

# The Texas Christian Advocate.

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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF ALL THE TEXAS AND THE NEW MEXICO CONFERENCES OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

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## Editorial.

### LETTER FROM THE TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The representatives of the ADVOCATE left Dallas on the Santa Fe, Tuesday night, December 3, bound for Brenham, the seat of the fifty-sixth session of the Texas Conference. A freight train lying across the track sixteen miles this side of Brenham delayed us eight hours and thus spoiled somewhat the pleasure of a smooth, quick run over the popular Santa Fe Route. We were not in Brenham long before we saw that the conference was in full possession of the town. Rumors of various sorts and echos of the morning session were in the air. Bishop Keener had opened the conference promptly, had disposed of the preliminary business rapidly and had put the regular conference work in the way of swift and satisfactory attainment. There was a very full attendance at this conference and the brethren were characteristically buoyant and cheerful. The trial of two prominent members of this conference cast a cloud over the body (see question 20 and answer), but otherwise the occasion was a pleasant and ever-memorable one. Bishop J. C. Keener, the senior Bishop of the M. E. Church, South, presided at this session. The Bishop is now a venerable old man, verging upon eighty years, but the weight of nearly eight decades of time sits lightly upon him. His intellectual power is undiminished. The beautiful saintliness of his character shone with transparent clearness. His perception of what was transpiring was keen, his interest in the conference business was profound, his remarks to the brethren were original and impressive, his spirit mellow and sweet, and his guidance of the business expeditious and efficient. Bishop Keener is one of the greatest men that Methodism ever produced. In depth of thought he has no superior in our Church, and in erudition and culture we doubt if he has an equal. Wise and statesmanlike in counsel, strong and efficient in administration, original and commanding in conversation, a master of pulpit eloquence, a pillar of the Church, full of days, honors and usefulness, he abides a memorial of the mighty historic past, and one of the last of a race of intellectual and spiritual giants whose character, achievements and records are the glory of the Church. We noticed with the deepest interest everything he said and did, for there came to us with overmastering pathos the thought that we were observing the movements and doings of the closing hours of a great, an honored and a useful life. Bishop Keener belongs to "the old panel," as we fondly say—the rarest and choicest lot of men that God ever gave to Southern Methodism, and the peers of any that ever preached the gospel and led the sacramental host to battle and to triumph. We do not disguise our admiration for Bishop Keener and his illustrious colleagues of other years. The time, too, is coming when the mention of one of their names will bring spontaneously to the lips of the admirer that ancient and appropriate formula of praise: "O clarum et venerabile nomen." The old Bishop is the noblest Roman of them all.

The conference business proceeded smoothly from day to day, very little time being wasted in superfluous talk and debate. The report on Sunday-schools and the report on temperance brought forth some wise and animated remarks which will bear fruit. The statistics, which we publish in another column, show substantial gains. The field of the Texas Conference is in many respects a hard one. The management of the foreign element presents a different problem. But, in spite of all, the work broadens. Our preachers are consecrated and efficient, and backed up by some of the noblest of laymen are accomplishing a magnificent work. Brenham is a capital town, and situated in the heart of a very rich country is prospering abundantly. The entertainment of the conference was all that could be asked. Hospitality, as the Scripture enjoins, abounded. In company with the publisher we were domiciled at the Exchange Hotel and fared well. Many of the brethren at this conference were overworked on account of the extraordinary press of business,

and this marred to some extent the social features of the occasion. The weather was delightful throughout, and the conference a pleasant and notable occasion. Bishop Keener's presidency gave great satisfaction and the conference counted itself highly honored by the presence, the example and the counsels of the grand old man.

The conference adjourned Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, after two very busy sessions. The appointments were received with the usual measure of satisfaction, and the brethren, with the baptism of a new consecration upon them, parted to fulfill their providential mission among men. The new year opens auspiciously, and there is every reason to believe that the incoming year will be one of prosperity and peace.

We are indebted to the President, Bishop J. C. Keener, and the Secretaries, Seth Ward, D. H. Hotchkiss and George E. Clothier, for many favors, which we gratefully acknowledge.

### THE MINUTE BUSINESS.

Minutes of the Texas Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, South, held at Brenham, Texas, beginning December 4, 1895, ending December 9, 1895.—Bishop J. C. Keener, Presiding; Seth Ward, Secretary.

Question 1. Who are admitted on trial? Chas. C. McLarty, Ellie C. Keith, George Southwell.

Question 2. Who remain on trial? R. L. Williams, W. R. Campbell (L. E.), Clyde B. Garrett, E. P. Newsom (L. D.), M. L. Lindsey, E. A. Potts, B. W. Allen, H. B. Kimbler.

Question 3. Who are discontinued? S. W. Holt, A. M. Eabank (at their own request).

Question 4. Who are admitted into full connection? Jno. C. Stewart, J. L. Yeats, M. F. Daniel, C. E. Simpson, J. W. Thompson, R. T. Blackburn, J. H. Murray, E. M. Myers.

Question 5. Who are readmitted? L. A. Tabor.

Question 6. Who are received by transfer from other conferences? J. M. Crutchfield, S. W. Holt, Leon Sonfield, F. E. Hammond, J. A. McIver.

Question 7. Who are deacons of one year? Jas. Kilgore, H. C. Willis, C. M. Thompson, R. W. Adams, J. J. Callaway, Ira B. Gordon, J. C. Moore.

Question 8. What traveling preachers are elected deacons? Jno. C. Stewart, Chas. E. Simpson, Tobit T. Blackburn, E. M. Myers.

Question 9. What traveling preachers are ordained deacons? Jno. C. Stewart, Chas. E. Simpson, Robert T. Blackburn, Erastus M. Myers.

Question 10. What local preachers are elected deacons? Thomas J. White, Henry W. Cox.

Question 11. What local preachers are ordained deacons? Thomas J. White, Henry W. Cox.

Question 12. What traveling preachers are elected elders? E. L. Shettles, J. W. Morris, J. W. Callen, W. H. Brooks, W. T. McDonald, J. L. Russell, Thos. R. Cain.

Question 13. What traveling preachers are ordained elders? Elijah L. Shettles, Jno. W. Morris, James W. Callen, Wm. H. Brooks, Wm. T. McDonald, John L. Russell, Thomas R. Cain.

Question 14. What local preachers are elected elders? John F. Sullivan, D. W. Gardner.

Question 15. What local preachers are ordained elders? Jno. F. Sullivan, D. W. Gardner.

Question 16. Who are located this year? S. M. Godbey, A. J. Wheeler, Jno. W. Morris (at their own request).

Question 17. Who are supernumerary? G. C. Stovall.

Question 18. Who are superannuated? F. A. Meshan, D. H. Linebaugh, T. W. Blake, J. H. Davidson, J. M. Wesson, Wesley Smith, W. K. Turner, W. G. Nelms, E. S. Smith, Gideon Kowledge.

Question 19. What preachers have died during the past year? C. W. Thomas.

Question 20. Are all the preachers blameless in their life and official administration? E. H. Harman and W. Wimberly were expelled from ministry and membership of the M. E. Church, South. The names of all others called and their characters passed.

Question 21. What is the number of local preachers and members in the several circuits, stations and missions of the conference? Local preachers, 111; white members, 21,819; colored, 2. Total, 21,851.

Question 22. How many infants have been baptized during the year? 708.

Question 23. How many adults have been baptized during the year? 1153.

Question 24. What is the number of Epworth Leagues? 61.

Question 25. What is the number of Epworth League members? 2102.

Question 26. What is the number of Sunday-schools? 182.

Question 27. What is the number of Sunday-school teachers? 1,138.

Question 28. What is the number of Sunday-school scholars? 11,313.

Question 29. What amount is necessary for the superannuated preachers and the widows and orphans of preachers? \$4216.80.

Question 30. What has been collected on the foregoing account, and how has it been applied? \$3636.94.

Question 31. What has been contributed for missions? Foreign, \$1734.15; domestic, \$2937.34.

Question 32. What has been contributed for Church Extension? \$1337.45.

Question 33. What has been done for the American Bible Society? \$161.75.

Question 34. What has been contributed for the support of presiding elders and preachers in charge? Presiding elders, \$925.42; preachers in charge, \$47,222.66.

Question 35. What has been contributed for the support of Bishops? \$992.43.

Question 36. What is the number of societies, and the number and estimated value of church edifices? Number of societies, 209; number of church edifices, 174; value, \$345,427.

Question 37. What is the number of pastoral charges, and the number and value of parsonages owned by them? Number of charges, 101; number of parsonages, 69; value, \$60,252.75.

Question 38. What is the number and value of district parsonages? Number of district parsonages, 1; value \$1000.

Question 39. What are the educational facilities? Southwestern University—number professors and teachers, 19; total number students, 432; value grounds and buildings, \$125,000; productive endowment, \$1600. Chappell Hill Female College—Professors and teachers, 7; students, 77; value of grounds and buildings, \$12,000.

Question 40. Where shall the next session of the conference be held? Bastrop.

Question 41. Where are the preachers stationed this year? See appointments.

grace! Rags and wretchedness are transformed into radiant, immortal robes and angelic joy. Does God feed his saints a crumb at a time? Here is the divine apology for poverty. The afflictions of a moment work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Who does not desire to know the law of life?

But there is another side to this mighty law. "The rich man soiled and in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment." The end must come. The purple of Tyre, the linen of Egypt, the sumptuous fare arrested not the flow of an accountable spirit. The kindly sympathy, the gentle hand, the soft tread, the silken couch, the skillful physician did not arrest the steady march of death in the chamber of the man of wealth. No lightning from a surcharged cloud at midnight ever leaped farther or swifter than the spirit of the rich man when it was whispered he is gone, when he "lifted up his eyes in hell, being in torment." What a bath!

Here is the end of all speculation. The oration, the screaming, paid mourners, the decent procession—how they deceived! The burning cresset placed in the mausoleum, just above the dead man's urn, was the one significant truth which attended his burial.

All conscious he sees a distant heaven and feels a present hell. The punishment of the impenitent nobleman is terribly affirmed. Abraham gives him no consolation. The lineal descendant of Abraham far, far away from the father of the faithful! What a distance between hope and despair! "Father Abraham, send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am tormented in this flame."

What a cry—one single drop—what a slight alleviation! What a strico sweeps these woe where one drop of water is an epoch of relief! I see it on the messenger's finger, a drop of water to an acre of red hot boiler-plate! Was ever so little asked of heaven, of friends in heaven? I see the prayer as it goes up and falls back, like a dove entering a vacuum, unanswered. All change is impossible in these stern regions. Sympathy can not affect it. The poet is irrevocable. The future brings no relief. "Son, remember thou in thy lifetime received thy good things." Your life was an uninterrupted success. You looked not beyond the sensuous pleasures of life. Heaven did not deal with stunted hand, but gave you your heart's wish. O poor soul, you chose not the imperishable things of immortal being. Do not now complain, and also remember Lazarus in rags and anguish, who endured the trial of faith much more precious than that of gold, and now receives a crown of life. His fate might have been yours had you so wished it.

Here we see the terrible adjustments of fortune in a future world to those who ignore God's system of repentance and pardon in this life. How stern is pure justice to an unbelieving human spirit in the region of the dead! The law is there more than here. O suicide, think not to get beyond it. There is no weak place or breach through which you can crawl. Your neighbors will be in sight, but out of reach.

Consider the eternal, unchangeable estate over and above all agency. Above all, between us and you, a great gulf is fixed—the barrier of good and evil which none may pass. No angel laden with balm can go toward you. No fierce spirit, strong-pinioned, such as passed the bounds of paradise, can come from you to us. The boundaries are fixed by God, like the deep sea gash, like the depth between planets, the regions of moral limit for men and angels.

How sad his unavailing prayer for friends left behind. But the pitiful wall brings no help to them. He would fain send back a messenger to preach repentance to the living. But Abraham says: "They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them." The truth and the law applied by the Spirit constitute God's provision for saving men. He who knew the human mind and heart has given the Pentateuch, the Psalms and the Prophets—a remedy for sinners—light for the mind, law for the life. Miracles do not work repentance. A specter with a heart on fire will not avail where the truth applied by the Spirit has failed.

The unbelieving hab't will follow a man to the regions of the damned.

"Nay, Father Abraham, if one went into them from the dead they will repent."

There is no weakness in the law, no crevice of escape. Salvation goes by law, by repentance. All men are commanded to repent. In you, conscience is appealed to. You can not silence it. The record of your own heart is against you. It tells you of a judgment to come, and a Judge. Here is your doom. It is stated in the book, written on the walls of your heart, declared not from Sinai's top alone, but from hell's depth and fire. If this is an unrepentant sinner's doom, it is a mercy to unrepentant sinners. What a death must that be which can quench these flames—

which can, by the sacrifice of the Lamb of God and the New Testament in his blood, blot out your transgressions. "I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."

