

# ORPHANS' FRIEND.

Wednesday, March 28, 1877.

## PROF. KERR'S REPORT.

### GEOGRAPHICAL.

We had determined to take issue with Prof. Kerr in regard to some innovations in his nomenclature. But while we thought the matter over, the printer came with the proof of an article which mentioned a visit to Jamestown, and we were astonished to see in print that we had actually been to Jerusalem! We immediately decided that the supposed innovations were only typographical errors. Let us therefore learn what we can from the report and hope for accuracy in a future edition. We are surprised to know that while nature has given us boundaries on the East and West, our State-lines are unknown (except by dim tradition) on the North and South, and that the true lines sometimes vary as much as three degrees from the supposed lines. Prof. Kerr says: "It is highly probable that the only portion of the State boundary which is known, or ascertainable with any thing like accuracy, is the Eastern or Oceanic, and a small part of the Western." Surely the Legislature ought to have appointed a commission to ascertain our boundaries, or to have elected a Geographer (as we suggested last week) to make us an accurate map, so much needed by travelers, and for use in our elementary schools. Prof. Kerr's map is, by far, more nearly accurate than any other. A good geographer could, by cooperation with intelligent citizens, with the State Geologist, and with the U. S. Coast Survey, prepare a reasonably correct map in two years. Then the geography of the State could be studied with interest and advantage. In the absence of such a map, we have, from all the sources of information at our command, prepared a list of our Rivers, Sounds, Lakes, and largest Islands and highest Mountains. We print them here with the hope of receiving suggestions and corrections for a complete and perfect list:

### NINETY RIVERS.

Alligator,  
Ararat,  
Black,  
Bay,  
Broad,  
Caney,  
Catauche,  
Cashie,  
Catawba,  
Cape Fear,  
Chatooga,  
Chowan,  
Dan,  
Deep,  
Elk,  
Eno,  
Fisher's,  
Flat,  
French Broad,  
First Broad,  
Green,  
Haw,  
Hiwassee,  
Hyco,  
Iry,  
Jacob's Fork,  
John's,  
Lewis' Fork,  
Little Tennessee,  
Little, in Johnston,  
Little, in Brunswick,  
Little, in Pasquotank,  
Little, in Orange,  
Little, in Cumberland,  
Little, in Alleghany,  
Little, in Montgomery,  
Little Yadkin,  
Lockwood Folly,  
Lower Little,  
Lumber,  
Mayo,  
Meherin,  
Middle Little,  
Mills,  
Mitchell's,  
Moccasin,  
Mulberry,  
Nantahala,  
Nolechucky,

Nottaly,  
New Hope,  
Neuse,  
North East,  
North West,  
North,  
Newport,  
New, in Onslow,  
New, in Watauga,  
Ocona Luftee,  
Pacolet,  
Pamlico,  
Pasquotank,  
Pee Dee,  
Pungo,  
Reddie's,  
Rocky, in Cabarrus,  
Rocky, in Chatham,  
Second Broad,  
Sudbrite,  
Swannanoa,  
Seppernong,  
Smith's,  
South Catawba,  
South Yadkin,  
South,  
Tennessee,  
Tuckasege,  
Tar,  
Toe,  
Toxaway,  
Trent,  
Twharrie,  
Upper Little,  
Valley,  
Waccamaw,  
Wanauga,  
White Oak,  
Yadkin,  
Yeopan.

### EIGHT SOUNDS.

Albemarle,  
Bogue,  
Core,  
Croatan,  
Currituck,  
Pamlico,  
Roanoke,  
Stump.

### FIFTEEN LAKES.

Alligator,  
Black,  
Bertram's,  
Cattfish,  
Catharine,  
Ellis,  
East,  
Long,  
Little,  
Mattamuskeet,  
North West,  
Pungo,  
Pheps,  
Scuppernong,  
Waccamaw.

### TWENTY ISLANDS.

Brant,  
Bell,  
Bogue,  
Bachelor,  
Collington,  
Cedar,  
Durant,  
Eagle,  
Great,  
Goat,  
Gull Shoal,  
Harker's,  
Hog,  
Holyday's,  
Judith,  
Leech's,  
Marsh,  
Roanoke,  
Swan,  
Smith's.

