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examination after death has shown the Liver have been extensively deranged. It should be used by all persons, old and young, whenever any of the above symptoms appear.

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All persons indebted to me are requested to call and R. G. COURTNEY. settle at once.

WELGER BUT FEW.

We love! we love! What easy words to say, And sweet to hear, When sunrise splender brightens all the way, And, far and near, Are breath of flowers and caroling of birds, And bells that chime; Our hearts are light; we do not weigh our words At morning time!

But when the matin-music all is hushed, And life's great load Doth weigh us down, and thick with dust Doth grow the road,

Then do we say less often that we love,

The words have grown!

With pleading eyes we look to Christ above,
And clasp our own. Their lives are bound to ours by mighty bands

No mortal strait, Nor Death himself, with his prevailing hands, Can separate. The world is wide and many names are dear, And friendships true; Yet do these words read plainer, year by year:-We love but few. -Bilen M. H. Gates.

## HONORARY MEMBER RISES TO EIPLAIN.

ublished by The Topic as organ of the Vesper Reading Club.

LASALLE COUNTY, TEXAS, Nov. 20, 1882.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ESPER CAUB: Sometime ago I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from the Secretary of your association, which, on observing the strange post mark of Lenoir, I opened with fear and trembling, although I knew didn't owe anybody anything in that city.

I began to peruse the document. and found, first, that I had been elected an honorary member of that old and world renowned body, amidst thunders of applause that resounded far among the hills of Caldwell county, while the deafening cheers of the members were plainly heard above the din of the loafers in the grocery

When I had somewhat recovered from the shock which such an unexpected honor must necessarily produce on a person of delicate sensibilities and modest ambition, I ventured to proceed, and soon gathered that I was requested to employ my gigantic intellect in writing a letter to the Club.

I again picked myself up, brushed off the dust and continued, and was disappointed not to find a notice of my nomination for Governor of North Carolina. The origin of the idea that I could write a letter of any interest to any one, is entirely unknown to me. The associations with which I have previously corresponded have been generally in the dry-goods line, and my letters for the most part, of a conciliatory, pay-you-nextweek tendency, which could hardly have procured me the high honors that your Club has conferred upon

But I will try and give you truthful and correct account, in brief and condensed manner, of some of the wonderful things to be seen and heard in this country. The in formation usually desired in such a case, is in regard to its people climate, manners, customs and general peculiarities. The people of the State of Texas consist principally of men, women and children, with a sprinkling of cow boys. The climate is very good, the thermometer rarely rising above two thousand, five hundred degrees in the shade and hardly ever below 212.

There is a very pleasant little phase of the weather, which is called a "norther" by the natives, which endears the country very much to stranger who experiences it. You are riding along on a broiling day in September, dressed as sirly as etiquette will allow, watching the fish trying to climb out of the pools of boiling water along the way, and wondering how long it would take to walk home, with a pocket compass and 75 cents in Mexican money, when a wind, as cold as the icy hand of death, swoops down on you from the north, and the norther is upon you. Where do you go? If you are far from home, it depends entirely upon what kind of life you have lead, previous to this time, as to where you go. Some people go straight to heaven, while others experience a change of temperature by the transition. Happy is he who hath his canteen filled with the fluid that cheers and inebriates. The northers are thus very useful

in killing off the surplus population, in some degree, while the remainder die naturally and peacefully in their

Thinking that the opinions, per-

some prominent public man in the State might be acceptable to the Reading Club, I resolved to interview a gentleman who is very widely known in connection with the history of Texas, and for this purpose I went to his palatial residence, in one of the largest cities in the State, and asked to be allowed to see him. I was shown his room in the second. story of the house. I adjusted my revolver gracefully at my side, assumed for the occasion an intellectual expression of countenance, and kicked the door open and walked in

The great man sat at a table at breakfast alone. All the dishes he had were a black bottle and a Win chester rifle on the table, I suppose his breakfast was in the bottle. I approached nearer, and asked him if he had ever heard of the Vesper Reading Club, of Lenoir, N. C. He said he hadn't, and asked me to close the door as I went out.

