

CHILDREN RESEMBLING
WOOD.

It is true that some children are block-heads; it is also true that almost every child resembles some particular kind of wood. Hickory wood is tough; but when you put it in some useful shape, it fills its place well and renders faithful service. Then on the fire it burns continuously and vigorously until consumed and even its ashes are clean and useful. So the hickory boy is often very tough; but break him carefully and season him well, and you may depend on him to hold his place and render faithful service. When manly work is wanted, he is always ready. His entire career is vigorous and noble till death cuts him down, and then he leaves an honest life and a good example as a legacy to his race.

White oak wood makes rails, splits, plows and wagons. When cut down it makes a first-class fire and its ashes are in demand. So the white oak boy, always lithe and active, is always ready and reliable for useful work. He does so many things that no one else can do! Locate him where you will and he soon becomes an indispensable. When he dies the material for honest obituary is abundant. His good works make his funeral easy to preach, and his unblemished reputation makes his epitaph pleasant to write. The live oak is a low and crooked tree; but even its elbows serve to brace great ships and make them bear the strains of the stormy billows on the dangerous Ocean. So in life. The live oak boys and the live oak men without any parade or display, quietly do the hard work of this world. They are relied on in every time of trial and danger. Their praises are seldom said or sung, and yet in every bold enterprise and on every rugged road, we trust to them and rush along in safety.

The red oak bears sour acorns, has bitter bark, and is easy to break. It grows large and stands high; but when cut down and put in the fire it stews and simmers and finally disappears in smoke. Just so the red oak boy. He is sour and bitter, and though he often stands high and looks grand, the world does not suit him. He is dissatisfied wherever you place him. He is sure to want what he cannot get, and his opportunities pass by while he laments his gloomy fate. And when death calls him away, he goes with so much reluctance and leaves so little to be said in his favor that his funeral is hard to preach, and his epitaph taxes the credulity of his most ardent admirers.

The black-gum is a very mean wood. It refuses to split, and then it cracks open even when iron bands are placed around it. Its berries are bitter; but its twigs are sometimes used on the backs of wayward children. So the black-gum boy is a tough stick, always disobedient, always frustrating your plans, hard to put into any useful shape and refusing to be useful even when properly shaped. He will do for a policeman, or a jailer and executioner; but he ought never to enter a profession or be lifted into office. As black-gum refuses to burn, so the black-gum boy is hard to kill and when he dies the kindest treatment you can give him, is to forget him. The maple is a beautiful wood, and makes most

tasteful furniture. So the maple girl is always charming, always cheerful, always useful. In her girlhood she is the life and joy of her parents and neighbors. In her womanhood, she makes home the great centre of love and affection for her husband and children.

The sassafras is soft, easy to break, and not in demand. Its bark makes weak oil and very poor tea; but its pith makes the best eye-water in the world. When cut down and put on the fire, it pops and throws out coals so as to endanger the house. But confined in a stove, it is the finest wood for cooking. So the sassafras girl. She is generally too delicate to eat and too soft to be shaped into anything useful. But she is pleasant to look at. The sight of her is good for sore eyes. Yet she makes very poor tea, and is ignorant of household duties. All thorough life she wishes to rattle and to rustle and to fuss. But with all her faults, if you can tie her down to a regular succession of duties, she will be gradually transformed into a laborious, but discontented woman.

The long-leaf pine is a tree of world-wide renown. It supplies mauling with rosin, spirits of turpentine and lumber. It is the Dorcas among the useful women. The long-leaf-pine girl grows up with the expectation of being boxed and scraped and sawed for the benefit of suffering humanity, and her worst forebodings are more than realized; yet she patiently endures it all, and toils unceasingly from rosy youth to the feeblest decrepitude. She sees her life-blood going by degrees; but she willingly wastes herself away, to leave mankind a rich heritage of benefits and blessings. Neither funeral oration nor pompous obituary can ever do justice to the over-worked and care-worn women of our country. They patiently wear out their own lives, in making life enjoyable to others. They are not always invited to enjoy the feasts which their own weary hands have prepared. They toil and spin in this world, let us hope to meet them arrayed in glory in the world to come.

