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We are glad to note the entry of the Graham Gleaner on its fourteenth volume. It is a sterling Democratic paper. May it live long and prosper.

The Schoolteacher for January contains articles by Prof. E. Alexander, Supt. E. C. Branson, Maj. Robert Bingham and others. Wm. A. Blair, editor and proprietor, Winston.

Ex Gov. CURTIS, of Pennsylvania, thinks it will be the same old ticket—Blaine and Cleveland. Certainly he is right in saying the Democratic national convention will be a unit for our present patriotic executive, and certainly he is right in saying that Cleveland will be elected. He says further: "The Republicans, of course, will try to make the President out a free trader. But he simply is a tariff reformer. If any one could see the difference that has been made in the price of steel because the duty has been reduced it would certainly convert him to the principles of tariff reduction. Steel was once very high, and now it is down to a price per ton that makes it reasonable." And this from a Pennsylvanian! The reason, absence, the necessity, the urgency of tariff reform must be apparent to every honest and unbiased mind.

HOG LARD VS. COTTON SEED. Whenever a set of men have an axe to grind now they run to Congress. The powers of Congress are limited to securing certain national objects of a strictly governmental character, but the fashion is growing for the interference of Congress to be invoked whenever one's business falls into a decline and protection is needed. The latest phase of this mania is well set out in the following extract from an editorial in the New York World:

"The Senate committee on agriculture is giving hearings to individuals interested pro and con in the proposed law against the adulteration of lard. The advocates of the measure are endeavoring to induce Congress to repeat its error last year in laying a heavy tax on a valuable food product. Their motive is not to protect the public against adulterated lard, but to increase the price of what they themselves have to sell. Cotton seed oil is as clean as hog fat. The mixture of the two in the shape of lard answers the same purpose that the animal product alone does. The consumers find no fault with it and the manufacturers make no secret of its use. The use of olive oil as a food ingredient as well as prohibited in Italy and Spain as cotton seed oil legislated against in the United States. In either case there would be a senseless rejection of the bounties of Providence."

In this the World is right. Indeed the people may be left alone to accept or reject a new article of food, for traditional prejudices about food are strong and new products will not be introduced into consumption unless they fill a need. There is a strong prejudice against oleomargarine, and yet, for those who like it, it serves an admirable purpose; being cheap, good and valuable to those who cannot afford dairy butter. But cotton seed oil stands altogether on a different footing from oleomargarine. We rather think it is, in the alchemy of nature, far superior to hog fat for culinary purposes. It is stated in the "Medical Classics," of New York for December last, that some time ago the Baltimore Grocers' Exchange appointed a committee to investigate the cotton seed oil and they reported its "great superiority in every respect over lard for cooking purposes. The oil is cleaner, does not become rancid in any season, is more healthy and nutritious, is entirely free from any unpleasant taste or odor, goes over one-half further in cooking and costs less in the proportion of seven to twelve."

There are millions of people to whom a pure, cheap, good substitute for hog lard would be a blessing. We do not countenance any adulteration, but neither do we countenance any war on this Southern product which is now making its way into the market as a healthy food, supplying a need which every humanitarian should wish to see supplied. Nor do we look with favor on any effort to check the demand for any Southern product. The manufactured products of the cotton seed are now a source of profit to the country at large and especially to the South. It is estimated that, from a crop of 6,000,000 bales, after reserving all the seed necessary for planting, the gross value of the products of the cotton seed oil mill is \$7,996,933. As the demand for seed to make oil increases the market price of seed largely, our Southern farmers are interested that no unfavorable legislation shall be adopted. We want to see the manufacture of this oil largely increased, and mills spring up near the plantations all over the South making the oil and producing the cotton seed meal, which is so valuable as food for stock and as a fertilizer, being far superior to the unground cotton seed in both respects.

Taking this view of the subject, while in no wise advocating any food adulteration, we submit to our Southern Representatives in Congress whether they had not better go slow in advancing legislation whose effect will be harmful to their section. As between the hog fat of the Northwest and the clean, savory oil of the South, we would stand by the latter all the time. So far as the adulteration is concerned, the States by means of inspection laws and police regulations can deal satisfactorily with that. Congress should keep within the bounds prescribed by the Constitution. Pretty soon it will be dictating what a man shall wear as well as eat, and it will then regulate the cut of the hair and of the beard.

THE STATE INSANE ASYLUM.

Dr. Eugene Grisson, in his report as Superintendent of the North Carolina Insane Asylum, for the year ending Nov. 30, 1887, a copy of which we have just received, expresses gratification in being able to say that in no year of its existence has the institution "accomplished more satisfactory results in the successful treatment of its patients and the extent of necessary improvements and repairs judiciously made upon the buildings and premises for the sanitary comfort of those entrusted to its care." The tables accompanying the report show that there has been a larger daily average number of patients under treatment than in any previous year of the existence of the institution and that there is also a larger number remaining within its walls.

