

**To Tell the Age of a Horse.**  
To tell the age of any horse, inspect the lower jaw, of course; The six front teeth the tale will tell; And every doubt and fear dispell.

Two middle "nippers" you behold Before the colt is two weeks old; Before eight weeks two more will come; Eight months the "corners" cut the gum.

The outside grooves will disappear From middle two in just one year; In two years, from the second pair; In three, the corners, too, are bare.

At two, the middle "nippers" drop; At three the second pair can't stop; When four years old the third pair goes; At five a full new set he shows.

The deep black spot will pass from view At six years from the middle two; The second pair at seven years; At eight the spot each "corner" clears.

From middle "nippers" upper jaw At nine the black spots will withdraw; The second pair at ten are white; Eleven finds the "corners" light.

As time goes on, the horsemen know; The oral teeth three sided grow; They longer get, project before; Till twenty, when we know no more.

**The Origin of Soap.**

A history of soap would be very interesting. Who invented it? When and where did it first come into common use? How did our remote ancestors wash themselves before soap was invented? These are historical questions that naturally arise at first contemplation of the subject; but, as far as we are aware, historians have failed to answer them. We read a great deal in ancient histories about anointing with oil and the use of cosmetics for the skin but nothing about soap.

These ancients must have been very greasy people, and I suspect that they washed themselves pretty nearly in the same way as modern engine-drivers clean their fingers, by wiping off the oil with a bit of cotton-wool.

We are taught to believe that the ancient Romans wrapped themselves round with togas of ample dimensions, and that these togas were white. Now, such togas, after incensing such anointed oily skins, must have become very greasy. How did the Roman laundresses or laundries—historians do not indicate their sex—remove this grease? Historians are also silent on this subject.

A great many curious things were found buried under the cinders of Vesuvius in Pompeii, and sealed up in the lava that flowed over Herculaneum. Bread, wine, fruits, and other domestic articles, including several luxuries of the toilet, such as pomades or pomade-pots, and rouge for painting ladies' faces, but no soap for washing them. In the British Museum is a large variety of household requirements found in the pyramids of Egypt, but there is no soap, and we have not heard of any having been discovered there.

Finding no traces of soap among the Romans, Greeks, or Egyptians, we need not go back to the prehistoric "cave men," whose flint and bone implements were found imbedded side by side with the remains of the mammoth bear and hyena in such caverns as that at Torquay, where Mr. Pengelly has during the last eighteen years, so industriously explored.

All our knowledge, and that still larger quantity, our ignorance, of the habits of antique savages, indicate that solid soap, such as we commonly use, is a comparatively modern luxury; but it does not follow that they had no substitute. To learn what that substitute may probably have been we may observe the habits of modern savages, or primitive people at home and abroad.

This will teach us that clay, especially where it is found having some of the unctuous properties of fuller's earth, is freely used for lavatory purposes, and was probably used by the Romans, who were by no means remarkable for true refinement. They were essentially a nasty people, the habits of the poor being "cheap and nasty"; of the rich, luxurious and nasty. The Roman nobleman did not sit down to dinner, but sprawled with his face downward, and took his food as modern swine take theirs. At grand banquets, after gorging to repletion, he tickled his throat in order to vomit and make room for more. He took baths occasionally, and was probably scoured and shampooed as well as oiled, but it is doubtful whether he performed any intermediate domestic ablutions worth naming.

A refinement upon washing with clay is to be found in the practice once common in England, and still largely used where wood fires prevail. It is the old-fashioned practice of pouring water on the wood ashes, and using the "lees" thus obtained. These lees are a solution of alkaline carbonate of potash, the modern name of potash being derived from the fact that it was originally obtained from the ashes under the pot. In like manner soda was obtained from the ashes of seaweeds and of the plants that grow near the sea-shore, such as the *salsolus soda*, etc.

The potashes or pearlashes being so universal as a domestic by-product, it was but natural that they should be commonly used, especially for the washing of greasy clothes, as they are to the present day. Upon these facts we may build up a theory of the original soap.

It is a compound of oil or fat with soda or potash, and would be formed accidentally if the fat on the surface of the pot should boil over and fall into the ashes under the pot. The solution of such a mixture if boiled down would give us soft soap.

If oil or fat became mixed with the ashes of soda plants, it would produce hard soap. Such a mixture would most easily be formed accidentally in regions where the olive flourishes near the coast, as in Italy and Spain for example, and this mixture would be cas-

tile soap, which is still largely made by combining refuse or inferior olive oil with the soda obtained from the ashes of seaweed.

