

The Children's Friend.

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OUR STATE UNIVERSITY.

FROM "OUR LIVING AND OUR DEAD."

It is of the highest importance that the State of North Carolina should have an University in name and in fact. It will not be creditable to either the intelligence or liberality of our people if a strong and well directed effort is not made to resuscitate our State Institution and to place it on a basis of usefulness and permanency. Whilst other States maintain their leading educational centres, it will not do for us to remain indifferent to the claims of the youth of our State and the cause of learning. The Trustees of the University have recently held an important meeting in Raleigh.—We have seen it stated that what they did will probably result in its revival at an early day. It is given out that it rests with the legislature, however, now in session, whether the University will be opened during the next Summer, or will remain inhabited by only bats and owls. We can but hope that our legislators are sufficiently awake to the great importance of re-opening the University at an early day, to prompt them to such action as will guarantee the compassing of that so much desired end. What we write will not be seen by any of them, we suppose, before they have disposed of the matter in some way, but if we could reach them we would like to add one voice to other appeals, that they will adopt such measures as shall open those ancient halls to the light of day once more, and offer every inducement for an advanced culture that can be given by any similar institution in the whole land.

A recent article in the *Biblical Recorder*, from the pen of Rev. J. D. Hufham, its able and scholarly editor, is so timely, so cordial, so catholic, so wise, that we gladly avail ourselves of a few paragraphs. Referring to the University he says:

"Its suspension was a sad thing for North Carolina. Its continued suspension is a reproach to her. Standing at the head of the educational enterprises and institutions of the State they cannot have the highest degree of prosperity while it languishes or is in a state of suspension. Especially is the spirit of education among the people dependent in large measure on the existence and prosperity of the University.

"In most of the other States similar institutions are rising above the wreck and ruin of the war and seem likely to regain their old prosperity and usefulness. It is high time for North Carolina to commence the good work of providing for her sons the means of the highest and best culture. It will be necessary, we suppose, for the Trustees, in the event of re-opening to ask an appropriation from the Legislature. This request, we think, could hardly be denied. Poor and heavily taxed as our people are they cannot afford to refuse such an application.

"We shall be glad if the Institution can be re-opened as a University. This it has never been. It has been a simple college, heretofore, and has been the rival of

the smaller denominational Institutions. We hope to see it raised above this. It will be at some time, though it may not be expedient to attempt it in the present condition of the State finances."

The time was when next to her great men the chiefest ornament of the State was her University—an institution in the success of which all intelligent and public-spirited North Carolinians gloried. It was not all that was desired. It was not in any just sense a University at all. But it was our best, and from its precincts had gone forth hundreds of young men who in after years were to win the highest civic fame and some of them to achieve renown on many battle-fields. Let us all work for its speedy re-opening, and let it be made as soon as possible second to none and in all respects what its name imports. Let wisdom, fairness and justice characterize at all times the action of those who have it in charge. Let no invidious and injudicious distinctions be made. Let no cause of complaint be given that it is controlled by politicians or by any one religious denomination. Let a broad catholicism prevail, and we believe it will go on prospering and to prosper.

But we are in advance of the music. The work of revival is yet to be done. North Carolina cannot afford to be without its University. Our necessities demand it. Our pride, our interest, our self-respect, our love of learning, all unite with one voice and cry aloud, "Give us back again the honored old University, enlarged, adorned, strengthened and improved."

North Carolinians think of it; there are now between one and two hundred of our young men attending the colleges of other States. It is a standing reproach to our intelligence, public spirit and State pride that we force our boys abroad. It will not do to say that we have good colleges. We grant it gladly, but then they are under the patronage of religious denominations and are regarded as sectarian. There are some of the religious bodies who are without male colleges, and there are scores of young men who prefer to attend institutions that are not controlled by religious bodies. It is useless to say that this is prejudice or bigotry or what not. We must look at things as they exist. The fact is patent that scores of young men leave the State to attend the colleges that are not open to the charge of being in any sense denominational. We have good colleges, but we have no University. *We must have one in its broadest and truest sense.* If our colleges were better than all others, there are many young men who would not matriculate in them, but would seek instruction beyond our borders. Prior to the war this was not the case. Where one went out of the State to seek educational advantages, fifty came into the State from other sections, and our University was indeed one of the grand rallying intellectual centres of the South. When the writer was at Chapel Hill, he thinks there were some twenty-five students

in attendance from Virginia alone. The tide has since turned, and now our boys go to the University of Va., to Washington and Lee, to Hampden and Sydney, to Randolph Macon, to William and Mary, to Princeton, &c. Why this? Alas! we have no University now, and no longer do Virginians and Georgians and Mississippians, and youths from other Southern States, seek instruction at our hands by hundreds, but we send our boys from home to pursue their studies amid the cloisters and stately groves of the colleges of other States. How long, how long shall this continue? We pretend not to that prophetic ken that can penetrate the veil of the future, but a blind man can see far enough to tell you, that it will surely continue as long as narrow and illiberal views prevail—as long as there is not enough of genuine North Carolina spirit to unite our people in one common purpose to resuscitate our ancient and once-honored seat of learning, and re-open those fountains of knowledge whose waters were so healthful and invigorating to the mind and that flowed full and fresh across our lines into the regions beyond.

No State can maintain its character for intelligence and public spirit that does not foster education. No nation can long preserve its liberties that does not cherish and protect its seats of learning. In a former article we discussed this phase of the subject. We showed that ignorance is the parent of vice, of crime, of superstition, of credulity and of brutalizing passions. As Horace Mann, that able educator and thinker, truly said, "Education is our political safety. Outside of this ark, all is deluge." Even so bad a man as Napoleon was far too sagacious not to be impressed with the great truth that the security and destiny of every free people chiefly and inevitably rest upon education and intelligence. He felt this when referring to France more particularly; he said: "Public instruction should be the first object of government." Surely, then, our legislators will not be faithless and recreant to the great blessings of "public instruction," when according to the philosophy of despotism itself, it "should be" their "first object."

