

WESTWARD, HO!

Last week we left our "lively little party," who had started from Oxford for the new institution at Mars Hill, at Henderson awaiting the train. In due time the train hove in sight, and the little travellers, in charge of the Superintendent, and "all agog" for the pleasures of the trip, soon got aboard and were off toward Raleigh. On the train they found boys going to the Bingham School and girls going to Greensborough, and nine "penitents" under escort, on their way to the Stockade University, to kill so many years of time and then be turned loose on the country as mean and as ignorant as ever.

At Wake Forest the orphans admired the Campus and building, and wondered why these boys are allowed to carry their hands in their pockets. One girl inquired why girls are not allowed to go to school at Wake Forest; she goes to school with boys and sees no wrong in it. It is easier to ask than to answer questions.

At Raleigh they wait for the western train, but do not have to wait long, and soon are off again.

At Morrisville the children find a good supper and Mrs. Troy is very kind. After supper, with a crowded coach they are off for Greensborough.

This is the last we heard from them, but have no doubt they are, by this time, safe and comfortable at Mars Hill, from whence we expect to get further notes and incidents of the trip.

WHAT A PITY!

We find a paragraph floating around in our exchanges to the effect that, in the Massachusetts factories, sixty thousand children are growing up in ignorance, because of their employment at too early an age in those factories. The statement is said to be based on the report of the officer whose business it is to look after the educational interests of the children of that state. We presume this number of ignorant children in Massachusetts is not greater, in proportion to all the children in that state, than the average of the same class in all the other states. If this be true, the fact is a startling one, and is calculated to arouse the energies of every patriot, philanthropist and Christian in the land, to seek a remedy for this sad state of affairs. How can we hope for the perpetuity of our civil and religious rights, when such a large number of the future voting population will be unable to read the Bible or understand the genius of our

republican institutions? And not only so, but this large class of ignorant population is growing up to become the future drunkards, burglars, murderers and inmates of houses of infamy in the country; the ready tools of more expert villains and demagogues, who disturb and often destroy the peace and happiness of society, and often endanger the liberties of our country.

The picture is an appalling one, especially in view of the apparent apathy that seems to have settled down upon the public mind everywhere in regard to educational facilities for the rising generation. We hope the importance of the subject will arouse the public mind to an early and vigorous effort to remedy this deplorable condition of things.

WAKING UP.

The Raleigh News notices the query and answer between THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND and Petersburg Index-Appeal, in regard to white children being bound to negroes in this State, and asks, as did the Index-Appeal, "can such things exist in our midst?" As the News has seen our first declaration, as copied by our Petersburg neighbor, and our reply to his apparent doubt on the subject, we can only refer to what we said, without taking back or qualifying any part or parcel thereof. Such things can exist, have existed, do now exist, and are likely to exist in the future, unless our legislators open their eyes to the matter and make some legal regulation to prevent it. We are glad to see the News awaking to the subject, and hope other papers in the State will follow the example.

ONE WAY TO DISPOSE OF ORPHANS.

The Providence, (R. I.) Journal, a paper of sufficient character to give credence to its statements, publishes the following in regard to the way in which orphans are some times disposed of in Rhode Island, where they have no orphan asylum:

"In a certain town in Rhode Island the parents of two children, a boy and a girl, died. A meeting of the local authorities was held to decide upon some action that would relieve the town of the expense of supporting the children. The matter was discussed freely, and at an adjourned meeting held at a private residence the children were required to be present. The boy was told to go into an adjoining room, where he would find a man asleep, in a certain pocket of whose clothing was a five cent piece, which he was to bring to the committee. The boy obeyed the order. The girl was sent to another room where a woman was sleeping, from whose pocket a piece of money or scrip was to be taken. She also obeyed the instructions given her, and the children were afterwards arrested upon a charge of petty larceny, tried, found guilty, and sentenced to the State Reformation School during their minority."

We don't know which are most (or least) to be commended for the manner of getting clear of supernumerary young ones, the Rhode Islanders, who first make them go through a process of involuntary petty larceny in order

to convict and sentence them to a penal institution, or the Chinese, who choke them off by stuffing rice in their throats.

We would add another by and say something about allowing them to become subject to the control of negroes during their minority, but it might be said we were making insinuations concerning home folks.

TO BE REMEMBERED.

Perhaps we have not been sufficiently explicit heretofore in stating the terms of subscription to THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND, and will, therefore, repeat them. The price is one dollar a year, and no name is entered on the mail book until the money is in hand. From this rule there can be no variation. Friends sometimes forward names asking the paper to be sent, and promising at some indefinite time—generally "before long"—to forward the money. In such cases we forward one number and then "wait a time" (about a week) "with patience," and if the money don't come we conclude the matter is forgotten and don't send any more papers. It is too troublesome to keep that sort of a list in addition to the regular subscription books. We hope, therefore, the friends of the paper will remember and comply with the terms, and send in the names by ones and twos, dozens, scores and hundreds, with the money in the shape of drafts, post office orders, or greenbacks by express, and all trouble will be avoided so far as the financial feature of the enterprise is concerned.

The Rocky Mount Mail hits the nail square on the head in the following paragraph on the recent murder and robbery of a Mr. Cohen, at Whitaker's Turn-Out, on the Wilmington and Weldon railroad:

"We have printed the resolutions of the Whitaker's meeting, regretting the prevalence of crime there, and ascribing the cause to vagrancy. True remotely, but what produces the vagrancy? We think the penal calendar of any county in the State will show three-fourths of the crime to have been committed under the inspiration of poisoned whiskey. It is whiskey that points the poinard—it is whiskey that uplifts the club and aims the deadly bullet."