### THE BISHOP'S ADDRESS.

The Bishop reminded the conference that this was a religious service. He took it for granted that there had been the occasion of fasting and prayer prescribed by the Discipline. He begged them to remember that this was an old service and that these questions had been asked for more than a hundred years. The Bishop then propounded and interpreted the disciplinary questions seriatim. Faith is not mere intellectual assent to historical truth. Faith is a supernatural apprehension of Christ crucified. Religion is the art of knowing that Christ died for me. Faith brings with it Sonship and manifold gracious privileges. Christ brought into the world a new covenant, a new atmosphere of life, and a new order of things. "Behold, I make all things new." "Old things have passed away." For instance, he gives us the consciousness of God. A convert does not need to be told that God made the world. He realizes it. The chirp of the sparrow, the flashing of the dewdrop, everything in nature leads up his thought to God. His whole nature is revived and strings to rapture. The heavens above and the earth beneath are the sounding-board which throws back the music of his praise. There springs up in his heart the consciousness of a new love. I like charity as a descriptive term better than love, for it accentuates the divine passion and contrasts it with all inferior affections. Love, like the sunbeam, includes all the minor affections and rays of emotion. Love is everything. A man may talk like a chime of bells, but if he lacks love he lacks all. Love is a progressive, ever-widening affection, culminating toward the end of life in a ripe and mellow maturity. Every high advance in religion is accompanied by humility. Pride and self-congratulation are fatal omens. The old Bishops and the godly men whom I knew formerly, like Olin and Fisk, who professed sanctification, invariably spoke of getting it late in life. It is the end, the consummation. This talk of a second work like conversion is absurd. Why you have not exhausted the first. A second work transcending the first is a moral impossibility. You might as well talk of two resurrections or two incarnations. The first is an unfathomable mine of spiritual wealth. Enumerate what God did for you in conversion, and you will be amazed at the summing up. To talk of another creative, epochal work of this breadth and depth in the human soul is sheer extravagance. The perfect love after which you groan and in which and toward which you grow, is the consummation. Give yourself wholly to God and I his work. This is a vast undertaking. Conform to the Discipline of the Church. You are willing to do it. You may not be hereafter. Some men think they are smart enough to make a Discipline. Don't nudge things here. Get hold of the children. Those boys dangling their feet under the front bench will remember the sermon long after the Judge and the Colonel have forgotten it. Children have as good eyes and better ears than old people. A child can learn the Chinese language in two years, while it would take his grand-daddy a thousand. A young preacher preaches to the young and his audience diminishes with advancing years. His opportunity is a great one. Visit the flock. I like that Western phrase, "Mixing with the people." It is not eating,

smoking and lounging. It is an art. Cultivate it. Fast. No matter whether you understand the reason or not. It may be a naked command to test your loyalty. In this way you can cast out devils. Read the Bible to yourself and to your people. Our people will soon be as blindly ignorant of the Bible as the Hottentots unless we reverse our conduct. Prepare your sermons. Master the best commentaries and know what you are talking about. Don't preach little bits of nothing. You must study and be alone with God. Keep out of debt. Handle your money before you spend it. Do not forget that you have promised to do that part of the work which we advise at those times and places which we judge most for his glory." Some have forgotten this. They seek a wider sphere. They locate that they may not be located. They take advantage of a law that never was intended for such a purpose to travel over the State and the South. They have such wonderful talents that they must not be circumscribed. A Texas circuit is big enough for any of them. They are doing very little good. I know they make flaming reports, but there is not much there. It vanishes like the froth from a mug of beer.

This is a great work, brethren. You will not get money, but you will get what money can not buy. You have entrance into the best society in the world. People will love you and be sorry when you die. Keeping this vow, the air will be as sweet and refreshing in the evening as it was in the morning of life. Prosperity and happiness betide you. Peace be with you!

### CONFERENCE NOTES.

In connection with the Sunday-school report Prof. H. C. Pritchett, of Huntsville, made some wise and impressive remarks. He insisted that the preachers should give the children "pastoral instruction." The conference listened with attention, and the Bishop thanked him for his remarks. The Bishop said, "You must carry your children to church whether they will or will not. They must not range around generally on Sunday morning, tearing things to pieces. God gives these children to us in a plastic form and expects us to mold them. If our children go to the dogs and the devil, it is the parent's fault. That is the doctrine."

The conference voted with practical unanimity to go to Bastrop. A very entertaining debate took place in which several members of the conference participated. Bro. H. M. Sears stated that, in addition to the other attractions, Bastrop possessed the oldest church building in Texas—a building which had been modernized and beautified, and which was in every way equal to present demands. Bryan and Houston were in the race, but the friends of Bastrop won an easy victory.

Dr. J. J. Tigert attended the session at Brenham. He collected the accounts of the Publishing House and promoted the interests of the Review. There are many indications of an extraordinary season of prosperity ahead for the Review. It is not only a success now, both in a literary and financial way, but is on the verge of a veritable boom. Dr. Tigert bids fair to eclipse all his predecessors in point of business prosperity. Bishop Keener spoke very highly of the editor and his work. Dr. Tigert may well congratulate himself upon having earned such commendation and praise. The Texas Conference treated the Doctor with distinguished courtesy, and appreciated the fine pulpit work which he did for them.

A brother applied for a location. The Bishop elicited the information that the brother desired to locate in order that he might travel and evangelize. The Bishop referred to Bishop Wilson's decision in a similar case, and stated that he endorsed it and would abide by it. He said: "You claim that you want to be a local preacher. You know in your heart that you want to be something else. You make an application for one thing, but you are after another. This is an equivocal use of the term local, and a total misapplication of the law. You can not, under the plea of location, indefinitely extend the boundary of your work. Our preachers must be under supervision. If you roam everywhere, you can not be. The Church must keep you within definitely assigned limits. The itinerary must be protected and preserved."

### APPOINTMENTS.

#### Houston District.

SETH WARD, P. E.  
Houston, Sharn Memorial—G. C. Rankin.  
Washington Street—J. W. Horn.  
Melroe Street—S. W. Thomas.  
Tabernacle—O. T. Hotchkiss.  
City Mission—C. A. Hooper.  
Galveston, St. Johns—C. R. Lamar.  
St. James—Leon Southwell.  
West End—T. B. Graves.  
Bolivar—To be supplied.  
Richmond—Ira M. Bryce.  
Cedar Bayou—J. R. Murray.  
Alvin and Hitchcock—H. T. Woolsey.  
Velasco Circuit—C. B. Garrett.  
Columbia and Brazoria—J. W. McManis.  
Rosenberg Mission—J. C. Stewart.  
Matagorda—A. J. Anderson.  
Patterson—J. M. Adams.  
Wharton and Hungerford—W. R. Campbell.  
Dickinson Mission—J. M. Crutchfield.  
Angleton Circuit—C. M. Thompson.

#### Austin District.

J. B. SEARS, P. E.  
Austin, Tenth Street—E. W. Solomon.  
Twenty-fourth Street—E. L. Shettles.  
First Street—E. G. Hocutt.  
Merrilltown—H. W. Allen.  
Mancha—W. C. Bracewell.  
Webbersville—S. H. Morgan.  
Manor—D. H. Hotchkiss.  
Echin—C. H. Brooks.  
McDade—T. R. Cain.  
Bastrop—H. M. Sears.  
Smithville Station—R. T. Blackburn.  
Cedar Creek Circuit—To be supplied.  
White River Circuit—J. W. Holt.  
Lafayette—J. E. Green.  
Columbus—S. F. Chambers.  
Weimar and Osage—J. W. Harmon.  
Flint—C. M. Keith.  
Eagle Lake Circuit—Chas. U. McLarty.  
Conference Missionary Secretary—J. B. Sears.

#### Brenham District.

J. C. MICKLE, P. E.  
Brenham—E. P. Newsom.  
Chappell Hill—F. E. Hammond.  
Giddings—W. H. Brooks.  
Caldwell Station—S. S. Willford.  
Lyons Circuit—J. W. Kelley.  
Frankville Mission—E. A. Potts.  
Cameron—G. A. LeClere.  
Cameron Circuit—J. W. Callen.  
Daviess—J. C. Moore.  
Maysfield—J. L. Russell.  
Red Arm—To be supplied.  
Milano—S. P. Brown.  
Rockdale—E. A. Tabor.  
Pleasant Hill Circuit—M. F. Daniel.  
Lexington—H. T. Hart.  
Seely—C. L. Farrington.  
Belleville—J. P. Skinner.  
Gardale Mission—To be supplied.

#### Galveston District.

J. B. COCHRAN, P. E.  
Galveston—Jas. Kilgore.  
Marlin—A. E. Goodwyn.  
Bremont and Reagan—G. H. Phair.  
Kosse—H. M. Haynie.  
Alto Mission—To be supplied.  
Bald Prairie—To be supplied.  
Hearne and Mumford—W. W. Horner.  
Franklin—F. L. Allen.  
Whitlock—R. L. Williams.  
Mt. Vernon—M. L. Lindsey.  
Jewett Mission—W. F. Brinson.  
Oakwood and Buffalo—H. V. Philpott.  
Fairfield—E. O. Favre.  
Personville—To be supplied.  
Centerville—H. G. Williams.  
Rogers Prairie—J. L. Yeats.  
Roseland—L. P. Davis.  
Chilton and Lott—C. E. Simpson.  
Durango—J. W. Thompson.

#### Huntsville District.

W. WOOTTON, P. E.  
Huntsville—J. L. Massey.  
Prairie Plains—J. J. Callaway.  
Zion—J. B. Gordon.  
Navy—G. H. Collins.  
Madisonville—B. J. Guess.  
Willis—R. W. Adams.  
Montgomery and Conroe—J. B. Nutter.  
Cold Springs—J. A. McIver.  
Stockham and Plantersville—E. C. Keith.  
Hempstead and Courtney—H. C. Willis.  
Hockley—H. R. Kimbler.  
Milligan—G. S. Saevel.  
Bryan—G. E. Clothier.  
Orange Mission—E. M. Myers.  
Cleveland and Westfield Mission—George Southwell.  
Editor Missionary Review—I. G. John.

TRANSFERRED—E. D. Moulton, to North-west Texas Conference; D. S. Thompson, to Tennessee Conference; G. W. Briggs, to Louisville Conference.

Rebottional.

Put a seal upon your lips and forget what you have done. After you have been kind, after love has stolen forth into the world and done its beautiful work, go back into the shade again and say nothing about it. Love hides even from itself.—Prof. Drummond.

The season has come again when the leaves are dropping in their autumnal graves. It seems but yesterday that they opened out for the spring buds and spread their soft green palms to the sunshine. But it is months ago that they were born—a lifetime in the vegetable world has nearly passed, and, having served their generation, they are now about to fall asleep. The prelude of death in the leaves is wonderfully gorgeous and impressive. All the brilliant tints are lavished upon them. All the splendors of coloring are displayed in the forest as they are about to be unclothed. Many there are that have fallen prematurely; and herein they are a type of human mortality—fallen, while yet green, and unperfected by the hand of violence, or torn by some rude blast. Thus perish the young and the strong—lying without fading, and preserved in memory, as in a herbarium, ever young and beautiful.

The loneliest of all human experiences is that of dying. We can not die in clusters, not even two and two; we must die alone. Human hands must unclasp, as we enter the valley of shadows. Human faces must fade from our vision as we pass into the mist. "I can not see you," said one dying, as the loved ones stood about his bed. So it will be with each one of us in turn. Human love can not go beyond the edge of the valley. But we need not be alone even in the deepest of all loneliness, for if we are Christ's we can say, "Yet I am not alone, for my Savior is with me." When human hands unclasp, his will clasp, our more firmly. When human loved faces fade out, his will shine above us in all its glorious brightness. When we must creep out of the bosom of human affection, it will be only into the clasp of the Everlasting Arms, into the bosom of Christ. Death's loneliness will thus be filled with divine companionship.—J. R. Miller, D. D.

Humane one said that when he thought of his mother he believed in immortality; there was that in her character which he could not reconcile with final dissolution. The supreme and convincing witness to the great truth of the endless life are the good, the pure, and the self-sacrificing, whose aims and spirit are so harmonious with eternal life that they are inexplicable without it. They bring eternally with them, and make time seem a part of it. Their whole dealing with life involves its continuity; and there flows from them a stream of faith. Righteousness is never so real as when it finds its illustration in a human life. Many a man knows that righteousness is immutable and sovereign in this world because he remembers what his father was. The momentary success of bad men and corrupt methods do not for an instant confuse one who has been in close touch with a pure and true human soul; a soul which was not only unpurchasable, but which made the barter of principle incredibly mean and base. One righteous man confutes all the specious arguments against the supremacy of righteousness in this world; such a man makes it clear that righteousness is not only sovereign, but that it is the only reality.

And character is not only disclosure and confirmation of righteousness and immortality; it is also a revelation of the spirit and methods of God. There is a higher function which the human soul may take upon itself than this to make men see and love God. It imparts to those who rise to its opportunities a sanctity and beauty past all power of speech to express. In countless households there are women who are patiently, in sweet unconsciousness of their saintly service, spelling the ways and mysteries of God in words so simple that he who runs may read. Year in and year out in these blessed homes God becomes real, near, and divinely compassionate through this silent revelation of character. Character, it has been well said, is salvation; and it is salvation not only for ourselves but for others. We are saved by the character of others, because that character breeds character in us. There are many to whom God seems afar off; they do not doubt him, but they can not lay hold of him as a companion in the hour of need. To such nature it is a blessed provision when some human soul becomes a translator and revealer of that Divine Helper who has not yet become a Father in the thought and feeling of a weak sinning child. Human love becomes in this way the prelude to divine love. For we hold fast to the mother or wife whom we love; we long to gain and hold her confidence; we do the things that please her, and we leave undone the things that distress her; we square our lives with her life out of pure love of her. I am conscious to ourselves, we are also conforming our lives to God's will, because we are shaping them after the pattern of one of God's holy ones.

There is more, however, than the steady striving to give our lives to the order which another loves; there is a constant breaking in upon us of a deepening consciousness of God. A beautiful human soul always suggests God, as the shining in the still waters at night makes us instantly aware that a star is above us. We do not need to look at it; we know that it is there. Whoever in this confused world has the supreme blessedness of living close to a beautiful human soul can not look into the pure depths of

both know me now, but rarely speak. It seems to be the way with all the members of that church. They are cold toward attendants who are not favored with intimacy in their own social circles. These cases have set us to thinking. We fear that our Methodism is liable to drift away from the simplicity and heartiness which characterized it in the long ago. Wealth and station have been the occasion for the creeping in of coldness. The hospitality of the early times is becoming a scarier article. Fine capes frighten away plain jackets. Gloved hands lack the warmth of uncovered palms. Some pastors are not urgent enough in encouraging sociableness. It ought to be made a sort of unwritten law in Methodism that fine apparel shall not be worn at church, and that any member who fails to shake hands and be social shall be liable to reprimand. Dear loved Methodists, let us keep warm-hearted toward the poor, the timid, and towards strangers generally. Encourage all new-comers to come again. Urge the probationers to persevere. See that no seeker falls. Be kind to the impatient and try by any and all means to make our churches welcoming religious homes for everybody.—Michigan Advocate.

