A. M. E. CHURCH.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Annual Address of Bishop A. Grant of San Antonio—Smartest Colored Men of the South in Attendance.

First Day's Session.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

PALESTINE, TEX., Nov. 11.—The Twenty-fifth annual session of the Texas conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church convened this morning in Mount Vernon chapel, and was called to order by Bishop A. Grant of San Antonio, presiding episcopate of the Ninth district, which includes the states of California, Texas and Louisiana. The bishop commenced the devotional exercises by impressively declaring, "The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the people keep silent," after which he lined the hymn:

"Hark! how the watchmen cry;
Attend the trumpet's sound,"

which was sung with expression and pathos.

Rev. J. H. P. Bradley, presiding elder of the Palestine district, addressed the throne of grace as follows:

Holy Father, we bless thee, we praise thee, we adore thy name for thy long extended love and mercy shown unto us. We bless thee this morning because from the earliest moment of this world unto the present thou hast been near us amid all the ills of life; thou hast preserved our lives, thou hast kept us, thou hast fed us, thou hast clothed us; and we thank thee for these blessings, and especially do we thank thee and bless thy name for the gift of the Gospel, for the gift of the Son of God, and the gift in this land of a published Gospel to us. We thank thee and pray that we may enjoy all the privileges of life and be saved in heaven. Now, dear Father, we come to this place, come with the purpose of looking after the business of the church; and while we remember we are near us, and remove every vestige, every dark cloud of doubt and distrust, away from our midst, and allow us to consider upon the duties assigned us in reviewing the labors of the past conference year. We thank thee, Almighty God that there is no visible mark of thy displeasure upon us though we have been seared, no doubt, through the severe trials of the year. As we come to this place, come with us, and be in our midst, be in our hearts, be in our homes, guide us in the right way, and keep us in the light of the Holy Ghost. We pray thy presence to go with the presiding bishop. We pray thee to be with him—help him to look well to the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom and to discharge the duties devolving upon him. We pray thee to bless each member of the conference. Bless the church throughout this land. Save, dear Father, our fallen people—all, all those who are cast down—hear to hold those who are groping in darkness—guide us in all our doings, and when the journey of life shall be ended and we cease to be any more, bring us together in thy kingdom, where we will meet to part no more, we ask for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

Bishop Grant then read as the scriptural lesson the twenty-second chapter of Revelations, after which Rev. J. H. Armstrong, presiding elder of the Houston district, solemnly examined the liturgic services in which the conference and congregation impressively joined.

"The Handwriting on the Wall" was sung with fervor and melody that swelled into the grandeur of African Methodist congregational music; and especially were they impressive in that part of the chorus, "Shall the record be found wanting," which was voiced with an expression of solemn warning.

Bishop Grant catching the spirit of the occasion remarked with much feeling: "I know we are near before God, and are placed upon the balance, none will be found wanting; and I hope that not one member will be found wanting in his reports to this conference."

Bishop Grant announced the following transfers to the Texas conference: J. E. Edwards from the Central Texas; W. Jones from the West Texas; J. W. Watson from the Central; S. M. Holmes from the East Texas; M. Dixon from the West Texas; J. R. Carpio transferred from the Texas to the West Texas, and R. L. Binkley transferred from the Texas to the Kansas conference.

The secretary of the previous conference was directed to call the roll, which being done, a quorum was announced to be present, and the election of officers was declared to be in order. The following were elected:

Secretary, David F. Taylor of Huntsville.

Statistical secretary, J. E. Edwards of Galveston.

Stewards, R. L. Burton of Cedar Creek and R. W. Chambers of Village Mills.

Stewardess, T. Morris Chester of New Orleans.

Reporter for the Christian Recorder, J. W. Yancey of Houston.

Reporter for the Southern Christian Recorder, J. P. Howard of Houston.

The hours of the session were fixed from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m., so that the afternoons can be devoted to religious services.

The fourth pew running across the church in front of the altar was fixed to contain the bar of the conference for the preachers, members and for visitors introduced to the conference.

