

For the Watchman.
We came across, a few days ago, a fragment of an old volume, with the title page gone, giving an account of the martyrdom of many persons in Scotland, under Charles I., and James I., when in 25 years, from 1650 to 1688, 18,000 were put to death in various ways in defence of the Solemn League and Covenant, and Christ's Church. In looking over the list of names we were struck with the fact that among them are the very names of the Scotch Irish emigrants to this region, between the Yadkin and Catawba Rivers—from 1740 onward; such as John Nisbet, Arch. Allison, Wm. Harvey, James Stewart, Henry Hall, Thompson, Whitlow, Nichols, Wharrey, Robt. Gray, Wilson, Martin, Lawson, Wood, Smith, Miller, Gouger, Johnston, Finley, Wm. Coekran, James Robertson, John Potter, James Skeen, Edward Marshall, James Graham, James Mitchell, Andrew Clark, Samuel McKewen, George Jackson, John Watt, John Sample, &c., &c. It is said that these same names prevail in Pennsylvania where the Scotch Irish sojourne for a time before they came to North Carolina.
It would seem that we have here the lineal descendants of those who loved not their lives unto the death; but were drowned, hanged, shot, beheaded, and their heads stuck upon poles; their bodies chopped in pieces, and scattered about in the days of Claverhouse. Through their blood shed in defence of religious liberty, we enjoy many a great privilege.
E. F. R.

John Nisbet had a store four miles north of Salisbury, in very early times—long before that time he had a school. He had an old school book kept there, 1780, etc., showing what articles were brought into the country and carried out in way of goods. The latter were: butter, tallow, wax, mostly people's hair, sometimes one or two pounds of coffee and sugar at a time. That store was on the great centre of trade in this country. The old house is still standing on the north side of the north fork of Fourth Creek.

WHY DOES IT LEAN?

We were at the foot of the leaning tower of Pisa. One of those guides who insist on pointing out to you the things most to be admired, said to me, as I was walking toward him, "You were here more than twenty years ago."
"I said, 'Yes, but I am not sure that you remember me?'"
"Certainly I do," he replied; "you were here in company with three young men, and I recollect you perfectly well."
This was rather remarkable, especially as he accurately mentioned the number of my companions and the time that had elapsed since I was here. But he rather injured himself in my esteem by adding that he also remembered Lord Palmerston, Lord John Russell, and two or three more great men. From which I inferred that it was a way he had of trying to propitiate the favor of travelers by associating them with distinguished strangers who had been there before.
"How long have you been here as a guide?"
"More than fifty years."
"And is the tower now as it was when you first saw it? does it lean any more than it did then?"
"It seems to lean more and more every day; and if you will sit down just there on the steps of the cathedral, and look steadily at it, while the sun is shining on it, you will see it settling over that way all the time; some people say they can see it going down."
"But it stands just as it did when Galileo walked up the steps, and dropped from its summit the weights by which he determined the great problem of the fall of bodies."
"I asked him what was the commonly received opinion as to the cause of its leaning over. He said most people think it settled while it was building, and when the fact was ascertained that it could not settle any further, the building was continued and completed out of the perpendicular."
"This opinion appears to me absurd. Here is a tower erected for the bells of the cathedral; the bell-tower; the campanile; its height is 290 feet; its diameter—for it is round—is about 20, and it leans out of a perpendicular fifteen feet. To suppose that a tower of exquisite architecture in stone, designed for such a purpose, and built at such vast expense, would be finished after it began to lean out of the perpendicular, would argue an amount of rashness on the part of the builders, or the directors, that has no parallel even in these modern times, when a building in Woodwich, England, erected under the direction of the government engineers for army purposes, tumbled down before it is up, and carries 170 workmen into its heap of ruins."
"Do not your buildings fall of their own weight in America?"
"Certainly they do. A few days before I left home, the roof of the finest building in New York city fell in while I was looking at it, and crashed several men. Such accidents occur in all ages, and that makes it more improbable that the builders of this tower, in the 14th century, would run such a risk as to go on with it after it began to settle. Besides, it would be a matter of record, of discussion and decision, if a tower in which these mighty bells were to swing had been permitted to go on and up after it began to lean toward its fall. I presume it was finished, with its successive galleries, to the very summit, its bells were hung, and by-and-by, the earth beneath became gradually compressed on the side where the ground below was less solid than on the other; that this settling proceeded so slowly as to be imperceptible for many long years, and was never mentioned in