Dr. Arnold, when called at London a bigot, and at Oxford a latitudinarian, is reported to have said, "If I had two necks, I think I had a very good chance of being hanged by both sides." The probable trouble with his critics was, that they did not see the deeper truth that underlay and reconciled his so-called bigotry and latitudinarianism. The well was deeper than the length of the wherewithal they had to draw with. The good woman of Samaria was an obvious practical truth when she said: "Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep." Christ did not hesitate to broaden the meaning of her casual statement by applying it to the things spiritual. "If thou knewest the gift of God," thou mightest draw even from me; thou art ready to open up a living fountain for him that is able to receive the water from it. There are wells that are very deep; some, but not all, are able to draw from them. One side or the other of this double truth many of us are slow to admit. Bishop Butler in his famous "Analogy" thought it necessary to devote an entire chapter to prove that the divine government is a scheme, and that as such it must be beyond the comprehension of finite beings; hence it followed that our ignorance is a sufficient answer to all objections against the wisdom and goodness of the divine Governor. And so it is.

The first step in wisdom is the humble admission of our ignorance; or, what comes to the same thing, that there are many things in the universe too deep for finite ken. Yet the deep yields its secrets to the humble seeker for wisdom. By becoming as little children we enter the kingdom of heaven, and also the kingdom of truth. Every Christian should think of this every time he opens his Bible. The Book is a very deep well. In the lowest evangelical view of it, it is a record of the mighty ways of God in the series of providences by which he has laid the foundations of a scheme for the redemption of the world. Its human origin on the one side may be accepted, and its constant accommodation to finite intelligence; but after all it contains the plan of the Infinite, and the method of it is the way he has selected to speak to his wayward children, so that in a transcendently significant sense it is "the very Word of God." How unsearchable are its treasures of wisdom and grace! No soul ever went astray by incorporating its teachings and spirit into the very core of its life. It may give itself up to the Book with an absolute abandon. One should say when he opens its pages, not, soul, what thinkst thou of the Book? but, soul, what does the Book think of thee? Then he will find by an inner teaching both deep and glorious meanings. There is no greater need of the present time, nor of any time, than of a set of Christians who shall have a dominant ambition to exhaust, as far as is possible, the profound meanings of the very Word. The better that no profound meanings are there is fatal to all successful search. And who shall exhaust the depths of the being and work of Christ? Paul, the great expounder of that work, was forced to exclaim, "O the depth of the riches, both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past tracing out!"

It is a law of procedure in the pursuit of wisdom that we get from nature, from books and from persons in proportion to what we carry to them. It is useless to go to the well with nothing to draw with, and the depths of a spiritual well can not be reached by a carnal bucket. The content of a spiritual mind only can be reached by a spiritual mind only. "Now the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; and he can not know them, because they are spiritually examined." We can not draw water with a cleve; a prince is unknown to his valet; Christ to the Pharisees was a prince of evil spirits. It is only the "scribe who hath been made a disciple to the kingdom of heaven," that is, "like unto a man that is a householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old."

It was a beautiful thoughtfulness that suggested to the mind of the ancient Church the title "divine" for the joint apostle, and the medieval Church represented the mighty flight of his spirit by the soaring of the eagle to meet the sun; but John of all the disciples probably had the power to see the most deeply into the meaning of Christ the son of God. He had the secret of faith, which is the secret that unlocks the depths of the unseen, of the divine. And so we all may have; and "faith may continually rise from lower to higher as it learns more and more to appreciate Christ, and to discern the meaning of his revealing and saving work." How excited is the privilege of the true child of God! How immeasurably superior his lot to that of those who weary

of the lot (of doing) his buckets into empty wells, and growing old in drawing nothing up.—The Advance.

that soul day after day with a constant vision of God. In such a relationship, to one who gradually enters into it, there is not only growing purification, but there is also a deepening reverence; a consciousness, becoming constantly more distinct, that one is living near a shrine and that a human fellowship is silently becoming transformed into a divine fellowship. Human love can bring to one who evokes it no higher tribute than this unconsciousness, nor can it take on any higher form of manifestation than this revelation of the divine love. When it rests here, it seems already of heaven rather than of earth, and it carries in its heart the assurance of its own immortality.—Outlook.

through the entire day. The poor beasts seem to have all the life and spirit lashed out of them, and their inhuman drivers take headish delight in inflicting torture. I fancy they are made so cruel by the great amount of liquor which they drink. All cabmen, servants and waiters are paid *pour boire* (drink money) by those who hire them, besides their regular charge. We call it in our country "tipping," here it is called "drink money." And I think it is used for that.

Then as we look about we must see how very polite the people are. There is a "please," a "thank you," a "tip of the hat and a bow very often in their dealing with others. I wish I might think they meant it all. But they like money fully as well as we Americans do, and they do not seem to be as careful by what means they get it. As we leave the train we must watch very carefully that we are not run over, for in Paris we must pay a large fine if we are so careless as to allow ourselves to be run over, while the cab or bus man who runs over any one goes free.

But we have already reached the heart of the city and find ourselves in a most beautiful, large, stone-paved open square. It is called "Place de la Concorde." It is the most beautiful open square in Europe, but one so associated with the bloody tragic events of the last 125 years in Paris, that we must look at it with less pleasure than we otherwise could. Here were Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI. were married in 1770, the persons were crushed to death in the crowd and 2,000 badly injured. And on the same spot in the revolution of 1793, twenty-three years later, not only they but 2000 others were beheaded. Where the dreadful guillotine stood is now a beautiful Egyptian obelisk, made 1550 B. C., and given by an Egyptian ruler in 1832 to the French. It is like Cleopatra's needle in London.

Looking around, we see at the end of one wide, beautiful avenue the Arch of Triumph, erected by the great Napoleon to celebrate his victories. It is the finest arch in the world, 160 feet high, nearly as wide, and cost \$2,000,000. Just ahead is the beautiful Madeleine church, looking like a real Greek temple, with fifty-two high pillars around it, and its massive, finely carved bronze doors, while inside are the most beautiful marble columns and altar, rich old paintings and statues. Looking in the opposite direction of the arch, you may see the end of that wonderful art gallery, the Louvre, in which you may walk miles and miles looking at the fine paintings, statuary and rare jewelry, new and old. In still another direction are the Government halls, like our National Congress.

We are near the conciergerie, or State prison, where Marie Antoinette, Robespierre, the Girondists and other prisoners were imprisoned. Let us not go in. It gives one such a quality feeling when the heavy doors lock behind one, or to walk on the damp, cold floor and look out of the barred windows, through which the unhappy victims so often wished to escape. Let us rather walk a little further on and see one of the most beautiful churches in Paris, now no longer used as a church, because disconsecrated, but built to hold the relics now in Notre Dame, of which I do not go in. It gives one such a quality feeling when the heavy doors lock behind one, or to walk on the damp, cold floor and look out of the barred windows, through which the unhappy victims so often wished to escape. 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L. BLAYLOCK, Dallas, Texas.

BIBLE - WELL PLEASED.

DEAR SIR - I received the Bible all
right and am well pleased with it.
Many thanks. Yours respectfully,
MISS LUCY M. SULLIVAN,
Pittsburg, Texas, Dec 27, 1895.

REV. STERLING FISHER.

With the issue of December 5 Rev.
Sterling Fisher, who succeeds Rev.
E. C. McVoy as Epworth League
editor, began his work. Bro. Fisher
is an honored and useful member of
the West Texas Conference, and in
his new capacity will widen the circle
of his influence and service. We wel-
come Brother Fisher to the columns
of the ADVOCATE, and congratulate
our readers upon the fact that we
have been enabled to secure such a
competent man to fill this laborious
and responsible position. Let him
have the prayers and the co-opera-
tion of the Leaguers. Those who
have business with him will address
him at Kyle, Texas.

TEXAS PERSONALS.

Rev. C. C. Davis and Rev. E. K.
Bransford made us a highly appre-
ciated visit during the week.
Bro. Adamson, President of the
Epworth League, at McKinney, made
the ADVOCATE an appreciated call
this week.
Rev. S. Crutchfield, of Lancaster,
stopped at "the quarters" this week
on his return from a call at the bed-
side of his sister, who is seriously ill.
Rev. J. W. Hill, of Gainesville,
made the ADVOCATE a pleasant call
during the week. He was on his
way to Waxahachie to visit the
family of his cousin, Dr. J. S. Hill,
whose wife is dangerously ill. Bro.
Hill is announced to lecture before
the Floyd Street Epworth League,
Thursday, December 12. A pleasant
occasion is anticipated.

GIFTS TO SOUTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY.

Dr. J. H. McLean represented the
Southwestern University in a strong,
earnest speech which yielded fruit.
The conference contributed some \$600
to the building fund. In addition,
Prof. H. C. Pritchett, President of the
State Normal School at Hunte-
ville, contributed \$1000 - a generous
gift from a truly noble man. Another
layman in this conference purposes
giving \$1000 - another true and
helpful friend of education. Mrs.
Giddings, of Brenham, contributes
\$10,000 upon the condition that the
Church raises the sum of \$75,000.
This announcement affords us the
most exquisite pleasure. It is matter
for devout thanksgiving. Mrs. Gid-
dings has been the good angel of our
university, and will go down into
history as having been the large-
hearted benefactor of a noble institu-
tion. Let the friends of the univer-
sity rally to the university with un-
wonted enthusiasm and energy.

REV. J. L. HENDRY.

At the Missionary Anniversary
Saturday night Dr. Tigert and Bro.
Hendry were the speakers. Dr. Tig-
ert, after making a few impressive
introductory remarks, gracefully
retired and turned the occasion over
to Bro. Hendry, who, for more than an
hour, instructed and delighted a large
congregation. His picture of Chinese
life and his survey of the work were
graphic and highly relished. Bro.
Hendry's talks fire the heart and do
incalculable good. He will return
next January, and when announcing

the fact begged his friends to think
of him as happy in his work. "This,"
said he, "is no sacrifice, but opportu-
nity." Bro. Hendry has in him the
stuff that martyrs are made of. A
grand man, a grand talk and a grand
occasion! Let the prayers of Texas
Methodism over-arch and encompass
the missionary and his wife. Bro.
Hendry will write for the ADVOCATE
- good news for our readers.

THOSE WHO PREACHED.

The following brethren preached
during the session: Leon Sonfield,
W. H. Vaughan, J. J. Tigert, E. W.
Solomon, W. F. Lloyd, G. E. Clo-
thier, E. L. Shettles, T. R. Pierce.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES.

Six Months of Finance - J. L.
Massey, W. W. Adickes, C. A. Hooper,
E. P. Hamblen, T. S. Williford,
J. D. Campbell, F. L. Allen, J. D.
Steel, C. H. Brooks, B. D. Orgain.

Visiting Committee - Southwestern
University: G. A. LeClere, J. L.
Massey.
Chappell Female College: Ira M
Bryce, Geo. E. Clothier.

JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.

The amount of money coming into
our hands from the preachers on the dif-
ferent charges for conference claimants
is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: District Name, Amount. Includes Houston District (\$1033.65), Austin District (781.20), Brenham District (571.50), Calvert District (698.55), Huntsville District (558.10).

PAID CLAIMANTS AS FOLLOWS:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Conf. Fund, Calvin Fund. Lists names like Miss Annie White, Mrs. C. E. Stacy, Robert Durbaum, etc.

TOTALS

Total \$4172.66

The amount assessed against the
conference for Bishops' fund was \$1074.62,
and was apportioned as follows:

Table with 3 columns: District, Assessed, Paid. Includes Houston (\$295.00), Austin (247.50), Brenham (225.00), Calvert (180.00), Huntsville (157.12).

TOTALS

Total \$1074.62

Bishops' fund disposed of as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Amount. Includes Remitted Barbee & Smith (\$40), Remitted Barbee & Smith by W. W. Adickes, Treasurer (\$84.38).

TOTALS

Total \$993.78

We are assessed for Bishops' fund for
the ensuing year \$1098.70, which we ap-
portioned to the districts as follows:

Table with 3 columns: District, Assessed, Paid. Includes Houston (\$271.00), Austin (253.00), Brenham (230.00), Calvert (184.00), Huntsville (160.70).

TOTALS

Total \$1098.70

The assessment for education we ap-
portioned to the districts as follows:

Table with 3 columns: District, Assessed, Paid. Includes Houston (\$995.00), Austin (539.00), Brenham (650.00), Calvert (225.00), Huntsville (210.00).

TOTALS

Total \$1500.00

The assessment for the General Board
of Education we apportioned to the dis-
tricts as follows:

Table with 3 columns: District, Assessed, Paid. Includes Houston (\$50.00), Austin (45.00), Brenham (35.00), Calvert (30.00), Huntsville (25.00).

WE ASSESSED THE VARIOUS BOARDS FOR
THE PUBLICATION OF MINUTES AS FOLLOWS:

Table with 2 columns: Board Name, Amount. Includes Sunday-school Board (\$20.00), Board of Church Extension (30.00), Board of Education (11.50), Board of Missions (45.50).