Bishop Grant then delivered his annual address extemporaneously, which is a review of production, which treats with the affairs of the state, and in the spirit of a Christian he refers in a harmonious spirit to the condition of the people of Alabama and in Texas.

J. T. Smith, presiding elder of the Austin district of the Methodist Episcopal church South; S. J. Valandingham, Rev. A. S. Walton of Fresno, Cal.; Rev. J. W. Smith, presiding elder of the Houston district, the Methodist Episcopal church; Rev. J. T. Moore, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church of this place, were introduced to the conference, and were cordially received with consideration and were assigned to seats within the bar.

The financial and statistical reports of the churches in their several charges for the past year were called for, and many of them were received, showing a gratifying increase over previous returns.

ANNUAL ADDRESS OF BISHOP A. GRANT.

Brethren of the Texas annual conference: Since that it would be proper at the outset of our proceedings to state in a few words the important work of the church, I will give expression to such thoughts as may be suggested by the situation. This is the last conference in this century, it is unnecessary for me to say that the sessions have been pleasant up to this time, and it is also unnecessary for me to speak of the progress that we have made during these four years. I shall not speak of what we have accomplished during the quadrennium, but I will mention some of the results. We have not suffered the loss of our members during the year we should call it a loss. God has kept to preserve our unprofitable souls in our annual session. Not one link in the golden chain has been broken, we are still here engaged in the work of God. The business of the church in the world is to save the souls of men—to mould and fashion them for this life and to prepare them for life eternal. The church makes better citizens, better men and a better society. It betters the community wherever the church is located, and it is doing the work assigned to it in the world. How well we have performed our part during the past year, my brethren, you will better tell when you make your report in heaven. You may get a faint idea of your work from the reports you make here; but when the roll is called in heaven, we shall know each other as we are known; and we ourselves will better understand our work. It is gratifying to say to you this morning that the spiritual work of our conference, during the year, from what I have learned from the presiding elders, to some extent surpasses that of other years; and then there seems to be more permanent work done than ever before, in moulding and fashioning men. Different dispositions are capacitated for several kinds of work in the church. Some men go along and gather in the people, and others come along and mould and fashion and build them up into that holiness without which they cannot see the Lord.

The temporal concerns of the work during the year has also been very encouraging to all of us. I think there has been two new churches built in the Palestine district and one in the Houston district. I am happy to inform you that nearly all our debts in this conference district have been paid. I presume we do not owe in the Texas conference $6000. This speaks well for our ability as business men. The indebtedness of Reedy's chapel at Galveston was, about three years ago, $4000; and during the past year the last dollar has been paid, and Reedy's chapel is out of debt. [Loud applause.] We thought one time that we were in danger of losing that property, but the people who assembled there from year to year, which has been consecrated with their tears and sacrifices, have been made glad by the knowledge that all obligations of the church have been paid. Building fine churches and covering them up with mortgages for unborn generations to pay is not the way we do business in Texas. We believe in paying our debts and in lifting the burdens from the people, which is the fair and solid way to conduct our operations. Pay as far as you go and as near as possible. God has blessed us this year. You have good crops in some places, and in others they have not been so fortunate. A great deal of cotton has been made, but the prices are lower than ever before. If we could only induce our people to plant corn, raise their own meat, and have something at home to eat when the cotton market is depressed, they would best consult their own interests. They now spend all they make in cotton to pay for corn and meat to provide for their families, and to discharge other obligations. You should advise the people to plant corn and potatoes, and raise a dozen or two of hogs; and then if cotton went up or down, they would not be embarrassed. Give this advice to the people as you go along, to raise something to eat. God has blessed us in this grand old commonwealth. Texas is a great state. Its resources are a combination of all the states in the Union. We produce everything in Texas that is cultivated to any extent in any of the other states. Down in the southern portion we cultivate sugar cane; up here we can grow cotton, corn and potatoes; and farther up north wheat can be produced such as they grow in other states. The mineral resources of the state will not be developed in the next fifty years. We have mines of coal that will enable us to surpass Birmingham. I understand that there is a coal mine near Palestine. It is hard to tell what we have got in these hills and mountains, within the borders of this great state. The thing to do is to love God, be true to yourself, be active in industry, be honest in efforts, and we will contribute materially to develop the resources of a great state.

