

DAILY DEMOCRAT.

CONFERENCE EDITION.

EVERY MORNING BY
LEW G. ELLINGHAM, Publisher.

For Week 15 cents, in Advance.

Sunday Morning, April 9.

We publish no paper Monday morning.

We increase in size as occasion demands. This is one of the occasions.

It tried to snow a little yesterday morning, but soon gave it up as a bad job.

JOHN WANNAMAKER's advertising bills for last year were \$625,000, of which sum he spent \$325,000 for his New York store and \$300,000 for his Philadelphia store.

SUNDAY services will be held in all the churches today. The program as printed elsewhere will guide you wherever you want to go. We dare say that never before in Decatur has there been as much ministerial talent displayed as will be today.

EVERY mother's son connected with the DEMOCRAT printery is swelling up with pride over this edition of our special conference daily. The mechanical genius and artistic workmanship, combined with our excellent news service makes the issue far superior to the average daily papers. Not only that, but it shows that Decatur is one of the advancing cities and is peopled with progressive citizens.

STATISTICS show that while only 329 men have been killed in action in the Spanish and Philipino wars 125 have died of wounds, and 5277 have died of disease. This report is exclusive of March of which month the casualties have not been tabulated. The naval loss during the same time is 18 killed in action one of heat, and one by accident, and 56 have died of disease.—Huntington News-Democrat.

We want to inform the good looking preachers who do not know it, that Mrs. C. M. Kenyon is responsible for the exhaustive and excellent reports of the conference that appears every morning in the DEMOCRAT. We have received many compliments upon our publication, and she is entitled part of the credit. Special features are written by Rev. Kemp and others.

The Mystery Of Grace.

This action is, of course, a mystery. We cannot reason it out. It is not a matter of comprehension, but of faith founded upon the fact of revelation. Yet to a certain extent we may understand it. If you love someone dearly and that love is reciprocated, you have what is humanly called a friendship. Now in what does this really consist? It is not in truth that there is a union of souls, that one soul partakes in a degree of the other. For this reason it is, you confide in your friend, impart to him your secret thoughts, your sufferings, your joys, your ambitions, because you feel that all these are his possession also. Thus it is you feel any injury inflicted on your friend as if it were directed against yourself. Your soul and his are one; you partake, as it were, of his very being. The process of grace is, it seems to me, not very different except that it is in the supernatural order. Grace is the friendship of God. Or we may take an illustration from the physical world, one used by St. Thomas. You all know the action of heat upon iron. If you take up a piece of iron, you find it dark and cold and black; but place it in the fire, gradually it becomes warm, hot, finally all aglow, and as it were, saturated with the burning heat, so that in a true sense, we can say that the iron becomes itself a part of the fire. So it is with the soul of man, black with sin, cold for the want of love, when it encircled by the grace of Christ, slowly but surely it takes on the nature of that grace as the iron took to itself the nature of fire—it becomes completely absorbed by grace; and grace is love; grace is a thing divine. And this is the sense in which we say the human soul is united with the divine being of our Redeemer. That is what St. Paul means when he desires "that that which is mortal may be swallowed up by life."—Rev. THOMAS F. BURKE, Albany, N. Y.

THE DEMOCRAT prides itself that it has well performed the mission for which it was intended. Our excellent and complete news service and our preservation of the high standard of the "art preservative," has led many to compliment the paper in more ways than one. As a result we think that Decatur is better and more favorably known away from home, and that the result will be very advantageous.

THE conference is fast drawing to a close, the end to be reached some time tomorrow. Not a jar has occurred during the entire week, which interfered in any way with the pleasure or comfort of any visitor of the conference. Compliments are being bestowed on every hand, for the efficient manner of entertainment given, all of which more clearly demonstrates that Decatur is a city of unequalled resources, and knows how to use it.

Mrs. Sarah Mills Cochran.

A life of Christian devotion is an inspiration to those who contemplate upon its usefulness and result. Such a life is that of Mrs. Sarah Mills Cochran. She was born in Pennsylvania February 2, 1822. When an infant her parents moved to Ohio, where she grew to womanhood. As a

after the service and taking her Bible in her arms again prayed for enlightenment and guidance. Then she took up the task of learning to read and as she herself says, "God alone was my teacher." She was surprised and gratified beyond measure with her rapid progress. She greatly misses the hearty "amen" which were a feature of early Methodism and wonders where our "amen corner" is to-day and says the church has been her best home upon earth. It was her privilege once, when at Bluffton, to attend the Annual Conference and she has looked forward with anticipation of great blessing to the services in connection with this conference. Many of the members of the conference have been blessed by coming in contact with this good old saint and will be glad to see her in this service, her face beaming with religious order. Surely when she reaches the eternal city, a crown will await her and she will enter into the Glory that surrounds the lamb of God.

The Conference Next Year.

Although the matter has not yet been decided there is no doubt but that the conference will be held at Elkhart next year, since Wabash the only opponent has withdrawn from the contest. Elkhart is a live city of 18,000 inhabitants, with street car lines all over the city and reaching to Goshen, and, by next year, to South Bend. It is a railroad center. The people of Elkhart are unanimous in their invitation, as testified by the joint circular issued by the pastor, official board, congregation and the Minister's Association representing fifteen churches in the city. Concerning the church edifice, it may be stated that it is a handsome brick structure costing \$30,000, has one of the finest pipe organs and its seating capacity is 1,400. As this will also be the time of the electoral conference other large churches in the city have been placed at the disposal of the conference. The last annual conference before each general conference is more largely attended than any other, because of the preference of so many laymen and important questions



Sabbath Services.