TOTAL

Total \$110.00

We recommend that the assessment
for conference claimants be an amount
equal to 8 per cent on the assessed
salaries of the preachers, and that
the preachers be held responsible for
an amount equal to 8 per cent of their
receipts. We regret to say that this
rule has been violated in one or two
instances by pastors who receive and
collect their salaries in full, but have
not paid this assessment in full to
this board, and we think the rule
should be enforced uniformly.

In connection with our report we
submit the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this
conference be tendered to the officers
of the First National Bank of Bren-
ham for the courtesy and liberality
in handling the funds of this board,
and providing drafts and exchange
free of charge.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. CAMPBELL, President.

W. W. ADICKES, Treasurer.

C. A. HOOPER, Secretary.

ANTE-MORTEM INVESTMENT IN
SOULS.

If you have it in mind to be-
queath a sum to "send the gospel
to every creature," why wait until
death? Why not make the con-
tribution now, and have the joy of
knowing (while you live) that you
are aiding in this great work?
The Board of Missions will re-
ceive the amount you wish to be-
queath and give in return an
"annuity bond" for same amount,
and pay interest agreed upon, an-
nually or semi-annually, during
your natural life; and at your death
the amount thus bequeathed comes
into possession of the Board of
Missions.

In this way your money is loaned
at fair interest, and in the safest
possible way, while at the same
time it is doing its work for God
and humanity. Can you do better
than invest in this way?

There are doubtless many who
would thus employ a portion of
their means if the matter were
brought to their attention. Will
such persons please correspond
with us? And let our preachers
and people take this subject upon
their thought and notify us of any
who may wish to make such use of
their means. H. C. MORRISON,
W. R. LAMBETH,
Missionary Secretaries.

LETTER FROM TENNESSEE.

The weather is such this morning
as to compel one to stay indoors.
Snow is falling thick and fast, and
the ground is almost covered.

Sitting by my cheerful fire my
thoughts almost unconsciously
have gone back to dear old Texas,
and the temptation to write a let-
ter to the ADVOCATE is so strong
I can not resist it. First of all I
want to tell you how much I have
appreciated the paper since I have
been up here. Its weekly visits
have been like long letters from
home, and I find myself looking
forward with great eagerness to its
arrival. I have always considered
it a splendid paper, but now I
know it is better than all the
others.

The Holston Conference met
this year at Tazewell, Va. It was
the first time I was ever in that
State. The country from Bristol
to Tazewell is the roughest I ever
saw. I was told that all the peo-
ple through there wore peg shoes.
The reason for this was that the
mountains were so close together
there was not enough elbow-room
to sew them.

Texas would be greatly amused
to see the farming done in that
country. Far up on the mountain
slopes corn was growing. I saw
land cultivated where the moun-
tain was so steep that it seemed to
me it was impossible for a man to
retain his equilibrium. The farm-
ers up there must be a brave set
of fellows. It is a wonder to me
that they all don't get their necks
broken. I learned that the farm-
ers through there are very anxious
to get hold of some mules two feet
shorter than those on the other. This
would be a great help to them
in their perpendicular farming;
and yet that is a wonderfully rich
country, and is developing very
rapidly. There is magnificent soil
in the valleys, and the mountains
are full of coal and minerals of all
kinds. Towns and cities are
springing up everywhere; mines
are being opened constantly. One
is surprised at the large number of
cripple people he sees; but this is
the case, I suppose, in all mining
countries.

Our train was crowded with
preachers and delegates to the con-
ference, and when we reached
Tazewell the prospect seemed poor
indeed. Just a few houses were in
view, and beyond them were moun-
tains piled on mountains, and
there was one, at least, in the
crowd, who wondered what was
going to become of the brethren.
Walking by faith rather than by
sight through a narrow, winding
valley, at last, after some difficulty,
we found the town. It has about
1500 inhabitants, and a very pecu-
liarly built place it is. The moun-
tains are in the way everywhere
you look, and you can't see any-
thing for them. To one accus-
tomed to the wide-sweeping
prairies of Texas, the sight is a
strange one. I felt a desire to
level things out, so that I would
look somewhere.

Tazewell Court-house has been
known for a long time in South-
west Virginia, but how anybody
ever found the place to locate a
town there, is an unsolvable mys-
tery to me. In recent years a rail-
road has been built through that
country which is surely a triumph
of engineering skill, and since
then the town has taken on new life.
They have something of a boom,
and quite a number of beautiful
modern residences have been built.
But, as usual, their expectations
were greater than their realizations.
It was amusing to see where they
had marked out avenues up the
steep mountain sides; but the
marks are all there is to be seen.

The Methodists own a large
brick church there - neat and
pretty. The conference met under
very sad circumstances. Rev. B.
W. S. Bishop, who was stationed

there, had died just a week before.

He was a brother of Rev. Horace
Bishop, of Fort Worth; had been
a member of the conference for
thirty-nine years, and was held in
the highest esteem by his brethren.
The church was draped in heavy
mourning, and a life-size picture
of Bro. Bishop was hung just be-
hind the pulpit.

The conference was made sadder
still when the news of Bishop Hay-
good's affliction was received.
Every one regretted his inability
to preside, and yet the brethren
seemed delighted to have Bishop
Duncan take his place. Two years
ago Bishop Duncan held this con-
ference, and a life-size picture of
himself was hung just behind the
pulpit.

This was the seventy-second
session of the conference. The work
has developed wonderfully during
these years. The membership of
the conference, including the super-
numeraries and supernumerates,
is 158. The number of Church
members within its bounds is 52,677.
The preachers all pride themselves
as being members of a conference
loyal to the Church in every re-
spect. A splendid set of men they
are. In preaching ability they
almost rank with the mem-
bers of our Texas Conferences,
and that is saying a great deal.

In hospitality, Virginians can't
be beat. The conference was
splendidly cared for. Folks up
there certainly live high. I never
had a better appetite nor enjoyed
eating more. Guess they thought
this stranger came from the land
of starvation.

Everybody, nearly, in that coun-
try is rich. What magnificent
horses and cattle they have! A
great many farmers up there ship
cattle to Liverpool, and make big
money out of them.

Having been read out to Jones-
boro Station, I packed my blacking
brush, and started for Northeast
Tennessee. I was my privilege to
stop over night at Bristol to the
parsonage home of Dr. J. H.
Keith, well known in the North
Texas Conference. I thoroughly
enjoyed the time spent with him
and his delightful family. His
friends in Texas will be glad to
know that he is pastor of a large
and flourishing church at Bristol,
and is in great favor with his peo-
ple.

This letter is already too long,
and I have said nothing about my
work here. I must tell of that in
another letter. Through these
columns I wish to send my love to
all my dear friends in Texas. The
four years I spent in the Lone
Star State were delightful years to
me. The friendships I formed
there are precious. Often I feel
like saying, and do say, "God bless
Texas!" EDGAR C. McVOY.

BOOK OF DISCIPLINE.

Our Discipline is the best and
truest guide in everything pertain-
ing to the administration of eccle-
siastical affairs: Every paragraph
incorporated therein was placed
there for a specific purpose, and
when each pastor is required to
make a report in writing on the
"general state of the Church,"
something more is contemplated
than such expressions, "slight im-
provement," "only moderate,"
"paid good," etc. The legislative
intent was for each pastor in the
presence of the official members of
each charge to render to the pre-
siding elder a full, minute and
careful account of his labors and
their results. Nothing will more
impress a true life and charac-
ter upon a people than a faith-
ful and impartial report from a
consecrated pastor. Ofttimes a
minute report at the Quarterly
Conference, pointing out the
cause or causes retarding the
growth of the Church, will awaken
its lay officials. And if they have
been judiciously selected, their
awakening means the arousing of
the Church. Then, again, a de-
tailed and systematic report shows
that a pastor has mastered his as-
signed labors. The unskilled can
generalize, but only the skilled
can go into the minute intricacies
of knowledge. So a systematic
report in writing, which is to be-
come a part of the Quarterly Con-
ference Record and which received
the countenance of the lay officials
of the charge, is a prima facie case
of faithful work on the part of
the preacher in charge.

I believe that, in response to
question 4, paragraph 87, page
47 of our Discipline, we should
state the number of heads of fam-
ilies in the membership of the
charge, and give a list of those that
have family altars and those who
pray in public. Also such report
should show what approximate per-
cent of the membership attend ser-
vice regularly; also what approxi-
mate number of those belonging to
no Church attend upon the preach-
ing of the Word; also how the
young people, especially the
children, attend the regular ser-
vices, such as prayer-meeting and
preaching; also what approximate
percent of the regular congrega-
tions are males, etc.

In response to question three of
the same paragraph the number of
children in the families belonging
to the Church should be given; also

the number of children from said
families that belong to the Sun-
day-school, and the number of
those from families belonging to
no Church that attend Sunday-
school, should be included in said
report. Then the report should
show which attend the more regu-
larly, children from Church-be-
longing families or those from
non-Church families. Then, with-
out fail, should follow in detail
the manner, means and results of
the instruction of the children.
And, likewise in detail, should
every report, which the Discipline
requires to be rendered in writing,
be made. What a guide such re-
ports would be to all subsequent
pastors; for every preacher in
charge should see that these re-
ports are recorded, and that the
records are preserved. The Quar-
terly Conference Records are as
important as the minutes of the ap-
pointments of trustees and such
officials, and would be so held by
our civil courts. Indeed, the
Church authorities should be as
careful in systematically keep-
ing and preserving our Church
records from a Church Conference
to a General Conference Record as
the civil authorities are in keeping
and preserving civil records from
a Justice of the Peace to a Su-
preme Court record.

R. L. WILLIAMS,
COURTESY, TEXAS.

TEXAS METHODIST ORPHANAGE.

The editorial in the ADVOCATE
of September 12th in behalf of the
Texas Methodist Orphanage, fol-
lowed in the next issue by the ap-
peal of the manager, Rev. W. H.
Vaughan, calls attention, as you
well say, to one of the crown jewels
of Methodism in Texas. And I
risk nothing in saying that senti-
ment is not only strong but un-
derstandable in favor of this institu-
tion. Truly, it was a great day when
Texas Methodism launched our
noble Orphanage. But unless our
indorsement can somehow be
merged into a perennial stream of
practical beneficence, contemplating
every possible want of this
Home, we must lose, in part at
least, one of the great opportuni-
ties of our existence in the field of
benevolent ministry. The inten-
tion of this institution is not mere-
ly to furnish food, raiment and
shelter for homeless orphans -
though that is an essential part
of the work - but it is also the putting
of these little ones where they may
grow and develop under the sacred
impress of a Christian home - white
children gathered in without refer-
ence to creed or condition, and
engrafted, as it were, upon the
home-life of an institution which
is deeply rooted in the principles
of our noble Christianity and to
be made partakers of all the ad-
vantages of said Home, physically,
mentally, and spiritually, until
qualified to meet the growing re-
sponsibilities of life. This is its
grand mission. The institution is
now squarely before the public.
From the lone orphan boy who
found his way to its open doors in
the month of April of last year, the
number has steadily increased until
now the family of our manager ap-
proximates fifty children. Under
the wise management of Bro. and
Sister Vaughan, the Home is hap-
pily meeting the design of its
founders. But is our Orphanage to
enjoy the undivided and lasting
moral and material support of the
Church in Texas, or will we re-
spond only when under the inspi-
ration of an agent's visit, or act
upon the spur of some pressing
appeal for aid through the press?
These are questions to be consid-
ered. Our manager was not an
extremist in craving for the Texas
Methodist Orphanage a place in
every prayer of the Church, both
private and public. For if the
Church will thus take this institu-
tion into its prayers it will soon be
upon its heart; and when once the
Orphanage is upon the heart of
the Church, prayers ascending to
heaven and donations streaming
in to the manager at Waco will be
a part of the daily experience of
Methodists in Texas. But when
will this consummation be reached?
Not until the presiding elders,
pastors, local preachers, Sunday-
school Superintendents, League
workers, prayer leaders and Meth-
odists generally in every quarter
of the State consider it a high
privilege to bring and hold to the
attention of the public the claims
of our Home at Waco. It is my
settled opinion that there should be
an executive committee in every
pastoral charge in the several pa-
tronizing conferences, charged
with the responsibility of being at
the call of the manager. Then our
beneficence might wisely an-
ticipate every want of the Home.
Nor would the management have
to cry out any more, "Hold up on
quills for the present." This ar-
rangement, or some other that will
bring the Orphan Home in daily
touch with the homelife of our
people, is the solution of the ques-
tion of support, both moral and
material. These suggestions as to
special effort in the way of pecu-
niary aid are to be understood as

supplementary to the regular an-
nual assessment. It is readily con-
ceded that the Board of Directors
could not anticipate every emer-
gency in such an institution twelve
months in advance.

JOHN T. GRAHAM,
Rancho, Texas.

THE WHISKY TRAFFIC.