### MOUNTAINS MORE THAN 6,000 FEET

#### ABOVE THE SEA-LEVEL.

Balsam Cone, 6,671,  
Black Dome, 6,707,  
Black Brother, 6,619,  
Blackstock's Knob, 6,380,  
Big Craggy, 76,090,  
Bolling's Pyramid, 6,348,  
Big Cataluche, 6,159,  
Cat Tail Peak, 6,611,  
Chimney Peak, 6,234,  
Clingman's Dome, 6,660,  
Cold Spring, 6,132,  
Devil's Court House, 6,049,  
Double Spring, 6,380,  
Grassy Ridge, Bald, 6,230,  
Hairy Bear, 6,610,  
Long Ridge, 6,259,  
Luftee Knob, 6,238,  
Mt. Alexander, 6,447,  
Mt. Buckley, 6,599,  
Mt. Collins, 6,188,  
Mt. Curtis, 6,568,  
Mt. Gibbs, 6,591,  
Mt. Guyot, 6,336,  
Mt. Hall-back, 6,403,  
Mt. Henry, 6,373,  
Mt. Hardy, 6,133,  
Mt. Love, 6,443,  
Mt. Leconte, 6,612,  
Mt. Mitchell, 6,582,  
Mt. Ocona, 6,135,  
Mt. Safford, 6,535,

Potato Top, 6,393,  
Roan, 6,306,  
Richland Balsam, 6,425,  
Rocky Face, 6,031,  
Rocky Trail Peak, 6,488,  
Raven's Knob, 6,230,  
Sam's Knob, 6,091,  
Spruce Ridge Top, 6,076,  
Tricorner Knob, 6,188,  
Thermometer Knob, 6,157.

### HOW TO HELP THE ORPHANS.

1. Wherever you are acquainted, and wherever you may travel, look around for orphans, poor and promising, destitute and friendless, and inform them that there is a school in which they may learn to read the laws of their country and the commandments of their Maker; and advise them not to grow up ignorant and vicious, but to strive to become wise and good. Then fill out and forward formal applications for their admission, and open the way before them.

2. If you are a member of a Masonic Lodge, ask for a monthly or quarterly contribution, and see that your Lodge has a vigilant and active committee to watch and promote the interests of the Orphan Work in its jurisdiction.

3. If you are a member of a committee on the Orphan Asylum invite your Lodge and all your charitable friends to join you in a monthly contribution. If you are a member of any church, or benevolent society, ask every such organization to cooperate with you in helping the orphans by public collections, or private contributions, as may be most advisable.

4. Avoid all partnerships in which expenses are paid by the orphan fund and others reap the profits. Do not encourage individuals, or societies, who use the name of the Orphan Asylum and the sympathy which people feel for the orphans, to fill their own pockets, or to accomplish their own purposes.

5. Never allow the name of the Orphan Asylum to be mentioned in connection with any immoral, or disreputable exhibition.

6. When there is no Lodge, or benevolent society to take interest in the orphan work, or if your Lodge is indifferent, dormant, or dead, write for a charter and form-books to organize an Orphans Aid Society. One such society, properly managed, can accomplish great good with but little trouble or expense.

7. Should the people seem indifferent, circulate the ORPHANS' FRIEND among them, and invite them to become subscribers.

8. Be careful not to persecute the saints, nor annoy your neighbors; but first do your own duty, and then extend a cordial invitation to all who wish to cooperate with you, leaving the result with their own hearts and consciences.

### STEELE'S FOURTEEN WEEKS IN ZOOLOGY.

America has no better book-makers than A. S. Barnes & Co., of New York. In the work before us, the perfection of art seems to have been reached. The paper, type, and pictures are remarkable for their beauty and distinctness. Only one picture is indifferent, that of the lamprey. We never could make one lie still long enough to examine him, and it appeared cruel to kill one just to look at him, and so we regretted that the picture was a mere outline. But the pictures of peacocks, turkeys, partridges, &c., are the best we ever saw.

Mr. Steele's work is well done. The divisions are scientific. The descriptions are definite and comprehensive, and the statements are lucid and entertaining. We are sorry he omitted the woodchuck, found in our State. He informs us that the chameleon is "confined to the Old World." This may be so; but we have seen a reptile (order lacertilia)

between Lumber River and Wilmington which changed its color, being green on growing corn, and gray upon an old cypress rail. The animals sometimes caught in our mountains and called catamounts, are not mentioned. Our common partridge is called the "Bob White or Quail." Upon the whole, the book is a valuable addition to our school-room literature.

### THORNWELL ORPHANAGE.

In South Carolina the different religious denominations have their own Orphan Houses, and possibly this plan may be a good one. One minister in North Carolina refuses to cooperate with us because our Institution is not controlled by any religious denomination. Let him then cooperate with his brethren in South Carolina. Let him send his money there to educate some future Thornwell who will bless his own State and leave the rich legacy of a noble and useful life to all mankind. But he is not a Presbyterian (How could he be?): well let him send his money to the Orphanage of his own denomination.

The Thornwell Orphanage is located on a farm of 125 acres near Clinton, Laurens Co., S. C. The building is of stone large enough for a family of thirty, and is to be enlarged. It was opened in October, 1875. It is controlled by Presbyterians, but children from all denominations and (best of all) children outside of all denominations are admitted.

