

DIRECTORY.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Mayor—C. H. Green.
Commissioners—A. G. Clark, J. S. Bell, C. M. King, G. M. Harrison, H. G. Chatham,
Tax Collector—O. O. Eldson.

COUNTY OFFICERS.

Sheriff—J. M. Davis.
Clerk of the Court—W. W. Hampton.
Register of Deeds—T. W. Davis.
Surveyor—V. S. Taylor.
Coroner—J. S. Armstrong.
Commissioners—J. L. Worth, J. J. Wallace, J. M. McCann.
Board of Education—J. H. T. Calloway, W. H. Wolf, W. F. Neelham.
Examiner—Jno W. Williams, Stony Knoll.

TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

Justices of the Peace—J. F. Walsh, T. M. Butler, I. A. Eldridge, J. M. Gentry, A. H. Lyons, S. T. Wilborn, J. C. Hurt.
Deputy Sheriff—J. M. Eldridge.

CHURCHES.

Baptist—Rev. W. R. Bradshaw, pastor.
Preaching every first Sunday at eleven and seven o'clock. Church meeting and preaching Saturday night before at seven o'clock. Sunday school every Sunday at 9 A. M. J. W. Bowles, Supt.

Methodist—Rev. F. L. Townsend, pastor.
Preaching every first and third Sunday at 11 A. M. and second and fourth Sundays at 7 P. M. Sunday School every Sunday at 10 A. M. A. G. Clark, Supt. Praying meeting every Wednesday night.

Presbyterian—Rev. C. W. Robinson, pastor.
Preaching every second Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7 A. M. Sunday school every Sunday at 9:45 A. M.

Lutheran—Rev. W. A. Lutz, pastor.
Preaching every first Sunday at the Methodist church morning and evening at the usual hour.

Episcopal—Rev. Mr. Williams, rector.
Preaching every first Sunday night in the Presbyterian church at seven o'clock.

Colored Methodist—Rev. C. B. Ward, pastor.
Preaching every fourth Sunday at eleven o'clock. Sunday school every Sunday at 9:30 A. M. M. Hickason, Supt.

Colored Methodist—Rev. J. W. Jones, pastor.
Preaching every first Sunday at 11 o'clock. Sunday school every Sunday at 8 P. M. Daniel Roberts, Supt.

SECRET ORDERS.

Elkin Lodge No. 454, A. F. & A. M. meets the first Tuesday night in the month before the full moon.
J. B. W. M.
J. F. Walsh, Sec'y.

Knights of Pythias, Piedmont Lodge No. 90 meets every Thursday night at seven o'clock. Visiting brethren cordially invited.
A. G. Clark, C. C.
J. F. Hendon, K. of R. & S.

I. O. O. F., Bryan Lodge No. 57, Independent Order Odd Fellows, meets the first and third Monday nights in the month.
J. W. Davis, N. G.
G. N. Robinson, Sec'y.

MAILS, RAILS AND DEPARTURE.

Mail train Greenboro arrives at 12:21 p. m. Leaves 2:50 p. m.
Wilkesboro arrives 3:50 p. m. Leaves 3:50 p. m.

Sparks arrives 11:45 a. m. Leaves 2:30 p. m.
Trappala arrives at 12:00 m. Leaves 2:30 p. m.
Jonesville arrives at 11:30 a. m. and 2:30 p. m. Leaves 12:30 p. m. and 3:00 p. m.
All the above mails are daily.
E. J. HARRIS, P. M.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.

Mooreville Record.
Good investment are what everybody desires to make, but very frequently investments that are called good only have one redeeming quality and that quality is a handsome income to the man who has made the investment. It is perfectly natural for the man who has money to let to put it where he can reap the greatest benefit from it.

