

MY CASTLE OF FANCY.

BY EDITH SESSIONS TUPPER.

I have a castle of fancy, thronged with a thousand guests; Knights and Lords and ladies, in velvets and satins dressed; Soldiers armored and sturdy, and fresh from war's alarms, Guarding my castle's portals are stalwart men-at-arms.

Raft Swamp Notes.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Rev. N. Thompson preached at Moss Neck Sunday afternoon.

Miss Belle Tyner is visiting relatives in Columbus county.

Our truckers have been busy of late gathering and shipping cantaloupes. They will ship watermelons this week.

Mr. Edwin Martin and family, of Ten Mile, were in this community Sunday.

Remember the Alliance picnic at Raft Swamp Academy Thursday, July 28th. Come and hear the Hon. H. M. Cates speak on the importance of organization among the farmers.

The Robeson Baptist Union will meet at Clyburnville Friday, July 29th, continuing three days.

His many friends in this section will be glad to learn that Prof. H. F. Page speaks of spending two weeks here in August. He will probably conduct a singing school while here.

The crops in this section have greatly improved in the past two weeks. It is feared that the rapid growth of cotton will cause a decrease in the net yield. No finer corn crop has been grown here in several years.

Rev. R. N. Cashwell filed his appointment at Oak Grove Sunday. This very young church seems to be in prosperous condition. A church house is badly needed.

A large number of our people went over to the Sunday school picnic at Oak Level Saturday. They report a very enjoyable occasion and speak in complimentary terms of the hospitality of those people.

Our Illiteracy.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Joyner has sent out a circular letter to the county superintendents of the State urging them to help reduce the illiteracy in the State. In one paragraph he says: "According to the last United States census report 19.5 per cent, or about one in every five of the white people of this State over ten years of age cannot read and write. With one exception our State stands at the bottom of the list. For the honor and the safety of the State, for the good of these illiterates and of all the people, every patriotic citizen should aid in every effort to reduce this appalling illiteracy. It can be reduced only by bringing the illiterates of school age into the school. You can aid now in the efforts that will be made to reduce the illiteracy in this county by furnishing as accurate a list as possible of the illiterates in your district, thereby supplying the information necessary for the successful direction of those efforts."

Conviction Enthusiasm.

One could read the newspaper accounts of State and National conventions with more interest if so many foolish things were not reported. To one at home and not in physical touch with the crowded convention halls, it seems strange how wise and sensible men can so far forget themselves as to be drawn into a concert of antics and gesticulations and shouts which are equalled by nothing and approached only by the wild screams of an Indian war dance. Applause and enthusiasm are well enough in their place and really help along a good cause when they are properly indulged in; but the wild, riotous, mob-like proceedings that have come to characterize all late-day important conventions are unquestionably harmful. Sometimes it seems like our conventions are too large. The plans of organizations seem to be too liberal in the number of delegates. Really something ought to be done to reduce conventions to a show of intelligence and civilization. —Scotland Neck Commonwealth.

Charlotte Men's Opinion.

Mr. Pullen, a well known cotton man of this city, has just returned from a trip through South Carolina and Georgia, where he went to study crop conditions and ascertain the probable outlook for the next crop.

Mr. Pullen reports that the drought in South Carolina is something serious and unless rain comes soon there will be a considerable cutting off of the crop. In many sections of the State the farmers are very blue over the outlook, although in portions of the State conditions are not so depressed.

The acreage, Mr. Pullen thinks, will be slightly greater than that of last year, and there will be plenty of markets for all the cotton that can be produced. The war in the far East has had a very depressing effect on the market and had the war not occurred Mr. Pullen believes that cotton today would be worth four cents more than it is now bringing.

The crop of the season is now placed at something over 9,900,000 bales. As to the present crop Mr. Pullen believes that it is out of the question to make estimates and believes that little that is accurate can be said at present.

The opening of next season's crop will show a price of from eight to ten cents, is the opinion of Mr. Pullen.—Charlotte News.

Cured of Chronic Diarrhoea After Ten Years of Suffering.

"I wish to say a few words in praise of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy," says Mrs. Mattie Barge, of Martinville, Va. "I suffered from chronic diarrhoea for ten years and during that time tried various medicines without obtaining any permanent relief. Last summer one of my children was taken with cholera morbus, and I purchased a bottle of this remedy. Only two doses were required to give her entire relief. I then decided to try the medicine myself, and did not use all of one bottle before I was well and I have never since been troubled with that complaint. One cannot say too much in favor of that wonderful medicine." This remedy is for sale by Dr. H. T. Pope & Co., and Dr. R. G. Rozier.

In Time of Storm.

One may be fairly content to walk in doubtful ways so long as the sky is clear. But when trouble comes, what will we do if we shall be found following our Lord afar off? If then there is a whole world between him and our trembling souls, what shall we do? Those who think they may give all their thought to money-making and pleasure seeking will have a hard time when storms arise. In that hour all the worldly good they have eagerly sought will dwindle into insignificance. Then shall they feel the need of Christ. It is well, it is right, it is safe to walk close by the side of the Master. Then, when storms arise, he will not be afar off.—Exchange.

To Avoid a Whipping.

To escape the fast-descending maternal slipper, 11 year-old Lawrence Martin, of New York, jumped from a third-story window and was uninjured. The mother had chased the boy through the rooms, his little sister aiding in the merry chase which wended in and out among tables, chairs and beds. Larry was so undiplomatic as to turn into the kitchen, whence the only means of escape was the window.

As Amplified Woman.

"The car was entirely empty, with the exception of one man," said Miss Myra Kelly. "He was the reverse of the car. As I entered, he rose, made me an uneasy but magnanimous bow, and said: 'Madam, please be kind enough to accept this plastic.' There was nothing else for me to do, so I thanked him and sat down."

A Two-Headed Girl.

A two-headed girl has been born in Cairo, Ill., to a negro family by the name of Shane. It died shortly after birth. The heads were both well formed and rested on the shoulders at about the same angle. The features were perfect. The body of the infant was fully matured. The child had only one set of lungs, but it possessed two independent necks and, each windpipe furnishing air for one lung.

Timber in the South.

It is said that of the four great lumber districts of the United States, the Southern pine region stands first. In the Southern district are to be found forty-three per cent of the saw mills and one-half of the lumbermen. Thus we see that the timber of the South is going rapidly and the young growth is not properly looked after, which will insure a scarcity of timber in a few more years. —Durham Sun.

The Grace of Silence.

This grace of silence under trial is one of the most rare and difficult graces; but it is one of the most pleasing to God and most conducive to strength and beauty of Christian character. None of us loves to suffer, and we all shudder at the sight of the probe or the amputating knife. But when the infinite love is engaged in cutting out a selfish lust or cutting off a diseased limb, our duty is to submit. "Keep still, my friend," says the surgeon to the patient in the hospital; "for restlessness may produce false cuts and aggravate the process." If the brave fellow is wise, he will say: "Doctor, go as deep as you choose; only be sure to fetch out the bullet." Ah! the battlefield often requires less courage than the hospital! The object of service, with drums beating and bugles sounding, does not so test the mettle of our graces as to be thrown down wounded, or to be commanded to lie still and suffer. To shout a battle cry at the mouth of the cannon is easier than to put our hands on our mouths and be silent because "God did it." If he is silent as to explanations of trying providences, let us be silent in our filial submission. God knows what is best for us; that is enough.—Theodore L. Cuyler.

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