We thank the Roanoke News for the following true and timely paragraph in regard to the Orphan Asylum, in its issue of Saturday last:

REMEMBER THEM.—Our readers should recollect that while they have a plenty and some a surplus of the necessaries of life, the Orphan children at Oxford would be glad to receive a portion of anything which can be given them. Send them something to eat or wear as you can afford. Here we would suggest that a lot of fish be sent occasionally. Surely they can be furnished so soon as the Roanoke falls sufficiently. Don't forget them.—and help them all you can. It will be as bread cast on the waters.

That suggestion about the fish is a good one. The children would enjoy them very much after a long season of Baltimore shoulders and corn dodgers. But it is not a question with us of fish or other luxuries, but of anything to eat that will stave off hunger, for our larder is exceedingly low and the means of replenishing it, if possible, lower still. If our exchanges in the State feel disposed to call attention to the necessities of immediate help for the Asylum have our assurance that the necessity could not be much greater than it is at this time. *

CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

A society was formed recently in New York City "to prevent cruelty to children." One might suppose that, in a Christian country, there could be no occasion for the formation of such an association, but almost daily observation shows that such a conclusion would be erroneous. We have no such society in our State, but we have what is, perhaps, much better, an asylum to which children, deprived of their natural protectors, may be taken and cared for, thus preventing them, in many instances, falling into the hands of those who would treat them, after the manner described in the following paragraph, which we clip from an exchange, of a case which came up in a court of one of the Western States:

"A brutal farmer was charged with grossly maltreating and overworking an orphan boy only twelve years of age. The neighbors who brought the allegations against the farmer asserted that the cruelties extended over a period of three years; and that, during the present winter, the ill-fed and thinly-clad child had served as a cow-herd, remaining out of doors from early morning until late at night, and that his hands, arms, face, and lower limbs had several times been dreadfully frozen. He had always been denied the articles of food on which the family of his harsh employer subsisted; and had been fed on corn meal and mush. When he was so unfortunate to sleep as to be smothered in winter, the farmer punished him by dragging him to the pump, and deluging his half-paralyzed body with cold water. Once or twice the child strayed to the houses of the neighbors in search of food, warmth, and rest; but on every such occasion he was pursued, recaptured, and desperately beaten. One day the boy was unable to manage the cattle confided to his care, as his limbs were frozen, and he could not walk, but staggered about like a drunken man; and while he was in this condition the farmer mounted his horse, and lashing to the pasture, beat the child with his horse-whip until he was senseless. At this point the neighbors interfered, took the boy forcibly from his master, and caused the latter to be arrested. He has been held for trial at the circuit court, and as the neighbors are thoroughly incensed toward him, he may have to remain without bail and in confinement until April."

WELLONS' FAMILY PRAYERS.

Rev. J. W. Wellons, of Franklinton, has published a volume of prayers, written by leading divines of different denominations. They are adapted to public and private worship. Men ought always to pray, and we thank Mr. Wellons for a volume so much needed, and so well printed. Those who pray without books as well as those who prefer the liturgies of their own churches, will be interested and profited by merely reading the collection and they will also find their temporal and spiritual wants reverently and appropriately expressed before the throne of heavenly Grace.

ORTHOGRAPHICAL.—One of our exchanges—we will not say which—makes a terrible onslaught upon Webster, in noticing a hotel in a neighboring town which, he says, "has been remodeled inside and out."

MASONIC RECORDS.

We have recently gotten hold of a bound copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina from 1804 to 1840. Although the Grand Lodge had been organized many years prior to the first mentioned date, there are, we believe, no records of its proceedings up to that time preserved. Even in the volume before us the proceedings of some of the Grand Annual Communications, between the dates mentioned, are missing. We propose to select from the volume from time to time such items as we think will be of interest to our readers.

In 1804 it was called the "Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee"—there being two Lodges in Tennessee—Tennessee Lodge, 41, at Knoxville, and Greenville Lodge, 43, at Greenville, working under its jurisdiction. The session for that year was held on the 10th December. "The most Worshipful and Right Honorable John Louis Taylor, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of North Carolina," presiding. The number of Lodges represented at this Grand Annual Communication was, seventeen in North Carolina and two in Tennessee. Delegates from three Lodges U. D. were also present.

