

WILMINGTON

My last letter to you was principally upon visits and observations made about London. It has been my opportunity to pass from that great metropolis by the way of Norwich, England, to Antwerp, in Belgium, and thence to Paris, Brussels, Stuttgart, Bregenz and on to the greatest watering place in Europe, via, Carlsbad. In an agricultural way the greatest countries that we have visited are England and Belgium. From Southampton to London every available square foot of ground, even to the railroad embankments, are terraced and cultivated with garden and other agricultural products such as cabbage, beans, turnips, carrots, beets, etc. The grain in the fields had been garnered and stacked away beautifully, and not in the careless way that is so prevalent in the States. The stacks are mostly round and apparently stacked by hand, and are taper smaller at the ground than at the eaves of the water shed of the stack, presenting a peculiar formation of a grain stack, and the same form is to be observed on the continent as far as I have observed. There are more flocks of sheep to be seen in England and Belgium than in France, Germany or Austria, and the finest looking Southdowns one ever saw. They look like pictures of their specie in the books sent out from Washington, D. C., printed by the government for Congress and constitutions in the rural districts. It is indeed a pleasant sight to see large droves of sheep accompanied by a shepherd and his dog, and when a sheep strays from the flock the dog chases him back to the flock. The sheep industry in England and Belgium must be a considerable one, judging from the number and size of the flocks that are so often seen from the train in passing through those countries. The first 50 miles from the seashore of Belgium towards the interior is very flat, and in many places is lower than the rivers and sea, which are kept back by dykes or embankments, thrown up along the water courses to keep the sea and streams from overflowing the back country, and it looks strange to be traveling along on a steamer and look over the top of the dykes and see the roofs of the houses, which appear but precious little above the level of the water in the streams. If the dykes were to break the sea would overflow the country for miles and drown the people and live stock before they could get to high ground. It seems that in the States, England and Belgium it is watch as well as pray for fear of a break in the dykes. The people, too, are strange in appearance, very short, thick and stout in stature, and wear wooden shoes on the farms, and the strangest headgear imaginable. We varied a day and a half in the City of Brussels, in Belgium, which is said to be Paris in miniature. It is beautifully situated at the beginning of the level and undulating country and in a beautiful, high plain, surrounded, made so by the high hills surrounding a low valley. Here it is that the French and Dutch come together in trade, manners and language. The inhabitants are quite Dutch in appearance, and mostly speak French, but in the country, and especially the Dutch lingo. Here the dog seems to be under the ban, for he is not only muzzled—all species—but the majority of the larger kinds are compelled to help their owners to do chores by being harnessed with hames and collar like our horses and pull carts and little wagons, while their last owners do but little in the game besides driving, directing and putting on brakes going down hills. It is remarkable the amount of large dogs will pull, something like a quarter to half a ton. The women, cows and dogs do three-fourths of the work of Continental Europe. It is no uncommon sight to see a woman and girl plowing a field, the woman fastened by an axle and two wheels in front with the hounds like a four-wheel wagon in North Carolina. In other words, the hounds perform the function of a fifth wheel in turning at the end of the row. Some plows are reversible and have two shares, one under the beam and the other on top, that are reversed and they go right back on same furrow and avoid laying off lands and water furrows. It is rare to see horses hitched to a plow. Plowing is done by oxen and cows. The fact is that this is a military country and it takes the men for the armies, railroads and other vocations, while the old men, women and children look after the agricultural pursuits and the like. The women carry baskets of coal and wood up steep inclines that I do not believe that one could hire the stoutest negro men in our country to do for any pay. At the little hotel where we are staying the coal dealer delivered three tons of coal and a woman put it away by carrying it in a two-bushel basket on her back up the steps and through a passage-way to the bin in the back yard, and I afterwards learned that she was liberally paid for such work by being remunerated in the sum of 3 kronens and 50 heller, which is 50 cents in United States money. You often see women carrying the "hod" about new buildings, carrying up brick and mortar, and in fact, they do the heaviest work that is done on this side of the water, such, for instance, as leading and unloading heavy wagons, shoveling compost, sawing wood and felling timber. It is indeed remarkable from our standpoint of view to see the usage of women in such hard vocations. They not only give birth and rear the nation on this side of the world, but support them as well. They are not pretty, as a rule, like our women, but have a kind of grimace, which sometimes look about their faces like the grimace of a man whose working women are mostly raw-boned, angular and have well de-