Our educational work is progressing finely. I feel more encouraged over its success than I have ever been since I have been in Texas. The way to tell what a people is doing is to see what they are accomplishing for the developing of humanity. When all of the reports are in it is quite likely that we will have raised over $2000 for educational work in Texas. This fact will tell the people more than I can what we are doing. [Loud applause.] It shows that we do not leave the development and education of our people entirely to the other race; but we feel that we have something to do ourselves. Last year at this time we had seventy students at Paul Quinn college, our educational institution at Waco, and now we have over ninety, and we are expecting soon to have over two hundred. I think last year we raised $1265 for educational purposes in the state, and now we have arranged to put up a building with twenty rooms for young men at Paul Quinn college. It is likely we shall raise enough to pay for it. We thus hope we are progressing as grandly and as substantially in the educational work as you are in the pastoral field. Pay as you go, and it will be an excellent example for the people to emulate. From the dollar fund, my brethren, I want you to hear it, we have given $1000 to Wilberforce at Xenia, Ohio; $1000 to Divinity high-school at Jacksonville, Fla., $1000 to Morris Brown at Atlanta, Ga.; $1000 to Kittrel at Kittrel, N. C.; $1000 to Allen University at Columbia, S. C.; $1000 to Quindare University in Kansas; and $1000 to Paul Quinn college at Waco. There are $7000 given to the institutions of learning under our auspices and control, from the dollar money fund, which is $1 tax on each member to run the general expenses of our great church. Now remember that this amount does not include any of the 40 per cent on the dollar that comes to the annual conferences for the support of the superannuated ministers, for the widows of deceased preachers, and for other necessary purposes; but it comes from the 60 per cent that we send to the financial secretary. Seven thousand dollars for educational purposes! This is the day of success that I have been praying for—to see our dollar fund reach such a standard as to make creditable appropriations for education.

I call your attention to the important fact that we have purchased a property and established a theological department at Wilberforce for the education of young men in the ministry of our church. I hope the time is not far distant when every conference will put a young man in that theological department and keep him there till he is educated. We have fifty conferences, and one from each conference, continued in the institution until each was imbued with Methodist doctrine and trained for ministerial duty under our system, would exert a powerful influence in our church and among the people. We often have to regret the differences and ruptures that we have in our churches. It is because we have not Methodist-trained pulpits. There are a great many intelligent men in our church to-day. Many of them cannot connect conduct a class-meeting successfully, because they have not been reared in our church. They do not know its usages nor customs. If you would have a man to be a good Methodist, you must start him in the class-meetings. Train him up in its rules and forms, and when he advances to orders he will know what to do and how to instruct the people. The Methodist church is a great temptation for ministers of other denominations. It is a great field in which to labor. We have more people under our control, except the Baptist brethren; and the men that come out of the Presbyterian and Episcopal churches are always teaching theories and doctrines at variance with our creed. When the Presbyterian comes in he tells the people from year to year about the perseverance of the saints. When the Episcopalian comes he is always telling where he came from instead of telling where he is going to. [Loud laughter and applause.] What we want is to train our men for our pulpits; and let us have an educated Methodist ministry all over this country, trained up in the class meetings; and then there would be no power on earth that could stand before us. [Loud applause.] God help us to bring about this result. I am getting very tired of being bothered with tramp dudes coming to our church from other denominations, only to fail, as they have done in every other pulpit. I could take an old local preacher, with his hymn book and Bible, and he would do better in governing the church than any of this wandering class. What we want is to see to it that the conference put young men in the theological department at Wilberforce, where they would be thoroughly indoctrinated with our system of government, trained in our polity, spending the early part of their lives in our church and under our influence; and then we could trust our pulpits to them with confidence. When these wandering preachers get hold of the people they generally prove a detriment to their religious interests. When everything does not suit them and they cannot have everything their own way, they are ready to create confusion in the church; and they furnish the evidence by their conduct that they have never been called to the ministry. Men who have been trained up by men for the ministry cannot do the work that men can do who are called by God. It does not make as much difference about their coming from other Methodist churches, as they understand Methodist rules, and they soon fall into line with the usages and customs of the African Methodist Episcopal church.