the chronicles of the cathedral, as it certainly would have been had it occurred while it was in process of building.
"It was begun in 1173, and has therefore stood more than 700 years. In that time the tendency to fall might easily have been so slow as not to be noticed. I have no means of knowing when its propensity was discovered, nor the date when the fact is first mentioned in history. It takes its place among the wonders of the world, and there it stands, a perpetual proof that in this world, if the foundation is good, what is only partially upright need not utterly fail."
The chief interest of this structure, apart from its leaning, is the use that Galileo made of it, and his name will never be separated from it and the cathedral whose bells it holds.
A priest in the garb of a monk was preaching with all his might to a little company when we entered the cathedral. They were mostly women; the day was a high feast, and the people were evidently of the poorer classes. I never like to walk about a church while service is in progress, though a priest may be ready to serve as an escort. We would turn people out, and very properly, who should be going around the aisles of our churches in the midst of our worship, and it would show a deeper reverence on their part if they would forbid their churches to sight-seers while the people are at their devotions.
When the sermon was ended, and the people had retired, we sought the chandelier whose swinging suggested to Galileo the pendulum. The old thing swings as it swung before, and answers all its purposes as well now as it did when Galileo was only eighteen years old. The cathedral dates from the year 1063, and has a long history, and a hundred windows of stained glass, and more paintings than any other church that I now remember. Some of them are famous, but most of them are not of importance. Andrea del Sarto is represented in some of his best works. The Baptistery is a museum in which gems of antique art are preserved, and the sculpture of the pulpit is an object of admiration. And from it we passed on to the Campo Santo, the most celebrated cemetery in the world; not so interesting as some others; but remarkable, above all, for its vast collection of antique sepulchral monuments and its extraordinary fresco paintings. The earth was brought from Jerusalem in ships, and was considered holy ground. The greatest artists in Italy have been employed in its embellishment, but alas! for the taste of the present age, or the infirmities of former ages, the greatest paintings on these walls—Giotto's *Triumph of Death*—excites laughter rather than sorrow or fear. Some of the scenes in which Death is slaying his victims are positively ludicrous, but it is barely possible there may have been a time when these figures were looked upon with awe. One might pleasantly spend a day or two among these works of ancient and modern art. Especially would this interest rise as he studies the tombs of Grecian and Roman sculpture, arranged in such order that we trace the history of art from age to age in the tombs of successive generations.
I dropped in at a bookstore in Pisa, and was surprised to find that large numbers of English books were kept for sale. I said to the bookseller, "I could not suppose there was a demand for so many books in a foreign tongue. He answered readily: "You see they are chiefly professional and scientific books, in English. The University of Pisa requires many, and all our educated men must have the modern science, which is only to be had in English authors, and very little has been translated into Italian."
This is suggestive of the significant fact that the English language is the main medium of intercourse with the mind of the world. A French author told me, a few days ago, that unless his books were translated into English he derived very little profit from the sale of them. French and Italian books, unless of the trivial, voluble sort, like the novels, and novelties, and plays, have no readers at home. The University of Pisa has its three departments of theology, law and medicine, and gives a thorough course of instruction to those who would be well instructed. It once had a chair of astrology, a fact not to be overlooked when we set down the astrologists as fools or impostors. We may have chairs of Biology and Spiritualism in our own universities, and three hundred years afterwards we shall be laughed at, as now we laugh at the idea of teaching astrology.
JRENEAUS.

EDISON'S LAST.
In an interview published in the Washington Star, Mr. Edison describes a marvellous discovery recently made. He says: "Night before last I found out some additional points about the carbon which I use in my carbon telephone. It may be used as a heat measure. It will detect one fifty-thousandth of a degree Fahrenheit. I don't know but what I can make an arrangement by which the heat of the stars will close the circuit at the proper time automatically and correctly. It is a curious idea that the heat of a star millions of miles away should close a circuit on this miserable little earth, but I do not think it is impossible."

