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VICTORIA.

England's ideal Queen! Queen of our past age Which long will bear the name Victorian; When arts and science and the rights of man Were written on a new and larger page;

When humble toll received a juster wage; When famous English bards their song began, And to a purer strain their music ran Lifting the thoughts of men a higher stage.

Now sleeps the great Queen in her well-earned rest, secure of fame and love's proud offerings; Secure that jewel in her coronet,

Her private virtues, to her country blest; Tarnished too oft by ancient queens and kings But in Victoria's crown again reset.

-J. A.

North Carolina Notes.

The state is sometimes disparged on account of its small number of cities, by the last census standing lowest of all the states in this respect, and having none of the first rank. Wilmington, its largest city has a population of about 24,000. Raleigh by the late Federal census had 13,643 inhabitants. It did not please the authorities of the capital city and they ordered one on their own account which gave them just 31 more than the United States census enumerators. There appears to be a general sentiment of dissatisfaction in the state at the slow growth of the population in comparison with some of its neighbors and especially that it cannot boast one big city.

On the contrary we think the state should be congratulated. For great cities nurse great evils. They overshadow the rural regions and control legislation and are apt to dictate the policy of state and national representatives. As a rule the smaller states with no large metropolitan centers are to-day sending abler, wiser and cleaner men to Washington than great states like New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Look at New York City with fifteen representatives in the lower house and not a single one of them having any power or influence except for the most. The growth of North Carolina is slow but it is healthy and on the lines of its natural resources, the cotton crop and its manufacturers; tobacco, in which it stands second among the tobacco states; lumber; fruit, which is becoming a very important industry; and lastly the state from the sea to the resort and must grow to be more so as capitals, made up largely of documents fast as its climate is better known, the and law books. The religious sects in wants of northern travellers understood North Carolina are probably greater and met and the railroads offer better than in any other state, if we except and cheaper facilities for reaching all portions of the state. There ought to be a Pinehurst in every county. Comfortable houses and hotels at moderate prices would make North Carolina as popular in winter as New England is in summer.

It must be owned that the state in some respects is in a very backward condition, notably so in education, due no doubt in part to the scattered population, and in part to the necessary economy of state legislation on the subject. Just now also the agitation of the franchise

question is hurting the interests of education, as well, in our opinion, as the industrial progress of the state. There are in the state thirty-six educational institutions, all but six of which are under denominational religious control. In addition to these there are eighteen schools for the higher education of the negroes. There are forty-nine libraries in the state with a total of 216,000 books. But examining the list with some care we find only 22,600 books in nine public libraries. All the remainder belong to colleges, to law courts and the state library which latter, the largest of all,

able monument of the close of the nincteenth and opening of the twentieth centuries. It will be a mournful mark of separation between them, and not less a hopeful promise of the continuity of England's history and her past and future destiny as the bulwark of constitutional freedom and the leader of European civilization.

Victoria's reign has been the longest of any modern sovereign; it has been the freest from mistake and scandal and profligacy of any in the world's history. She was the intellectual peer of her

own greatest peers and ministers; the



New York, whose chief city appears to have more faiths than any other one place in the world. In this tedious business of statistics we will leave the readers in good humor by mentioning one sect in North Carolina of which we doubt if they ever heard. It is called "Old Two Seed." It has somewhere one church, one minister and ten communicants.

Victoria, Queen and Empress.

The death of Victoria will be a memor-

great Smoky Mountains, is now a winter 22,618, is, if, like other collections in state competent mistress of the affairs and interests of her own empire.

> Beside her remarkable political sagacity, acknowledged by a long line of par- explained Ralph, "why, of course, you'll liaments and prime ministers, she had a have to play back so as to loft over. You woman's intuitions and sympathies can't lift the tiddledy-wink out of a hazwhich made all her public actions seldom fail to strike a responsive chord in the hearts of her subjects.

> But beyond and above these, like some precious casket containing untold wealth within the smallest compass, were her private, domestic virtues which were the proof of a great, pure and wise heart, setting an example of high social moralmoral fabric of her empire, and in its the next corner of the table was the puteffects extending to all nations. ٠,٠

State Emblems.

Twenty-two States have adopted certain flowers or trees as State emblems; eight of them by act of legislature and fourteen by the vote of public schools. Unfortunately the Golden Rod has been selected by four states. North Carolina has made no choice as yet. When it does it should be the Long-leaved Pine, the most fitting representative of its conifers. There is a strong effort being made, backed up by a society, to have the United States adopt the Columbine as the national flower emblem. One State, Colorado, has it already for its crest. ٠.•

Table Golf with Tiddledy-Winks.

Several kinds of table or parlor golf have been invented and put upon the market. But about the simplest device of the kind originated the other evening when some young folk wearied of the usual indoor games and cast about them for something new and novel.

A box of tiddledy-wink chips was lying on the table, and a boy present had a sudden inspiration.

"Hey, boys?" he cried, "let's play golf with these chips !"

"Well, what's your scheme?" asked one.

The inventor ruffled up his forehead in a thoughtful frown. Then he said :

"Why, we will lay out the dining room table as the course. We will go around by the left side of the table, so we can always play with our right hand. Four holes-one for each side of the tablewill be enough."

This caught the fancy of the crowd at once, and there was a wild rush for the dining room. The tablecloth had been removed and a dark heavy cover had been substituted.

With a piece of white crayon borrowed from the school-room, the inventor, Ralph by name, marked out a 2-inch square at a left-hand corner.

"That will be the first teeing ground," he said.

About three feet from that square he placed two small books upright, the covers opened a couple of inches to make them stand upright. These were about two inches from each other, so that by good playing one could pass between them and so escape the hazard.

"If you go plunk against the book," ard and lose one, as you do in regular golf, but you must play it over every time, no matter how many shots are required."

A small saucer about two feet farther on constituted the next hazard. If you played over it all was well, but if you landed in the saucer you would be obliged to lift the tiddledy-wink out and place it ity, elevating its tone and the whole back with a loss of two strokes. Near ting-green, designated by another square