I do not want to leave this work of education without deeply impressing you with its importance. I want, as this is my last year with you, to ask that you double your interest on this line so as to advance Paul Quinn college. [Applause.] Just as sure as I stand upon this floor, in less than ten years from to-day you will be building up an institution for fifty or ninety thousand dollars, one part of the ground at Waco paying for the same. Redouble your interest. Feel that there is something for you to do. I have thought if I had four more years in Texas as your presiding officer, but that is out of the question, I feel that I could do something more for education. I do not know where I am going next year, and you do not know where you are going now; so we are about alike in this respect.

We teach that men must be born again. Ritualism does not sanctify men's hearts. Formalities cannot save souls; but a change of heart and a sanctified life is what brings men to heaven. The old Methodist church is like God's word, never changing. A few weeks ago at St. Louis the Presbyterian synod decided to change its creed as to the election of saints so far as children were concerned. How does this put us in the sight of the world when we have been teaching a doctrine, and then feel it is necessary to change it? Our doctrines are just what they were when Wesley declared them. Notwithstanding there are twenty-nine different denominations of Methodists, we are all preaching the same gospel, as was demonstrated at the ecumenical council that convened recently in Washington City. I had the honor of being a delegate to that august body, but I could not be present. Methodists may have different names, but they are all founded upon the same principle. There may be divisions, but they can easily unite when circumstances require. The signs of the time are favorable for the future. Fifty years hence they will not only meet in one hall, but they will convene under one roof and preach to one congregation.

It was gratifying also to learn that the delegates to the ecumenical council from the African Methodist Episcopal church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion church, from the Colored Methodist Episcopal church, and a portion of the colored members of the Methodist Episcopal church—one of whom sits before me this morning, in the person of my old friend J. B. Scott—met in Washington and decided to lay the basis for organic union for their respective bodies. [Loud applause.] Tell me what this world can do before us when we shall become a united body, with all our respective institutions of learning, and our combined powerful influences. And then the Methodist preacher, trained in the Methodist schools, brought up under Methodist influences, indoctrinated by Methodist teachings, each one going through the country with a torch of fire lighting up the world with the gospel, would be an irresistable power. O, what will we do when that time comes! I am in favor of the union of all the negro Methodists in America. I do not know but what some persons say with force that when we are divided into separate bodies that our antagonisms make us work more ardently than we otherwise would do, but in union there is strength. A man once said to his two boys when he was growing old, throw a rope across the house, and he asked them to pull it back again, and they easily did so, as they both had hold of the same end. He then told them to throw it across the house again, and he directed each one to take hold of the two separate ends of the rope and pull: they did so and neither could pull the other over. The old man said, I am going to leave you soon, and I wish to say to you that if you are united you will make life a success, but if you are divided you will both fail. I am in favor of union because it will be a blessing to all, and I want to go on record as such.

