State Library

THE ASHEBORO COURIER.

Issued Weekly. PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN. $1.00 Per Year

VOL. XXIX. ASHEBORO, N. C., THURSDAY MARCH 10th, 1904. No. 10.

The Story of Port Arthur.

H. M. in Chicago Tribune.

For hundreds of years Chinese coasting junks, beating along the Yellow sea in the coastwise trade, had run into the land locked harbor of Lu Shun Kow, down at the extreme southern end of the Liaotung peninsula. All along the shore gray cliffs ran up straight form the sea to a height which varied from 300 to 1,500 feet. If you came close enough in you could make out a slit in the mountains which gave entrance to a body of water within. This slit was not more than 200 or 300 yards wide. Once you got through the passageway there was a wide stretch of water before you, hemmed in by cliffs on every side. At high tide the water was deep enough for the anchorage of a big ship, but when the tide went out hundreds of acres of mud flats were exposed to view.

In the valleys between the cliffs were built some fifty or sixty miserable mud huts, and in them lived 300 or 400 Chinese coolies. That was the situation up to 1860 in what is now Port Arthur.

In the year three or four ships of the British navy came that way on a surveying expedition. One of these ships was the gunboat Algerine, commanded by Lieut. William Arthur. Lieut. William Arthur daringly ran his vessel in between the cliffs which guard the harbor, which was thereupon named Port Arthur in honor of his exploit.

But beyond the name, Port Arthur gained no new fame for another twenty years in 1881 it was still merely a convenient harbor into which coasting junks could run for safety when great storms swept the seas outide. On the cliffs and in the valleys thereabouts there still lived only a few hundred wretched Chinese coolies.

CELESTIAL EMPIRE AWAKE.

Then the great Celestial empire began to waken up. Foreign engineers were sent along the coast to pick out a safe harbor which might be fortified and made the chief station for the and modern navy of China. They settled on Port Arthur and it was planned to transform the place into an immensely strong and completely fitted naval station. Plans were drawn for great dock yards, workshops, dry docks, refitting basins and foundries, while above them on the commanding cliffs strong fortresses were to be erected. The contracts for all this work were let to French contractors so that it was France which first among the nations had to do with this Gibraltar of the far east. French contractors, with the aid of swarms of Chinese coolies, working like slaves for 15 cents or 20 cents a day, worked for years on the works in and about Port Arthur Not until 1891 was the place turned over to China, ready for occupancy as a great naval station.

By this time Port Arthur—its namesake already forgotten—had become a fairly well built town, containing more than 1,000 houses and shops, outside of the government works. It then had a commercial population of 6,000, to say nothing of the Chinese garrison of 7,000 or more soldiers. The forts were mounted with modern guns, and Chinese gunners were trained by German and other foreign experts in the use of artillery.

In 1894, during the month of November the victorious Japanese army march down one of the two narrow passes which lead through the surrounding mountains to the city, and put to the sword many of the inhabitants, noncombatants as well as members of the garrison. It was a bloody day, though the Japanese officers stopped the slaughter as quickly as was possible.

For a time then Port Arthur was apparently in the permanent possession of the Japanese, until the pressure of the allied powers forced her to give it back to the Chinese in January, 1896. Before they marched out the Japanese destroyed a large part of the Chinese fortifications.

In 1898 Port Arthur was "leased" to Russia, which immediately began to fortify it, with the intention of making it the strongest port in the eastern seas, Valadivostok, the other great Russian port on the Japan sea is ice bound a large part of the year. The possession of Port Arthur gives the navy of the czar a port which is never frozen. Moreover, it is a port which commands the approach to Peking, the Chinese capital.

Never since the Russian occupancy has there been any cessation of activity in and about Port Arthur. In miserable hovels on the hillsides swarms thousands of coolies, who at a word can be hired for 20 cents a day to do any kind of hard and adventuresome work. Last year a Russian contractor at Port Arthur offered to bet that within a half hour he could hire 10,000 men outside of his regular large force. These regular forces are extremely large and are kept steadily at work both by land and sea. Any time within the last five or six years one could find in the outer harbor a fleet from 500 to 1,000 Chinese junks, all loaded with railroad ties, lumber, and other building material. They, of course, are all working for the Russia government.

