

# THE GATESVILLE ADVANCE

J. B. CRANFILL, Editor and Proprietor.

It has the largest circulation of any Temperance paper in the South.

The ADVANCE is the Official Paper of the U. F. of T. of Texas, representing a membership of over 50,000.

## The Leading Prohibition Paper OF TEXAS.

Gatesville, Texas.

Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>

1885-

My Dear Ella:

I waited at the depot last night I sat for an hour before I finally got off for Gatesville. I was so sleepy before we reached here I went to sleep and dreamed we were two days on the road, and really it did seem to be a very long time. I finished up my book today, that you put in my pocket before I left, and I don't believe I ever thanked you for it - but I can do so now, after enjoying it. I feel very cheerful and contented to-night - though my gaze remains the same - but I will do just the best I can under all circumstances and want will come of this awhile. I will be bound to come down and see you quite often though, to have the comfort of your company and converse of things beneficial to our future. My last visit did me so much good, I know, for I can truly realize it. I thank

God for you and your fond affection that leads so much to my elevation and living with a substantial purpose to realize; and more, that we both may be spared to do his Holy will before the world. Study your Bible closely. If you will ever keep its teachings before your mind and con-

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meet them with every thought and action, in accordance with their meaning as best you can understand, you will experience a wonderful change that will manifest itself, not only to your heart, but everyone with whom you are associated. The little talk we had, on the Bible Sunday afternoon, did me good, and my only wish is that we had put in more time after this manner. As circumstances are now such that we cannot be associated together all the time for each others benefit, an occasional thought dropped in this direction will serve its purpose and be of real worth and encouragement to both. Next time we are together let's devote more time to our Bible, don't you think it would be most profitable? Every day brings forth new fields of thought and new subjects for reflection, and the more I think of it the more firm I am in my convictions that the future will reveal for us some noble purpose of life. What this may be if anything - time only can bring it about, while we follow regardless of worldly opinions, that which we conceive to be our duty before God.

My friend, Cranfill, returned at noon today. He made four speeches while absent, on Prohibition. The more I see

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of him the more I admire him as an humble devout christian man who speaks and acts his duty. Though he has many ways and advocates many principles that I cannot sanction, there is that zeal and earnestness that proves him to be a man of real worth and one of whom the world has not yet seen all.

I had two letters when I got here - one from Dallas and one from Galveston. Could get no work with the N. F. N. W. but I believe next year I could get a position with the S. F. W.

If I do remain here for the time contracted, something else may, between this and the expiration of my contract, come in view that will be better than anything now. But I am satisfied to take things as they come and make the best of them until better is seen.

Tomorrow night (Tuesday) my letter may be cut short, for doubtless we will have to work then, but I will write something. Some how down here I feel like we were almost together and not so far apart as when she was at Meridian.

I can come most any Sunday, but you know it is not agreeable for me to come and then to be as it was before. I may be wrong on this point but I hope not. It is a part of my return  
(over)

and the more I try to put it down the stronger my convictions  
are that I should desist, and avoid everything that tends  
to create, or in any way build a foundation, for ill feeling.

We go to press with the first side to night (Tuesday) and  
Thursday we do press work on the last side.

Now I'll bid you goodnight, and shall expect that prom-  
ised letter by this mail. God bless you and sleep you -  
Sincerely, Your Nat.