LETTERS OF FIRE.
INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS WITH BALLOON SIGNALS.
An Aerial Telegraph for Land and Sea—Signals to be Read Twenty-five Miles Away—What was Done at Fort Whipple Saturday Evening—Dr. Harris' New System Satisfactory.

Last Saturday evening a series of interesting experiments in balloon signalling were given at Fort Whipple in the presence of a board of army officers appointed by General Myer, and a number of ladies and gentlemen from this city.
The inventor of the proposed code of signals, Dr. H. G. Harris, gave a short lecture prior to commencing the exhibition, during which he stated that by the system which he intended to exhibit to his audience a message could be sent at a distance of twenty-five miles. It could be made useful either on sea or land, and in the former case would prove invaluable to ship-wrecked mariners, as the balloon could be made strong enough to carry a heavy rope by which communication could be made on shore.
He stated that the experiments would be of three kinds, viz: First, experiments with colors and stars; second, detonating balls and parachutes containing messages in cylinders; and third, experiments by means of a meteoric display. For each test a large balloon made of manilla had been constructed and was filled with hot air. A tail, similar to that used by boys on their kites, was attached to the hoop at the smaller end of the balloon, which was then cut loose and turned off into the air. Upon this tail was strung the line of signals, which consisted of balls and stars. The first experiment was highly satisfactory, not one of the balls missing fire.

The second experiment was with detonating balls and parachutes. As soon as the balloon was filled it was cut loose, and in a few moments the balls began to explode. After a period of five minutes the middle of the string was reached, when a parachute of flame was seen coming slowly down from the balloon. While falling, the colors were changed three times. The inventor claims that this is the best signal that could be invented, as it can be plainly seen at a distance of twenty-five miles.
The third and last experiment was a meteoric or pyrotechnic display. A balloon similar to that used in the other tests was set off, and during its upward passage, the sky in its wake was filled with stars and showers of flames which somewhat resembled snow-flakes.
The board appointed by General Myer consisted of Lieutenants Gruen, Vedder, and Barber, and at the conclusion of the experiments, these gentlemen expressed themselves as highly gratified at the success of Dr. Harris' new system.
The beautiful exhibition was plainly visible in all parts of the city, and crowds of people gathered on the side walks to discuss the wonderful phenomena.
Dr. Harris intends giving another exhibition shortly before a committee composed of representatives of the press and army and navy. The balloon, which is designed to be used in either branch of the service, is to be of rubber or oiled silk, which can be filled with compressed hydrogen gas in about four minutes. The weight of the implements used in making the signals will be about six pounds, and can be rolled into a very small package, which can be easily carried by a man on horseback. The next exhibition will be given in the neighborhood of the President's house.—Washington Republican.

THE DIVISION IN THE N. C. CONFERENCE.

From a letter published in the last issue of the Carolina Methodist from Rev. F. L. Ried, we take the following extract in regard to the division of the N. C. Conference:
"The memorial of the N. C. Conference in regard to the division of the Conference was presented in due time and form and was referred to the Committee on Boundaries. Here it was discussed freely and fully by all the parties concerned, with no hope of harmonizing certain conflicting elements. The N. C. delegation met and considered the subject, and decided to meet the Holston delegation and see if the two delegations could not harmonize on a plan for the division. The delegations met but could not harmonize. They met the second time, and it was clearly shown that it was the best not to make a division at all, and by a unanimous vote both delegations decided to withdraw the memorial of the N. C. Conference and not to divide the Conference at all. Accordingly, the memorial was withdrawn, and the question settled. So the N. C. Conference will remain as it is at least four years longer. I wish to lay stress on the fact that every single member of the N. C. delegation was present when the above action was taken, and that every one of them agreed to it. There was not a single vote against it. The reason of this harmonious action was due to the fact that intelligence was received from the Holston territory that made it entirely impracticable at present to make any division whatever. It was a source of much gratification to many that there was so much harmony in the above action."