The number now under treatment, including rather more than usual at home on probation or on trial, amounts to 292. "So it will be seen" says Dr. Grisson, "that our means for accommodation have been utilized beyond what has heretofore been considered expedient or safe; two hundred and fifty having originally been considered the utmost capacity of the institution."

The total number of admissions since the opening of the Asylum, February 23, 1856, amounts to 1,892. Of these, 1,043 have been males and 849 females. The total number of discharges for the same time is 1,600, of which 897 were males and 703 females. Of those discharged 593 were considered cured, 260 much improved, 335 unimproved and 501 died.

There are now under treatment, including those on probation, as before stated, 146 males and 146 females, making a total of 292, and the Superintendent says: "Beyond this number it will scarcely be possible to go in our admissions. At the beginning of the year we had in charge 248, and upon this basis our appropriation was made, with the assurance on our part that we would increase the number if possible. The daily average of 273 shows how well we have redeemed this promise."

The admissions during this year have been 74 in number and the discharges 80. The whole number treated during the year 322. There have been sent home cured 17, improved 2, unimproved 2, and insane 1. The greatest number under treatment at any one time, including those on probation, was, on the 29th of November, 1887, and it amounted to 292. The smallest number was on the 1st of December, 1886, and amounted to 248. The daily average number was nearly 274.

The number of deaths during the year was remarkably small, amounting to 5, only a percentage of less than 2 of the whole number treated and "a vindication," Dr. Grisson thinks, "of the propriety of the expenditures of the Asylum authorities for sanitary purposes." In general terms it is stated that "the institution in all its departments is in a better condition for the health, care and cure of its inmates than it has been in twenty years," and the total daily per capita expense of the institution for the past year for everything, except improvements and repairs, has been, it appears, but 61 cents—including all repairs 64 cents.

Dr. Grisson pays a very just tribute to Dr. F. T. Fuller, First Assistant Physician of the institution, who a row lies ill to the great concern of a host of friends throughout the State, when he says the gentleman referred to "whose faithful services in the institution extend through a period of over thirty years," has entitled himself to the gratitude of the people of the State by his fidelity and usefulness. "Many will join him in the hope he expresses that 'time and rest will restore him to the position he has filled so long, so faithfully and so efficiently.'"

Dr. Grisson also refers in eloquent terms to the services in behalf of human charity of Miss Dorthea L. Dix, whose death has recently been announced, to whom North Carolina owes in great measure the first movement in behalf of the insane of the State and in whose honor the eminence on which the asylum here stands is named.

He says well that "for more than half a century the stood in the front guard of humanity, working valiantly and unceasingly for stricken in sane. Difficulty never stopped her, opposition never daunted her, refusal never subdued her, pleasure never tempted her, ease never lured her, fame never attracted her. Her objects were the wretched insane—her field was the world—her thought the relief of the suffering—her success was their redemption, and her crown shall be the gift of Him like whom she 'went about doing good.'"

Dr. Grisson makes no suggestion as to the public necessity in regard to further provision for the insane by an increase of accommodations to meet the unfortunate increase of this disease in the State. He says very appropriately that "these questions may well be relegated to the Legislature of the State, when it shall assemble. With that body lies all the responsibility, involved in their high delegated powers, and upon it we are dependent for the means of accomplishing the great good which the public necessity requires."

We trust the confidence thus implied will never prove to have been misplaced. That the report as a whole shows the continued excellence of Dr. Grisson, in his own administration and in his choice of subordinates, it is hardly necessary to say. His eminent fitness for the position he holds is so well known in North Carolina and so generally acknowledged that it has become a household word. In the country at large he stands among the first alienists of the day.

Gov. HILL, of New York, is a mighty good man, a thorough Democrat, and weighs much, but his influence in the scale as against Cleveland for the nomination is as nothing. Rarely, if ever, in the history of the country has there been such general and willing acquiescence in a candidacy for the office of President as in the case of Mr. Cleveland. And the reason is that our Democratic executive fits the mental requirements of this great and patriotic and progressive people for the place like the paper on the wall.

Mr. Cable and the Creoles.

And now the author of "Old Creole Days," and the "Grandisimes," tiring perhaps of the adulation of eastern writers, and his Northern Bible class, taught so effectively before a multitude of admiring eyes, will once more wing his way to the Sunny South to bark in the smiles of his quondam countryman—the Creole.

