Tas asked. "A certain confidence in my own spiritnal condition-a surety such as I hear others speak of," was quickly answered.

was the reply.

has; you know," add it shower of kisses

rained over the bally's face: "That's it," exclaimed the aged Christian, that is the faith that gives assurance. This trusting, clinging faith in Christ. He must be all to love, to trust,

and to cling to." Reader, have you this clinging faith?

#### EXPRESSING AN OPINION.

We all have our opinions, or we ought to have them, but as regards the advisabillity of expressing them on all occasions much might be said. There are people, good people too; who gride themselves on doing this but it whist be owned that they are not often popular. "Must we then conceal our true views, dissimulate for the sake of popularity ?" asks some one. By no means, good friend, but reserve when by so doing we would buty irritate without aiding any offer

of the pain they inflict of the texation they cause: Long after fin have forgotthat," perhaps they would add if you express my opinions frankly, you know, and people ought not to be offended at the truth." But when the truth is as unnecessary as it is unpalatable, what then? And then, too, it does not afways follow that truth-telling people relish a like plainness of speech from their victims. On the contrary, they often resent what

when it is needed is a very different thing. fannot be too pustive or too plain. But gentleness, consideration and tact-above all, Christian charity-should shape our course for us always. Give your opinion by all means, when by so doing you can help or strengthen or warn others, but don't give it when the only effect will be the annoyance of your hearer. Why should you tell Jane that her brother John ts so bashful that it makes him awkward, or that her sister Mary has no taste? It can do no good, and it only wounds poor Jane, who will think of you thereafter as a very disagreeable person.

#### SHARP EYES.

The habit of observation is the habit of their place. blear and decisive gazing; not by a first easual glaffee, but by a steady deliberate which they call individuality—that which Bladt: keparates, discriffinates, and sees in every object its essential character. This is just as necessary to the naturalist as the artist of the poet. The sharp eye notes specific pollits and differences-it seizes upon and preserves the individuality of the thing.

Persons frequently describe to me some bird they have seen or heard and ask me to same it; that in most cases the birth might be may one of a dozen, or else it is totally delike dily bird found in this conthenti They linve etther seen falsely or else vaguely. Not so the fifth youth who wrote me one winter day that he had seen a single pair of striffge birds, which he describes as follows: "They were about the size of life 'chippe,' the tops of their heads were red, and the breast of the male was of the same coldr; while that of the know them, please write me their names." draw from Eirculation. There can be little doubt but the young bbserver had seen a pair of red-polls, -a bird related to the gold-finch, and that ter from the far north. Another time, the same youth wrote that he had seen a Without Sugar or Salt. occasionally comes down to us in the winstrange bird, the color of a sparrow, that alighted on fences and buildings as well hs upon the ground and illat it walked. thatling eye and settled the case. I knew it to be a species of lark, and from the time, die; color, etc.; tlt-lark. But how many persons would have observed that the bird walked instead of hopped:-Scribner.

The "Farmer" or "Grange" candidates (although Democratic) were definited in several counties of the State for the Legislature. If class candidates are to be run hereafter; preparations will be illade by opposition classes to defeat them. Our readers know that we have always opposed class combinations, especially secret class combinations; The sooner good nieli in the South discounterlance any sort of class societies or combinations, the better it will be for them. The time may come when secret class combinations cannot be controlled by men; and that is the reason we have always opposed them. -Charlotte Demograt.

#### ENTHUSIASM.

It is an honor worth striving and suffering for to be an enthusiastic winner of souls! In the sime of the Crusades, a "What do you understand by faith?" company of Scotth soldiers proceeded to Palestine with the intention of depositing in the Holy Sepulchie the heart of Bruce, which the chieftath carried with him in casket. One day, when attacked by the "Your child has the faith that you need," Moslems and in danger of being worsted, Moslems and in danger of being worsted, the chieftain sprang forward and flung This rallied his soldiers; they fought with travagance, &c. renewed vigor and came off victorious. So the heart of Jesus has gone forth into hand of Omnipotent Love-for "God so loved the world that He gave His only has gone, there let His people follow and fight the good fight of faith : fight bravely, skillfully, enthusiastically .- Se-

SHORT HISTORY OF PETROLEUM.

The Lumberman's Gazette gives the following short history of petroleum: The production of petroleum as an article of trade dates from the 23th of August, 1859, when Colonel Drake, in a well 691 feet deep, "struck oil," and coined a phrase that will last as long as the English lanheed not be untruthfulness. We are not guage. From that beginning it has in called upon to tell just what we think creased to an annual production of \$14,-500,000 barrels of trude oil. The first export was in 1861; of 27,000 barrels, valued These outspoked folks are selddid aware at \$1,000,000, and the export of petroleum in the year 1877 was to tount numbers \$62,000,000. The annual product of peten your own words they are rankling in wolcum to-day-crude and refined-is the mind of the recipient: "I can't help greater in value than the entire production of iron; and is more than double that fould make them see this result. "I must of the arthracite coal of the State of Pennsylvania; and exceeds the gold and silver product of the whole country. As an afficle of export it is fourth, and contests closely for the third rank. Our leading exports are relatively as follows: Cotton annually from \$175,000,000 to \$227,000,000; flour from \$69,000,000 to \$139,000,000; pork and its products (bathey practice, with most illogical warmth. | con, bam and lardy from \$37,000,000 to To be always ready to give an opinion \$ 2,000,000; and petroleum from \$48,-000,000 to \$62,000,000. The total export and indeed there are cases wherein one of petroleum from 1861 to and including 1877 (16 years) has been \$442,698,968, custom house valuation. From the best sources of information there are at this time 10,000 oil wells, producing and drill ing; whitch; at a cost of \$5,000 per well, would make an investment of \$50,000,000 in this branch of the business. Tankage now existing of a capacity of 6,000,000 barrels cost \$2,000,000, and \$3,000,000 has been invested in about 2,000 miles of pipe lines connected with the wells. The entire investment for the existing oil production, ideading purchase money of territory, is something over \$100,000,000 which amount cannot be lessened much. if any, for as wells cease to produce new ones have been constantly drilled to take