My brethren, it is a fact that some matters in our state have discouraged our people to a very great extent, which I regret very much. There is a man going through our state organizing our people into bodies with a view to leave the state because of the separate car law. I have about fifty letters on the subject, in which there is much anxiety expressed. I know that there are many persons who say that the signs of the times indicate that matters will be worse. I admit that I have never been discouraged in the thirteen years that I have been in the state until the passage of the separate car law passed. I had always said previous to that, in California, New York, Washington and other places, that Texas was the greatest state in this Union for our people until that law. I have been a little weakened; but since I have gathered myself up, I have become a little more hopeful, though it is very embarrassing indeed for me to go on the train to be put in grand review. Every Mexican, Italian, Swede, Dutchman, that have a mind, pass through that car, gazing at the men and puffing their smoke in the faces of our wives and daughters, may do so. We seem to be on exhibition for everybody on the train to inspect. It makes a man feel that his rights have been abridged. As far as traveling on trains are concerned, I always preferred to travel with those of my own people. It is not social equality in compelling us to pay the same price, if we demand the same accommodation. We have been placed under hard conditions, but we are not without hope. When Governor Hogg issued his proclamation the other day offering $1000 for the conviction of the men who murdered a negro, and $200 for those who were implicated in the act, I think I see light ahead. When the governor has backbone enough to issue such a proclamation to such a great state, that lawlessness must be put down, and that the lives of the people must be protected, that peace and order must be preserved, then we can say that there is light ahead. I shall say to the governor as much when I go to Austin; and I shall tell him that I feel just a little better. When an eagle flies and the wind comes against him, it balances him in the wind. If the wind comes behind him it pushes him on; and if it comes in front, it raises him higher. If trials come upon a people, it is said that they balance us for the journey. If they come before us, they lift us higher to our God. I may not be able to see the way out; but God will lead us in ways we know not. I still feel that we are living in the greatest state of all the states of this Union. In a little while, when the storm will blow over, and when we know each other better, we will move along under more favorable circumstances. There are many people in Texas who never saw a negro until after the war was over. Take the old men of our state and take the old men among us, and let them understand each other, and you will find the very best citizens of this commonwealth friendly disposed towards us. Even Governor Coke tells me so; and that he is opposed to these unjust laws. While the old men are for counsel, we believe they will give the right counsel. There is light ahead. Let us do our duty. I say again, be true to ourselves, true to the church, true to our families, so that as leaders in the community you may be recognized as good men. If you will take God with you, it makes no difference what the world may put upon you, you will conquer in the end. Let us press men more and more to do their duty, and I trust that while we are here we will better the condition of the people. Let us devote ourselves to the spiritual work that some may come out of the howling wilderness into the path of peace. Our church has a great demand for preachers.

I ask for your assistance that we may have order and decorum and enjoy a pleasant session. This is my last annual address I shall make to this conference, as in May I shall be changed to another episcopal district. Whoever may be placed over you, I charge you to do your duty. You need go nowhere. I have buried my boy in the state; and I have purchased a resting place for myself and my wife, for my brother-in-law and his wife, and we propose to rest our bones in the state of Texas. [Loud applause.]

Second Day's Session.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

PALESTINE, TEX., Nov. 12.—The second day's session of the Texas annual conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church convened here this morning, and after devotional exercises by Rev. A. S. Walton of Fresno, Cal., was called to order by Bishop Grant.

A communication was received from Rev. C. S. Bradwell of Atlanta, Ga., editor of the Southern Christian Recorder, one of the official organs of the church, soliciting an incerest in his paper on its enlarged and improved appearance.

Rev. C. S. Smith, D. D., of Nashville, Tenn., secretary of the Sunday-school union, inclosed his annual statement which shows the union to be in a more successful condition than any other department in the church, doing business in a building worth $30,000, free from all indebtedness.

Professor A. J. Moore of Waco, secretary and treasurer of the trustee board of Paul Quinn college, made a report of its condition, which was highly gratifying, with more favorable results promised for the future.

Rev. I. B. Scott, presiding elder of the Houston district of the Methodist Episcopal church, addressed the conference, in which he conveyed the greetings of his church. He gave an interesting history of the proceedings of the ecumenical congress recently held at Washington, and eulogized the spirit of organic union that animated the colored delegates of the several Methodist churches in that body. In conveying the greetings of the 20,000 persons of color in the Methodist Episcopal church in Texas, he bid the African Methodist Godspeed.

Rev. Albert Little, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church in this community, was introduced, and, after bowing his acknowledgments, was invited to a seat within the bar.