One important result of the Russian occupancy of Port Arthur has been a tremendous increase in the imports from the United States. During several weeks in 1903 American goods to the value of more than $2,000,000 weekly were landed at Port Arthur and the yearly commerce of the United States with that and the adjacent ports has been estimated at nearly $100,000,000.

But the Russian plan has been from the first to make Port Arthur a purely military and naval center. With that plan in view the Russians several years ago began the construction of the wonderful city of Danly, thirty miles north and ten miles east of Port Arthur, which they hope to make the commercial capital of the far east. The plant contemplates that all commercial ships shall be barred out of Port Arthur and sent to Danly and that the former fortress shall be barred to civilians, where, indeed, they are now allowed only on sufferance, properly being held on merely temporary leases.

Danly—or rather the site of the present city—was located on an open roadstead, where the navies of all nations might ride. In order to make there a safe harbor, an immense breakwater, costing millions, was built and is now completed, projecting into the sea for a great distance and inclosing a spledid anchorage. At Danly, also, great administration buildings were erected and even—that rare thing in the east—a first class comfortable hotel.

Eventually, as planned, Danly is to be the final terminus of the great Siberian railroad by means of which Russia has tied together her widely scattered empire.

Visitors to Port Arthur within the last few years have been vastly impressed by the spirit of boundless energy which prevails there. Life is the fortress city is in great contrast to that in most of the settlements along the Chinese coast. The streets have been thronged with Russian soldiers and with gangs of coolies, all busy on some important errand.

The Russian soldier, as seen at Port Arthur, impresses the visitor as being in deadly earnest. Before them all from the lowest private to the ranks of the highest officer, shines the hope of winning the little cross of St. George for valor in the face of the enemy. And on the day of St. George the brave men who wear his cross have the honor of breaking bread with the great white czar himself in his palace at St. Petersburg, if they be stationed there, or, if they are quartered at Port Arthur, they eat breakfast at the table of the czar's viceroy. Admiral Alexieff—and how can greater honor come into the life of one of these wiry Cossacks, wrapped in skins and furs and mounted on a little shaggy pony, even tougher and hardier than his master?

So, strangely, in the passing of the years and in the working out of the policy of the nations, has the little Chinese junk harbor of forty years ago, named by the English fortified by the French, for the Chinese, won by the Japanese at a great cost of blood and finally leased as I finally leased and turned into a Pacific Gibraltar by the Russians, comes to be the center of the world's interest.

Cure for Pneumonia.

Take six or ten onions according to size, and chop fine, put in a large spider over the fire; then add about the same quantity of rye meal, and vinegar enough to make a thick paste. In the meanwhile stir it thoroughly, letting it simmer five or ten minutes. Then put it in a cotton bag large enough to cover the lungs and apply it to the chest as hot as the patient can bear. When this gets cool apply another, and thus continue by repeating the poultice and in a few hours the patient will be out of danger. This simple remedy has never failed in the too often fatal malady. Usually three or four applications will be sufficient, but continue always until perspiration starts freely from the chest. This simple remedy says the New England Grocer, was formulated many years ago by one the best physicians New England has ever known, who never lost a patient by this disease, and won his renown by saying persons by simple remedies after the best medical talent had pronounced their case hopeless. Personally we know of three persons who were saved by the remedy last winter in Boston, after the physicians had given them up to die, and if a record was made of all similar cases during the last three years, it would fill a good sized volume—The World's Progress.

How the French Serve a Dinner.