What welcome he will receive let us rather imagine than predict; what motive brings him hither, diligently consider. Has the old cry, "Curse to this people," broken out afresh at the North, and does Mr. Cable come seeking new material with which to gratify it? Have not the appetites of all such epicures yet been satisfied with the tempting fare set before them by Mrs. Stowe, Tourgee, and this same Cable, in the past? Nay, so long as this black Bag hangs like a millstone about our necks, his votaries will keep the demand ringing and false prophets will not be wanting to do their bidding.

What motive any man who calls himself a native of Louisiana, and as such looks authentically to his Creole portraits, can have for falsely painting the State and people so black, any reader of "The Grandisimes," will surely ask, and in Mr. Cable's popularity at the North, as well as his prosperity, lies the answer.

According to the Philadelphia Times "the chief merit of Mr. Cable's books is derived from their being so minute and faithful a description of a peculiar people in the United States, with whom we are so little acquainted, and to which the author himself belongs." I am afraid that none of these Creoles whom he has painted so truthfully(?) as little better than the Yahoos in Gulliver's Travels, will ever clasp Mr. Cable with the true spirit of brotherly love to his bosom, or rise up and call him blessed.

But Mr. Cable is not a true son of the soil, and the mere accident of his having been born of Northern parents in New Orleans, gives him no right to speak, as he does, in the name of Louisiana, or, indeed, of the whole South.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean bewails the lamentable hostile spirit shown by the Creoles toward Mr. Cable, "who has done as much for New Orleans as Dickens did for London and more for the South than any other writer of fiction." Notoriety, such as the Black Hole of Calcutta need not envy he may have given us, fame—never. New Orleans he has characterized as a picturesque, but vile and "hybrid city," and not content with spreading his descriptions of its gloomy marshes and ghostly, moss-traveling trees, he has branded with ignominious origin, and put upon their lips a heathenish patois and jargon, which when quoted or read before them they cannot translate or comprehend. Referring to the early Southern settlers, he speaks of the "Gallic recklessness with which they chose their wives, from all grades of all colors," thus gratuitously insulting in the same breath two nations.

What manner of man is this, that he should hope to win from us a welcome, after such words as these? It is an irony of fate, common among people neither widely read nor highly educated, that the Creole race sprang from a mixture of white, black, native and foreign elements, and all such accept Mr. Cable's account of them as gospel truth. The word Creole really means a child of European parentage born upon foreign soil, and New Orleans, originally settled from France, contains much of the cream of Parisian society.

Of this society Mr. Cable probably knew little. Strangers visiting the Crescent City will hear from ladies whose faces and manners recall the portraits and characters of "The Grandisimes" that Cable "knew little of the Creoles, because he had no Creole acquaintances," and men with the Creole eyes that he has made so famous will aver with true Creole emphasis that he "lies like the very arch fiend."

A party of Northern gentlemen were walking about in the streets of New Orleans the other day, when one of them, having been shown the houses made famous in his stories, expressed a wish to see his own place of residence. Their guide, a courteous gentleman of Creole antecedents, conducted them, without a word, to one of the worst and narrowest streets, and stopping in front of three slovenly-kept, rickety shanties, said, with a smile, "I am not sure which of these was Mr. Cable's place of residence." The comment "This is irony," made even the Creole laugh.

Was Mr. Cable then, like Judge Tourgee, an exile, and a carpet bagger, during his stay among us? And has he begun a second pilgrimage South, to thicken the plot for a new revenge upon our inhospitality? The truly wise, who hope for the healing of the great civil breach, will let Mr. Cable's books as well as Tourgee's and Mrs. Stowe's, lie neglected upon the publishers' shelves, and seek elsewhere for a true account of the Creoles of History, leaving him to paint as darkly as he may the Creoles of Romance.

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The California Supreme Court has affirmed the decision in the Sharon divorce suit, establishing the fact that Sarah Althea Hill was the legal wife of ex-Senator William Sharon. The matter has been in the courts since 1883.

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The Hungarian press records an "alarming increase in emigration from Hungary to America."

A clear skin adds to the beauty of a fine face, and often lends a charm to the loveliest new material with which to gratify it. Have not the appetites of all such epicures yet been satisfied with the tempting fare set before them by Mrs. Stowe, Tourgee, and this same Cable, in the past? Nay, so long as this black Bag hangs like a millstone about our necks, his votaries will keep the demand ringing and false prophets will not be wanting to do their bidding.

Preparatory work for constructing the battle-ship at Norfolk is said to be progressing satisfactorily. Commodore Melville will probably report favorably on the facilities at Richmond for constructing the machinery of the battle-ship.

Don't Wait Until your hair becomes dry, thin, and gray before giving the attention needed to preserve its beauty and vitality. Keep on your toilet-table a bottle of Ayer's Hair Vigor—the only dressing you require for the hair—and use it daily, to preserve the natural color and prevent baldness.

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