Rev. J. T. Smith, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, of this place, and a prominent Prohibitionist, addressed the conference in opposition to the liquor traffic.

Bishop Grant responded in a happy vein and declared that no person who drinks beer or liquor of any kind should be admitted to the conference as a member.

The committee on admissions, after examining O. L. Bonner, D. W. Hitchtomer, Richard Hunter, A. H. Crawford, H. A. Wells, P. H. Bauknight, F. G. Sullivan, William Perkins and B. F. Williams, reported favorably on their admission and they were received on trial, after Bishop Grant read the rules and solemnly impressed them with the responsibility of their new relationship. There was much interest manifested, mingled with amusement, in the trial to which the bishop put each one to test his singing abilities, and their selections showed good taste and their voices were in excellent tune, with but one exception, that of B. F. Williams, who in the effort created much merriment.

The conference voted to have the next annual session at Hearne.

The moral and ministerial character of the members were each examined and all were found to be blameless in life and conversation, but some three or four who were marked for debts and for matters of administration.

As this is the last session of the Texas conference over which Bishop Grant will preside, the members, in the temporary absence of the bishop, agreed to present him a purse of $50 as a mark of their appreciation and esteem for him as a Christian and a dignified, able and impartial presiding officer.

Rev. J. P. Howard of Houston delivered the annual sermon last night, taking for his theme the living waters of the gospel. Elder Howard is one of the ablest pulpit orators in the conference, and on the occasion he did himself and the subject full justice, for which he was deservedly complimented.

HARMLESS.

TO ASSIST NATURE IN REMOVING poisons from the body is the great mission of SWIFT'S SPECIFIC. Microbi cannot exist in the blood when S.S.S. is properly taken, as it promptly forces them out, and cures the patient. It has relieved thousands in a few days who had suffered for years.

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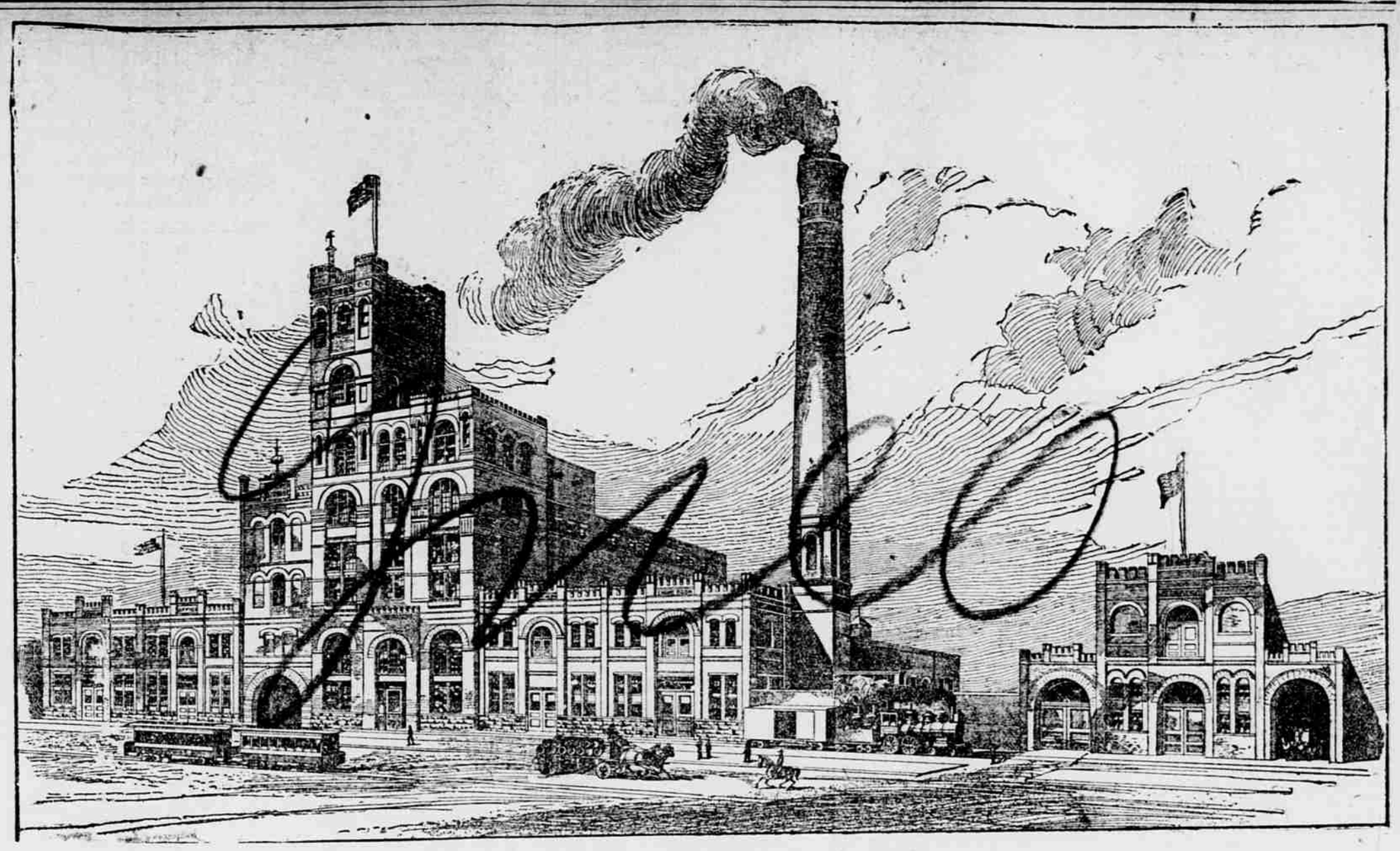