We are fully satisfied that there are thousands of dollars scattered abroad to-day that bring good to none except the owner and user. Why do we say this? Because the man who needs it most of all is the man who cannot get it. He has no real estate as security and the question of honor is no longer a factor in such matters. The money in use at this day and time benefits few people. What incentive is there for a man to work if he gets simply enough and not a cent more to meet, to meet his daily expenses. Monopolies have been formed on every hand and in almost every avocation of life so as to get labor at the lowest rate possible. We hear the money kings speak of hard times, yet they can live in the best of style and do not even know what it is to be in want. They have elegant homes and if misfortunes befall them they sit back upon their dignity and laugh at every obstacle. We would be glad to see everybody in a prosperous condition and enjoying all needed comforts of life, but we know of families who labor from day to day and from year to year, and yet they are always in a pinch. We cannot see why it is so. We know there are people who grumble all the time it matters not what their circumstances in life may be, but we are now speaking of good investments. A good investment is one that will bring the greatest good to mankind. The man who has money to put at interest should not have self alone in view. The man who claims to be a Christian and suffers his money to be used to help on the works of the devil, when he can prevent it, is making a bad investment. We have known men, who stood high in the church, to have money invested in real estate, and at the same time were renting houses men for the business of selling liquor, and also to women of bad repute. The investments in these instances were bad and however much revenue may be derived from such a source, it is only the price of blood. The hearts of such property owners yet without the cleansing power applied.

The Ladies' Memorial Association met in Raleigh last week and selected as the subject for the next Memorial Day (May 10th) oration, "The Life and Character of General Thomas L. Clingman."

GENERAL NEWS.

The Georgia House of Representatives voted today a bill to put Union veterans in that state on the same legal plane as Confederates.

A candidate for County Trustee of Wilson County, Tenn., has agreed, if elected, to donate \$1,950 of his fees to the county school fund, \$1,000 to the county at large, and \$850 as prizes to the district giving him the largest vote. He evidently thinks that the fees amount to too large a sum.

Mrs. Margaret Keegan, of Chicago, believes that banks were instituted for the purpose of swindling people out of their money, and desiring to put her funds in a safe place, she selected a barrel and placed the barrel in a closet in her home. The amount in the barrel was \$8,000 in notes and silver. During the absence of the Keegan household Sunday, thieves stole all the money. There is no clue to the robbers.

Engine No. 325, one of the huge "monarchs" of the rail that the Southern has had on exhibition at the Nashville Exposition, passed through Concord Tuesday morning on its way to Spencer, where it will be fired up in a few days and will be placed in active service on this company's line between Spencer, N. C. and Monroe, Va. The builders of this engine claim that it is one of the largest in the world. The Southern has purchased four of them and they will all soon be running over this line. They are the most powerful engines ever built and are said to be able to pull 33 Pullman coaches with ease.

ROWAN'S DELINQUENTS.

SALISBURY, Nov. 26.—Sheriff Monroe to-day presented to Judge Coble a list of Rowan's delinquent tax-payers as required by the revenue act of the last General Assembly. Judge Coble, as required by the same act delivered the list to Solicitor Holton, to the end that delinquents might be prosecuted as required by the law. The solicitor, who had already intimated that he was not inclined to prosecute until the test case from Johnson county was decided by the Supreme Court, announced that all merchants, lawyers, doctors, flying jenny men, and others delinquent upon special license taxes, had better pay up at once and that farmers and others who are delinquent upon property taxes, had better pay as soon as practicable—the former being clearly liable, in his opinion, under the law. The Democratic sheriff and the Republican judge have simply discharged their duty under the law, and the Republican solicitor has exercised the discretion which is his in law, not to prosecute for the present. He has the first, however, and as the offence is a misdemeanor, he can prosecute at any time within two years.

MOCK HANGING BECAME REAL.

READING, November 28.—Harry Hendricks, aged 15 years, and a number of other boys were playing about a stable at Downingtown yesterday, engaged in the game of "banter." One boy proposed a hanging match. Young Hendricks agreed and dared his companions to follow his example. A halter was procured, and Harry, by means of a stool, mounted to the crossbeams, around one of which he fastened the piece of harness, tying the other end around his throat. He smiled at the crowd below and they shouted in glee. Suddenly Harry's feet slipped and he fell with a shriek which was strangled in his throat by the band that tightened about his neck and cut into the flesh. The other boys in horror fled for help. A man quickly responded and cut the toy down. Drs. Tyndell and Kerr, after an examination, said that the boy's neck had been broken. He was carried home in a dying condition.

A STRANGER LEAVES MARION CO.

