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JAS. A. THOMAS, Editor and Proprietor.

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LOUISBURG, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1903.

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Number 14.

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Champ Clark's Letter

(Special Washington Letter.)
On the 30th of April, 1903, was consummated the largest transaction in real estate ever proposed since the devil took the Baviour up to the top of a high mountain and offered him the dominion of the world to fall down and worship him. The Louisiana purchase. The effects of that trade upon the politics, commerce and destiny of nations have been incalculable. It is not putting it too strong to say that it changed not only the map of the world, but its history also. Spain had no title to the earth which he offered as a bribe to the Nazarene, and the first consul's title to his American possessions was what the law books call inchoate. On paper he claimed it under the treaty of 1803, forced upon the feeble power of Spain. He held it by the strong grip of the lion's paw. The actual transfer of this vast domain did not take place till March 10, 1804—so slowly did things move in that ante steam and ante electric period. Captain James Stoddard of the United States army acted as the French agent in delivering the new empire into the hands of the United States. This memorable act in the great drama of civilization was performed in the city of St. Louis before an audience in whose bosoms fear and grief contended with hope and joy for the mastery, for the French and Spaniards sorrowed for the foreign sovereignty forever banished from this western Eden, and the adventurous American pioneers hailed the unfurling of the stars and stripes west of the Father of Waters as the promise of a better day and of increasing glory and honor to their country. The name of Captain Stoddard is fixed in the history of Missouri by Stoddard county, Stoddard's addition to the city of St. Louis and Stoddard school. The names of the great president and his faithful agents in this splendid bargain—Livingston and Monroe—are also permanently established on our maps as well as in the hearts of a grateful people.

Thirteen Great States.
Napoleon's necessity was in this case the great Virgilian golden opportunity. The pressing need for ready money whereby to prepare the defenses for an impending war and the certainty that England would seize the French American territories drove the martial Corsican to the sale for a mere trifle of a portion of the globe. Upon the land he was victorious, but his power ceased at low water mark, and he so sorrowfully signed the title deeds. His only consolation was that by so doing he was beholding the eagle to rise to the seas for Great Britain, his inveterate enemy and his predestined conqueror. From the Louisiana purchase have been carved the sovereign states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, the two Dakotas, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana and the Indian Territory. Of these Missouri is easily the chief. It is written by the finger of fate on the scroll of destiny that her fortunate situation and her innumerable resources will finally make her the foremost state of the American Union.

Even Thomas Jefferson himself, who divides with King Solomon and Lord Bacon the honor of being the wisest man that ever lived, had no adequate conception of the vast importance and far-reaching influence of human affairs of the wondrous bargain in real estate which he secured from the martial Corsican. One of the strangest omissions in literature was made by him. Having concluded all the shoals and depths of honor he failed to refer in any way to the great purchase in the famous epitaph which he prepared for his own monument and which runs in this wise:
"Here is buried Thomas Jefferson, author of the American Declaration of Independence, of the statute of Virginia for religious freedom, and father of the University of Virginia."
These were magnificent deeds, immortal achievements, each one ample to give him imperishable renown and for which we are all his debtors forever and forever. But if he could have comprehended the full and marvelous effects of his unequalled trade with the first consul he would have added to that epitaph a fourth claim to the eternal admiration and gratitude of his countrymen and to undying fame—"the author of the Louisiana purchase," which alone of itself entitles him to first place among American statesmen. In my judgment, it is the most stupendous of all his acts. If he had never lived, somebody some thing would have written a declaration of independence. It would probably not have possessed the majestic sweep and epic quality of Jefferson's Declaration, but it would have succeeded. If he had never been born, somebody would have written a statute for religious freedom in Virginia and would have established a great university in the Old Dominion. But if he had not been president for a brief week he would never have been the square root of land west of the Mississippi, and today all over that matchless territory where Old Glory floats there would flutter in the breeze the banner of the Spanish Bourbons, the tricolor of France or the cross of St. George.

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SPEAKING THE TRUTH IS LOVE.

The habit of fault-finding and harsh criticism is an evil that grows on us very fast, and unless we are careful we will form the habit before we know it, and it is hard to break. We remember to have stayed overnight with a family some years ago. They were very kind and cordial, but their criticism of their neighbors was so incessant and so severe as to have left an impression like a horrid dream. Not a kindly word was spoken, that we can recall, about the people of the neighborhood, but every least was suggested and every weakness cruelly exposed. Now these people were members of the church and seemed to be interested in the general good of mankind but they had too long dwelt on the evil that was about them, they had no time or wish for the good. To be sure we were not to be blamed for their state of mind, but it is not a thing, it may be of little children, under the tutelage and control of the father and mother, it is quite another thing. To speak the truth is to love is a wonderful thing. It never gives offense, but it always accomplishes good. But to speak the truth is to love and to speak the truth is not only loving, it is positively kind, and repeats rather than criticizes. We know one preacher who gives great offense and wound many true hearts by preaching what is popularly known as a doctrinal sermon is a bitter, outspoken, another scolding him, preached stern, strongly on the same doctrine, but drew down those who differed with him closer than ever to him by the gentleness and sweetness of his manner. This is true. The man who writes or speaks when he is in good humor seldom wounds, but if he passes in a bad mood and his blood is hot his hearers or his readers are sure to feel the current of anger in his very tones or blazes from the printed page; and a mad man is never strong or effective. If we feel it our duty to do it to be sure to get rid of the sin in ourselves; and even when we are disposed to criticize the conduct of our brethren, our own hearts must be purified of all wrath and anger before we are prepared to offer our criticism. If it wounds what we say that hurts, but the way we say it. Always always words but love always heal.—Cherry and Children.

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CHAMP CLARK'S
"I'm not going to give you any long winded advice," said the father, "all I want is that you should get on your feet. You'll find the road rough, but strike out, my boy; strike out!"
"Not if I know it," replied the hero of the Boggsville road race as he picked up his grip. "I'm going to be a professional ball player."—Indianapolis News.

RAISING SPOKED APPLIES.

There are some persons who seem to be so certain of that they can't speak well of their own people. Moreover they also seem to be under the necessity of calibrating their crooked constitutions so that what was at first a virtuous tendency becomes at last their official habit. They rarely have a good word to say about anyone in their families whether wife or husband, father or mother, brother or sister or child, others may see much of virtue and beauty in those household but the vile detector of know who like wild birds take delight in dodging their nest, can see none. They themselves are perfect, but no one else is.

This filthy habit sometimes shows itself in our churches, nothing is quite right. The preaching is bad, the singing worse, the deacons awfully slow and dull.

These self-constituted judges and fault finders are themselves quite ignorant and qualified standards of all Christian conduct, but all the other members of the body are in a bad way. Yes, they do give out their own standards to the wheel. Why should they? It is not for them to push or help in any way, their office is to command and lay down the law, like the Pharisees of old. Why should they rail their garments and their hands by hearing her dose?

A young woman of our acquaintance laid out that her mother would occasionally buy a barrel of apples for their joint enjoyment and she would always go to the dealer. "Now, my dear, we will begin with the spoiled ones." The result was, the daughter confided to us, that they had spoiled to eat until the barrel was finished. The spoiled apples spoiled their good imaginations, and propagated their evil. Do it in the kitchen in family life and social life and church life.—The Atlantic.

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For Philadelphia	7:00 P.M.
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