Methodist Episcopal Church.

9:00 a. m.—Conference Love Feast, conducted by Rev. M. Mahin, D. D., Rev. T. Stabler, D. D. and Rev. A. Greenman.
10:30 a. m.—Sermon by Bishop Edward G. Andrews, D. D. LL. D.
2:00 p. m.—Memorial service, conducted by Conference Secretaries.
3:00 p. m.—Ordination of Deacons and Elders by Bishop Andrews.
6:00 p. m.—Epworth League Anniversary under the direction of the officers of the Conference Epworth League.

7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Rev. C. W. Tinsley, D. D., of Indianapolis, Indiana. After-services conducted by Miss Anna Downey of Evanston, Illinois.

Opera House.

10:30 a. m.—Sermon by Rev. Henry J. Becker, D. D., of Dayton, Ohio. Singing by the Fort Wayne District Double Male Quartette.
7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Rev. E. T. Gregg. After-service conducted by Albert A. Small, of Anderson, Indiana. Singing by the North Indiana Conference Male Quartette.

Christian Church.

10:30 a. m.—Sermon by Rev. J. M. Haines.
7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Rev. G. B. Work.

Presbyterian Church.

10:30 a. m.—Sermon by Rev. H. J. Norris.
7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Prof. J. C. Murray, D. D., of Atlanta, Georgia.

Evangelical Church.

7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Rev. J. O. Bills.

Reformed Church.

7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Rev. F. M. Stone.

Baptist Church.

7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Rev. Richard C. Jones.

United Brethren Church.

7:30 p. m.—Sermon by Rev. U. S. A. Bridge.

the responsibility and seriousness of such a step was slow to grant her permission and impressed upon her mind the sacred nature of such a step in such a motherly, tender earnestness that to this day it is fresh in her memory. From that day she has, to quote her own words, "walked in the straight and narrow way, which is a grand and glorious way when you keep firmly to it." Her father and her eleven brothers and sisters were members of the same Methodist church. Her mother a devoted member of the Presbyterian church until the last few years of her life when she too united with the Methodist church. Sarah Mills was married to John R. Cochran April 14, 1842 in Ohio, and lived there about twelve years when they moved to Indiana. Six children blessed this union. For forty-three years Grandma Cochran has been connected with Decatur circuit and station and over sixty six years walked uprightly in the sight of God. Her greatest joy has been the conversion of sinners to Christ. So close has she been to the Saviour that to her He has been ever present and in sweet communion. In speaking of her Christian experience she said, "What a comfort it is to meditate with God. When I get lonely I sit down and sing a hymn and commune with the Saviour and then how quickly the time flies by. If I had only been educated I could have done so much more for Christ." One of the most remarkable instances in the life of Mrs. Cochran is the fact that she learned to read after she was seventy years old. She is, and always has been, a regular attendant upon Divine worship and during one of Rev. Gregg's services he asked those of his hearers who would promise to read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation within the year to raise the right hand. She so desired to do this but it seemed impossible and uttered a prayer to God of her desire and without realizing what she was doing raised her hand. She had now pledged herself to do what seemed an impossibility and she went home

that arose at that time. The church at Elkhart was built in 1889, while W. D. Parr was pastor. C. H. Brown is the present pastor, and will doubtless act as chief host next year. Rev. Brown entered this conference in 1875, and almost from the first has held some of the best charges in the conference. He has been stationed at Sheldon, Monroeville, Peru, Wabash, Kokomo, New Castle, LaGrange and Elkhart. His estimable wife is known everywhere because of her great musical talent and wonderful voice. Wherever they go, they are successful in their labors and pleasing to the people. There is no doubt but that the conference will be royally entertained at Elkhart next year.

Rev. Thomas Stabler, D. D.

Among the members of the conference who by their former connection with Decatur are held in affectionate remembrance is Rev. Thomas Stabler. From 1875 to '78 he served in the capacity of Presiding Elder of Fort Wayne district. Later, in 1886 and '87 he was the esteemed pastor of the local church. Rev. Stabler is one of the veterans who have borne the burdens and heat of the day. He served some of the largest charges in the conference and his pastorate has almost covered the span of a half century. He entered the North Indiana conference at its annual session at Ft. Wayne in 1852. Besides his pastoral charges he has served the Ft. Wayne, Goshen and Richmond districts in the capacity of Presiding Elder. In lieu of his long career and prominent position in the conference he is exceptionally well known and is held in high esteem. In 1884 he was a delegate to the general conference and to the centennial of the organization of the Methodist church in December of the same year. The degree Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by DePauw University in 1885. His many Decatur friends will welcome him and be glad of the opportunity of greeting so cherished a friend. He holds a superannuated relation to the conference and lives at Indianapolis.

Welcome!

We indeed extend to all a hearty welcome, and to assure you that we mean what we say, we will give to all ministers and their wives special low prices for this week on our entire line of waist and trimming Silks, black and fancy Suitings of all kinds, especially is our stock of Crepons very desirable, and the now weaves in black and spring shades in Coverts for tailor made suits. The liberal discount we will make to you this week will be a big inducement for you to buy your spring outfit while here. We can show you the prettiest line of Fancy China and fancy articles of all kinds. You can find anything in the way of Souvenir or presents that you may want. Come in and look through. We will be glad to show you whether you buy or not.

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