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EDITORIAL NOTES.

In giving an account of the entertainment tendered by the Methodist ladies of Houston last week to the Texas Conference, in the chapel of Shearn Church, we inadvertently stated that the address of welcome was made by Rev. Seth Ward, the pastor of the Church; but this was a mistake. The address was delivered by that polished and big-hearted layman, Judge E. P. Hamblen, the true friend of all Methodist preachers.

Since taking charge of the Advocate, we have been constantly on the wing attending the sessions of the five Annual Conferences. As a result, we have not been in the office long enough to open a letter or to tear the wrapper off a paper. This will explain any apparent neglect that our correspondents may have experienced. It will also explain the absence of well-prepared editorial matter from the columns of the paper, save notes and comments from the conference sessions. Now we are through with these annual rounds for this season, and special attention will be given to correspondents and to systematic editorial and office work.

We wish here and now to express our gratitude to the long list of friends who have written and spoken their good wishes to us in connection with the new work to which we are now called. A kind word does not cost much effort, and it is often thought to be of no special importance, but it brings a benediction to the heart thus addressed. A cool word or an indifferent manner sends a chill through the nerves, but kindness and sympathy send warmth and pleasure.

The editor of this paper is by birth and training a social creature, and he can not live with any degree of comfort without the fellowship of the brotherhood. A cordial invitation is, therefore, extended to the brethren and friends to make this office their headquarters when in the city, either on business or pleasure. It will be no hindrance to us, but a pleasure. We are your brother and servant, for our own and for Christ's sake. To come to the city and not give us a call will be a deprivation to us.

As far as possible, we want to help the brethren in their work, after we shall have shaped up matters in this office, and become adjusted to our work. It will be a recreation to us to drop out somewhere on Saturday, spend a Sunday with a brother, and return on Monday—especially with the brother in a small station or on a circuit or a mission. We must preach go to Sunday-school, Epworth League and prayer-meeting, and we want to help the brother who needs helping the most.

Send us in short and well written news items. Brevity is the soul of wit, and of interesting news notes, too. Give us results, not processes, and you will help to make a live paper. Yes, tell us of your poundings, but do not

elaborate or amplify them. A few short, crisp sentences will convey all that the reader wants to know about these common though helpful little episodes. Make them brief, and you will save us the trouble of boiling them down until nothing but the substance is left.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The fifty-fourth session of the East Texas Conference began in the town of Beaumont on Wednesday morning, according to appointment.

Beaumont is a flourishing community of some ten thousand souls. It is situated eighty-five miles southeast of Houston, on the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad from New Orleans to Houston. The Neches River runs through the town, and from this fact many advantages arise. This is the center of large lumber industries. Three large plants of this character, with planing mills and creosote works, are in healthful operation. I am told that when these mills are running on full time, as they are now, they turn out nearly a half a million feet of lumber per day. Works of this magnitude furnish employment for a great many laborers, and this in turn adds a large volume to the material prosperity of the place. When the laboring classes are employed, times are always prosperous. Beaumont is largely indebted to these great enterprises for her growth and success. Then again, the town is the capital of Jefferson county, and the products of the rural districts find either a market or shipment at this point.

The courthouse looks unlike any other structure of this sort which I have thus far seen in Texas. It is a sort of cross between a palatial residence and a handsome school building. It has the appearance of retirement in its surroundings. About it I saw no loungers, as is usually the case. It is well inclosed, with walks leading from all sides to the doors, and the grass and the shrubbery are nicely kept. I noticed the banana trees growing near the building in luxuriant profusion.

Public improvements are everywhere visible—such as good schools, an electric light plant, an efficient telephone system, good church buildings, etc. These all indicate modern progress and convenience. As a matter of fact, the people enjoy here the most of the advantages accessible to larger city life. The town evidently has before it a fine prospect, and the day is not distant when its present population will in all probability be more than doubled.

Like in the most of our Texas towns, the barroom also flourishes in Beaumont. You see it all through the business parts of the town. It seems to have the right of way here.

The town is blessed with good railroad facilities. Some five or six lines come into and pass through this point. But the town is not shut up to its corporate limits for successful business ventures. The country round about Beaumont is developing a comparatively new industry—rice culture. Extensive farms of this character are under cultivation. There is now being

constructed an extensive canal in the county, from Taylor Bayou to Mesquite Point, some ten miles in length, the purpose of which is to irrigate these large districts in the interest of this rapidly growing industry. At certain stages in the growth of rice, the crop has to be inundated with standing water. When it reaches maturity it is harvested and threshed somewhat like wheat. After that it goes to the mill, where it passes through a process of separating, and then it is ready for the market. One man near here cleared \$15,000 on his crop this year. So the culture of rice promises much to this section of the State.

The hospitality of the people is proverbial. The homes of the community were thrown open to the conference, and kindness, courtesy and a royal welcome abounded.

Our Church here has a strong and well developed organization. The membership numbers between four hundred and fifty and five hundred. Among them you find many of the most prosperous and prominent people in the place. The church building is a modern wood structure, valued at \$7000, though it would cost much more outside of this lumber center. It is built of good material; it has a tasteful architectural design; it has substantial furniture. A good Sunday-school room, so arranged that it can be thrown into the auditorium, is at the further end of the building, and the whole property is well located and out of debt. It will easily accommodate from six hundred to eight hundred people. Near by is a good parsonage property, affording a good home for the pastor's family. In locating and building this property, good judgment has been exercised, and the result is that it would be difficult to make any improvement on the work.

Bishop Galloway called the conference to order and conducted the religious exercises of the opening, and without the formality of any sort of address he called for the Secretary of the last session, and proceeded without delay with the business of the hour. On account of the great distance of many points within the bounds of the territory from the seat of the gathering, and the circuitous routes that many of the brethren had to travel to reach the place, quite a number of them failed to answer to their names. J. R. Heartsill, a layman from Marshall, not even a member of the conference, was elected Secretary. He is the only layman in Texas who fills this responsible position. He is worthy, and well qualified for the office. Revs. F. A. Davis, J. B. Turrentine and F. A. Downs were elected Assistant Secretaries, and the minute business was well taken care of by these alert and accurate officials. In age, this is the oldest of the conferences set off from the old Texas Conference, the Republic of Texas having originally been all in one conference.

From the minutes of the East Texas Conference, I here quote this little scrap of interesting history: "The Texas Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized at Rutersville in 1840, Bishop B. Waugh

President, and Dr. T. O. Shimmers Secretary, and it embraced all of the Republic of Texas. There were then seventeen traveling preachers, twenty-five local preachers and sixteen hundred and twenty-five members—a total of sixteen hundred and sixty-seven. Fifty-seven years have passed, and there are more than three hundred thousand people in the State of Texas called Methodists. At the session of 1844, the Texas Conference was divided, and the East Texas Conference was constituted." This is taken from the copy of the minutes of the last conference. At the session of the conference in 1866, the East Texas Conference was in turn divided, and the Trinity Conference, now called the North Texas Conference, was constituted. The East Texas Conference now has about one hundred clerical members, one hundred and eighty local preachers, and about thirty-four thousand lay members of the Church. Now think of the progress of Methodism in the past half a century, and we can but exclaim, "What hath God wrought!" Verily, our forefathers laid a deep and broad foundation upon which this mighty structure has risen. From 1840 to 1898—from Bishop Waugh to Bishop Galloway—the growth reads like a revelation, rather than history. To achieve these mighty results, language fails to tell of the sacrifices and toils of the heroic men and women who have gone throughout this vast territory, giving their service, their means and their lives to the cause which they loved. Doubtless they look down from the battlements of heaven upon the onward march of their successors, and rejoice in the present triumphs of their loved and honored Zion!

The afternoon was given up to committee work and in the preparation of reports. At night Dr. Alexander preached an earnest, clear and thoughtful sermon. It was well received and made a deep impression upon the audience. Dr. Alexander is a man of well trained and a well educated mind, having been a teacher a long time. During the past year he has been the efficient pastor of our Church at Palestine, and his report showed a year of fine work. He stands high in the esteem of the conference.

At the morning hour Thursday the brethren were mostly in place, notwithstanding the fact that the weather was foreboding.

After the roll call a little incident occurred worthy of note. The name of E. J. Gates was called to represent Sexton Circuit. This circuit is in Sabine County. He made a short talk about McMahon Chapel, one of the early church houses of Texas. It is now in a dilapidated condition, and on account of its historic association a collection of \$52.50 was taken up to help repair the church and put it in good condition. We still have a congregation there. Bro. Gates then presented to the Bishop a gavel made of a piece of wood taken from a post oak joist still in the building. The Bishop made a happy response, and impressed upon the conference the importance of preserving our historical documents, and facts, and relics. Under the pulpit

of this old church sleep the remains of Rev. Littleton Fowler, one of the great pioneers of our early Methodism in Texas. He was a giant in those days, and the association of his name with any locality imparts to it a sanctity which it would not otherwise possess. Rev. Littleton Fowler, now a member of this conference, is the son of this distinguished man of God.

Just after this little episode, Rev. J. T. Smith also presented a gavel to the conference, through the Bishop, made of wood from an old elm in the town of Nacogdoches under which the first Protestant sermon in Texas was preached by a minister named Wilsor. The handle of the gavel was made of cedar taken from a tree which was planted in years long gone by Gen. Rusk. The gavel was accepted, to be held in trust by the Secretary for the conference.

The duty of the conference to its college at Jacksonville came up for consideration, and provoked a lively discussion. The matter finally came to a vote, and the conference agreed to aid the school as heretofore, and also to purchase additional ground adjoining the property, to constitute the campus. The vote was unanimous.

At this stage of the proceedings Regent Hyer addressed the conference on the subject of education, and brought before the body the interests of Southwestern University. By special resolution, the conference requested Bro. Hyer to furnish a copy of his most excellent address to the Advocate for publication.

Rev. W. H. Vaughan, of the Texas Orphanage, preached in the afternoon, and took a collection for that humane institution. We have nothing in the Church that ought to appeal more strongly to the liberality of our people than our Orphanage.

Mrs. Johnson is here, looking after the Rescue Home work. This conference gives its co-operation to the Home at Dallas. It is becoming one of the fixed institutions of our Church work. With the Orphanage to look after the homeless children and the Rescue Home to look after the penitent erring ones of society, great good ought to be accomplished in the name of our common humanity.

This conference has six districts, which, at this writing, are manned by six worthy and capable men. L. M. Fowler has the Marshall District. He is a fine specimen of physical manhood—tall, well-proportioned and graceful, with a large head well-poised upon a strong neck. There is something of a military air about his movement. He is well-trained and a born itinerant. He comes of fine pioneer Methodist stock. His ability would command respect in any deliberative body.

T. P. Smith is one of the mild-mannered men of the body. His face indicates evenness of temper and much patience. He is an evangelical preacher, a careful executive, a lovable brother and an all-round, good man. He not only has the confidence of his brethren, but also their affection. He is an eminently useful member of the cabinet.

Dr. John Adams is the venerable sub-Bishop of Tyler. Though advanced in years he is a well-preserved man and wears a face of freshness and intelligence. He has evidently rendered the Church long and valuable service, and he is good for years to come. He is possessed of a fine mind, an affable spirit and a temperament of remarkable buoyancy. He is one of the leading men of the conference—and to know him is to love him. There is about him a benignity of expression and a modesty of deportment that command the respect and love of all the brethren.

T. J. Milam is a slender man in body, but compact and capable of much en-

durance. He has traveled the Beaumont District the past year, and he is deservedly popular. He preaches well, looks after the details of his office and magnifies his ministry. His report showed faithful work.

J. T. Smith has had the San Augustine district. He is by birth and bringing up an East Tennessean, and he bears upon his face the marks of that section. He is not handsome, but he is strong-minded, has convictions of his own, is strikingly original, has an unmistakable individuality, hits out from the shoulder, and he is not afraid of the world, the flesh or the devil. He is a clear preacher; he understands the doctrines of Methodism; he is loyal to his Church; and notwithstanding his apparent sternness, he has a tender heart and a companionable spirit.

O. P. Thomas had the Palestine District transferred before the meeting of the session to the North Texas Conference and is now on the Terrell Circuit. He has left the savor of a good name among his brethren as a good preacher and a fine man.

Mine host, Dr. Geo. H. Stovall, told me on my arrival that to see Beaumont in all of her glory I must see her "in the mud." Well, on Friday morning I beheld her in all her glory. She was wabbling in the mud up to her neck. But, nevertheless, the conference met and found the church comfortable and pleasant. After the preliminary exercises, the Bishop called for the report on the spiritual state of the Church, and it was read by Dr. Alexander. It was a strong paper, and, in my judgment, the most philosophical document that any one of the conferences has yet produced upon this subject. The report was discussed by Bros. Alexander, Ridley, J. T. Smith, Greathouse, Stafford, Godbey and Fowler. Some of the speeches were notably strong. By special vote the paper will appear in the Advocate.

Prof. E. R. Williams, President of the Alexander Institute, located at Jacksonville, addressed the conference in the interest of this most excellent school.

Six young men were called before the altar and addressed by the Bishop prior to their coming into the full membership of the conference. The address of the Bishop while for the most part covered much of the same ground occupied by him at the other conferences, yet on this occasion he branched out and even surpassed himself as to the subject treated:

"The time has come when to be a Methodist preacher is to occupy a post of social esteem and honor."

"We now begin to think of our appointments and the emoluments of position. This is one of our weaknesses."

"The word 'afflict' is now a Methodist word. We apply it mostly to the preacher who gets a poor appointment. We rarely ever apply it to the people when they get a poor preacher."

"The pulpit affords a wide field for ambition."

"Whenever a man begins to talk about the sacrifices he has made for the ministry, I always stop and look at him from head to foot."

"Had the ministry not taken up some of us and put us in the pulpit, we would perhaps to-day be between two plow handles."

"Bishop Keener once said that he had known some preachers who had supported and educated a large family on two dozen sermons."

"The fact is we get a larger return for the capital we invest than any class of people in the world."

"I do not believe in a dead line in the ministry, and there is none only as we create it."

"Mr. Gladstone never did cross a dead line. Just before he was translated he was engaged in a metrical translation of Homer and in producing

an annotated edition of that great book, 'Butler's Analogy.'"

"The man who to-day is buying and bringing more books into his library from England now among us is eighty years old. He is our senior Bishop."

"Have faith in your own message. No man can preach well who does not believe with all of his heart the truth he gives to others."

"There is a great deal of vanity that sometimes inflates our views of our records. No one man converts another. The conversion is the result of a long train of influences for which no one man can have credit."

"I do not believe in the gospel of numbers now any more than in the days of Israel. There is peril right here, as sure as you live."

"What we want is an opportunity to instruct and lead the people, and the truth will do the work."

"I hope you will cultivate terminal facilities. Know when to begin and when to stop your sermons. Leave something for the night sermon."

"Do not begin in your early ministry to believe that you can make a better book than our book of Discipline. This is a wonderful little book, and you will have to live a long time before you can make any improvement on it."

"Methodism has never been hurt by the going out of men whose views were not in harmony with the Church. The sooner they go the better. The Church is not dependent upon any one man for its perpetuity."

"Keep out of debt, and have money enough left at the end of the year with which to move."

"Visit your people, and when you get through go home. Home is the safest place in the world."

At the close of the address, the brethren were voted unanimously into the full membership of the Church.

Rev. E. R. Large was located on the ground of unacceptability. He was not present at the conference.

In the afternoon the ladies held a meeting at the Baptist Church, which was addressed by Bro. Townsen, Mrs. Johnson and others. The questions of missions and the work of the Rescue Home were considered.

At night Rev. W. P. Pledger preached to a good audience, notwithstanding the inclement weather. He is the son of one of my old friends, with whom I used to consort in North Georgia. Some twenty-six years ago I spent an evening at his house in Gordon County, Georgia. That is the last time I ever saw Rev. T. M. Pledger. Pope was then a small boy, but here he is in the East Texas Conference, a large man of fine mental mold, and one of the most promising young men in the body. No better man ever lived than T. M. Pledger, and nothing rejoices me more than to find a worthy successor in his boy.

There are only six men on the superannuated list, and but two of them were able to be present, R. W. Thompson and W. A. Sampey.

For nearly a half a century "Uncle Dick" Thompson has been a member of this body. He is a man of large frame, strong mind and a voice of rare compass and volume. In his palmy days he used to wake the echoes up and down these streams and throughout these dense forests and over these plains. He has gone all the gaits of the Methodist Itinerant, and the influence of his work abides. He is still a man of a good deal of strength, and he sings and preaches well. He literally reveled in the happy associations of his brethren once more.

Rev. W. A. Sampey is a quiet, thoughtful man, possessed of ripe wisdom and a cool judgment. He, too, has filled the various places of trust and responsibility in the conference, and his record is bright and glowing. He now moves about among his brethren

in an unobtrusive way, but on committees he does good work. When he speaks on the conference floor, he gains a close hearing.

The others were not able to answer to roll call, but doubtless they were present in spirit. They fill a large place in the esteem and confidence of the conference.

There are several elderly members of the conference still in the active work. Among them I notice the following: C. H. Smith—"Uncle Caleb," as he is familiarly called. He is a large, rather corpulent, fresh-faced old man, and a circuit preacher full of the old-time fire and power. To look at him naturally calls up a former generation of preachers—those who, with saddle-bags, hymn-book and Bible traversed broad sweeps of country. He is still vigorous and efficient.

G. C. Hardy is a strong, robust man, with as pleasing and as affable a countenance as one could wish to look into. Though climbing up in years, he has great powers of endurance, and will do good service for a long time to come. He is a solid preacher, and an indefatigable worker.

G. V. Ridley, though his hair and beard tell of advancing years, still has the spirit of a young man. He is gifted as a speaker, and he has a rare command of words. As a preacher he is eloquent, and as a pastor he is useful. Wherever he goes he is popular and renders good and successful service.

Albert Little is growing up into the list of the elderly brethren. He has good health, and good, substantial mental resources. As a preacher he is practical and helpful. His report showed excellent service. He is really in the prime of life, and will continue to develop, both as a preacher and pastor.

J. M. Mills went through the late war between the States as a private soldier, and made a good record. For years he has been just as faithful as a soldier of Jesus Christ. He has been a circuit preacher during the whole of his itinerant career, and he has done work of an abiding character.

J. S. Mathis is the young-old man of the conference. For forty-odd years he has preached the Gospel throughout this territory. He is a man of medium height, durably built, with no surplus flesh, but plenty of vitality and muscle. He has a strikingly strong face, and a chin and mouth indicative of great firmness of character. His hair is iron gray, and when he speaks on the conference floor there is a vein of wit and humor in his style and tone of voice of peculiar interest. He is an eminently useful minister, and a blessing to any work. Everybody loves him.

The conference has a fine band of laymen, members of this body. T. S. Garrison is one of the most prominent of this class. He lives at Timpson. He attends all of the sessions of the East Texas Conference. Not to find him on hand at these annual gatherings would be a disappointment to all, but this has not yet been experienced. In fact, I heard a preacher say that the only chance for discovering the exact locality of the North Pole would be to vote a session of the East Texas Conference to that place, fix the date of the meeting and that Bro. Garrison would be on hand at the meeting of the conference.

Dr. J. R. Milburn lives at Rusk. He is a busy physician, but takes time to look after the duties of his membership in the conference. He is an ardent Methodist and a good man.

W. H. Crouch lives at Nacogdoches. He is one of the tellers of the conference, and is eminently useful in helping to handle the business of the body. He stands high in the confidence of his brethren.

W. W. West lives at New Boston. He is the editor of a paper, and he is faith-

ful to the Church. He was in his place at the meeting of the conference and remained to the close. He is a fine layman and worthy of the esteem which he has justly won.

J. F. Cely is the Treasurer of the Sunday-school Board, and right faithfully does he do his work.

G. W. Henderson is a good local preacher and a worthy member of the body.

J. T. Allison and H. D. Sells are substantial and true men. They are quiet and good members.

Keahey, Seymore, Faulk, Chapman and others are among the best men of their sections, and they did excellent service. It is very helpful to have such business men devote themselves to the interests of the Church.

Saturday morning came in clear, sharp and penetrating. Many of the brethren were choked up with severe colds, and looked a little the worse for wear. This was the day for reports, and they were received and put through with haste. I was given a good hearing in the interest of the Advocate. The brethren were exceedingly kind and gave to me a cordial fellowship very enjoyable indeed. I shall not soon forget them. The statistical report showed a slight decrease in membership. The conference has six districts and six district parsonages, and upon these not one dollar of indebtedness exists. This is very encouraging, and shows fine work in this department of Church work.

Not a solitary connectional man was at the conference except the presiding Bishop. The nearest to an official of this class was Bro. W. C. Everett, a fine layman from Nashville, who looked after the business of the Publishing House. He was born and brought up in Blount County, East Tennessee, and when I was pastor of Church Street Church, Knoxville, he moved over to that city and was a member of my charge. He is a royal good man, and the brethren, both in the Texas and East Texas Conferences received him joyfully. He was courteous and polite to all.

The conference not only took no action with regard to the Publishing House trouble, but made no reference to it directly or indirectly. Texas Methodists are true to our connectionalism, and they are willing to give the authorities of the Church an opportunity to settle this matter according to the promise made by the College of Bishops.

There are eight Smiths in the clerical membership of the conference, some of them are small men physically and some of them are large men, but they are all good and true men. The conference could not get along without its Smiths.

D. F. C. Timmons was late getting to conference on account of sickness in his family. He is a man rather low of stature, heavy build, with a kindly face and a genial manner. He is an edifying preacher and one of the most painstaking pastors in the conference. He is a popular member of the body.

W. W. Graham has a handsome countenance, lit up with an intelligent expression. He observes all of the proceedings of the conference closely and votes advisedly on all questions that come up for action. He preaches well and does all of the duties of the ministry in good conscience.

J. G. Pollard is one of the field hands, and he looks after his charge carefully and brings up a good report. He is unobtrusive, but earnest and efficient.

Stewart Nelson is an interesting member of the conference. He came from the hill country of Tennessee,

and is a son of the late Judge T. A. R. Nelson. It was this distinguished jurist who led in the defense of President Andy Johnson when he stood before the United States Senate impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors. He was one of the finest legal minds that ever adorned the jurisprudence of that great State. Stuart ought to be a good preacher with that sort of blood in his veins. And he doubtless is.

L. H. McGee is also from East Tennessee, a good man and a useful minister. His wife was converted when a girl at Cedar Hill, McMinn County, East Tennessee, in a meeting in which I took part away back in the early seventies. It was a delight to meet him out here engaged in the Master's work.

J. A. Beagle has done a good work at Texarkana, and gave an excellent account of his stewardship at conference. He is a preacher of fine reputation and a valuable member of the body.

B. H. Greathouse has shown fine ability in his management of the Church at Tyler. He is not a handsome man; in fact, he is otherwise, but back of that rugged face there is a bright, penetrating mind replete with resources. He is one of the very best preachers in the conference and the brethren love him.

W. W. McAnally is rather a small man, with dark hair and complexion, and with a mouth reminding one of the late Dr. D. R. McAnally, the great preacher and journalist, of whom this brother is a distant relative. He is a good man, full of faith and good works.

