

moral character, they must be exceedingly careful, lest others seeing them sit at meat in the idol's temples be emboldened to eat the things offered to idols, and some thus "perish for whom Christ died." Therefore, "be ye blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world."

"Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you, and will be a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

Beloved brethren, withdraw your hand from the tempting prize, turn your back on the golden wheel of fortune; and fixing your eye on the ever revolving wheel of Providence, thence draw the prize—life, health, peace, blessings "exceeding abundantly above all you can ask or think." Then, "heart, within and God overhead," lives useful, happy journey done, prize-robbing death at the door, stretch forth your hand again (God at the wheel,) and draw the capital prize, eternal life. And when God shall divide the celestial inheritance among his ransomed people, may your princely lot be glory, and honor, and immortality!

#### MOTHERLESS.

Some gentlemen passing through the beautiful village of Renton, in the vale of Leven, Dumbartonshire, about nine o'clock at night, had their attention directed to a dark object in the churchyard. On going to ascertain what it was, they found a boy of tender years lying flat on his face, and apparently sound asleep, over a recently made grave. Thinking this was not a very safe bed for him, they shook him up, and asked how he came to be there? He said he was afraid to go home, as his sister, with whom he resided, had threatened to beat him.

"And where does your sister live?" asked one of the party.

"In Dumbarton," was the answer.

"In Dumbarton—nearly four miles off!—and how came you to wander so far away from home?"

"I just can," sobbed the poor little fellow, "because my mither's grave was here."

His mother had been buried there a short time before, and his seeking a refuge at her grave in his sorrow was a beautiful touch of nature in a child who could scarcely have yet learned to realize the true character of that separation which knows of no reunion on earth. Thither had he instinctively wandered to sob out his sorrows, and to moisten with tears the grave of one who had hitherto been his natural protector, for he had evidently cried himself asleep.

**FORMATION OF CHARACTER.**—Have you ever watched the icicle as it formed? Have you noticed how it froze, one drop at a time, until it was a foot long, or more? If the water was clean, the icicle remained clear, and sparkled brightly in the sun; but, if the water was slightly muddy, the icicle looked foul, and its beauty was spoiled. Just so our characters are formed. One little thought or feeling at a time adds its influence. If each thought be pure and right, the soul will be lovely, and will sparkle with happiness; but, if impure and wrong, there will be deformity and wretchedness.

#### Sincerity.

By sincerity I mean very much more than truth-telling. I know people whose word can always be trusted, and who never break a promise, yet who are not through and through sincere. Sincerity in character is like transparency in crystal. It is character without a flaw to hide, with no desire to appear better than it is, and it is not afraid to let itself be open as the day, for the day to shine through. Absolute, rigid, uncompromising principle in all essentials is the rule of the sincere. Courteous consideration, generous self-forgiveness, and kind approbation, is equally the rule of the sincere. I cannot refrain from warning my readers against gushing. Think when you are writing that letter to that beloved friend, whether, you mean all you say. Say nothing you do not feel sure you mean. Too many ardent intimacies burn themselves out, too many life-long friendships grow cold through the fierceness and fervor of the sentiment on which they are built. They are like fires of chips or brambles, not like deep smouldering furnace heats. 'Faithful,' says the Holy Book, 'are the wounds of a friend.' It is the kiss of an enemy that is deceitful. I believe that between the best friends there is a solid foundation of mutual trust, it will never give offense. *Sine cera*—without wax. Being in reality what it seems to be, not by hypocritical or pretended, not simulated.' So says the lexicon. Please look up the word for yourself, with all its synonyms.—*Sunday School Times.*

#### Rose of Sharon.

The rose of Sharon is one of the most exquisite flowers in shape and hue. Its blossoms are belled-shaped, of many mingled hues and dyes, and 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 blossom dry and close tight together when the season of blossom is over, and the stalk withering completely away from the stem, the flower is blown away, at least from the bush on which it grew, having dried up in the shape of a ball, which is carried by the sport of the breeze to great distances.

In this way it is borne over the sandy wastes and deserts, until at last, touching some moist place, it clings to the soil, where it takes fresh root and springs to life and beauty again. For this reason the Orientals have adopted it as the emblem of the resurrection. The dried flower is placed by the Judeans, in a vase of water beside the beds of the sick, and if it expands by moisture the omen is considered favorable. If it does not the worst is at all times feared.