THE LEE MONUMENT.

We noticed a few days ago the appointment by the Governor of Gen. R. B. Vance and Col. Wharton J. Green of Warren, as commissioners for North Carolina, under the act of the Virginia Assembly, requesting the governors of the different States to appoint such commissioners of the Lee Monument Association. We are in receipt of a letter from Col. Green which gives us some humiliating information. North Carolina has contributed to the monument fund only \$123.16. We were mortified when we first read this statement, and were only reconciled in a measured degree when we saw the following: South Carolina, \$5,000; Florida, nothing; Louisiana, \$5,000; Texas, \$5,000; Arkansas, nothing; Missouri, \$10,000; Kentucky, \$66,000; Tennessee, \$10,000. The Old North State stands ahead of these seven States aggregated. Tennessee leads her only \$12—\$133.95. The other Southern States have contributed as follows: Alabama, (now being thoroughly canvassed) \$318.00; Georgia, \$389.47; Maryland, \$670.81; Mississippi, (under a first rate agent) \$1,169.10; West Virginia, \$53.70.

To come back home—the Elm City stands easily first in the list of North Carolina cities and towns that have contributed towards this sacred purpose. Our other cities have done but little. We mention these details in order to bring the matter immediately before our people. It is true that the general blight that has fallen upon all our industries has checked the growth of generosity and even hospitality. Our benevolent associations have not escaped its withering effects, and our religious communities bear marks of its ravages. Still, remembering all this to its fullest extent, there remain to us some memories that are so true and so tender that we ought to sacrifice almost all rather than these should stand unprotected. When we erect statues and monuments to our good and great dead we leave to our children proofs of our devotion to virtue that will educate them in the faith of reverence for their ancestors and renew in them a determination to live and die virtuous gentlemen.

Col. Green, a gallant follower of Lee, tells us so eloquently our duties in this regard, that we quote what he writes to us in a private letter. "North Carolina must do her full duty. As she was the first in the war, contributing more men and filling more graves than any other, so should she assert the same place in those 'weak piping times of peace,' in rearing a monument to the most perfect man and symmetrical character outside of Italy, and through him to the cause which he espoused, and to her own immortal sons, who followed him through thick and thin over a hundred bloody fields.
"To my conception it is not only a statue to the greatest captain of the age, but it is a monument to the lost cause. In rearing it State lines and State prejudices should be forgotten, and all who sympathize with that cause should be willing to contribute their *obolus*. A State that was so liberal of her blood should not be too chary of her money. As stated before, her contributions of the one were most beautiful—the most beautiful—why should not the other correspond?"
The monument ought to go up to the heavens from the seven hills of Richmond. It was the citadel under whose walls he fought his decimated legions until human courage and endurance could do no more, and it was the capital of the government whose commission he bore and of the State that was honored in being his mother. Let a monument be speedily placed there. Let all the world see how we honor the man whose virtue prosperity could not make less pure and adversity could only exalt to a more splendid nobility.—*Ral. Observer*.

HOW TO MAKE CHILDREN LOVELY.
There is just one way, and that is to surround them by day and night with an atmosphere of love. Restraint and reproof may be mingled with the love, but love must be a constant element.
"I found my little girl was growing unamiable and plain," said a mother to us the other day, "and reflecting on this sadly, I could but accuse myself as the cause thereof. So I changed my management and improved every opportunity to praise and encourage her, to assure her of my unbounded affection for her, and my earnest desire that she should grow up to a lovely and harmonious womanhood. As a rose opens to the sunshine, so the child's heart opened in the warmth of the constant affection and caresses I showered upon her; her peevishness passed away, her face grew beautiful, and now one look from me brings her to my side, obedient to my will, and happiest when she is nearest me." Is there not in this a lesson for all parents? Not all the plowing or weeding or cultivation of every sort we can give our growing crops, will do for them what the steady shining of the sun can effect. Love is the sunshine of the family; without it neither character, morality, nor virtue can be brought to perfection.—*Sci.*

A child on exhibition in St. Louis is only thirteen months old and weighs 100 pounds.