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P. S.—Quotations on all brands of Kentucky whiskies from stock here or warehouses in Kentucky furnished upon application. [Mention the Fort Worth Gazette.]

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MENTION THE FORT WORTH GAZETTE.

AFTER 22 YEAR.

Newton, Ill., May 23, 1888.

From 1863 to 1885—about 22 years—I suffered with rheumatism of the hip. I was cured by the use of St. Jacobs Oil. T. C. DODD.

"All Right! St. Jacobs Oil Did It."

THE TEXAS COMMISSION

Should Have Due Regard for the Earning Capacity of Every Railroad in the State.

FORT WORTH, TEX., Nov. 14, 1891.

To the Gazette.

Your editorial of yesterday under the caption of "Reason Together" will find a responsive chord in the heart of every patriotic citizen of Texas.

It is to be regretted that this advice, or something like it, had not been tendered the people of Texas and been acted upon prior to the late election. Then many of the evils that now afflict the commonwealth might have been obviated.

Unfortunately for our great state a season of unreason, of prejudice, and in some instances malice, was upon us and there was no one with the requisite courage and influence to stem the current. One of the leaders, Hon. Barnett Gibbs of Dallas, was willing to go so far as to prescribe the rule that one's fitness for office, from constable up, was to be decided by his position upon the election of Hogg and the adoption of the commission amendment. It is not surprising that when a man of his recognized ability would go to such extremes that the masses should go even farther, and indorse a policy which means the destruction of millions of property.

It is true that "a majority of the states of this Union have railroad commissions, and in most of them even the corporations subject to their rulings confess that they have benefited their business," but fortunately for those states, and the corporations doing business in them, they have not the Texas commission.

If the Texas commission would heed the patriotic advice tendered them by THE GAZETTE, and have "due regard for the earning capacity of every railroad within the purview of the commission," and frame its rulings "so as not only not to work a positive loss to the parties who have invested their money in good faith in railroad stocks, but to enable them to secure a reasonable profit on the investment made" there would be no cause for complaint.

But unfortunately the commission do not study the conditions, but make an iron-clad ruling for all roads alike. It must be obvious that the Texas and Pacific, with its hundreds of miles of road, running through a practically uninhabited country, cannot do business on the same conditions as the Houston and Texas Central, every mile of whose road runs through the most populous and productive territory in the state.