Let me say one word about the way a dinner is served in France and most countries in Europe. I do not wish to criticize or reform, but I have always been shocked, when dining in some American houses, to be served in the same large plate, with let us say roast beef with a thick brown gravy, cauliflower with a white sauce, mashed potatoes, and even another vegetable. In some other houses I have seen one or two vegetables served in smaller dishes or saucers, which is less offensive, but either one must eat more quickly than is good for digestion, or everything gets cold if eaten with appreciative slowness. In France, with the exception of simply prepared vegetables with butter served sometimes with a roasted or broiled meat with no sauce except the gravy, everything is served in courses. Every aliment keeps its own flavor, and is hot when eaten. Salad is sometimes served with roast meat, but not often. It is usually served after the vegetable, which is served after the meat; then what is called dessert in the United States is called entrements sucre in France, dessert proper being light small cakes, fruit, bonbons and cheese.—March Women's Home Companion.

COURT CALENDAR.

Calendar of civil cases at March term 1904 of Randolph Superior Court, the Hon. O. H. Allen, judge presiding.

WEDNESDAY—March 23rd.

No. 9.—E. B. Nance vs Eli Hussey and R. R. Ross, admr.
No. 13.—Samuel Arnold et al vs Mary Ann Cagle et al.
No. 17.—W. A. Presnell vs J. W. Vuncannon, admr.
No. 18.—Reuben Lutterloh vs J. M. Williams.
No. 21.—J. M. Cox vs T. T. Ferree.
No. 21.—Gurney M. Cox vs T T Ferree.
No. 23.—J. M. Williams vs Reuben Lutterloh.

THURSDAY—March 24th.

No. 24.—Rufus Yow vs J. F. Hamilton and wife.
No. 25.—Isaac Coltrain vs Lilly Coltrain.
No. 27.—C. P. Smith vs J. W. Longest.
No. 28.—Jacob Foust by next friend W. L. Foust vs J F Pickett et al.
No. 29.—Aaron Slack vs E W. Parks.
No. 31.—J L Wrenn vs J C Allred.
No. 32.—Angeline Trogdon vs E F Vestal.
No. 33.—I T Johnson vs Clay Dorsett.

FRIDAY—March 25th.

No. 35.—R B Henley vs Plant City Lumber Co et al.
No. 36.—I. J. Fuller et al vs A B Gray et al.
No. 37.—Jesse York vs Susanna York.
No. 38.—Nannie E Coltrane vs Levi B. Lindley.
No. 39.—Nannie E Coltrane vs G G Hendricks et al.

SATURDAY—March 26th.

No. 41.—W. M. Moffitt Admr. vs Crown Milling Co.
No. 44.—T J Hoover vs J H Kearns Admr.

MONDAY—March 28th, 1904.

No. 45.—J W Scott & Co. vs M Lamberry & Sons.
No. 47.—M J Connor vs May Connor.
No. 48.—I W Skeen vs Charles F Flord.
No. 50.—W F Redding, Admr vs H P R A & S R R Co.

TUESDAY—March 29th.

No. 51.—N C Jarrell vs E R Robbins & Co.
No. 52.—Chas Dorsett vs G S Bradshaw et al.
No. 53.—W E Kearns et al vs R M Gretter.
No. 54.—Clement Ice Co. vs R D Patterson; Chas R Cross vs Clark Cross; C C Wade Admr vs J M King; Titia Smallwood vs John Smallwood; S. R. Mathis vs Lucy Mathis; W B Bell vs Jane Bell; S W Laughin, Admr vs Chas Cross and Clark Cross.

Witnesses and parties need not attend before the day for which their cases are calendared for trial, as witnesses will not be allowed to prove before that day. Motions before the Judge can be heard at any time.

M. S. ROBINS,
Chmn. Calendar Com.

The Light of God's Word the Remedy.

The Rev. Dr. R. F. Campbell, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Asheville, appears to hold to the old-fashioned belief that the religion of Jesus is about the only thing that will cure the evils of this world. In a sermon last Sunday, as reported by the Asheville Citizen, Dr. Campbell gave utterance to the following eminently sensible as well as timely remarks:

If the light of God's word were allowed to enter the homes of our people, all the problems of life would be solved. It seems to me that this is the most effective way, for instance, to attack the great evil of intemperance. Something may be done, perhaps, by attempts to dry up the stream of liquor that flows into the saloons, but far more can be done by driving up the stream of boys and men that flow into such places. The seat of the trouble is not in the saloon, or in any other evil place; it is in the heart and in the home. And unless we can get the word of God in its enlightening and saving power into the hearts and homes of men all our efforts at reform by legal prohibition or restriction will end in failure and disappointment. Christ's method is simple and plain. "Make the tree good and the fruit will be good." It is the man whose delight and meditation is in the word of God that is "like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth his fruit in his season."