STATESVILLE, Nov. 30.—About the 15th of this month a stranger came into the store of W. G. Wright and said that he wanted some one to take care of his mare and colt until he came back from Charlotte. Mr. Wright asked him how long he would be gone and on the man's replying only a day or two, agreed to keep his horses. The man left immediately without giving his name, leaving the mare and colt in Mr. Wright's possession. Since then Mr. Wright has not seen the man nor heard a word of him. He has no idea where he came from or where he is. He doesn't even know whether the horse was his own or not.

The Asheville Citizen says that the committee has been appointed to escort the remains of the late General T. L. Clingman to Asheville for interment, in the persons of Col. Wm. H. S. Burgwyn, Col. A. B. Thrash and Capt. James P. Sawyer. Unless unfavorable weather prevents the exercises of the day will take place on Court Square in that city on December 7. Members of Gen. Clingman's old regiment, the 25th North Carolina, will act as honorary and active pall-bearers. Gov. Russell and his staff will be invited to be present.

Attorney L. H. Clement, of Salisbury, during the trial of the negro gamblers this week, made a plain statement of facts that caused a little stir in the court room. Asking for mercy in the sentence to be imposed Mr. Clement said: "There are men of higher standing than these darkeys that play cards within the sight of this court house day and night and they are never hauled up here for gambling."

The nineteen bills of indictment drawn against Salisbury merchants by Solicitor Holter for selling cigarettes to minors has been much discussed since the grand jury returned the true bills. It is told that Solicitor Holton went to the white graded school and offered boys to whom cigarettes had been sold \$1.00 each if they would testify to having purchased the cigarettes, before the grand jury.

M. Golden, of Guthrie, Okla., who has been a candidate for agent of the Osage Indian nation, has disappeared from Washington, D. C., where he has been for three months. Thursday he telegraphed to his partner at Guthrie as follows: "I leave here to-day for where I don't know. I have squandered \$8,000 trying to get a place, and have been deceived. I cannot face my creditors. Send my family to Omaha."

STATE NEWS.

The Rockingham Index says Sam Ferral, colored, shot his wife Maxton, Robeson county, a few days ago and attempted to shoot himself in the head, but the bullet was unable to enter his skull. He dropped the pistol on his foot, however, inflicting a very serious wound.

Otho Wilson in his paper makes a direct attack upon Senator Butler in connection with the latter's Rocky Mount speech. He says he does "not doubt that Butler made the statement," because he believes he is the "only man in North Carolina mean enough to suspect such motives in a human being." Otho says Senator Butler told him he would work some kind of a "deal" in 1900 which would make him solid.

Governor Russell, has been receiving freight and express packages head head, and he is being criticized for it in view of his antagonism to the railroads. The governor may not be responsible for what he receives dead head, but there would be some point in it if the packages which he ships go "D. H."

Tuesday afternoon the mayor of Salisbury sent W. L. Wistley, a white man of Richmond, Va., to the chain gang for swearing. Arrived at the convict camp Wistley refused to work and soon thereafter attempted to escape, whereupon he was shot by the guard and painfully though not seriously wounded. Wistley's wounds were dressed and he was discharged from custody but he left breathing threatenings and slaughter against the authorities. He says he will sue for \$5,000 damages.

John A. Muder, postmaster at the little hamlet of Poplar Mount, Warren county, is in jail at Raleigh for using the mails in working a big swindle. He posed as the "German Supply Company" and offered a gold watch for each list of names accompanied by \$1. Money rolled in, for the "green-horns" are by no means extinct yet. Many registered letters were received by him and many were forwarded to Chicago. Muder is a German, a big fellow, and there was a lively time getting him here.

Engineer L. M. Bumgarner, who was shot Friday near Fletcher by a desperate character named Lambert, died at the mission hospital in Asheville last Sunday night, after every effort had been made to save his life. Governor Russell has offered \$400 reward for the capture of the tramp. A special to the Governor, Saturday, says there were two of the tramps and that they had twice been put off the train. The third time they were put off Bumgarner left his engine and went to aid the conductor. One tramp shot him and fled.

Gilmore Hammond, who was tried in Salisbury for the murder of "Red" Averit, was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. The murder occurred only a few weeks ago. Avit, who was an employe of the railroad shops in Salisbury, had a difficulty with Hammond in a barroom when the latter shot and killed him. The case was given to the jury Saturday and they returned a verdict Sunday, when Judge Coble imposed a sentence of two years. Hammond bore a very bad character.