We bring eighty-five specific
charges against the work of strong
drink and defy the saloon element to
disprove either of them, and if any
one of them is true it is enough
to enlist every good citizen in a
crusade to exterminate it from his
city, town, precinct, county, State,
country, and from the world.
Here are the charges: Strong drink
cuts down youth in its vigor, man-
hood in its strength, and age in
its weakness. It breaks the father's
heart, bereaves the doting mother,
exhausts natural affections,
erases conjugal love, blots out real
attachment, blots out paternal
hope, and brings down mourning
age in sorrow to the grave. It
produces weakness, not health;
death, not life. It makes wives,
widows; children, orphans; fathers,
fiends; and all of them paupers and
beggars. It feeds rheumatism,
nurses gout, welcomes epidemics,
invites cholera, imports pestilence,
and embraces consumption. It cov-
ers the land with idleness, poverty,
disease and crime. It fills your
jails, supplies your almshouses,
and demands your asylums. It en-
genders controversy, fosters quar-
rels and cherishes riots. It crowds
your penitentiaries, and furnishes
victims for your scaffolds. It is the
life-blood of the gambler, the ele-
ment of the burglar, the prop of
the highwayman, and the support
of the midnight incendiary. It
countenances the liar, emboldens
the thief, and encourages the
blasphemer. It violates obliga-
tions, reverence fraud and hon-
ors infamy. It defames benevo-
lence, hates love, scorns virtue,
and slanders innocence. It incites
the father to butcher the helpless
offspring; helps the father to mas-
sacre his wife, and aids the child to grind the par-
ticular axe. It burns up man,
consumes woman, blasts life,
curses God and despises heaven.
It suborns witnesses, nurses per-
jury, defiles the jury-box, and
stains the judicial ermine. It
bribes votes, disqualifies voters,
corrupts elections, pollutes insti-
tutions, and endangers govern-
ment. It degrades the citizen, de-
bases the legislator, dishonors the
statesman and disarms the patriot.
It brings shame, not honor; terror,
not safety; despair, not hope; mis-
ery, not happiness; and with the
malevolence of a fiend it calmly
surveys its frightful desolation,
and unsatiated with havoc it poisons
felicity, kills peace, ruins morals,
blights confidence, slays reputa-
tion, and wipes out national
honor, then curses the world and
laughs at its ruin. It does all that
and more; it murders the soul.
It is the sum of all villainies, the
father of all crimes, the mother
of all abominations, Satan's best
friend and man's worst enemy. In
the name of God and suffering
humanity let us rise up and stamp
it out.

Selected for TEXAS CHRISTIAN
ADVOCATE by R. N. BROWN.

CHANGE MADE.

Bishop Duncan has approved the
change of Jno. E. Reach from Neola
Mission, Greenville District, to Cooper
Circuit, Sulphur Springs District.
ISAAC M. CLARK,
Sulphur Springs, Texas.

NOTICE.

Bishop Key has appointed Rev. A.
E. Hector Conference General Sec-
retary for West Texas Conference.
B. HARRIS.

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TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE
DALLAS, TEXAS.

POSTOFFICE ADDRESSES. Rev. C. H. Maloy, Brady, McCulloch County. Rev. Samuel P. Wright, Taylor. Rev. John E. Roach, Cooper, Delta County.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE. Naples. We J. Owens, Dec. 6: In a very few days we will be off for conference, and we are glad that we can report all our assessments paid in full. Bible cause and Orphan Home have not been forgotten. All things considered, we have had an excellent year and feel very grateful and thankful to God.

Pittsburg. R. A. Morris, Dec. 9: Our pastor, Rev. J. C. Calhoun, is winding up the best year's work of his life and the best ever known at Pittsburg Station; net gain, 118. Collections in full on all lines, and a new district parsonage bought and paid for by the people of Pittsburg. We all want our pastor returned, for there is no preacher in the State that can fill his place. He is very popular and wields a good influence among both saint and sinner, and we think we have yet the best presiding elder in the State. Rev. O. P. Thomas has done a faithful year's work on the Pittsburg District. Pittsburg station is in a fine fix spiritually; the best on all lines in the State, we think.

White House Charge. J. M. McCarter, Dec. 6: We are just finishing up our year's work on White House charge. A very pleasant, profitable year it has been. Good and substantial progress has been made along all lines of Church work. Good revivals have blessed our labors. The spirit of enterprise and progress is among the people. Our assessments for all purposes will be paid in full. We have the honor to serve a kind and noble people. The hearts of the preacher and wife have been cheered by many tokens of appreciation. Special thanks are due the kind people of Ballard, among whom we live. Mention should be made of a handsome quilt, together with a nice lot of other articles of special use in a preacher's home, donated recently by the good ladies. For all of which we express unfeigned gratitude, and pray heaven's richest blessing upon them and upon the entire charge.

Douglasville. Stuart Nelson, Dec. 7: Retrospection is a blessing or a curse, just as one improves or fails to improve on the mistakes of the past. For two years I have been on the Linden Circuit, and the review is not altogether satisfactory. In many instances I could have done better than I did, and think that this knowledge will be beneficial to me and those to whom the Bishop may send me the ensuing year. But in spite of my mistake, the Linden Circuit has improved on all lines. Two years ago it paid hardly one-half of the conference assessments; last year about seventy-eight per cent; this year every dollar. The net increase in membership for the two years is ninety-seven. A prayer-meeting and Sunday-school at every appointment, and regular class-meeting at three of the five appointments. An Epworth League of twenty-four members has been organized at Union Chapel, and bids fair to be a blessing to the Church. One appointment is in arrears with the preacher \$6 00. It was behind a little more than this last year, so that even here is some improvement. All of the other Churches have paid in full. The parsonage has been improved at an expenditure of over \$200. Several church-houses have nice pulpits, chairs, new stoves and ceiling that they did not have two years since, and old debts amounting to nearly \$100 have been paid. In fact, the Linden Circuit is out of debt with the exception of the aforesaid \$6 00 and an overcoat which I think they will give the preacher before he goes to conference. The credit of this improvement is largely due to the faithful preaching and genial help of O. P. Thomas, my presiding elder and fostering friend. May God bless him wherever he goes, and make him the blessing to other preachers and their families that he has been to me and mine. The most of the good people and a "right smart of 'em that are not so good" want me sent back next year. I have no objection; therefore Bishop Keener will say "Linden Circuit."

Tyler Circuit. T. B. Vinson, Dec. 3: Our fourth and last Quarterly Conference for this conference year was held at Bascom Church, six miles east of Tyler, November 30 and December 1. We had a good attendance, both of officials and visiting members from the different parts of the work. Four churches out of eight paid out and one paid over their assessment by \$8 or \$10. Three out of the other four say they will yet come out. We say get eighty-five per cent on our conference assessment of \$222 50. We had a most delightful session in our Quarterly Conference Saturday evening. Jesus Christ, the great head of the Church, was present; his spirit uniting our hearts and minds in the work for the advancement of his cause. We all were busily engaged in the work of the Quarterly Conference when Dr. Shuford, our Secretary proposed that we change the order of business for awhile; then handing a box to Bro. T. P. Smith, our beloved presiding elder, who made a nice and fitting address in behalf of Tyler Circuit; then turning to this humble scribe pre-entertained us with a nice suit of clothes for conference. Well, we tried to express our thanks and appreciation to the Conference for the token of their love and kindness to us, but words failing to express the thanks of our heart, we commended them to our dear Heavenly Father, who has said: "Give and it shall be given to you again." He only can reward such an act. Then we would resume the regular business; but no, we were called to halt again, when the Secretary handed over to us a box, and after a short address by this scribe, it was our privilege, in behalf of this circuit, in behalf of the Quarterly Conference, to present as a token of love and appreciation of him as a man, a minister and a presiding elder, who was then holding our fourth Quarterly Conference and his fourth year on the district, a nice two-story silk hat—a conference hat, Mr. Editor—to Bro. T. P. Smith, our beloved presiding elder of Tyler District. Then we moved smoothly along until we came to miscellaneous business. There we were brought to a halt again, and after another speech, such as only presiding elders can make, he then, in behalf of the circuit, demanded that I should stand upon my feet and we the order obeyed, and were presented with an overcoat for conference. Now, Mr. Editor, I hope you will publish this, not that we are worthy of note, but our people are and—hold on, brother, I am not through telling you the facts in the case yet. Why, sir, we were not the half! Our beloved better-half was also kindly remembered by the good ladies of the circuit with a nice winter wrap and a nice black dress and breakfast shawl. Now what circuit can beat that? Then on Monday morning Bishop, our youngest boy, was presented with a nice little educated "fee" dog. Now if any preacher can beat that I hope that the Bishop will return him again next year. The recapitulation: This year we have been hogged, dogged, pounded and suited and will soon be off for conference to wait the order of the Master for our field of labor for another year. May heaven's benedictions rest upon the good people of this circuit and upon all our charges and upon us all as we come up from our different fields of labor to the conference, where we can shake hands together and praise God for the triumphs given in his vineyard.

Nervous women will find relief in Hood's Sarsaparilla, because it enriches the blood and invigorates the nerves.

NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE. Dallas Hill Day. W. H. Matthews, Dec. 9: After two years of prohibition in Dublin Precinct the anti-brought on the fight again. The vote was cast on the 7th, and the pros had a majority of 197. Our people are satisfied, and purpose to see law enforced.

Kecoma. W. H. Crawford, Dec. 9: We are in the midst of a great revival. The town is stirred as never before in its history. All classes are being reached. Collard and Moore are with me, but above all God leads the hosts. Business houses close every day for the meeting. So you see our new conference year opens up auspiciously.

Silverton. L. W. Dennis, Dec. 5: After moving a distance of 150 miles through the cold we arrived here the 4th safe, and found that the good sisters had been to the parsonage and left a variety of eatables, consisting of such things that would make any preacher happy. May God bless the donors and help their pastor to administer unto them spiritual things, is my prayer.

High of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

night, the good interest manifested, the pleasant acquaintances formed and the hearty good will expressed in the many handshakes make us feel happy to-day because of our appointment, and say, in the language of our text yesterday, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

Memphis. Ed R. Wallace, Dec. 7: We came to our work immediately after conference. We are in the parsonage with the assurance that it will soon be improved with one or two more rooms. It has been moved to a desirable and improved lot since our arrival. I can meet all the appointments on the circuit and stay at home each night. I think these people are going to treat us nice.

Knox. T. S. Armstrong, Dec. 9: We reached Ennis soon after conference and found the Church in good condition. Bro. J. M. Armstrong, who preceded me here, is much loved by all the people. He has done a fine work here, and leaves everything in good order for his successor. The Church made it exceedingly pleasant for us by substantial and highly appreciated donations. Everything is favorable for a pleasant and profitable year.

East Waco. J. H. Stewart, Dec. 6: The good people of East Waco have given us a royal welcome. When wife and baby arrived they found the parsonage in possession of some thoughtful sisters who had prepared a splendid dinner for us. Last night a great throng gathered in the street in front of the parsonage and, headed by Col. Payne, rushed upon the parsonage and poured into the kitchen and dining-room a great volley of edibles of all sorts. We shall not be able to recover from this attack for many days. We were pleased to notice among the crowd quite a number who were members of other Churches. We appreciate this whole-hearted welcome. We are delighted with our new work. May the Lord give us great things this year.

Buffalo Gap. Isaac L. Mills: Our pounding occurred last Thursday, and came by the hands of the good brethren of Jim Ned Church—four nice, large loads of wood. I doubt if any preacher appreciates a pounder more than we do this one, especially when good wood is so scarce and hard to get, as it is here. It amounts, at a low price, to at least \$12. I have been confined to my room four weeks with rheumatism; was compelled thereby to miss Annual Conference, but I think now, even after such a pounding, I am improving slowly.

Springtown. W. B. McKeown, Dec. 9: Our second move has given us some experience in the itinerant life. After three days in the cold and over rough roads, we reached Springtown, and in five minutes were invited to Bro. Byers, to stay till our wagon should come. Here we found a pleasant home till Monday, when we took possession of the parsonage. As the parsonage was not in order we took supper with Bro. Hutcheson. While we were out the people took possession of the parsonage and gave substantial expression of their appreciation, bringing some of everything in the grocery line. We were then invited to the church, where we had some inspiring songs and helpful prayers. A welcome address was given by J. D. Hutcheson, to which we responded in some way. Then Dr. Butler, of the Presbyterian Church, supported the welcome address and made us feel our responsibility. They have also added to the parsonage furniture two beds, a kitchen stove and safe. Now for the salvation of many souls.

Cotton Gin. Charles Davis, Dec. 3: When we got our appointment at Temple we hurried off, determined to get here right away, but when almost ready to move it rained for three days. That meant impassable roads between Peoria and Hillsboro. We started on 28th ult, pulled through the mud, reached Hillsboro just in time to ship our goods, horse, cow and all to Mexico; started with my family on the following morning; reached Mexico at noon; found some of the good people from Cotton Gin who carried us out here. We were well cared for till we were ready to move into the new par-

sonage, which we did on 2d inst. After a hard day's work fixing things and thanking the good Lord for such a nice home for another year we were about to sing, "There is rest for the weary," and go to bed, when it seemed as if the whole town had turned themselves loose on this scribe and family. Tramp, tramp they came, nearly one hundred strong, all ages and sizes, every one carrying something. They marched through the hall into the dining-room and kitchen, filling all the rooms. We could not seat them all at one time, but did the best we could; got the young people singing, the elder ones chatting socially. We badly wanted to make a speech, but felt it best not to try, for we knew there would be a breakdown, our hearts were so full. After about an hour spent as above the good people left; but, my, my, the things they left behind! I will not enumerate them; but little Maud said they must think we're going to keep a store. May God bless the dear people and give us a good year among them.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE. Leeville. J. T. Graham, Dec. 7: The writer preached to good congregations at this place last Sunday, both morning and evening. Bros. Rankin and Gus Brown moved us from Rancho, eight miles, Monday. On Tuesday night a generous pounding, a hearty handshaking, and delightful music by the Leeville string band were among the pleasant features of parsonage life. One nice package of chili pepper was accompanied with the statement, "I want a preacher who has fire in him." Uncle Billie Brown and others, seeing that the parsonage is too small for a family of ten are now hard at work enlarging the house. We left our two oldest daughters, Winnie and Altha, one a teacher and the other a student in Rancho High School.

For Wakefulness. Use Hood's Acid Phosphate. Dr. A. D. McDevitt, Wilmington, N. C., says: "I find eight drops taken in water, on going to bed, will rest the brain and cause a quiet sleep."

