislaid some of her sewing implements.

not even looked for them. You have only got into a passion—a bad way of spending time—and you have accused somebody, and unjustly too, of taking away your things and losing them.

Emma subdued her ill-humor, searched for the articles she had lost, and found them in her workbag.

"Why, mamma, here they are! I might have been sewing all this time if I had kept my temper."

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Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS DEC. 23 1876

(Communicated.) An Infidel Reproved.

Chillicothe, Mo., Dec. 7th, 1876. We have had a most interesting debate at Chillicothe, Mo. I understand that Dr. Ditzler expects to spend the winter in Texas. As he was one of the disputants, it might be interesting to your readers to know that he sustained himself and his cause most triumphantly. You are at liberty to publish the following:

This was an oral and public contest with an infidel. The debate commenced Wednesday, November the 15th, and continued eight days, exclusive of the Sabbath. The discussion embraced four propositions: First, "The Holy Scriptures are of divine authority and authenticity."

Dr. Ditzler, in a scholarly way maintained the affirmative of this proposition. He reasoned well—learnedly, logically, eloquently. He demonstrated the truthfulness of the historic account of the creation by Moses, and harmonized this account with known facts in geology, and proved beyond the possibility of a reasonable doubt that there could be no conflict in this, or in any department of science, with this divine record. Moses wrote by divine inspiration—wrote as he was moved by the Holy Ghost—and hence he is in perfect accord with all known facts in every department of science. There is and can be no conflict, as Dr. Ditzler showed.

Some of the arguments the Dr. presented on the subject Mr. Underwood did not even attempt to answer, and acknowledged to one of Dr. Ditzler's friends, in private, that he could not answer them. Is Mr. Underwood a scientist—so is Dr. Ditzler, but of superior attainments. Has he authorities?—so has our brother Ditzler, and more of them, and better than his, and he is more conversant with them. He knows how to use an author, and never introduces one that is doubtful. At the close of the discussion of this proposition, at the end of two days, Dr. Ditzler stood a victor.

Second proposition—"The Bible is of human authority and alone." Mr. Underwood affirming. I shall not attempt to give even a synopsis of the arguments on either side. My subject is a simple statement of facts and results.

1. It is a fact that Dr. Ditzler refuted the arguments of Mr. Underwood on this proposition, in so far as they had any weight against the divinity and the divine authenticity of the Bible.

2. It is a fact that he took some of the arguments of Mr. Underwood and showed that they were in conflict with the proposition which he had assumed, and did consequently favor the Christian religion and the divine authority and authenticity of the Holy Scriptures. Referring to a certain speech made by Mr. Underwood, brother Ditzler told him, and told the audience that he was much pleased with the most of it—indeed, that he was so very glad, that if he would continue to speak and argue in that way, he would be pleased to allow him at least half of his (Ditzler's) time.

3. It is a fact that Dr. Ditzler did not only disprove the arguments of Mr. Underwood in support of the proposition that "the Bible is only of human authority," but he did more: he demonstrated, by arguments the most logical, forcible and irresistible, that the Bible is of God, and its religion of divine authority. He opened his mouth wide in defense of divine truth, and many hearts—a large majority of those present—opened just as wide to receive the truth as his mouth to give it utterance. I really never listened to such outbursts of oratory and strains of eloquence. The man was moved by divine impulse, and the large audience felt it. The glory of God was seen, as in the sanctuary of old. But I forbear. These are glorious facts and results for the cause of God and on common humanity.

Third proposition—"Infidelity is demoralizing to society, and tends to the corruption thereof." Dr. Ditzler, like a master workman as he is, led in the discussion of this proposition. In his opening speech he dug deep and laid his foundation well. He took a wide range in metaphysical science and in fundamental principles and facts. Having completed the basis of his contemplated edifice, he stepped upon it with the satisfaction and delight which never comes except in the confidence of perfect security. In the work of building he used only the choicest materials, and like those of the foundation itself, inde-

structable. By a course of philosophical reasoning and scientific labor, the work went on, through two days, to the close of the discussion on this proposition, and to a successful and triumphant completion. Dr. Ditzler showed not only the poverty and extreme destitution of infidelity, but its utter barrenness and emptiness of all good. On the other hand, he portrayed its demoralizing elements and its powers of corruption, showing how the workings of infidelity, of necessity, would lead to wretchedness and to want. Infidel theories and practices, as such, must and do work evil, only evil, and that continually. From such sources arise and flow impetuous torrents, rushing cataclysms and wild seas, raging and foaming with madness, spreading moral desolation and ruin everywhere. The Dr.'s arguments on this proposition were as cogently presented as they were unanswerable. Infidelity fled the field in confusion, and the Bible and Christianity stood forth in bold array, and as mighty conquerors.

Fourth and last proposition—"The teachings of modern materialism are more reasonable, consistent and ennobling than the teachings of the Bible." Mr. Underwood affirming, and presenting the best arguments of his own and those of infidel scientists in support of the proposition.

Dr. Ditzler followed in the discussion, in the most masterly replies: 1. In disproving the proposition. No pet or favored theory was ever more certainly, and, as it seemed to me, more fully and completely negated.

2. Not satisfied with this, Bro. Ditzler took the proposition, in its several parts, and picked it to pieces, tore it to shreds, ground it to powder, and threw it to the four winds. I really never witnessed anything so completely or more triumphantly overturned. The arguments here, if possible, were more weighty and crushing than those the Dr. presented on former propositions. The bold and arrogant assumptions of infidelity contained in the proposition were completely annihilated.

3. The blunders, errors, false premises and reasonings, so specious and ingenious, of the so-called free thinkers, were uncovered so as to be seen in their true light and in their real and frightful magnitude. He showed that infidels do not stick to the truth. He scathed them for their recklessness of statements and consequent deception of the people. He is able to measure arms with any of them in facts and in science, if he is, in their estimation, unreliable because he belongs to the class of men which they sneeringly denominate theologians! He exhibited the fact that infidelity, as a whole, and at best, while holding to some few truths and facts, gives but a glimmering and false light. He demonstrated that infidelity, in its false theories and doctrines, is unreasonable, inconsistent, demoralizing, and, consequently, corrupting. On the other hand, ascending from the depths of the earth upward to the very throne of God itself, through facts of science, and of history, and of Revolution, he demonstrated with equal clearness, and with greater force of thought and power and eloquence; that the Bible, in its holy and divine teachings, is in perfect harmony with reason and in sweet accord with consistency. The standard of the Christian, the Bible, being, like its Divine Author, holy, just and good, and infinite in these and in other perfections, is ennobling in the best sense and to the highest degree.

I was compelled to leave a half a day before the close of the discussion. THE RESULTS Up to the time of my leaving were most desirable and favorable. We expected Dr. Ditzler to sustain himself and his cause well, but did not look for such a complete victory and glorious triumph. s. w. COPE.

Americans have not a monopoly of the complaint that times are hard. In Prussia, things are worse than here. News from England is that owing to the depression in the steamer coal trade more than a thousand miners are thrown out of employment in the Northumberland collieries alone. The coal operators in the Lackawanna region have determined to suspend mining on 15th of Dec. This decision will throw out of employment about fifteen thousand workmen, where much privation already exists. There is a prospect that other mines in Pennsylvania will be closed until the price of coal shall have risen in the market. The prospect for the miners is decidedly black.

Outlook.

Nine Presbyterian clergymen are ordained from among the Sioux Indian converts.

The U. S. Baptist Missionary Union reports that its collections for the past seven months were \$10,000 below those for the same period last year.

Rev. E. P. Hammond is holding revival meetings in Philadelphia which are largely attended. On one evening last week he had a congregation of 2,500.

The American Bible Union, which publishes a Baptist Bible, reports receipts for the year of nearly thirty-one thousand dollars, which covers the expenditures.

The Rev. Ebenezer E. Halley, of Troy, N. Y., has retired from the Presbyterian ministry, after fifty-two years of service. He deserves a pension.

Robert Raikes, who started Sunday-schools in England about a century ago, is to have a national memorial dedicated to his memory in Gloucester Cathedral—Gloucester being the place in which he was born, lived and worked.

William Tyndall, who was burned at the stake in England for translating the Bible, is to have a statue on the Thames embankment. Times change.

One hundred and fifty million dollars have been spent in the last forty years, says the Archbishop of Canterbury, by members of the church of England in restoring old churches and building new ones.

The Southern Presbyterian church is rapidly extending its work among the colored people. Its Presbyteries have recently licensed a number of colored men to work among their own people as evangelists.

The Baptists have organized in Michigan the past year fifty new Sunday-schools, and increased the number of scholars by 3,630. They have in all 339 schools, with 31,000 scholars.

A church in Kentucky is reported as thus rejoicing over a new pastor: "We have secured his services for the ensuing year at a salary of \$100, and are looking forward for great blessings." In proportion to the salary?

The Catholic papers announce that on All Souls' Day the Pope sang a requiem mass for the repose of the souls of all his enemies, among whom were included the names of Count Cavour, Napoleon III, and Ledru Rollin.

The Episcopalians of Utah are doing one-fourth the educational work outside of its common schools. There are two church schools in Salt Lake City, one in Ogden, and one in Logan, with 757 scholars. The school property is worth \$25,000.

The Archbishop of York, speaking at a church of England Temperance meeting in Yorkshire the other evening, said that there was a public house to every 150 persons in the kingdom, and that \$146,000,000 were spent annually in strong drink.

The London "Athenaeum" states that the long-promised edition of the Greek Testament, on which Professor Westcott and Mr. Hort have been engaged for nearly twenty years, is now really approaching completion, and the sheets of the Apocalypse are actually in the printer's hands.

Durham Cathedral, England, has been reopened after its restoration. The bishop of the diocese declined to take part in the services, on the ground that the money expended on the fabric would have been better devoted to the relief on the spiritual destitution of poor parishes.

A considerable number of Russians holding the faith of the Reformed Church settled in Nebraska and Dakota last year. They have been visited by a delegate from the North-western Synod, (Reformed German Church,) and thirty families in one place organized into a congregation.

It is said that the state department has received satisfactory evidence that Tweed bribed the United States consul at Santiago de Cuba to procure him a vessel to escape to Cuba. The consul has been dismissed.

The Count of Paris, who, it will be remembered, took part in the late war on the Federal side, has applied for membership in the Southern Historical Society, and has been unanimously elected a life-member.

Pittsburg papers report a sad occurrence, near that city, last Saturday week, at the house of a Mr. Riddle. Two brothers, mistaking each other for burglars, fired, and both were seriously injured.

Hanford's State Register

TEXAS ALMANAC FOR 1877.

Astronomical calculations expressly for Texas. Contains a full list of postoffices, postmasters and money order offices in Texas. Also, description of Counties, Laws of Texas, etc. Price 20 cents; with Colton's New Map of Texas, 75 cents. Sold by Robinson & Co., Galveston; E. H. Cushing, Houston and other dealers. ALBERT HANFORD, Galveston, Dec. 11, 1876.

SENECA FALLS BELL FOUNDRY. For Church, Academy, Factory, Depot, Steamboat, etc. SIZES AND PRICES, WITH WHEEL HANGING AND FIXING COMPLETE.

HOUSTON Cotton Press Co., Proposes to do a RECEIVING, FORWARDING AND STORAGE BUSINESS. Consignments of Cotton respectfully solicited.

DR. WARNER'S HEALTH CORSET. With Skirt Supporter and Self-Adjusting Pads. Secures HEALTH AND COMFORT OF Body, with GRACE AND BEAUTY of form. These garments in one. Approved by all physicians.

HOLIDAY MUSIC BOOKS. Two Splendid Volumes for Presents. 'THE WORLD OF SONG!' Price in Boards \$2.50; Cloth \$3.00; Gift \$4.00.

GEMS OF THE DANCE! A Companion to the famous "Gems of Strauss!" Price in Boards \$2.50; Cloth \$3.00; Gift \$4.00.

S. L. ALLEN. COTTON FACTOR AND COMMISSION MERCHANT, Houston, Texas. Liberal cash advances made on consignments of COTTON, WOOL and HIDES.

District Conference HIGH SCHOOL, Sulphur Springs, Texas. MAJ. JOHN M. RICHARDSON, President.

ANOTHER NEW BOOK. THE ROMISH CHURCH. Its results in Europe, and its Design upon the Institutions of America.

THE MASONIC JOURNAL. A Live, Progressive Masonic Newspaper, Published Semi-Monthly.

AGENTS WANTED FOR OUR NEW BOOK, Great Centennial EXHIBITION ILLUSTRATED.

ARTHUR Illustrated Home Magazine. Year after year the Home Magazine continues to be the best periodical of the day.

GREAT PREMIUMS. For 50 subscribers at club rates, we give as a premium a copy of our Great National Picture of all the Presidents of the United States elegantly framed in heavy gold and gilt binding.