The Press-Visitor says Mr. R. M. Furman will be the editorial writer and Mr. Thos. J. Pence, at present city editor of the Press-Visitor, city editor of the Post, the new morning daily to be established in Raleigh. Mr. Greek O. Andrews, president of the company, will be general manager, and Mr. Will X. Coley, formerly of the Mocksville Times, will be one of the paper's traveling representatives. The first issue of the paper will appear next week. The office will be equipped with type setting machines and other new and up-to-date machinery.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The judgments that you form and express concerning other people are an infallible revelation of the state of your heart. Isaac Taylor has beautifully said that the object glass of a telescope may or may not bring back a correct report of the star at which it is pointed, but that it never fails to disclose any specks or flaws upon its own surface. The man who makes a habit of pulling out the notes from his brother's eye is most likely to have a rather large beam sticking in his own eye. Who sneers at truthfulness except the liar, or at purity except the debauchee? Who proclaims his belief in the doctrine that every man has his price except the dishonest fellow who is himself for sale? Be careful, friend, that in speaking harshly about your friend or acquaintance you do not uncover the nakedness of your own soul.—Nashville Advocate.

The Secretary of the Treasury gave out a remarkable statement last week concerning the appointments by States in this department. His table shows that while the District of Columbia has an excess of appointments of 208, North Carolina has a deficit of 26. The Tarheel State is entitled to 65 appointments, in the Treasury Department, and is only credited with 39. Every Southern State except Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia has a deficit of appointments in this department and this statement illustrates that discrimination against the South in every department of the government.

T. H. Simpson, of Union county, is going to Texas by private conveyance. The Monroe Enquirer says he will make the trip in a four-mule wagon, which he has fitted up with an oil stove, a bed and other conveniences.

John A. Ramsey, of Salisbury, gets a nice slice of pie in the shape of civil engineer to the State Board of Education with a salary of \$1,000 a year. He is the defeated candidate for postmaster at Salisbury.

The American Bible Society is in financial difficulties.

To Cure Consumption Forever.
Walter Cassel's Candy Cigarettes by Dr. Geo. W. C. C. fail to cure, druggists refund money.

A Yankee Skipper's Trick.

A good anecdote is told illustrating the superior enterprise of the Yankee skipper years ago. The Bedford whalers left port for many a long voyage, sometimes to the north, at other times to the far south. These intrepid followers of the sea sought and pursued the whale in the ice clad latitudes about the poles with a natural fearlessness. A squadron went out by Russia to explore the south seas and reach the pole if possible had attained a degree of latitude which the commanders proudly told himself had never been reached before by white men or other human beings. While he reflected upon the fame that would surely embellish his name, his sailors cried, "Land ho!" Off to the south he descried a long, low lying bit of land and hastened to shape his course to reach it, there to plant the Russian standard on his first point, claiming it in the name of his emperor.

What was his disgust and astonishment when, as his vessel approached the shore, he observed, over a bit of headland, a flag fluttering from a mast-head. In a few minutes a little schooner or poked her nose around the point and came sailing snarlingly over the waves toward his vessel. The lean Yankee captain, who was standing in the rigging as the schooner came up in the wind, yelled:

"Voyage there! What ship is that?"
"His majesty's ship the—"
"Wall, this is the Nantucket from Rhode Island! We're doing a little piloting in the latitudes, and if you want to run in the cove yonder, why, we'll pilot you in for a small charge."

The admiral's disgust caused him to square his sails around and shape his course for Russia.—Harper's Round Table.

Atmospheric Weight.

At the sea level, with the barometer marking 30 inches and the thermometer 32 degrees F., a cubic foot of pure dry air weighs about 555 grains Troy. The weight of a cubic foot of water vapor, under the same conditions, is only 952 grains. When vapor is mixed with dry air, therefore, the resulting compound is lighter than dry air. In stormy weather the air is lighter than it is in fair weather and not heavier, as many persons suppose. When smoke hangs about the surface of the earth, it shows that the air is lighter than the smoke. When the air is dry, it is heavier than the smoke, and the latter therefore ascends. The weight of the earth's atmosphere, or, in other words, the pressure exerted upon the earth by the atmosphere, is about the same as would be exerted by a foot of water 33 feet in height over the globe. At the sea level the pressure of the atmosphere is about 15 pounds to the square inch. A man of ordinary size thus bears all the time a pressure of about 80,000 pounds, but he does not feel it, because the pressure is exerted in every direction, above, below and around him, and because his body is filled with air and other fluids that press outward, thus maintaining a state of equilibrium.—Philadelphia Times.

