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To put a tax of four cents a bottle on all proprietary medicines, as has been proposed, would be a very unjust measure.

If you can grasp the magnitude of the sum of one hundred and thirty-seven million, three hundred and twenty thousand, one hundred and eighty-four dollars and thirty-nine cents, you can form some idea of the cost of war.

A FEW THINGS ABOUT SPAIN AND THE SPANISH WAR MAY NEED EXPLANATION. The boy who hopes to be the future Spanish King is now 12 years old.

WAR'S EFFECTS ON BREADSTUFFS.

Thus early comes from Europe the chill voice of hunger due to our war with Spain. Bread riots have already occurred in Italy, France has practically removed all duty on wheat as an inducement to a heavier movement from this country than has been in progress for several weeks.

"Not a single grain ship has been captured on the Atlantic, and neutral commerce is safe, yet the loaf is already dear in England and on the Continent," mused a perplexed British correspondent.

This tells the story of Europe's chief interest in seeing that this country does not become involved in a death struggle with some great nation. Still, forces seem to be at work at this moment to precipitate us into a war of huge dimensions.

If this Government were aggressive and moved by greed for territorial expansion, it could and would, bring about just such a world's war as the monarchs of the Old World seem bent upon precipitating, in their mad lust for increased power and dominion.

The bare contemplation, of so dread a possibility as a general war makes England shudder and in despair resolves to have a navy that can "beat all creation."

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

Monument to Signers of Mecklenburg Declaration.

UNVEILED AT CHARLOTTE.

BY YOUNG LADY DESCENDANTS OF THE SIGNERS.

A Magnificent Paragon - Veterans With Tattered Pattle Flags in Line - Prominent Persons Present - Adlai Stephen's Address.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May 20.—The whole State joined with Charlotte on the 20th in unveiling a handsome granite monument to the memory of the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence which was drawn up here on May 20, 1775.

E. B. McDowell, was master of ceremonies. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. H. Howerton, D. D., of the First Presbyterian church.

Ex-Vice President Adlai Stephen was introduced by J. P. Caldwell, editor of the Observer, and made the principal speech of the occasion. An extract relating to current events is as follows: "Standing upon this historic spot, consecrated by the blood of heroes, we lift up our hearts in gratitude to God, that he has been pleased to vouchsafe to our fathers and to us, such a country.

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A FRIENDLY SCOLDING.

A little wholesome scolding, no matter whence it comes, administered in the right spirit, binds many a twig in the way it should go. Sometimes, even after the twig has reached the proportions of a mature tree, a more perfect fruit may be grafted.

A little scolding for the mature twig—the grown-up—may be the means of grafting a better fruit for harvest in time to come.

While there are thousands of men and women out of work to-day, who would do anything that they could get to do, there are also thousands sitting idle because they won't take what offers. They are looking for something easy, something where hours will be short and salary long.

If every one took home to himself that half a loaf, independently earned, is better than the same portion pilfered from the loaf of another; the half loaf for both would soon raise, brewed from the yeast of industry, into a round, brown loaf, such as once came from the old brick oven in grandmother's time.

Everything grows from small beginnings. Seed must be sown before the harvest comes. If you are out of employment take that which lies nearest, no matter if you work a week without knowing what your wages will be.

It may be so with you. The man or woman who sits down and waits for just the "opening" of which they have dreamed, will very likely be still waiting when death overtakes them.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S SON TOO.

Among the recent civilian appointments to staff positions in the Volunteer Army was that of a son of Garret A. Hobart, Vice-President of the United States.

Time was that upon an example of nepotism so flagrant and so scandalous as this the attention of the American people would have been riveted, and denunciation would have been heard on every side.

And its just such favoritism as the Journal refers to that has caused so much backwardness on the part of "volunteers." For one the Times can't blame those who have refused to volunteer. In North Carolina, in several instances, inexperienced men have been placed over those of experience in war matters, and already we can hear of desertions in the State Guard. Who can blame them.

PRESS COMMENTS.

Gilded Youth With Commission.

The aristocracy of "pull" as applied to military appointments in this war, by which the sons and relatives of great men, dead and living, are honored without the slightest reference to merit or ability to discharge the duties of the places they get, is a shameful scandal.

Every one of the lot ought to be in the ranks and men who have served with the colors in militia put over them. The less inexperienced we can have among the officers of the volunteer army the better.