**INSECTS NEVER GROW.**—Many people fancy that a little fly is only little because it is young, and that it will grow up in process of time to be as big as a blue-bottle. Now this is entirely wrong; for when an insect has once attained to its winged state it grows no more. All the growing, and most part of the eating is done in its previous state of life, and indeed there are many insects, such as the silk-worm moth, which do not eat at all from the time that they assume the chrysalis state to the time they die.

#### MIND AND HEALTH.

The mental condition has far more influence upon the bodily health than is generally supposed. It is no doubt true that ailments of the body cause depressions and morbid conditions of the mind; but it is not less true that sorrowful and disagreeable emotions produce disease in persons who, un-influenced by them, would be in sound health; or, if disease is not produced, the functions are disordered. Not even physicians consider the importance of this fact. Agreeable motions set in motion nervous currents which stimulate the blood, brain and every part of the system into healthful activity; while grief, disappointment of feeling, and brooding over present sorrows or past mistakes, depress the vital forces. To be physically well one must, in general, be happy. The reverse is not always true; one may be happy and cheerful, and yet be a constant sufferer in body.

#### THE BIGGEST TREE.

The largest tree standing in the United States, says the *Inyc*, California, *Independent*, is on the head of Bear Creek, north fork of the Tule river. The exact dimensions of this immense red-wood giant we do not remember, but believe it is something over forty-six feet in diameter. A San Francisco party, having made arrangements to represent the monster at the Centennial, have given the contract to a Tularian man, Mr. J. C. Cramer, to remove the bark with eight inches of the wood from the surface of the tree, but, or strip ped rather, like staves of a barrel, without felling the tree.—These pieces are to be cut forty feet long, and when put together inside twenty feet high. In these rooms cabinets of California specimens and curiosities will be neatly and appropriately arranged.

Be careful to avoid that prodigious wrong to society of giving all to those who already live in luxury, and will probably never see the day of need. You know how the wise man denounces the sin or him "who giveth to the rich." Leave them tokens of friendship if you will, but nothing more. Don't pile Pelion upon Ossa. Some have done it; and the instinctive justice of men has hooted after them in scorn to their graves. Society would have been better pleased if, when they went out of the world, they had not left even their bodies behind them; for they scarcely deserve a grave in the poorest acre of the earth.

Johnson, while walking through a nobleman's house, which was full of costly furniture, pictures and objects of taste, exclaimed, "Ah, these are the things that make a death-bed hard."

Faith and works are the two wings of a bird. Using but the right wing, the bird flutters helplessly on the earth. Using the left wing alone, there is the same result. But plying both with equal vigor, it plumes its flight heavenward.

**Contributions to the Orphan Asylum at Oxford for the week ending June 13th 1876.**  
IN CASH.  
Paid \$17.85, Holly Grove Lodge No 252.  
" 6.00, Orphans' Friend.  
" 5.00 each, Salem Lodge No 289, Unknown Friend.  
" 3.35, Mattamuskeet Lodge No 328.  
" 3.00, Thomas Johns, for Anchor Lodge No 234.

" 1.00, Rev N B Cobb.  
" 70, S T Smith.  
IN KIND.  
Mrs Henderson Stovall, 10 lbs soap.  
The following persons have paid for THE ORPHANS' FRIEND for one year:  
W S Moore, A J Johnson, H D Marshburn  
Yann Woodcock, Miss Rosa Lyon, William Osborne.

#### Resolutions of the Grand Lodge.

Adopted Dec 3d, 1875.  
*Resolved*, 1. That St. John's College shall be made an asylum for the protection, training and education of indigent orphan children.  
2. That this Grand Lodge will appropriate \$—annually for the support of the institution; but will not assume any additional pecuniary responsibility.  
3. That this Grand Lodge elect a Superintendent who shall control the institution and solicit contributions for its support from all classes of our people.  
4. That orphan children in the said Asylum shall be fed and clothed, and shall receive such preparatory training and education as will prepare them for useful occupations and for the usual business transactions of life.

Adopted Dec 5th 1875:  
*Resolved*, That the Superintendent of the said Orphan Asylum shall report at each Annual Communication an account of his official acts, receipts, disbursements, number of pupils, &c. together with such suggestions as he may see fit to offer.

*Resolved*, That the Master of each subordinate Lodge appoint a Standing Committee upon raising funds for the Orphan Asylum, and require said committee to report in writing each month, and that said reports and the funds received be forwarded monthly to the Superintendent of the Asylum and that the support of the Orphan Asylum be a regular order of business in each subordinate Lodge at each Communication.

