

CORRECTION.

Extract from a letter from a friend in Hertford county:

"I find some who urge as an objection to the Asylum that you take only the children of Masons and of those who have once been in affluence and are now bankrupt."

Such an insinuation or charge as is contained in the above extract does great injustice to the Asylum and its management, because it is utterly unfounded. A majority of the orphans in the Asylum are the children of those who were not Masons, and a very large majority the children of what are called the poorer class of people. It is true we have here descendants of some of the first families of the State in former times. There are here the orphans of ministers of the gospel, of members of Congress; and of persons high in social position. Misfortune overtook them, their children were left in destitute circumstances and without friends to take care of them, and they have been sent here to be cared for. Is it wrong to take these friendless boys and girls by the hand, lead them to the Asylum, give them a rudimentary education, simply because their parents once enjoyed affluence and high social position? We have, also, many whose parents were poor; whose fathers fell in the late civil war; some whose parents are unknown; all bright, intelligent, promising children, but there is no distinction made either in their reception or in their treatment after they get here. Many are sent here who can remember the time when they had all that fond parents, blessed with means, could give them. Others come who scarcely ever had a kind word spoken to them, but whose experience, before they came, consisted in kicks and cuffs, nakedness and starvation. To both classes the sympathizing voice and fond caress come like the gentle dew upon the withering flower. It would do any one's heart good to witness the moist eyes and heaving breasts of the little friendless waifs when, upon their arrival at "the Home," they are made to feel that they are among friends who feel for and sympathize with them. All are received alike, and all are treated alike as far as possible. No question is asked whether the father was a Mason or was ever rich. The only question is, does the child need the protection and assistance the institution was designed to give.

We invite the closest scrutiny into the management of the institution, by its friends, (or its enemies if it has any,) and will always furnish the fullest information in answer to inquiries in regard to its operations.

A DAY OF AMUSEMENTS.

Our exchanges give account of three public hangings in one day, in Tennessee, Friday the 13th inst.; John Webb, for murder, in Knoxville, whose execution was witnessed by 12,000 people; Wm. N. Berry, of Rogersville, for the murder of his wife, where 5,000 "delighted spectators" were present, and Ananias Hunicutt, at Taswell, where 6,000 were present.

This morbid curiosity to see men hung is evidence that, as a people, we have several long strides to make yet before we entirely "got out of the wilderness" of barbarism.

HOW TO SEND BOXES.

Boxes, sacks, barrels, bundles and packages, intended for the use of the Orphans at Oxford, should be marked ORPHAN ASYLUM, OXFORD, N. C., and there should be no other marks to mislead. Inside of the box or package should be a list of the articles with the names of the contributors. If sent by railroad or steamer, the receipt of the freight agent should be sent by mail. Light and valuable articles should be sent by Express.

Articles intended for the Orphans at Mars Hill should be marked ORPHAN ASYLUM, MARS HILL, N. C. If sent from the West, they can be easily forwarded from Asheville. If from the East, they should be sent by Salisbury and Old Fort, and in every case the receipt should be sent by mail.

These directions seem to be simple; but valuable contributions have been lost, because they have not been observed.

A CHICKEN PRAYER.

At some of the entertainments recently given by nine orphans from Oxford, the exercises were opened with prayer, by some minister who happened to be present. Generally these prayers were excellent, and included all the children in our country; but on two occasions the words seemed to "hang fire," and utterance was difficult. Possibly these ministers have not formed the habit of praying for the children. At least we are reminded of an incident in the early experience of a now prominent minister. Rev. N. B. Cobb was a lawyer in Goldsboro, when he was converted and began to preach he was very sure that he could point out the way of life to other lawyers and carefully wrote out a sermon for their special benefit. But the sermon failed to impress them as the preacher expected, and he determined to try it on a less cultivated audience. An appointment was sent to the dark corner of Greens county. The day came, and the same sermon was repeated, and when the preacher came down from the pulpit a plain old citizen walked up to him and said: "You haint been at it long, is you?" Mr. Cobb carried that sermon home and put it away.

THE CONVENTION.