The Stormy Gulf.

The gulf of Mexico is a water of storms, not frequent, but frequently violent. It is, in effect, an immense scallop cut from the land, and hurricanes seem to gravitate to it naturally. They are born in the neighborhood of the Sandwich Islands, strike the West Indies and do not infrequently leave those islands at a tangent, just as a ball thrown at an obtuse angle against a wall slides along it for a little space and again seeks vacancy. These erratic forces of the air strike the coast of Mexico, or the coast of Texas, according to their angle, and death is in their track. The things called "tidal waves" in that section are not really tidal waves. They are not caused by an upheaval. They are merely local in effect. They are not vast walls of water moving with resistless speed and weight over the face of the ocean. They are waters banked up against a low coast by wind pressure and they overflow. In many instances the submergence is gradual and ample opportunity for escape is given. Other times the violence of the air makes them sudden and people are drowned.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Rock Work and Plants in Aquariums.

In the best modern aquarium practice the rockwork in the tanks is simple in construction and limited to a minimum in bulk. Elaborate rockwork is more likely to displace, if they do not displace, of course, just so much water, and so lessens the sustaining power of the tank, but rockwork in some form or vegetation is desirable for the comfort of the fishes. There are fishes that like to loaf around rocks or perhaps to creep under them. In nature they find food in such places, and it may be shelter from their enemies, and there are fishes equally accustomed to plants of one sort and another, and almost all fishes at times like seclusion or places where they can go by themselves. In an aquarium it is a common thing to see a fish motionless behind some slender plant which does not conceal it, but does serve as a place of retreat.—New York Sun.

The Corpse Weighed 600 Pounds.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 29.—Mrs. Theresa Cardoza, a well known resident of this city, who died on Saturday, was buried yesterday in the Italian cemetery. She weighed over 600 pounds and the undertakers had to break down the stairs of her late residence in order to lower the body into the hall. A special casket, bound with iron, was constructed for the remains. As it was too heavy for any horse in the city, it was taken to the cemetery in a heavy express wagon. Mrs. Cardoza had been married twice and leaves five children, the youngest being 14 months old.

A Gigantic Scheme.

New York, Nov. 29.—Wall street financiers believe they have discovered the most gigantic trust ever heard of. It is a scheme to control the money market of this city, and through it, the financial policy and affairs of the entire country. The capital behind the trust is almost unlimited. It is said that this trust has already begun operations. Rockefeller, Havemeyer and Morgan are reported to be the originators of this trust.

William C. Eilers, who was convicted of manslaughter at the spring term, 1894, of Cleveland Superior Court, and sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary has been pardoned by Gov. Russell. Eilers killed Dr. Hogue.

Paul Verlaine.

Verlaine is the master of lyric expression, finding every delicate means in order to express every shadow of his sentiment and to excite by harmonious sounds the nervous strings of the modern, impressionist listener. That is why the "young ones" considered him their leader and why he was called the first symbolist. The melodious, suggestive words, the strange, symbolic pictures, arose in the soul of the reader or the impression which the poet wishes to give him. "Il pleure dans mon cœur, comme il pleure sur la ville," says the poet, and the use of assonance and alliteration ("pleure," "pluie") gives to the lines pleasing harmony and to the picture charm and color. To move the sensitive soul of the listener by the music of the rhythms, such is Verlaine's aim.

When Leconte de Lisle died, one of the Parisian reviews called the literati and artists who, after the author of "Poemes Barbares," was worthy to take up the national lyre. The votes were all for Verlaine. The public of the boulevard was astonished at such an artistic plebiscite. The new poet laureate was so little known. Nevertheless many lovers of poetry loved and admired him. But how many lovers of poetry are there?

