

THE PINEHURST OUTLOOK

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Readers will confer a favor upon the publisher of this paper and benefit their friends by sending the addresses of those who ought to know about Pinehurst, so that copies of THE OUTLOOK may be mailed to them.

FRIDAY, MAR. 24, 1899.

THERE are few great men who cannot be more easily spared than a great writer. The places of others can generally be made good, and if not, the world gets on pretty well without them. But no kind of compensation and substitution seems possible when we lose a writer of remarkable originality and power. He must be old and clearly past the exercise of his abilities before we can be at all reconciled to his departure. And even then we admire and love him so much for what he has done that we are never ready to say good-bye. No great man of letters has ever stayed among us long enough to wear out his welcome. But many have left us forlorn by dying before their time.

How hard it was to lose Charles Dickens at the age of fifty-eight! Not so very young, perhaps, but yet a good many years short of the time that belonged to such an undecaying spirit as his.

And when Hawthorne died at the age of sixty it seemed as if death had done outrage upon the love, the hope, the expectation of man in arresting that "wizard hand,"

"Which at its topmost speed let fall the pen,  
 And left the tale half told."

Therefore it is not strange that the threat of death hanging over Rudyard Kipling kept half the world in painful suspense during his recent illness. The great sigh that went up when the bulletin announced him out of danger was partly of relief, and partly of sympathy for the loss of his little daughter.

Up to the present the world has doubtless admired Mr. Kipling more than it loved him. But he is so young that he will have time to win love as well as fame. He will gain sweetness without losing strength. If, as we earnestly hope, he shall be granted thirty years more in which to fulfill the promise of the last ten, then the twentieth century may confidently count upon having one great writer among its other great possessions.

FROM Rudyard Kipling to a "literary man" by the name of Harlan Page Halsey seems to be a far cry, yet not so far, when we remember that from the sublime to the ridiculous there is but a step. And not so very ridiculous either, when we come to know that Mr. Halsey not only wrote stories that brought him in "a pot of money," but was also a successful business man and public spirited citizen.

But who was Harlan Page Halsey, and what was his title to literary fame? If we should judge by the production of his pen and profits earned, it must be said at once that he was the "greatest" writer that America has ever produced. He reeled off from twenty to forty manuscript pages every day for three hundred days each year during years enough to produce six hundred books of adventure. A fortune of several hundred thousand dollars was the result of this tireless grinding at the ink-and-paper mill. But now Mr. Halsey has passed away. "Old Sleuth" is no more, and countless thousands of elevator boys are left to mourn the loss of their detective hero, who never, never failed to bring crime to light, and to assist with almost supernatural power in the triumph of virtue.

Birthdays Party.

Miss Marguerite Prescott, the nine-year-old daughter of Rev. Mr. Prescott of Washington, D. C., who with his family is spending the season at Holly Inn, had a birthday party at the Inn last Wednesday afternoon which was greatly enjoyed by the little folks in attendance. Among those present were: Master Heaton Treadway, Kenneth Bradbury, Gladys Bradbury, Sherburne Prescott, Merrill Waters, Francis Woodbury, Ann Grant, Justin Dowling and Donald De Loria. The birth-day cake was of large proportions and good quality, and was decorated with candles and surrounded with flowers. The presents were numerous and handsome, including silver, bric-a-brac, etc.

It was a red letter day not only for Miss Marguerite but for the entire party. May they all live to have many more. We return thanks for a slice of the birthday cake.

Excursion to Jackson Springs.

A party composed of the young people in our village enjoyed an excursion to Jackson Springs last Monday, driving cross country in teams. They arrived at their destination about 12 o'clock and immediately began preparations for lunch. Coffee was made on the stove at the school house during recess and while it was cooking the teacher called on all the visitors for speeches, and it was lucky for some of the party that there was no stenographer present to preserve their remarks for the benefit of posterity.

After a hearty lunch the party rambled over the surrounding country and drank from the spring whose water is noted as a cure for dyspepsia. The start for home was made about 3 o'clock, the route taken leading by the Wicker goat farm, where the kids furnished lots of fun for the "kids" and little Cora Wicker made a speech, to the great enjoyment of the company. The supper hour found the party at home, tired but well pleased with their outing.

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R. M. COUCH, Proprietor and Manager.

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J. N. LONGEST,

CONTRACTOR  
 AND  
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GREENSBORO, N. C.

Contractor for the buildings erected in Pinehurst during the past two years.

FRANCIS DEATON,  
 Civil Engineer and Surveyor.

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