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1877. --- POSTPAID. --- \$1.60.

THE NURSERY.

A Monthly Magazine for Youngest Readers. SUPERBLY ILLUSTRATED. Send ten cents for a Sample Number and Premium-List.

A NEW DEPARTURE. MEN WANTED TO travel and sell our Old and Staple MANUFACTURES to Dealers; no peddling.

Rose-Buds in winter. Strong Red Roses, specially prepared for Fall planting and quick bloom, sent safely by mail post-paid.

DR. WARNER'S HEALTH CORSET. With Skirt Supporter and Self-Adjusting Pads. Secures HEALTH AND COMFORT OF Body, with GRACE AND BEAUTY of form.

HOLIDAY MUSIC BOOKS. Two Splendid Volumes for Presents. 'THE WORLD OF SONG!' Price in Boards \$2.50; Cloth \$3.00; Gift \$4.00.

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John & Water Sts. Cincinnati, MANUFACTURERS OF

Plantation Machinery,

SAW MILLS, GIST MILLS, COTTON GINS, SUGAR MILLS, ETC. Send for illustrated catalogue.

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JUL. MEYER, WHOLESALE PAPER, PAPER-BA AND TWINE WAREHOUSE,

Song Herald. Song Herald. The newest and best for Singing Schools, etc. By H. R. Palmer, author of Song King.

GOSPEL HYMNS SACRED SONGS! The "Moody and Sankey Song Book," containing all the songs (and many others) sung by these celebrated revivalists.

JOHN CHURCH & CO., Cincinnati, Ohio. HOME Smoothing, Glistening, Flinting and Crimping Iron.

LATELY IMPROVED. Every Iron and its attachments heavily Nickel Plated and highly polished.

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Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 23, 1876

TO AGENTS.

Why do you not—all of you—give us information as to your postoffices. We want the office from which you have removed and that to which you have gone. If you have not been changed, please say so. Very slowly come in complaints from the preachers that they do not get their papers. These are variously worded. Some facetiously ask: "Has the ADVOCATE suspended?" Others in an injured tone detail the number of subscribers they have sent, the tears they have shed, and prayers offered in behalf of the ADVOCATE. Some assume an independent tone and say: "If the ADVOCATE can do without me I can do without it," etc. Now, brethren, the fault is with yourselves, if you have not notified us either of the change in your postoffice or that it was not changed at all. We want to send the ADVOCATE to every preacher in the six Texas Conferences when we know their postoffices. In this matter of post offices, however, we want to be absolutely certain.

THE REVOLUTION IN MEXICO

What will be the effect of the Mexican revolution upon Protestant Churches and Missions in that country? While we hope for the best, we fear that the revolution means reaction and such an abridgment of religious liberty as has already taken place in Spain. Some of the earliest and best of the Mexican patriots were priests, such as Hidalgo, Liceaga and Monelos. But the ultramontane party was sufficiently peaceful to overcome these patriots, and their lives paid the forfeit.

Santa Anna, who with other liberal chiefs, had fought the extreme Catholic party for years, found it necessary, in 1834, to compromise and form a coalition with his former enemies, in order to secure the Presidency.

Maximilian, and especially Carlotta, were devoted servants of the Church. This naturally drove President Juarez and his partisans into the ranks of those who oppose the partisans of the Church. The United States government warmly espoused their cause, and soon after the close of the civil war, this moral support of the American people enabled Juarez to defeat the new emperor, and regain his position as President of the Mexican Republic. Undoubtedly the influence of Mr. Fenton, the American Minister, was exerted to induce the President and Congress to declare for unrestricted liberty of worship.

But Mexico is a country of extremes, and not satisfied with tolerating Protestant worship, the government went still further, and confiscated a large amount of church property, and banished from the country large numbers of Jesuits and nuns.

In 1872 Juarez died, and, according to the provisions of the Mexican Constitution, Lerdo de Tejada, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, became President. Subsequently he was elected President without opposition. During the past summer he was again a candidate, and his partisans claim that he was duly elected. But in the mean time that country of periodical and epidemic pronunciamentos was convulsed with revolutionary outbreaks. Latest telegrams represent Lerdo as a refugee from his capital, perchance a prisoner, in the hands of Porfirio Diaz, his opponent. A further report states that his Secretary of War, Escobedo, who came to the front as the captor and executioner of Maximilian, in 1867, has been himself captured and shot by the Diaz party. We say again that if this reactionary ultramontane party get possession of the government, we fear that religious liberty will be extinguished in Mexico.

New houses are going up all the time in Weatherford.

PULPIT ON THE THEATRE.

Under the above head the following appears in the *News* of the 19th inst.:

Rev. S. M. Bird, pastor of Trinity church, took occasion Sunday to remark, parenthetically, that he hoped no one who ever came within the doors of that church would countenance the performances which were to take place during the coming week at the Opera House. He averred that he spoke by council and advice. He was very earnest and positive in his manner, and did not hesitate to pronounce the performances which were to come as obscene and disgraceful.

He was also very severe in his condemnation of the holiday lotteries as snares for the young, tricks of trade, as well as pitfalls for the innocent and unwary. His remarks were the subject of considerable comment yesterday.

As the ADVOCATE has taken decided position respecting these questions, the above notice not only arrested our attention, but prompted an inquiry respecting the occasion of these strictures of the pulpit. In another column of the *News* we found the programme of the Opera House, from which we extract a sample of the "bill of fare" that institution can get up for its patrons when it tries:

The Famous and only Original New York Living Art

STATUE TROUPE.

Comprising Twenty Beautiful Ladies in a series of

Classical Living Art Pictures.

In plain English this means the exhibition of women in a semi-nude condition. In posters, the letters of which could be measured by the yard, the same indelicate programme was paraded before the gaze of every lady and gentleman, and every boy and every girl who walks the streets. Other advertisements, in the shape of pictures of these women in some of the postures they would assume on the stage, were reserved for bar-rooms and barber shops, where masculines "alone do congregate." A gentleman who attended the exhibition assured us that they faithfully represented their costume at the Opera House. They appear in these pictures clad in flesh-colored tights, which reveal their entire shape, with no other covering than a narrow band around their persons, not broader than Eve's fig-leaf. That such an exhibition was "obscene and disgraceful" is putting the matter mildly. It is a shameless appeal to the coarsest passions of man's nature. For the unhappy women so lost to shame that will expose their persons to the gaze of a gaping crowd of men and boys, one can have only the profoundest pity; but when a company deliberately introduces such corrupting exhibitions into a community, not only should the pulpit denounce the outrage, but the law should interpose to shield society from such contaminating influences. We are informed that in New York, after their first exhibition, the police promptly prevented another, because of its obscenity. In Elmira, New York, it was also suppressed. When introducing to a Galveston audience a "troupe" against which these and other cities revolted, the manager of the Opera House has furnished an estimate of the refined taste and moral sentiments of his patrons which but few of them will appreciate.

We are informed that the selection of such performances has been justified on the ground that when plays of unquestionable moral tone were rendered by first class actors, the theatre was poorly patronized; and that exhibitions spiced after this fashion, alone would draw full houses. In other words, the theatre is a success only when it panders to the foulest vices of society. This is decidedly hard on the theatre; but it is the only vindication that can be offered for this latest outrage on the decencies of life. Thinking men, even among those not specially puritanical in principle, or prudish in speech or act, will seriously question whether the theatre is of such importance that decency and morality must sur-

render their claims in order to insure its success. We learn that not a lady was in attendance when this performance opened. This is what we expected. The managers have mistaken the demand of this market.

The Lottery Question.

Another portion of the programme is the "Grand Presentation Matinee" to come off Christmas. In other words, a lottery; in which \$3000, in presents, will be distributed. Each one paying \$2 for a drawing ticket, being entitled to a prize. The prizes consist of diamonds, watches, clocks, jewelry, sets of furniture, and other valuable articles.

In the *News* of the 9th, Manager Greenwall appears in a card defending this part of the programme from the censures of the pulpit, on the grounds, that it is in his judgment fully warranted "by the notorious precedent established at the numerous religious fairs where lotteries and drawings for prizes have been the rule, and their omission the exception. The very church over which the pastor in question presides has been a large beneficiary of lotteries, and only a few days ago a number of articles were raffled off at an entertainment given by members of his congregation—yes, communicants of his church; and who will say that the moneys thus procured for a good cause were dishonestly obtained?"

We are well assured the Rector of Trinity Church is able to vindicate himself from the charge of inconsistency, and will do so if he deems it worthy his attention; but as the charge is a sweeping one, embracing other churches and pastors, we will venture a few suggestions:

Lotteries and drawing for prizes and raffles at religious fairs do sometimes take place, but they are in violation of the rules and usages of all the different churches, and when carried on in opposition to the expressed will of the pastor, they exhibit inconsistency on the part of the membership, but not on the part of the minister. The Episcopal church, in its highest councils, has taken positive ground against such performances, and Mr. Bird, by his bold and manly utterances on this occasion, has shown himself a faithful representative of his church.

An inconsistent course on the part of church members very often embarrasses the minister and neutralizes his utterances from the pulpit. We commend this fact to all in the various churches who may have participated in establishing the "notorious precedent," which it is assumed justifies this lottery the manager of the Opera House has inaugurated. In their anxiety to meet the material demands of their churches, it appears they have lost sight of well established church rules and usages, and now their conduct is made the vindication of a lottery scheme which is at once a violation of State law and a "pitfall for the innocent and unwary." Their inconsistency has not been overlooked by keen men of the world, who may participate very complacently in the festivities of these occasions, and take stock liberally in the pious lotteries or raffles, while they laugh in their sleeves at the inconsistency of such acts, and hold them in reserve for the occasion when their own acts in the same line are arraigned by some faithful preacher. By these departures from church rule and Christian propriety, these parties have provided a missile which will be rudely hurled back when the minister from his elevated standpoint marks the approach of moral danger to his people, and as a faithful watchman, sounds the alarm. The chief barriers to Christianity in our midst are erected by professing Christians who forget the vows taken at the altar while they compromise with the follies and vices of society. Very often the pastor feels the force of these facts, when, in response to his appeals to some unconverted friend to change his life, he has the inconsistencies of his members flung in his face. We are not sure but Mr. Green-

wall has undesignedly preached a sermon more pointed than many which fall from the sacred desk. In trying to draw this "notorious precedent" over his grand presentation lottery scheme, he has pulled somewhat rudely the garments from the shoulders of the members of more than one church, and reminded them of a truth which the minister often endeavors to impress on his hearers, that not only does the pastor and the church often suffer from the inconsistencies of the membership, but Christ is often wounded in the house of his friends.

The Law and the Lottery.

There is another feature of this lottery affair which we desire in pointed terms to commend to all concerned. It is a violation of our State laws, and if our prosecuting attorney performs his duty, each one concerned in it is liable to indictment. We refer them to Paschal's Digest, page 431.

"Article 2019. If any person shall establish a lottery, or dispose of any estate, real or personal, by lottery, he shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than one thousand dollars."

"Article 2040. If any person shall sell, offer for sale, or keep for sale any tickets, or part tickets in any lottery, he shall be fined not less than ten dollars, nor more than fifty dollars."

"Article 2041. If any person shall establish a raffle for, or dispose by raffle of any estate, real or personal, exceeding five hundred dollars in value, he shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than one thousand dollars."

"Article 2042. If any person shall offer for sale, or keep for sale any tickets, or part tickets in any raffle of estate, real or personal, exceeding five hundred dollars in value, he shall be fined not less than ten dollars, nor more than fifty dollars."

The law has not always as now, been a dead letter in Galveston. It was enforced against a Gift Enterprise establishment only a short time ago, and the verdict of the lower court was affirmed by the Supreme Court, Judge Divine announcing the decision. According to this authority, if the "Grand Presentation Matinee" is a "scheme for the distribution of prizes by chance, it is a lottery, and those carrying it on are liable to indictment, and on conviction, to punishment." "Will our prosecuting attorney risk his reputation as a lawyer on the assertion that this Opera House scheme is not a lottery? If it be a lottery, what is his duty? Is the office he holds a sort of a "Returning Board," which can suppress the law and ignore the decisions of the Supreme Court at the will of the incumbent? Will he rise and explain?

If this be the law, what about lotteries and raffles a church fairs and such like pious institutions? We have but to say: "Prosecuting Attorney, you are a sworn officer. Enforce the law."

All our religious exchanges are exhorting their agents to make an active canvass for an increased circulation. Why may not the subscription list of our TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE be doubled during the month.

The New York City Methodist Extension Society has, in ten years, expended half a million dollars. It has organized sixteen churches and Sunday-schools, and now has 1,800 members under its care. The churches are located among tenement houses, and are a benediction to the otherwise neglected poor.

The increase of membership in the M. E. Church, North, during the past year, amounted to 61,508, instead of 33,001, as first reported.