The organ of the Orphanage is *Our Monthly*, an interesting periodical, printed by two of the orphans and sent to subscribers for only one dollar a year.

### USEFUL CITIZENS LOST.

Mr. Martin V. Calvin, a prominent promoter of education in Georgia, recently visited our State and expects to do so again. In a letter to *Chronicle and Constitutional* he speaks very kindly of the Orphan Asylum and gives us the following story, the moral of which is manifest to all:

"To-day, whilst waiting at Raleigh for the South-bound train, I chanced to make the acquaintance of Mr. Joseph Chattaway, but recently a citizen of Birmingham, England. He was then engaged in the corn business (more wheat, oats and barley than pure Indian corn), in which, slack with busy, he and his associate were turning over about \$50,000 per month. He bethought him of coming to this country—the South. To fix upon routes and determine the cost, he visited the various immigration offices in the city, but could not gather a solitary item relating to our section. In the office of Mr. Holmes, who had been to America and had subsequently induced his two sons to locate in North Carolina. This gentleman gave a graphic description of the State, and advised Mr. C. to come hither. The advice was adopted, and in due time Mr. Chattaway found himself and family located near Greensboro, to which point a large number of English families, of means varying from \$1,000 to \$15,000, had also immigrated. Several of these families, after having purchased homes and farms and remaining for some time, ultimately became dissatisfied with their locality because of the lack of school and church privileges, such as they were accustomed in their own country, sold out and went, some of them, to the West, others to the North. Just here I would say that the lack of school privileges does not refer to private schools; nor yet that as to churches to the towns and cities; for no State can boast private schools and colleges of a higher order than North Carolina. But the public school system is in embryo in this State. This is a desideratum which the people must supply and that right early. Their every interest demands this.

Rev. Thomas Ogburn will preach in the chapel of the Orphan Asylum, at 3 o'clock p. m. next Sunday.

Wherever he is known the people esteem it a great privilege to hear him. This opportunity is now presented to the citizens of Oxford, and of the surrounding country.

—The *Masonic Journal* is dead. A small dose of mortgage palsied every muscle, and death speedily ensued. The always-cheerful editor has retired to other and we hope more profitable employment.

The place of the Book in our schools, where is it? The teacher feels himself lost if he does not "lay out" a lesson; he cannot teach without a book. Here is room for improvement. One of the most cultured of the last year's Commissioners, Mr. Albert Klamroth, in an address said, the "German mode of education is not understood in this country; no teacher is employed who cannot teach without a text-book." We are only just beginning to know a little of the excellence and thoroughness of the German Education—in it the book is secondary; in American Education it is the prominent thing. So much so that Grades of Study are measured portions of books. In one city it is from the 50th to the 100th page of—Arithmetic for the Fourth Grade, and so on for the rest. And this is the case with nearly all the graded schools! And this is the Age of Progress!—*School Journal*.

Among the curious developments of the dead-letter office may be mentioned the following: An application was recently received at the dead-letter office in Washington from Palmer Gardner, of Burlington, Racine County, Wisconsin, for a letter mailed to him in 1835. This letter contained a certificate of deposit for \$360, issued by the Onondaga Bank, of Syracuse, New York, and was sent from there in October, 1835, by William N. Gardner to his brother, Palmer Gardner, at "Detroit, Michigan Territory." Not being claimed at Detroit, it was sent to the dead-letter office, and thence back to the postmaster at Syracuse, who, being unable to find the sender, returned it to the dead-letter office again, where it lay undisturbed in the dusty files until the Centennial Exhibition. It was then conveyed, with other curiosities of the dead-letter office, to Philadelphia, and there chanced to be seen by an acquaintance of Mr. Gardner, who informed him of his discovery; and thus, after the lapse of more than forty years, the letter reached its destination. The postage on the letter, when it was first mailed from Syracuse, was twenty-five cents.—*Bazar*.

—In Sheffield, England, they are manufacturing paper wheels for railway carriages. A sort of frame-work of steel is filled with compressed paper, which is then dried in a heated air-bath. It is said that these paper wheels have an amount of elasticity which makes them superior to those of steel or wrought iron.

—A professor, a teacher of German, was one day very much disturbed by an unruly benchful of boys. At last, in his despair, he exclaimed, "Dat bench vill leave de room and vill stay outside." Whereupon the young rascals carried out the bench, left it outside, and blandly returned to other seats.

—On the prairie lands of the United States, especially in Texas and Oregon, there grows a plant which has the peculiar property of turning its leaves towards the north. It is called the compass-plant, and often serves as a guide to the benighted traveler. It is described as a perennial plant from three to six feet in height, with ovate, deeply pinnatifid leaves, and large heads of yellow flowers. It is known also by various other names, as polar plant, pilot-weed, resin-wood, turpentine-weed, the last two names being derived from the resin which exudes from the stem.