J. B. Luker is a circuit preacher, and he glories in his work. He preaches well and brings up a good account of his service.

O. A. Shook looks like a veteran from the field. He has evidently seen hard work, and he has done it well. He has but little to say, but he pushes his work with great assiduity. He is one of the very best friends of the Advocate, and shows his faith by his works.

A. S. Whitehurst has a good record as a preacher and a worker. He is a busy man at the conference sessions, and he is ready for every good word and work.

A. J. Weeks has an amiable face and a well-formed head. As I pen these lines he is preaching a splendid sermon at the 3 o'clock service. If this one is a sample, he will succeed at any point to which he may be sent.

V. A. Godbey comes of a brainy family, and he has inherited much of that gray matter from his ancestry. Physically, he is well built, strong and muscular. He has a large and a well-poised head, fronted with a face of rare excellence and gentility. His voice is deep-toned and musical. He is said to be a preacher of more than ordinary gifts and grace, and if he continues studious and humble, he has before him a future of rich promise.

J. B. Turrentine is a young man of pleasing address and earnest manner. He is a useful man, and upon him his brethren place responsibilities.

J. W. Downs is wide-awake and alert. He has great energy and devotion, and his work tells a good story.

L. A. Webb is my old friend, as I was his pastor at one time beyond the Mississippi. It is to me a joy to find him out here in the ministry and doing well.

W. F. Davis was the District Attorney of his section at the time he surrendered all and entered the conference. He has a clear and an incisive

mind, and he states a proposition lucidly, and he enforces the truth with compact arguments.

W. W. Watts, though Chaplain of the First Texas Regiment of Volunteers, was at the conference for a few days. Twenty-six years ago he was converted in a meeting I conducted at Mt. Carmel, Gordon County, Georgia, and now to look upon a strong, godly man, working among the soldiers for Christ, is to me an unspeakable delight. He is now on his way to Cuba.

I. T. Stafford is one of the best equipped men in the conference. He was educated at Emory College, Georgia, the Vanderbilt University and at Drew Theological Seminary. He is a brother to our Stafford at Honey Grove. He has labored successfully the past two years at Orange.

J. D. Burke is a fine man, with an air of business about him. He is a solid and substantial preacher.

But time fails me to mention the scores of others equally as faithful and devoted as those referred to. They are hardy and true men, and they are doing a wonderful work throughout their territory.

I had a delightful little interview today with Dr. Alexander, and learned that he, too, is an East Tennessean, having been born in Powell's Valley. In early life he went to school at Strawberry Plains—a school founded by Creed Fulton and taught by Dr. James S. Kennedy, Rev. R. N. Price and Prof. J. L. Kirkpatrick—the latter passed away some years ago. After this he went to Emory and Henry College. No wonder that he is such a valuable member of this conference, since he passed through such tuition. He has the intellectual fiber and training of a giant, and he is now in the full maturity of his powers. He looks like a rugged East Tennessean, and all such from that region get very close to me. I am from that country.

I met with another very interesting character, C. S. Bolton, a venerable layman. He has not missed a session of this conference since 1872, I think he told me. He comes whether he is a delegate or not, and he gets a chair, takes his seat just outside the altar railing, close to the Bishop, and he takes in every word that is read or spoken. Sometimes he gets happy, and then he is heard from. He is the father of Bro. Bolton, now on the Fort Worth District, and the latter bears a striking resemblance to the former.

C. F. Smith is a fine member of the conference—a preacher of excellent ability, and a polished gentleman. To know him is to admire and love him.

Regent R. S. Hyer, Rev. Dr. Timmons and myself were cordially entertained at the home of Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Stovall. No guests were ever made to feel more thoroughly at home than we. Dr. Stovall is the son of a Methodist minister, and he and his cultured wife and their children evinced a genuine pleasure in having us in the family circle. It was certainly an un-mixed pleasure to us to enjoy such a privilege.

At night the missionary anniversary was observed, and Bro. Towson addressed the meeting. It was an interesting occasion, notwithstanding the unpleasant weather. Bro. Towson has done much good in mingling with and addressing the people upon the subject of missions in these great conference gatherings.

During the morning session Rev. Seth Ward, of the Texas Conference, was introduced and given a welcome to the conference. He enjoyed the day, as it gave him a little recreation after

RHEUMATISM

NEW ORLEANS, April 10, 1897.
DR. RADWAY & CO.: I have been a sufferer from Rheumatism for more than six months. I could not raise my hands to my head or put my hands behind me, or even take off my own shirt. Before I had finished three-fourths of a bottle of Radway's Ready Relief I could use my arms as well as ever. You can see why I have such great faith in your Relief. Yours truly,
W. C. BAKER,
Engineer at A. Montelone's Boot and Shoe Factory, 939 Julia Street.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

Radway's Ready Relief is a sure cure for every Pain, Sprains, Bruises, Pains in the Back, Chest and Limbs. Taken inwardly there is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure Fever and Ague and all other malarious, bilious and other fevers, aided by RADWAY'S PILLS, so quickly as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.

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WINE OF CARDUI
MONTHLY SUFFERING.
Thousands of women are troubled at monthly intervals with pains in the head, back, breasts, shoulders, sides hips and limbs. But they need not suffer.
These pains are symptoms of dangerous derangements that can be corrected. The menstrual function should operate painlessly.
McELREE'S Wine of Cardui
makes menstruation painless, and regular. It puts the delicate menstrual organs in condition to do their work properly. And that stops all this pain. Why will any woman suffer month after month when Wine of Cardui will relieve her? It costs \$1.00 at the drug store. Why don't you get a bottle to-day?
For advice, in cases requiring special directions, address, giving symptoms, "The Ladies' Advisory Department," The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.
.....
Mrs. ROZENA LEWIS, of Oenaville, Texas, says: "I was troubled at monthly intervals with terrible pains in my head and back, but have been entirely relieved by Wine of Cardui."
WINE OF CARDUI

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CURED Without the KNIFE or detention from business. Fistula, Fissure, Ulceration of the Rectum, Hydrocele and Varicocele. No Cure no Pay. Trusses fitted. Have best made. Send stamp for pamphlet of testimonials.
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his work of entertaining the Texas Conference last week.

Bro. Birdwell, the young pastor here, aided by Bro. Milam and others, gave the conference a splendid entertainment. He was just as kind and accommodating as it was possible for him to be, and the people were exceedingly hospitable. The welcome was generous and open-handed.

A more beautiful day was never born out of a stormy night than was Sunday, the last day of the conference session. The sky was clear, the sun was bright, and the air became as soft and balmy as spring-time. Love feast was well attended, mostly by the preachers. "Uncle Dick" Thompson had it in hand, and he guided it well. It was a feast to the soul to be there and partake of its inspiration and joy.

At 11 o'clock the Bishop was in the pulpit, and there sat before him a sea of upturned faces. This was an eventful occasion. Not only were a number of young men to be ordained to the office of deacon, but the beautiful church edifice in which the conference was being held was to be dedicated to the service of God. Through strong effort and much sacrifice this house had been built, under the administrations of Leon Sonfield and W. W. Watts, but a debt was left upon it, and no dedicatory service had taken place. Bro. Birdwell, who came to the Church last spring to fill out Bro. Watts' unexpired term, went to work with a will, and succeeded in raising the remainder of the money still due; and on this auspicious occasion the dedication was to occur.

The Bishop took for his text the ninth verse of the first chapter of First Corinthians, and preached a remarkably good sermon upon "Union with Christ and What It Implies." The discourse stirred the brethren greatly, and produced a profound impression upon the audience. I shall not mar its completeness by trying to give even a synopsis of it. After the sermon the Bishop dedicated the church and then proceeded to ordain the deacons.

In the afternoon the writer had charge of the service, and at its close the Bishop ordained the elders.

The memorial service was held on Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. It was the most impressive of the entire conference. There had been but one death, but that one was enough to call forth the deepest interest upon the part of all—R. S. Finley, D. D. He was one of God's noblemen. He was over four-score and ten years at the time of his death, and he stood the peer of any man in Texas Methodism. Dr. Finley was converted at the age of fifteen years, and at once placed himself upon the altar and gave to the Church sixty-seven years of faithful service. For sixty-two years he was a minister of the gospel of Christ, and forty-five of these years were spent in the East Texas Conference. The others were given to the Church in Alabama, his native State. It is said that in every charge he served he had a glorious revival, and hundreds of souls were converted under his ministry and added to the Church such as were saved. He lived to noble purpose, and no man ever left a brighter record as a beautiful heritage to our Zion. He was a man, in his prime, of magnificent physique, great common sense, fine pulpit ability, and a face of rare saintliness and beauty. The writers saw him a few weeks before his departure and his countenance was lit up with an unearthly splendor akin to transfiguration. He passed out and up, not like death, but like a translation. Many were the loving words spoken by his brethren concerning his life and ministry. He is held in everlasting remembrance, and his works do follow him.

Brother W. P. Pledger read an excellent paper on the life of Mrs. Mary

and a worthy tribute was paid to her memory. She was a good woman, full Towns, the wife of the Rev. D. W. Towns. She died during the past year, of faith, good works and the Holy Ghost. It was met that her name should find a place in the printed records of the conference. After the reading of the memoir, Bro. Timmons spoke touchingly of her life and character.

The appointments, which appear in another column gave general satisfaction. The brethren received them like heroes, and went forth in faith for another year of toil.

The East Texas Conference is a noble band of men. They are thoroughly religious, and in their annual gatherings the spiritual element predominates. Brotherly love prevails among them. On all great questions they are a unit. The writer was tendered every possible courtesy by them and he brings away a delightful recollection of his stay among them. God bless them throughout this entire year, and make them prosperous in all good things.

MINUTE BUSINESS.

Minutes of the fifty-fourth session of the East Texas Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, held at Beaumont, Texas, beginning December 7, 1898, and ending December 12, 1898; Bishop C. B. Gallo-way, President; J. R. Heartsill, Secretary. Postoffice address of Secretary, Marshall, Texas.

- Question 1. Who are admitted on trial? Robert L. Bridges, John J. Bridges, Jesse Willis and Thomas P. Turner.
2. Who remain on trial? J. M. Brewer, K. P. Barton, J. G. Pollard, C. B. Cross, J. J. Rape, W. W. Gollighugh, J. M. Perry, W. S. Easterling, R. L. Steelman, R. O. Bailey, C. T. Cummings and D. S. Burke.
3. Who are discontinued? J. L. Williams and R. L. Steelman.
4. Who are admitted into full connection? F. A. Downs, R. J. Smith, W. W. Nunn, C. H. Rice, J. A. Harvey, J. W. Goodwin.
5. Who are readmitted? None.
6. Who are received by transfer from other conferences? C. E. Lamar and J. E. Carpenter, from the Texas Conference.
7. Who are the deacons of one year? Gus Garrison, H. L. Hare and P. R. White.
8. What traveling preachers are elected deacons? J. L. Williams, W. W. Nunn, C. H. Rice and J. W. Goodwin.
9. What traveling preachers are ordained deacons? J. L. Williams, W. W. Nunn, C. H. Rice and J. W. Goodwin.
10. What local preachers are elected deacons? William J. McCrary, Hamden R. Taylor, David F. Pulley, Jonathan E. Short and W. W. Gollighugh.
11. What local preachers are ordained deacons? David F. Pulley, Hamden R. Taylor, W. W. Gollighugh and W. W. Wiggins.
12. What traveling preachers are elected elders? J. T. McClure, M. I. Brown and R. J. Birdwell.
13. What traveling preachers are ordained elders? Secretary failed to supply names.
14. What local preachers are elected elders? J. A. Camp and G. W. Henderson.
15. What local preachers are ordained elders? Secretary failed to supply names.
16. Who are located this year? E. R. Large.
17. Who are supernumerary? Secretary failed to supply names.
18. Who are superannuated? R. W. Thompson, A. D. Parks, J. B. Hall, M. A. Donegan, J. A. Smith, R. H. Kimball, W. A. Sampey and Wm. Sproule.
19. What preachers have died during the past year? R. S. Finley.
20. Are all the preachers blameless in their life and official administration? Their names were called and their characters passed.
(For answers to questions 21 to 44, see statistical table on page 13.)
45. Where shall the next session of the conference be held? Timpson.
46. Where are the preachers stationed this year? (See appointments.)

APPOINTMENTS.

MARSHALL DISTRICT. L. M. Fowler, P. E. Marshall, First Church—A. J. Weeks. North Side—C. T. Cummings. Harrison Circuit—W. W. Graham. Arleston Circuit—D. P. Cullen. Jefferson Station—L. A. Burk. Kelloggville Circuit—W. W. Gollighugh. Longview Station—C. R. Lamar. Coffeeville Circuit—Robt. L. Bridges. Hallville Circuit—Gus Garrison. Beckville Circuit—J. M. Mills; G. W. Langley, supernumerary. Kilgore Circuit—J. C. Carr. Henderson Station—A. S. Whitehurst. Henderson Circuit—Thomas P. Turner. Church Hill Circuit—J. M. Smith, supply. Chaplain First Texas Regiment—W. W. Watts.

PITTSBURG DISTRICT. T. P. Smith, P. E. Pittsburg Station—J. S. Mathis. Leesburg Circuit—S. W. Jones. Musgrove Springs—H. R. Taylor, supply. Quitman—W. T. Ayers. Gilmer—Stuart Nelson. Daingerfield—L. H. McGee. Mt. Pleasant Station—A. A. Wagon. Winfield—G. W. Riley. Naples—R. J. Smith. Linden—C. A. Tower. Atlanta Station—J. W. Johnson. Queen City—W. W. McAnally. Redwater Mission—B. T. Hayes. Texarkana, State Line—D. F. C. Timmons. Fairview Mission—G. C. Hardy. New Boston—G. R. Hughes. Dalby Springs and DeKalb—J. M. McCarter.

TYLER DISTRICT. John Adams, P. E. Tyler Marvin—R. H. Greathouse. Cedar Street and St. Paul's—C. H. Smith. Tyler Circuit—S. N. Allen. Lindale—J. W. Bridges. Mineola Station—C. B. Cross. Emory—W. A. Manley. Golden Mission—W. M. Foster, supply. Grand Saline—W. F. Hardy. Willis Point Station—Albert Little. As Point Mission—Jesse Willis. Canton—F. A. Downs. Edom—T. B. Vinson. Malakoff—A. A. Kidd, and one to be supplied by D. F. Pulley. Athens Station—L. A. Webb. New York Circuit—P. R. White. Troupe and Overton—W. J. Owens. White House—B. C. Ansley, supply.

PALESTINE DISTRICT. V. A. Godbey, P. E. Palestine Station—L. Alexander. West Palestine—A. Methvin. Brushy Creek—J. B. Luker. Elkhart—D. W. Towns. Grapeland—H. B. Smith. Holcomb—J. D. Dorsey. Crockett Station—J. A. Beagle. Crockett Circuit—O. A. Shook. Trinity and Lovelady—G. V. Ridley. Groveton Circuit—J. T. Kirkpatrick. Wells Mission—J. M. Brewer. Alto—S. M. Thompson. Rusk Station—I. T. Stafford. Jacksonville Station—C. F. Smith. Jacksonville Circuit—T. Booth. Student Alexander Institute—J. J. Bridges. Secretary of Education—V. A. Godbey.

SAN AUGUSTINE DISTRICT. J. T. Smith, P. E. San Augustine and Chireno—W. L. Pate. Hemphill Mission—J. S. Wilson, supply. Sexton—W. W. Nunn. Shelbyville—John Helpinstill. Center Station—J. B. Turrentine. Center Circuit—C. R. Smith. Tonaha—J. F. Pace. Carthage—J. L. Dawson. Timpson Station—J. W. Downs. Minden—J. D. Burke. Garrison—D. L. Cain. Appleby—W. D. Lum. Nacogdoches Station—Ellis Smith. Melrose—J. W. Goodwin. Lufkin Station—W. F. Davis. Homer Circuit—J. A. Harvey. Conference Missionary Secretary—J. T. Smith.

BEAUMONT DISTRICT. T. J. Milam, P. E. Beaumont Station—W. P. Pledger. Beaumont Mission—K. P. Barton. Orange Station—R. J. Birdwell. Sabine Pass and Port Arthur—J. G. Pollard. Fort Bolivar—C. H. Rice. Liberty—H. L. Hare. Livingston—J. M. Petty. Leggett Mission—E. H. Lovejoy, supply. Pinkney Mission—R. O. Bailey. Woodville and Colmesneil—J. J. Rape. Kountze—W. S. Easterling. Newton Mission—J. E. Short, supply. Jasper Mission—D. S. Burke. Jasper Station—J. T. McClure. Burkeville—M. I. Brown.

TRANSFERRED—O. P. Thomas, to the North Texas Conference; E. J. Gates, to the Florida Conference; Marvin Coppedge, to the Indian Mission Conference; H. W. Bowman, to the Louisiana Conference; J. E. Carpenter, to the Mississippi Conference.

REPORTS.

REPORT OF CHURCH EXTENSION. Your board report the following amounts received from the six districts composing this conference, for the church extension fund: Marshall District \$196 00 Tyler District 219 60 Pittsburg District 234 50 Palestine District 218 25 San Augustine District 275 00 Beaumont District 66 25 Total \$1210 50 Disbursed as follows: Paid P. H. Whisner, Secretary \$695 25 Donated to Gary, Panola County 150 00 Donated to Edgewood 100 00 Donated to West Palestine 100 00 Donated to Linn Flat 50 00 Donated to Lone Oak 25 00 Donated to Sabine, Lindale Circuit 50 00 Donated to Elkhart 70 25 Donated to Wallisville 60 00 Total \$1210 50 We have apportioned the sum of \$1600 assessed this conference by the Board of Church Extension to the various districts as follows: Marshall District \$300 00 Pittsburg District 300 00 Tyler District 300 00 Palestine District 300 00 San Augustine District 300 00 Beaumont District 100 00 Total \$1600 00 The following are the officers of the board for the ensuing quadrennial: John S. Mathis, President; G. V. Ridley, Vice-President; J. D. Ford, Secretary; T. S. Garrison, Treasurer.

The board approved the election of the following officers of the Woman's Home Mission Society for the ensuing year: Mrs. W. W. Watts, President, Beaumont; Mrs. W. A. Sampey, First Vice-President, Timpson; Mrs. J. W. Downs, Second Vice-President, Timpson; Mrs. J. T. Garrison, Recording Secretary, Nacogdoches; Mrs. Jean Call, Corresponding Secretary, Orange; Mrs. V. A. Godbey, Treasurer, Jacksonville. District Secretaries: Mrs. V. A. Redwine, Marshall; Mrs. R. T. Dorough, Tyler; Mrs. Ophelia Hines, Palestine; Mrs. J. H. Nraham, Nacogdoches; Mrs. Fannie Trigg, Texarkana; Mrs. Alice Adams, Jasper.

Received the sum of \$100 for Jacksonville parsonage; Elkhart parsonage, \$50; Arleston, \$25. Respectfully submitted, T. S. GARRISON, Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.

Joint Board of Finance of the East Texas Conference met at Beaumont, December 7, 1898, R. W. Thompson, chairman, presiding. Members present: R. W. Thompson, J. L. Dawson, I. T. Stafford, T. H. Smith, T. S. Garrison and Stuart Nelson. Session opened with prayer. The sum of \$1200 was assessed for the

conference claimants for the year 1898, and apportioned to the following districts as follows: Marshall District \$225 00 Palestine District 225 00 Pittsburg District 225 00 Tyler District 225 00 San Augustine District 225 00 Beaumont District 75 00 Total \$1200 00

The board assessed the sum of \$100, and apportioned as follows: Marshall District \$17 00 Tyler District 17 00 Palestine District 17 00 Pittsburg District 17 00 San Augustine District 17 00 Beaumont District 15 00 Total \$100 00

The board apportioned the sum of \$894 to the following districts for Bishops' fund: Marshall District \$160 00 Tyler District 160 00 Palestine District 160 00 Pittsburg District 160 00 San Augustine District 160 00 Beaumont District 94 00 Total \$894 00

Received from the six districts for conference claimants' Bishops' fund, printing minutes and delegates, as follows:

Table with columns: District, Conf. Claim'ts, Bishops. Marshall \$225 40, Tyler 225 00, Palestine 217 50, Pittsburg 217 60, San Augustine 261 60, Beaumont 88 75. Total \$1264 75, \$784 65.

Table with columns: District, Minutes, Delegates. Marshall \$15 50, Tyler 17 60, Palestine 17 80, Pittsburg 21 25, San Augustine 22 00, Beaumont 10 75. Total \$105 00, \$78 25.

Total amount to be distributed, \$3421.88, and disbursed as follows:

Table with columns: Item, Amount. To balance on hand \$725 43, Publishing House funds 400 00, Hughes fund 79 80, Conference claimants 1284 75, Bishops 748 65, Minutes 165 00, Delegates 78 25. Total \$3421 88.

Table with columns: Item, Amount. Paid Barbee & Smith, Bishop \$748 65, Paid Barbee & Smith, delegate 78 25, Paid editor minutes 165 00, Paid conference claimants 1284 75, Balance reserve fund 760 18. Total \$3421 88.

Assessed for Orphanage the sum of \$800, and apportioned as follows:

Table with columns: District, Amount. Marshall District \$140 00, Palestine District 140 00, Tyler District 140 00, Pittsburg District 140 00, San Augustine District 140 00, Beaumont District 100 00. Total \$800 00.

Hughes' fund \$79 80, Publishing House fund 400 00.

List of claimants for 1898:

Table with columns: Name, Amount. Sister A. M. Box \$90 00, Sister J. M. Mills 100 00, Sister L. Kavanaugh 100 00, Sister J. R. Bellamy 110 00, Sister S. A. Williams' sister 60 00, Sister J. R. Burke 135 00, Sister F. M. Stovall 100 00, Sister J. C. Hukabay 110 00, Sister Ed. Osborne's child 75 00, Sister Betty Cronse 160 00, Sister J. C. Bridges 70 00, Sister Mary Lynch 60 00, Sister H. M. Booth 60 00, Sister R. M. Kirby 110 00, Sister J. H. Shook 100 00, Bro. M. Donegan 100 00, Bro. J. E. Hall 110 00, Bro. E. R. Large 25 00, Bro. W. D. Lum 25 00, Bro. D. S. Burke 10 00, Bro. J. T. Kirkpatrick 10 00, Bro. J. G. Pollard 14 60. Total \$1729 80.

Respectfully submitted, T. S. GARRISON, Secretary.

Advertisement for Atmore's Mince Meat. Includes an illustration of a hand holding a pie. Text: 'Can't help making good pies of ATMORE'S Mince Meat. Quality and flavor always the same—always the best. The best grocery sell Atmore's Mince Meat and ATMORE'S genuine English PLUM PUDDING.'