Let us aim at the heart, out of which are the issues of life, and at the home, whence flow all the streams that make up the great current of human society, and we shall do more to purify and ennoble human life than could ever be accomplished even by the total destruction of any or all places of evil resort.

It is within our power so to train our children that such places will have no power to tempt them. Nay, unless we so train them, we shall accomplish little in healing the world's great disease of sin, though we close every brothel and gin-house.—Statesville Landmark.

One offer of THE COURIER and Farm Life both one year for only one dollar still holds good.

CO-OPERATE FOR THE GOOD OF THE SCHOOLS.

WRITTEN FOR THE COURIER.

Since I have been in this part of the country I have heard a great deal said about the way in which the children are trained in some of the schools. It is needless to say that what I have heard is an objection, for human beings are so constituted that they seldom talk of the merits, but of the weak points in their schools.

Now, the objection lies in this form; that the children are deprived of a basis for their education by the teachers' neglect to teach them the letters of the alphabet, and thus they are only getting a shadow of a knowledge by learning the sounds of these letters.

Now, supposing this were a well-founded objection brought by the patrons against the schools—some of them. Let us suppose that the schools are poor and inadequate, what ought to be the course of the patrons? Can they do better for their children at home and away from such a school? *Can* they? If they can, why then let them keep them at home, and do that something for them—whatever it may be—that shall be better than sending them to a poor school. But, we do not believe that many parents can—and if they can they will not—do better for their children at home and away from school. Right now and in this community are parents who will keep their children at home on a rainy or snowy day, for fear they may get sick, and let them play out of doors infinitely more on that very day than the children should have been out had they gone to school. And what is more, the parents never say "book" to them on these days—never even set them a good example. No child should be kept at home on any sort of day, unless he is sick.

Some say a poor school is worse than no school. I say boldly that it is not true. I have attended some very poor schools in my life, and I say, thank God for the poor schools, so long as I had not the chance of better ones. The right course for the parents is to take advantage of the best that is afforded and say nothing against it before their children. If you tell a child he hasn't any sense he'll soon think he has none, and very soon will have none sure enough. The same rule applies to telling the children that their school is no good and their teachers are ignoramuses. And yet a great many people make this very grave mistake.

But, what's a lot of writing got to do with the education of the people in this community in the state of North Carolina? Nothing whatever. I might write to the COURIER on that wonderful and to some people dry subject, education, all my life, giving my own personal views (I'll admit they are poor enough though they have the distinction of being personal), and all the other writers to your paper might do the same, and yet, in the end these people would still be "lifting the male into the boat" like the Chinamen. Faith without works is dead. But I get so full and disgusted with injustices and poor judgments that vent must be had, and so I write. In the hope that a notion somewhere may stir in somebody else's head so that I may know that I am not alone.

I'm for the teacher who teaches the sounds of the letters. I never had a teacher, but one who did it. That was Mr. William Baldwin still a teacher I believe in Rockingham county. I was only six, but I remember them remarkably well. When I grew older I investigated farther into the matter, and so by chance almost, I learned the sounds, or at least a reasonable share of them. Those who never learn them miss the real meaning of the letter—the kernel so to speak—and only have the husk which is not very interesting. The sound is really all there is of the letter worth remembering. The teacher is right who teaches the sound. Oh, if the people would believe in their schools and trust in their teachers! What if the schools aren't so good as they should be? They never will be so long as we disparage them. It is by believing in and trusting her reprobate of a son that the loving mother wins him to what is best and highest.

Some schools are poor, yet none are bad. The children who go to some schools may be bad, who's to blame for that? It is a strange fact that some people shrink the responsibility of bringing their children up in the right way, and then expect their teacher to "learn 'em sompin" in three or four months when the weather's too bad to do anything but mischief. Most teachers expect children to be "brought up" at home, especially those "too big to be corrected."