The first Baptist Church in the United States was organized by Roger Williams, in 1639. That Church now numbers 1,761,710 members. The first Methodist Church organized in the United States was by Philip Embury, in 1766. In the United States, the Methodists now number 3,173,229 members.

THE GALVESTON NEWS.

Unwilling to be Called A Sectary.

Very recently we published a stricture upon our contemporary, the Galveston *News*, on account of its Episcopal and Catholic proclivities. This we did not from malice, but from a conviction that such departures from the plane of journalistic equity should be exposed and corrected. No direct reply has been vouchsafed to this charge. We are fully aware of the ancient tactics of the *News* in this particular, and we praise the consistent policy—in the same manner as the sagacity of the Unjust Steward was commended by the highest authority. It would be unwise for an assailed party to court a strong fight upon a weak point. The part of the cuttle-fish, blackening the water around for a secure hiding place, has been practiced successfully many times by our astute neighbor. The virtue of a masterly inactivity—when ill-timed vigor would gain "more kicks than half-pence"—has been proved by it in many a sharp pinch, and the lofty *noli me tangere* air, so characteristically assumed by our prelatial friend has often been used to cover chagrin and cloak discomfiture.

The shoe, in this case, evidently pinches; for though ignoring the charge in a strait forward manner, no sooner does the *News* discover that the strictures of the ADVOCATE are copied and endorsed by respectable papers, as for instance the Longview *Eva*, than the coal upon its back becomes intolerable and the tortoise puts out its head and—loquitur!

It complains that the *Eva* is ridiculous in republishing a malicious charge, but offers no refutation save the cheap remark that the clergy of the favored churches are not satisfied with the "margin" offered them! We should think not. Whoever heard of the daughters of the horse-leech saying: "Hold, enough!" We return to the subject merely to re-affirm the charge and to state that the grounds upon which it is made are—first, common report; and, secondly, certain customs of the *News*' management which we will specify:

It is well known that a current and general report that runs uncontradicted throughout a community is tantamount to a moral conviction, and is in some church courts equivalent to direct evidence, unless rebutted. Now, the *News* is the publishing organ of a community composed probably of one-fourth Episcopalians and Catholics, and three-fourths of other denominations. We are pretty sure that it has been long since the prevailing opinion of the un-prelatial majority that the *News* has always catered to the wants and prejudices of the two anti-evangelical bodies, to the comparative neglect of the interests and opinions of the majority of our ecclesiastical population. This, we say, is a matter of common report, and if not disproved, is converted into a moral verdict of *guilty* in the premises. We reiterate our former position that the *News*, or any other journal, has a perfect right to aid and abet any religious opinion or organization (not inconsistent with the Constitution), provided, it be honest enough to hoist its flag.

If the *News* prefers prelatry and aristocratic exclusiveness in ecclesiastical matters, then, in the name of all that is just and fair, let it say so openly, and our quarrel is done with it on the grounds of its being a public conveyance of intelligence. But so long as such a partisan ensign be not displayed, and especially when we hear the *News* again and again assert its policy of independence in matters both of church and State, we are bound by every call of justice to except to the inconsistency, and to condemn the unfairness.

In the next place, we call attention to the obvious fact that the *News* gives little or no publication of the items of news inter-

esting to the evangelical public, ignoring, mostly, those events, current, periodical and accidental, that command at all times the sympathy and religious work of the majority of its own subscribers who have any church connection.

For instance: there is no occasion more interesting to the united body of Christian people, outside of the *exclusives*, than the Union Concert of Sabbath-schools, held monthly by rotation, in the various evangelical churches.

To these meetings, packed by representatives of the best elements of our society, the *News* sends no reporter, and makes no publication, except casually to print a voluntary notice by an attendant, or to slur over such locally important items by a paragraph displaying equal ignorance and indifference. But should any movement take place in the Episcopal or Catholic churches beyond the usual routine, Mr. Reporter is promptly on the ground, to give a fair, and sometimes elaborate, notice of the proceedings. Even a wedding in "high life" at Trinity, calls forth the benevolent and paternal gossip of this prelatial godfather, while the *profanum vulgus* may be born, marry or die without a pat, a smile, or a tear.

Sometime ago, in a virtuous mood, the *News* did actually suffer an intelligent *attache* to report the Sabbatical services of the various churches, and did for a brief space publish his meritorious synopses of sermons, and sketches of the characteristic features of the different religious organizations.

These Sunday dottings were eagerly read and commented on; but it was expecting too much from such a fossil institution to imagine so fair and progressive an undertaking to become permanent. These articles soon ceased, and their well-intentioned author received his *cong*.

But so far from being malicious, as the *News* charges, in this matter, we are actuated by the purest motives of benevolence in these strictures. We earnestly desire the conversion of our High (and dry) Church neighbor to a genial and righteous spirit in all churchly affairs. We know that such a conversion would be almost miraculous, but our patience is long and our charity profound. Even for the Galveston *News* we have some hope and a little grain of expectation.

"But fare you well, sould nickle-ben, Oh, wad ye take a thocht an' men? Ye shudns naught—I dinnat ken—still hae a stake!"

It is thought the veritable wall of Solomon's Temple has recently been discovered, buried beneath the accumulated rubbish of centuries. The following description is given:

"And there the wall stands, preserved for us by the ruins heaped around it—ruins of the holy house itself, and of the city of Jerusalem. This wall is not merely founded on the rock, it is sunk into the rock, into which sockets have been cut to receive the lower course of stones, and make them immovable foundations for so mighty a structure. Along the second course—that above the foundation—the stones are found to be marked with 'Phoenician masons' marks (such as exist to this day in the ruins of Tyre and Sidon), and thus enable us to identify this as the work of King Hiram's builders. The splendor of the stones astonished Captain Warren. He speaks of their vast size and most beautiful masonry: 'The stones are fitted together in the most marvelous manner, the joints being hardly discernible'—so closely fitted that a pen-knife cannot be inserted between them. Let the reader try to imagine this wall, of which all but the upper courses still remain, standing up one hundred and ninety feet from the bottom, 'one unbroken face of masonry,' such as, whether we take the aggregate mass of it, or the size (one thirty-eight feet, nine inches long, another weighing 100 tons) and fine dressing of the individual stones, cannot be paralleled elsewhere in the world, not even in Egypt."

SOME agents has sent us the name of Amos Moore, from Hallettsville, without signing his name to order. Send duplicate order.

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 23, 1876.

Moral Integrity.

An honest name is a priceless jewel. It is the endeavor of all connected with Burgess' Business College to impress upon its students the strictest principles of commercial honor and integrity.

Some years ago, a young man from New Jersey entered a large Philadelphia silk-house as office-boy. He was apt in business, and of great commercial capacity.

Quarterly Meeting Appointm ents. COLUMBUS DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Richmond cir, Jan. 20, 21.

JEFFERSON DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Jefferson station, Dec. 23, 24. Kellyville cir, Dec. 30, 31.

WEATHERFORD DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Black Springs, at Black Springs, Jan. 1st Sunday.

CORPUS CHRISTI DIST.—FIRST ROUND. St. Mary's Mission, Dec. 30, 31. Corpus Christi sta, Jan. 6, 7.

COMANCHE DIST.—FIRST ROUND. San Saba cir, at San Saba, Jan. 6, 7. Fort Mason mis, at Camp San Saba, Jan. 13, 14.

WAXAHACHE DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Milford at Salem, Dec. 31. Peoria, Jan. 7.

GEORGETOWN DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Georgetown and Round Rock cir Jan 7. Leon cir, Jan 14.

GALVESTON DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Bay Mission, Cedar Bayou, Dec. 30, 31. Columbia and Sandy Point, Columbia Jan. 6, 7.

SULPHUR SPRINGS DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Greenville sta, Jan. 6, 7. Lone Oak cir, Prospect Jan 13 14.

GAINESVILLE DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Maryville cir, Dec. 30. Gainesville cir, Jan. 6.

CORISCANA DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Centerville at Centerville January 1877, 6 and 7. Jewett at Center Hill, Jan. 13, 14.

VICTORIA DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Concrete cir, at Concrete, Dec. 30, 31. Moonlight cir, at Big Hill, Jan. 6, 7.

HOUSTON DISTRICT GERMAN CONFERENCE, FIRST ROUND. Houston mission, December 23-24. Lake Charles, Dec. 30-31.

WACO DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Waco sta, Dec. 30, 31. Kasse cir, at Kasse, Jan. 6, 7.

HUNTSVILLE DIST.—FIRST ROUND. Cold Springs cir, at Cold-Springs, Jan. 6, 7. Prairie Plains, at Oak Grove, Jan. 13, 14.

The Wild Cherry Tree. It was known many years ago that the wild cherry tree possessed valuable medicinal qualities.

S. A. Grant & Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio, desire Agents to sell their manufactures in the United States and Canada.

MACHINERY. WIGGINS & SIMPSON.—Engines 12 to 80 horse power. Boilers, Saw Mills, Cotton Presses, Horse Powers and all kinds of Machinery built and repaired.

THE WELL KNOWN & OLD ESTABLISHED CRESCENT RESTAURANT, (Opposite the Tremont Opera House), is offered for sale at reasonable terms.

Soule University, CHAPPELL HILL, Texas. The Twenty-first Collegiate Year of this Institution opened September 4, 1876.

THE PRAIRIE FARMER. The leading Agricultural and Household Weekly of the United States. Published at Chicago, Ill. Two Dollars per year.

W. H. HOTCHKISS & CO., LAND COLLECTING AND GENERAL AGENTS. AUSTIN, TEXAS.

G., H. & H. R. R. ON AND AFTER SUNDAY, Nov. 26, 1876. Trains Leave Galveston, daily 6 A. M., 11 A. M., and 2:20 P. M.

CENTRAL ROUTE. HOUSTON & TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY. And connections offer the best routes from the GULF OF MEXICO TO ALL POINTS IN THE NORTH, EAST & WEST.

Pullman Palace Drawing Room and SLEEPING CARS. Run through from HOUSTON TO ST. LOUIS WITHOUT CHANGE, making connection with the fast trains of lines from St. Louis to Chicago and all points East.

ST. LOUIS EXPRESS. LEAVES GALVESTON 2:20 P. M. FOR ST. LOUIS, HOUSTON, A. M. HOLBY, Pres. U. S. Cons. Galveston; Griffin & Daval, Galveston; Theo. Reed, Cashier Nat. Bank, Galveston; H. S. Walker, Crockett, Judge, at District.

AT UNION TICKET OFFICE. No. 164 Tremont Street, GALVESTON. J. H. MILLER, Agent. E. L. MACHESTER, Southern Passenger Agent, Houston, Texas. GEN. J. B. ROBERTSON, Eastern Passenger Agent, 112 N. Third St., St. Louis, Mo.

DR. V. H. SHELTON'S IVORY WHEAT, The Most Prolific in America! YIELD THREE OR FOUR TIMES AS MUCH AS CORN!

Or the common kinds of wheat. Free from rust or smut; and makes well either in drought or wet seasons.

Agents are wanted. All the Preachers of Texas or other States are requested to act as Agents to receive orders in their bounds, and forward money, with names of purchasers, with addresses plainly written.

BEST HOLIDAY GIFT. WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY. THE STUDENT'S BEST HELPER.

Out-Selling Immensely—The CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION. Described and Illustrated.

THE PRAIRIE FARMER. The leading Agricultural and Household Weekly of the United States. Published at Chicago, Ill. Two Dollars per year.

J. A. LABARTHE, IMPORTER AND DEALER IN LAMPS, CHANDELIERS. SHADES, CHIMNEYS, BURNERS, and general LAMP TRIMMINGS, OILS, GAS-FLAMES and portable gas-lights.

THE GUARDIAN. A LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL. Devoted to Old-Fellowship, the Arts and Sciences, and General Literature.

THE OFFICIAL PRESS. OFFICIAL PRINTING PRESS. Printing, Bookbinding, Stationery, etc.

WANTED Men to wholesale to Merchants, \$25 a month and traveling expenses.

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T. E. THOMPSON, DEALER IN Watches and Jewelry. Cor. Market and Tremont Sts., GALVESTON, TEXAS.

\$10.00 OUTFIT FREE! To Any One who will Engage in the Best Paying Business ever Offered. STEAM DOES IT ALL! READ THE FOLLOWING CIRCULAR.—I respectfully ask you to read this circular carefully, and carefully consider what I propose as a matter of business.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT. Three years ago I made an IMPROVEMENT IN WASH BOILERS; a simple arrangement by which steam was applied to the washing of clothing.

EXCELS IN EVERY FEATURE! History, Biography, Sketches, Select Miscellany. THE GUARDIAN. A LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

USEFUL PRESENTS. GOLDING & CO., FINE-ARTISTS, Boston. Pearl Printing Press. Printing, Bookbinding, Stationery, etc.