Advertisement for FREE 56 PIECES FULL-SIZE For Families. Text: 'There is no fake about this, send your address at once. Every person answering this advertisement can get a Handsomely Decorated Set, absolutely free—we mean it. There is no trick, no juggling with words, nothing but what is honest. Our offer is in black & white, no misrepresentation of any sort; everybody can receive & take advantage of it, & we positively will not go back on it no matter what it costs us. We wish to put our paper on top, & will do anything to get it in the least quickly. It is one of the best & most interesting Fashion, News & Story Papers in existence. You can prove all we say, the absolute truth, if you age, mailing, addressing & packing, & we will send you the paper for 3 months free. If every one can have their choice of breakfast, dinner or tea set free. All sets carefully boxed & packed at our expense. POPULAR FASHIONS New York City, DEPT. 699, P. O. BOX 2617.'

SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE CHURCH.

To the Bishop and Members of the East Texas Conference:

Your Committee on the Spiritual State of the Church beg to submit the following report: Much has been said and written about the loss of spiritual power and the causes of the same. Before we consider the causes of decline in spiritual power in our Methodism it may be well to inquire whether such is really the case. It may be that instead of a decline of power that the power has been turned unto different channels, but still the power exists and is none the less spiritual.

1. If we judge from our prayer-meeting service there is not much gain or loss.

2. If we judge from family worship we are sadly on the decline.

3. If we judge from the members that attend upon our ministry the decline does not exist.

4. If we judge from our Sunday-schools there is great gain in latter times.

5. If we judge from our missionary work the spiritual power is multiplied a thousand-fold. In the Sunday-school and missionary work we are far in advance of our fathers.

6. Our educational institutions may not be all that could be desired, but they are better now than at any former period, both in their outfit and in their work. Our preachers may not be as well educated as could be desired, but they are better educated than they were in those days when this spiritual power is thought to have existed in rich abundance.

7. If we judge from our publishing interests, in all their departments, our gain in power is very great. In all the material interests of the Church our advancement is, in a very large degree, satisfactory, and to these of late years our attention has been largely, perhaps too largely, given, and this may account, in part, for our decline in some other departments of our work.

8. In that intense spirituality so necessary to convert men from sin to a life of holiness, it is very generally thought that we have suffered a decline. It is to be feared this opinion is in a measure correct. This would seem to be true from the small increase in numbers for the last few years.

1. This decline in spiritual power is thought by some to be due to an inordinate desire for numbers, leading pastors to admit into the Church scores of unconverted persons. It is to be feared there is some truth in this position.

2. It is charged by some to evangelism. This is hardly true, for it is this that called for the evangelist. He came, but found himself unequal to the task of restoring spirituality to the Church. He rather increased the evil.

3. It is thought by some to be due to the discussion of holiness. This is hardly true, because this decline existed prior to such discussion, and likely helped to bring on such discussion.

4. It is thought by some to be due to the want of discipline. This is hardly true, because it is the very cause of such want of discipline and renders discipline impossible.

5. It is thought by some to be due to rings and parties, especially among ministers. This cannot be true, because all rings and parties in Church circles are bred by this very low state of spirituality. The truly spiritual man neither forms rings nor joins such when formed.

6. It is thought by some to be due to the want of faithfully preaching the cardinal doctrines of the Bible. But, in the judgment of your committee these were never more faithfully preached than now.

7. We are inclined to the opinion that the one cause at the base of this

decline is the strong tendency to confound religion and morality and make them one and the same. This leads to discount a clear-cut and well-defined conversion, and leaves the doctrine of the new birth without meaning. Without this doctrine Methodism has no power, no life, no right to live. In addition to this, or grow in out of this, is that superficial theology that relatively magnifies the love of God and dwarfs his justice. A God who loves so much that he cannot be just will never control men. To this again add the widely circulated belief in a future probation. If men believe they can become holy in another life they are almost sure not to be holy in this life. What is called higher criticism, whether true or untrue, has for the present no good influence on spiritual life. These views are widely circulated and much read. I. ALEXANDER.

MILLSAP CIRCUIT.

J. J. Harris, Dec. 8: Millsap comes to the front. We have been handsomely pounded. It began last Tuesday, and this is Thursday and the thing is still continued. God bless these big-souled people. It makes me feel better. Strange to say, it did not hurt me. It has been four years since we were pounded, but it felt natural, and I think it did the people good; for it is more blessed to give than to receive. It prepares a man for a good year's work. It does him good all the year. I believe it will help any preacher to do a better year's work; hence, a good pounding is a means of grace.

MILBURN CIRCUIT.

J. N. Broyles, Dec. 6: At Seguin, Bishop Galloway said for me to go back to Milburn. Thank you, Bishop. No man, living or dead, ever served a better people than the people of the Milburn Circuit. Most of my official members was present at our official meeting, and I don't think I ever saw men more determined and more willing to do all they can for a preacher than these faithful men of God. Those present were: J. N. Broyles, P. C.; Rev. McGaugh, Rev. Baird, G. W. Porter, G. W. Pointer, J. A. Patrick, Tom Maxwell, F. H. Chorin, George McClusky and Paul Varga. W. Abraham and Bro. Germany were called home, for which I was very sorry, but those other brethren fixed the preachers salary at \$500, raising it \$125 above what it was last year; apportioned as follows: Milburn \$200, Varga \$125, Locker's Gin \$75, China Creek \$50 and Bethel \$50. We have added \$35 to the parsonage since the conference and a nice stove to the Milburn church, and \$35 raised to finish the church at Varga Chapel. We are going to work more in the interest of the Advocate this year than we have ever done. The Advocate is the best paper and the best preacher that goes into our homes.

VALLEY MILLS.

W. B. McKeown: The ladies of Hamilton made this scribe a present of a suit of clothes at the closing up of the conference year. Such expressions are much appreciated. Since coming here the Church has put in the parsonage a suit of furniture, the best to be had in the town. Every day brings to the parsonage some expression of kindness and thoughtfulness. A good day at China Springs on the 4th. Two members received, and one penitent at the altar.

STEPHENVILLE.

John A. Wallace: We reached our new field of labor on the 29th of November; were met at the depot by a committee and escorted to the parsonage, and received "in due and ancient form" with a smoking, hot dinner and many words of pleasant greeting. Brother and Sister Carraway left everything so nice about the premises that we had no trouble in getting settled down to work when our things arrived. This is a larger town than I expected to find. The population is over 2500 in the city, while the adjacent country is thickly settled with thrifty farmers. The business interests seem to be immense. The old town has taken on new life since the railroad came, and in addition to larger and better business houses and fine modern residences, we have electric lights and a telephone system. This is our first year as a station, but from the way the official board and our godly women take hold of the work we are encouraged to hope for success. Bro. Carraway prepared the way by organizing thoroughly and cleaning up the roll. By the way, Bro. Shutt was here a year or two ago, and, of course, that means we have a new church, modern style, to be finished, we hope, this year. Shutt is preaching in a church at Armour that

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was built during my pastorate there four years ago. We have entered into each other's labors. Every preacher in the Dublin District last year was moved from presiding elder down, except one, I believe, J. M. Baker, of Proctor, being the only hold over. Bro. Boone, our new presiding elder, is abroad in the land, and is scheduled to meet the Quarterly Conference at this station next Wednesday, 14th inst. We anticipate a pleasant and successful year.

ITALY.

T. S. Armstrong: Ten days after the appointments were read we held our first Quarterly Conference. It was full of interest. The officials are active and full of courage. We start into the new year under favorable auspices, and everything promises great success. Every interest was looked after with enthusiasm, and hopefulness permeated the entire session. The conference was very religious from beginning to end. The sacramental service was truly a benediction. The sermon at 11 o'clock on Sunday by Dr. Bishop was fraught with more than usual power. It was close and searching, reproving and encouraging. He is full of expectation for this charge the present year. More than one-eighth of the entire salary of the preacher and presiding elder was paid. This beats a pounding. Bro. W. P. Garvin was visiting his parents here on his way to his new charge; he preached an excellent sermon Sunday night. We came from the church feeling stronger and better for having heard him. Our prayers go with him to his new field of labor.

BROWNWOOD.

M. S. Hotchkiss, Dec. 5: Certainly no itinerant has received a more cordial welcome than has been given this unworthy scribe by the good people of Brownwood. Every detail of comfort had been carefully considered by them. Through the kindness of Bro. C. H. Bencini and the courtesies of the railway company, we were given half rates permit over the Fort Worth and Rio Grande. Funds for freight expenses were generously proffered by the Board of Stewards. The salary was fixed and increased \$100 before our coming, and an efficient Board of Stewards is getting this work well in hand and planning wisely. Carriages at the depot, and a supper fit for a king, with substantial and dainties, and many elect women, greeted us at the parsonage. A well filled larder of "pounds," and "big pounds," had been thoughtfully provided, with all things. The praises of our predecessor is upon all lips. He was much beloved. This assures us that we may occupy a similar place in their affections, if faithful. Praying a blessing on this kind people, we take courage and press forward.

NOCONA.

J. Marvin Nichols: After a long move of 165 miles I have begun to adjust myself to strange and new environments. I follow Geo. F. Boyd, one of the most successful pastors in North Texas. For the past three years he has wrought a work that will abide for years to come. I find his name and life entrenched affectionately in the hearts of this people. And his wife leaves a splendid record. She is indeed a rare woman in her work for the Church. How true is it that the secret of many successful pastors lies in the strength of the noble wife, whose labors of love will deserve a noble crown. Sister Boyd will not be forgotten. For them I pray a happy and joyous year in their new field. I am happy and full of hope. No kinder and more loyal people ever fell to the care of a pastor. A neat parsonage and a spacious church, a Sunday-school than which a superior is hard to find; a superintendent, J. F. Barlow, whose great Canadian heart wins its way, and, by the way, a popular figure he is in the deliberations of our Annual Conference; a Junior and Senior League, on whose rolls are the names of young people full of characteristic devotion to the pastor. All of which reveals to me that if I would win my spurs no idle moments are left to me. Nocona is a beautiful town of

about two thousand souls. We are about six miles from the Territory line. It has an astonishing number of strong business houses, carrying immense stocks and controlling local and Territorial trade for miles and miles. The enterprise of the place is amazing and but prophesies a great future for the place. Nocona has a splendid school, under the wise and efficient management of Professor Clark, son of I. W. Clark, of our conference. I know I shall find in him a friend true and tried and shall make use of the fact that he is my nearest neighbor. Methodism here, like the town, is not the progeny of a boom, but is the outcome of careful and wise manipulation. After having gone over our roll I find we are the leading Church and have 198 members. These names represent us in just 100 homes. And now for their cultivation. Oh for power divine, that may feed them on the bread of life! This must be a year of revival in North Texas. Surely we have come to a crisis. No man was ever called to leave a nobler people than those at Nevada and Josephine. In hours when friends are needed they stood by me. For this I will ever be grateful. I am under obligations to them for the most elegant suit I ever wore—a splendid felt. A Baptist presented me with a fine hat. Mrs. Moore brought my wife under tribute for a beautiful dress. Through years that are to come our hearts shall turn tenderly toward our friends in old Collin County.

SWEET HOME CIRCUIT.

F. J. Perrin, Dec. 9: Have been on my work three weeks. The people received us with true Methodist hospitality. A fire in the parsonage stove, roast turkey, and other good things on the table a month's supply of groceries in the safe and a hearty welcome from smiling faces. God bless them. In spite of bad weather we have had some good congregations. The intelligent, interested faces make us hopeful of a good year. Financially, times are hard here as everywhere, but our assessments have been carefully adjusted and there is reason to expect everything in full by next conference.

GRAHAM.

S. A. Barnes, Dec. 7: We have heard of the West and western poundings, but last Saturday night we experienced the reality and truly we can say "not half has ever been told." Flour, coffee, jellies, pickles, canned goods, and four large turkeys, and everything else in proportion. We are highly pleased with our new field, and will do the very best year's work possible; have an intelligent, refined, cultured, loyal, generous hearted people. Bro. Daniel holds our first Quarterly Conference the 14th. We expect a good time. We shall not forget the Advocate this year.

JONESBORO.

F. M. Winburne, Dec. 9: After a pleasant and successful year at Killen, we are here very nicely "fixed," with "food and raiment," water, church, school, neighbors and the little town all convenient. So far we haven't much money, and really need more religion. I've had grippe somewhat ever since conference, caused, some say, by "high living." While there I've made one or two "assaults with an attempt to preach." The people seemed to bear it patiently, so you see He still "preserves the simple." My forerunner, A. P. Smith, and excellent wife and bright little daughter, have done some solid work here that a great many of us couldn't have done, and besides, they have left a great host of warm friends. Being detained at Killen with grippe, I witnessed the opening exercises of Bro. Kiker. It was good. I predict for him and his faithful wife a good time there. Thus we drift o'er life's tempestuous sea, but all homeward bound. I trust, and ere long, if faithful, will enter the "Haven of Rest."

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Take Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

It is a wholesome tonic for body, brain and nerves. Wonderfully quick in its action.

DISFIGURED FOR LIFE

Our little girl's humor commenced with a tiny sore on one nostril, but it kept on spreading till we thought she would never get it cured. We tried everything we could get, but it kept getting larger all the time, till both nostrils, the upper lip, a part of the lower lip, and up one side to the eye, were a solid sore. We thought there was no cure, and that she would be disfigured for life. Finally we tried CUTICURA REMEDIES. We used CUTICURA RESOLVENT and nearly a box of CUTICURA (ointment), and in a short time she was entirely well, with no scar or trace of the humor. Mrs. W. M. CHICHESTER, Plainville, Ct.

SWIFT CURE TREATMENT FOR TORTURING, DISFIGURING RINDS, WITH LOSS OF HAIR.—Warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, gentle anointings with CUTICURA, and mild doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT.

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Old and Young

FANCY-WORK FOR GIRLS.

Since the wearing of fringes has come in again, many of the girls have taken to making them themselves, as a handsome, well-made fringe is a very expensive thing to buy. Strands of pretty beads and spangles may be had for very moderate prices, and fringe-making is a nice sort of fancy-work for any girl to try. One New York girl is making herself a beautiful fringe for trimming the bodice and down the front seams of the skirt of a black satin evening gown. On a narrow silver cord, which she bought for five cents a yard, she is sewing strands of small beads, of alternate cut steel and black jet; the fringe when completed will be about five inches long, and on the end of each strand she has sewed a larger bead as a finish.

Some one else was heard of the other day as making a ribbon fringe, which was exceedingly effective, and less work than the one made of beads. It was of narrow black taffeta ribbon about half an inch wide. A band of the ribbon was taken for a foundation and on this were folded over in a point at the top and sewed pieces of ribbon from four to five inches in length. At the end of each piece was a large jet bead. Any colored ribbon could be used in making this fringe, and the ends finished off with beads, spangles, or sequins. A very pretty idea is to make the fringe of the different shades of one color. For instance, all the shades of green from dark to light, with opal beads at the ends.—Harper's Bazar.

THE BLESSING OF WORK.

It is not risk which depresses and paralyzes men; it is monotonous inactivity. Men do not put pistols to their heads when the battle is on and every post is a place of peril; they succumb to despair when dull day succeeds dull day in depressing succession. It is monotony which eats the heart out of joy, destroys the buoyancy of the spirit and turns hope to ashes; it is monotony which saps the vitality of the emotions, depletes the energy of the will and finally turns the miracle of daily existence into dreary commonplace. And monotony has its roots, not in our conditions, but in ourselves. In the same conditions one man will find constant interest and another persistent dullness; one will be awakened and stimulated and another stupefied and deadened. There are, of course, circumstances which prey upon the stoutest hearts and chill the most ardent spirits; but men are rarely placed in environments which cannot be modified by the energy of the spirit.

The prison which condemns some men to despair gives others time and quiet for meditation. Raleigh found the Tower a convenient place in which to write the "History of the World," and Silvio Pellico turned his duress into an opportunity of winning fame. Most men are crushed by invalidism, but John Addington Symonds transferred his enforced residence in the high Alps into one prolonged period of fruitful work. It is difficult to believe that he could have done more wisely if he had spent those toilsome years in the beautiful restfulness of Oxford. The hand of doom rested early upon Robert Louis Stevenson; but he became one of the great adventurers of the time and turned his quest for health into a quest for that large experience which makes its possessor a master of life. Conditions have much to do with success, but they are not its determining factors; in the last analysis we are the makers or losers of our fortunes; and life is interesting or monotonous as we ourselves are interesting or monotonous.—Great Thoughts.

WHAT PUTS MUSIC INTO LIFE.

There must be the death of self always before a life can be Christlike. In Japan they have a beautiful legend of the making of a wonderful bell. Long, long ago the emperor wrote to the maker of bells, commanding him to cast a bell larger and more beautiful than any ever made before. He bade him put in it gold and silver and brass, that the tones might be so sweet and clear that, when hung in the palace tower, its sounds might be heard for a hundred miles. The maker of bells put gold and silver and brass in his great melting pot, but the metals would not mingle, and the bell was a failure. Again and again

he tried, but in vain. Then the emperor was angry, and sent saying that if the bell was not made at the next trial the bell-maker must die. The bell-maker had a lovely daughter. She was greatly distressed for her father. Wrapping her mantle about her, she went by night to the oracle, and asked how she could save him. He told her that gold and brass would not mingle until the blood of a virgin was mixed with them in their fusion. Again the old maker of bells prepared to cast the bell. The daughter stood by, and at the moment of casting she threw herself into the midst of the molten metal. The bell was made, and found to be more wonderful and perfect than any other ever made. It hangs in the great palace tower, and its sweet tones are heard for a hundred miles. The blood of sacrifice, mingling with the gold and silver, gave the bell its matchless sweetness.

It is only a legend from a heathen land, but its lesson is true. Our lives make no music until self dies and our blood mingles with our offering in the altar fires of love. It is only when we lose our life for Christ that we get it back saved and glorious.—J. R. Miller, D. D.

SAYINGS OF GENERAL GORDON.

To be happy, a man must be like a well-broken, willing horse, ready for everything. Events will go as God likes.

If you will tell the truth, you have infinite power supporting you, but if not, you have infinite power against you. The children of kings should be above all deceit, for they have a mighty and a jealous Protector.

Oh, be open in all your ways. It is a girdle around your loins, strengthening you in all your wayfarings.

Make Him your guide; you do not want any other. He has said: "I will teach you all things," and, depend on it, you will find his the shortest course to pursue.

We have no conception or idea of what God will show us if we persevere in seeking Him, and it is He who puts this wish in our hearts.

In one word, live to God alone. Keep your eye on the "Polar Star;" guide your bark of life by that.

Do we believe Jehovah to be the Almighty—the ruler of all things, supreme in all and against whose will no power can act? Or do we recognize Baal—namely, the various events, accidents and circumstances of life—as acting independently of God, and, therefore, to be considered in the walk of life?

As self is given up, so a man is holy. If we live in the Spirit, we shall hear his voice minutely and always.

How unlike in acts are most of so-called Christians to their founder!

What is it if you know the sound truths and do not act up to them? Actions speak loudly and are read of all; words are as the breath of man.

Anything said against you is infinitely less than ought to be said.

When you get well down in your own opinion of yourself, it is remarkable how well the world thinks of you and how worthless are its thoughts to you.—The Bible Reader.

WHAT BABY CAN DO.

It can wear out a pair of \$1.00 kid shoes in less than twenty-four hours. It can simultaneously occupy both sides of the largest bed made.

It can make itself look like a fiend just when its mother wants to show it off.

It can make an old bachelor in the next room use language that, if uttered on the street, would get him in the penitentiary for two years.

It can go from the farthest end of the room to the foot of the stairs in the hall quicker than its mother can step into the closet and out again.

These are some of the things a baby can do. But there are other things as well. A baby can make the commonest house the brightest spot on earth. It can lighten the burdens of a loving mother's life by adding to them. It can flatten its dirty little face against the window pane in such a way that the tired father can see it as a picture as he rounds the corner. Yes, babies are great institutions, particularly one's own baby.—Chicago Times.

A WONDERFUL MAGNET.

Some years ago, at Willet's Point, New York, Captain King of the United States Army made an interesting experiment. He took an old gun sixteen feet long, wound it with ten miles of copper wire, and then connected it with an electrical battery. The result was astounding. The old gun, used to

repulsion, the synonym of destruction, only useful when opposed to great forces, had changed its character completely. It now exhibited wonderful attractive power. The cannon-ball that once whistled from its mouth, now by an irresistible force, leaped toward it. The iron and steel which it used to repel were now enticed. In short, Captain King found that the disused gun was the most powerful magnet in the world.

It soon became one of the sights to see cannon-balls, which no man could lift, rise from the ground to the muzzle of the magnet, and it did not take long to find out this wonderful magnet had a lifting power of twenty-two tons.

One of the most interesting experiments was to place a soldier about a foot from the muzzle of the gun and then turn on the current. Great iron spikes would jump from the ground and attach themselves to the silent soldier, who bristled with them all over like a metallic porcupine. Even great cannon-balls would leap up and hang upon him. There he would stand holding up a much greater weight than he could ever possibly lift, and all with no conscious expenditure of strength. This, which was the natural, seemed the wonderful part of the scene, and always impressed the visitor.

For the power was not in the man, but in the magnet behind him. It was simply working through him, and would always do so as long as he stood within the radius of its activity. When he moved away from the magnet the iron would fall from his body, because there was no power in him to sustain it.

There is a beautiful analogy between this magnet and the Great Teacher who said, "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me," and who is to-day to mankind the supreme magnetic center and fountain of moral and spiritual force. They who follow his teachings are made strong to bear burdens they never could bear alone.

OPPORTUNITIES.

In one of the old Greek cities there stood long ago a statue. Every trace of it has vanished now, as is the case with most of those old masterpieces of genius, but there is still in existence an epigram, which gives us an excellent description of it, and as we read the words we can surely discover the lesson which those wise old Greeks meant that the statue should teach to every passer-by. The epigram is in the form of a conversation between a traveler and the statue.

"What is thy name, O statue?"

"I am called Opportunity."

"Who made thee?"

"Lysippus."

"Why art thou standing on thy toes?"

"To show that I stay but for a moment."

"Why hast thou wings on thy feet?"

"To show how quickly I pass by."

"But why is thy hair so long on thy forehead?"

"That men may seize me when they meet me."

"Why, then, is thy head so bald behind?"

"To show that when I have once passed I cannot be caught."—Youth's Companion.

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All true work is sacred; in all true work, were it but true hand labor, there is something of divineness.—Carlyle.

CATARRH OF THE STOMACH.

A Pleasant, Simple, but Safe and Effectual Cure for It

Catarrh of the stomach has long been considered the next thing to incurable. The usual symptoms are a full or bloating sensation after eating, accompanied sometimes with sour or watery risings, a formation of gases, causing pressure on the heart and lungs, and difficult breathing; headaches, fickle appetite, nervousness and a general played-out, languid feeling.

There is often a foul taste in the mouth, coated tongue, and if the interior of the stomach could be seen, it would show a slimy, inflamed condition.

The cure for this common and obstinate trouble is found in a treatment which causes the food to be readily, thoroughly digested before it has time to ferment and irritate the delicate mucous surface of the stomach. To secure a prompt and healthy digestion is the one necessary thing to do, and when normal digestion is secured, the catarrhal condition will have disappeared.

According to Dr. Harlandson the safest and best treatment is to use after each meal a tablet composed of Diastase, Aseptic Pepsin, a little Nux, Golden Seal and fruit acids. These tablets can now be found at all drug stores under the name of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, and not being a patent medicine, can be used with perfect safety and assurance that healthy appetite and thorough digestion will follow their regular use after meals.