The Fort Worth and Rio Grande railway, with its 140 miles of road, cannot do business on the same terms as a corporation with a thousand miles of road. It will hardly be denied that this is so, yet the commission makes no distinction, recognizes no difference in conditions, but prescribes the same rate for all the roads in the state. It is like a physician prescribing the same remedy for every patient, regardless of his ailment.

If you will continue the good work so ably commenced in the article referred to, there are many who will uphold your hands, and you will render your state an incalculable service. Yours respectfully,

B. B. PADDOCK.

The Changeable Weather

Will affect people troubled with weak lungs. Try Marsden's Pectoral Balm; it will stop your coughs.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

James B. Wilkirson and Wife of Grandview Celebrate Their Fiftieth Marriage Anniversary.

Special to the Gazette.

GRANDVIEW, JOHNSON COUNTY, TEX., Nov. 14.—Our venerable townsman James B. Wilkirson and lady celebrated their fiftieth marriage anniversary to-day. Quite a number of their sons and daughters and grandchildren arrived Friday evening. The night train brought others from Holland, Eddy, Bruceville and Abbott. Shortly after noon to-day the guests were assembled in the parlor. The aged groom and bride marched in, followed by a train of sons and daughters and grandchildren. Rev. W. P. Green gave a condensed epitome of their wedded-life history, and closed with a touching appeal to the Giver and Preserver of life. The subtle influence of human sympathy spread from heart to heart, and tears flowed freely. The entire assembly extended congratulations to the aged couple. The procession then proceeded to the dining-room. The feast we will not attempt to describe. Suffice to say that it was all that the most fastidious epicure could wish, in keeping with the character of the generous and hospitable host and hostess. The participants were unanimous in wishing such social events of more frequent occurrence. The celebrating parties are native Kentuckians. He is seventy-six and she is sixty-six years of age. They are enjoying more than usual strength and activity for people of their age. They have eight children living, six sons and two daughters, and thirty living grandchildren.

List of presents: Gold-headed cane, A. W. Wilkirson; gold watch chain, S. Z. Wilkirson; two large gilt frame paintings, Dr. J. H. O'Hara and wife; set of silver spoons, J. P. Reynolds and wife; one pair gold-lined egg bowls, J. A. Hill and wife; gold spectacles and plush case, R. N. Hill and wife; gold pea and holder, J. E. Walker and wife; gold ring, Dr. Green and wife; gold thimble, C. C. Bayden and wife; gold coin, $5, C. J. Wilkirson and wife; gold coin, $5, J. H. Price and wife; gold pin, J. H. Price and wife; china tea set, O. L. Wilkirson and wife; cut glass water set, O. C. Walton and wife; cake stand, Dr. J. N. Prince and wife; china cups and saucers, R. W. Moore and wife; kid gloves, C. J. Wilkirson and wife; silk handkerchief, A. W. Wilkirson and wife; silk table scarf, A. W. Wilkirson and wife; hand satchel, S. E. Wilkirson and wife; rocking-chair, Dr. Green and wife; rocking chair, D. J. Wilkirson and wife; cake, Mrs. Ellen Wilkirson; chair tidy, Mrs. O. L. Wilkirson; bouquet, Mrs. Wade.

For Twenty-five Years.

Marsden's Pectoral Balm, the favorite remedy for coughs and colds, and croup in children.

Oatmeal Factory Burned.

BEATRICE, NEB., Nov. 14.—The oatmeal company's works burned. Loss, $20,000; insurance, $10,000.

That blood curdling, pains in the back and chest, after eating, headaches and like affections are overcome and cured by P. P. P. (Prickly Ash, Poke Root and Potassium).

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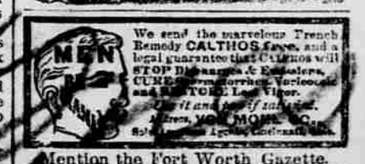

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