If you could make these people see that their school system is a big business transaction—really *see* it, the way they see they must eat to appease hunger—they would send their children to school, rain or shine, and never miss a day. They would be strenuous in their efforts to get all they could out of it. Some people will run a mile for a penny, but these same people will hire a teacher at twenty-five dollars a month—pay him too him too in ready cash—and then wont work him half his time. This is poor judgment.

Keep your children at home my brother, all you please, your's paying your man just the same. If you were half so anxious about getting your money's worth in the schools as you are in your petty so-called *business* transactions, you would keep your children where they ought to be—in school.

But, what's the use of a lot of writing? Whose children will go to school a day more than they would have gone after this has been read (if indeed it is read)? Who will be benefited, I wonder? I doubt if any body. But, it is like the bursting of an acorn when the earth becomes warm around it. Sought or unsought, it must out. The acorn may under favorable circumstances become a tree and live to shelter its thousands. But the personal opinion of a stray and struggling soul is looked upon as so many black letters on white paper, and, in the jostling of the world, is jostled out.

IDA INGOLD MASTEN.

Equine Palace is Wanted by President Roosevelt.

Washington, March 2.—(Special)—Because there is danger that his horses may catch cold or suffer some other inconvenience, President Roosevelt has asked congress for an appropriation of $70,000 for new white house stables. As this comes in the face of the protests made by republican leaders that the party cannot allow appropriations for river and harbor improvement, for public buildings, for good roads, or for many very necessary improvements calculated to be of value to the government service, there is just now a very general tendency in the republican cloak rooms of the senate and of the house to use the strongest kind of strong language. There is a general disposition on the part of republican leaders to swear that they will turn down the president's request, but in view of the success of the Rough Rider in forcing his party to do his will, it is not at all certain that these threats will be carried out.

Whether they are or not, the fact remains that solely out of consideration for the comfort of horses which are his personal property the president of the United States is urging that $70,000 of the money of the people be put in palatial stables. This is done irrespective of the fact that the present stables are not only ample, but handsome, and that they are a great deal handsomer than are the homes of 90 per cent—perhaps even more—of the men who are expected to vote for his re-election to the presidency.

SOME EXTRAVAGANCIES CONSIDERED.

In this connection, an interesting comparison of expenditures that may be called in a sense personal to President Roosevelt has been made. This places him out the country's million-dollar president, in this wise:

"Restoring" and refurbishing the whole house so as to make it accord with President Roosevelt's electric taste	$475,445
Six room office building on grounds	65,198
Refurbishing the U. S. S. Mayflower for use as the president's yacht (a luxury never before enjoyed by an American president	100,000
Additional expenditures upon the Mayflower in 1902 and 1903	65,000
Estimated cost of repairs this year	30,000
Cost of keeping the Mayflower and the Sylph at the disposition of the president in 1902-1903	60,000
Estimated cost of keeping these two ships in readiness for presidential call this summer	25,000
Asker for new stables	90,000
Total	$910,643

To this might properly be added a very considerable sum to cover the cost of the naval maneuvering in the region of Oyster bay for the pleasure of the president, involving as they did the running on rocks of one and perhaps more war ships. Had these maneuvers been held in southern waters, where they would have been, save for desire to cater to the imperial pleasure, there would have been no such accidents. Certainly the cost to the government involved in this bit of naval by-play was over $200,000.

MORE THAN A MILLION.

Add this to the amounts above set forth, and it will be seen that the one-million dollar mark is passed, and with a good deal to spare.

A good deal more, certainly, than the people have to spare at this or any other time. All of these expenditures are properly chargable to the Roosevelt account. Since his accession to "the throne" prodigate expenditure has been the rule. Of course the republican majority in congress must bear its share of the responsibility, for it has controlled the appropriations. It is because they realize this that Speaker Cannon and his associates are just now heaping the vials of their criticism upon the president. They do not relish the idea of going before the people with their economy pose and knowing they will have to face this interesting array of figures.—Josh Ohl in Atlanta Constitution.

