

## THE ROANOKE NEWS

SATURDAY AUGUST 17, 1878.

## IF I WERE.

If I were a tiny sunbeam,  
The sunbeams in the ray,  
I'd be the best I could  
To cheer the groundy day.

If I were the trifling rainbow  
That girt the summer sky,  
I'd shine my very brightest  
When clouds had all passed by.

If I were the smallest flower,  
That marks a garden spot,  
I'd try to grow my prettiest,  
So not to be forgot.

If I were a word the smallest  
That fall disliking ears,  
I would try to be the kindest,  
And check the falling tears.

If I were a friend, the trustiest,  
My aim would be to live;  
Please, not pain, to see I loved,  
I'd always try to give.

If I were a song the loveliest,  
I'd be the prettiest sing—  
Lord! should the notes swell out clear,  
Making the woodlands ring.

But this is but a dream, may it be,  
Purpos'd the day goes over;  
Permit me to thank you and bid you,  
To make no ill try.

## THE SPIRIT LAND.

When we have the ministering angels  
In the bright quiet room,  
When even angels sing to us,  
Gaily bid us welcome home.

To that land of silent story,  
Where the spirit knows no care,

In that land of light and glory,  
Shall we know each other's care?

When the holy angels meet us,  
As we go to join the band,  
Shall we know the friends that greet us,  
In that bright angelic land?

Small we see the same eyes smiling,  
On uses of every care?

Small we feel their dear arms twining,  
Fondly round us as before?

Yes; my earth-worn soul rejoices,  
And my weary heart grows light,  
For the circling angel voices,  
And the angel faces bright.

But shall welcome us to heaven,  
Are the voices longing on,

Or to those kindly given  
Thus their亲朋friends to know?

Oho, we wear, sad and tossed ones,  
Drop not, fainting, by the way;

You shall join the loved and lost ones  
In that land of perfect day.

Harp strings touched by angel fingers  
Murmured in my ear;

Evermore their sweet songingers,  
"We shall know each other's care!"

## AN OWL IMPRISONED BY MARTINS.

The owner of a large farm not far from Lancaster, had an opportunity a few days ago, of witnessing how an owl-hawk is punished by the martin species of birds. A pair of martins had taken possession of a small box, and were building their nest. One day, while they were absent, a sneaky owl took possession of the box, and when the martins came home at night would not allow them to enter. The smaller birds were unable to force their way, and in a short time flew away, seemingly giving up the fight. But if the owl was of this opinion he was rapidly mistaken, for in a short time the little ones returned, bringing with them a whole army of their comrades, who immediately set to work and, prizing mud, plastered the entrance to the box. They then flew away. In a few days the box was examined and the owl was found dead.

## ALL ABOUT HEADS.

Heads are of different shapes and sizes. They are all of us. Large heads do not always have the best. Some persons can tell just what a person is by the shape of his head. High heads are the best kind. Very knowing people are called high-headed. Among that population for anybody is called low-headed. It is not quite so bright there as here sometimes. If he won't succeed at tennis, they call him pig-headed. Animals have large heads. The heads of men stand back. Our forefathers envied them, save, except but heads. There are horned-heads, lions of savages—and some ministers used to have fifteen heads. In one edition of Hodge's Catalogue he has a dozen heads; come to a bush, like a hump-head or chapter-head man, head of the family; and granddad—say but, let me say just we right,

## ADVERTISEMENT.

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AND MASS.

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