veloped shoulders. My subject, I am told, upon the coast of Belgium, mostly sheep, horses, bread, with butter that is never salted and cheese that is home made, mostly, and in the center of Belgium, in the above cities, supported by that class of customers. The farms consist of small patches, but people would call them, and looking from the train in passing through the country they look like a mass of small, scattered farms, many of which are in fact, large. For instance, a field of cabbage, turnips, carrots, beets for making sugar (which is a great industry in this country), hazel nuts, beans, clover and other crops. One plant even grows in a field of corn, where it is difficult to understand how they can maintain themselves, and one wonders why they don't go to the fertile plains of a country like America, and emigrate themselves with the millions of people who are in the States, and in the industrial and agricultural world, surrounded by so much better environment as is afforded by America, with its superior natural advantages. But it is a lamentable fact that those who seek homes in America are not of this class of citizens, but instead that class who want to stay around large cities, and in many instances add largely to the criminal and discontented class that are to be found around New York, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans and our principal larger cities. The agricultural class, as a rule, do not live on their farms, but live in little hamlets and towns of from 150 to 2,500 and more, and keep up a church and school, and the towns are in many instances a sight to behold. The no-fence law prevails and when you see one or more head of cattle together, or even a flock of geese you will see them chaperoned by some person close by. The country roads are beautifully macadamized, but narrower than our Mecklenburg county roads—no more than eleven feet, as a rule, and little piles of rock and gravel are put at intervals along the roads for repairing. One rarely sees any idle persons in the country, whereas in large cities like London and Paris the parks are infested with vagabonds and thriftless thousands laying around on the grass plots asleep, and in others young men smoking cigarettes, polluting the atmosphere with the aroma of bad tobacco. In St. James, Kensington and Hyde Parks, London, much idleness was observed among the population. I was astounded at such armies of young and able-bodied men that in the States, England and Belgium it is watch as well as pray for fear of a break in the dykes. 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most famous clock in the world is located. The clock is situated in the right wing of this great edifice that has built several hundred years since. It is called an astronomical clock, and was built between the years 1571 and 1574, and was completely renovated by a man by the name of Schwilgen, born in Strasburg, in the lower part of the celestial sphere, which indicates the daily movements of the stars, with movements corresponding to the geographical degree of Strasburg, containing 4900 stars. Behind the celestial sphere there is a perpetual calendar which is a movable circle. On the left a church calendar (the first ever invented) that moves by mechanism. On the right an indication of the sun and moon equinoxes. Above the calendar appears the mythological gods, after whom were called the names of the days of the week. A small dial in the middle of the so-called lion gallery indicates the local time. It is surrounded by two gentils, the one striking the quarters, while the other rings the hours by hour glass. Of the moving figures four are remarkable, representing the ages of life and strike the parts of the hours; childhood, the first quarter, youth the second, manhood the third, and old age the fourth quarter. Death is in the shape of a skeleton, strikes the full hour. Farther above stands the image of Christ. And when the clock strikes twelve, according to the exact central European time, there is a procession of the clock there runs legends that the City of Strasburg while in its awfully clothes, so to speak, in early times desired a clock of such a character that no other city or town could boast that it had one so smart, complete and elegant. The clockmaker to make them of the kind. And the clockmaker succeeded after he had finished the clock, one somewhat like the present one, and for fear that he would make one of like character for some other community, the clockmaker was condemned to death, but finally it was agreed that they, the people of Strasburg, would burn out his eyes and a compromise was made between the clockmaker and the city, that the clockmaker should fix something about the clock which he had forgotten to do, and was taken to the clock and he fixed it so that it could not be made to run, and it is from this incident that we so frequently hear the saying, "He fixed his clock so tight that it will run for ever." H. M. WILDER.

APPEAL MADE FOR ORPHANS.
Congressman Page Speaks at Hamlet.
—Mr. R. A. Lackey, who makes money in Oklahoma and speaks as the Old Home—some question as to the Seaboard's Taking Care of its Pay Roll—Baptists Call a Goldboro Minister.