I then told him that I was foreign missionary and correspondent of that society, whose fame had spread to the utmost limits of the world, in sounds of thunder, amid the shouts and acclamations of nations: whose reputation for deep learning and profound scholarship had stood the test of ages, and whose splendid choice of corresponding members was the wonder of the nineteenth century. I demanded his age, color, politics, and the kind of stockings he wore. also the kind of whiskey he liked best, price of his pantaloons, his ideas on the subjects of hell, tarantulas' protective tariff, and Oscar Wilde. Told him I would like to know how he fastened his suspenders when they broke, who he thought would be the next Governor, and what he had in his bottle.

He didn't say a word, but turned around in his chair and made 3 or 4 demonstrations.

I broke some 13 panes of glass in jumping out the window, but got off without being hurt.

His first demonstration killed a poor woman on the other side of the street. He made them all with his six shooter. I was at first inclined to pity the victim, but afterwards learned that she had that morning severely beaten her husband with a deadly instrument, used in rolling dough, without the slightest provo cation except that he was drunk and trying to kill her with an axe.

No other human beings were hurt by the other shots, but an agent for the life of Gen. Garfield, had his brains shot out, and an Italian organ grinder was killed instantly.

I enclose a sketch of the Hon. gentleman, taken from memory. Cir cumstances prevented my taking it when I was in the room, and I believe that a just and fearful retribution has overtaken that cruel woman. Let it be a warning to all such.

If the Club knows of any young man who is intending to come to Texas, show him this letter. If he doesn't believe it, send me about \$2.25, and I can get 5 men to swear to it. The Club's virtue will be its only reward.

A great peculiarity of this country is its unvaried sameness, and the result is that it is very easy for one to get lost, and as the country is thinly settled, it is no easy matter to find yourself again. Some day you go out about a mile from your ranch and in running from a Mexican with a knife you lose your direction, and strike off in an opposite course and hurry along until you meet up with a wild hog, who invariably goes for you. You then rush off at a tangent hotly pursued by the foe, and if very lucky soon reach a small mesquit tree, which you gratefully climb. The next thing is to pick out some six hundred thorns, and swear until the leaves shrivel up on the tree. Then vou look around, away over vonder on the prairie you see the blood thirsty Mexican, he has caught another man, and is making a fire to cook him for his supper. The hog has taken a seat under the tree and is sharpening his tusks on a man's skull that lies there. Mosquitoes are conferring together and laughing sardonically. 'Tis then that North Carolina's vine clad rocks and per simmon groves rise in one's memory. There if a fellow has lost the direction of his home, he has kind friends who will pour water on his head and support him to his door and "Goo" night, ole f'llers, I' mall rish now." and he is left to the mercies of his

conscience and his father. But here, who will help him? The wild Aztec gentleman is thirsting for about a gallon of gore, and hunts the illfated tar heels about with all the pristine fierceness of the Sons of the Montezumas: whilst stern determination and relentless ferocity is written in every line of the hog's countenance.

And then how can a feller expect to get rich like he intended, if he is to be chased around the country by wild animals, and get lost, and sun struck, and frozen, and drunk, and be murdered, and thrown by horses, and refused credit, and asked "what did you have to skip out from home for?" and invited to balls, where they shoot the heels off their partners' shoes in a quadrille, and dance in spurs on a log floor.

But while thus wandering in this drunken narrative, we have left our friend in the tree, and guess we will let him stay there. He ought to be killed for coming to this country, and if he don't get down, all the better.

My main object in writing this letter is to impress on all persons the beauty and splendor of always adhering strictly to the truth. Unless this course is followed, a narrative can but fill the listener with contempt for the production, and pity for the narrator; and the latter will sooner or later continue on his downward course, so appropriately begun—and end at his proper goalthe Legislature.