Of the seventeen Lodges in this State then represented St. Johns, 1, at Wilmington, Royal Whiteheart, 2, at Halifax, St. Johns, 3, at Newbern, Phoenix, 8, at Fayetteville, Johnston Caswell, 10, at Warrenton, American George, 17, at Murfreesboro, Phalanx, 31, at Charlotte, Stokes, 32, at Concord, Wm. R. Davie, 37, at Lexington, Davie, 39, at Roxabel, and Hiram, 40, at Raleigh, are still alive and, we believe, all prosperous. Old Cone, 9, at Salisbury, Washington, 15, in Beaufort Co., Hiram, 24, at Williamsboro, Pansophia, 25, in Moore Co., Mt. Moriah, 27, in Iredell Co., and Jerusalem, 35, in Carteret Co., are now dormant; at least, none of them appear on the records of the last grand annual communication.

At this session charters were granted to the Lodges at Johnstonville in Randolph, Wilkesboro in Wilkes, and Pittsboro in Chatham. These increased the number of Lodges in the State to which charters had been granted, to 43. In 1874 the number was 343—an increase of just three hundred in seventy years.

The proceedings of 1804 were printed by Brother William Boylan, at Raleigh, on comparatively coarse paper. They are a very fair specimen of the typography of that day.

At the close of the proceedings is printed "a list of the Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge since the Revolution," as follows: "Samuel Johnston, late Governor of this State, and lately one of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Richard Caswell, late Governor of this State.

Wm. R. Davie, late Governor of this State, and one of the Ministers Plenipotentiary from the United States to the Court of France.

Col. Wm. Polk, Supervisor of the State.

John Louis Taylor, now one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State."

(To be continued.)

Ah Irish peasant being asked why he permitted his pig to take up its quarters with his family, made an answer abounding with satirical advice: "Why not? Don't the place afford every convenience that a pig can require?"

Only a few years since, tallow candles were nearly the only thing used for lights in families in this country, except in cities where gas could be obtained. Some families used lamps with tallow oil, but this was more expensive than candles and but few used them, and then only on special occasions. When the coal oil was discovered in Pennsylvania and lamps adapted to its use invented, it soon began to take the place of the old tallow and spermacetti candles, and it has now become so common that we should hardly know how to get along without it. Boys and girls of the present day can hardly conceive of a time when kerosene oil was not known and used.

When this oil was first discovered to be in such quantities in the oil regions, many persons made large fortunes by boring wells and obtaining the oil for market. As it first comes from the ground it is impure, and many accidents have occurred from its use, but now the art of refining it has been brought to such perfection that, with care, it is nearly as safe as any other material used for lights. It is also, perhaps, the cheapest for lighting dwellings that can be obtained, and the great quantities that are constantly being gathered and thrown upon the market is likely to bring the price much below what it is at present. Indeed the market is said to be glutted with it to such an extent that the price has fallen from six dollars a barrel to less than a dollar for the crude oil as it comes from the wells.

What a blessing it is to have such a cheap and plentiful material for giving us light at night, to read and study and work by. Many men now living had, in their boyhood, to depend upon pine knots or spluttering tallow candles to give them light for reading at night. Now we can have much better lights at almost as cheap a rate as pine knots, especially if we had to go far to the woods for the knots. Let our young readers, as well as all others, remember that where much is given, much is required, and we shall all be held accountable for the manner in which we improve or misimprove the opportunities we have, in this respect as well as others, of gaining knowledge and putting to proper use the talents that God has given us.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.—A committee of Eureka Lodge, No. 317, Elizabeth City, appointed for that purpose, recently reported a series of resolutions of thanks to the ladies of that place for their noble generosity in assisting in the arrangement of the Feast recently held for the benefit of the Orphan Asylum, by which a handsome donation was raised; to Mrs. Submit Fearing, especial thanks for invaluable aid; to T. B. Garner, Esq., for the use of his office for the Feast, and to the Cornet Band of E. City for music on the occasion. The Resolutions were adopted unanimously.

The N. Y. Observer of March 24th says: On Monday twenty-five children were sent out from the Juvenile Asylum under care of the City Agent to be indentured in Illinois. The resident Agent has under his supervision one thousand children sent out by this Institution and indentured to farmers in different parts of that State. The Juvenile Asylum since it was established, has had under its care more than 17,000 children.