R. F. D. Trouble.

There is much complaint along the R F D routes where the Courier has subscribers. The paper is not delivered promptly. We ask our subscribers, post masters and R F D carriers to aid us in getting correct addresses for our subscribers. When an R F D route is established every subscriber should notify us of any change desired. Please attend to this.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—Another step in the exploitation of the Philippine Islands will soon be taken by this Republican administration. True to the instincts of graft and loot the administration, instead of proceeding itself to the building of railroads, intends to let out the privilege to capital in this country and guarantee to that capital the interest on the investment. In other words, this country is opening places for the investment of capital and guaranteeing to the capitalist immunity from loss. They propose to authorize the Philippine government to execute a legislative guarantee of 4 per cent. per annum on $40,000,000 of bonds for railroad construction in those islands, and the bill will be introduced this week by Chairman Cooper, of the House Committee on Insular Affairs. The bill will bar out foreign capital so as to give the capitalists of Wall Street the monopoly of the game. This administration has been persistent in its efforts to get the good people of the country to believe that the Wall Street interests are dead against it, for political reasons and for political effect. Does this move look like it? If Secretary Taft thought that it would hasten the civilization and education of the islands to construct railroads therein, why does not the government engage in the business itself instead of paying capital to do so? It would be a grand object lesson in the government ownership of railroads and public utilities for the government to undertake this enterprise. Instead of this the administration sells out to the Wall Street sharks and guarantees them immunity from loss and a sure return on the capital invested and in return they will get a handsome campaign contribution. This is the way this thing looks to a man who is on the inside of things at the national capital, and I think I have "smelled the turn." It has never occurred to these exploits, grafters and loaters that this legislation will clearly be unconstitutional. But what is the name of all that stands for graft now the Republican party care about the constitution? When the constitution stands in the way of anything a Republican wants to do, he simply steps on it and marches it into the mire. Until the voters of the country realize that they have it in their power to stop this sort of thing it will continue ad libitum ad infinitum. When will they see the drift and get busy?

They are having much sport at the Department of State over an obsolete provision of law which requires that department to compile and issue in a separate volume the statutes enacted at each session of Congress. The special session of last November enacted only one measure, a joint resolution providing for the payment of salaries to the members. This is bound up, however, in a dignified little volume by itself with as much elaboration as if it were a collection of banking bills and general legislation. That simply is a straw that shows what the Republican administration will do when it makes up its mind to get busy on any old subject. It calls an extra session of the Congress and has it in session for a month without a single result.

Not one thing of benefit to the people and at a cost to them of over two hundred thousand dollars. That is the way the Republicans conserve the interests of the people. Rats!

The Hon. John Sharp Williams, floor leader of the Democracy in the House of Representatives, has introduced a bill for the relief of the sufferers by fire at Baltimore by remitting of duties on building material and suspension of certain revenue taxes. By so doing he has given the Republicans a fine chance to mount the sides and pulled up the ladders. If they refuse to pass the measure they will go up against a precedent established when the Chicago fire occurred in 1871 and thereby rob many honest men who have been unfortunate. If they do pass it they will admit the Democratic contention that the tariff is a tax and that the tax is paid by the consumers of the country and not by the foreigners, as maintained by them. They are up against it. This bill cuts both ways like the nigger's razor trap. It catches them a coming and a going. Let the galled side winch.

A short time ago it was my good fortune to meet Mr. Isaac Fullerton, disbursing agent for the $5,000,000 contributed by the United States government to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and in speaking of that great enterprise to me he said: "D. R. Francis, the president of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company, is the best example of the strenuous life that our country affords—he has the energy of a Napoleon and the diplomacy of a Hay. He can dine with the King of England without dilating his democracy and negotiate with the American plumber without losing his temper or getting the worst of the bargain. He is equally at home in the gilded palace or the log cabin; he belongs to no man, but has worked day and night for two years without compensation to make the World's Fair complete in all departments by the first day of May, 1904, his only reward the success of the enterprise and civic pride in his city and state. He is ably assisted by men who preeminent in their several departments, famous architects and artists; experts in electricity, master mechanics in engineering, professors in every department of agriculture and the useful arts; nothing in all the range of human endeavor has been neglected. The world's best work can be seen at the World's Fair this year, housed in the most magnificent palaces ever built for such purposes. The student will have the rare privilege of attending an international congress of arts and science and listening to lectures by the most learned men of every civilized country in the world—an opportunity which every young college graduate in our country should take advantage of.