Paul Verlaine died Jan. 9, 1896, and was buried two days later in Cliché cemetery. All the artistic and literary youth of Paris followed his coffin. Several eminent literati spoke at his grave. Verlaine never sold himself with a falsehood, nor did he flatter himself by seeking the applause of the multitude. His lyre was not for sale.—M. S. C. de Soissons in Forum.

Noted in the House of Commons.

Disraeli, I noted, sat during a debate in dumb abstraction, never cheering and never interjecting a denial. There he sat, the man who recreated his party, surely a great achievement. I have no doubt he loses friends by his apparent inattention and the method in which he walks to his place without looking at anybody, but I surmise, from my own experience, that it arises from near-sightedness. I perceive that he cannot tell what o'clock it is without using his glass, and somebody told me lately that he saw him hailing a police van, mistaking it for an omnibus. His face is often haggard and his air weary and disappointed, but he has the brow and eyes of a poet, which are always pleasant to look upon. He generally says the right thing at the right minute and in the right way, and he is lustily cheered; but, sitting among the opposition, I have abundant reason to note that he is not trusted.

It is said that young Stanley and other youngsters of his class believe in him, and that the man who is so taciturn in parliament is a charming companion among his familiars and is a gracious and genial host. Some of his post-parliamental moans come out, and I should think, make fatal mistakes. Somebody asked him lately if Lord Robert M.—was not a stupid ass. "No, no," said Benjamin, "not at all. He is a clever ass."—Sir Charles Gavan Duffy in Contemporary Review.

The Continuous Performance.

One man, evidently a player actor, and another man, who evidently wasn't, were coming down in an elevated railroad car on Sixth avenue. "How are you getting on?" asked the man who wasn't. "Oh, only so so at this season of the year. Instead of going on the vaudeville stage I started out in tragedy, but it's played out. Such ham-fatters as Booth, Barrett, Forrest, McCallagh and men of that ilk have ruined that line of business, and there's nothing in it now."

"Why don't you try the continuous performance racket? I see that some first class people are in it now." "Oh, it won't last. It's a new idea, and it's being run into the ground." "I think you're wrong about its being a new idea," said the man who wasn't. "I remember having seen a continuous performance when I was a little boy, and my grandfather has told me that the same show was drawing big crowds when he was a youngster."

"What was it?" asked the man who was doubtfully. "Niagara falls."—New York Commercial.

A Surprise.

A cook at a cheap boarding house played a little game on a grumbling boarder by serving him with a piece of sole leather instead of beefsteak. "You've changed your butcher, Mrs. Haseburt," said the boarder, looking up at the landlady, after saving two or three minutes at the leather. "Same butcher as usual," replied the boarding mistress, with a patronizing smile. "Why?" "Oh, nothing much," said the boarder, trying to make an impression on the steak with his knife and fork, "only this piece of meat is the tenderest I have had in this house for some weeks."—Strand Magazine.

Chippendale.

Chippendale not only made chairs, but almost everything in the furniture line, except the one article with which his name is most frequently associated today. We refer to sideboards. It is doubtful if he ever made a sideboard. In his book there is no reference to sideboards, though there are several large tables with the name "Chippendale tables." Though the word sideboard was used long before his day, it is probable that the early English sideboards were merely tables.

"Trimnings" is the term under which alcoholic drinks are disguised in the bills English ladies run up at the London department stores, according to Salvation Army investigators.

More than 10,000 persons are engaged in the manufacture of explosives in England. Last year 40 persons in the business were killed and 167 injured by accidents.

John B. Barnes, the Populist magistrate who attempted to criminally assault Miss Cora Yarborough near Rocky Mount last month, is now in Wake jail for safe keeping. He was convicted of the crime charged and Judge Timberlake sentenced him to seven years in the penitentiary. The case was appealed.

A fourth Presbyterian church has been organized in Charlotte. It is called Westminster, and is at Dilworth. It has 56 members.

Why Flowers Are Fragrant.