But I must bring this hurried let ter to a close. I have already written far into the night; the moon is low, and the wind still, The lovely stars, the "forgetmenots of the Angels," which have blossomed all night in "the infinite meadows of Heaven." unheeded and unseen by us, poor sleepy mortals, for whom they spread their shining petals, and radiate their silvery beams in vain, are twinkling above in all their beauty and mystery. The lonely cry of the coyote is heard, mingling with the noise made by a piece of strong Texas bacon, struggling to get out

of the pantry. It is at times like this, when all is quiet, when even nature seems to sleep, that old memories come back from their graves, and haunt us with the scenes they bring before us Faces, dead long ago, stare at us from the night, and voices that once could make the heart leap with joy, and the eye light up with pleasure, seem to sound in our ears. With such feelings we sit wrapped in thought, living over again our youth, until the awakening comes, and we are again in the present, with its care and bitterness.

It is thus I sit now, wondering and striving to recall the past, longingly I turn my mind back, groping about in a time that is gone, never more to return, endeavoring to think and convince my doubting spirit, whether or not I fed the pup at sup-

But listen! I hear the members of the V. R. C. rushing to the door, they have torn away the man with a club, stationed there to keep them inside during the transaction of the evening, and I will conclude with the request that the Secretary, in notify ing me not to write any more letters, may break the terrifying news as gently as possible, applying the balm of fair and delusive sentences which may prepare me at first by leading up gradually to the fearful and hope-destroying announcement.

Very respectfully, W. S. P.

AN IMAGINARY VISIT TO NEPTUNE A young lady's composition surreptitiously printed

I am a person of unsatisfied aspirations. From childhood I have spent much time in dreamland. My imagination is of great fertility. Ad ded to these, my curiosity is boundless. Far back as memory reaches my darling desire has been to pry into all the dold boxes, cupboards, closets and getrets in town. Nav. my curiosity was not confined to earth. It is said that I was the orig. inal baby that cried for the moon. For years, the sun has been my daily hero, the stars my nightly companions and the planets my chief delight. Being myself a woman, I candidly confess to having no love for Vanus. but am very fond of Mercury and Mars and as to old Jupiter-I just dote on him ! Inheriting a disposi-

to Neptune was proposed that I ardently espoused it and at once began preparations for the journey ? alle

The mode of travel was of grave consideration and momentous impor tance. On this point my studies in natural philosophy proved very use ful. I decided to turn the astound ing velocity of projectiles to account and ride to Neptune on a cannon ball. I engaged a guide and our plans were quickly matured To avoid the bore and inconvenience of lunch baskets a large supply of catables was stowed away in the ball and made acces sible by means of a trap door.

On the second day of the second month myself and guide might have been seen perched upon the barrel of an immense gun. The fuse was applied and just as the ball left the canonn's mouth we leaped upon it and were whirled away at a rate so rapid that our hair stood up like a mad cat's back,

For some time we were much annoyed by an unforeseen difficulty. When the ball left the gun it assum ed a rotary motion and it was only by dint of hard and constnt scraam bling that we could keep on its upper side. So we rolled on through space past moons and comets and planets, scrambling and eating and talking, for many days, as one reckons time on mother earth.

One morning, after a frugal meal of sauer kraut and hog's head cheese my guide declared that we had passed Uranus and would next reach our destination. But-oh! horrors! we had not thought of it before-how could we stop the ball at Neptune? It might go on and on, until, the sauer kraut exhausted, we would die of starvation. Such thoughts agitated our troubled breasts. But the gods of the country were propitious Our everlasting scrambling upon the ball had made it thinner, until just as we hove alongside the planet, it broke, and like the "One Hoss Shay," all went down and it and we and the kraut and cheese were thrown upon old Nep's back with considerable

I hastily put my hand to my head and found that it was some the worse for falling from my arm to the deak. Yes: my fancy had been running wild. It was a day dream. There I was in the school room with the prosy old algebra under my nose and the journey to Neptune a delusion. As I said before, I am a person of

unsatisfied aspirations. THE LEGISLATURE.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY

SENATE.