It is refreshing to read that Richard Harding Davis, now acting as correspondent of the London Times, declines to accept a commission as assistant adjutant-general with the rank of captain.

No Imperial Republic Wanted. Indianapolis Sentinel. The war was undertaken for a righteous cause, and should not be permitted to degenerate into something quite unrighteous.

EVERYTHING WELL. Every boy wants to excel in something. But boys and men alike do not always remember that no one thing stands alone.

EGERTON'S EMPORIUM OF FASHION. Ladies put aside your old Cook Stoves for the Summer. Buy one with the terrible heat consequent thereto in cooking your food.

LADIES' DRESS GOODS, MILLINERY, & C. & C. We haven't time to say more this week, but cordially invite you all to come and see the many new and beautiful GOODS just received.

Millinery, Dress Goods and Laces. Are not surpassed by any house in the State. Miss Emma Quinn is at the head of the Millinery Department and comes with the highest recommendation. We guarantee to please. Come to see us.

ALL OVER THE STATE.

Many towns in the State are contributing largely to the Bagley Monument Fund. The subscription up to this writing is very near \$1000 and is constantly growing.

The State Convention of King's Daughters met in Wilmington yesterday. Mrs. Isabella Charles Davis, of New York, International Secretary was present.

Capt. J. A. Wrenn, of Oxford, Chief of Police of that place for many years, died there last Sunday. He had a large circle of friends and his death is very much regretted.

We do not know any politics in this; but this matter should be investigated, and if the statements are corroborated by the facts, then bread and water is too good for the perpetrators of such inhumanity.

Among the visitors to the Commencement Exercises of Salem Female College this week were Mrs. Stonewall Jackson, her granddaughter and niece. Mrs. Jackson was herself educated in Salem.

Mr. W. N. Lawrence, Superintendent of the Oxford Orphan Asylum has resigned after filling that position for four years, so we gather from the Oxford correspondent of the News and Observer.

A small cyclone passed near Mr. F. M. Tucker's several days ago, sweeping everything before it. It did not strike any building, but the forests and fences in its path were completely demolished.

We have it on good authority that one of prisoners put some lice and other evidences of the filth of the prison, in a bottle to show to the judge, but, being detected in this, he was confined in a small, filthy cell as a punishment.

A peculiar accident happened near Big Creek, Stokes county, a few days ago. A correspondent in the Surry Journal says of the occurrence that Thornt Smith was climbing a tree to the nest of a large owl when the bird attacked him, tearing out one of Mr. Smith's eyes and nearly doing the same injury to the other.

Rev. James Needham, of Surry county, will celebrate his 39th birthday May 26th. The occasion will be observed by a family reunion for five generations and a picnic. Z. Needham, a grandson, will come from California to participate in the event.

We have just been shown a meal furnished to the prisoners in the Nash county jail. The meal consists of a slice of boiled side meat, weighing 1 1/2 ounces, and a small

SECOND TRIP. Owing to the immense trade we have had since the opening of Spring our buyer, Mr. R. Z. Egerton was, last week, forced to make another trip to the Northern Markets to replenish our stock of

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NOT AT ALL UNEASY.

Some Populist papers seem to labor under the hallucination that the tripartite alliance—Jones-Butler and Towne—will steal the Populist party some night and have it tied fast and strong in the Democratic camp some bright morning, and that every Populist will be unable to call himself his own afterward.

Just Received. This being the second purchase it includes signs in Florida, Stripes and Figures. Also Laces, Ribbons, Velvets for trimming. A beautiful line of Sash Buttons, etc. in colors.

NEW LINE OF FANCY AND PLAIN ORGANDIES. Just Received. This being the second purchase it includes signs in Florida, Stripes and Figures. Also Laces, Ribbons, Velvets for trimming.

SLIPPERS AND SHOES. A big drive in Slippers and Shoes both Chocolate and Plain Women and Children.

CLOTHING! CLOTHING! For Men, Boys and Children. Special bargains in this line of goods, as we are getting ready for

STRAW HATS. All Styles, and in fact everything you need in the line of hats, wear that can be found on any market North of N. C.

TRUNKS AND TRUNKS. A large stock of Ladies and Gent's fine Trunks, etc. In our store you will find everything you need at low prices.

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GREAT BARGAINS

Summer Millinery Goods. We are constantly receiving new goods in this line, at low prices and workmanship. We sell nothing but new first-class goods as cheap as any house in North Carolina.

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