Mr. N. J. Booher, of 2710 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill., writes: "Catarrh is a local condition, resulting from a neglected cold in the head, whereby the lining membrane of the nose becomes inflamed and the poisonous discharge therefrom passing backward into the throat, reaches the stomach, thus producing catarrh of the stomach. Medical authorities prescribed for me for three years for catarrh of the stomach without cure; but to-day I am the happiest of men after using only one box of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. I cannot find appropriate words to express my good feeling. I have found flesh, appetite and sound rest from their use.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets is the safest preparation, as well as the simplest and most convenient remedy for any form of indigestion, catarrh of stomach, biliousness, sour stomach, heartburn and bloating after meals.

Send for little book mailed free on stomach troubles, by addressing F. A. Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich. The tablets can be found at all drug stores.

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Has had the same President for nineteen years;

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Has a new Business Principal, Prof. N. E. Adam, B. S. and M. Acct., graduate of Bryan & Stratton's Business College, Louisville, Ky., and several years of successful experience;

Has a Music Department, whose Principal has been over it for eighteen years, and enrolled over one hundred students last session, and will have five teachers this coming school year;

Has an Art teacher whose ability and experience will give her unqualified success;

Has Oratory and Elocution taught by a graduate of one of the best schools of oratory in America;

Has a good boarding facilities suitable for boys and girls, but in separate apartments;

Has everything necessary to illustrate the principles of the sciences—the telescope is the largest in the State, and mounted in an observatory;

Has friends who offer prizes to deserving pupils in certain studies, and has one who gives one hundred dollars to the student that passes the best examination on the studies of the Bible.

Pupils who are able to appreciate such advantages may enter TUESDAY, THE 6th of SEPTEMBER, or as soon after as possible. For particulars or Catalogue, apply to

D. S. SWITZER, President,
Weatherford, Texas.

DEVOTIONAL

WATCHING THE BEGINNINGS.

To be a good Christian one needs to be a good watchman. The watchman's talent is a talent for discerning beginnings—the scarcely visible beginnings of danger. Any dullard will know when the house is in a blaze; you want a watchman who will detect the faint odor of smoke half an hour before the blaze might burst forth. So any dullard in the Christian life will be able to tell when he has fallen into a willful falsehood. What is needed is watchfulness to discern the silent working of the leaven of hypocrisy at the beginning. He that enters Christ's service does not undertake to keep from going to sleep; he undertakes to be on the watch while keeping wide awake—*Sunday-School Times.*

THE ARMOR OF GOD.

We have observed the importance of putting on the whole armor of God. Every part of the armor which God himself has been pleased to provide for His children is absolutely required in order that we may be fully furnished for the conflict. And for this purpose has the armor been provided, that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. That adversary is very subtle and crafty, and he is ever watching that he may get an advantage over us. In order to lay still greater stress on this, the apostle, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, proceeds to say, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood." The battle is not against an army, but "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."—*George Muller.*

WANTS AND NEEDS.

Wants and needs are different things. We often want what we do not need, and need what we do not want. We distinguish between young wants and needs, and "know how to give good gifts to our children." Is not the infinite mind wise enough, and the infinite love strong enough, to subordinate our wants to our needs, and disappoint us in the short run, if need be, to develop and delight us in the long run? Real needs override incidental wants; we can not always have what we please, if we are to have what God pleases—and what is best for us. To want what God wishes is a swift way to have his wishes come true, and to have our real needs amply supplied. — *Sunday-School Times.*

BEAUTIFUL PICTURES.

Some one has compared the memory to a picture gallery, where everything in life is preserved to be seen again in the future. A faithful representation of every scene in the history of one's life is hanging on the walls of this remarkable gallery. Some men may well wish to have these pictures destroyed. A young man went into a western town a few years ago to teach a new method of improving the memory. He called on some of the leading people of the place to secure pupils. Among the men to whom he applied was a prominent lawyer, who heard the young teacher patiently, and then replied, "My memory is too good already. If you have some method whereby one may learn to forget, I will pay a large sum to learn it." He might well have wished to forget, for there was little in his past life which one could wish to recall, and much that must have caused him shame every time he thought of it. An eminent lecturer, whose name is familiar to many, has often been heard to say, "I would willingly give my right hand if I could efface from the tablets of memory certain scenes in my early life." Pity it is that young people should prepare for themselves such a sad experience by their conduct.

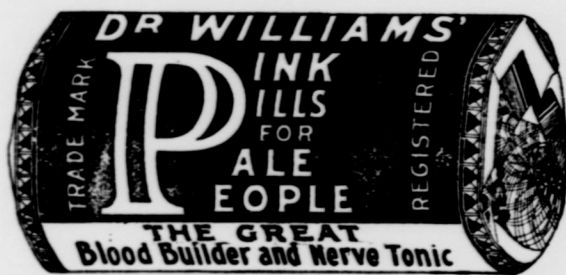
The Christian whose whole life has been devoted to God and right living has no such bitter memories. He can take a stroll through the gallery where all his past life is preserved, and gaze on pictures which no one could wish to blot. Such pictures are of great value. The conversion of the soul is one grand picture. Some can refer to the place where this event occurred. It is always fresh in memory. There is the church, there the minister, there are the people who encouraged him while seeking Christ, and pointed him to the lamb of God. The change which took place when he accepted Christ by faith is as distinct and clear as it was on that memorable day. No painter's art could represent this scene. The place and the people

Heroes of the War with Spain

thousands of them, are suffering from lingering diseases induced by life in poisonous southern camps, the result of changes of climate, or of imperfect nutrition caused by improper and badly cooked food. Sleeping on the ground has doubtless developed rheumatism in hundreds who were predisposed to the disease. In such cases the Boys of '98 may take a lesson from the experience of the

Heroes of the Civil War.

Hundreds of the Boys of '63 have testified to the efficacy of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People in driving out malaria, rheumatism and other diseases contracted during their days of hardship and privation in the army. These pills are the best tonic in the world. By building up the blood and strengthening the nerves they reach the root of many serious diseases.



At druggists or direct from the Dr. Williams Medicine Co. Schenectady, N.Y., 50 cents per box.



Asa Robinson, of Mt. Sterling, Ill., is a veteran of the Civil war, having served in the 83rd Pennsylvania Volunteers. He went to the war a vigorous farmer's boy and came back broken in health, a victim of sciatic rheumatism. Most of the time he was unfitted for manual labor of any kind, and his sufferings were at all times intense. He says, "Nothing seemed to give me permanent relief until three years ago, when my attention was called to some of the wonderful cures effected by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I had not taken more than half a box when I noticed an improvement in my condition, and I keep on improving steadily. To them I owe my restoration to health. They are a grand remedy." —*Mt. Sterling Democrat-Message.*

might be painted, but not the experience. But it is all in the picture. This one memory is worth more to the Christian than all the great pictures in the art galleries of Europe.

Another picture may be entitled "Victory." The Christian can remember a time when he was wronged by a neighbor, deeply, deliberately, wickedly wronged. Years passed and an opportunity came when he could have taken revenge. He had his neighbor in his power, and the tempt-whispered, "Now is your time. He is in your power. Set your foot on his neck and make him pay dearly for his injustice." But the Christian said, "No, I will not harm a hair of his head, for it is written, 'If thine enemy hunger, feed him.'" And turning to the trembling sinner at his feet, he says, "Neither do I condemn thee; go in peace." This scene may have been witnessed only by the two men who were immediately concerned, but the picture of it is imperishable. What would the disciple of Christ take for the memory of such a triumph of grace and manhood?

There is another picture: A few days ago a pastor observed a strange face in the congregation on Sabbath morning. It was a face which would attract attention among a thousand. It was not the face of a young person. The flush of youth had faded long since, and the wrinkles of age had taken its place. But in spite of the fact that it bore the marks of extreme age it was a beautiful face, beaming with intelligence, benevolence, peace and hope. At the close of the service

the pastor learned the name of the hearer who had attracted his attention and called upon her the next day. She had come from California to an Eastern city with her son, whose business engagements brought him there. Her story of a life all spent in the service of God, of rich experiences in the ways of the Lord, interested him intensely. In a few days he received word that she was sick unto death, and hastened to call. The scene which he witnessed was one on which an angel might pause in his swift journey to behold. Dying among strangers in a strange city, this aged saint was unspeakably happy. When prayer was proposed she said, "Yes, pray, but especially give thanks, give thanks." The pastor knelt and gave thanks for a Savior who is able to save unto the uttermost, for the hope which is as an anchor of the soul, and for a home in heaven, not far away. When he had concluded she took up the strain, and from an overflowing heart gave thanks to the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, saying, "We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, most high." In great feebleness of body, but great joy of spirit, she gave thanks without ceasing, until she could say no more. How different from the wail of despair which is forced from the lips of the pagan when confronted by the king of terrors! How different from the sullen silence with which he meets death who has lived without hope and without God in the world! How different from the expressions of doubt and fear which escape from some who have

professed to be followers of Christ, but have served the world!

"O for the death of those Who slumber in the Lord."

—*Christian Advocate, N. Y.*

THOUGHTLESSNESS IN CHURCH.

Have you, who whisper during prayers, ever thought that the preacher was talking to God, therefore you should be silent?

Have you, who talk during the reading of God's word, ever thought that God is talking to you through His minister?

Disrespect to God's ministers and his sanctuary is irreverence. Now, this thoughtlessness on the part of those who attend church may not be prompted by an utter disregard for the divine services, but it has that appearance.

We are commanded to avoid even the appearance of evil. We take it that when Christians so far forget the place as to engage in conversation during the services they are lacking in interest in the Lord's cause, and we cannot marvel at the misbehavior of those who make no pretensions to religion.—*Edworth League Union Herald, Pittsburg.*

"Let all the world in every corner sing,

My God and King.

God shall be my hope,

My stay, my guide and lantern to my feet." —*Shakespeare.*

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There have been unavoidable delays in mailing the Advocate during the sessions of the conferences. This accounts for delays in receipt of paper on the usual days at many offices in Texas. We hope soon to resume our regular mailing day.

We wish to record our high appreciation of the courtesy and kindness of the Dallas and the Galveston Daily Newses extended to us at the time of our election to the editorship of this paper. These two journals gave considerable space to many complimentary things concerning us, and their thoughtful consideration will not soon be forgotten. These two great dailies are among the most enterprising news mediums of the South, and they are worthy of the large success they have achieved. We take pleasure in reciprocating the courtesy thus bestowed.

We are sorry to note the destruction by fire of the church and district parsonage at Bonham last Sunday night. The presiding elder, Dr. Pierce, preached in the church at both the morning and evening hours, and about 10 o'clock at night the fire was discovered, and both properties were swept away. Fortunately, there was insurance on both, and rebuilding will begin at once. However, the calamity will prevent the family of Dr. Pierce moving to Bonham for some time yet.

Rev. A. S. Andrews, D. D., of the Alabama Conference, died suddenly last Sunday was a week ago. He was a great man and did much throughout his life for the Methodist Church, not only in his own State, but throughout the South.

Rev. Jesse Bowman Young, D. D., editor of the Central Christian Advocate of the M. E. Church, published at St. Louis, called to see us in our absence. We exceedingly regret to have missed him. In Kansas City we were good friends and co-pastors. A finer man than Dr. Young would be hard to find. Rev. Henry L. Steves, of the Tabernacle Church, this city, was with him. Come again, brethren.

TEXAS PERSONALS.

A note from Prof. S. V. Wall, Honey Grove, says: "Bro. Stafford is making a fine impression on the people of Honey Grove."

A pleasant note from Rev. R. A. Reagan, of the Belmont Circuit, West Texas Conference, is hereby acknowledged. Bro. Reagan is starting off well on his work, and he is much pleased with his people.

Revs. C. T. Cummings and L. H. Metcalf, of the East Texas Conference, collected from every Advocate subscriber in their respective charges, Thanks. The Advocate appreciates such agents.

Rev. J. M. Ferry, of the East Texas Conference, is a strong friend of the Advocate, besides collecting all the money due the paper on his work, he invested \$14 in placing the paper in homes where it was needed. He considers it a splendid investment.

Rev. F. B. Sinex, the active Financial Agent of Southwestern University, was in the city the past week. He reports encouragingly on his work. He is now arranging for a tour of Texas with Bishop Galloway during January and February, beginning at Dallas, January 14 and 15.

Miss Mary Womack Dashiell and Mr. Frederick Thomas Porter were united in marriage in Terrell, Texas, December 7, 1898. The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Dashiell. The Advocate tenders hearty congratulations and trusts the young couple may enjoy a long and happy life.

It will be observed that Rev. J. B. Gober has been transferred to Whitesboro Station. It is with a pang of deep regret that the people of Savoy and Ector lose such an exemplary pastor as Bro. Gober, but our best and earnest wishes follow him and his estimable family to their new field of labor.—The Savoy Banner.

Rev. J. M. McCarter delivered his valedictory sermon at the M. E. Church Sunday night. Of course, the Annual Conference may send him back to DeKalb for another year, and we voice the general sentiment of our people when we say that we hope it will see fit to do so. Bro. McCarter is strong, eloquent and noticeably discreet in his pulpit utterances. He is a close student and never fails to give his auditors something interesting, original and instructive to think about.—DeKalb Letter Writer.

Greenville will receive Rev. J. W. Hill with pleasure at Wesley, while extending the warm hand of friendship to Rev. F. A. Rosser, who has done a good work and endeared himself to the hearts of the whole town. May he have a good time in his new home. Rev. J. W. Hill is no stranger here, having been here before and spent last year here. He will be welcomed by all, both in and out of the Church. Kavanaugh keeps Rev. J. F. Pierce, who has been an acceptable pastor.—Greenville Banner.

At 10 a. m., at Bass & Bros.' drug store, the Board of Stewards of the Methodist Church presented Rev. E. H. Casey a handsome silver service. In well-chosen words Dr. Bass made the presentation speech, to which Bro. Casey replied in his happy style. We are more than pleased at this manifestation of esteem from Bro. Casey's Church. He has certainly done a good work at Terrell, and we regret his departure. We sincerely trust that he will find a delightful home in McKinney and that unbounded success may attend his consecrated labors for the Master. During his short sojourn Bro. Casey and family have greatly endeared themselves to the community.—Terrell Index.

Rev. O. P. Kiker returned from the Annual Methodist Episcopal Conference at Brownwood on Wednesday morning. He has been assigned to Killeen and Nolanville, in the Gatesville District, where he went with his family yesterday morning. The membership here regret very much to give him up, and tried hard to have him returned. He is an earnest worker, and we heartily commend him and his amiable wife and child to the people of Killeen, and wherever duty calls him we join his innumerable friends on this circuit in wishing him well.—Blum Herald.

Bro. O. P. Kiker filled the regular appointment at the Methodist Church here Sunday at 11 and at night. He is quite an interesting and instructive preacher, and from the number of favorable comments we have heard as to his preaching, we are led to believe he will always have good congregations.—Killeen Herald.

Rev. and Mrs. S. W. Turner have kindly invited us to attend the marriage of their daughter, Miss Julia to Mr. John H. Garner, the ceremony to take place in the Methodist Church at Cisco, Dec. 21. Bro. Turner is the pastor of the Church at Cisco. We extend congratulations to the young couple and a hearty God speed.

Rev. and Mrs. John A. Beagle extend us an invitation to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Zana, to Mr. Henry A. Mann, to take place in Texarkana on the 21st of this month. We wish the happy couple much joy. Bro. Beagle has been pastor of our Church in Texarkana, but this year he goes to Crockett, Texas.

A Bastrop correspondent of the Galveston News says, under date of Dec. 10: "Rev. Ira M. Brice and family left for Flatonia this week, greatly to the sorrow of many warm friends who have learned to love them and who have enjoyed associating with them through the past year of his pastoral service for the Methodist congregation here. It is regretted that the conference did

not send them back for another year. At the same time a hearty welcome awaits the new pastor, Rev. Nathan Powell, transferred to Texas from Tennessee, and lately stationed at Galveston. He is announced to preach his first sermon to his new flock to-morrow evening.

Dr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Christian, of Houston, have announced the marriage of their daughter, Miss Ora Gilliam, to Dr. Woodson Newton Murphy, to take place in Shearn Methodist Church, Houston on Dec. 21. God bless the young couple in their happy union.

MISSIONARIES FROM THE UNITED STATES SOWED THE SEEDS THAT SET BULGARIA FREE AND THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM IS MOVING ON.

London, Dec. 5.—Writing under date of November 14, from Constantinople, William T. Stead, journalist, says:

"Judged by results the Spanish war has made mighty little return for a prodigious expenditure compared with the returns already realized and to be realized from the peaceful campaign which America is waging in the Ottoman Empire. By an expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars, and the sacrifice of over 2000 men the United States has succeeded in ousting the moribund sovereignty of Spain from a couple of islands near her own shores and of raising a question as to her continued dominion in the Philippines. The results achieved by the infliction of hideous suffering upon the unfortunate islanders whose relief was the main object of the war, small though they be, represent probably the best and quickest dividend ever earned by modern war.

"Compare this result with those achieved by the Americans, who for the last thirty years have been patiently, silently laboring for the regeneration of that vast composit of wrecked kingdoms principalities and nationalities called the Ottoman Empire. Thirty years ago a couple of Americans, Christian men, with heads on their shoulders, settled in Turkey and set about teaching on American methods the rising youth of the East in an institution called the Robert College. They had never from that day to this had at their command a greater income than \$30,000 or \$40,000 a year.

"They have taken no hand in politics. They have abstained from identifying themselves with any sect, nationality or party. They have stuck to their appointed task, and they are still sticking to it. They have insisted that every student within their walls shall be thoroughly trained on the American principles, which, since they were imported by the men of the Mayflower, have well-nigh made the tone of the world. They taught all these students five languages, but they never hesitated to proclaim that, though they spoke with all the tongues under heaven, it was but foolishness, unless the moral and spiritual character of the student was trained and molded by religious men. Moral development, spiritual discipline, is the more essential part of education. The true object of a college education is the development of the faculties and the formation of character. That was their line and they have stuck to it now for thirty-four years.

GRADUATES DO GREAT WORK.

"With what result that American college is to-day the chief hope of the future of the millions who inhabit the Sultan's dominions. They have two hundred students in the college to-day, but they have trained and sent out into the world thousands of bright, brainy young fellows who have carried the leaven of the American town meeting into all the provinces of the Ottoman Empire. Robert College men are turning up everywhere. If the good work goes on, the alumni of this American institution will be able to supply the personnel of the civilized administration which must some day supersede the barbaric horror that is at present misnamed the government of Turkey.

"The one great thing done in the making of States in the last quarter of the century was the creation of the Bulgarian principality. But the Bulgarian principality, the resurrection of the Bulgarian nationality, although materially achieved by the sword of the liberating and avenging hordes of Russia, was due primarily to the Robert College. It was the Americans who sowed the seed. It was the men of Robert College who took into Bulgaria the glad news of a good time coming, when Bulgaria would be free. When the Turks, scared by the propaganda of liberty, descended in savage wrath upon the helpless people with sword and flame and worse than bestial lusts to eradicate the new born national

aspirations, it was the Americans who brought the whole horrible truth to the light of day. Mr. Disraeli, then premier of England, lied about it in his place in Parliament, not even scrupling to falsify dispatches and betray the confidence of his own country in order to shield the Turk. All was in vain. Robert College men were on the spot. Their chief was in constant communication with the ambassadors and journalists at Constantinople. They found in Mr. Pears, an English barrister of high standing, a correspondent of the Daily News, a man fearless and capable enough to stand the brunt of making the awful exposure. What followed is a matter of history.

THEY BROUGHT OUT THE TRUTH.

"The revelation of the truth, about the Bulgarian massacre shattered, as by dynamite, the traditional policy of England. Mr. Gladstone sprang into the field. The Russian people, moved to its depth by the stories of the sufferings of their brethren, could not be restrained. The Czar liberator carried the Russian arms in triumph to the very gates of Stamboul. Nor did they return till by the treaty of San Stefano they had created that Bulgarian principality which had been dreamed out on the astral plane by the students of the American college.

"When the Russian army of liberation returned home after the peace was signed they passed down the Bosphorus; and as each huge transport, crowded with the war-worn veterans of the Balkan battlefields, steamed past the picturesque crag of Roumeli Husai, on which the Robert College sits enthroned, they one and all did homage to the institution which had made Bulgaria possible, by cheering lustily and causing the military bands to play American airs. It was the tribute of the artificer in blood and iron to the architects on whose designs they had builded the Bulgarian State.

"But the influence of the American college did not stop there. When the Constitutional Assembly met at Tirnova to frame the constitution for the new born State, it was the Robert College graduates who succeeded in giving the new constitution its extreme democratic character, and when, after the Russians left, the Bulgarians began to do their own governing, it was again the American trained men who displayed the spirit of independence which baffled and angered the Russian Generals. From that time to this day when one Robert College man is prime minister of Bulgaria and another is Bulgarian minister at Constantinople, while a third, one of the ablest of them, is Bulgarian minister at Athens, the Robert College has been a nursery for Bulgarian statesmen. So marked indeed has been the influence of this one institution, there are some who say that of all the results of the Crimean war nothing was of such permanent importance as the fact that it attracted to Constantinople a plain American citizen from New York.

AMERICAN INFLUENCE GROWING.

"The influence of the United States in the East is by no means confined to Robert College. There are other institutions founded by Americans at Constantinople which are working quite as well as the Robert College, but as they educate girls instead of boys, they will not make their political influence felt until the sons of the students come to man's estate. But it is not only at Constantinople that the Americans are at work. They are at the present moment almost the only people who are doing any good for humanity in Asiatic Turkey. The German Kaiser has fraternized with the assassin, and arm in arm with the infidel, proclaimed his divine mission to protect the Christians of the East whom this friend and host has been massacring by the thousands for the last four years. But the only protection the poor unfortunate Christians receive is from English-speaking men. I grieve to say it, but it is for the most part quite true that until the other day England did no good to any one in Asia Minor. Of late the English people have wakened up and are now spending scores of thousands of pounds in charity in that country.

"But the only real good which the English did in these regions for many years was confined to this: Our British consuls helped the American missionaries when they got into difficulties. People speak as if the Anglo-American alliance was a peaceful dream to be realized in the remote future. If they lived in Asia Minor they would discover that it is a very practical working factor in the daily life of millions of men.

"How many American citizens, I wonder, are aware that from the slopes of Mount Ararat all the way to the shores of the blue Aegean Sea American missionaries have scattered broadcast over

all the distressful land the seed of American principles? The Russians know it and regard the fact with anything but complacency. When Gen. Mosseloff, the director of the foreign faiths within the Russian Empire, visited Etchmiadzin, on the confines of Turkish Armenia, the American patriarch spread before him a map of Asia Minor which was marked all over with American colleges, American churches, American schools and American missions.

ARE WORKING ENERGETICALLY.

"They are busy everywhere, teaching, preaching, begetting new life in these Asiatic races. No one hears of them. They eschew politics. They stick to their Bible and their spelling book, but every year an increasing number of Americans and other Orientals issue from the American schools familiar with the principles of the declaration of independence and the fundamental doctrines of the American Constitution. And so the leaven is spreading throughout the whole land.