Weston. C. M. Keith, Dec. 7: For reasons thought to be both wise and prudent, Bro. S. W. Miller and myself have been exchanged by the presiding elder, with the consent of the Bishop, since conference—he going to Kingston and I coming to Weston. We have only been here one week, and have been very busy most of that time straightening up and getting things arranged to feel at home. I never met a more cordial reception, or had a more encouraging outlook in my life. Both preacher and people seem delighted. Everything seems determined to make it a year of unparalleled success in the history of the work and this preacher. May the good Lord grant us a full realization of our most sanguine hopes. We confidently expect a very gracious year by the grace of God. The good people of Weston "pounded" us as soon as we got into the parsonage, and just keep pounding. Don't know when the storm will end. It is a kind of storm that a preacher and his family are glad to see come, and that they don't soon grow tired of. If anything aside from the grace and love of God in the heart can inspire a preacher to do his best for his people, such tokens of kindness and love as these poundings are ought to do it. God bless the good people of the Weston charge, and make our ministrations a benediction and a blessing to them, and

Impure Blood. Was the cause of my not feeling very well during the spring for several years past. I had that tired feeling, was weak and so tired that I could not do much work. For several years I have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla regularly and it has cleansed my blood, driven off that tired feeling and built up my whole system. Hood's Sarsaparilla has also benefited other members of my family, so that we would not be without a supply." STRAPES McCLARE, Greenwood, Arkansas.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier. Prominently in the public eye, \$1.00 for \$5. Hood's Pills family-cathartic, 25c.

Mer's pony and came home. We have been kindly received back on the Lannins Circuit. Nice things things have been coming in every day, and last night the inmates of the parsonage received a genuine pounding. May God bless this kind people. I am determined by the grace of God to do the best year's work of my life.

John L. Sullivan, Dec. 10: We were at our post on the first Sunday after conference. Am now ready to begin my second round. Missed both my evening appointments; could not get to Cedar Creek, and it rained us out at Garland School-house. Annona is a good circuit because it has good, appreciative people. We preach at seven different places; have six classes. We expect a good year, for everything seems favorable, as we are greatly encouraged in many visible and audible ways. The ADVOCATE has been very well circulated among us.

Samuel Weaver, Dec. 7: We are on our new work for the year. We want to say that we left many warm friends on the way who served last year, who gave us a number of nice presents just before we left. We have met a kind people here, who gave us a kind reception and offer to stand by us. We have been busy working on the parsonage since we got here and have got it so that we can live pretty comfortable in it. This is a weak work and needs a preacher with a small family. The work never has been able to take care of their preacher as they would like; but, in the face of all things, we intend to do our duty and leave the results with the Lord.

Mrs. C. M. Threngill: "The cry is, still they come." Another "pounding." Really, though, ours was an exceptional pounding; so I venture to report it. Notwithstanding there had been a delay because of previous bad weather, and that it was than extremely cold, the people assembled on Monday evening last and, under the leadership of the Epworth League (an excellent, live League it is), everybody brought some substantial assurance of their good will. An appropriate programme was rendered by the League, and altogether the evening delightfully spent. "Those women who labor with us in the Lord" at this place have spared no pains to make the parsonage neat and comfortable. God has been good in giving us such a noble people, and, with hearts full of gratitude, we pray his blessings upon them.

Robert J. Deets. Our pastor, Bro. Ferguson, is starting well in this his fourth year at Bruceville. We are no longer worshipping in a union house, but have bought out the Baptist. They are building a new house, which is best for all parties. My health has been bad since conference, but I am improving at this time. My postoffice address for the year will be Bruceville, Texas. Hope to be able to work soon. There is still a good opening here for a good blacksmith and wood workman. If some brother will write to me I will give all needed information. The ADVOCATE gets better. I expect to put it in many homes during the year.

Our Women Are in Line. It was at 3 o'clock p. m. Monday, December 23, that about thirty of our women of Belton Methodist met at the Methodist Church, at the call of the pastor, to consider the advisability of converting the Ladies' Aid Society into a Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society. After explaining the objects and purposes of the society rather fully, a motion was made and unanimously carried to make such change. Officers were duly elected and things started off in good style, bidding fair to become one of the best societies in the Northwest Texas Conference.

Thomas G. Whitten. The District Stewards will meet in Taylor, Tuesday, December 17, at 3:30 p. m.

Fit's—An Pitt stopped free by Dr. King's Great Nerve Restorer. He finished the first day and the second day, and the third day, and the fourth day, and the fifth day, and the sixth day, and the seventh day, and the eighth day, and the ninth day, and the tenth day, and the eleventh day, and the twelfth day, and the thirteenth day, and the fourteenth day, and the fifteenth day, and the sixteenth day, and the seventeenth day, and the eighteenth day, and the nineteenth day, and the twentieth day, and the twenty-first day, and the twenty-second day, and the twenty-third day, and the twenty-fourth day, and the twenty-fifth day, and the twenty-sixth day, and the twenty-seventh day, and the twenty-eighth day, and the twenty-ninth day, and the thirtieth day, and the thirty-first day, and the thirty-second day, and the thirty-third day, and the thirty-fourth day, and the thirty-fifth day, and the thirty-sixth day, and the thirty-seventh day, and the thirty-eighth day, and the thirty-ninth day, and the fortieth day, and the forty-first day, and the 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Woman's Department.

All matter intended for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Florence E. Howell, 53 Mason Street.

ANNUAL MEETING P. AND H. M. SOCIETY, NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The Women's Department and Home Mission Society of the North Texas Conference convened in its ninth annual session in the city of Gainesville, in the South Presbyterian Church, at 2 p. m., Thursday, November 7, 1895, the President, Mrs. B. F. Carroll, in the chair. The address of welcome was read by Mrs. Harry Davis, of Gainesville, and Mrs. L. P. Smith responded gracefully in behalf of the society.

The official members present Mrs. P. C. Archer, Vice-President; Mrs. B. F. Carroll, President; Miss Josie Crutcher, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. W. D. Gardner, Recording Secretary; Mrs. W. H. Parrell, General Organizer; Mrs. E. W. Alderson, Secretary of Dallas District; Mrs. D. J. Martin, Secretary of Terrell District; Mrs. Amelia Uphogrove, Secretary of Greenville District; Mrs. J. Godbey, Secretary of Sulphur Springs District; Mrs. F. A. Rosser, Secretary of Paris District; Mrs. W. M. Leatherwood, Secretary of Bonham District; Mrs. M. E. Mayers, Secretary of Sherman District; Mrs. R. M. Powers, Secretary of Gainesville District; Mrs. W. D. Mountcastle, Secretary of Montague District. The Treasurer, Mrs. S. C. Riddle, being absent, the President requested Mrs. L. P. Smith to take charge of her books and attend to all necessary work incident thereto.

At the second session Mrs. D. W. Gardner, the Recording Secretary, asked to be relieved from the duties of the office, other affairs having called her home, and her request was granted, and Mrs. J. W. Rowlett, having already been appointed Assistant Secretary, filled the vacancy.

There were forty delegates present, representing the various auxiliaries of the conference. The distinguished visitors present were Mrs. R. K. Hargrove, the General Secretary, and Mrs. W. H. Johnson, the City Missionary of Dallas.

After the roll-call the President read a most interesting and profitable paper on the "Needs and Aims of Home Mission Work," which was greatly enjoyed by all present.

The Corresponding Secretary's report showed that there were fifty-nine adult auxiliaries and several juvenile in the conference, with a very large membership.

The District Secretaries made reports which showed that much had been done by them during the year organizing new societies, distributing literature, securing subscribers to our Homes, and raising money for our school work.

Mrs. W. H. Parrell, the General Organizer, reported that she had not been able to do much work this year, but had done what she could. During the four years that she had served the society in the capacity of organizer she had organized fifty auxiliaries, and added over 500 members to the society.

The following committees were appointed: On finance: Mesdames J. W. Rowlett, J. J. Clark, and W. H. Hancock.

On resolutions: Mesdames W. C. Young, G. F. Boyd, Ira O. Wise, and H. H. Halckl.

On extension of the work: Mesdames L. P. Smith, Carrie Thurmond, and Neville VanAnburg.

The meeting was honored by the presence of many of the ministers of the Church and many lady visitors.

Bro. A. E. Butterfield, of the Indian Mission Conference, was introduced and made a short talk on his work and its advancement during the past year, and acknowledged the valuable assistance rendered him by the ladies of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society.

By the courtesy of the Annual Conference Committee on Arrangements, it had been arranged to hold a general meeting of the Women's Parsonage and Home Mission Society in the Denton Street Methodist Church, and the same was held on Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m., the President, Mrs. F. B. Carroll, in the chair.

The meeting was opened with religious exercises. Mrs. P. C. Archer, Vice-President, read the Scripture lesson, the fourteenth chapter of Paul's Epistles to the Romans, and Rev. H. M. DeBoe, of the East Texas Conference, led in prayer.

Mrs. R. K. Hargrove, the General Secretary, made an elaborate address, to which the crowd listened with profound attention and pleasure. The address, which she in her modesty desired should be called no more than "a talk," was fraught with information, very beneficial to the members present, and calculated to enlighten the general hearer. Bishop Duncan followed with one of his characteristic speeches. He plowed deep. The talk was a subsiding process to reach the conscience. It was calculated to wake up a crowd and do good. It was a discussion of

the money question, and one that was greatly needed. He scored a success. A special collection was taken for the Cuban work, which amounted to \$1405.35.

The delegates from the various auxiliaries made reports. I am sorry not to be able to give a summary of the facts reported.

Mrs. W. H. Johnson, City Missionary of Dallas, addressed the ladies on the subject of her work, viz: Rescuing the fallen. Her talk was full of tenderness and sympathy for our unfortunate sisters, and touched a responsive chord in each hearer's heart. She appealed to this society for help in the work, and a committee was appointed to take action in regard to the matter. The committee brought in the following report, which was adopted:

Resolved, that we, the committee, recommend that the North Texas Conference Parsonage and Home Mission Society endorse and adopt this rescue work in Dallas.

Also, that Mrs. W. H. Johnson be appointed as agent to visit the auxiliaries of the Conference, present the work, and collect funds for the purchase of the home.

Mrs. W. H. Johnson spoke of the necessity of raising the money for the rescue work. A collection was taken, which amounted to \$33.10.

The following communication, by Mrs. Ira O. Wise, was ordered spread on the minutes: To the President and Members of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society: We rejoice in the fact that our work in building and furnishing parsonages has had encouraging success from the beginning; yet in many cases the parsonages are but poorly furnished, if furnished at all. It is a great inconvenience and very expensive for ministers to remove furniture from one place to another; and if a preacher buy furniture and put it into a house, perhaps his next move may bring him to a furnished parsonage, with his own furniture as second-hand goods to dispose of.

It will be greatly to the comfort of our pastors, and a saving to them and the Church, if all our parsonages are suitably furnished; we therefore offer the following recommendations:

1. That every auxiliary society appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to visit the parsonage twice a year, and after examining its condition to report to the next meeting of their auxiliary society.

2. That each auxiliary society send up to our annual meeting a report of the condition of the furniture in the parsonage.

3. That each auxiliary keep a list of all the furniture in the parsonage, and give a list of the same to the pastor at the beginning of the year.

4. Furthermore, to aid the auxiliaries in keeping the parsonage well furnished, we think the pastors should keep up repairs, such as do not result from the natural wear thereof.

The Committee on the Extension of Work made the following report:

1. Realizing the chief trouble, in the extension of our work, arises through the indifference of our women, and their lack of appreciation of the importance of our work, and of information in regard to it, and that they are not slow to think that we are a part of a great body, and if one member prove unfaithful, it effects the whole work, just as if one soldier march out of step it throws the entire regiment out of line; we therefore make, as our aim for the year, an increase of 100 per cent, and to accomplish this we urge each member of each auxiliary to gain one new member.

2. We realize the importance of early training, and urge each adult auxiliary to organize, where practicable, a junior auxiliary.

3. We recommend that it be made obligatory upon the auxiliaries that they use the Wolfe Record Book.

4. We endorse the course of reading sent out by the Central Committee, and hope this conference will discuss this subject and call out plans that have been tried by different auxiliaries.

5. We would stress the importance of the week of prayer and self-denial, and request the cooperation of our pastors.

6. We rejoice that some cities are taking up the home mission work and employing city missionaries, and we hope that each city in our conference will at once enter upon it.

7. We recommend that each auxiliary have a public meeting every six months, to bring before the people the aims and purposes of our society, and inform them as to the work done; and that the cities adopt the plan of quarterly mass-meetings, tried by and found so successful by the North Georgia Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society.

8. We believe it imperative that the District Secretary be brought into close touch with the auxiliaries in their district, and therefore recommend that, as far as possible, they visit each auxiliary in their district, and that they urge the importance of sending quarterly

reports to the District Secretaries, as well as to the Corresponding Conference Secretaries. And that when the District Secretary holds her meeting separate from the District Conference, that she see that the work is represented in the conference.

9. That they may not lose from the roll any society that can possibly be retained, we recommend that the Corresponding Conference Secretary drop from the list of active auxiliaries those from whom she has not heard for a year, and then she send the names to their respective District Secretaries, that they may do all in their power by writing, and if possible, visiting, to bring them into life.

10. We note with pride the advance in the work of the District Secretaries, and realizing the best thing for us is that we hear our share of the responsibility, do heartily thank and commend the work of the General Organizer, and we do recommend that we retain her as organizer, and that she retain the same relation to the work as heretofore.

The Committee on Resolutions offered the following report: Whereas, Without a better knowledge of the great work in which our Parsonage and Home Mission Society is engaged, our women can not feel the deep interest in the work they should in order to make it successful, and recognizing that "Our Homes" is the best agent for the dissemination of this knowledge, therefore be it

Resolved, That we make a more earnest effort to place our paper in the hands of our Church women.