The primitive soap-maker would, however, encounter one difficulty—that arising from the fact that the potash or soda obtained by simple burning of the wood or seaweed is more or less combined with carbonic acid, instead of being all in the caustic state which is required for effective soap-making. The modern soap-maker removes this carbonic acid by means of caustic lime, which takes it away from the carbonate of soda or carbonate of potash by simple exchange—i. e., caustic lime plus carbonate of lime, or carbonate of potash plus caustic lime becoming caustic potash plus carbonate of lime.

How the possibility of making this exchange became known to a primitive soap-maker, or whether he knew it at all, remains a mystery, but certain it is that it was practically used long before the chemistry of the action was at all understood. It is very probable that the old alchemists had a hand in this.

In their search for the philosopher's stone, the elixir of life or drinkable gold, and for the universal solvent, they mixed together everything that came to hand, they boiled everything that was boilable, distilled everything that was volatile, burned everything that was combustible, and tortured all their "simples" and their mixtures by every conceivable device, thereby stumbling upon many curious, many wonderful, and many useful results. Some of them were not altogether visionary were, in fact, very practical, quite capable of understanding the action of caustic lime or carbonate soda, and of turning it to profitable account.

It is not, however, absolutely necessary to use the lime, as the soda plants when carefully burned in pits dug in the sand of the sea-shore may contain but little carbonic acid if the ash is fluxed into a hard cake like that now commonly produced, and sold as "soda ash." This contains from 3 to 30 per cent of carbonate, and thus some samples are nearly caustic, without the aid of lime.

As cleanliness is the fundamental basis of all true physical refinement, it has been proposed to estimate the progress of civilization by the consumption of soap, the relative civilization of given communities being numerically measured by the following operation in simple arithmetic: Divide the total quantity of soap consumed in a given time by the total population consuming it, and the quotient expresses the civilization of that community.

The allusion made by Lord Beaconsfield, at the Lord Mayor's dinner in 1879, to the prosperity of our chemical manufactures was a subject of merriment to some critics, who are probably ignorant of the fact that soap-making is a chemical manufacture, and that it involves many other chemical manufactures, some of them, in their present state, the results of the highest refinements of modern chemical science.

While the fishers of the Hebrides and the peasants on the shores of the Mediterranean are still obtaining soda by burning seaweed as they did of old, our chemical manufactures are importing sulphur from Sicily and Iceland, pyrites from all quarters, nitrate of soda from Peru and the East Indies, for the manufacture of sulphuric acid, by the aid of which they now make enormous quantities of caustic soda from the material extracted from the salt mines of Cheshire and Droitwich. These sulphuric acid works and these soda works are among the most prosperous and rapidly growing of our manufacturing industries, and their chief function is that of manufacturing soap-making, in which Britain is competing triumphantly with all the world.

By simply considering how much is expended annually for soap in every decent household, and adding to this the quantity consumed in laundries and by our woollen and cotton manufacturers, a large sum total is displayed. Formerly, we imported much of the soap we used at home; now, in spite of our greatly magnified consumption, we supply ourselves with all but a few special kinds, and export very large and continually increasing quantities to all parts of the world; and if the arithmetical rule given above is sound, the demand must steadily increase as civilization advances.—*Standard Librarian.*

**Facts About North Carolina.**

The State has 96 counties, 1,500,000 population, over 3,000 churches, over 5,000 public schools, 52,000 square miles of territory. There are over 200 newspapers.

The highest fountain in the world is at Round Knob, 208 feet.

The mineral springs of this State are numerous and unsurpassed.

The State has an average elevation above sea level of over 800 feet.

Raleigh has more public and high schools than any other city.

The high-t mountain East of the Rockies is found in Western North Carolina.

Each denomination has a college of its own.

The soil is productive of every vegetable crop found in the United States.

The State has better natural facilities for manufactures than any other State in the South.—*Branson's Almanac, 1889.*

**Bucklen's Arnica Salve.**

THE BEST SALVE IN THE WORLD FOR CUTS, BRUISES, SORES, ULCERS, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or is required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by E. W. H. & Co., 311.

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**He Was Minded.**  
Arkansaw Traveler.

"I want to know, sah," said an old negro, addressing the Governor of Tennessee, "of dar's any law lyin' bout yere ter perreck a man agin bein' hit by rotten aigs and tomatoes dat's dun got too ripe?"

"What's the matter?" the Governor asked.

"Mein hit me wid rotten aigs an' ole tomatoes, I tell you."

"Political trouble?"