Senate called to order at 10 o'clock. Special order, bill for the sale of the State's interest in the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad, came

The chair stated that the discussion yesterday was not strictly in order, as the pending question was the amendments from the committee and not the general merits of the bill; but he yielded to the indulgence of the Senate and allowed the general discussion of the bill, so the discussion was resumed on the general merits of the

Mr. Linney took the floor, advocatnig the majority report, that guarantees the company to build the road to Patterson. Wilkes bad 30,000 acres of land

more than Iredell, and only eight counties in the State could show more land, yet Iredell returns larger taxes on account of her railroads. Old man Parks, in Wilkes, had a vineyard, grown up in the last three years, that he says is worth \$4,000 He merely mentioned these things to show the fertility of the country for a railroad, but he opposed the original bill because there was no guarantee they would complete the road to Patterson. and it olso provides, on the completion of two little spurs to this road. that this seventy thousand dellars of four per cent. bonds should be surren dered to the assignees. Now the committee surrenderment provides this, that instead of surreadering this seventy thousand dollars in four per cent. bonds on the completion of these two little spurs, that it shall be retained by the Treasurer until this road is built to the Wilkes county line, and so he claimed that the original bill furnished no guarantee whatever, except for the building of these two little short lines. He called the tion so curious, imaginative and ro- attention of Senators to the fact that

mantic, is it any wonder when a trip the seventy thousand dollars per cent bonds were worth fifty five thousand dollars. It would be but more mock. ery to adopt this original bill; amendments would be to destroy all the prospects of that country. Besides, no forfeiture of the convict labor is provided for at all. Suppose the company uses its main force of convicts elsewhere on the road and sticks only one crippled negro on the Yad. kin branch, it might get there fifty years ofter Gabriel blows his horn, but there would bene forfeiture ander the original bill.

Mr. McLean spoke to his amendments that the convicts should not be employed on any branch except the Yadkin Valley until the road was completed from Fayetteville to the South Carelina line; and again; that the road shall be given to the first of January, 1885, to be completed to the South Carolna line. Said he, the only way for the Senator from Alexander to get his road is to come with us and complete this line.

Further discussion on the bill was postponed until eleven o'clock tomorrows ...... recense

Bill allowing creditors to sue tu certain cases before their claims be-

Mr. Battle said, in his candid judg ment this was a bankrupt law of the most sweeping character. It prevides for anybody who would make affida vit; a man without principle, without haracter, without morals, might make the affidavit, simply from a personal grudge, or possibly instigated by another, and a man's credit and standing rained. He moved to lay the whole matter on the table.

The bill was tabled-yeas 22, nays

Messags from the Honse that the House refused to concar in the amendment relating to amnesty to certain parties for selling liquor without license, etc.

vote was taken and the Senate refused to recede from its amendment.

The main question was called. The

House,-Mr. Speaker Rose called the House to order at 10 o'clock. PETITIONS

were introduced as follows:

Mr. Bower, asking for a change of the line between Wilkes and Caldwell

BILLS

were introduced, passed their first reading and were referred as follows: Mr. Bower, to alter the line between the counties of Caldwell and Wilkes. Counties, cities, towns, and town-

The calendar was taken up and the

following bills disposed of: To moorporate graded schools in Tarboro township, in Edgecombe

Mr. Harris, of Wake, said that the provissions of this bill requiring the property of the whites to be taxed for the education of the whites and of the colored for the education of their race was wrong and unjust. That he was free to admit that the negroes were toe poor to educate their race; that his race had served the whites for 200 years, and that he hoped they would not now take advantage of them on account of their poverty. That he was opposed to it upon the

higher ground of political economy. Mr. Tate was in favor of general education, and in having it uniform : that the gentleman from Wake must not understand the question; that the State had levied a tax for general educational purposes, from which both races drew for their education. and this bill only allowed the people of this section to be additionally taxed to help this fund out.

The previous queston was called and sustained and the bill then passed its second reading by a vote of 74 to

SPECIAL ORDER

for this hour, being a substitute for a resolution and a bill in favor of wounded Confederate soldiers, was

taken up. Mr. Tate said that this was a matter of \$75,000, that he had all the sympathy for a wounded Confederate soldier that any one could have, that he was one himself, though not covered by that bill, That he stated this that the House might know what they were doing.

He moved to refer to the finance committee.

Mr. McLoud was opposed to reference, and was willing to go on record now. That these men had nothing

(Continued on fourth page.)