Let, then, the University of North Carolina be revived. Let all of the friends of liberal education come up to its support. Let prejudices, and complaints, and antagonisms and creeds be forgotten, and let all rally to the help of those who would lift from the dust the broken column and, place it upon its firm and enduring pedestal again. We are a true advocate of the revival of learning at Chapel Hill. Let hopeful hearts and expansive minds gather about the venerated and ruined old University. Let a new life be placed within; let a strong faculty be chosen—men of large and varied learning—men who love to teach, who are enthusiasts, who are full of energy and devotion and hope; let some eloquent and popular man be placed at its head—some son of the State who can, with voice and pen, stir the people's heart

and unite their energies in the great work of re-building the *Alma Mater* of so many of the children of North Carolina, and then shall old men rejoice and mothers be glad, and the maidens of our land from Currituck to Cherokee, from the seaboard and centre, from the plains and the mountains, with songs and shoutings shall bring fresh garlands with which to adorn the brow of the dear Old Mother,—who was dead but is alive again. T. B. K.

THE Lord has saved up the details about the next world until we get there, to make surprises of them so that heaven might be all the brighter because it so infinitely exceeds anything we had conceived. We are not told, for instance, where heaven is. We are not told anything even about the social communion of heaven. We do know, or at least we have abundant reason for believing, that saints know each other, that they are not like men in a great mass, indistinct and undistinguishable, but that there is fellowship among the saints that Abraham is Abraham, and Isaac is Isaac, and Jacob is Jacob, as such in the Kingdom of God. The New Jerusalem is said to have its streets, and streets imply intercourse, but there is little about that—just an outline, as it were, such as an artist might make with charcoal—none of the filling up and the bright colors. Of all these things we should like to have known something, but our heads cannot hold much.—*Spurgeon.*

ANCIENT WONDERS.—Nineveh was fourteen miles long, eight miles wide, and forty-six miles around, with a wall one hundred feet high and thick enough for three chariots abreast. Babylon was fifty miles within the walls, which were seventy-five feet thick and one hundred feet high, with one hundred brazen gates. The Temple of Diana, at Ephesus, was four hundred and twenty feet to the support of the roof—it was one hundred years in building. The largest of the pyramids was four hundred and eighty-one feet in height, and eight hundred and fifty-three feet on the sides. The base covered eleven acres. The stones are about sixty feet in length, and the layers are two hundred and eight. It employed 350,000 men in building. The labyrinth of Egypt contains three hundred chambers and twelve halls. Thebes, in Egypt, presents ruins twenty-seven miles around, contained 350,000 citizens and 400,000 slaves. The Temple of Delphos was so rich in donations that it was plundered of \$50,000,000, and the Emperor Nero carried away from it two hundred statues. The walls of Rome were thirteen miles around.

A Child's Civility.

When the Emperor of Germany was lately on a visit in a distant portion of his dominions, he was welcomed by the school children of the parish. After their speaker had made a speech for them, he thanked them. Then, taking an orange from a plate, he asked:

"To what kingdom does this belong?"

"To the vegetable kingdom, sire," replied a little girl.

The Emperor took a gold coin from his pocket, and, holding it up, asked:

"And to what kingdom does this belong?"

"To the mineral kingdom, sire," replied the little girl.

"And to what kingdom do I belong then?" asked the Emperor.

The little girl colored deeply, for she did not like to say "the animal kingdom," as he thought she would lose his Majesty should be offended, when a bright thought came, and she said, with radiant eyes:

"To God's kingdom, sire."

The Emperor was deeply moved. A tear stood in his eye. He placed his hands on the child's head and said, most devoutly:

"Grant that I may be accounted worthy of that kingdom."

How Much Was He Worth?

—There is a terrible significance in the questions we sometimes ask upon the death of a wealthy man, if we only understood the real significance of the questions. "How much was he worth?" we ask. And the angels might reply, "Worth! He wasn't worth anything. His money was worth something, but he wasn't worth anything." So we vary the question. "Yes, but how much did he leave?" It might be answered, "Yes I will tell you. He had house, lot, bonds, stock, gold, notes, merchandise, farms. And he left—great God! he left them all. He carried nothing with him. Naked and destitute came he into the world, and naked and destitute did he go the way whence he came. He carried nothing; neither land, nor money, not yet did he carry with him the blessing of the poor. He left all—he carried nothing with him.

But his neighbor has died; a man who was not known on 'Change, nor in the tax-list. "And what has he left?" we may perhaps, curiously ask. "Left? he has left nothing, but he has taken much with him. He has gone to heaven laden with the blessings and gratitude of the poor, of the helpless, of the young, of the aged, of the widow, of the friendless—of those whom he, by his counsels and his acts and his prayers, had blessed—of those whose poverty he had relieved, whose ignorance he had enlightened, whose darkness he had dispelled, whose bodies and whose souls he had fed."

When Wilberforce died Daniel O'Connell said: "He has gone up to heaven bearing a million broken fetters in his hand."

We are handed the following cure for diphtheria by one of our farmers: "Take one ounce of Balm of Gilead buds, bruise and put them in a small bottle and fill up with apple brandy, swab and gargle the throat well, and the patient will be relieved immediately.—*Exchange.*"

Gov. Claiborn, of South Carolina, writes to the managers of the Boston Fair in aid of the orphans and widows of the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston, S. C., that "no patriotic duty is more commanding at this time than the restoration of fraternal feelings between Massachusetts and South Carolina, and the great sections of our country which they respectively represent."