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BURGESS' Business College, 112 STRAND, GALVESTON, BETWEEN TWENTY-SECOND AND TREMONT STREETS. This is a Regularly Organized and Practically Connected BUSINESS or Commercial COLLEGE. Its course of instruction is unsurpassed, and includes Every Branch relating to a Complete Business Education.

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 23 1876

I. G. JOHN, D. D., Editor.

Associate Editors.

By action of the Joint Board of Publication the following able corps of Associate Editors were elected.

- R. S. Finley, D. D., East Texas Conf.
H. S. Thrall, West Texas Conference.
W. G. Connor, D. D., N. W. Texas, Conf.
W. C. Haislip, North Texas Conf.
R. T. Nabors, Texas Conference.

JOINT BOARD OF PUBLICATION

THE ADVOCATE having been returned to the direct control of the Five Annual Conferences is now published under the direction of the following Joint Board of Publication:

- WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—John W. DeVillbiss, O. A. Fisher and J. G. Walker.
NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—S. J. Hawkins, W. C. Haislip, W. F. Easterling.
NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—Thomas Stanford, T. W. Hitt, W. C. Young.
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Table with 2 columns: Rate and Description. Includes One-half inch one insertion, One inch one insertion, etc.

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For six months, 50 Per Cent. For nine months, 60 Per Cent. For twelve months, 70 Per Cent.

CHANGES.—Each advertisement may be changed quarterly free of charge.

For double column advertisements 25 per cent. added to the regular rates.

For triple column advertisement 33 1/3 per cent. added to regular rates.

SPECIAL NOTICES.—Reading matter quoted, and Editorial notices, add 25 per cent. to regular rates.

No advertisement counted less than one-half inch. Eight words make one line of an advertisement.

For further information address SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

Subscription Rates.

Table with 2 columns: Rate and Description. Includes Per annum in advance, Six months, Three months.

TO CLUBS. Subscribers (cash to accompany order) \$12.50. 10 " " " " 22.50. 25 " " " " 40.00.

No discount allowed to getter up of club. Paper free to sender of club of ten.

Read. Read. Read. Great Inducements to Agents, Subscribers, and Clubs!

PREMIUMS OF SOLID VALUE!

It is a condition that prepayment on subscriptions must be made before any Premium is forwarded.

Those desiring to work for a Premium will please so state; as we do not offer both Prizes and Commissions.

Premium No. 1.—Three Subscribers.—A beautiful silver napkin-ring. Retail price \$1.00.

Premium No. 2.—Eleven Subscribers.—Child's silver set, (knife, fork and spoon), just the thing for a birthday present. Retail price, \$4.50.

Premium No. 3.—Twenty-two subscribers.—A handsome silver Butter Dish. Retail price, \$2.00.

Premium No. 4.—Eight Subscribers.—Child's Cup, (gold lined). Retail price, \$2.75.

Premium No. 5.—Ten Subscribers.—One-half dozen Teaspoons, (double-plated). Retail price, \$2.00.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

When articles are rejected, we must decline to give reasons therefor.

AGENTS sending us new subscribers or renewals, will please affix to their signatures the word "Agent."

We desire to send the Advocate to every preacher in Texas, but we expect all who do not forward us five subscribers, to pay \$1.25 as subscription.

Is preparing articles for publication, write on but one side of the paper, otherwise your communications may be thrown into the waste-basket.

Articles refused publication, will, in no instance, be returned to writers.

Obituaries should not be over twenty lines; eight words make a line.

Remit by Postoffice Money Order, Draft or Registered Letter.

The date on the address of your paper indicates the expiration of subscription. Renew at least two weeks in advance to prevent losing a number.

We do not keep back numbers of the ADVOCATE.

Parties desiring to make contracts for advertising, should write for card rates.

Private letters to the editor should be marked "Personal."

Business letters and communications should be addressed to SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

OUR CLUBBING LIST, 1877.

We will send the ADVOCATE one year, price \$2.50, to any new subscriber or any old subscriber renewing in advance, and any of the following publications, for the price named in the second column. The price in the first column is that of the publication named alone.

Table with 2 columns: Publication Name and Price. Includes American Agriculturist, Appleton's Journal, etc.

No premiums are given away with any of the publications at the combination prices.

After the receipt of the first copy of any publication, all complaints must be sent to the office where printed.

SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE CENTURY—NO. 1.

Or Seventy-Five Years Close Observation of Episcopalian Methodism.

BY REV. L. PIERCE, D. D.

As I am the last link in the original pioneer chain of Southern Methodist itinerants claiming to be effective, I will, by your editorial kindness, address these articles through the columns of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, to the ministers and members of the Methodist Church both South and North, in Texas. I do this: first, because Texas has more square miles of habitable land than any other State; has in its boundaries six annual conferences; will at no distant day support a larger agricultural population than any other in the Union, and must of course be the battle-field where Methodism must wield a glorious victory, or shamefully sell its birthright for a mess of Texas pottage.

The State of Texas, from its condition and resources, demands of us a glorious development, or drives us to an ignoble failure.

In the second place, Texas became a State since I have spent an ordinary life-time in planting Methodism in South Carolina and Georgia. It came in with a wealth-promising glare, through cotton-planting and stock-raising, which acted as an enchantment on all that class of Methodists who are never settled anywhere any longer than when some new field for men's easy and rapid accumulation of wealth opens to their imagination.

Thus it was the Lone Star in the west flung its alluring light eastward, and immigration of Methodists to Texas was so great at times as to swallow up a year of good increase here, until our annual minutes would hardly foot up even. This is not mentioned to find fault, but to inquire whether Methodism in Texas has done its duty as the great receptacle for immigrant Methodists. I suppose Texas has received more ready-made Methodists into its membership than any other State in the Union of its age; and while my fears are fearfully verified that too many of them went there to get decently back into the world, inasmuch as many of them left without certificates, while others who took them never used them, yet with all this loss, Texas has gained a large capital stock of good Methodists already squared and fitted for their place in the great temple of Methodism in Texas.

In addressing these articles to Texas Methodists, I am addressing a great multitude of my early friends, and among them, many of my spiritual children. These have transmitted my name as a household word to their children, and so it is passing down the current of the history of Methodism. I am glad to say, at no discount. And, as I learn from my son—Bishop P.—some of these old friends still live, and, while wasting away in their bodies, are as fresh and as flush in the springs of their inner life as ever; and they still inquire after me in the unmistakable affection of primitive Methodists. These and their children want to know my views of Methodism during my connection with it; which, as a member, commenced in August, 1802, and as a traveling preacher, in 1805.

Your first inquiry, if you set out wisely, will be, "Is the Methodist Church as holy and spiritually minded in its numerical proportions now as it was in the first, second and third decades of this century?" I answer, with solemn regret, No. If the carefulness, watchfulness, self-denial, cross-bearing, and prayer in all its forms, together with the constant assembling of ourselves together as church members for the sacred worship of God, were not a levy of duties by Mr. Wesley on his followers outside of God's word, and therefore safe to be omitted, then the comparative discount against us in the way of holy obedience is all of fifty per cent. And, as I do not believe practical Methodism ever levied on us a single duty in our General Rules which is not levied on us in the letter and spirit of God's word; and as there was a time when nine-tenths of our people felt it to be their religious duty to live up to these rules, not for wrath, but for conscience sake; but now, in the eighth and ninth decades of Methodist life, I venture to say that nine-tenths of our people are living lives wholly irrespective of our General Rules, as rules of holy obedience to the teachings of God's word and spirit. They are doing so because they believe them to be mere Methodist rules. But they are taught, as Mr. Wesley

declared, in God's word, and enforced on us by his Holy Spirit, so that we cannot ignore them with a good conscience, if we would reverently submit all questions of duty to the moral jurisprudence of heaven.

To all these triflers with these requisites of a consistent church-membership, I beg to say it is as fatal to sin against God's word in a form of church rule as it is to sin against it in the Bible itself. And unless it requires such a life as the general rules demanded, to bring us up to the measure of practical godliness necessary to christian holiness, we were put on board a mere human craft, and are bound in order to make ourselves consistent to call an ecumenical convention, clothed with power to annul these constitutional laws and rules of Christian church-membership by showing that they are entirely Wesleyan, and not taught in God's word, nor written by his Spirit, on truly awakened hearts; and that the reverential observance of them by our fathers was more a superstition than it was a sanctified devotion; for mind you, if you admit the truth of Mr. Wesley's declaration, that all these rules of living are taught in God's holy word, and written by his Holy Spirit on truly awakened hearts, and that they were faithfully kept and enforced in our church membership rules by primitive Methodists and their pastors, as I now testify that they were, and then admit what you cannot deny, that these rules are not now either kept nor enforced as the rules of the church-membership, the question, "are we now as great in numerical proportion as we ever were?" is awfully negated by undeniable proofs. And there is no unmistakable rule by which this question can be truthfully settled but by an actual numerical proportion. If, for instance, with a membership of 100,000 our disorderly members were only five per cent., but when we had 200,000 membership, the disorderly element had increased to ten per cent., our moral status as a church would not be as good with 200,000 as it was with 100,000, because the evidences of moral decay would have doubled. Suppose when our membership had increased to a million, our corrupt membership had been only twenty per cent., but when it had reached two million, our unspiritual membership amounted to thirty per cent., would any man of logical sense say that the comparative moral status of our church was as good at its two million membership as it was at its one million? I hope not. And now to come to facts within my own time. I know when within the second decade nine-tenths of our people were habitually at class meetings and prayer meetings as delightful duties. In the fifth decade seven-tenths, even in large cities where opportunity was easy and certain, were never seen in class meeting or prayer meeting as a conscientious duty. In this respect spiritually dead. And yet great men, from Bishops down, declare that there never was a time when the Methodist church had more solid piety in it than now. A most preposterous conclusion, unless they intend to say the Methodist church can be as truly pious when three-fourths of its members trample its general rules under rebellious feet as it was when four-fifths of its members walked by its general rules as the answer of a good conscience. "Be astonished, oh ye heavens, at this, and be ye horribly afraid, for ye may be made desolate through this flattery."

The series will be to its end. Think me not immodest when I respectfully ask the careful preservation of these articles for publication in a more enduring form. They will furnish valuable data for future Methodist memorials from the only living witness through three-quarters of a century.

(Communicated.) Marvin College.

We deem it proper to enlarge upon the twenty-five cent proposition before we proceed to a further development of our general plan. If it is the ardent desire of our membership to see this work accomplished, we trust they will at once respond. Let no time be lost in delay, but while the subject is on your mind is the time to act. An envelope, a postage stamp and half a sheet of note paper, with your address, pastoral charge, inclosing the money—all can be prepared by the first mail. Should this course be pursued by every one as soon as the proposition reaches him, a very few weeks would break the ice that now so cruelly holds our college in its grasp. As we have received one dollar—the first fruits of our plan—we propose to give some facts

concerning that contribution. It was given by a brother seventy-five years old, whose family is now composed of himself, his wife, and one daughter, all members of the church; twenty-five cents apiece, and twenty-five cents over. Now who will imitate his example? The trifling sum you are going to spend for a sear or needless toy may be turned to the glory of God in the salvation of our college. We invoke a spirit of promptness, rather than of liberality; for our people are not stingy, neither do they give grudgingly. We fear more from inattention than from avarice. It was our lot to solicit funds for this institution for a few weeks some years ago, and we do not remember that we ever met with a repulse during that time. We have but to press the obligation, and our people will respond. We hope that our dear brethren in the ministry, who voted unanimously to place this interest in our hands, will feel under obligations to urge a response from their congregations. No excuse, with or without argument, will shield our church from disgrace if we suffer this institution to fail. Our delay has already brought reproach upon the fair escutcheon of Methodism, but not reprobation. We may yet repent and do our first works over again. We have the opportunity to repair the damage done, and repel the charges that are accumulating at our door. Our danger is imminent, and if we avert the impending ruin, we must help ourselves. The way to do this is plain and accessible. "Walk ye in it." Let us have \$4,750 in this way, and but \$3,250 will be to raise. We now proceed to give our plan for raising that amount:

Twenty-seven acres of the thirty-seven acres of land referred to in our first article have been divided into 62 resident lots, with streets sixty feet wide. These lots are cheap, at \$125.00 per lot; and, if all could be sold at that price, they would very nearly pay the entire debt.

Now, while the property is in its present condition, we have no power to execute a deed of title to any one of them. This difficulty can be obviated as soon as the desired amount of money is arranged for. We offer these lots for sale at the above mentioned price, and will arrange for deeds as soon as a sufficient number has been contracted to raise the amount needed. Thirty-six of these lots will bring the \$3,250.00; and we confidently hope to find a ready sale for that number; and, if we fail to realize all of the \$4,750.00 by 25 cent contributions, we will sell more of them.