EARLY DECAY.—What is it breaks down young men? Is it hard study, or dissipation? It is a commonly received notion that hard study is the unhealthy element of college life. But from the tables of mortality of Harvard University, collected by Prof. Pierce from the last triennial catalogue, it is clearly demonstrated that the excess of deaths for the last ten years after graduation is found in that portion of each class inferior in scholarship. Every one who has seen the curriculum knows that where Eschylus and political economy injure one, late hours and rum punches use up a dozen; and that the two little fingers are heavier than the loins of Euclid. Dissipation is a swift and sure destroyer, and the young man who follows it, is like the early flowers, exposed to untimely frost. Those who have been inveigled into the path of vice are named "Legion," for they are many—enough to convince every novice that he has no security that he will escape a similar fate. A few short hours of sleep each night, high living, plenty of "smashes," and nameless bad habits, make war upon every function of the human body. The brains, the lungs, the liver, the spine, the limbs, the bones, the flesh, every faculty is overtaxed, worn, and weakened by the terrific energy of passion loosed from restraint, until, like a dilapidated mansion, the "earthly house of this tabernacle," falls into ruinous decay. Quack doctors cannot save you. Fast young men, to the right about!—*Sci.*

NOVELTY IN YARN.

Mr. Louis Cordonnier has hit upon a singular method of producing a novelty in yarn; this is not surprising when we consider the immense number of varieties of cloth which our neighbors designate as *novelty*, and what we term "fancy cloths." After having tried every imaginable way of weaving to produce different effects, there hardly remains anything new but to return to the spinning. Mr. Cordonnier takes a mule, and places upon this another row of rollers, through which, at a different speed, he passes a colored or plain thread, but twisted in the reverse way of the direction of the yarn to be operated upon. In this way, when the spindles revolve, the two threads are twisted, but the additional yarn is at the same time untwisted; he then takes this doubled yarn, and twists it again with the same or any other yarn, but running it again in the opposite direction, which untwists the first thread, and produces a very singular effect, and one which in the loom will no doubt produce a novelty.—*Textile Manufacturer*.

DRESSING FOR CHURCH.

It is in bad taste to make the church the place for the show of fine clothes. To make the house of prayer a scene for exhibition of the latest fashions and thus to appear before God, is out of all character. The plainest raiment which is in keeping with the usual habit of a person, is most consistent with the gravity of religious worship. Thoroughly refined people are always averse to making a display of themselves. Least of all do well cultured persons wish to draw the gaze of a congregation to themselves, when they and others are met for the serious matter of religious instruction and devotion. They desire also, that as far as possible, all distinctions of rich and poor, great and little, shall disappear in the sanctuary that this by an appearance of equality, the lowly may be encouraged to attend public worship. If there is one place where a true heart wants to be free from the affectation, or even the semblance of assumed superiority, it is in the presence of the great God. "The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the maker of them all."

TAXING THE MANY FOR THE FEW.

The existing tariff law taxes every man, woman and child in the United States, to profit a few manufacturers. In the discussion relative to the export trade of the United States, while all concede the importance of the great strides which have been made by American producers in finding market for their surplus products, it is nevertheless true, that the great bulk of our exports are made of products of the soil and raw materials, and not of skilled labor. There can be no controversy in regard to the fact. The exports for the calendar year 1877 amounted in value, excluding gold and silver, to \$567,000,000. The value in round numbers of some of the leading articles will be found in the following list:

Cotton	\$161,000,000
Petroleum	51,000,000
Hog Products	72,000,000
Leaf Tobacco	25,000,000
Breadstuffs	137,000,000

Here is a total of \$446,000,000 (in an aggregate of \$567,000,000), which consists almost entirely of products of the soil, or raw material. If we add the products of less importance, of the same class, we shall make up fully \$467,000,000 of the total of \$567,000,000. In general terms we may say that not more than one-fifth of all our exports is made up of that which, in distinction from the articles of which we have spoken, are known as manufactured goods.—*Ral. Observer*.

TRUST A BOY.