Special to The Observer.
Hamlet, Nov. 13.—Last Sunday Hon. R. N. Page, representative in Congress from this district, delivered two excellent addresses in the Methodist church at this place. Mr. Page is chairman of the board of trustees of the Methodist Orphanage at Raleigh and his address to the Sunday school was in behalf of that institution. He stated that of all the honors that he people had conferred upon him he appreciated none more than that of being at the head of that institution. His addresses here were helpful and inspiring. Mr. R. A. Lackey, who left this place about two years ago for Oklahoma to engage in farming, has returned here and will keep books for Lackey Bros. He says that North Carolina is good enough for a pig, and that Lackey purchased several hundred acres of land in Oklahoma a few years ago and recently sold his possessions there at a profit of about \$5,000 and is investing his money in building up his own town, in erecting a whole block of handsome brick stores.

The congregation of the Baptist church, which has been out of a pastor since Rev. E. R. Harris resigned, has extended a call to Rev. Mr. King, who is at the present time pastor of one of the churches at Goldboro. Mr. King is well recommended, and the Baptists here feel that if they secure him, as will be a privilege. He preached for that congregation Sunday.

The question that nearly every one asks here is: "Will the Seaboard make arrangements whereby its pay roll will be taken care of?" The bank here has made several efforts to secure the necessary currency to meet the demands in paying the checks, but up to the present time it has not been successful. The treasurer has not given any satisfaction concerning the matter and the cashier says that he cannot afford to pay the checks unless the bank will make arrangements to meet the demands of the pay roll. The Bank of Hamlet was never in better condition than at this time. It has more money in its vaults than it has ever had, but it is taking precautions and keeping it to meet any emergency that may be placed upon it. It is confidently believed that the bank and the Seaboard together will make the necessary arrangements and that everything will be all right.

HUMAN RACE AFFLICTED WITH QUEER DISEASE
Cooper Says Internal Parasites Cause Much Suffering Everywhere.

The following remarkable statement was recently made by L. T. Cooper. It concerns the preparation which has been so widely discussed throughout the country during the past year, and has been the subject of enormous quantities in leading cities. "It is now a well-known fact that wherever I have introduced my New Discovery medicine, hundreds of people have brought internal parasites, tapeworms to me in many cases these people do not know the nature of the parasite, and were consequently extremely nervous until I explained the matter to them. In some cities so many have had this experience that the public generally becomes alarmed. "I take this opportunity of explaining what these creatures are, and what I have learned about them in the past. "Tapeworms are much more common than would be supposed. I venture to say that less than one cent of all chronic stomach troubles or what is known as 'rainbow' condition, is caused by them. An individual may suffer for years with one of these

WILLIAM WIRTH, Pres. THE FRANK R. COCHRAN, Vice Pres. and Treas.

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FILLS TO REPLACE TRESTLE.
Seaboard to Exploit Money For This Purpose—Promotion For Wilmington Military Officers—Rough Weather in the Lower Part of the Coastal Sphere, which indicates the daily movements of the stars, with movements corresponding to the geographical degree of Strasburg, containing 4900 stars. Behind the celestial sphere there is a perpetual calendar which is a movable circle. On the left a church calendar (the first ever invented) that moves by mechanism. On the right an indication of the sun and moon equinoxes. Above the calendar appears the mythological gods, after whom were called the names of the days of the week. A small dial in the middle of the so-called lion gallery indicates the local time. It is surrounded by two gentils, the one striking the quarters, while the other rings the hours by hour glass. Of the moving figures four are remarkable, representing the ages of life and strike the parts of the hours; childhood, the first quarter, youth the second, manhood the third, and old age the fourth quarter. Death is in the shape of a skeleton, strikes the full hour. Farther above stands the image of Christ. And when the clock strikes twelve, according to the exact central European time, there is a procession of the clock there runs legends that the City of Strasburg while in its awfully clothes, so to speak, in early times desired a clock of such a character that no other city or town could boast that it had one so smart, complete and elegant. The clockmaker to make them of the kind. And the clockmaker succeeded after he had finished the clock, one somewhat like the present one, and for fear that he would make one of like character for some other community, the clockmaker was condemned to death, but finally it was agreed that they, the people of Strasburg, would burn out his eyes and a compromise was made between the clockmaker and the city, that the clockmaker should fix something about the clock which he had forgotten to do, and was taken to the clock and he fixed it so that it could not be made to run, and it is from this incident that we so frequently hear the saying, "He fixed his clock so tight that it will run for ever." H. M. WILDER.

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Is he not trying to make something out of you?
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