4. All churches and benevolent organizations are requested to cooperate with us in the orphan work and to collect and forward contributions through their own proper officers. Here are the resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the sincere thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to many benevolent ladies and gentlemen, to the ministers of the gospel, to churches of various denominations, to Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Good Templars, Friends of Temperance, and other benevolent societies, whose hearty cooperation and liberal contributions have rendered timely and valuable assistance in the great work of ameliorating the condition of the orphan children of the State.

*Resolved*, That all benevolent societies and individuals are hereby cordially invited and requested to cooperate with us in providing funds and supplies for feeding clothing, and educating indigent and promising orphan children, at the Asylum in Oxford.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

#### THE MASONIC JOURNAL, GREENSBORO, N. C.

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The only Masonic WEEKLY published in THE UNITED STATES! Eight pages, thirty-two broad columns.  
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#### WILMINGTON & WELDON RAILROAD.

**MAIL TRAINS.**  
Leave Union Depot daily (Sundays excepted).....at 7.35 a. m.  
Arrive at Goldsboro.....11.50 a. m.  
" Rocky Mount.....2.00 p. m.  
" Weldon.....3.50 p. m.  
Leave Weldon daily.....at 9.50 a. m.  
Arrive at Rocky Mount.....11.35 a. m.  
" Goldsboro.....1.37 p. m.  
" Union Depot.....6.05 p. m.

**EXPRESS TRAIN AND THROUGH FREIGHT TRAINS.**  
Leave Union Depot daily.....at 5 p. m.  
Arrive at Goldsboro.....11.4 a. m.  
" Rocky Mount.....2.00 a. m.  
" Weldon.....6.00 a. m.  
Leave Weldon daily.....7.00 p. m.  
Arrive at Rocky Mount.....9.00 p. m.  
" Goldsboro.....12.50 a. m.  
" Union Depot.....6.30 a. m.  
Mail Trains make close connection at Weldon for all points North via Bay Line and Aquia Creek routes.  
Express Trains connect only with Aquia Creek route. Pullman's Palace Sleeping Cars on this Train.  
Freight Trains will leave Wilmington tri-weekly at 5.00 a. m., and arrive at 1.40 p. m.  
**JOHN DIVINE,**  
General Superintendent.

#### SEABOARD & ROANOKE RAIL ROAD.

PORTSMOUTH, VA., Jan. 1 1875.  
On and after this date, trains of this Road will leave Weldon daily, Sundays excepted as follows:  
Mail train.....at 4 p. m.  
No. 1 Freight train.....at 4 a. m.  
No. 2 Freight train.....at 8 a. m.  
Tuesdays and Fridays at.....at 8 a. m.  
**ARRIVE AT PORTSMOUTH.**  
Mail train.....at 7.15 p. m.  
No. 1 Freight train.....at 12 Noon.  
No. 2 Freight train.....at 4 p. m.  
Freight trains have passenger car attached. Steamer for Edenton, Plymouth and landings on Black water and Chowan Rivers leaves Franklin at 7.40 a. m., on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.  
**E. G. GHIO,**  
Supt. of Transportation.

#### RALEIGH & GASTON RAILROAD.

**MAIL TRAIN.**  
Leaves Raleigh.....10.00 a. m.  
Arrives at Weldon.....3.30 p. m.  
Leaves Weldon.....10.00 a. m.  
Arrives at Raleigh.....3.30 p. m.

**ACCOMMODATION TRAIN.**  
Leaves Raleigh.....5.00 a. m.  
Arrives at Weldon.....5.25 p. m.  
Leaves Weldon.....5.15 a. m.  
Arrives at Raleigh.....5.40 p. m.  
Mail train makes close connection at Weldon with the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad and Bay Line Steamers via Baltimore, to and from all points North, West and Northwest, and with Petersburg Railroad via Petersburg Richmond and Washington City, to and from all points North and Northwest.  
And at Raleigh with the North Carolina Railroad to and from all points South and Southwest, and with the Raleigh & Augusta Air-Line to Haywood and Fayetteville.  
**JNO. C. WINDER, Gen. Supt.**

#### RALEIGH & AUGUSTA AIR-LINE.

**MAIL TRAIN.**  
Train leaves Raleigh.....3.40 p. m.  
Arrives at Sanford.....8.19 p. m.  
Arrives at Cameron.....9.20 p. m.  
Train leaves Cameron.....4.15 a. m.  
Leaves Sanford.....5.10 a. m.  
Arrives at Raleigh.....9.45 a. m.  
Mail Train makes close connection at Raleigh with the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, to and from all points North.  
And at Sanford with the Western Railroad, to and from Fayetteville and points on Western Railroad.  
**JNO. C. WINDER,**  
Superintendent.

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#### November, 1875.

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