"Of course such heavy new wine cannot be poured into the very old bottles of Turkish provinces without making itself felt. The Armenians, a vain and clever race, soon become swell-headed. What Bulgarians had done they thought Armenians could do. As the Robert College men had created an independent Bulgaria, they, in their turn, would show they could create an independent Armenia. So they set to work; but, alas! although they did their part of the work bravely enough, Russia this time was in no mood to come to their rescue. So the Sultan fell upon them in his wrath and delivered them over to the Bashi-Bazouk and the Kurd. What followed is written in letters of blood and fire across the recent history of the East.

"But the end is not yet. The American missionaries who took no part in the abortive insurrection were not as a whole much molested. They are working on, teaching, preaching, sowing the seed day by day, creating the forces which will in time overturn the Turkish Empire and regenerate the East. The Turk knows it and gnashes his teeth, longing for the time to come when he may have it out with the cursed Giaour from beyond the sea. But beyond the American missionary stands the British and the Sultan fears to give the signal for extirpation. Even as it is, the American missionaries have not come off scot free. Oscar Strauss, the United States Minister, has to collect some \$100,000 due as compensation for the destruction of American property during the recent troubles. The money is yet to be paid. It cost the Sultan \$3,000,000 to entertain his friend, the Kaiser. How can he spare \$100,000 to compensate the pestilent American?"

"I shall never forget the intense conviction with which a fanatical friend of the Sultan once declared to me that there would never be a solution of the Eastern question until an American missionary was impaled and his wife and daughters were flung into the Pasha's harem. He spoke more truly than he knew. Because within one month of such an outrage becoming known to the American people the warships which swept the fleets of Spain from the sea would have forced the Dardenelles and exacted reparation at the cannon's mouth from the assassin of Stamboul.

"And perhaps in the possibility of such a contingency happening any day lies the highest hope that humanity has for the extinction of the devastating despotism of the Turkish horde."

HOWE.

A. W. Gibson, Dec. 6: I believe we are justifiable in some instances in being jealous. Paul says there is a godly jealousy. Writing to the Corinthians he says: "I am jealous over you with godly jealousy." I have been returned to the Howe charge, and this people are so kind, true and good that I am jealous over them. I believe I am justifiable in this act. They accept their preacher as one sent from God. They greeted me with open hands and hearts. This warm reception makes a man feel like doing his best for them. O, how we pray that we may feed the flock of God. People wanting to be fed Sabbath after Sabbath, their souls longing for the bread of life—who is sufficient for these things? May the good Lord help me to study and pray, so that I may meet the soul's demand. Our people pray for their pastor (and how the preacher's heart is cheered when a prayer is offered for him), and they answer their own prayers as far as they can. The kind ladies of Howe Church gathered at the parsonage last Saturday evening, and many tokens of

kindness did they leave behind them; some money for the preacher, as well as flour, turkey, canned goods and such like for the culinary department. God bless the donors.

SOUTH TEMPLE.

J. M. Armstrong, Dec. 12: We have been accorded a warm welcome on our return to this charge for the fourth year. Our "pounding" comes gradually and steadily, but it comes, nevertheless. A nice place to study has been arranged at the church for the pastor by the ladies. It is carpeted, furnished with book-case, secretary, chair, etc. We mean to study more than ever. The people seem determined to make this the best of the four years. Amen!

THE MINISTRY OF THE RELIGIOUS PAPER.

A religious paper should be in every home, and by this we mean a denominational paper representing the church to which the family or members of the family may belong. It should be read by every member in the home who can read. Parents who fail to provide the home with such a paper are recreant to a sacred obligation, the fulfillment of which is essential to good influence in the home. It is better to be deprived of some things which may be considered "necessaries" than to be without good reading.

The church member who does not read his denominational paper will soon become shriveled, narrow, anti-missionary, and then go into "innocuous desuetude." On the other hand, a church member who reads, and becomes an agent in his church for a religious paper, is a benefactor. He is performing a service for Christ and the church which is second to none. A pastor who will from time to time call the attention of his people to important articles, special numbers, and will urge upon his congregation the value and need of taking a religious paper, and will then follow it up with a little earnest solicitation, will strengthen himself among them. They will become informed, appreciative and responsive to the denomination and to Christ.—Arthur T. Fowler, in the Standard.

READ THE BIBLE SLOWLY.

Slow reading is essential for the mastery of books. The Rev. F. W. Robertson says: "I never knew but one or two fast readers and readers of many books, whose knowledge was worth anything. I read hard, or not at all, never skimming, never turning aside to merely inviting books; and Plato, Aristotle, Thucydides, Sterne and Jonathan Edwards have passed like the iron atoms of the blood into my mental constitution."

Harriet Martineau says herself: "I am the slowest of readers, sometimes a page an hour." But then, what she read she made her own. We must read slowly, with deep thought, earnest prayer and the help of the Holy Spirit, in order to get the treasures of divine truth which are incorporated even in the shortest and seemingly simplest sentences of the word of God.

We must put away even good books which stand in the way of reading the best book of all—God's book. A college professor used to startle his class by saying, "Young gentlemen, do not waste your time over good books." Of course, the boys would ask, "How can there be such a waste?" But deeper thought would show them that if any one gives time even to good books at the cost of neglecting the best, there is deplorable waste.—Gateways to the Bible.

CONSTRUCTIVE GOODNESS.

The forces which make for righteousness are always stronger than those which are against it. The power of God is never destructive of good, though sometimes it seems to be. For always and everywhere "the face of the Lord is against them that do evil." His strength is not like the sea where it gnaws away the cliff, and greedily sucks down the fertile fields; but like the sea where every tide flings up new treasures, and as the years roll by, adds new acres of soil on which golden harvests may grow. God's work on the side of good is always constructive!

This God is our God. He has revealed himself in Jesus Christ, whose character is our ideal, whose atonement is our salvation, whose resurrection is our hope, whose teaching and work constitute the pattern of ours, and whose saving of souls is our aim. He is to us no mere historic Man, but the ever-living Son of God, who fulfills his promise, "Lo! I am with you always."—Rev. Alfred Rowland.

A PREACHER'S REPORT

Interesting Statement by Elder Joel H. Austin of Goshen, Ind.

"I was a victim of catarrh and had almost constant pain in my head. The trouble was gradually working down on my lungs. I was weak and irresolute. My wife had the grip and Hood's Sarsaparilla cured her. After this I had the same disease and resorted to Hood's. In a short time the aches and pains were relieved and I also saw the medicine was helping my catarrh. In six weeks I ceased to have any further trouble with it and I am now a well man. The pains and bloating I had in my limbs are gone and I am relieved of a heart trouble. I am thankful for a medicine so intelligently compounded and so admirably adapted to the needs of the system." **ELDER JOEL H. AUSTIN, Goshen, Indiana.**

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E. E. Hoss, L.L. D., editor Nashville Christian Advocate, February 28th, 1898, says: "I have known Prof. S. V. Wall, formerly of Tennessee, for many years, and it gives me sincere pleasure to say that he is a man of the highest character, and a teacher of large experience and success. The fact that his pupils are received at Vanderbilt University without examination or other conditions beyond his certificate of their fitness, is a better testimonial than any words of mine can be. I cordially commend him to all with whom he may have to do."

Rev. I. W. Clark, P. E. Terrell District, North Texas Conference, says: "I prefer the **WALL SCHOOL** at Honey Grove to all schools in Texas or out of it."

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The creative genius and business enterprise of the American people challenge the admiration of the world. In 1853 Henry B. Plant, then in the express business in New York city, undertook to bring his invalid wife to Florida for her health. The trip from Jacksonville to St. Augustine had to be made in a dugout. Losing their way they were compelled to spend the night in the swamp. Recognizing at once the difficulties and possibilities of the then almost unknown state of Florida, except as connected with alligators, Spanish occupation, and Seminole Indians, this man of invincible faith and indomitable will set to work to make a highway where there was none, and to open an artery of trade with the West Indies and Central America. The Plant system has been the result, "thirteen railway lines, extending several thousand miles, nine steamboat and steamship lines from Nova Scotia to Jamaica and six large hotels," besides wharves, docks, repair shops, orange groves and farms, in all employing over 12,000 workmen, and, including children, supporting an aggregate of 60,000 souls.

The Tampa Bay Hotel is itself one of the wonders of the western world—built in Moorish style, with its miles of corridors and porches, its hundreds of columns, fenestrated windows and minarets. When it bursts out with its thousands of electric lights, or seems to float in the moonlight upon the river bank, the tourist might easily think himself in front of the old Alhambra or amid the gardens and palaces of Constantinople. While we can neither commend nor condone that luxury which is built upon extravagance and which must inevitably enervate, yet we gratefully acknowledge the auxiliary forces of a civilization which make it possible to carry the gospel with dispatch and economy into the regions beyond. If it were not for such men we might still be treading the swamps and fording the rivers of undeveloped territory within the bounds of our own country. As it is, within a few days after the cessation of the hostilities and before the evacuation of Cuba we are able to move forward to the religious occupation of the island.

At 8 p. m. Monday night, November 15, Bishop and Mrs. Candler, Dr. Fulwood and I boarded the train for Port Tampa, ten miles down the bay. Here we found another hotel, not so magnificent as the one referred to, but unique in that it is built in piles over the sea and yet has every equipment for the entertainment of passengers. It was along its front and upon these wharves and docks that I had the pleasure in July of distributing tracts and Testaments to our soldiers who were embarking for Porto Rico. Not one refused, and many showed the kindest appreciation. One young fellow spoke of his mother in far off Michigan and heartily wished he had listened more earnestly to her patient admonitions.

At 9:30 our steamer, the Mascotte, cast off and we floated out on the dark tide, unrelieved save by the reflection of the disappearing lights or the phosphorescent wake behind us. On deck all was confusion—a medley of trunks, bird cages, bundles of clothing and lunch baskets in dangerous proximity to hungry looking dogs. In the social hall on one sofa was a young soldier suffering from acute rheumatism, on another two West India negro women—black as coal—and in a corner the wife of a Cuban general. Bishop and Mrs. Candler were fortunate in getting a stateroom. Dr. Fulwood sought refuge on a sofa in the after saloon, and I secured a cot among some soldiers in the dining saloon. Before turning in for the night I took a long look at the silent stars and sent messages to the loved ones in the dear old Tennessee home. He who can direct the sweet influences of the Pleiades or gird the bands of Orion can watch over those whom we place in his charge and keep for he neither slumbers nor sleeps.

The grey dawn fell upon the forms of full twenty men stretched about me. The nearest was a negro with a frame for a Hercules, in ebony, the next a Cuban merchant, the third an artilleryman from Wisconsin. One bowl for the crowd, but fortunately the steward served a dozen towels. A line was formed, beginning with the man next the wash bowl. I was third. When my turn came a big double-fisted soldier pushed in ahead and seized the bowl. Before a word could be said a powerful hand grasped his shoulder and whirled him round. "Fall back into your place and respect the rights of a gentleman." I looked up and recognized the face of a lieutenant to whom a little kindness had been shown a few minutes before, thanked him and proceeded without further interrup-

tion. The lieutenant, in full uniform, had slept in the passway between cotton sheets, as he was a modest man and the place a public one. The consequence was an appearance of his having been in a cotton gin, much to the amusement of his companions. My clothes brush had helped make him presentable again, and the favor had won a friend.

It was not long before we discovered that our fellow-passengers formed some interesting groups. At the breakfast table next to ours sat Gen. Green and his staff—an engineering corps going in advance of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee's division. In this corps was Lieut. Lee, the General's son, a slender young man of twenty-five, perhaps, with an active step and an intelligent face. Another member was Col. Young, son of Brigham Young, of Salt Lake City. The Colonel looked to be fifty years of age, had grey eyes, light brown hair, a Roman nose, a strong determined face, square shoulders and stout, well-set limbs. There was a serious, determined look about his face and force of character in his stride. His subordinates spoke of him as a man of ability, justice and kindness. He spent the day in pouring over a typewritten letter book with photograph illustrations of harbors and fortifications upon the Cuban coast. One thing was notable—wine was not used at meals by any of these officers—a worthy example to set the rank and file who unfortunately exhibited an inordinate thirst for strong drink long before breakfast was served. In marked contrast to Col. Young was the Mormon Chaplain of the regiment to which some of these soldiers belonged, a man heartily despised, and one who had no right, either civil or religious, to such an appointment.

A group of West India negroes interested me much. The women had small heads, an approach to an oval face, the lips were thinner, the nose not so broad, and the whole countenance more angular and expressive than is usual with the African. The type was a different one from that of the black belt of the Southern States. All wore circular ear-rings of gold, all spoke Spanish fluently and several wore the mantilla thrown over the head and shoulders.

The Cuban deck passengers did not impress me favorably. But allowances must be made for a sensual life added to long privation and migratory habits growing out of successive revolutions. These were refugees returning to their native land. The women looked careworn and poorly nourished, while the men were thin visaged and showed the effect of strong coffee and incessant smoking. The women, in addition to the care of their children, had Canary birds and poodles, fruit and bundles of clothing. A brace of game chickens, owned by one of the men, called forth unstinted admiration. As I studied these poor creatures and thought of the life they were going back to I thanked God that the gospel is the power of God unto the salvation of every one that believeth, and that in the strength of divine grace we can plan and pray for the redemption of soul and body.

One passenger on the Mascotte had associated with her name and that of Cuba a story which reads like a romance. Evangelina Cisneros, the heroine of the revolution, was also on her homeward voyage. The world has heard of her patriotism, her imprisonment by a merciless tyrant, and of her rescue by Karl Decker. In a later letter I may repeat her story. As I looked at her face there seemed a shadow of sadness which even her ill health could not explain. It was a wistful, unsatisfied look. Her need, perhaps, is that of her fair island—peace, the peace which comes from resting in God.

Key West, Fla.

NATH EXHORTS.

I heard many good things at Conference, but among the best a bright young brother gave me a warm handshake and said, "I was converted last year during the conference at Cuero." Praise the Lord and may somebody else be born at this one said I. It is no good sign, brethren, when a lot of preachers get together and no sinner won to Christ. I know some of you think I am old fogey, but the trouble is you are a young fogey. Why, in Asbury's time souls were converted at the General Conference. O, for a revival which shall sweep up to that.

I didn't start out to write along here, but believe I will follow my pen a little ways and see where it will go. To make the matter worse some of you are already saying impossible. But I tell you, in the name of the living God and needs of a dying world, it is possible.

It is a sin and a shame that Southern Methodism wins so few souls to Christ during a year. Well may we

ponder and wonder and pray. We ought not to think of bringing a single one less than ten times as many precious souls to Christ every year.

The leaves, for the healing of the nations, on the Methodist tree are withering a little at the top. There is not enough life there and along down her trunk to put out many new branches.

I know it is easy to talk and especially to find fault with other folks, but just take what I say for what it is worth weighed in the scales of a sensible and spiritual mind.

I belong to the concern. God helped me settle that thing during my senior year at school. What God helps me settle I don't stir any more. My all is on her altar, my past, my present, my possible future. If she dies, my breath shall go out with her; if she bleeds, then my heart bleeds; if she limps, I shall be a crutch beneath her; if she starves, our bones shall bleach together; if she lives and she will, I want to be a lively and fruitful twig somewhere on her boughs. I believe in her and am as anxious of her purity as I was of my own mother. I believe in her and will freely give my own life blood if need be to make her a power for God. I believe in her and would willingly wear rags, as I am doing, that she may be rich in deeds of good.

I believe in her educational interests from our proud and powerful Vanderbilt to our poorest district school. I believe in her secretaryship, and Secretary of Education, Dr. Hammond. I believe in her Church Extension and Dr. Whisner.

Thank God for every Church home that shelters our Methodist family.

I believe in the Epworth League, the "Era," and Dr. DuBose. He is a Niagara. I believe in her Sunday-school work and workers. I believe in her Bishops from Keener to Candler, and on through Morrison. I believe in Bishop Halsey, Paine and Lane Institute and the Haygood Memorial Hall. That school is and will continue more so to be a good factor in the race troubles of the South. If I had a million dollars I would put it there to-morrow.

We have got secretaries for nearly everything in creation, traveling through our connection and our conferences, talking, preaching, praying, printing and pushing their part of the programme for all they and we too are worth. They have educated us, and edified us, and anniversaried us and demoneyized us, until we have become very much interested and enthused over those things and they are worthy of it, every bit.

But, brethren, we need a secretary of salvation or conversion. A sinner can be saved without schools, church houses, parsonages, leagues, Sunday-school literature and such like, but he must be converted. Now, if these other things are so important that we need employ one of our best men to study and stir us up on their special subject, then why not a man for this more important work. If the rank and file of the preachers are to tend to this more important work without the help of a special stirrer, then why not risk them with the less important. My brethren, we are magnifying the minimum and minimizing the maximum.

Well has there gone up a wail from the lips of many on account of our fruitlessness. We had better wail now than to wait later. I don't know whether I have much sense or not, but this I do know, I want to do the will of God and preach and live the gospel of his Son. The receipt for saving souls has in it many of the ingredients which go to build colleges, scholarships, churches, leagues and literature. What are some of these? Willingness, work, prayer, study, suffering, unselfishness. If some of us studied as hard to win souls for Christ as we did to build schools, we would win souls. If we anniversaried as much on men's hearts at conferences as we do on their brains and purses we would get their hearts like we get their heads and money.

What better inspiration can a set of preachers get at conference for their next year's work than would come from the mourner's bench and new born souls?

Some of you may think I am writing for fun, but I tell you I am indeed earnest.

Brethren, we are not extra wheeled nor overburdened; what we need is not to take off nor unload but steam up.

Two or three customers can compel any dealer to keep Macbeth's lamp-chimneys.

Does he want your chimneys to break?

Get the Index.

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AND
Conservatory of Music.

This being the tenth year of Mrs. Lucy Kidd Key's connection with the

North Texas Female College,

she thought to mark it by an increase in the number of Volumes in the Library and inaugurate a plan to make it one of the prominent features of the institution.

Among other means to that end she requested each alumnae to give a book, or set of books, with the name inscribed and date when her degree was taken, to be preserved as a gift from her to her Alma Mater.

A number of books have been received from friends, who are not graduates; and three volumes, Macaulay's Essays, sent by Mrs. Willie Mountcastle, Sherman, came at once.

"Interest has no sound to its footsteps, but travels fast," and is a vital spark, imparting life and success to an undertaking.

MRS. L. A. KIDD KEY,

PRESIDENT.

SHERMAN, TEXAS.

We need power; God has it; will we get it? I am not speaking to the audience now. I want to get right down among you and open my heart and pour it in yours. Don't get insulted at that. I aint talking about pouring my brains in your head.

Our leaders must be first and foremost in this great work. If our Bishops don't do and emphasize by sermons and searching for sinners, the presiding elders are not going to be particular on that point either. As the presiding elders set the fashion the preachers follow, and the people will rise no higher than the pulpit in this precious but not prominent enough work.

I fully appreciate the proverb that "children should be seen and not heard," but fathers, won't you let one of your boys speak out of his heart? I mean no harm.

Our standing on this vital and momentous question is just where leaders and creators of sentiment have put us. Purposely? No, but some other way. I know not how to define with one word, or even exactly with a sentence. But here is a fact, and you can furnish the philosophy. Seldom is our preaching at conferences done by men of soul-winning capacity. I ought not to use that word, capacity, because I believe many of them have capacity if they would apply it, but the fact remains they have not done it nor inspired others only in their own way.

Seldom are men of special revival power found in the presiding elderships. Many of what we call leading stations are filled by men noted not for their winning-sinners-to-Christ-power, but simply for edifying and socializing the saints, while hundreds of sinners are growing more set in sin every day, under the shadow of their sanctuary. Some of the saints have been edified till they are petrified as far as getting a sinner to be a Christian is concerned.

What are we going to do about it? Get close to God and the Godless. Whenever you wander from one you lose the other. Let us all go to the mourner's bench of humiliation and confession, Bishops, connectional men, editors, presiding elders, station preachers, circuit drivers and laymen and laywomen all, find God in forgiveness, plead with him for power, then get up and go kneel at the feet of the first sinner you see, ask his forgiveness, lay your hand of love on his shoulder, look at him through a diamond tear of sincerity, beg him to come and go with you to a better life and the better land.

If the ministry and members of Southern Methodism will do that they would wake up a hell full of sleepy devils, a world full of indifferent sinners and heaven would burst her harps with joy. Yours, NATH.

Sunday-School Dept.

Address all communications for the Sunday-School Department to Rev. F. B. Carroll, D. D., Georgetown, Texas

Fourth Quarter, Lesson 13, Dec. 25.

CHRISTMAS LESSON, DEC. 25. Hebrews 1:1-9.

Golden Text: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord."—Luke 2:11.

GOD SPEAKING UNTO US BY HIS SON.

The coming of Jesus into the world was the fulfillment of all the types and prophecies of the Old Testament relating to the world's promised Deliverer; it established also a new era, the great turning point in the religious history of mankind. The great personality of Jesus, the Savior that came in the fullness of the times, now occupies the thought and worship of the Christian world. Upon this wonderful Savior, what God did by him, and what he is and did for us, we fix our minds on this very day that celebrates his coming into the world. No where else, perhaps, in the entire Bible do we find a more sublime representation of Christ and his work than in these opening verses of the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Verse 1—"God who at sundry times"—that is, in many parts, giving portions of revelation from time to time, according to His own infinite wisdom. The one Greek word rendered "sundry times" literally means many parts, or portions. And so the Old Testament revelation was given, not all at once, but in many parts, as the many books of the Bible, and its many authors, now show us. And he spake in "divers manners"—that is, in many ways, by many figures and forms of speech; by types and shadows, by institutions, by visions and dreams, and by direct words. In all these ways "He spake unto the fathers"—the founders and rulers of the Hebrew race—"by the prophets"—the great inspired spiritual teachers and leaders of the people.

Verse 2—"But in these last days"—the days of the Gospel age or dispensation that shall make the last days, the concluding chapter of God's dealing with men on the earth—"He hath spoken unto us by his Son." Literally, "in a Son." God has but one Son, who is the heir of all things, his only-begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. In Him, in these last days, this final age, God has spoken to us. By the very fact of the incarnation of Christ, he has spoken to us more powerfully than in all the preceding events of human history. It was God himself, coming down to our human nature, manifesting himself in human flesh, and submitting to the conditions and limitations of our earthly life. Then Jesus, in his person and character, is the "Word of God," the fullest possible utterance, as we shall presently see, of the mind and likeness of the Eternal Father. And by all the events of the human life of Jesus, so sinless and benevolent, with the transcendent events of Calvary and the Ascension, God has spoken to us. And directly by the words of Jesus himself, in all his teaching, has God spoken to us. For the words of Christ are the words of God, the words of eternal life.

Verse 3—"Whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds." Here we see the infinite dignity of Christ, the peculiar glory which he has as a Son of God. God has many sons, as Dr. Clarke has said, "for He is the Father of the spirits of all flesh; and he has many heirs, for if sons, then heirs, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; but he has no son who is heir of all things, none by whom he made the worlds, none in whom he speaks, and by whom he has delivered a complete revelation to mankind, but Jesus the Christ."

THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY.

Verse 3—"Who, being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person." The idea is that Jesus is the effulgence or outbeaming of the essential or inherent glory of God. We see in Christ the shining forth of the infinite splendor of God's spiritual character and holy nature. It is a glory, as St. John says, "as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." Nowhere else and in no one else have we such an outshining of what God essentially is, as we behold in Jesus Christ. So says St. Paul. We see the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. The word brightness or effulgence signifies that it is a reflected splendor—the essential splendor of God reflected by Christ. But he is also "the express image of His person"—literally, "the exact expression

of His substance." Christ therefore is of the same essence with the Father, while he reflects God's essential glory. Being of the very nature of God, though this nature was manifested through the form of a servant and in the likeness of a man, Jesus had in him that sinless purity and that perfect love, that reveal the spotless holiness and the infinite love of God. "And upholding all things by the word of His power." So then Jesus has the infinite energy and the omnipotence of God. Mark you, his very words support the universe. He speaks, and it is done. He commands and it stands fast. Such power Jesus himself claimed when he was about to leave the world: "All power in heaven and earth is given unto me." And many exhibitions of this power we see during his earthly life. The winds and the waves obeyed him; disease fled at his touch, and the grave yielded up the dead. He conquered death in his own case, and triumphantly ascended to heaven. In one place St. Paul says, "And by him all things consist;" they are held together by him in their order and beauty, and without him would fall to pieces in utter chaos. It is the same thought that we have in the lesson, only here it is said that by the word of his power, or his powerful word, he upholds all things. "When he had purged our sins," by the one offering of himself, the blood of Christ, offered through the Eternal Spirit is the atonement, the propitiation for all the sins of the whole world, and the blood of Christ cleanses or purges us from all sin. The shedding of the blood on the cross was the great crowning sacrificial act of his life. The resurrection and ascension naturally followed. And now by faith in Christ we are individually purged of all our sins. Having made purification of sins by himself he ascended, "And sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high." The chief place of honor and power in the immediate presence of God.

BETTER THAN THE ANGELS.

Verse 4—"Being made so much better than the angels as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they."

Then (v. 5) we are told what his more excellent name is. For unto which of the angels said He at any time, "Thou art my son; this day have I begotten thee?" The apostle quotes from Psalm 2:7, a psalm that pointed forward to the coming Christ, and St. Paul quotes the same words (Acts 13:33) as referring to the resurrection of Christ; and in the epistle to the Romans he tells us that Christ was declared to be the Son of God with power by the resurrection from dead. No angel has received such a name and declaration of honor as this: Jesus, therefore, whose name indicates his nature and relationship to God, is above all the angels. Such is the argument here for the divinity of our Lord. "And again I will be to him"—that is Christ—"a father and he shall be to me a Son." The apostle has in his mind words spoken far back in the time of Samuel (2 Sam. 7:14) that pointed forward through David to Christ, the Son of God, who should sit upon the throne of David and establish it forever. Again and again Jesus was proclaimed by the voice of the Father to be his Son while Jesus was on the earth. "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him," above all men and all angels.

Verse 6—"And when he bringeth in the first-begotten into the (habitable) world, and let all the angels of God worship him." Thus the apostle carries forward his argument that Jesus is divine and superior to all the angels. They are commanded to worship him. Contrasted with his most exalted character and dignity of Christ (v. 7), "Of the angels he said, who maketh his angels spirits and his ministers a flame of fire." They are not sons of God in a peculiar sense, but servants, messengers, who go and come at God's commands, and because of their energy and holiness are represented as flames of fire; fire also being sometimes the symbol of angelic manifestations to men.

Verse 8—"But unto the Son he said, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever"—a direct and absolute assertion of the divinity of Jesus Christ. Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever. "A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom." The scepter was the ensign of government, and here stands for the government itself. So the government of Christ over mankind and over his people is a government found-

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ed in righteousness. Animated by the spirit of infinite love, it also subverts the ends of righteousness and true holiness. God is just, and the integrity of his law and government is upheld in the salvation of men through Christ.

CHRIST'S LOVE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Verse 9—"Thou hast loved righteousness"—truth, justice, right of every kind and degree, in all relationships, and in every part of God's intelligent universe. So, in his human life, Jesus manifested a constant love of righteousness and indignation against falsehood and wrong. "Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity. To love one is to hate the other, for there is an essential, an unchanging antagonism between righteousness and iniquity. "Therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." Kings, priests and prophets were consecrated to their offices by anointing. Christ signifies the Anointed One. He was supremely the Anointed of God, anointed by the Holy Spirit, to the three great offices of prophet, priest and king. "Some were kings only, prophets only, and priests only; others were kings and priests, or priests and prophets, or kings and prophets, but none had ever the three offices in his own person but Jesus Christ, and none but himself can be a King over the universe, a Prophet to all intelligent beings and a Priest to the whole human race. Thus is he infinitely exalted above his fellows—all that ever bore the regal, prophetic or sacerdotal offices before him." And this highest honor was conferred upon him because of his love of righteousness. Such was his love of righteousness that he was willing to teach, and rule, and offer himself a sacrifice to save men. Only by means of this could God be just and the Justifier of the ungodly. And as kings and others were anointed amid the festivities and rejoicing of their people, so was Jesus anointed with the oil of gladness. His being set apart and sanctified as the Redeemer of mankind has been, and is the cause of unbounded joy in earth and in heaven, and will be forever the source of gladness to the unnumbered host, redeemed through his blood, and made kings and priests unto God.

PRACTICAL AND SUGGESTIVE.

(1) What tokens we see around us now of this oil of gladness with which Jesus was anointed. Millions are now glad because of him. The earth is filled with a new joy. Homes are made happy. Little children rejoice. The strong feel a deep sense of quickened and added happiness. And the aged rejoice in their present fellowship with their Lord, and in hope of beholding his glory. Truly was it the oil of gladness that anointed Jesus.

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OPIUM and Whiskey Habits Cured Write B. M. Woolley, M.D. Atlanta, Ga.

What joy would be abstracted from the earth by the blotting out his name! How cheerless the world would be without his spirit. How lonely and dark without his presence.

(2) He is the same yesterday to-day and forever. He is the Living Christ. And because he ever lives to make intercession for us he is able to save us to the uttermost, from all sin and forever.

(3) Absent in his human form, he is more really and powerfully present by his spirit.

"Spirit with spirit meets And closer is he than breathing, And nearer than hands and feet."

(4) He is faithful and merciful and is now touched by all the feeling of our infirmities. He sympathizes with all our sorrow and all our joy and shares it all.

(5) In each of our hearts and homes may he abide, the most loved, the most honored of all guests.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS

GOLD MEDAL, Paris Exposition, 1889, and the Chicago Exposition Award.

THE MOST PERFECT OF PENS.

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of success in life is to Do What Others Do Not Do.

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Advertisement for FISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION, featuring text: "FISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION. CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists."

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT.
Address communications to Mrs. Florence E. Howell, 150 Masten St., Dallas, Tex.

THE SCARRITT BIBLE AND TRAINING SCHOOL.

The need for special training and testing of missionary candidates in the early history of the W. F. M. Society was sorely felt.

At the annual meeting of the W. B. M. in Little Rock, Arkansas, May, 1889, Miss Belle H. Bennett, President of the Kentucky Conference Society, made a stirring appeal in favor of establishing a training school as soon as possible for the missionary's candidates. The Board, after due consideration and earnest prayers for Divine guidance, decided in favor of such an institution.

Miss Belle H. Bennett was appointed by the W. B. M. of M. E. Church, South, to represent the claims of the training school throughout the Church and to collect funds and to look for a location for the school. She at once entered upon the work assigned her, and early in the work she asked for assistance, and Mrs. M. D. Wightman was appointed. These consecrated Christians, with the assistance of Rev. Sam Jones, the evangelist, Bishops and ministers, accomplished a marvelous work. A number of places made excellent offers for the institution.

Among these offers came one from Dr. Nathan Scarritt, of Kansas City, Mo., which was a beautiful lot situated on the bluff above the Missouri River, one of the highest points of this large, growing city, and \$25,000 in money, provided the Board would raise \$25,000 in five years.

The Board met in St. Louis, May, 1890, at the same time the General Conference was in session. The agents made their reports and the \$25,000 had been provided for in one year. May 21, 1890, Dr. Scarritt's munificent gift was accepted and this noble Christian minister died the day after, May 22. The school was named in loving, grateful memory of Dr. Scarritt. A Constitution was provided—Trustees, Managers and Building Committee appointed.

May 28, 1891, the ground was broken and work on the building begun. Appropriate services were held July 2, 1891, and the corner stone of the building was laid. Most interesting addresses were delivered by Rev. W. R. Lambuth, M. D., D. D., Rev. C. F. Reid, D. D., and Rev. W. H. Potter, D. D. The building was completed and the school opened Sept. 14, 1892.

The endowment of the school was a necessity—and three methods have been adopted—scholarships requiring \$2500, lectureships \$5000 and chairs \$25,000. The Board in session passed a resolution requesting that Easter offerings be devoted to the endowment fund. Interesting and instructive programmes have been prepared and sent out for this purpose. The first was observed Easter Sunday, 1891. The day was beautiful and bright, and many congregations observed the day and used the programmes, in the Southern Church, and the collection amounted to \$16,243.90. Of this amount S. C. Conference raised \$1300.00 and led the other thirty-three Conference Societies. From that year up to the present time programmes have been sent out each year and money raised each year.

The work of the Scarritt Bible and Training School is to train consecrated Christian women—not girls—to obey the first command given by our risen, conquering Christ and King on the first Easter morning. "Go tell—Christ the Lord has risen. How fitting, then, to observe Easter Sunday and make offerings for the support of the institution preparing women to follow in the footsteps of the Risen Christ by administering to the bodies, minds and hearts of the despairing heathen, and the fallen and lost in the home land.

Miss M. L. Gibson has been principal of the school from the beginning. It has been prosperous, and many have gone out prepared for better work in Churches and Sunday-schools, and as fruit from this living vine the names of the following are given as students, in mission fields, sent out by the W. B. M., M. E. C., South:

In China—Misses Clara Steger, Ella Coffey, Ella Leveritt, Johnnie Sanders, Lizzie Martin, Susie Williams, May Richardson—under appointment.

In Brazil—Misses Lavona Glenn, Willie Bowman, Eliza Perkinson, Mary Harbinger, Ida Shaffer.

In Mexico—Misses Viola Blackburn, Lama Wright.

Sent out by other Boards—Miss I. Worth, Japan; Dr. J. Donahue, China; Mrs. E. R. Wachter, Siam; Mrs. H. Irvin, India; Mrs. J. Cox, Mexico.

City Mission Work—Mrs. T. E. Tuck-

er, Nashville; Mrs. H. D. Evans, Baltimore; Miss F. Armstrong, Brevard, N. C.; Mrs. J. Williams, Kansas City.—Mrs. J. W. Humbert, Cor. Sec'y. W. F. M. So., South Carolina Conference.

THE SCHOLARSHIP OF W. F. M. S. NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE, IN THE SCARRITT BIBLE AND TRAINING SCHOOL.

A scholarship in the Scarritt Bible and Training School, Kansas City, Mo., was completed by the W. F. M. Society, North Texas Conference, about three years since, the necessary sum (\$2500) having been raised for that purpose. Since that time this society has had no beneficiary of its own to enjoy the advantages of the scholarship; that is, no young lady has gone from the bounds of the North Texas Conference to enjoy the benefit of the scholarship, getting the advantages of this finely equipped school free of cost to herself. The society has extended an invitation at various times through this paper and otherwise calling the attention of young ladies within the bounds of the North Texas Conference to this scholarship, but has been disappointed in securing a beneficiary from among them. A request came from Miss Mary Helm, President of the W. F. M. Society, Louisville, Ky., Conference, and editor of Our Homes, organ of the W. M. H. Society, some weeks before the opening of the present term of the Training School in September, asking that her Conference Society be allowed to use this scholarship since there was no applicant for it from the Society of the North Texas Conference.

It is the desire of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, to which the Training School belongs, that no scholarship shall remain vacant if by any means a beneficiary can be secured. The request of Miss Helm was accordingly granted, and Miss Alice Griffith, of Marion, Ky., is now enjoying the benefits of the scholarship. Miss Helm, in writing of Miss Griffith, said: "She is one of the finest missionary candidates we have ever had. * * * I trust we all may have cause for rejoicing in the good the scholarship will accomplish in the Master's work through the young lady to whom its advantages are granted." She adds also in conclusion: "May I not ask the members of the W. F. M. Society, North Texas Conference, to consider Miss Griffith as in part their missionary, and that they will pray for her during her years of preparation; that in all things she may be thoroughly furnished unto every good word and work?"

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONS.

On the hospital ship at Santiago de Cuba Dr. Irene Toland, a sister of our Miss Rebecca Toland, of San Luis Potosi, Mexico Mission, passed to her heavenly home. She was an assistant of her sister in our San Luis Mission at one time, and thus became known and loved by the Woman's Board. After receiving her degree of M. D. she practiced in St. Louis, with success, but when the call came from her country for medical help in Cuba she answered the call, in spite of the protestations of friends. "They need me," was her answer to all who remonstrated; and she went. One writing from the field said: "Dr. Toland rendered noble service in caring for the nation's

How 308 People

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sick and wounded after the work of Shafter's army had been accomplished." Higher tribute could not be paid her noble life than to repeat, now that she is dead, her answer to the earnest importunities of her friends when she left for the battlefield, "They need me." Memorial services were held in Cook Avenue M. E. Church, South, St. Louis, where she held her membership. The nation, as well as the Church, will ever hold her memory in loving admiration. Her noble sister, our beloved and efficient missionary, as she continues to care for suffering humanity in Mexico, is borne upon the hearts and prayers of thousands of our people.

Before very long, the sacred dust of Dr. Toland, now in Cuban soil, will be brought to her beloved Texas, where the sisters will rise in the first resurrection, when the dead in Christ will come forth at the call of God.—Nashville Christian Advocate.

IN MEMORIAM.

Sorrow is a common heritage, and comes to the high and the low, the rich and the poor, to God's children as well as to the children of this world. To God's children it comes with God's sympathy and strong right arm that commands peace and grace. To his bereaved ones he says: "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

How gracious, how helpful, these words to the stricken sister who was so recently bereaved! The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions cannot soothe such sorrow; only the dear Lord by his divine touch can enable the stricken one to rise in his strength and go forward in the work she was called to do by his own voice. If sympathy in this bereavement avails anything, Miss Rebecca Toland, missionary of the Board, may be comforted.

Resolved, 1. That the members of the Woman's Board send loving sympathy to Miss Toland in the death of an only, well-beloved sister. That, busy about the Lord's work in San Luis Potosi, she may look forward confidently to a happy reunion when, like the dear, departed sister, she will go up higher and hear "Well done!" from the Judge of all.

2. That the above preamble and reso-

FITS Permanently Cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE 62 trial bottle and treatise. Dr. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 331 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.



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FREE by return mail, full descriptive circulars of **Moody's Improved Tailor System of Dress and Garment Cutting.** Revised to date. The foundation principles of scientific garment cutting are taught so clearly and progressively that any lady of ordinary intelligence can easily and quickly learn to cut and make any garment, in any style, to any measure, for Ladies, Children, Men and Boys. Garments guaranteed to fit perfectly without trying on. A knowledge of the Moody System is worth a fortune to any lady. Thousands of expert dressmakers owe their success to the Moody System. Agents Wanted. **Moody & Co., P. O. Box 1022, Cincinnati, O.**

lution be placed on the records of the Board, published in the Woman's Missionary Advocate, and a copy sent Miss Toland.

MRS. S. C. TRUEHEART,
MRS. W. G. E. CUNNINGHAM,
MRS. P. A. SOWELL,
MRS. H. N. McTYEIRE,
MRS. I. G. JOHN,
MRS. J. D. HAMILTON, Sec'y.
—Woman's Missionary Advocate.

"All is of God that is and is to be,
And God is good. Let this suffice us still,
Resting in child-like trust upon His will,
Who moves to His great ends unthwarted by the ill."
—Whittier.

MARRIAGE NOTICES.

At the residence of the bride's parents, near Waldrip, McCulloch County, Sunday, November 27, 1898, Mr. W. I. Stacy and Miss Nettie Hill, Rev. Andrew Anderson officiating.

In a buggy, at Belle Plains Church, in Bell County, Texas, on December 4, 1898, Mr. Walter Carlton and Miss Etta Stewart, Rev. S. J. Rucker officiating.

At the home of the bride's father, in Corn Hill, Texas, on December 4, 1898, Mr. G. Ramey Woodard and Miss Verla Black, Rev. S. J. Rucker officiating.

On November 15, 1898, in the M. E. Church, South, Anson, Texas, Dr. D. L. Stephens and Miss Erna L. Hyder, daughter of officiating minister, J. A. HYDER.

At the home of the bride's father, Mr. L. A. Brooks and Miss Fanny Fergus, Rev. O. F. Kiker officiating.

In Goldthwaite, Texas, November 20, 1898, Mr. S. M. Hamon, of Coleman County, and Miss Minnie Nichols, Rev. C. A. Evans officiating.

Jones—Terrell—On the 13th of November, 1898, Mr. Guy Jones and Miss Jimmie Terrell, both of Iredell, at Walnut Springs, Texas, Rev. J. R. B. Hall officiating.

Knowles—Bruce—Mr. T. B. Knowles, of Mosheim, and Miss Hattie S. Bruce, of Valley Mills, Texas, at Valley Mills, Texas, December 4, 1898, Rev. J. R. B. Hall officiating.

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were famous years ago—their fame grows every year—as the seeds most to be relied on—as always the best. For sale by leading dealers everywhere. Five cents per paper and always worth it. Insist on having them. Run no risk—buy Ferry's. 1899 Seed Annual is free. **D. H. FERRY & CO.,** Detroit, Mich.

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General Passenger Agent, Galveston.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE TEXAS CONFERENCE FOR 1897-8.

Table with columns: NAME OF DISTRICT, Local Preachers, Total Members This Year, Additions on Profession of Faith, Baptisms, etc.

Table with columns: NAME OF DISTRICT, Insurance Carried, Premiums Paid, Losses Sustained, Presiding Elder, Preacher in Charge, Bishops, etc.

Table with columns: NAME OF DISTRICT, Domestic Missions, Church Extension, Education, Exp. Delegates Gen. Conf., Orphanage, etc.

Table with columns: NAME OF DISTRICT, Epworth Leagues, Sunday-schools, No. of Members, etc.

POSTOFFICE ADDRESSES. Rev. C. I. McWhirter, Greenville, Texas. Rev. G. A. LeClere, P. E. Austin District, Calvert, Texas, until after Christmas.

UNANSWERED LETTERS. Dec. 8-R. M. Morris, sub. L. W. Carlton, sub. S. C. Littlepage sub. Dec. 9-J. F. Archer, change. J. H. Chambliss, sub. J. R. Steele, sub.

CORRECTION. The Advocate has my District Stewards' meeting Monday, the 19th, at 10 o'clock p. m. It ought to be 1 o'clock p. m. J. M. BINKLEY, P. E.

NOTICE. Owing to the inclemency of the day and the small attendance of members, the meeting of the District Stewards was postponed until Friday, 2 p. m., Dec. 23. A full attendance is desired. J. N. O. H. McLEAN, P. E. Dallas Dist.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth, Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pains, cures wind colic and is the remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

CORRECTION IN THE AUSTIN DISTRICT. Cypress Mission-D. W. Gardner, supply, instead of S. W. Warner, who supplies Bay Shore Mission in Houston District.

HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS TO THE SOUTHEAST. The Queen & Crescent Route is making preparations to handle an immense business from Texas to the Southeast on the occasion of the Annual Holiday Excursion.

accommodations, fast time and perfect service. For detailed information, apply to T. M. HUNT, J. R. McGREGOR, T. P. A., Dallas, Tex. D. P. A., New Orleans, La.

NOW IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT THE OLD HOME. Account of the holidays the M. K. & T. Ry. will sell round trip tickets to points in the Southeast on December 20 and 21, good for thirty days from date of sale for return.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TO THE SOUTH-EAST. Are you going on the excursion Dec. 20 and 21? If so, see that your ticket reads over the QUEEN AND CRESCENT ROUTE from New Orleans or Shreveport, thus assuring you the best possible accommodation, quick time and perfect service.

Backache, Sprains, Bruises, Cuts, Rheumatism speedily cured by using Hunt's Lightning Oil. Failing, money refunded.

SANTA FE ROUTE. Local Holiday Excursion Rates. To all points in Texas and Indian Territory on the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe tickets will be sold at rate of one and one-third fares for the round trip, on Dec. 23, 24, 25, 30 and 31 and January 1, limited for return January 3, 1899.

Houston District-First Round. Shearn, Dec. 11, conference Feb. 27, 7:30 p. m. Tabernacle, Dec. 11, p. m., conference Feb. 29, 7:30 p. m.

Dublin District-First Round. Granbury sta. Dec. 10, 11 Stephenville sta. Dec. 14 Carlton cir, at Olin. Dec. 17, 18 Dublin sta. Dec. 25 Bluffdale cir, at Bluffdale. Dec. 31, Jan. 1

Dickinson, at Dickinson, Feb. 25, 26 Rosenberg, at Big Creek, March 4, 5 Matagorda, at Bay City, March 11, 12 District Stewards will please meet at Shearn Chapel, Wednesday, December 21, at 10 a. m. I urge all the brethren to be there.

Brenham District-First Round. Caldwell Dec. 24, 25 Lyons Dec. 31, Jan. 1 DeWitt Jan. 4 Lexington Jan. 6 Giddings Jan. 7, 8 Davilla Jan. 14, 15 Cameron cir. Jan. 18 Ben Arnold Jan. 20 Cameron Jan. 21, 22 Maysfield Jan. 28, 29 Milano Feb. 1 Pleasant Hill Feb. 3 Rockdale Feb. 5 Brenham Feb. 11, 12 Chappell Hill Feb. 12, 13 Bellville Feb. 18, 19 Seelye Feb. 19, 20 Patterson Feb. 25, 26

Waco District-First Round. West and Elm Mott, at Ross, Dec. 17, 18 Aquilla, Same time and place East Waco, Dec. 25, 27 Morrow Street, Dec. 25, 26 Waco, Fifth Street, Jan. 1, 2 Bruceville, at Eddy, Jan. 7, 8 Troy, at Childress, Jan. 8, 9 Peoria, at Bethel, Jan. 14, 15 Abbott, at Belle Springs, Jan. 15, 16 Bosqueville, at Wesley Chapel, Jan. 28, 29 Mart, at Lone Oak, Feb. 4, 5 Mt. Calm, at Mt. Calm, Feb. 11, 12 Lorena, at Lorena, Feb. 18, 19 Moody, at Moody, Feb. 19, 20 Moody, at Moody, Feb. 25, 26 Sam'l P. Wright, P. E.