1. Realizing the apparent indifference of a vast majority of women in regard to women's work in the Church, and believing that if the plans and success of our work were better known to them they would take more interest therein, therefore, be it resolved

2. That each auxiliary appoint a Committee on Parsonage and Home Mission Literature. Let said committee collect the leaflets and copies of "Our Homes" from the members of their respective auxiliaries, and distribute them among the women of the Church who are not enlisted in the work.

3. That we urge our auxiliaries, as well as Conference Corresponding Secretaries, to promote the interests of this society by frequent publications of its work in local, secular and religious papers.

4. That our thanks are due Bishop Duncan for his very able and eloquent speech in behalf of the interests of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society, thereby securing valuable aid in promoting our work among the Cubans. That we heartily thank our dear Sister Hargrove for her exceedingly instructive and womanly address, and for the wonderful inspiration and impetus her presence has given.

5. That, as a conference, we desire to express our appreciation and gratitude to our beloved Bishop Duncan, to our General Secretary, Mrs. Hargrove; to the ministers of the North Texas Conference and their wives, to our different Church societies, and to the good citizens of Gainesville for their very liberal contribution to the support of this organization, and pray that He who hath said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," abundantly reward them.

6. That we tender our cordial thanks to the pastor and members of the Denton Street Presbyterian Church for the use of their house, and pray that God's blessings may rest upon them.

7. That we gratefully acknowledge the courtesies extended us by the citizens of Gainesville, for their Christian hospitality in entertaining us, and who have made our stay with them memorable with kindness.

8. That these resolutions be published in the local papers of Gainesville and the Woman's Department of the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

The officers elected for the ensuing year were: Mrs. B. F. Carroll, President; Mrs. P. C. Archer, Vice-President; Mrs. L. P. Smith, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. J. W. Rowlett, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Ira O. Wise, Treasurer. The President then appointed Mrs. W. H. Parrell General Organizer.

The President also appointed the following standing committees: On publication: Mesdames C. E. Potter, M. E. Mayers, A. P. Boyd and Ira O. Wise.

On finance: Mesdames Neville VanAnburg, W. H. Allen and P. C. Thurman.

Mrs. J. W. ROWLETT, Recording Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING W. P. AND H. M. SOCIETY, NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.

The second annual session of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society, Northwest Texas Conference, convened in the thriving fourteen-year-old city of Temple, November 14-18. To say that any city the age of Temple should entertain the ladies of this society would speak much for it, but when it entertains the Northwest Texas Conference and this society at the same time, and does it so splendid-

ly, speaks loudly for the hospitality of any city.

The beginning of the session was ushered in Thursday evening by the anniversary meeting, under the direction of Dr. H. C. Morrison. After appropriate hymns, Scripture lesson and prayer, Dr. David Morton addressed the large audience on Woman's Work in the Church, giving a history of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society, as it originated under his own direction up to the present day.

He closed with an appeal for the "building fund," and a song little song was realized, mostly in response of the delegates in shares of \$10 each.

Friday's session was devoted to addresses, appointing of committees, and reports of General Organizer—Mrs. Purcell, report of Treasurer and report of Corresponding Secretary.

The meetings were well attended and the delegates and visitors went home with renewed zeal.

Among the gentlemen who were present might be mentioned Dr. H. C. Morrison, Dr. W. B. Palmore, Dr. F. T. Mitchell, and others.

It was much regretted that so many appeals for help from preachers along the border went unheeded, but unhelped, because of lack of more funds in the treasury.

May the time speedily come when the family of each pastor may be comfortably domiciled—a parsonage for every charge!

MRS. C. R. WRIGHT, Recording Secretary.

NOTES FROM AUXILIARY, W. F. M. SOCIETY.

I have just sent our quarterly report for the quarter just closing. Our W. F. M. Society was organized by Rev. C. B. Fladger, the presiding elder, at Reinhardt, June 7, 1895, with seven members. We now have thirteen members. Since we began we have sent \$6.10 to the Treasurer, Mrs. J. N. Cockrell. We have money in our treasury, which resulted from mite-boxes and an entertainment at which we spent a pleasant evening.

Our society is getting along quite nicely, although at times it is very scantily attended. We hope, though, as it is it will be sure and that much good may be done in this part of the country for the cause of missions. Yours truly, BERTHA DICKMAN, Corresponding Secretary, Reinhardt, Texas.

CHANGE OF POSTOFFICE.

My postoffice is changed from 603 Taylor Street, Waco, Texas, to Rice, Navarro County, Texas. Mrs. J. P. MURPHY, Cor. Sec. W. F. M. Socy, 12 S. W. E. C.

Doctor—Well, my friend, what seems to be the matter with you? Grogan—Shure, doctor, there's something the matter wid me jaw; I can't domesticate me food.

Caused by Impure Blood. "I have been troubled with headache, tired feeling, neuralgia and rheumatism in my arms and shoulders for a long time. I also had no appetite and suffered with indigestion. I think these troubles were caused by impure blood. I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, and now I am feeling like a new man altogether."—M. F. BRADSHAW, Grand Marfa, Texas.

HOOD'S PILLS cure all liver ills.

"Say, my lad, I'm told that they raise all their own vegetables on that light-house; is it true?" "Gospel truth, boss." "Bless me! How?" "In baskets, sah?"

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, has located in a quiet lady a most efficacious remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and finding it to be a most reliable and safe remedy for the cure of all the above named diseases, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this receipt, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with postage in this paper, to A. NOLAN, 520 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Willie was very much interested while the choir sang the anthem in church last Sunday. At its conclusion he turned on his mother and, in a stage whisper, asked: "Say, mamma, which best?"

An Old Nurse for Children. Mrs. Winslow's Sarsaparilla is the best medicine for children with worms, it soothes the child, softens the gums, slays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty cents a bottle.

"I am afraid, madam," said a gentleman who was looking for country board, "that the house is too near the station to be pleasant." "It is a little noisy," assented the landlady, "but from the front veranda one has such a fine view of people who miss the trains."

Christmas Excursions.

On account of the annual excursions to the Southeast from Texas, extensive preparations are being made by the M., K. and T. Railway (The Katy) to give its patrons a most enjoyable trip. Tickets at one fare for the round trip will be on sale at all stations on December 20th, 21st and 22nd, good to return thirty days from date of sale. Coaches, chair-cars and sleepers will be run through from the most important points in Texas to Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and other States for the convenience of those desiring to visit their old homes.

On account of having the shortest time and the fastest service, the quickest time will be made via the Katy. Consult your nearest ticket agent and insist on going via this line and have a pleasant time. W. G. CRIST, G. P. and T. A. M., K. and T. Railway, Dallas, Texas.

Irate parent (who has been trying to satisfy John's curiosity on every known subject under the sun)—Now, Johnny, if you ask me another question I'll whup you on the spot. Johnny (whose undying curiosity overcomes even the dread of punishment)—Wh-wh-what spot, papa?"

False Economy. Is practiced by people who buy inferior articles of food. "I had bought Eagle Brand Condensed Milk in the best of faith. The milk was the color of a vain's complexion and the taste was like a New York Condensed Milk Co. N. Y."

A Significant Departure. With the departure of another year, when a review is made of the condition of affairs, it is only right that some thought be given to the physical body which enables everyone to battle with life's problem and figure for themselves the profit or loss on the trial balance-sheet. Though the bank account may be large and each one's material gain be great, it would not be surprising if it suddenly dawned upon many that good health has been greatly impoverished by the low condition of the blood. It is in this state that the lactic acid in the vital fluid attacks the fibrous tissues, particularly the joints, making known the local manifestations of rheumatism. Thousands of people have found in Hood's Sarsaparilla the great blood purifier, a positive and permanent cure for rheumatism.

Mamma—And how did my little pet get to sleep last night without mamma? Little Pet—Papa tried to sing to me like you do, and I hurried up 'an' went to sleep so's not to hear it.

Chemp Rates to the Southeast. Tickets on sale to all points in the Southeastern States December 20, 21 and 22, good for return thirty days from date of sale by all M., K. & T. agents, at rate of one fare for the round trip. Call and get particulars.

The M., K. & T. is now running through Waco, Va. and Chicago sleepers from Dallas to St. Louis and Chicago on the KATY FLYER, leaving Dallas at 7:20 a. m., Monday and Sunday too. Two or four hours to St. Louis and 10 hours to Chicago—the fastest time and the best seats.

If you want a first-class Jersey-Cow, write Farmer Shaw, Dallas, Texas, stating full particulars. He will send you a long list of pedigrees to select from.

Table with columns for dates and locations, listing various church events and services.

Church Notices.

Table listing church notices for various districts including Dallas, Terrell, and Greenville.

NORTH TEXAS.

Table listing church notices for various districts in North Texas including Waco, Fort Worth, and Arlington.

Table listing church notices for various districts including Sherman and Paris.

Table listing church notices for various districts including Bonham and Bowie.

Table listing church notices for various districts including Spanish Fort and Waco.

Advertisement for Santa Claus will soon be here. We will send our CATALOGUE FREE to anyone sending us their address. Watches, Jewelry, Diamonds, Silver and Plated Ware, Clothes Brushes, Hat Brushes, Gold Pens for Ladies and Gents, Tribby Hearts and Chains, And All Kinds of Novelties. Send us 25 cents and we will send you a 75-cent KHEMENTZ COLLAR BUTTON. Send in your orders at once and not wait until the last moment. Irion & Girardet. 404 W. MARKET, LOUISVILLE, KY.

Table listing church notices for various districts including Terrell, Dallas, and Greenville.

NORTHWEST TEXAS.

Table listing church notices for various districts in Northwest Texas including Abilene, Clarendon, and Memphis.

WEST TEXAS.

Table listing church notices for various districts in West Texas including Center Point, Llano, and San Angelo.

Table listing church notices for various districts including San Marcos and Killeen.

Table listing church notices for various districts including Cuero and Waco.

Table listing church notices for various districts including Corsicana and Killeen.

Advertisement for Swayne's Ointment. The most efficacious of SWAYNE'S OINTMENT. It is the best remedy for all skin diseases, such as eczema, psoriasis, and other eruptions. It is sold by all druggists and is the only one that is guaranteed to cure.

Marrriages.

Jones-Temple.—At the home of Mr. Louis Temple, December 1, 1895, by Rev. J. Marvin Nichols, Mr. M. S. Jones and Miss Mattie Temple.

In Memoriam.

Perriman Berrien Stanley was born September 16, 1894, and died at 12:15 p. m. November 25, 1895. This bright, precious boy gave fair promise of a more protracted earthly existence than fell to his lot.

SEAL.—Allin Edward Seal was born January 20, 1892; died November 6, 1895.

WOOD.—The Church sustains a great loss in the death of Robert L. Wood, who was born in Clark County, Ala., May 16, 1869. He removed to Texas in 1888; was happily married to Miss Rhoda Whitworth in December, 1894, and died September 12, 1895.

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DON'T TRY TO QUIT. THE ROSE TOBACCO CURE. Removes the nicotine from the system and at the same time soothes up the nerves as to prevent any shock or collapse.

DONT GET LEFT THE KATY FLYER A NEW FAST TRAIN VIA MKT. FIRST CLASS SERVICE TO ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO WITHOUT CHANGE.

WHEN JADED... PABST MALT EXTRACT. There is substance to it it is refreshing, health giving, gives vigor and invigorates the brain.

Business College. S. A. N. TEXAS. Elegant equipments. Special facilities and thorough instruction in all departments.

CLASSICAL AND MILITARY SCHOOL. (Proprietor's residence, 1021 N. W. 10th St., Dallas, Tex.) The only private school of this kind in Texas.

DR. J. H. BOYETT, DENTIST. Local Anesthetic for Painless Operating. OFFICE OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

Excursion.. Tickets TO THE SOUTHEAST AT One Fare for Round Trip. DECEMBER 20, 21 and 22, 1895, LIMITED FOR RETURN 30 DAYS, FROM DATE OF SALE.

Obituaries.

The space allowed obituaries, twenty to twenty-five lines, or about 25 to 30 words. The privilege is reserved of condensing all obituary notices.

Obituaries.

McLEROY.—Ransom J. McLeroy was born in Shelby County, Ala., on the 29th of November, 1818; was married to Miss Frances E. Hill the 2d day of March, 1846; came to Jackson Parish, La.; from there to Texas in 1853; settled in Cherokee County, where he lived until his death, July 18, 1895.

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THE YOUTH'S COMPANION. An unusual array of readable articles will be given in the next Volume of The Companion. Send for Full Illustrated Announcement and Sample Copies Free.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, 307 Columbus Avenue, Boston, Mass. Send Check, Post-Office or Express Order, or Registered Letter, at Our Risk.

SCIATIC RHEUMATISM AND ITS CURE.

(From the Gazette, Burlington, Iowa.) The story of Mr. Tabor's nearly fatal attack of sciatic rheumatism is familiar to his large circle of acquaintances, but for the benefit of others, and those similarly afflicted, The Gazette has investigated the matter for publication. Mr. Tabor is Secretary and Treasurer for the Commercial Printing Company, with offices in the Hedger Block, and resides at 111 West Street, Burlington, Ia. A Gazette man sought an interview with Mr. Tabor at his place of business to-day, and although he was barely engaged with imitative duties, he took a few minutes feelingly on the subject of his recent severe sickness and subsequent wonderful cure.

"Yes," said Mr. Tabor, "I can safely say that I am a free man, that my old trouble with rheumatism has entirely disappeared, but I am still taking Pink Pills and will keep on taking them as long as I continue to grow stronger and healthier, as I have been every day since I began to use them. You will not wonder at my profound faith in the merits of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People after you have heard what I have to tell you. About one year ago I was stricken suddenly with sciatic rheumatism and was confined to my bed. It grew worse and rapidly assumed the form of inflammatory rheumatism. I suffered constant and acute pains and all the tortures which that horrible disease is capable of inflicting. At length under the constant care of a local physician I was enabled to return to my work, but only at intervals. Severe attacks would appear regularly in my back and radiate to my arms and feet, and threatened to make me a permanent cripple. I tried various remedies for rheumatism, but without any beneficial results. I grew pale, weak and haggard, and my family and friends grew alarmed at my condition. "About eight weeks ago my mother induced me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and you know the result. Before I had used one box I felt greatly relieved, and much stronger. I continued their use and improved rapidly. I have now taken eight boxes and feel like a new man and completely cured, all of which is due to the efficacy of Pink Pills. They are invigorating and thoroughly wholesome, and have helped me in every way."