During the session of a Convention in Boston, a Bishop, in crossing the common, met a boy whose face he fancied, and, calling to him, asked if he had anything to do just then, to which he said, "No."
"Are you a good boy?" The little fellow scratched his head, and replied: "I am not a very good boy; I cuss sometimes."
That candid answer inspired the Bishop with confidence, and he then said, after giving his name and address: "I want you to go to a certain place and get a bundle for me, and bring it to my hotel. There will be a charge of eight dollars; here is the money to pay it, and half a dollar which you will keep for doing the errand." On his return to the hotel, the Bishop's friends laughed at him for his credulity, telling him that he would never see the boy or the bundle or the money again; but in half an hour the young chap returned, bringing the bundle and a receipted bill for eight dollars and fifty cents, the Bishop having made a slight mistake as to the amount that was due. "How did you manage to pay the extra half-dollar?" he inquired. "I took the money you gave me for the job. I knew that you would make it all right." And "all right" it was made, and I have no doubt that the Confidence that was reposed in that boy because of his truthfulness will do him good as long as he lives.
Spurgeon say he has often thought when hearing certain preachers of a high order speaking to the young, that they must have understood the Lord to say "Feed My lambs," instead of "Feed My sheep," for nothing but giraffes could reach any spiritual food from the lofty rack on which they place it.
If any one doubts the onward march of improvement let him remember that the old plan of fastening your napkin around your neck at dinner time has been done away with by the patented invention of Marshall Burnett, of Hyde Park, Mass. You clamp a sort of a wire fence to the edge of the table before your dinner plate. The fence is jointed like lazy tongs. You place your napkin on the fence and pull the latter up under your chin when you are taking soup; push down the fence and napkin when you are done.

WATERSPOUTS.

The theory of the waterspouts is still somewhat unsettled, notwithstanding the numerous observations which have been made. Generally it appears as a diminutive whirlwind lasting from a few seconds to an hour, and reaching down from under the surface of a cloud to, or nearly to, the surface of the earth or sea. In the center of this whirlwind appears a slender column of water or of dense vapor, probably hollow, and air whirling around it is sometimes an ascending, but more generally a descending current. The cloud bursts of Eastern Nevada, which have at times caused much damage, are of the latter type. Certain portions of the globe are peculiarly subjected to waterspouts, which thus, like cyclones, have somewhat of a local character. Our engraving, for which we are indebted to the London Graphic, represents the British ship Boxer surrounded by waterspouts during a recent cruise on the west coasts of Africa, when unusual facilities for studying the character of such phenomena were offered.

THE VATICAN AND THE POWERS.

LONDON, May 12.—A telegram to the Standard from Rome says the most uncompromising party has probably triumphed at the Vatican. The Pope's liver affection, it says, is not alarming, but he ought to go away, and desires to go to Perugia, but is unable to resist the pressure put upon him to remain in the Vatican. Cardinal Caterini, Prefect of the Congregation, has written to the German priests who accepted Government stipends threatening their suspension if they do not make a declaration against the May laws and repudiate the stipends. A Reuters dispatch from Rome says: "After the publication of Cardinal Caterini's letter concerning the Prussian priests, negotiations between the Vatican and Berlin immediately terminated. The negotiations with the other Powers also failed. The Vatican is stated to have resolved upon a policy of resistance. The Pope's health has improved."

THE STRIKE IN ENGLAND.—Incendiary Fires—Earl Russell Dead.

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND, May 17.—There has been no progress towards a compromise. Warburton's mill was fired and badly damaged. There was no rioting at Hastingdale, but the fires were doubtless incendiary. All is quiet at Burnley. The mob is very threatening at Blackburn.
Earl Russell is dead.
Put a tablespoonful of sulphur in the nest as soon as hens or turkeys are set. The heat of the fowls causes the fumes of the sulphur to penetrate every part of their bodies, every louse is killed, and, as all birds are hatched within ten days, when the mother leaves her nest with her brood, she is perfectly free from nits or lice.
The companion of Sirius can be seen with telescopes of 6 inches aperture and larger sizes; but not with similar instruments.