Now, this plan puts on the air of business, and is eminently practical. The town of Waxahachie is a very desirable place to live. It is one of the most beautiful and healthy towns in the State. It is the county site of Ellis county—than which no county is more famous for rich lands. Its inhabitants are distinguished for their intelligence, morality, civility and public spirit. We testify to the noble part they have hitherto borne in this enterprise; and we are not afraid to say that they will imitate their former conduct in this final struggle.

Now, who will contract for one or more of these lots—the money to be paid when the deed is made? Some have indicated their intention to buy. Now, let them send up their names, indicating the number they want, with the name of your postoffice.

We intend to report progress by publishing the names of all who buy; and the first who respond, will, of course, have the right of choice in the location of lots.

In this proposition, we give you a chance to help the church and to help yourselves. Many persons will desire to go there for the benefit of educating their children; and now is the time for you to secure a lot. The committee regret the necessity that compels them to make this proposition, and it is not their intention to sell more than enough to meet their present emergency.

We are confident that the church will not condemn our course; and all who desire to save this property to the college, will, we hope, send forward their donations in money.

Now, if you have read these papers carefully, you may be convinced that the committee are in earnest; and we are. We believe the Annual Conference was in earnest when it commissioned us to do this work. Now, will the church manifest the same spirit? We earnestly pray the Holy Spirit may direct us to a happy termination of this righteous undertaking.

In our next, we will give you the sequel of our plan, and we hope to report some progress.

JAMES D. SHAW, MEXIA, TEXAS, DEC. 17, 1876.

(Communicated.) A Plea for the Children and Outposts

Last summer your correspondent traveled some distance through the heart of the State. A large portion of this distance was through the frontier districts of the North West Texas Conference. It is to be regretted that the wealthy members of the church cannot realize something of the wants of this vast field; and that the preachers that live in comfort on fat salaries cannot be caused, by some means, to sympathize with the sufferings and trials of their brethren that are exposed to toil and anxiety and want, such as some of them never dream of. For the first eight months of the conference year, the eleven itinerants on the Comanche district had received, altogether, only three hundred dollars; yet, but three of these were single men. How seldom can those who count their quarterly receipts by hundreds imagine themselves in the place of those who dwell in open, leaky houses, are only half-clad and not more than half fed!

Our Conference does not pay sufficient for foreign missions, but we fall very far below what, by a proper presentation of the subject, might be secured among the more favored, for maintenance, in our own Conference, of those heroic spirits who so cheerfully brook toil and danger and want for the purpose of going up at the front to possess the promised land, that, at the very first, it may be claimed as Immanuel's possession.

I was at the camp-meeting for the Hamilton circuit and the Plum creek mission, last August. The quarterly Conference passed the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, We are deeply convinced that no interest of the Church of Christ transcends in importance the work of training the minds and the hearts and the lives of the young in the knowledge of God; and,

WHEREAS, We are firmly persuaded that the Methodist Church, more exactly than any other organization, represents the mind of Christ in its doctrines and usages; therefore,

Resolved, That we feel it to be our bounden duty to bring up our children in the knowledge and discipline of our Lord; and that, in order to do this, we must teach them to know, to love, and to defend, the doctrines and usages of our Church.

Resolved, That it is a standing request of this Quarterly Conference that the preachers in charge, as soon as may be after reaching their circuit or mission, procure as many copies of the Catechisms of the Church, beginning with the Wesleyan series, as may be needful to supply all the children within the bounds of the circuit, and distribute them judiciously to the classes which they shall form, and, at least once a month thereafter, examine them as to their progress; and shall preach to them at least once a month.

Resolved, That the Presiding Elder be requested to preach on the duties and responsibilities of parents in the premises, at one of the Quarterly Conferences of this circuit, each year.

Resolved, That the preacher in charge be requested to preach early in each year, on the same subject, to each of his congregations, and do what he may, in his pastoral visits, to stir up his charge on this subject.

Resolved, That we request each Church Conference to advise the preacher how best to carry out these resolutions, as well as the second section of the fourth chapter, and the fifth section of the fifth chapter of our Discipline.

Resolved, That the churches be requested to furnish the preachers the means to carry out these resolutions.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, with the request that they be published.

The reason expressed for the desire to have these resolutions published was the belief that, if generally adopted and carried out, vast benefit would accrue to the Church, and that their publication would be the only way to bring them to the notice of the Church.

Why is so little done by our preachers and official men, and especially by the mothers of the Church, for the training of the children for Christ and for His Church? Outside of a little band of devoted Sunday-school workers, how little is done for the lambs of the spiritual flock! By what authority have so many pastors and parents relegated the salvation of the children exclusively to the Sunday-school? May the Holy Spirit wake up the Church on this mighty subject!

S. D. AKIN.

Young man, don't drink that intoxicating glass! Please don't! There is death in it! Dash it down! Dash it down!!

Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 23, 1876.

SCIENCE AND ART.

In destroying a bastion of the medieval fortifications of Bastion, in Germany, last month, a number of Roman relics were unearthed; among them was a marble group of an emperor dictating to a secretary seated by his side; and a perfectly preserved bas relief representing a horse held by the bride.

The little social neuropterous insect called the "white ant," which occurs so abundantly in the tropics and in the United States as far north as Boston and vicinity, has been found by Dr. Hagen to be more destructive than commonly supposed. It has been found, in Salem and Cambridge, to undermine houses, granaries, and to injure fine elms and fences. Some of the state papers in Springfield, Illinois, were destroyed by them, as well as a Sunday-school library in South Carolina. Dr. Hagen, in an interesting account of the insect in the American Naturalist for July, advises the removal of old stumps, fences, and pieces of boards and rotten wood. Such preventive measures as these may serve to check the spread of this insect.

In the Astronomische Nachrichten of July 3d, 1876, Mr. Marsh publishes very complete and extended ephemerides of the satellites of Saturn for the present season. Their preparation has required much labor, which will be useless unless the observers follow it up on their part. If they do, results of considerable importance will follow. Marsh points out that amateurs, provided merely with good telescopes and only ordinary clocks, can make observations of the time where the satellites come into conjunction with the ball of the planet or the extremity of the rings, which will be of great value in determining their orbits. He closes by saying: "Is it too much to ask those who have the needed instruments at their service to make such contributions?"

In India the Prince of Wales shot a panther. Seeds of a species of martynia were found imbedded in the fur, and the fact is brought up to illustrate teleological law. It is contended that seeds were made rough especially that they might adhere to animals, and in this way be transported long distances. In this case it is said the panther carries the seeds to the thick jungles, forcing its way through the branches, rubbing off the seeds in the action. That distribution may be accomplished in this way is clear, but it hardly seems to be the simple way Nature generally does things. Most of these "sticky" seeds hang on pretty tight when once in fur, and little short of the annual shedding of the coat will free them. There is of course some wonderful design in all these burr-like seeds; but these explanations hardly satisfy the inquiring mind.

Almost the first practical result of explorations in the Northern Seas is the discovery of a northern passage to China. A courageous Swede, Prof. Nordenskiold, has followed the course of the Gulf Stream round the northern coast of Sweden and Lapland, by the way of Nova Zembla, to the mouth of the Yenisei River of Siberia. Following up this river, which is navigable for steamers of a light draught, he has penetrated to the centre of the Asiatic continent, reaching nearly the frontiers of China. A canal of about 150 miles would suffice to connect the head waters of this river with those of the Amoor, which empties into the North Pacific Ocean. Practically, therefore, there has been discovered a direct route between China and Europe, open to navigation, and several thousands of miles shorter than the one now followed by commerce. Whether this will suffice to change the currents of commerce to any considerable extent remains to be seen. It would seem to be certain that it will at least supersede the long caravan routes now followed by a large part of Russian commerce.

MR. BUTLER was a tavern keeper stage, driver, constable, and factotum of the town. There was no appeal from his judgment in horse-flesh. A dealer wanted to sell the Rev. Mr. McClure a horse. The dealer, the minister, and the horse, walked over to the tavern to get Mr. Butler's opinion of the trade. Looking at the horse the tavern keeper asked: "What is the matter with the iness of the horse?" "O, nothing," said the jockey, "he scraped himself getting up." "Well, parson," said Butler, addressing Mr. McClure, "I'll tell you what it is; barked knees may be a pretty good sign for a minister, but it is a plaguy poor sign for a horse."

Omnibus

Small grief are loquacious—great are dumb. God reaches us good things by our own hands.

He whose worth speaks needs not to speak his worth. Confession of a fault makes half amends.

No estate can make a man rich that has a poor heart.

The things we try to forget are those we remember best.

They who weep over errors were not formed for crimes.

Never turn a blessing around to see whether it has a dark side to it.

Even from the body's purity, the mind receives a secret sympathetic aid.

When mourners stand by the sinner's grave, deeper than the grave is their mourning.

Blessed is the man that bends his will to his Bible, and not his Bible to his will.

Much may be learned in the school of affliction that can be learned nowhere else.

Men show their character in nothing more easily than by what they think laughable.

Many persons carry about their characters in their hands; not a few around their feet.

We ought either to be silent or to speak things that are better than silence.

Strong characters are brought out by change of situation, and gentle ones by permanence.

He that forgets his friend is ungrateful to him, but he that forgets his Savior is unmerciful to himself.

Maintain purity by yielding up nothing that is God's; maintain peace by yielding up all that is your own.

How gladly would some who once turned all their minutes into money, now turn all their money into minutes.

So scanty is our present allowance of happiness that in many situations life could scarcely be supported if hope were not allowed to relieve the present hour by pleasures borrowed from the future.

Waste Basket.

Why is a philanthropist like an old horse? Because he always stops at the sound of woe.

A child thus defines gossip: "It's when nobody don't do nothing and somebody goes and tells of it."

"Mother, isn't it wicked to say 'You be blowed,' as Algy does?"

Mother: "It's worse than wicked, my dear. It's vulgar!"

Said a canny Scotch trader once: "Honesty is the best policy; an' ye may tak' my word in the matter, for I ha' tried bath."

A Frenchman got exceedingly angry with a waiter at an English hotel. "You rascal!" exclaimed he; "I blow your nose for you."

A little boy, returning from Sabbath school, said to his mother: "This cat-e-chism is too hard. Ain't there any kitty-chism for little boys?"

An Illinois minister announced on his Sunday night bulletin, "The funeral of Judas Iscariot." To which an obliging fellow added, "The friends of the deceased are cordially invited to attend."

Said a woman speaker in a New Haven suffrage meeting, "Woman is in every respect the equal of man. Her reputation for heroic bravery."

At that point a mouse ran into sight, and the orator jumped on the table and screamed.

A lady entered a telegraph office in New York, a few days since, and after delivering the message, earnestly requested that the answer should not be read by the operator, as it was of a very private nature.

"That's what I call a finished sermon," remarked a man as he was coming out of church. "Yes, finished at last," replied his neighbor, "though I began to think it would never be."

"In Eastern lands," when the government wants to get rid of a troublesome subject, he is invited to dine with the chief local official, and word is sent to his family that "his dinner didn't agree with him." After which he passes into history.

Somebody remarks that young ladies look upon a boy as a nuisance until he is passed the age of sixteen, when he generally doubles up in value each year, until, like a moerschaum-pipe, he is priceless.

"Is there an opening here for an intellectual writer?" said a very red-faced youth, with the cork of a bottle sticking out of his breast pocket. The editor, with much dignity, took the man's intellect in, and said: "An opening? Yes, sir. A kind and considerate carpenter, foreseeing your visit, left an opening for you. Turn the knob to the right."

MEDICAL. CENTAUR LINIMENTS

The Quickest, Surest and Cheapest Remedies. One kind for the Human Family The other for Horses and Animals 1,000,000 BOTTLES.

have been sold the last year, and not one complaint has reached us that they have not done all that is claimed for them. In scientific skill cannot go beyond the result reached in these wonderful preparations. Added to Carbolic, Mentha, Senecio, and other valuable ingredients which makes a family liniment that defies rivalry. Rheumatic and bed-ridden cripples have by it been enabled to throw away their crutches and many who for years have been afflicted with Neuralgia, Sciatica, Caked Breasts, Weak Backs, etc., have found permanent relief.

Mr. Josiah Westlake, of Marysville, O., writes: "For years my Rheumatism has been so bad that I have been unable to stir from the house. I have tried every remedy I could hear of. Finally I learned of the Centaur Liniment. The first three bottles enabled me to walk without my crutches. I am mending rapidly. I thank your liniment simply a marvel."

This Liniment cures Burns and Scalds without a scar; extracts the poison from bites and stings. Cures Chills and Prostration, and is very efficacious for Erysipelas, Tooth-ache, Itch and Cutaneous Eruptions.

The Centaur Liniment Yellow Liniment, is intended for the rough fibres, corns and cracks of horses, mules and animals.

READ! READ! Rev. Geo. W. Ferris, Manokill, Scarsioh county, New York, writes:

"My horse was lame for a year with a fetlock wrench. All remedies utterly failed to cure, and I considered him worthless until I commenced to use Centaur Liniment, which rapidly cured him. I heartily recommend it."