In reply to inquiries Mr. Henry, the druggist, stated that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills were having a large sale, that it was particularly gratifying to him to know that the customers were themselves highly pleased with the benefits they had derived from their use; that many of them stated that the pills were the only medicine that had done them any good, that they not only obtained quick relief, but permanent benefit. That the pills do not and that the pills do cure is a certainty.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain, in a condensed form, all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are also especially for females, such as suppression, irregularities and all forms of weakness, in men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of whatever nature. Pink Pills are sold in boxes only at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

When cane-seated chair bottoms have "sagged" it will be well to make them as tight as ever by washing them with hot soap-suds and leaving it to dry in the open air.

WITHIN REACH OF ALL.

A new \$75 typewriter, the Daugherty Visible, was shown at the Texas Conference by Mr. Guy McLaughlin, the General Agent of Austin, Texas. Preachers generally were well pleased with the machine, which writes in plain sight, is simple, durable, rapid. The young man received very flattering and well-merited commendations, from which we quote below. The rapid, accurate and beautiful work of this machine in getting up reports of the various committees demonstrated the superiority of the Daugherty Visible in actual service and made many friends and no few sales.

Every preacher should have Daugherty Visible in his study and we suggest that you write to Mr. McLaughlin for a catalogue free. The price will be sent on trial and you should examine the Daugherty before purchasing a typewriter.

Rev. E. W. Solomon, who has used nearly if not all the old style machines, says:

"I take great pleasure in stating that I have used the Daugherty Visible Typewriter for some time, and find it simple, easy to manipulate, strong, perfect in its design and in every respect a superior machine. And I believe it to be equal to the best machines that are made."

Address Guy McLaughlin, Austin, Texas.

5100 REWARD for a case of Rheumatism, Indigestion, Constipation, Female Diseases, or any disease of the Blood that cannot be cured by Dr. Thurmond's Blood Syrup.

One of the most substantial and leading merchants of Pilot Point, writes: "My wife was in extremely bad health for three years, and after trying everything that was recommended by friends, as well as by several of the leading physicians, without relief, she took four bottles of Dr. Thurmond's Blood Syrup and to our entire satisfaction, she was entirely cured."

W. T. SCOTT.

It is a great remedy, and is sold by all druggists.

ANNUAL

The Texas and Pacific Railway Company will sell round trip tickets to and from the Southern States for the holidays at one fare for the round trip. Tickets will be on sale December 20, 21, and 22, and will return thirty days from date of sale. Full advantage will be given to those who would like to visit their friends in the South. For information, or to secure tickets, write to the Texas and Pacific Railway Company, or to the nearest agent. Gen'l Pass. & Ticket Agent, Dallas, Texas.

Farmer Shaw, Dallas, can sell you a good Berkshire Pig as can be found anywhere. Write him for particulars.

Don't Have to Wait Much Longer.

You can visit the old folks and friends in the Southeast shortly. On December 20, 21 and 22 the M., K. and T. Railway (The Katy) will sell tickets at one fare for the round trip, good for thirty days,

CHURCH EXTENSION.

Special call for funds with which to build churches for our missions in the Indian Territory and Oklahoma, and among the Cubans in Florida have met with a liberal response from some quarters. The church at Key West is now assured, the money being in hand with which to complete it, while about one-half the amount required for Ybor City has been subscribed. About \$2000 has been paid in or subscribed for work in the Indian Mission Conference. Each \$1000 assures the building of a church there, and several brethren have given that amount each for the purpose of erecting memorial churches, to be named by the donors after deceased children or other relatives. The idea is a beautiful one, and I hope that many others will avail themselves of this means of perpetuating the names of their loved ones. Will not these humble temples be more pleasing to the Master than monuments of stone? Bishops Hargrove and Duncan and the undersigned have been presenting this subject at several of the conferences, but it is impossible thus to reach all who should give, and I earnestly hope that very many who read this will send contributions for these pressing and worthy objects. We have had many responses to our \$10 proposition. Can we not have many more? Send all remittances to

DAVID MONTON, Corresponding Secretary, 705 West Chestnut Street, Louisville, Ky.

THIRTY YEARS AGO—THEN AND NOW.

The Rio Grande Conference at San Antonio in 1865.

A poor afflicted, feeble, solitary and lonely stranger, I made my way to the city of San Antonio, where the Rio Grande Conference was in session in the autumn of 1865. No Bishop was present. J. W. DeVilbiss was elected President and R. H. Delvin was elected Secretary. The American and German work was all together in one conference then. F. Vordenbaumen was the presiding elder on the German District, and W. J. Joyce was the presiding elder on the San Antonio District. There was one other district, but I do not remember who was on it. When the appointments of 1865 were read out there were three districts in the American work, and the presiding elders were: J. W. DeVilbiss, F. T. Leach and H. S. Lafferty. F. Vordenbaumen was still on the Fredericksburg District. It was rather a stormy session, but before the close the turbulent waves of passion and strife calmed down and everything passed off peacefully at last. The old Rio Grande Conference of that day was made up of a band of fearless, heroic men who were not even afraid to bring complaints against each other when they believed it ought to be done.

They were brave men in more ways than one. They acted as the bravest of the brave can only do. "They faced the foe without a fear, and counted even life not dear" that they might finish their course with joy, and the ministry which they had received of the Lord Jesus Christ. Among the German preachers of that day, F. Vordenbaumen and J. A. Schimper still remain. Among the American preachers who were present at that session of the conference three remain—W. J. Joyce, J. S. Gillett and J. T. Gillett. But, oh, how many have fallen! Yes; DeVilbiss, Delvin, Lafferty, Cooley, R. Gillett, Seale, Leach, A. A. Killough, Rainey and Adams are all gone now. And, so far as my knowledge extends, these all died in the faith of the Son of God. They labored faithfully in their day, and now we have entered into their labors, and are sharing the benefit of it. Then we had only one charge in the city of San Antonio (except the Freedman's), and it was a feeble mission charge, and remained so for many years afterward. Now we have seven charges in that city, besides the German and Mexican work. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

R. M. LEATON.

Point Rock, Texas.

THE DERELICT.

Floating about, over the sea, the dread of all sailors, endangering every vessel that is holding its course, are the dismantled, abandoned, often most invisible wrecks of vessels known as derelicts. They are the remains of ships that have been lost at sea, from which the crew have been rescued or have perished; or that have broken away or been driven by storms away from the shore. Water filled and water-soaked, masts and bulwarks broken away, driven by winds and carried by currents, they float at the water's edge, to strike the merchant vessel as it presses on in the darkness or in the tempest. There are men in this world who seem like these derelicts. They have allowed themselves to be swept into evil habits and evil lives, and, apparently, with hope abandoned, are drifting on, themselves a menace to society, a curse to themselves, only awaiting the time, when, by slow decay, sinking to lower and still lower depths, they shall disappear in the waters of eternal destruction and oblivion. So long as they live they are an evil and threatening influence, in the way of

others, ready to wreck and drag down those who may be brought into contact with their ruined lives.—Herald and Presbyterian.

HOW THEY DIFFER.

A man is a creature of east-iron habits; woman adapts herself to circumstances; this is the foundation of the moral difference between them.

A man does not attempt to drive a nail unless he has a hammer; a woman does not hesitate to utilize anything, from the heel of a boot to the back of a brush.

A man considers a corkscrew absolutely necessary to open a bottle; a woman attempts to extract the cork with the scissors; if she does not succeed readily, she pushes the cork in the bottle, since the essential thing is to get at the fluid.

Shaving is the only use to which a man puts a razor; a woman employs it for a chiropodist's purposes.

When a man writes, everything must be in apple-pie order; pen, paper, and ink must be just so; a profound silence must reign while he accomplishes this important function. A woman gets any sheet of paper, tears it perhaps from a book or portfolio, sharpens a pencil with the scissors, puts the paper on an old atlas, crosses her feet, balances herself on the chair, and confides her thoughts to paper, changing from pencil to pen and vice versa from time to time, nor does she care if the children romp or the cook comes to speak to her.

A man storms if the botching paper is not conveniently near; a woman tries the ink by blowing on it, waving the paper in the air, or holding it near a lamp or fire.

A man drops a letter unhesitatingly in the box; a woman re-reads the address, assures herself that the envelope is sealed, the stamp secure, and then throws it violently into the box.

A man cannot cut a book only with a paper-cutter; a woman deftly inserts a hairpin, and the book is cut.

For a man "good-bye" signifies the end of a conversation and the moment of his departure; for a woman it is the beginning of a new chapter, for it is just when they are taking leave of each other that women think of the most important topics of conversation.

A woman ransacks her brain trying to mend a broken object; a man puts it aside and forgets that for which there is no remedy. Which is the superior?—Maudie J. Conrad, in Lippincott's Reformed Church Messenger.

At this time of the year the question is being asked by many, "What shall I purchase for my wife or daughter for Christmas?" Have you a piano? If not, there is no better time to buy. One of the best is the WHEELER; for sale by C. H. Edwards, 251 and 257 Main Street, Dallas, Texas. Here will also be found Guitars, Mandolins, Banjos, and many other articles suitable for Christmas. Send for catalogue and prices.

RECIPES.

CARAMEL CAKE.—Mix one cup of butter, two of sugar, a scant cup of milk, one and one-half cups of flour, one cup of corn-starch, the whites of seven eggs; put three teaspoons of baking-powder in the flour, separate; then beat together until very light. Bake in a long pan. Take half pound of brown sugar, scant quarter pound of chocolate, half cup of milk, butter the size of an egg, two teaspoons of vanilla. Mix thoroughly, and cook as syrup until stiff enough to spread. Spread on the cake and set in the oven to dry.

ROLLS.—One and half pints of new milk, one cupful of yeast, half a teaspoon of salt, and flour enough for a dough. Cover, and set to rise in a warm place over night. In the morning add the whites of two eggs well beaten, half a cup of butter, and flour enough for kneading. Knead the dough briskly for ten minutes, roll out to the thickness of half an inch, cut in four-inch squares, brush the tops with sweet milk, and fold over cornerwise. Place them close together in buttered pans and set in a warm place until light, then bake in a quick oven.—American Collector.

SORE THROAT.—Inhalation is perhaps the most effectual of all remedies, as the contact of the watery vapor with the inflamed mucous membranes is very soothing. The best way of carrying this out, when there is no proper inhaler, is to fill a jug or basin with boiling water, to which is added some volatile substance; and the patient inhales the steam that rises from it, her mouth and neck being enclosed in a napkin arranged round the neck of the jug, which is far better than a basin. It is quite unnecessary to envelop the whole of the head in a flannel or blanket, as is so often done, as it is apt to produce headache, faintness, and flushing, and is therefore inadvisable. The vapor arising from the inhaler may be medicated with a variety of substances; such as, for example, camphor, ammonia, tincture of opium, etc. A

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good aromatic sedative is obtained by a teaspoonful of the compound tincture of benzoin being added to the water. Hops also increase the soothing properties of the steam, and so also do camomile flowers.—Health

IMMATERIAL.

Some years ago, says the New York World, the Agricultural Department at Washington received a scrawny letter from a Wisconsin farmer. It was one of many, of course, but was noticeable for its laconic definiteness.

The envelope was addressed to the "Agricultural Department, Washington D. C.," and the communication itself ran thus:

"Sir, I want a agricultural report on being in the farm business I order git it."

It happened that the gentleman in charge of the Department correspondence was a very conscientious and even elegant letter-writer, and, partly by way of pleasantry, he replied to this communication in his most elaborately courteous manner. The Department would be most happy to comply with his esteemed correspondent's request, he declared, but it needed to be informed somewhat more specifically which of its numerous reports was needed. Would Mr. — be kind enough to mention the date, or at least the subject of the document in question?

Mr. — replied promptly and succinctly: "I don't care a rap what the book is about or when it was rote. I want it for a skrap book."

"It must be strange for the Spaniards to feel that they are ruled over by a mere infant." "Why?" "It's so uncommon." "Humph! It's plain you never had an infant."

UNANSWERED LETTERS.

DECEMBER 5. J. T. Kirkpatrick, sub. P. R. Eagle-larger, change. Chas. Davis, sub. J. C. Carter, sub. J. P. Rodgers, sub.

DECEMBER 6. I. N. Reeves, o. k. H. A. Stephens, sub. C. A. Evans, sub. G. V. Ridley, sub. S. L. Ball, sub; one at half price. J. D. Huggins, sub. R. C. Armstrong, sub. J. W. Hamner, subs. J. C. Gage, subs. S. A. Ashburn, subs one at half price.

DECEMBER 7. M. H. Hudson, sub. J. W. Adkisson, sub. E. R. Largo, has attention. N. B. Head, subs. J. M. Alexander, sub. W. T. Harris, sub.

DECEMBER 9. J. A. Wyatt, subs. C. S. McCarver, subs. C. I. McWhirter, sub. W. L. Pate, change. J. E. Rosen, sub. Geo. S. Clark, subs. W. T. Melugin, subs have attention. J. R. Atchley, subs. J. W. Long, sub.

DECEMBER 10. H. H. Sullivan, subs. C. E. Gallager, subs. Mac M. South, sub. I. J. Coppidge, subs. F. M. Winburne, sub. J. P. Archer, sub.

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