Austin District-First Round. Elgin sta. Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Smithville sta. Jan. 1, 2 Webberville cir, at Webberville, Jan. 7, 8 Manor sta. Jan. 8, 9 Cedar Creek cir, at C. C., Jan. 14, 15 Bastrop sta. Jan. 15, 16 Platonia sta. Jan. 21, 22 Weimar and Osage, at Weimar, Jan. 22, 23 Columbus sta. Jan. 28, 29 Eagle Lake and Rock Pk, at E. L. Jan. 29, 30 West Point cir, at West Point, Feb. 4, 5 Austin, Tenth Street, Feb. 11, 12 Austin, Hotchkiss Memorial, Feb. 12, 13 Merrilltown and Walnut, at W. Feb. 18, 19 Austin, First Street, Feb. 25, 26 South Austin, Feb. 26, 27 Manchaca cir, at Moore's Sch'l H. Mar. 4, 5 McDade cir, at Morgan Chapel, Feb. 11, 12 Cypress mis, at Cypress, Mar. 18, 19 The District Stewards of Austin District will please meet at Elgin, Friday, December 30, at 4:30 p. m., at Methodist Church. Geo. A. LeClere, P. E.

Dallas District-First Round. Argyle Dec. 17 Denton Dec. 18 Cedar Hill Dec. 24 Oak Cliff Dec. 25 Cochran 11 a. m., Jan. 1 Oak Lawn 7 p. m., Jan. 1 Louisville Jan. 8 First Church 11 a. m., Jan. 15 West Dallas 7 p. m., Jan. 15 Lancaster 11 a. m., Jan. 22 Haskell Avenue 7 p. m., Jan. 22 Wheatland Jan. 29 Trinity Feb. 5 John H. McLean, P. E.

Clarendon District-First Round. Memphis, at Newlin Dec. 17, 18 Clarendon Dec. 24, 25 Claude and Goodnight, at C., Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Amarillo Jan. 7, 8 Channing Jan. 7, 8 Canyon City, at C. C., Jan. 9 Seelye Jan. 11 Silverton and Tulia, at Tulia, Jan. 13 Plainview Jan. 14, 15 Floyd, at Floydada, Jan. 18 Emma, at Emma, Jan. 21, 22 Clarendon cir., at Union Hill, Jan. 28, 29 Wellington, at Clifford, Jan. 31 Childress mis., at Prairie Hill, Feb. 2 Matador, at Matador, Feb. 4, 5 Canadian cir., at Canadian, Feb. 11, 12 Higgins, at Higgins, Feb. 14 District Stewards meet at Clarendon, Dec. 27, at 2 o'clock p. m. All the pastors are invited. G. S. Hardy, P. E.

Calvert District-First Round. Marlin sta. Dec. 17, 18 Kosse cir. Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Kosse sta. Jan. 1, 2 Brannon and Reagan, Jan. 1, 2 Personville cir. Jan. 7, 8 Fairfield cir. Jan. 14, 15 Buffalo and Oakwoods, Jan. 15, 16 Jewett cir. Jan. 22, 23 Centerville cir. Jan. 28, 29 Rogers Prairie, Jan. 29, 30 Franklin cir. Feb. 4, 5 Franklin sta. Feb. 5, 6 Petteway Feb. 11, 12 Durango cir. Feb. 18, 19 Lott cir. Feb. 25, 26 Rosebud cir. Feb. 26, 27 Mt. Vernon cir. March 4, 5 Calvert sta. March 5, 6 Hearne and Wheelock, March 7 H. M. Sears, P. E.

Rising Star and Pisgah, at Pisgah, Jan. 31 Sipe Springs, at Macedonia, Feb. 4, 5 Desdimonia, at Desdimonia, Feb. 10, 11 DeLeon Feb. 11, 12 E. F. Boone, P. E.

Dallas District-First Round. Argyle Dec. 17 Denton Dec. 18 Cedar Hill Dec. 24 Oak Cliff Dec. 25 Cochran 11 a. m., Jan. 1 Oak Lawn 7 p. m., Jan. 1 Louisville Jan. 8 First Church 11 a. m., Jan. 15 West Dallas 7 p. m., Jan. 15 Lancaster 11 a. m., Jan. 22 Haskell Avenue 7 p. m., Jan. 22 Wheatland Jan. 29 Trinity Feb. 5 John H. McLean, P. E.

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Huntsville District-First Round. Navasota Jan. 1, 2 Hempstead Jan. 8, 9 Anderson Jan. 14, 15 Huntsville Jan. 22, 23 Prairie Plains cir, at U. Grove, Jan. 28, 29 Dodge cir., at Black Jack, Feb. 4, 5 Montgomery Feb. 12, 13 Willis Feb. 15 Cold Springs Feb. 18, 19 Conroe Feb. 25, 26 Millican March 4, 5 Zion March 8 Madisonville cir., at M., March 11, 12 Bryan March 19, 20 Courtney and Plantersville, at Stoneham March 25, 26 Waller cir, at Macedonia, April 4, 5 The District Stewards will please meet me at Conroe, on Wednesday, February 8, 1899, at 2:30 p. m. J. C. Mickle, P. E.

ENTIRELY BLIND. "I had chornic sore eyes and had to be led around wherever I wanted to go. I could not see at all. When I had taken three bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla my eyes were well. My thankfulness for having my sight restored may be imagined." D. W. UNDERWOOD, Rising Star, Tex. HOOD'S PILLS cure nausea, headache.

OBITUARIES.

The space allowed obituaries is twenty to twenty-five lines, or about 170 or 180 words. The privilege is reserved of condensing all obituary notices. Parties desiring such notices to appear in full as written should remit money to cover excess of space, to-wit: at the rate of ONE CENT PER WORD. Money should accompany all orders.

Resolutions of respect will not be inserted in the Obituary Department under any circumstances; but if paid for will be inserted in another column.

POETRY CAN IN NO CASE BE INSERTED.

Extra copies of paper containing obituaries can be procured if ordered when manuscript is sent. Price, five cents per copy.

MILLIGAN.—Lillie, daughter of W. H. and Delia Milligan, was born in Cullman County, Alabama, September 20, 1886, and died near Spring Hill, Texas, November 11, 1898, after a brief sickness of a few days. She has gone, dear parents, to the beautiful mansion in our Father's house, which he said he would prepare for us. The little feet can never tread earth's pathway. The little hands folded to rest will never bear the burdens of life. The little heart so pure will be kept free from sin. The Lord hath given and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. Weep not, for Lillie as lost forever, for she has just left you for a little while, and is now standing at the pearly gates, beckoning you to come. May the God of infinite love comfort the hearts of the bereaved family, is my prayer.

J. R. BREEDLOVE.

STEWART.—Mrs. Josie B. Stewart, daughter of J. B. and S. A. Boring, was born in Claiborne Parish, La., February 22, 1855. She died August 5, 1898. Sister Stewart was a good woman. She was converted and united with the M. E. Church, South, at the age of eight years, of which she remained a consistent member until God called her home. She was twice married; first to J. M. Martin, in St. Landry Parish, La., May 20, 1874. She was left a widow with one child in 1875. She was married to J. M. Stewart December 21, 1881. To this union five children were born—four of whom, with the father and husband, survive. I have oftentimes been in their home during Sister Stewart's lifetime. A happier family would be hard to find. She was a devoted wife, a loving mother and a kind friend to those about her. It was her delight to do acts of kindness for others. She loved God and his cause; was true to the Church, and her doors were always open to her pastor and family. We all felt at home in her presence. May God bless and comfort those left behind. Mother can not return to them, but they can go to her.

ROBT. B. BONNER.

FOSTER.—Annie Lela (Rany) Foster was born in Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, September 29, 1867, and died August 30, 1898, being thirty years, eleven months and one day old. She professed religion in childhood and united with the Baptist Church. She was married to R. M. Foster, May 2, 1886. During the same year she united with the Methodist Church, South, with her husband. Six children were born to her—two sons and four daughters—the youngest being eighteen months old. She was a god wife, loving mother and a true friend. She was sanctified about three weeks before she died. She suffered much with that dread disease consumption. She was resigned to the will of God. Her only regret was leaving her family. Rest on sweet, wife, we shall meet again. Her loving husband, R. M. FOSTER.

ALLISON.—Bro. L. G. Allison was born in Williamson County, Tennessee, September 18, 1816, and departed this life at his home near Fairplay, Panoia County, Texas, October 18, 1898. When a young man he moved with his parents from Tennessee to Maysville, Ark. Here in 1844 he was married to Miss Rachel C. Thompson. She died in 1845. In 1847 he married Mary E. Thompson, sister to his first wife. In 1857 she died, and in 1860 he married the third time to Miss Elizabeth C. Shaw. In 1874 she died. In October, 1875, he was married the fourth time to Mrs. Sarah Williams, who survives him. He has one living son by his first wife, Bro. J. L. Allison, a member of the Church, and a zealous, consecrated Christian, always ready to work and to sacrifice for the Church. He has three living children by his second, three by his third, and one by his last wife. Bro. Allison was converted and joined the Church under the ministry of Bros. Wm. Candler and John Adams in 1857, in which he lived a consistent, devoted Christian to the day of his death. I was his pastor four years, from 1885 to 1888. Allison Chapel has

lost one of its best and purest members. May the rich blessings of God rest upon his widow and his children, and so live that they all may meet him in heaven.

J. M. SMITH.

DONNELL.—Mrs. Dora H. Donnell, nee Smith, was born in Alabama, May 14, 1869; moved to Texas in 1880; married C. E. Donnell July 4, 1886, and died Nov. 24, 1898. She leaves a fond father and mother, several brothers and sisters, a devoted husband and two children. Death has of late made sad ravages in this family. Three months ago Sister Donnell's brother lost a child; then a few weeks later came the death of her own baby boy; next a beloved brother is taken, and now Sister Donnell is called away. But the bereaved relatives "sorrow not as those who have no hope." They have the assurance that, though parted now, they will meet their loved one again in heaven. Sister Donnell was converted and joined the Methodist Church under Rev. Samuel Morriss, in 1886. When the writer visited her after the death of her child a few months ago, he found her submissive to a Father's will and in hopes of a reunion by-and-by. When so soon the time came for her to go, she did not shrink back, but embraced her husband and with a smile on her face was gone. May the family, now broken on earth, be unbroken in heaven.

SAMUEL J. RUCKER, P. C.

SWAIN.—Mrs. Mary Ellen Swain (nee Lindley) was born in Calvert, Texas, November 28, 1867, and died in San Antonio, Texas, November 12, 1898. She was married to Mr. Swain April 26, 1894. Her baby boy preceded her to the glory world but a few months. She left a bright little girl for relatives and the Church to bring up in the nurture of the Lord. When a child Sister Swain joined the Methodist Church, but in moving she lost her membership and remained out of the Church some years. In 1897, under the ministry of I. K. Waller, she was converted or reclaimed, and joined the Church again and remained faithful to the end. She was a great sufferer. She died with consumption; but she bore her sufferings with true Christian fortitude. To her friends she talked of her approaching death as she would of an anticipated journey. When her pastor, when she was dying, I asked her if she was trusting in Jesus, if the way was clear before her, she answered "Yes." Her friends sorrow not as those who have no hope.

R. S. ADAIR.

FORBIS.—Permelia Holt was born in Laurens District, S. C., November 20, 1820; was married to A. J. Forbis December 11, 1839. From her childhood up she was inclined to religion. She joined the M. E. Church, South, about forty-five years ago, and died at her home, in Shelby County, Texas, September 10, 1898, leaving an aged husband and eight children to mourn their loss; but she was a good Christian, a good wife and mother, and no doubt is at rest with all the company of the good gone before, and while her weary and careworn husband and bereaved children tarry for a little while and weep her departure, what a joy to know that if they walk as she walked they shall meet her in the paradise of God some sweet day by-and-by. O how comforting the Word of to those who weep their loved ones gone! "But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that sleep;" and "Even so in Christ shall all be made alive;" and then "I would not have you to be ignorant brethren concerning them which are asleep;" then also "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors." Thank God for these words; though Sister Forbis is dead, yet she speaks, and from heaven's gates calls by her good life to all the loved ones to come on. May God comfort with his spirit Bro. Forbis in his age and her children in their strength, and may all meet in heaven.

J. T. SMITH.

Timpson, Texas.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, ss. LUCAS COUNTY.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON,

[SEAL] Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

BRIDGES.—Blant Egbert, infant son of Brother and Sister W. J. Bridges, was born April 22, 1897, and died October 21, 1898. He lived just long enough to become a source of much happiness to the family. He was the sunshine of their home life. But the merciful God saw fit to remove him from this world of sorrow and sin, and now little Blant is with the host of redeemed. To the bereaved ones we would say: "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; but rejoice inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings, that when his glory shall be revealed ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

J. M. PERRY.

HALL.—Sister Alice V. Hall, daughter of W. A. and Fannie Hall, was born December 15, 1874. She was converted to God at the age of twelve years and joined the M. E. Church, South. Her parents are religious and have reared their children to honor God. Alice was a nice girl and a favorite with the people. She married a man by her own name and went back to one of the old States to live, leaving father and mother, never more to meet them on earth, but the way to heaven had been pointed out to her by her parents and she was not afraid to die. God took her by the hand and led her to glory. She called for father and mother as long as she could. They will answer some day in blessed immortality. Look up, bereaved ones, Alice will greet you in a better world. She left this world October 29, 1898. Servant of God, well done, praise be thy new employ.

A. W. GIBSON.

Howe, Texas.

MOREHEAD.—Mrs. Armilda Florence Morehead, widow of O. B. Morehead, was born in Iuka, Ill., August 1, 1865. She was converted at the early age of eleven years and joined the M. E. Church, of which she was a consistent member until her death, October 27, 1898. She was twice married and became the mother of three girls and two boys. Her life was one of devotion to the cause of Christ. She was always ready to speak a word for the Master and labor both in public and private for him. During last July she became ill with consumption and steadily became weaker until about September 20. Hoping to regain her health she left her home and went to that of her brother, Rev. H. E. Middleton, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister, residing at Marathon, Texas. Here she remained until she went to live with Jesus. Although suffering greatly, her last days were peaceful, and in her was shown the power of God to be with and keep us at all times. After sweet conversations with the Christian friends who, from time to time visited her, and sending loving messages to her children and other relatives, she fell asleep. May God bless the children, and may they so live as to meet the mother who has gone before.

J. F. GOODSON.

Alpine, Texas.

WILSON.—John F. Wilson, son of William and Julia Wilson, was born in Barren County, Ky., May 31, 1853; came to Texas in 1870 and located at Rhea Mills, in Collin County; thence to Claude, where he died November 17, 1898. He was married to Miss Florence Calahan December 18, 1878. Eight children were born to them, who, with their mother, are deeply bereaved just now. Sister Wilson is a good Christian woman, and several of her children are religious, and the grace of God sustains them in this dark hour. Bro. Wilson was Master of the Masonic Lodge in his town; was always on the right side of every moral question, even before he was converted. He was a positive character; no man was held in higher esteem in the community where he lived. He professed religion in the summer of 1894 and joined the Methodist Church; went to work at once; was a faithful steward, trustee, Sunday-school teacher and always ready to answer any call to duty that was made upon him; a good friend to the Church and preacher—in fact, he was one of the truest, best men I ever knew. I loved him like a brother. He was stricken with paralysis, and soon became speechless, living nearly six weeks; but he assured his good wife and myself while he could talk that he was ready at any time; but no one ever doubted that who knew him. We shall see him again. The Masons and a great many friends followed him to the grave.

C. M. M'CARVER.

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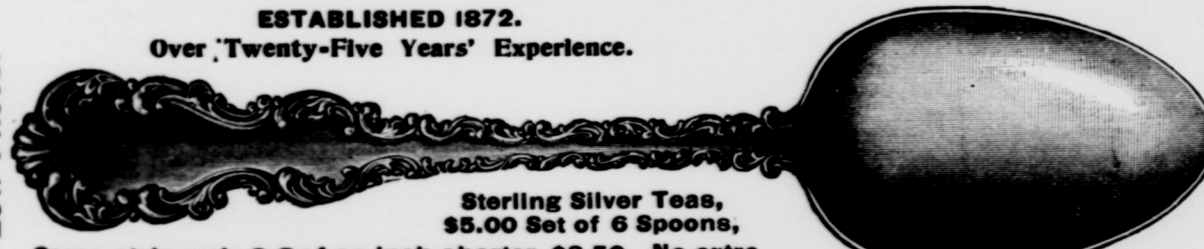
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Gen'l Passenger
and Trk. Agt

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Account of the Holidays, round trip tickets will be sold on December 20 and 21, good for thirty days from date of sale for return.

North Texas Conference.

Paris District.—First Round. Detroit cir, at Detroit Dec. 17, 18 Marvin cir, at Marvin Dec. 22, 22 Lamar Avenue, Paris Dec. 25, 25 Woodland cir Dec. 31, 31 Blossom and Reno, at Blossom Jan. 1, 2 West Paris Dec. 31, 31 Centenary, Paris Jan. 8, 9 Annona cir, at Williams' chap. Jan. 14, 15 Emberson cir, at Mt. Tabor Jan. 21, 22 Rosalie cir, at Rosalie Jan. 28, 29 Roxton, at Roxton Feb. 4, 5 Deport, at Deport Feb. 11, 12 Lake Creek cir, at Brushy Mound, Feb. 18, 19 Maxey, at Round Prairie Feb. 25, 26 Powderly mis, at Palestine, March 4, 5 W. D. Mountcastle, P. E.

Bonham District.—First Round. Ector Dec. 3d Sun Dec. Gober Dec. 4th Sun Dec. Bailey Dec. 1st Sun Jan. Dodd Dec. 2d Sun Jan. Honey Grove Dec. 3d Sun Jan. Petty Dec. 4th Sun Jan. White Rock Dec. 5th Sun Jan. Ladonia Dec. 1st Sun Feb. Brookston Dec. 2d Sun Feb. Randolph Dec. 3d Sun Feb. Trenton Dec. 4th Sun Feb. Lannus Dec. 1st Sun Mar. Fannin Dec. 2d Sun Mar. The District Stewards will meet in the Methodist church in Bonham, Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1899. T. R. Pierce, P. E.

Terrell District.—First Round. Chisholm, at Fate Dec. 17, 18 Royce, at Royce Dec. 20, 20 Terrell cir, at College Mound Dec. 24, 25 Renner, at Renner Dec. 27, 27 Plano sta Dec. 28, 28 Rockwall, at Rockwall Dec. 31, 31 Wylie, at Wylie Jan. 1, 2 Garland sta Jan. 5, 5 Forney, at Forney Jan. 8, 9 Mesquite, at Mesquite Jan. 15, 11 Reinhardt, at Reinhardt Jan. 15, 15 Crandall, at Crandall Jan. 18, 18 Kemp, at Beckers Jan. 22, 23 Gray's Prairie, at Jones' Chapel Jan. 29, 30 I. W. Clark, P. E.

Gainesville District.—First Round. Gainesville mis Dec. 17, 17 Broadway Dec. 19, 19 Nocona sta Dec. 30, 30 Montague, at Montague Dec. 31, 31 Henrietta Dec. 31, 31 Benvenue Dec. 31, 31 St. Jo, at St. Jo at night, Jan. 13 Boneta, at Boneta Jan. 14, 15 Belcher, at Belcher Jan. 15, 16 Marysville, at Elm Jan. 21, 22 Boston, at Hardy Jan. 22, 23 Greenwood, at Slidell Jan. 25, 25 Roanoke and Ponde, at Ponde Jan. 28, 29 Era and Valley View, at Valley View Feb. 4, 5 Sanger, at Sanger Feb. 5, 6 Dexter, at Mt. Zion Feb. 18, 19 Woodbine, at Woodbine Feb. 19, 20 Aubrey cir, at Aubrey Feb. 25, 26 The District Stewards will meet at Denton Street Monday, Dec. 19, at 10 o'clock p. m. Let all attend. J. M. Oakley, P. E.

Sulphur Springs District.—First Round. Sulphur Springs sta Dec. 7 p. m., Dec. 16 Commerce sta Dec. 7 p. m., Dec. 17 Sulphur Bluff, at Pleasant Hill 1st Sun Jan Celeste and Lane Dec. 2d Sun Jan Kelley Springs, at Kelley Spg's 3d Sun Jan Winsboro sta Dec. 7 p. m., Jan. 20 Como sta, at Como Dec. 4th Sun Jan Wolfe City sta Dec. 7 p. m., Jan. 27 Leonard, at Leonard Dec. 5th Sun Jan Cooper, at Cooper Dec. 1st Sun Feb. Cumby, at Mt. Zion Dec. 3d Sun Feb. County Line, at Antioch Dec. 3d Sun Feb. Jacksboro, at Campbell Dec. 4th Sun Feb. Mt. Vernon, at Saffillo Dec. 1st Sun March Farlie, at Farlie Dec. 2d Sun March Ben Franklin, at Ben Franklin 3d Sun March The District Stewards meeting will be held at Sulphur Springs, in the Methodist Church, Dec. 27, at 3:30 p. m. C. B. Fladger, P. E.

Bowie District.—First Round. Wichita Falls Dec. 17, 18 Iowa Park, at Iowa Park Dec. 18, 19 Bryson, at Wesley Dec. 24, 25 Jacksboro Dec. 25, 26 Holiday, at Holiday Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Archer City, at Archer City Jan. 1, 2 Decatur cir, at Salt Hill Jan. 7, 8 Decatur sta Dec. 8, 9 Alvord, at Alvord Jan. 14, 15 Chico, at Chico Jan. 15, 16 Rome cir Dec. 21, 22 Bridgeport, at Bridgeport Jan. 22, 23 Blue Grove, at Fannington Jan. 28, 29 Post Oak, at Post Oak Jan. 29, 30

Bowie cir, at Fruitland Feb. 4, 5 Gibtown, at Gibtown Feb. 10, 11 Booneville, at Bethel Feb. 11, 12 Crafton, at Crafton Feb. 18, 19 F. O. Miller, P. E.

Greenville District.—First Round. Princeton, at Wilson Dec. 3d Sun Dec. Kavanaugh Dec. 4th Sun Dec. Neola, at Wire Grass Dec. 28 Nevada Dec. 1st Sun Jan. Floyd, at Caddo Mills Dec. 2d Sun Jan. McKinney Dec. 3d Sun Jan. Wesley Dec. 4th Sun Jan. Kingston Dec. 4th Sun Jan. Allen Dec. 5th Sun Jan. Farmersville Dec. 1st Sun Feb. Merit Dec. 8 Lone Oak Dec. 3d Sun Feb. Weston Dec. 4th Sun Feb. District Stewards meet in Farmersville, Dec. 20, 1898, at 10:30 a. m. I. S. Ashburn, P. E.

Sherman District.—First Round. Denison mis Dec. 17, 18 Whitesboro sta Dec. 24, 25 Collinsville cir Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Sherman cir Jan. 7, 8 Pottsboro and Preston Jan. 14, 15 Willow Street Jan. 21, 22 Travis Street Jan. 22, 23 Van Alstyne Jan. 28, 29 Howe cir Feb. 4, 5 Denison sta Feb. 11, 12 Pilot Grove Feb. 18, 19 Whitewright Feb. 25, 26 Greenwood cir March 4, 5 Gordonville March 11, 12 Gunters mis March 18, 19 J. R. Wages, P. E.