It makes very little difference whether the case be "wrench," sprain, spavin or lameness of any kind, the effects are the same. The great power of the Liniment is, however, shown in Prolapsus, Hip-head, Swelling, Spavin, Ring-bone, etc., and Sciaticus. The Liniment is worth millions of dollars yearly to the stock-growers, Liver-men, Farmers, and those having lame animals to care for. We warrant its effects and refer to any farmer who has ever used it.

Laboratory of J. B. ROSE & CO. 45 DEY ST., NEW YORK.

MEDICAL. CHILDREN

A complete substitute for Castor Oil without its unpleasant taste or recoil in the throat. The result of twenty years' practice by Dr. Saml Pitchee, of Massachusetts. Fitch's Castoria is particularly recommended for children. It is very pleasant to take, and stimulates the food, and allows natural secretions. Very efficacious in Croup, and for children Teething. For Colic, Regurgitation, Disorders of the Bowels, and Stomach Complaints, nothing is so effective. It is as pleasant to take as honey, costs but 25 cents, and can be had at any Druggist.

This is one of many testimonials: CORNWALL, Lebanon Co., Pa., March 17, '74. Dear Sir:—I have used your Castoria in my practice for some time. I take great pleasure in recommending it to the profession as a safe, reliable, and agreeable medicine. It is particularly adapted to children where the repugnant taste of Castor Oil renders it so difficult to administer. E. A. ENDERS, M. D.

Mothers who try Castoria will find that their own sleep nights and that their babies will be healthy.

J. B. ROSE & CO., New York.

SIMMONS' LIVER REGULATOR

A gentleman writes thus: "I write you this note to congratulate you on being the proprietor of the best Liver Medicine, Simmons' Regulator, known to the human race. I have known it for a number of years, and I recommend it as prepared by you, pure and genuine; and I pray you for the sake of humanity, to keep it so, as long as it is in your possession. You may prepare it and re-ventilate it, but you will never know the true value of it, unless you have a disordered liver yourself. It cleanses the liver of impurities with which it has been clogged for years, and puts the wheels in their original motion. I have written these lines with no other view but to give you the best sentiments."

For sale by all Druggists.

HOLMAN'S AGUE AND LIVER PAIN

That courts investigation: That denies opposition: That conquers prejudice.

IT CURES ALL Fevers, and Ague, Dyspepsia, Torpid Liver, Neuralgia, Headache, Liver Coughs, Heart Disease, Pains in Side, Back and Stomach, etc.

These, and many more proceed from Torpid Liver and Indigestion.

Stop Dosing and be Convinced.

Is medicated with effective compounds, cures by absorption, acting on the liver and stomach immediately, taking from the system every particle of Malaria and Biliousness. Is equally efficacious and a sure preventive in all diseases growing out of a disordered liver. Those who try them are wild with delight over their speedy release from suffering.

It affords me great pleasure to add my testimony for the benefit I have received from Holman's Ague and Liver Pain. For over twenty years I have endured the horrors growing out of a torpid liver and dyspepsia, accompanied with violent headache, etc. Within a few weeks after using the Pain all these long endured ills left me and I am RESTORED. I have gained twenty-three pounds in 3 months, and feel fully restored to health, for which I feel indebted to Holman's Ague and Liver Pain. C. W. PEARL, of Thompson's Goodrich & Co., Hat House, Cincinnati.

Price \$2 and \$1. Will send by mail when druggists do not keep them. Send for book containing much valuable information about this wonderful curative.

Dr. D. W. FAIRCHILD, Proprietor, Cincinnati, Ohio.

MEDICAL. VEGETINE! PURIFIES THE BLOOD. Renovates and Invigorates the Whole System. ITS MEDICAL PROPERTIES ARE

Alterative, Tonic, Solvent, Duretic.

VEGETINE is made exclusively from the juices of carefully selected barks, roots and herbs, and so strongly concentrated, that it will effectually eradicate from the system every taint of scrofula, scrofulous humor, tumors, cancer, cancerous humors, erysipelas, skin eruptions, syphilitic diseases, cancer, fatness at the stomach, and all diseases that arise from impure blood. Scrofula, inflammatory and chronic rheumatism, neuralgia, gout, and spinal complaints, can only be effectually cured through the blood.

For ulcers and eruptive diseases of the skin, pustules, pimples, blotches, head-ache, neuralgia, and ringworm, VEGETINE has never failed to effect a permanent cure.

For pains in the back, kidney complaint, dropsy, female weakness, leucorrhoea, arising from internal ulceration, and uterine diseases and general debility, VEGETINE acts directly upon the causes of these complaints. It invigorates and strengthens the whole system, acts upon the secretory organs, allays inflammation, cures ulceration and regulates the bowels.

For catarrh, dyspepsia, habitual constiveness, palpitation of the heart, headache, piles, nervousness, and general prostration of the nervous system, no medicine has given such perfect satisfaction as the VEGETINE. It purifies the blood, cleanses all of the organs, and possesses a controlling power over the nervous system.

The relief effected by VEGETINE have induced many physicians and apothecaries whom we know to prescribe and use it in their own families.

In fact VEGETINE is the best remedy yet discovered for the above diseases, and is the only reliable Blood Purifier yet placed before the public.

THE BEST EVIDENCE.

The following letter from Rev. E. S. Best, Pastor of the M. E. Church, Northwick, Mass., will be read with interest by every sufferer. Also, those suffering from the same disease as afflicted the son of the Rev. E. S. Best. No person can doubt this testimony, as there is no doubt about the curative powers of VEGETINE:

NATICK, Mass., Jan. 1, 1874.

MR. H. R. STEVENS:—Dear Sir:—We have good reason for regarding your VEGETINE a medicine of the greatest value. We feel assured that it has been the means of saving our son's life. He is now seventeen years of age; for the last two years he has suffered from necrosis of the leg, caused by scrofulous affection, and was so far reduced that nearly all who saw him thought his recovery impossible. A council of able physicians could give us but the faintest hope of its ever taking. Two of the toughest doctors of that time declared that the only chance of his recovery was in amputation, and that even amputation could not save him as he had not vigor enough to endure the operation. Just then we came to your VEGETINE, and from that time to the present he has been continuously improving. He has lately regained his strength, thrown away his crutches and can walk about cheerfully and strongly.

Though there is still some discharge from the opening where the amputation was made, we have the fullest confidence that in a little time he will be perfectly cured.

He has taken about three dozen bottles of VEGETINE, but lately used but little, as he declares that he is too well to be taking medicine. Yours respectfully, Mrs. L. C. F. Best.

ALL DISEASES OF THE BLOOD.

VEGETINE will relieve pain, cleanse, purify and cure such diseases, restore the patient to perfect health, and try different physicians, many remedies, suffering for years, is it not conclusive proof, if you are a sufferer, you can be cured? Why is this medicine performing such great cures? It acts on the blood, in the circulating fluid. It can truly be called the Great Blood Purifier. The great scourge of all ages, scrofula, in the blood; and no medicine that does not act directly upon it, to purify and renovate, has any just claim upon public attention.

Recommend it Heartily.

SARAH BARON, Feb. 7, 1870.

MR. STEVENS:—Dear Sir:—I have taken several bottles of your VEGETINE, and am convinced it is a valuable remedy for Dyspepsia, Constipation, and general debility of the system.

I can heartily recommend it to all suffering from the above complaints. Mrs. M. M. PARKER, 205 Alabama Street.

Prepared by H. R. STEVENS, 115-117 N. 2nd St., N. Y.

VEGETINE is sold by all Druggists.

PILETS

WEAVER'S GREAT REMEDY FOR PILES. It is a sure cure for all cases of PILES, Hemorrhoids, and Stricture. It is a simple, safe, and effective remedy, and is sold by all Druggists.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TAKE NOTICE. We have the largest and best selling Stationery Package in the world. It contains 18 sheets of paper, 18 envelopes, pencil, penholder, golden pen and a piece of valuable jewelry. Complete sample packages, with elegant gold-plated sleeve buttons and ladies' fashionable fancy set, pin and drops, postpaid, 25 cents. Write for sample package, with elegant gold-plated sleeve buttons and ladies' fashionable fancy set, pin and drops, postpaid, 25 cents. Write for sample package, with elegant gold-plated sleeve buttons and ladies' fashionable fancy set, pin and drops, postpaid, 25 cents.

NEW BOOK. Dr. Chase's Family Physician and Second Receipt Book is the only one of its kind. It is a reprint of the original, and is a full and complete guide for the family. It is sold by all Druggists.

ELBOW ROOM. MAX ADLER'S New Book, just published. Will outsell any book in the field. This brilliant and humorous book, is profusely illustrated with most laughable pictures by Arthur B. Frost. Will sell by reason of its beauty and cheapness. No other book published possesses such general fitness for the wants of the present times. Agents who want to make big wages wanted in every town. Free trial and circulars sent on application to A. G. SETTLETON, 111 Broadway, N. Y.

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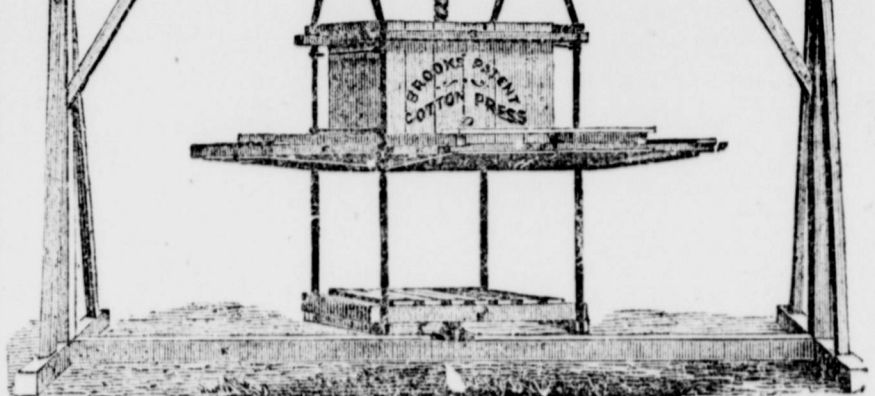
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E. S. WOOD & SON, DEALERS IN Foreign and Domestic Hardware, IRON, NAILS, CASTINGS, BUILDERS' & PLANTATION HARDWARE.

The Oldest, Largest and Cheapest Establishment of the kind, in Texas. 121, 122 & 123 STRAND, GALVESTON.

Agent for Fairbanks' Standard Scales, Diston's Circular Saw, Collin's Axes, HALL & SPEAR'S PLOWS, and JOHN MOORE'S PLOWS.

BROOKS IMPROVED WROUGHT-IRON REVOLVING SCREW COTTON PRESSES



We now make only the largest size—ten foot Every press warranted up to 500 Bales.

PRICE—For 10 foot, Set Iron complete, Currency, \$200 00.

For 10 foot, with Cotton Box, Currency, \$250 00.

We have sold over FIVE HUNDRED of the BROOKS' PRESSES in the state of Texas, and if there is a single man dissatisfied, we are not aware of it, and would like to know.

COLEMAN'S Corn and Wheat Mills, "MAID OF THE SOUTH" made in the South.

Gullett's Improved Light-Draft Gin and Gullett's Cotton-Gin Feeder.

Deering House Eosote or Gin-House Running-Gear, Shannons' Belt-Gear Cotton Press.

JOHN W. WICKS, Agent for Texas. B. SCHERRETT'S, Agent for Gullett's Celebrated Cotton gin, at Houston, Texas.



SOLID SILVER AMERICAN \$15 MATCHES

The extraordinary favor with which our \$15 match has been received by the public, has prompted us to greatly improve its quality. We have been enabled to do this by having our matches manufactured in a new and improved way, and by using a superior quality of silver.

At all times, we have a large stock of these matches on hand, and we are prepared to supply you with any quantity you may desire. We are also prepared to supply you with any quantity of our other matches.

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Christian Advocate

GALVESTON, TEXAS, DEC. 23 1876

I. G. JOHN, D. D., Editor.

Associate Editors.

By action of the Joint Board of Publication the following able corps of Associate Editors were elected.

- R. S. Finley, D. D., East Texas Conf.
H. S. Thrall, West Texas Conference.
W. G. Connor, D. D., N. W. Texas Conf.
W. C. Haislip, North Texas Conf.
E. T. Nabors, Texas Conference.

JOINT BOARD OF PUBLICATION

The ADVOCATE having been returned to the direct control of the Five Annual Conferences, is now published under the direction of the following Joint Board of Publication:

- WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE—John W. DeVilbiss, O. A. Fisher and J. G. Walker.
NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE—S. J. Hawkins, W. C. Haislip, W. F. Easterling.
NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE—Thomas Stanford, T. W. Hines, W. C. Young.
EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE—R. S. Finley, D. Morse, John Adams.