The Mail says the amount of these vile doctored liquors, sold in these little towns, is appalling. It doesn't pay to keep a good article, so the cheapest and meanest is dealt out to besot brains, craze the individual and make crime and criminals. To what extent the perpetration of crime, under the influence of "mean whiskey" prevails over that under the influence of "a better article," we are not prepared to express an opinion, but we entirely coincide with the Mail in the opinion that three-fourths of the crimes in the State, have been committed under the inspiration of whiskey, and that not only is crime increasing under this "inspiration," but, from the same cause, va-

grancy is multiplying to a startling degree.

What is the remedy? It is not to be looked for so much in legal enactments, as in every friend of his country and his race using his personal influence in discountenancing and suppressing, in his respective neighborhood, the establishments whence these baneful influences emanate.

HISTORY OF A BAD BOY.

Several years ago, in one of the eastern counties of North Carolina, we knew a boy by the name of John, a sketch of whose life we propose to give our little readers, that they may see the consequences of pursuing a wicked course in childhood.

John was sent to school and learned to read and write, and to cypher a little, but he was never taught to fear God and keep his commandments, but was allowed to roam over the neighborhood on the Sabbath; to play marbles, to hunt and fish, and mix with other bad boys in the commission of all sorts of mischief on that day. He soon learned to play cards, and got into the habit of swearing and using ugly language, and was allowed to go to all the chicken fights and other wicked gatherings in the neighborhood.

When he grew up he opened a shop in the neighborhood, for the sale of whiskey mostly, and his place soon became noted for the gambling, drinking, fighting and other wickedness carried on there. After a while it was said he was engaged in trading for stolen goods and even to engage, himself, in stealing. This was during the late war. After a while he was caught with a quantity of wheat and bacon that had been stolen from a gentleman in the neighborhood. He was arrested and would have been punished by the law, but he agreed to join the army, and was allowed to go unpunished on that condition. After the war, he again opened a store, as it was called, where the principal article sold was whiskey. He also again engaged in his thieving tricks, and, with the assistance of others as bad as himself, for a long time, was engaged in robbing the freight cars on a railroad that ran near by his store. He was, at length, detected, put in jail and sentenced to the penitentiary at Raleigh, where he remained at hard labor for about two years. The Governor then pardoned him out on condition that he should leave the State. The last we heard of him he had been convicted, in another state and put in the penitentiary for counterfeiting nickel five-cent pieces.

We knew this boy, as we have said, and in giving this account of him we have not mentioned half of the bad things he was known to be guilty of; but enough is given to show what his character was, as a boy and a man, and the punishment he has met with is what all such characters may expect, who pursue the course, in boyhood, that he did.

There are several paths that lead from childhood to the jail, the penitentiary and the gallows. One path is, disobedience to parents or those who have the care of you; another is, Sabbath breaking; another is, laziness or indolence; another, quarrelsomeness. These paths all come together after a little way, and then lead into other paths, such as drunkenness, gambling, licentiousness, fightings and murder. When a child starts in one of these paths he is almost certain to find himself, at last, at the gate of the penitentiary, or standing on the trapfall of the gallows. If any of the little readers of THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND have started out on any of these paths, we entreat them to stop, turn right round and go back, and then, by the blessing of God, they may shun the fate of the boy we have here been telling them about.

Contributions to the Orphan Asylum from January 20th to 26th inclusive.

CASH.	
Children's Friend,	\$111.25
Wildman Troupe, exhibition at Fayetteville,	30.55
Falling Creek Lodge, No. 325,	25.00
Wm. G. Hill Lodge 218,	25.00
Jonesville Lodge, 227, ..	15.00
Citizens of Falling Creek neighborhood,	12.00
Mrs. W. C. Troy,	6.00
Miss A. E. Elliott, St. John's Lodge, No. 3, T. D. Crawford & Co. each, \$5,	15.00
Members of Smyrna Presbyterian church,	5.50
Stonewall Lodge, 296,	2.05
N. H. Cohen, J. M. Matthews, George Rosenthal, H. H. Cobb, each, \$1,	4.00
Davie Lodge, 39,	50
IN KIND.	
Miss Kate McIver, 1 pair child's shoes.	
Mrs. Mary McIver, 1 dress.	
Mrs. F. B. Tyson, dry goods.	
Mrs. Duncan Vick, 2 pair socks.—Candy.	
Miss F. Patterson, 1 pair socks.	
Mrs. Winnie Jenkins, calico.	
Mrs. James McLean, dress—pair stockings.	
Mrs. J. F. McDonald, 1 boy's shirt.	
Mrs. F. M. McLean, 1 bed quilt.	
Mrs. Margaret Robertson, 1 bed quilt.	
American Bible Society, through Rev. L. K. Wiley, 100 Bibles.	
T. D. Crawford & Co., Box Car-bolic soap, box tar soap, lead pencils.	
Unknown, 1 pr. boots, home-made soap.	
Pescad, Lee & Co., Medicine.	

It matters very little what success, what titles, emoluments, or pleasures he gets here. But when you stand at the gateway of Heaven, saying, "Here am I and those whom thou hast given me," one look from the Divine Master will overwhelmingly repay you for all your toil and sufferings.

GET THE BEST. Mrs. Elliotts Housewife. Price \$1.50. 2-41