The inventor and mechanic will see the latest and best in mechanical ingenuity and get new ideas not found in books. The artist and architect will see a superb picture of beauty and harmony. The citizen who delights in foreign travel can see more strange sights and people in a ten day's visit to St. Louis next summer than can be seen in a two year's trip around the world. The farmer will find object lessons that will show the possibilities in his calling that will inspire him to improved methods, with the assurance of richer rewards and the young and old on pleasure bent will have more kinds of entertainment at this World's Fair than they ever dreamed of, and can count on the best time of their lives. They will see a fifty million dollar show for fifty cents."

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

Drawn Work.

Ten years ago I had not heard of this work by this name. I had seen hemstitching upon handkerchiefs, which was not considered of any particular importance no way or other. A handkerchief being simply complete when bounded on four sides by the little fence row of drawn threads or hemstitching. It had no more effect upon the handkerchief than good spelling upon the writer; no honor in spelling correctly, but a disgrace not to.

So you see the hemstitching was no ornament to the handkerchief; but it looked incomplete without its little hedgerow of caught-threads.

The first specimen of the work proper I ever beheld was some exquisitely wrought specimens said to be the work of Mexican women.

I thought it well enough, and was glad to see the thousands of little stitches, and pulled threads, for I thought it has been such a whiling away of time to the poor confined creatures of some convent walls, or, and what is more likely a profitable employment for others who had no other way of earning a living than by pulling threads.

This employment of pulling threads has reached "high water work" here in our own land. It is the one great accomplishment of the marriageable young lady with time on her hands. Nothing is seemingly so fascinating as "Drawn Work."

I have listened to long dissertations upon "centerpieces," "table spreads," and in fact all kinds of spreads. In some there is very little spread, just all threads.

If one goes out to spend an hour in social converse, behold your lady friends after a few drawn remarks upon trivial matters, such as the weather, health of family, &c., will from some sequestered corner draw forth the "drawn work"; and such energy displayed upon the square of cambric, in the way of beating a thread in exactly the right corner &c., would shame one of Pinkerton's most expert detectives. But at last the little web of a thread is caught, then pulled, oh! so lightly for fear it will break, and Columbus could not have had a more satisfied countenance as he gazed upon the western world, than she of the "drawn work" when she has pulled the thread.

Conversation then assumes a more lively tone, all the anxiety gone from the countenance of your vis-a-vis, she as it were rests upon her oars, the fete has given her this exquisite right and you bring different subjects upon topic. But just as you are gathering your thoughts to spring a new subject, you notice a far away look in that drawn countenance opposite you, you wonder what is the matter, have you offended in any way; trespassed upon forbidden ground? Oh! no, she has located another thread, and again is giving her whole mind to the abstruse speculation of whether she will land this thread or not.

Well, the visit is out, and the thread is out. Two sides of the handkerchief has been despoiled of a poor little thread. This is the task of the evening. The glorious all absorbing task. The permanent tears back while a smile of complacency rests upon the face.

I am going to be in the swim. I shall get me a piece of lawn and cut me off a square, lay upon some table; and when my friends come in, calmly place my thimble upon my finger, lean back with a thoroughly business air; and angle for that thread; and not only angle, but catch it, pull it floundering out, and then, and not until then, do we earn the right to sit back and rest upon our past glories.

Truly,
"AUNT ANNIE.

Teach Local Affairs.