Wonderful .- A new process for earing nim of the eye are the rare and character- fruit at a cost no exceeding one or two istic things discovered. You must look cents per bushel has been discovered, and intently and hold your eye firmly to the is now being introduced in this section. spot, to see more that to the rank and From what we have seed of it, we believe file of mankind. The sharp-shooter picks it will do all claimed for it. The idea of but his man and knows him with fatal Butting fruit up for winter use at a cost bertainty from a stump, or a rock, or a of dilly one cent per bushel, is indeed woncap on a pole. The phrenologists do well derful, but we have tried the process and to locate Bot thily form, color, weight, etc., belive it a success. We have roasting in the region of the eye, but a facility bars kept from last year's growth. Butke

The bllowing is the official vote of the Gubernatorial and Congressional election in the 7th District, for 1876:

|     | 100        | Robbins | Dula  | Vance | Stille |
|-----|------------|---------|-------|-------|--------|
| A   | lexituder, | 807     | 337   | 808   | 352    |
|     | Heghany;   | 516     | 138   | 513   | 154    |
| A   | she.       | 1083    | 811   | 1067  | 875    |
| 1)  | avie,      | idis    | 697   | 1011  | 708    |
| F   | orsyth,    | - 1490  | 1486  | 1454  | 1540   |
| I   | redett;    | 2354    | 1207  | 2356  | 1239   |
|     | lowan,     | 2169    | 1201  | 2163  | 1250   |
|     | urry,      | 1360    | 979   | 1286  | 1042   |
| V   | Vatauga,   | 699     | 236   | 676   | 301    |
| · V | Vilkee,    | 1328    | 1484  | 1284  | 1499   |
|     | adkiii,    | अपंप    | 1079  | 849   | 1112   |
| R   | obbins,    | 13724   | 9649  | 13467 | 10072  |
|     | ance,      | 13467   | 0.010 | 10101 | 1007.  |
| R   | obbins' ma | ıj: 257 | 8     | 2     |        |

All the postmasters in the country lave female was much lighter; their rumps been ordered to send to Washington whatwere also faintly tinted with red. If I ever three-cent pieces they may receive, have described them so that you would la order that these coins may be with-

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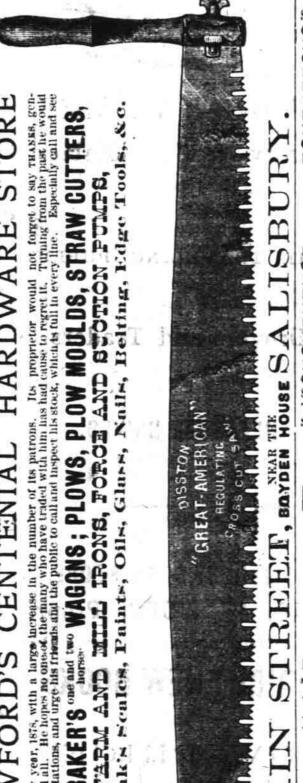
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| GOIN        | (; | W. F  | EST.   |            |
|-------------|----|-------|--------|------------|
| STATIONS.   | AR | RIVE. | LEAVE. |            |
| Salisbury   | 8  | 27    | Λ. Μ.  | 7, 35 A. M |
| Statesville | 5) | 15    | **     |            |
| Catawba     | 10 | 117   | 1.6    | 740        |
| Newton      | 10 | .).)  | **     |            |
| Canova      | 11 | 07    | **     |            |
| Hickory     | 11 | 35    | P. M:  |            |
| [eard       |    |       | **     |            |
| Morganton   |    |       | **     |            |
| Bridgewater |    |       | **     |            |
| Marion      |    |       | 66     |            |
| Old Fort    | 3  | 07    | 66     |            |
|             |    | -     |        |            |

GOING EAST.

| STATIONS.   |     | ARI | LEAV  |        |
|-------------|-----|-----|-------|--------|
| Henry       |     |     |       | 7 00 A |
| Old Fort    | 7   | 12  | A. M. | 1 00 A |
| Marion      |     |     | **    |        |
|             |     |     | 44    |        |
| Brfdgewater | - 5 | 16  | **    |        |
| leard       | 4   | 50  | 24    |        |
| Hickory,    | 10  | 36  | it    |        |
| Canova      | 11  | 04  | 34    |        |
| Newton      | 11  | 16  | **    |        |
| Catawba     | 12  | 04  | P. M. |        |
| Statesville | 12  | 56  |       |        |
| Third Creek | . 1 | 44  | 4.6   |        |
| Salisbury   | 2   | 30  |       |        |

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