TEXAS CONFERENCE—J. W. Whipple, R. D. Dashiell, J. M. Wesson.

ADVERTISING RATES:
One-half inch one insertion \$1.00
Each consecutive insertion .75
One inch one insertion 2.00
Each consecutive insertion 1.50

Advertisements for a given time over three months, multiply the price of an advertisement for one month by the number of months; then deduct.

For six months, 50 per cent
For twelve months, 75 per cent
For double column advertisements 25 per cent, added to the regular rates.

CHANGES.—Each advertisement may be changed quarterly free of charge.
For double column advertisements 25 per cent, added to the regular rates.

SPECIAL NOTICES.—Reading matter quoted, and Editorial notices, add 25 per cent, to regular rates.

No advertisement counted less than one-half inch.
Eight words make one line of an advertisement. 12 lines one inch; 7 average words make one line special or local notice; 10 lines one inch.

No improper or objectionable matter inserted on any terms.
For further information address SHAW & BLAYLOCK, Publishers.

Subscription Rates.
Per annum (in advance) \$2.50
Six months " " 1.50
Three months " " 1.00

It is a condition that prepayment on subscriptions sent must be made before any Premium is forwarded.

Those desiring to work for a Premium will please so state; as we do not offer both Premiums and Commissions.

Premium No. 1.—Three Subscribers.—A beautiful silver napkin-ring, Retail price \$1.00.

Premium No. 2.—Eggs Subscribers.—A Child's silver set, (knife, fork and spoon), just the thing for a birthday present. Retail price, \$1.50.

Premium No. 3.—Twenty-two Subscribers.—A handsome Silver Butter Dish. Retail price, \$3.00.

Premium No. 4.—Eight Subscribers.—Child's Cup, (gold lined). Retail price, \$2.75.

Premium No. 5.—Six Subscribers.—One-half dozen Teaspoons, (double-plated). Retail price, \$3.00.

Premium No. 6.—Sixteen Subscribers.—One-half dozen Tablespoons, (double-plated). Retail price, \$5.00.

Premium No. 7.—Thirty-nine Subscribers.—Silver Pitcher of beautiful design. Retail price, \$16.00.

Premium No. 8.—Thirty-four Subscribers.—A beautiful Silver Cake Basket. Retail price, \$13.50.

Premium No. 9.—Sixty-eight Subscribers.—A beautiful Silver Communion Set, (of five pieces), to-wit: 2 plates, 2 cups, 1 flagon. Retail price, \$30.00.

Premium No. 10.—One Hundred Subscribers.—No. 5 Wilson Sewing Machine. Price \$85.00.

Premium No. 11.—One Hundred and Ten Subscribers.—No. 6 Wilson Sewing Machine. Price \$90.00.

Premium No. 12.—One Hundred and Thirty Subscribers.—No. 9 Wilson Sewing Machine. Price \$100.00.

Premium No. 13.—One Hundred and Fifty Subscribers.—No. 7 Wilson Sewing Machine. Price \$110.00.

Premium No. 14.—Two Hundred and Twenty Subscribers.—No. 8 Wilson Sewing Machine. Price \$125.00.

Premium No. 15.—Two Hundred and Fifty Subscribers.—No. 5 Wilson Sewing Machine, (extra finish). Price \$130.00.

Premium No. 16.—Seventy-two Subscribers.—Clarke's Commentaries. Price \$24.00.

The card of Messrs. W. E. Danely & Co., real estate agents and brokers, will be found in another column. They are enabled to transact business with that safety and facility demanded by this thoroughly commercial age.

The wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco establishment of Messrs Reinck & Lossow, Strand, Galveston, is disposing of all the favorite brands of Havana and domestic cigars, smoking and chewing tobacco, at very low figures. Try their Vanity Fair Tobacco.

SOLE UNIVERSITY.—The advertisement of this long established institution appears elsewhere. It is second to no institution of the kind in the South. It is convenient of access by railroad. Is in a healthy locality, and is in the midst of a refined and highly cultivated community. Pupils are required to attend public worship—they selecting the church preferred by their parents or guardians. Rev. John C. Miller, President, is widely known as a distinguished educator.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.—In another column appears an offer for sale of the Crescent restaurant. This house has a well established line of patronage, and is without doubt a most desirable investment for anyone desiring to enter this branch of business. Mr. Pena proposes to retire from business and will sell at a sacrifice.

See advertisement of Mr. J. E. Labarthe, dealer in oils, lamps, chandeliers, etc., 172 Tremont street, Galveston. This well known and enterprising gentleman has just opened to the public a large and well-selected stock of lamps, chandeliers, plated, japanned and britannia ware. His goods have been selected with a direct view to suit the demands of this section.

If you propose purchasing a sewing machine, we confidently recommend the Wilson. There can be no doubt about the merits of this machine, for it carried off the highest honors at the late Centennial Exposition, as well as at Vienna, in 1873, the official reports of which will be sent to anyone so desiring. The makers and agents have unbounded confidence, in proof of which each machine is warranted and kept in order, free of charge, for five years. Notwithstanding all this, the Wilson is sold for less money than any other first-class machine. Blessing & Bro., whose address is 174 Tremont street, Galveston, (see their advertisement), are the State agents, and they are prepared to offer extraordinarily liberal inducements to merchants who wish to purchase for their customers. Be sure that you send and get an illustrated price list and official report, as it will cost you but a postal card.

PLEASE notice the advertisement headed "Insurance Oil." This celebrated and valuable oil claims precedence over all other oils because of superiority for illuminating purposes, and it having been guaranteed as perfectly safe by the New York Board of Underwriters, the New Orleans and Galveston Underwriters, and the New Orleans Board of Health. Fathers and mothers who desire the safety of their children and houses should use the Insurance Oil. Messrs. Jervey, Pettit & Co., whose establishments are located No. 176 Twenty-second street, Galveston, and 121 Main street, Houston, are the agents, and are prepared to furnish same to consumers at very low figures. This firm are wholesale and retail dealers in all kinds of oils, lamps, lanterns, chandeliers, lamp-burners, chimneys, shades, etc. They are continually receiving fresh invoices of goods from the best manufacturers. Our citizens and visitors to the city should call and examine their large and magnificent stock of Japanned and britannia ware, which is being sold at prices to suit the present hard times.

We refer our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. H. Hirsch & Co., dealers in machinery and agricultural implements. This firm has made it a study to introduce the best, and how well they succeeded is proved by the facts that they are the agents for the celebrated Baxters' and Hoadley steam engine, the very best portable engines made on the Continent; for the Brinly plow; the Blake steam pump; the Milburn wagons; and other first-class machinery and implements. Prices have been very materially reduced; and Messrs. Hirsch will take pleasure in making estimates for parties desiring to buy, as well as to send catalogues and description of their goods to anybody desiring same.

Our readers will be gratified for the room given to the advertisement this week of the famous Steam Washer of Mr. Tilton. We

are prepared to recommend this invention for all the advertiser and manufacturer claims for it, and every one should order it at once. It saves woman's toil and thus saves her life. It more than pays for itself in a very short time in the way of fabrics, that by the old process of washing were worn out more than by actual service. The washing has been hitherto a greater wear and tear upon garments than the wearing itself. The new Steam Washer secures a clear gain to all who use it. The advertiser, Mr. Tilton, is a thoroughly reliable gentleman, and will perform all the promises.—Methodist Recorder, Pittsburg, Pa.

LADIES OF TEXAS, read this! If you want a stylish hat or bonnet, drop me a line, stating whether you want straw, velvet or felt; the shape and colors to be used in trimming; also, the price you wish to pay; and I will send it C. O. D., and guarantee to send you as handsome a hat as can be put up this side of New York. Ruches from five to fifty cents each; scarfs from twenty cents each up; real hair braids for one dollar and fifty cents; flowers for ten cents; Ostrich tips and long plumes of any color. Millinery goods—cheapest in the State. E. JOHNSON, Corner P. O. and Centre Sts., Galveston.

LOOK! LOOK!! Christmas Presents.

Those who contemplate purchasing beautiful and unique styles of jewelry or silverware for Christmas presents, should call at the establishment of M. W. Shaw & Bro., and examine their extensive and elaborate stock of goods. This house make a specialty of table and pocket cutlery, keeping on hand the elaborate Westenholm goods only. The name of M. W. Shaw & Bro. is edged on every piece of goods sold by them to prove the goods genuine. Call and see their array of jewelry suitable for presents, among which are rings, pins set with diamonds, emeralds, rubies, canoes and onyx, lovely sets of coral and amethyst, a thousand different designs in silverware, and a fine collection of clocks, statuary, gold-headed canes, etc.

The Presidential Election.

Up to this date, the presidential election is still the occasion of universal anxiety. The investigations under the Congressional committees are still at work. Evidence elicited in Louisiana shows that the intimidation employed against the colored Democrats was equal to that alleged in the parishes thrown out under the plea that Republicans were intimidated. The fact that Governor Wells declines to answer the question as to the reasons for throwing out the votes of any poll or parish is a matter of surprise to all who believe that the people have a right to know the truth. The Returning Board take the same position. The committees are extending their inquiries to the different parishes. It is said that Gen. Grant affirms his purpose to see inaugurated the person whom the President of the Senate shall formally declare has been elected President.

The demand of the House that the telegraphic despatches sent to Louisiana and other points, pending the action of the Returning Board, be made public, has been refused by Orton, President of the company. The tone of the Southern leaders is eminently conservative. They take a modest part in all the proceedings. The committees are made up of Northern Democrats and Republicans. There is evidently far more excitement North than South.

Various proposals are being made by leaders of both parties to adjust the method of counting the electoral votes.

The Democratic programme in South Carolina is to memorialize Congress for a recognition of the Hampton government. It will be presented both houses of Congress. On the 19th there were 79 members in the Democratic House. M. C. Butler was elected United States Senator by a vote of 64 to 79.

The calm self-possession of the Southern leaders at Washington as manifest in their words and votes is going far toward securing the peaceful solution of the question of the Presidency.

TEXAS ITEMS.

The New Era says immigrants are coming into Anderson county every day in search of land for rent or sale. A young man by name of Colvin was arrested near Oatmanville recently, for going into a church and firing off a pistol during worship. A new thing for Texas. Our people have been noted for their respect for religion.

The house of a colored man near Kickapoo, caught fire while he and his wife were in the cotton patch, and three little children were burned to death.

Easterling, correspondent of the San Antonio Herald, gives that paper a good report from Kendall county. Land is rolling, water fine, grass of first quality, timber of cypress, cedar, post oak, live oak and other timbers found in the West, fine mast for hogs, and a soil that produces cotton, corn and the cereals generously.

Another letter from Easterling makes a glowing report from Comal. Its fine water power specially attracts his attention. The Nevada tells of an attack by a Mexican lion on a Mr. Robin of San Antonio, near Marnack's rancho. It sprang on him, but he succeeded in crowding his arm into its throat, and by vigorous kicks and use of his fists, beat it off. His clothes were torn to shreds, and his arm and hand dreadfully mangled.

The Herald, Lavaca county, has seen a stalk of the ribbon cane eight feet long with twenty-five matured joints.

The East Texas Patron contains a glowing but just account of the fine lands, both prairie, upland and bottom, the fine timber, stock and minerals of Houston county. It invites the immigrant.

A potatoe measuring two feet one inch in length and fifteen inches in circumference, has been exhibited in Burnet county as one of its productions.

The tide of immigration at Dallas is on the constant increase.

The Empire speaks of the enormous amount of lumber coming in to Erath county or going west, as proof of the rapid development of that section.

The saloons are to be closed on Sunday by the City Marshall if the proprietors open them.

Twelve months ago Brown county had a population of 1,500, now it claims about 5,000; deer, antelope, bear and turkeys abundant; Pecan Bayou runs through the county and other streams nearly as large, furnishing excellent water in abundance; soil good and range excellent. Burleson county is agitating the local option law. A Llano jury has sentenced a noted desperado to twenty-nine years in the penitentiary. They mean business.

PASSING EVENTS.

The National Women's Suffrage Association will meet in Washington Jan. 16-17.

The internal revenue receipts for the past year were \$110,001,138.60.

The election for the new Prussian house of deputies has resulted in an increase of seats for the moderate liberal party.

The average weekly earnings of a woman at the seventy-three occupations open to her in New York City are \$4.

There is going on in California this year more construction of railroads than in any previous period of the State's history.

It is estimated that the loss to this country by the decline of immigration, has amounted, during the past year, to over sixteen million dollars.

There were 940 deaths in Savannah from yellow fever during the four months ending Nov. 26. The total number of deaths during the period was 1,574.

Mr. Timothy Rogers has erected at Quincy, Illinois, at a cost of \$20,000, a family tomb, intended to accommodate his direct descendants for the next two or three centuries.