If the school teachers of this county would adopt the idea of having their scholars read aloud in the school from a newspaper, at least once a day, they would find it a great help toward the educating of their scholars. Have them to read from a local paper some item of local interest. Such a plan would serve to add to the children's knowledge of local affairs. We have known children who could bound every state in the Union and name its capital off hand, who could not bound the township or the county in which they resided. Give the little ones knowledge of home affair.—EX.

Reminiscences.... ....of Randolph,

By Hon. J. R. Bulls.

No man ever proved more clearly what can be done by energy and industry than did Thomas Finch. Hannibal may have suffered more in crossing the Alps, but Hannibal nor any other man ever did more effective work than Tom Finch, as he was sometimes called. Tom Finch could have lead Hannibal's army across the Alps as successfully as Hannibal, if he had been inclined that way, but he was not inclined to make gun-powder notoriety but as a peaceable, good honest man. He preferred the quiet independence of farm life and he took hold of the farm and held on to it till his death at a good old age. I don't know his exact age at the time of his death, but he was some where in eighty. Tom Finch was a remarkable man in many respects. He had a place for every thing and kept every thing in its place. He was one of the best farmers in the county, if not the very best. He did not believe that genius is inspiration as some pretend to think, but he believed it is largely perspiration. He thought work was the lock and key to success in any thing and his life proved it as clearly as it has ever been proved by anybody.

He made a considerable fortune by farming, and did very little else.

He would put the money that he made each year out at interest, and did not invest it in some wild scheme that would take him from his farm, and probably make him nothing.

He owned a very fine farm in this county on which he made a great deal of money, besides an independent living, but several men had owned it before him and made very little more than a living.

But Thomas Finch would have made money anywhere. He was a good manager and did everything well and in good time. Any one working for him would hear very little said about "tomorrow." He wanted work done "today" and not put off till "tomorrow." He was a kind man to his hands, but he wanted good full work and he would have it. Tom Finch's was not a good place for a lazy, sorry man to go to for employment, but for an industrious good working man it was a delightful place.

It never occurred to Tom Finch to try to make money by cheating and "sharp tricks," but his idea was to make money by hard work and fair and honest dealing. He would take care of his money, but was charitable and liberal and kind to everybody. He was liberal to poor worthy men and assisted many to start in life. If a worthy poor man was willing to work and would try in earnest, he could find no better friend than Tom Finch.

He would do just what he said, his word was his bond, and if disliked any one thing more than another it was a lie. If a man told a lie, he would ever after regard him with suspicion.

It may be said of Tom Finch as it was said of Dr. Johnson, that the world will not see his like again.

He had no taste for military matters, but if he had been educated in military matters he had the sound judgment to have lead an army as well as Napoleon or Alexander or Cesar. If he had been in command of Napoleon's army he would not have fought the battle of Waterloo the day that Napoleon did, for Wellington was not ready and Napoleon was not ready, but he was intoxicated by his success on other fields and he thought he could whip the world and went into it.

Tom Finch would not have done this, he would have waited till his forces all got there, and the result might have been very different.

But Tom Finch was a man of peace, he did not expect nor desire gun powder to make him a fortune.

Cesar's building a big bridge in ten days is regarded by many as one of the greatest feats ever performed by any men, but it must be remembered he had his large army to do the work, and if Tom Finch had had as many men as Cesar had to do the work, he would have laid the plans and easily built the bridge in ten days and maybe a little less. I say Tom Finch could do the work of these renowned men and I think I am justified in saying so for he did everything well that he ever tried to do. He knew no such work as can't, as all events we would think so judging by the way he worked.

He had no children, but he had a very smart wife; such a wife would have made a living with a pretty sorry husband, but with such a husband as Tom Finch it is no wonder that they made a snug fortune.

What Tom Finch did we know, but what he could have done no one can tell.

But Tom Finch is gone—he was a good loving husband, a kind and obliging neighbor, a good useful citizen, and left every evidence to lead us to believe that all is well with him, and that he is now safe in that happy home beyond the sun.

J.

Miss Sallie Redding, of Randleman, N. C., has returned from the Northern Markets, where she purchased a select line of new millinery for Spring trade. She will have her Spring opening some time in April. See notice later.