#### The Orphans' Friend.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, - - - - 1883.

CHARACTER.

Character is more important than aught else pertaining to hu manity. It is better to be what we ought to be than to appear to be anything or everything; it is more desirable to be right than to have all earthly possessions, or to enjoy all earthly pleasures. To be what God requires, to secure that degree of development to which He invites, to attain that mental and spiritual exaltation for which He provides, is the highest good of which we are capable.

old merchant An dying. He had spent a lifetime of toil and self-denial. Summoning his children to his bedside, he divided among them his estate, only a few hundreds in all. Said he, "My boys, it is but little I give you, but there is not a dirty shilling in the whole of it." Tried by the tests of heaven, his was a more successful life than that of the millionaire even, if his wealth has been gotten by doubtful processes. Clean hands and a pure heart are better far than all the dazzling accompani ments of mere worldly success.

That individual makes a bad bargain who gets riches at the expense of his character. No man can afford it. Neither can he afford to enjoy ease or pleasure, or get influence or power if his manhood be degraded by it. All worldly possessions and pleasures are evanescent; character is immortal. What we are here we shall be forever. If gentleness, purity, courage and love are cultivated now, we shall possess these qualities throughout eterni-"Whatsoever a man soweth To atthat shall he also reap." tain a true and noble character, one can afford to toil, to suffer, to forego ease, to deny himself of any mere pleasure.

TOOLS FOR BOYS.

Every man remembers pow a certain longing which possessed him in his boyhood days to do what the men around him were doing † It was playing store or plowing or cutting wheat or building houses; anything that the grown folks happened to be doing, provided it was a manual

Now isn't this disposition of the children of our land worth cultivating? Doesn't it show, too, that the aversion which Americans, as a class, have for the trades is not inborn, but the result of certain false ideas among Americas, the trades is not inborn, the result of certain false ideas among us? The great need of our country, especially of the South, is tradesmen, educated and trained. In some trades not an apprentice is to be found; the work is all being done by foreigners. That branch of industry has fallen into disrepute in America, and none of her sons will enter it. Among other tradesmen there is a sad lack of education and training. The from the found of the sons of the sons will enter it. Among other tradesmen there is a sad lack of education and training. You give a mechanic a contract for a piece of work, let it be from a pair of cearse shoes to the huilding of a mansion, and how few of them have the ability to so estimate their own working capacity and that of their employ-

ees as to finish the job on time. People say they lie about their work, when it is only a lack of mental training that would enable them to properly estimate their work. All is to be cured by discripting raising in educating, elevating, raising in public esteem the mechanical arts. All education is best begun in youth; that education is most easily and efficiently given which trains and shapes the tastes and dispositions already possessed. When the boy longs so for hatchet and saw, axe and hoe, or blacksmith's tools, give them to him and to ch him that there is a future for him in these things if ture for him in these things if only he will work for it. Let him waste some of his time "piddling," let him spoil some material, but educate him and place in his hands entertaining books and papers on mechanics; let him know that there are schools in our that there are schools in our country where young men are taught to be carpenters, black-smiths, wheelwrights, machinists of all kinds; that men so trained any arbitrary greatness. Can gain can achieve greatness, can gain wealth, and can have before them weath, and can have before them a great mine of the unknown in which to work and grow. Instill into the boy's mind such ideas, give him the education, general and technical, and you have given him a fortune. The little wagon wheel shoreover he developed. him a fortune. The little wagon-wheel chopper may be developed into a master, and the young spool-mill builder may be a genius; try him. A great need is schools in the mechaniaal arts, wherein our laboring men may be thoroughly trained.

J.

Judah P. Benjamin the great London lawyer was, during his boyhood for some time a resident of Fayetteville, North Carolina. W. J. G., a correspondent of the Fayetteville Observer in giving some reminiscences of this remarkable man, observes:

The career of the little Jew boy of Fayetteville is one of the most remarkable in modern hismost remarkable in modern history, and one of which any man might feel proud. With none of the adventitious advantages of birth or wealth, he has figured most prominently under three great governments of the English speaking race, and made his mark in each. Senator and most property and the senator and most property. mark in each. Senator and most polished orator under one, Prime Minister (so to speak) under another, he lands a political refugee on English soil, and eighteen years later voluntarily relinquishes the largest professional income, probably, that any man in any age of the world has everyet commanded. Wonderful, wonderful, is the force of genius when sustained by principle, as is exemplified in this extraordinary life-story. Bear it in mind, ye struggling sons of toil, and in tife darkest hour give not way to despair and despondency.

INTERESTING MASONIC DECISION.

One of the decisions rece

you put your trust in God?' To which he answered, "I don't know." And thereupon the Mas ter ordered the candidate to be conducted out of the lodge. The Grand, Master being school his ter ordered the sandatate to be conducted out of the lodge. The Grand Master being asked his approval or disapproval of the decision of the W. M., held that the candidate must be able to say, and that of himself, that in times of difficulty and danger his trust is in God. Nor will he be able to avoid the test by suggesting any particular beliefs or difference of opinion in regard to the form or personality of Deity. The Masonic requirement is the expression of faith and trust—faith in God and trust in His projection. The action of the Master was approved.

CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS.

It must be admitted that with the growth of this country and with its advancement in civilization crime should have decreased. It cannot truthfully be said that this is the case. Without seeking other causes, it can be asserted, without fear of contradiction, that one reason for this is the criminal habit of carrying concealed weapons. We use the word "criminal" advisedly, for whatever is contrary to law criminal. We do not consider it the mark of a brave man to carry concealed weapons, but rather the contrary. Of course there are circumstances in which carrying them is justifiable, but a man to put on his pistol in the morning as regularly as he puts on his coat does no credit to him as a citizen nor as a man. pecially is this a dangerous habit in the young. Many of them think that it is manly. Poor fools. True manhood consists of courage of soul, in daring to do right, in abhorring bullying, braggadocia, and rowdy-Let a thin-skinned youth of violent temper and great ideas of his own importance and honor— heaven save the mark—stick a pistol habitually in his pocket, and he is making of himself a dangerous ele-ment in a community.—Mobile Reg-

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In di charging a boy who was acquitted of shooting a companion, on the ground that, that though he handled a loaded revolver carelessly, the shooting was accidental, Judge Gildersleeve, ex captain of the American Rifle team, said, "You should not have a loaded pistol upon your person, or about you. I may claim that I have had an extensive experience in handling firearms, yet I would as soon have a rattlespake near me as a loaded gun, and one is likely to be as dangerous When Horace Maynard

Amherst College, the students saw him paste the letter "V" over his door. For a time considerable curiosdoor. For a time considerable curiosity was aroused to know its meaning. But inquiry and comment availed nothing, and the suject was finally forgotten. At young Maynard's graduation, when he was delivering the valedictory, he said: "My friends, I will now explain to you what that mysterious 'V' signified. It stood for 'Valedictory,' and meant that from the moment I entered this college I should bend all my efforts to secure should bend all my efforts to secure this honor, and with what succes I have met, you know,"

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