

(corner-stone laid A.D. 1875). When he turns over a few pages, and gazes at the Methodist church at Corpus Christi (built by subscription A.D. 18—), the artist's close adherence to nature will forcibly strike him, as he marks the uniformity of the pickets in the fence surrounding the church. These are little things, but evidently Mr. Thrall considered them parts of the history of a great country.

The engraving entitled "Scene on the Comal River" is one of the best and most appropriate illustrations I ever saw. In the foreground is a neat little sheet of water, with a rotten log sticking out of a hole in it. The edge of the water is fringed with nondescript trees; and a small boy, with an unnecessary amount of bare legs, is in the act of catching a very large fish. This is a good illustration, because it is appropriate to any river in the world. No one could prove that it was not a scene on the Thames, or a glimpse of the Ganges. Not so fortunate was Mr. Thrall when he selected the second-hand plate that he used to illustrate "A Scene on the Trinity River." He inadvertently overlooked the fact that there were some palm-trees in the picture, and palm-trees do not grow in Texas. So the illustration is not very reliable now; but it will be in the years to come, when the antiquary, unearthing a copy of the "Pictorial History," proves from its pages that back in the nineteenth century the climate was tropical, and that palm-trees flourished in the United States. Thus it is that history is made.

A few years ago the people of Texas gave themselves a constitution, one of the sections of which reads as follows: "The Legislature shall have no power to appropriate any of the public money for the establishment and maintenance of a bureau of immigration, or for any purpose of bringing immigrants to this State."

It is currently believed that the framers of the Texas constitution had moss two feet in length growing on their backs.

That such a provision as that quoted is to be found in the constitution of the State, is a disgrace to the people of Texas, and a painful commentary on their intelligence. I was gratified to learn that fifty-six thousand voters cast their votes