Northwest Texas Conference. Abilene District.—First Round. Putnam mis Dec. 16 Cisco sta Dec. 16 Eastland cir Dec. 17, 18 Abilene mis Dec. 20 Buffalo Gap cir Dec. 22 Colorado sta Dec. 23 Colorado mis Dec. 30 Snyder cir Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Merkel and Sweetwater Jan. 7, 8 Anson cir Jan. 11 Cottonwood cir Jan. 14, 15 Clairemont cir Jan. 18 Roby cir Jan. 21, 22 Clear Fork mis Jan. 24 District Stewards will meet at Abilene, 7 p. m., December 6, 1898. District Epworth League Conference will meet at Abilene, January 27, 28 and 29, 1899. Jas. S. Chapman, P. E.

Gatesville District.—First Round. Crawford Dec. 17, 18 Valley Mills Dec. 23 Meridian Dec. 24, 25 Oglesby Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Lampasas mis Jan. 7, 8 Lampasas mis Jan. 11 a. m., Jan. 10 Coperas Cove Jan. 14, 15 Kilien Jan. 11 a. m., Jan. 17 Brookhaven Jan. 11 a. m., Jan. 18 Coryell City Jan. 21, 22 Jonesboro Jan. a. m., Jan. 26 Hamilton Jan. 28, 29 Harmony Feb. 4, 5 Evant mis Jan. 11 a. m., Feb. 10 Bee House Feb. 11, 12 J. G. Putnam, P. E.

Weatherford District.—First Round. Springtown cir, at Springtown Dec. 16 Feaster cir, at Peaster Dec. 17 Whitt cir, at Bethesda Dec. 18 First ch, Weatherford, at 1st ch Dec. 25 Courts Memorial, at C. M. Jan. 1 Ranger mis, at Mt. Zion Jan. 7, 8 Gordon and Strawn, at Gordon Jan. 10 Thurber, at Thurber Jan. 11 Huckabay mis, at Hannibal Jan. 13 Sauto cir, at New Salem Jan. 15 Millsap cir, at Millsap Jan. 17 Weatherford mis, at Shady Grove Jan. 19 Breckenridge cir, Breckenridge Jan. 21, 22 Eliasville cir, at Smith chap. Jan. 24 The District Stewards will meet at Strawn Jan. 12, 1899, at 2 p. m. Jno. R. Morris, P. E.

Corsicana District.—First Round. Kerens cir, at Kerens Dec. 16 Brandon cir, at Kienna Dec. 17, 18 Frost cir, at Frost Dec. 20 Blooming Grove and Cryer Creek, at Blooming Grove Dec. 22 Barry cir, at Cook S. H. Dec. 24, 25 Hubbard sta, at Hubbard City Dec. 30 Dawson cir, at Dawson Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Wortham cir, at Birdston Jan. 5 Mexia sta, at Mexia Jan. 6 Cotton Gin, at Campbell's Branch Jan. 7, 8 Groesbeck sta, at Groesbeck Jan. 12 Horn Hill mis, at Ben Hur Jan. 13 Thornton cir, at Bellview Jan. 14, 15 Armour cir, at Cedar Jan. 16 E. A. Bailey, P. E.

Fort Worth.—First Round. Marystown and Joshua, at J.11 a. m., Dec. 14 Covington, at Covington Jan. 11 a. m., Dec. 15 Blum, at Blum Jan. 11 a. m., Dec. 16 West Cleburne, at Bono Jan. 11 a. m., Dec. 17 Cleburne Dec. 18 Cresson, at Cresson Jan. 11 a. m., Dec. 19 East Cleburne, at Price C.11 a. m., Dec. 20 Glenwood Dec. 7 p. m., Dec. 21 District Stewards meeting at First Church, Ft. Worth, December 27, at 9 a. m. B. R. Bolton, P. E.

Georgetown District.—First Round. Taylor Dec. 17, 18 Round Rock Dec. 23 Georgetown Dec. 25 Liberty Hill Dec. 31, Jan. 1

Bartlett Jan. 7, 8 Moffatt Jan. 14 South Temple Jan. 15 Temple, First Church Jan. 16 Grainger Jan. 21, 22 Holland Jan. 28, 29 Rogers Feb. 4, 5 Salado and Corn Hill Feb. 11, 12 Florence Feb. 18, 19 Burnet and Marble Falls Feb. 23 Bertram and Horeb Feb. 25, 26 District Stewards will meet in Taylor, Dec. 17, at 10 a. m., at the Methodist Church. W. L. Nelms, P. E.

Vernon District.—First Round. Graham mis, at Red Top Dec. 16 Farmer, at Hawkins Chapel Dec. 17, 18 Vernon Dec. 24, 25 Crowell, at Margaret Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Benjamin, at Benjamin Jan. 7, 8 Seymour mis, at Ogden Jan. 11 Seymour sta Jan. 14, 15 Harrold, at Union Point Jan. 21, 22 Chillicothe, at Chillicothe Jan. 28, 29 Quannah sta Feb. 4, 5 Childress sta Feb. 11, 12 Eldorado sta, at Eldorado Feb. 18, 19 Mangum, at Mangum Feb. 18, 19 Altus, at Altus Feb. 21 District Stewards will meet at Vernon, January 3, at 7 p. m. C. W. Daniel, P. E.

Waxahachie District.—First Round. Milford cir, at Milford Jan. 11 a. m., Dec. 16 Lovelace cir, at Woodbury Dec. 17, 18 Itasca cir, at Itasca Dec. 18, 19 Waxahachie sta Dec. 24, 25 Forrester cir, at Collins Ch'l Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Palmer cir, at Dixon's C'l 11 a. m., Jan. 2 Venus and St. P., at St. P. 11 a. m., Jan. 7, 8 Midlothian sta 7 p. m., Jan. 7, 8 Bardwell cir, at Oak Grove 11 a. m., Jan. 11 Red Oak cir, at Ovilla Jan. 21, 22 Mount'n Peak cir, at Oak Branch Jan. 28, 29 Crisp cir, at Hines Chapel 11 a. m., Feb. 3 Ferris cir, at Ferris Feb. 11, 12 Ennis sta Feb. 11, 12 Horace Bishop, P. E.

Brownwood District.—First Round. Comanche sta Dec. 13 Santa Anna, at Santa Anna Dec. 17, 18 Blanket, at Blanket Dec. 21 Bangs, at Bangs Dec. 24, 25 Indian Creek, at Aswait Chapel Dec. 31 Brownwood Dec. 31 Glen Cove, at Glen Cove Jan. 6, 7 Coleman Jan. 6, 7 May Circuit, at Holder Jan. 14, 15 Robert Lee, at Hayrick Jan. 21, 22 Bailing Jan. 21, 22 Winters, at Bowman Jan. 25 Decker, at Spring Creek Jan. 28, 29 O. F. Sensabaugh.

West Texas Conference. San Angelo District.—First Round. Sterling City Dec. 3d Sun Dec Menardville and Junction Dec. 4th Sun Dec Mason, at Loyal Valley Dec. 1st Sun Jan Pontotoc cir Dec. 2d Sun Jan Milburn Dec. 3d Sun Jan Sherwood cir Dec. 4th Sun Jan Sonora and Ozona Dec. 5th Sun Jan Paint Rock Dec. 1st Sun Feb Theophilus Lee, P. E.

Llano District.—First Round. Kingsland cir, at Oxford Dec. 3d Sun Dec Selma cir, at Salado Dec. 1st Sun Jan Bandera and Medina, at Bandera Dec. 2d Sun Jan Blanco cir, at Blanco Dec. 3d Sun Jan Willow City cir, at Walnut Dec. 4th Sun Jan Round Mountain cir, at Rockdale Dec. 5th Sun Jan Boerne cir, at Boerne Dec. 1st Sun Feb Center Point sta Dec. 2d Sun Feb Ingram cir, at Ingram Dec. 3d Sun Feb Rock Springs sta Dec. 4th Sun Feb Kerrville sta Dec. 1st Sun March I. K. Waller, P. E.

San Marcos District.—First Round. Seguin and Mill Creek, at Seguin Dec. 17, 18 San Marcos sta Dec. 24, 25 Belmont cir, at Nixon Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Gonzales sta Dec. 1st Sun Jan Lockhart cir, at Clark's Chapel Jan. 14, 15 Kyle and Pleasant Grove, at P. G. Jan. 21, 22 Buda cir, at Buda Jan. 28, 29 Lockhart sta Dec. 4, 5 Dripping Springs, at Wimberly Feb. 11, 12 San Marcos cir, at Center Point Feb. 18, 19 I. T. Morris, P. E.

Cuero District.—First Round. Port Lavaca cir Dec. 17 Cuero sta Dec. 24 Clear Creek cir Dec. 28 Rancho cir Dec. 30 Leesville cir Dec. 31 Morales cir Jan. 4 Ganado cir Jan. 6 Edna cir Jan. 7 J. W. Stovall, P. E.

Beeville District.—First Round. Rockport cir, at Rockport Dec. 17, 18 Oakville cir, at Oakville Dec. 21 Wade cir, at Wade Dec. 31, Jan. 1 J. M. Alexander, P. E.

San Antonio District.—First Round. Cotulla cir Dec. 17, 18 Pearsall Dec. 18 San Miguel mis Dec. 1st Sun Jan Moore cir Dec. 7, 8 Bexar cir Dec. 14, 15 Del Rio Dec. 21, 22 Eagle Pass Dec. 28, 29 Uvalde Dec. 28, 29 Utopia Dec. 11, 12 Travis Park Dec. 7:30 p. m., Feb. 8 South Flores Dec. 7 p. m., Feb. 8 B. Harris, P. E.

50 doses for 50 cents. Is the same size of other \$1 bottles, and money refunded if Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup fails to give entire satisfaction. Try it; costs nothing if not satisfied.

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SANTA FE ROUTE Galveston, December 6 to 14, A. M. E. Church, one and one-third fares, certificate plan. Houston, December 5 to 10, Fruit, Flowers and Vegetable Festival; tickets limited to December 12. Special one cent a mile rate to Houston on December 6 only, account F. F. V. Festival. Clarksville, Texas, Annual Conference A. M. E. Church, December 12, 13 and 14; December 21 for 5nal return. Denison, Texas, December 7 to 12, West Texas Conference M. E. Church; certificate plan.

Special low rate tickets to points in the Southeastern States will be sold by the Texas & Pacific Railway Company from all points on its line, December 29 and 31, the same as in former years. It should be borne in mind that passengers have the choice of three gateways via this line in going back to their old home for Christmas and New Years, namely: New Orleans, Shreveport and Memphis. It is with a feeling of pleasure and pride that we offer you the best passenger service in the South. If you contemplate making the trip and want to know the cheapest and best way write to nearest ticket agent or E. P. Turner, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Texas & Pacific Railway, Dallas, Texas, or to H. P. Hughes, Trav. Pass. Agt., Fort Worth, Texas.

WHICH SHALL IT BE? Are you thinking of taking a short respite from your ordinary vocation? Have you a vacation under consideration? Do you wish to spend a couple of weeks or months in a delightful climate, amid strange and wonderful scenes, amongst a people seemingly of another world—weld, fascinating and interesting? If so, then turn your attention to Mexico. Look out for the popular low rate excursions to Monterey, Saltillo and Mexico City during the holidays. REMEMBER, however, that as heretofore

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Highest Honors, World's Fair
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FROM TAYLOR TO MEXIA.

That was an itinerant list of appointments read by Bishop Galloway at Brownwood. I suspect that it will do good generally and locally. Two years is quite long enough for a man to stay in one charge unless he has brought or is bringing something to pass. Same to you, Mr. Editor, if you don't make yourself a felt journalist in two years—but I am writing about pastors and presiding elders.

To touch effectively all the institutions of our beloved Methodism is little less difficult than to touch all the chords of the human heart. Almost any man can play three or four tunes on a musical instrument, if you will show him how; but it is given to the few to play upon every key and bring thrilling, shouting, ringing music from every source of harmony, melody and symphony. When we four-tuned, stiff-jointed brethren play our little pieces, we ought to give way gracefully and let the Church feel the touch of deft fingers on every key in the scale. There are some men and charges that can no more be adjusted to each other than a narrow gauge train to a broad-gauge track. Our beloveds will keep on trying it, and hoping for the best, only to see failure and fretting. No man can be helped unless he exhausts his resources to help himself, and every effort made in that direction hurts the Church and humiliates the brother. Keep me rolling, rather than allow me to become a smooth-bore.

Well, I'll have to change my caption or tack back. I was delayed in Taylor, because Bros. Matthews, of Dublin, and Hay, of Mexia, were delayed. By this I found that some of the good people of Taylor joined the good people of Mexia in sorrowing over the removal of Bro. Hay. It is not always that the sorrow felt at the removal of a pastor is so far-reaching. He was held in high esteem here, and given up with regret; but "Black Eyes" and I are in the parsonage and want no tickets on the Trunk Line before November, 1899. No man in Texas will preach to a better or more consistent body of professing Christians than the people called Methodists in Taylor.

These Mexians enjoy like reputation among the brethren who have tested their graces. Indeed C. R. and Sam were so loud in their praises that I hardly felt fit to ask a blessing when I came among them. I am recovering slowly. They have received me with great kindness. For nearly a week we enjoyed the elegant and hospitable home of Bro. James Smith. We are now by the ingleside yielded by the Hill of Zion. The glebe is spacious. The parsonage will take on breaded dimensions after whiles. We—that is, Mrs. Duncan and I—are delighted. If God will only revive us and his work this conference year, how grateful and happy we will be.

Now, Mr. Editor, I know you are, as heretofore, Rankin' me, but I want you to give this the space that some of my brethren would be entitled to if they would just think of writing you an item of the nature of this. As they increase, I am perfectly willing to decrease.

T. J. DUNCAN.

ARDMORE, I. T.

The new conference year with us is opening up very hopefully. All of the preachers are at their places and busily engaged in such work as their hands find to do. Rev. J. M. Gross, the new pastor at Broadway, Ardmore, is being cordially received, and his predecessor, Rev. A. J. Worley, is hard at work in his new charge, Wynnewood. He is now building a parsonage at that place. According to the law of our Church, the law of extension, our conference has stretched its arms around Greer County this year, and put Rev. W. A. Randle on the New Washita District.

L. L. THURSTON.

REV. THOS. MYERS AND HIS WIFE.

Uncle Tommy and Aunt Sarah—they had been missionaries to the Choctaw Indians, and had come among us while the missionary fire still glowed in their bones. They were well advanced in years when they came, and yet the dew of youth was still upon their brows. Their natural force was not abated, and their zeal was not from heaven. Uncle Tommy was not a man of broad culture; he was not a great preacher; he was not a man of affairs; but his purity of life, his simple faith in God, his divine fervor, his quenchless zeal—all these supplemented by his wife's devotion to him and to his work, her songs, her prayers and exhortations as forceful as his own, made success a possibility and failure well nigh impossible. They traveled together; they went everywhere. They found friends among all classes. Every house was an altar, every tree a shrine of devotion, while deep canyons and high hills echoed and re-echoed their songs of praise. Armed only with the providence of God, they went forth, fearing neither men nor devils, and experiencing no harm. Where other men expected violence and death, they expected (and were not disappointed) the overshadowing presence of the Angel of the Covenant. Thus they went on until age and infirmity bade them stay. At last Aunt Sarah, the victim of cancer, sank into the arms of death, and Uncle Tommy, blind and helpless as a child, wandered on until the gloom of the grave hid him from our sight. Side by side, in hope of the resurrection, they rest at Rockport, Texas. Childless (for all their seven or eight children died in infancy), poor, wasted by disease, blind—is there no reward? Listen! For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. Here all mystery is explained!

JOHN S. GILLETTE.

The words of praise bestowed upon Hood's Sarsaparilla by those who have taken it prove the merit of the medicine.

STATE LEAGUE TAX.

State League tax received for the two weeks ending December 8, 1898.	
Previously acknowledged	\$68 21
First Church, Dallas	2 00
Columbus	50
Nocona	75
Upper Willow Creek, Mason	1 00
Vashti	1 00
Hercules Memorial, Austin	1 00
Ennis, No. 200	1 00
Total	\$75 46
G. W. THOMASSON,	
Van Alstyne, Texas, State Secretary.	

N. W. TEXAS CONFERENCE MINUTES.

To the Preachers of the Northwest Texas Conference:
Your Conference Journal will issue about December 25. Prompt publication has been urged and sought. This explains our inability to make some requested changes. Let those who have special needs notify the undersigned promptly. Your editor, Secretary and printer are doing their best, but the Journal will be subject to criticisms. Let them come; they may aid us in improving subsequent editions.

JEROME DUNCAN,
Vernon, Texas.

THE LITTLE ONES HE BLESSES

I wonder if ever the children
Who were blessed by the Master of old,
Forgot He had made them His treasures,
The dear little lambs of His fold.
I wonder if, angry and wilful,
They wandered far astray,
The children whose feet had been guided
So safe and so soon in the way.

One would think that the mothers at evening,
Soft smoothing the silk tangled hair,
And low leaning down to the murmur
Of sweet, childish voices in prayer,
Oft bade the small pleaders to listen,
If haply again they might hear
The words of the gentle Redeemer
Borne swift to the reverent ear.

And my heart cannot cherish the fancy
That ever those children went wrong,
And were lost from the peace and the shelter,
Shut out from the feast and the song,
To the day of the gray hairs they remembered.

I think, how the hands that were riven
Were laid on their heads when Christ uttered:
"For such is the kingdom of heaven."

He has said it to you, little darling,
Who spell it in God's word to day;
You, too, may be sorry for sinning,
You also believe and obey;
And 'twill grieve the dear Saviour in heaven
If one little child shall go wrong—
Be lost from the fold and the shelter,
Shut out from the feast and song.

NOTICE.

My address will be either Dallas or Bonham until further notice. The burning of the district parsonage in Bonham Sunday night, December 11, makes this announcement necessary.

T. R. PIERCE.

PASTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The Methodist pastors of the city and surrounding charges are requested to meet at the First Methodist Church (in basement) next Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock. Business of importance to be considered.

J. H. REXFORDS, President.

Our readers needing a piano or organ should write J. H. Truesdale, manager the great Music House Jesse French Piano and Organ Co., who occupy their own immense three-story building 231 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas, and make the renowned Starr Jesse French and Richmond Pianos at their factories, Richmond, Ind., thus saving you dealers and agents, as you would be dealing direct with factory. He makes special discount on Church Organs. Correspondence solicited.

"Before the revival—what?" A heartfelt interest on the part of the members of the Church in the salvation of souls. When Zion travails she brings forth. All that is necessary to make this one of the greatest revival years in the history of the Church is for ministers and Church members to feel that their business in this world is to save sinners.—E. B. Randle, in Epworth Herald.

Vigor & Verdicts

AYER'S HAIR VIGOR fulfills all the promises made for it, is the verdict of those who have tried it.

Ayer's

"I have sold AYER'S HAIR VIGOR for fifteen years and do not know of a single case where it did not give entire satisfaction."—F. M. GROVE, Faunsdale, Ala.

Hair

"When disease caused my hair to fall out, I found AYER'S HAIR VIGOR a most excellent preparation and one that does all that is claimed for it."—L. RUSH, Connelisville, Pa.

Vigor

"AYER'S HAIR VIGOR does all that is claimed for it. It restored my hair, which was fast becoming gray, back to its natural color—dark brown."—W. H. HASSELHOFF, Paterson, N. J.

Did It

"My head became full of dandruff, and after a time my hair began to fall out. The use of AYER'S HAIR VIGOR stopped the falling out and made the scalp clean and healthy."—MRS. C. M. AYRES, Mount Airy, Ga.

"Let us lay hold of work. There can be no happy life without strenuous, unremitting work in it—work which occupies mind, body, heart and soul. Only one life to live! We all want to do our best with it. We all want to make the most of it."—A. R. Brown.

A chronic kicker is bad enough, but a continual scratcher is worse. Better imitate a mule than a hen. Hunt's Cure will do up the worst case of Itch, Tetter and Ringworms, Itching Piles, Eczema known. Price 50c.

What were the best ten books of the year? This question has been answered by the readers of the Outlook in a voting contest, the award to the successful contestant being copies of the ten books. The result of the vote, which is announced in the Outlook's Magazine Number for December, is as follows, the titles being given in order of precedence as shown by the total vote: "The Life and Letters of Tennyson," Mrs. Ward's "Helleck of Bannisdale," Justin McCarthy's "Story of Gladstone's Life," "Gale's West," "The Workers," Busby's "Bismarck," Mrs. Wiggins' "Penelope's Progress," "The Letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning," Rupert of Hentzau," and John Fiske's "Old Virginia and Her Neighbors." In addition to an interesting illustrated account of this contest and a literary talk about the ten books and their authors, this issue of the Outlook, which is its tenth annual book number, contains an elaborate survey of the books of the season and other articles and features which are of special interest. \$3 a year. The Outlook Company, New York.

THE BEST SEEDS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

We cannot too strongly nor too often urge the supreme importance of planting seeds that are perfectly pure and fresh. A vast number of American gardeners have the utmost confidence in seeds that bear the name, D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich. The present generation of planters can hardly remember the time when Ferry's seeds were not on sale everywhere each year and as regularly planted by thousands with the greatest faith in the varying quality of the seeds and in the integrity of the firm that grew them. Every planter, whether already a buyer of Ferry's seeds or not, should send for Ferry's Seed Annual for 1899. It is mailed free to anyone who writes for it.

One Cent a dose is all we ask for Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup, and we are pledged to refund the cost price per bottle if it fails to do all that is claimed for it. You get immediate relief.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION RATES TO THE OLD STATES VIA THE TEXAS MIDLAND RAILROAD.

Tickets on sale December 20 and 21, limit 20 days for return, to all points in the Southeast; through coaches without change via either Memphis or New Orleans.

For rates, routes and other information, call on or address any agent of this line or J. E. LEITH, Gen. Pass. & Tkt. Agt., Texas Midland Railroad, Terrell, Texas.

Have You Catarrh?

You can easily determine whether you have Catarrh. The doctors can tell no better than you. The symptoms are self-evident and absolute. Have you a cold in the head or a discharge from the nose? Does phlegm drop into the throat? Do you have a dull headache, foul breath, husky voice, or treacherous memory? Is your throat inflamed? Are there noises in your ears? Is your hearing bad? Do you catch a cold by slight exposure?

These symptoms indicate Catarrh, which, if neglected, may develop into Consumption. Delay increases the danger. More deaths result from Catarrh than from any other cause.

A Free Trial Treatment.

Send us your address, and we will send you by mail, absolutely free, a trial sample of Dr. Blosser's Catarrh Cure, together with everything necessary to its use. Not one cent expense to you. This is the only safe and reliable Catarrh Cure known to medical science. You will know its efficacy when you try the sample. If it helps you, you will buy more; if it does not, you will have been to no expense.

If you desire a free sample, send us your address at once. If you wish a month's treatment, send \$1.00, and it will be forwarded, postage paid. Write at once to

Dr. J. W. Blosser & Son,
Atlanta, Ga.