The people have elected members of a Convention to revise our Constitution, and have disappointed both political parties, in failing to give a decided majority to either. But the body elected will be the ablest that has assembled in our capitol since the war. Among the able Republicans are Gens. Barringer and Bryan, Judges Tourgee, Buxton and Albertson, Cols. Dockery and Young, and a number of able lawyers, such as Messrs. Faircloth, Badger, Boyd, Dula and Lehman. The Democrats have sent Gen. Clingman and Gov. Reid; Cols. Bennett, Coleman, Withers, McCorkle and Cunningham; among their distinguished lawyers are Messrs. Manning, Shoher, Henderson, Bunn, Jarvis, Durham, Withers, Green and Avery. The Democrats also send two distinguished ministers, Messrs. Hassell and Stallings. Upon the whole we pronounce the Convention competent to make a good constitution, even after the loss of the great and noble Governor Graham.

AN EARNEST CALL.

We must beg the friends of the Orphan work, Committees of Lodges, ministers of the gospel, and all others who desire the success of the work, to exert themselves in its behalf now. We are running short of the means to provide comfortably for the children already here, and there are many applications for admission that ought to be responded to favorably if the prospect for taking care of them was better.

The cold season is approaching when we shall need warmer clothing, hats and shoes, and have to procure fuel. The store room is nearly bare of supplies and the exchequer at too low an ebb to replenish it. The hardest season of the year, in regard to contributions, is now upon us, and we are really beginning to be embarrassed for means to procure daily necessities.

In view of this state of affairs we appeal to all good Christians and charitable people of the state to make a little extra effort in behalf of the Asylum and help it over the pinch between now and the coming in of the crops.

CONVERSATION.

Among all the "accomplishments" which our young ladies are expected to acquire, it is to be regretted that the art of conversation is not included. No grace of person or manners can compensate for this. In youth the conversation is too apt to be trifling and insipid; in middle age it is too often confined to complaints of health and the scandal of the day. Lively conversation on instructive and elevated topics is but little practiced, but whenever it is found it gives a charm to the society of females which nothing else can. It triumphs over deformity and old age and makes ugliness itself agreeable. Curran, speaking of Madame de Stael, who was by no means a handsome woman, but a splendid conversationist, said, "she had the power of talking herself into beauty." Ladies should think of this. Beauty lies in other things than fine features and cosmetics.

ORPHANS AT THE ASSOCIATION.

The Flat River Baptist Association was held this year at Mt. Zion Church, Granville county, commencing August 10th. By invitation the Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum took out some eight or ten of the children to the Association on the second day, who gave a concert highly pleasing to the audience present. The reporter of the *Biblical Recorder* speaks of the occasion as follows:

The Association adjourned to hear the Orphans sing. We all repair to the stand and listen to a plain statement of the work of the Asylum by Superintendent Mills. The bare mention of the work is enough to touch the heart and appeal to the sympathies of the hardest and most selfish. We are all deeply impressed with the blessedness of the work of caring for the poor little Orphans of our State. Some of them are from the humblest walks of poverty; others are the children of parents who were once blessed with wealth, while among them may be found the little boys and girls of once useful ministers of Christ.

The little creatures in all the accents and simplicity of childhood sing for us, and render the music in the highest style of the art. What a wealth of eloquence and what a restless appeal to our hearts. We thank God for Christian sympathy—for all the ties that bind our hearts to humanity. We thank Him for this charity, the noblest and most unselfish in our land. Every man and woman in North Carolina who has a family of children

every one who loves his fellow-man; and far more than these, every Christian should feel it a duty and a pleasure to aid such an institution. Have you given anything for Christ in this work? If not you should do so at once, or you may miss a gracious opportunity to discharge a duty God will require at your hands. Bro. Mills is doing a greater work for North Carolina and humanity than any man who has ever lived in the State. His name is linked with human kindness, love and charity for the age. Men shall rise up to call him blessed. But now, how hard and thankless is the task to which God has called him. At times all seem to forget the good they might do, and causes and institutions, even good and able as this Orphan work, are allowed to languish. It should be a permanent charity.

We copy the entire paragraph without scratching out any part of it, with the explanation that Mr. Mills is absent in the Mars Hill section, and therefore cannot object to what is said of him in the notice.

The Orphan Asylum at Mars Hill.