D. Lawton, aged twenty, an employe of the malt-works at Fremont, O., accidentally shot and killed himself with a revolver while shooting rats in the basement of the factory.

The Chinese, it is stated, will pay the British Government \$325,000 on account of the murder of Mr. Margary. Of that sum \$50,000 will go to Mr. Margary's family.

The Columbus, Ga., manufacturers consume about thirty-five bales of cotton per day, or nearly 11,000 in a working year. The mills there are running some 35,000 spindles and 1,200 looms.

The trial of the three Younger brothers, who took part in the Minnesota bank robbery some time since, has commenced at Fairbuilt. Life imprisonment is the highest penalty that can be inflicted in Minnesota.

The remains of the late Baron de Palm were successfully cremated at Washington, Pa., on Dec. 6. Temperature of the furate was about 2000°; the incineration was complete, nothing being left of the body but three pints of ashes. As a chemical experiment before

an audience consisting largely of newspaper reporters, the affair was a success. As a great social innovation, destined to change the civilized world's customs, it was not impressive, although no expense had been spared with such intent.

A young Indian in Dakota Territory, a convert under the preaching of Rev. Dr. Ffennell, an Episcopal clergyman, got into trouble, and was put in jail. While there he became exasperated, and swore a terrible oath that he would shoot the first with man he met on getting out—an oath the Indian never breaks. Dr. Ffennell interceded for the young man, and finally procured his discharge. Filled with vengeance, the Indian prepared to carry out his oath, and, procuring a rifle, sallied forth. The very first white man he met was Rev. Dr. Ffennell, and in moment he sent a bullet crashing through his brain, killing him instantly.

The United Presbyterian Synod of the West, at its late meeting in Allegheny City, Pa., resolved to memorialize the General Assembly to transfer its missions in China and Persia to those denominations which have more fully occupied those fields, and concentrate its strength upon its well-known and very successful missions in Egypt and Syria.

USEFUL PRESENTS.—Among the many articles that are offered during the holidays for gifts, there is nothing so useful, practical, and beautiful as the Official Printing Press. For business men doing their own printing and advertising, or for the amusement and instruction of the young it is unrivaled.

At the Centennial Exhibition, the Official Press attracted general attention and commendation, and many were sold to be taken abroad as specimens of American taste and ingenuity. Golden & Co., of Boston the manufacturers, received the highest award for small job printing presses, of which they make eighteen different patterns, and furnish outfits from \$1.00 up.—Ad.

MARRIED. HONS-HENDLEY.—By Rev. J. L. Lemons, at the residence of the bride's father, J. M. Hons, M. D., to Miss Sallie Hendley; all of Washington county.

Commercial.

WEEKLY REVIEW.

OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, Friday Evening, Dec. 22, 1876. Monetary.

EXCHANGE, GOLD AND SILVER.
Commercial Bank.
Sterling, 60 days.... 509 515
New York sight.... 4 dis. 1 dis.
New Orleans sight.... 4 dis. par
Gold..... 108 109
Silver..... 101 102

Closing gold rate in N. Y. 107 1/2
Closing gold rate in N. O. 108
Com'l sterling in N. Y. 473
Com'l sterling in N. O. 512

GOLD.—Closed in New York this evening at 107 1/2. The rates here closed at 108 buying, and 109 selling.

SILVER.—Rates at the close are nominal; buying 1c; selling 2c.

EXCHANGE.—Rates continue firm, and generally unchanged.

Closing quotations of the Galveston Market. Last Thur'd'y. To-night.

Low Ordinary..... —
Ordinary..... 94 98
Good Ordinary..... 104 108
Low Middling..... 11 11 1/2
Middling..... 11 1/2 11 3/4
Good Middling..... 11 3/4 12 1/4

Market firm, sales this day 2277 bales.

THE GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations are not applicable to small orders, but represent cash prices for large lots.

Bacon.—Market weak at prices quoted. We quote clear sides 10 1/2c; clear rib, 10 1/2c; breakfast bacon, 14 1/4c; shoulders 8 1/2c.

Bagging.—Quiet and steady. Extra heavy, 13 1/2c per yard. Light weight 12c. Ties 6c. Bailing twine 14c.

Bran.—Fair demand; from store per 100 pounds, 89@90c; by the car load 42@45.

Beeswax.—Prices are steady at 26@27 for prime yellow, with light receipts and not much inquiry.

Belling, Rubber.—Sold according to list with 30 per cent off.

Butter.—Stock light and prices higher for all grades; We quote Goshen, 34@35c; western, 24@27c; Texas, 15@16c.

@ 25@25 50; pine apple, 2 lb, \$2 00 @ 2 15; damsons, \$1 00 @ \$2; oysters, 2 lb. all weight, \$2 00 @ 1 10; 1 lb full weight, \$1 00 @ 1 10; oysters 1 lb light weight, 85c; 2 lb light weight, \$1 55 @ 1 70; tomatoes, 2 lb \$1 75 @ 1 85.

Chains.—Trace, per pair, 64, 10, 3c; 60; 64, 10, 2 7/8; 64, 10, 1 85; O, 1c; 2c, per pound.

Drugs.—Acid Citric \$1 10; acetic 10c; tartaric 60c; oxalic 23c; sulphuric in carboys 34c; C. P. 40c; Aloes Cap, 20c; alcohol 32 1/2c; alum 5c; ammonia aqua 3 P, 8c; ammonia, spirits arom. 45c; arsenic, common powdered 5c; Bismuth subnitrate, 82; blue vitrol 15c; borax refined, 20c; caustic, lunar, pure \$1 00; chloroform \$1 00; Copperas 3c; Calomel, English, \$2 00; American, 90c; stock 70c; Cinamon bark 35@40c; cream tartar, pure, 45c @ 50c; 25@40c; Chloral hydrat 25@28c; morphine, sulph, \$5 00; logwood extract 20c; gum assafetida 25c; gum camphor 35c; gum opium \$7 75; hops 35 @ 40c; quinine \$2 50.

Eggs.—Light supply and firm, selling at 39@40c per doz.

Flour.—Market active and unchanged. Prices are as follows for different grades: Good Treble \$3 50 @ 7 00; Choice Treble Extra, \$5 50 @ 7; Choice Family \$7 @ 7 75; Fancy Brands \$7 75 @ 8 25; Good Double Extra, \$8 50. Galveston mills from 5 25 @ 8 25, according grade.

Fruit, Dried.—Raisins, layers per box, \$2 00 @ 2 25; figs, per lb, 18 @ 25c; prunes 11 @ 12c; currants, Zante, per pound 11 @ 12c; cranberries per barrel \$1 00 @ 1 30; dates 9 @ 10c; almonds, soft, 25 @ 24c; shell, 45c; hard shell, 18 @ 29; filberts 16c; pecans 7 @ 9c; Brazil nuts 10 @ 11c.

Fruit, Fresh.—Lemons 85 to 87 per box; apples, supply fair, Western 32 @ 25 50; Northern 32 @ 30 Oranges, Louisiana, per barrel, \$4 50 @ \$7 00; Havanna, none in the market.

Fish.—Mackerel, barrels, No. 2, \$9 00 @ 10 00; half-barrels, No. 1, \$5 50; No. 2, \$6 @ 7; kots, No. 1, \$1 20 @ 1 25; No. 2, \$1 25 @ 1 60; herrings, Dutch, \$1 75 @ 2 00; per keg, dried, No. 1, 45 @ 50c; No. 2, 50 @ 55 per box; codfish: quarter boxes, \$1 75 @ 2; half-boxes \$3 @ 3 50; 100 lb boxes, 64c per pound.

Glass Goods.—Per dozen in cases Pickles, per gallon, \$5 00 @ 5 25; half-gallon \$3 00 @ 3 25; quarts \$2 40 @ 2 50; pints, \$1 25 @ 1 30.

Hams.—Steady and unchanged. Choice sugar cured, 15 1/2 @ 16 1/2; 2d quality, 13 @ 14c.

Hay.—Good supply; and active, Western, at \$22 @ 24 in large lots. Jobbing at \$25 @ 27; Northern, 22 1/2 @ 23.

Hides.—Dry selected, over 17 lbs, 19c light salted, 16c; stack salted, 14c; kips two-third price; damaged half-price; damaged kips and glue stock, 4c. Wet salted, 50 lbs and upward, selected 10; below 50 lbs 6c; butchers' green, 3c.

Hardware.—Axes, per dozen; Collins Kentucky light, \$10 50; medium, \$11 50; heavy \$13 50.

Hoes.—Per dozen, planters' A. B. No. 0, \$6 50; No. 1, \$7; No. 2, \$7 50; No. 3, \$8 00; H. B. No. 0, \$6; No. 1, \$6 50; No. 2, \$7 00; No. 3, \$7 50.

Iron.—Per pound, common bar, 4c; band 6 @ 6c; hoop 5 @ 6c; sheet, common, 7c; R. G. sc; galv. 17c; Russ's, 30c; imitation Russia, 22c; plow slabs 5 1/2c; nail rods, 10c; axels, 8 1/2c; horse shoes, Burden's 6 50 @ 7 50; mule-shoes \$7 00.

Lard.—The quiet and firm; Refine in Tierce 11 1/2 @ 11 3/4; keg 13 1/2c in barrels, 11 1/2 @ 11 1/4.

Lumber.—The demand is light, and stocks ample. Rough yellow pine, 22c; second quality \$20; dressed weatherboards \$25 @ 28; surfaced boards \$25 @ 28; ceiling \$20 @ 25; flooring \$25 @ 30; cypress lumber by the cargo \$25 @ 30; ash \$40; shingles \$4 @ 5 by small lots \$3 @ 4 by the cargo.

Meat-Cutters.—Supply large; Woodruff's No. 100, \$15; No. 150, \$18.

Line, Cement, Etc.—In limited demand. Austin lime \$2 @ 2 25 per barrel; Alabama \$2 25 @ 2 50; cement \$2 @ 2 25; plaster Paris, \$3 50 @ 4 00; laths \$4 45 per M.

Nails.—Quotations are as follows: 10d, to 60d, \$3 25; 6d, \$3 75; 8d, \$3 50; 4d, and 5d, \$4 00. Flooring, casing and boxing \$1 advance on above. Finishing \$1 advance on above.

Molasses.—Louisiana, 42 @ 45c; retailing at 50 @ 55c; Texas syrup, 60 @ 65c, per gallon.

Oils.—Lined, raw 70c; boiled 75c. Lard No. 1, \$1 10; W. S. \$1 30; Proctor & Gamble's \$1 50; Turpentine 45c. Kerosene \$2 75 @ 3 80 per case; in barrels, 33c, per gallon. Insurance oil, \$5 in cases.

Oats.—Firm and unchanged; job lots, 43 @ 44c in car lots; 42 @ 50c, from store.

Onions.—Flat; ample supply; \$4 52 @ 4 75; for Western Red.

Potatoes.—Stock fair; selling at \$3 72 @ 4 00 per barrel.

Starch.—Dealers supply the demand at 4 1/2 @ 4c.

Salt.—Supply ample and market dull. Coarse from first hands in sacks by car load \$3 @ 3 50 gold; fine \$1 35 per sack gold.

Sugar.—Continues active and firm. Pure white, 11 @ 11 1/2c; off white, 11 @ 11 1/2c; centrifugals 9 1/2 @ 9c. Open kettle request; fair to fully fair 8 1/2 @ 9c; prime to strictly prime 8 1/2 @ 9c.

Tobacco.—Supply ample and prices stiff, with upward tendency. We quote 11 inch extra fine per pound, 75c; 11 inch, fine 70 @ 75c; 11 inch good common, 47 @ 55c; twist, all grades 55 @ 75c; smoking tobacco 45 @ 65c; snuff, per dozen bottles \$4 00 @ 4 15; cigars, domestic per thousand, \$20 00 @ 20 00; cigars, imported per thousand, \$75 @ 80.

Ties.—Iron cotton baling, 64c. erp pound for Arrow and for Bead.

Tin.—In plates per box, 1X, \$12 90; 1C, \$10 40; 1C lead \$8 85; Pig 25c, per pound.

Tallow.—Receipts light; prices steady; good to prime, 7 @ 7 1/4c; for small lots in shipping order 7 1/2 @ 8c; common 4 @ 6c.

Trine.—Cotton baling twine is in good supply; selling at 14c, per pound.

Tubs.—Painted, 3 nest, 3 in \$2 25, 8 in \$3 25; white pine, 3 in \$3; 8 in \$4; cedar, 3 in \$3 75; 8 in \$6 50.

Vinegar.—Fair supply and steady at 27 @ 30c. 7 gallon for cider and white. White wine, imported, 50 @ 55c.

Wool.—Firm. Quotations for six month growth are unchanged. Fine Eastern, 20 @ 23; Medium Eastern, 20 @ 21; Fine Western, 18 @ 21; Medium Western, 13 @ 17; inferior and burry 6c.