WALKING UPON THE WATER.

It is stated that H. Dussault lately accomplished the feat of walking upon water at Taunton, Mass. He walked a quarter of a mile on Taunton river in six minutes. He wears a pair of patent shoes made of tin, about one foot wide and three feet long, in which air is confined, and he makes his way in a kind of skating gait.

THE SO-CALLED ROSE OF SHARON.

The so-called Rose of Sharon is one of the most exquisite flowers in shape and hue. Its blossoms are bell shaped, and of many mingled hues and dyes. But its history is legendary and romantic in the highest degree. In the East, throughout Syria, Judea, and Arabia, it is regarded with the profoundest reverence. The leaves that encircle the round blossoms dry and close together when the seasons of blossoms are over, and the stalk, withering completely away from the stem, the flower is blown away at last from the stem on which it grew, having dried in the shape of a ball, which is carried by the breeze to great distances. In this way it is borne over the wastes and sandy deserts, until at last, touching some moist place, it clings to the soil, where it immediately takes fresh root and springs to life and beauty again. For this reason the Orientals have adopted it as the emblem of the Resurrection.

Before the discovery of America, money was so scarce that the price of a day's work was fixed by act of the English Parliament in 1351 at one penny per day; and in 1314 the allowance of the chaplain to the Scotch bishops (then in prison in England) was three half-pence per day. At this time, 24 eggs were sold for a penny, a pair of shoes for four pence, a fat goose for two and a half pence, a hen for a penny, wheat three pence per bushel, and a fat ox for six shillings and eight pence. On the whole, human labor bought on the average about half as much food, and perhaps one-fourth as much cloth or clothing as it now does.

Evenly tells us that in England, in 1829, he saw sixty asparagus heads which weighed fifteen and one fourth pounds. Keyser says that, in 1730, asparagus heads produced at Darmstadt, in Germany, weighed one-half pound each. Grayson produced one hundred heads which weighed forty-two pounds. Last year a hundred asparagus heads exhibited at Colchester Flower Show weighed fifteen pounds; the same grower had another hundred that weighed eighteen pounds; and if all the fine specimens grown in private gardens round Paris were known to us, we should have something still more marvellous. The length of asparagus makes a difference in the weight, and ought to be noted.—*Kitchen and Market Garden*.

DEED, MINISTER, I THINK SHAME TO COME TO YOU.

"Deed, minister, I think shame to come to you," said an old Scotch dame who had sought the clergyman's kindly offices for the same purpose on four previous occasions. "What's the matter, Margaret, that you think shame to come to me?" "Deed, sir, it's just this: I've come to seek ye to marry me again." "Well, Margaret, I do not see that ye have any occasion to think shame for such a purpose. Marriage, you know, is honorable to all." "Deed it's, sir; but I hea ow're muckle o't already. I believe there never was any poor woman plaguit' by such deeing bodies o' men as I hea been."

FRIDAY IS A DAY OF DAYS.

FRIDAY is a day of days. It is a singular coincidence that President Hayes received his nomination at Cincinnati on a Friday. It was on a Friday that the bill creating the Electoral Commission was passed; on Friday the Electoral Commission gave its decision in the matter of the last disputed State, and on Friday it was that the count was completed and Hayes declared to be president. Now it is on Friday that the Presidential question is again re-opened by the investigation committee.—*Ral. Observer*.

THE GREATEST MAN IS HE WHO CHOOSES RIGHT WITH THE MOST INVINCIBLE RESOLUTION, WHO RESIST THE SOREST TEMPTATION FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT; WHO BEARS THE HEAVIEST BURDENS CHEERFULLY; WHO IS CALMEST IN STORMS; AND MOST FEARLESS UNDER MENACES AND FROWNS; WHOSE RELIANCE ON TRUTH, ON VIRTUE, AND ON GOD, IS MOST UNFALTERING.

HEAT, LIGHT, AND TIME.

A recent patent for a nursery lamp shows a plan for warming liquids, giving illumination, and showing the time; which latter is done by the fall of the oil in a tube, the flame being gauged to consume a given quantity of oil per minute.

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