"This little infantile institution, unless constantly fostered by the good people of the West, will certainly fail. Will we in the West have it said that we are not generous enough to support fifty little orphans? Will we withhold our means and destroy a home perhaps for our own children or grand-children? Or will we make it a success? It is in our power to do either. Notwithstanding there is a good deal pledged for its support, the writer has not a single dime to buy a pound of meat or coffee for the children! Who will send us a few dimes? A little from all and the work is done, and everybody will feel good about it.

Yours truly,

JOHN K. SAMS,

Steward."

We clip the above from the Asheville Citizen of last week. Will the good people of that section of the State allow the necessity for such appeals to continue? Our experience warrants us in saying that the people are always ready to contribute to the orphan work when the subject is presented immediately to their attention; all that is necessary is, that some active friends of the orphans put themselves to the trouble to bring the claims of the orphan Asylum to the notice of the people and receive their contributions. We call upon the officers and committees of the Masonic Lodges, ministers of the Gospel and other benevolent people of the West, especially the ladies, to do this and relieve the Mars Hill branch of the Orphan Asylum of its perplexities.

Appearances Deceitful.

The proverb that appearances are often deceitful, is one that is continually verified in daily life, especially when the effort is made to judge of people by their clothes. Rogues will know the effect of fine raiment, and therefore generally contrive to be well dressed. On the other hand, persons are sometimes treated with disrespect because they happen to be in their working attire.

A clergyman was working in his garden before his house, and as it was warm, he was in his shirt-sleeves, when an Irishman came along, and, looking over the fence, inquired, "Plaze, sir, can yos tell me where the clergy lives?"

"I am the clergyman of the parish, and I live here. What can I do for you?"

"Och," said the man, looking at the shirt-sleeves, "is the clergyman I'm wanting?"

"Well, I'm the clergyman."

Tell me what you want, and I can most probably do it for you."

But the Irishman shook his head, walked slowly away, muttering, "Sure, it's the clergyman himself that I'm after."

In another case, a young-looking, fair-haired clergyman was working in his garden in somewhat similar attire, when a cart with a load of wood came to the gate and called out, "I say, Bobby, go in and ask your father where I shall put this wood."

In another instance, two English ladies went to pay a visit to the garden of Alphonse Karr, the well-known French author, who has of late turned his attention to horticulture in the south of France. On ringing at the gate, the gardener presented himself at the grille (grating) and on hearing their request, admitted them.

He conducted them round the garden, showed them the roses and the quantities of fine fruit, with all of which they were much delighted. But they were not satisfied, and said to the gardener,

"Is there no way by which we can satisfy our curiosity to see the distinguished owner of this garden, M. Karr himself?"

"O, yes," said the gardener; "come with me." And he took them, to their great astonishment into the parlor of the house, where he made a bow to them and said, "Allow me with my right hand, as gardener, to introduce you to my left as M. Karr."

It was the author himself whom they had mistaken for the gardener. They soon, however, recovered from their embarrassment, and were invited to sit down to a collation of the splendid and delicious fruits they had already seen growing.

It is not all mistakes that end so happily.

(From the *Lompoc (Cal.) Herald*.)

California's First Female Pioneer.

We have residing at Lompoc, Mrs. Nancy Kelsey the first woman who crossed the plains to California. The company consisted of thirty-three men and this lady, her husband being one of the company. The trail left independence Missouri, in April, 1841, and arrived at the residence of Dr. Marsh (who was murdered in Contra Costa county some years ago), at Marsh Landing, on the 4th of October of the same year. From there the Kelseys went to Sutter's Fort. There being no profitable occupation for settlers at that early day, this company lived rather a nomadic life until the discovery of gold in 1847. From that time every one was infused with a new life, and Mr. Kelsey discovered and established the famous Kelsey diggings from which millions of dollars of dust were taken. Mr. Kelsey and two brothers employed twenty-five Indians in these diggings, and their labor yielded \$100 in dust to the man per day. In 1859 the family left California overland for Texas, and on their return to the coast, two years later, they were attacked by the Comanches and robbed of everything, barely escaping with their lives. A daughter thirteen years old was captured and scalped, and receiving seventeen lance-cuts was left for dead, but was afterward recovered and brought back to California. From poverty the family had risen to comparative ease; but a series of misfortunes has reduced these aged pioneers to a condition not altogether agreeable to old age.