Nature has provided ways and means for all of the odors which it is her peculiar province to fill. Why flowers are fragrant has often been discussed. Botanists have decided that the fertilization is largely accomplished through the agency of insects that pass from one flower to another in search of food. They become covered with pollen from one blossom, which they in turn scatter upon others. The economy and comprehensiveness of nature's plans are illustrated by the fact that while the insect may visit a hundred sorts of plants in a day the pollen of one has no effect save upon that particular species to which it belongs. The bumblebee, for example, becomes loaded with yellow dust, but this is of no value as a fertilizer to the multitude of other plants. It is related that a lupine grows in California sometimes completely covering large tracts of land. Its bright purple crimson blossoms are so abundant that they color the surface of the country and can be seen for a long distance. These blossoms have a powerful fragrance, but are not nectar yielding, therefore bees rarely visit them. It, however, produces very large quantities of pollen, and the winged creature that seek this food carry on the processes of cross fertilization in the most satisfactory manner. Whether the insect is attracted by the fragrance or whether it instinctively knows where the pollen grows has not been decided. At all events the bee is wise enough not to waste time on flowers which secrete no nectar, and why should not its contemporaries exercise equal intelligence?—New York Ledger.

We Live on a Narrow Margin.

A very small change in the present condition of our earth would immediately kill every living being upon its surface. An eastern writer comments on the fact that we live on a very narrow margin, a little more heat or a little more cold, and we die. Our existence depends on keeping changes of temperature within a range of about 1 per cent of what we know as possible extremes. If the moon were very much larger, the tidal wave would carry the entire ocean twice a day over the surface of the earth. If the earth were much smaller, we would lose our atmosphere; if it were much larger, we could not stand upright more than five minutes, nor would we be able to move at all except by radial crawling. If the year were twice as long as it is, it is doubtful if we could raise food enough in the summer to carry us through the winter or if we could survive the accumulated cold. In every way our earth lies just at the meeting point of two kinds of death, which "on this bank and shoal of time" we must fight with either hand. It makes no difference whether we have fitted ourselves to the earth through a long series of evolution or whether it was fitted to us. As far as we know it is the only habitable spot in the universe, and the chances are almost infinite that no other is so favorably located. Let us make the most we can of it.—Chicago Record.

Smuggled It.

A bright young man of West Pine boulevard, who has just returned from a trip across the big pond, exhibits with a good deal of pride one of the handsomest diamonds in St. Louis.

"What makes it dearer to me than anything else," she tells her intended, "is the fact that I smuggled it. You know my husband couldn't go with me, and I joined a party of friends, but he warned me emphatically not to be caught with dutiable goods on me. I have always been wanting a diamond for this setting,"—showing an antique, beautiful design—"and I had a jeweler here give me the dimensions of the stone I must buy. Well, here it is, and how do you suppose I managed it? I took with me several packages of chewing gum. When the officers came aboard and for our declarations, I stuck the stone into a piece of gum that I had chewed into a pulp. I kept on renewing the gum until we got into New York and chewed away until I was safely landed in my room at the hotel. Now, girls, don't you think I was clever?"

The young woman avers that she has not told her husband yet about her enterprise, but if he sees the old setting with the new stone on her hand this little story may open his eyes.—St. Louis Republic.

True to the Family Cause.

She was the daughter of a street railway magnate. And the good looking young man had just kissed her. A moment later he looked in her eyes with a disappointed expression. "Can't you pay that back?" he murmured. The lovely girl tossed her head. "I believe," she said, "that you favor lower fares?" "Yes," he reluctantly admitted, "I do." "Then," she said laughingly, "you need expect no transfers on this system." And the young man knew that the magnates had won another round.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Young Astronomers.

"Children, come in. It is getting late." "Mamma, we're only watching the stars." "That may be, but it isn't good for your health to stay out watching the stars as late as this." "What's the use of talking that way, mamma? We've been reading up. Astronomers live longer than anybody else."—Chicago Tribune.

Hymen an Expert.

It was his first quarrel after marriage, and he was leaving for the club in anger. At the door he turned and hauled back on prating shot. "If love is blind," he said, "it must be admitted that Hymen is a first class oculist."—Chicago Post.

At Wilmington last week, while a theatrical performance was in progress, a lady member of the company discovered a man peeping through a window into the ladies' dressing room. She ran for help, and the window was suddenly raised, and the peeper fell backward, breaking his leg. He is white and is named Polty.

Judge Robinson declares the law putting men in jail for not paying their taxes is unconstitutional.

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