"No, sah, 'Tigons. You see, da wanted er new preacher down yonder at Shady Point, an' I made my arrangements wid de committee ter feel de flock. Wall, I went down dar, I did ter preach las' Sunday mornin', an' I clar to good-liss I fer got to ax what 'nomination de church wuz till I had dun got up in de pulpit. I thought den dat I better ax, but den I thought dat I better sort er feel mys'f erlong. Well, I tuck my tex' an' sorter went wadin out, keferful like. Now, I's er mighty strong Baptiz, an' I kan't do mys'f justice lessen I preachers dat doctrin. I picked out er litle nigger dat wuz settin' er litle way off, an' ginter feel o' him wid my docturin'. Afterwhile he nodded his head in er-prowl den I put it a little stronger. He nodded ergin an' den I gin him er clincher. He gin me er big nod an' den I turned loose wid de red fire of glarin' faith. Puffy soon I seed two fellers get up an' go out. I didn't know why, da went out in de middle o' er sermon dat way, but I soon found out, fer puffy soon da come back, an' de fust thing I knowed, bip! er bad goose aig come an' tuck me side by head. Neber wuz hit wid er goose aig, wuz you, Gubner?"

The Governor admitted that he never had been.

"Wall, you neenter wanter be, nuth-er. Its bad eruff ter be hit wider pul-ter aig, but er goose aig! Hiver, take yere! After dis I wuz so kivered up wid aigs dat er alerpucker coat dat cost me 50 cents wuz dun ruin bud-diously. I got way from dar be best way I could, an' now I wanter ter know if I kan't hab dat ole nigger what nodded at me tuck up by de law."

"He didn't throw the eggs, hid he?"

"No, sah, but he led me on inter makin' er bad blunder."

"Probably your views agreed with his?"

"No, sah, dey din't, cuz he didn't here er word I said, fer I afterward found out dat ez triflin' scoundil wuz fas' erstep an' wuz in mornin' eaz he couldn't help it. You say dar's some law yere fer me?"

"I don't think you need any."

"What! You gwine ter let folks nod in church dis way an' ruin er preacher's prospects?"

"I suppose I'll have to."

"Den I'll ergin you frum dis time on. Good day ter yer, sah."

**General Grant's Horses.**

General Grant was particularly proud and fond of his stud of horses. His war charger was an especial favorite. He took great delight in exhibiting his horses to his friends, with whom he was intimate. One of his stables with a friend he said: "Perhaps you would like to see the horse I rode during all the campaigns I commanded?" The animal was ordered to be brought out. The gentleman was surprised to find the horse no larger than a lady's palfrey—small, slender, light-limbed, black as a coal, intelligent, mild, and eye like a hawk, and a look on the mane for all the world like a boy's cowlick. It was such an animal as women and children would make into a family pet. The gentleman pronounced the animal a beauty, but expressed a doubt as to its endurance. "Endurance," said the general, "this animal exceeds in endurance any horse-flesh I ever saw. I have taken him out at daylight and kept in the saddle till dark, and he came in as fresh when I dismounted as when we started in the morning. There isn't gold in America to buy him. He is an imported horse of the breed and was once on Jeff Davis's plantation." This was just before Davis was caught, and the visitor said, "I presume you would exchange the horse for Jeff Davis." "You have said it," exclaimed Grant, "I would exchange him for his old master," but for nothing else in the world.

**Snake Charming.**

As for the so-called charming of serpents, it may be practiced by any one who from observation comprehends the movements of the reptiles and knows how far to venture on familiarity. Confidence and dexterity on the part of the "charmer" can overcome fear and subtlety on the part of the snake, which, after all, is only watching its opportunity to strike or to creep. The jugglers understand this very well, and know how far the snake can reach to strike. Keeping at a safe distance, they irritate it just enough to make it follow the movements of their hands, or the bit of bright cloth waved before them, and which in point of fact is a shield to receive the bite should the cobra attempt to strike. The snake has risen and expanded its "hood," not for any admiration of the flaunted colors, or for any enjoyment of the discordant din which is supposed to charm it, but, in self-protection, the better to aim at its tormentor. "He is the best charmer," says Dr. Vincent Richards, in his valuable work, "Landmarks of Snake Poisoned Literature," "who is the most intimately conversant with the movements of the reptiles under varying conditions.

When Ireland Was Scotia.

Scotia now means Scotland, but it once meant Ireland. Ireland was known to the Greeks as *Juvona*, about two centuries before the birth of Christ. Caesar calls it *Hibernia*, as does Ptolemy in the map he has given of the island. It is said that the Phoenicians first gave Ireland the name of *Hibernia*, meaning thereby "at-moot, or last habitation," for beyond that land, westward, the Phoenicians never extended their voyages. Toward the decline of the Roman empire the country began to be called *Scotia*, a name retained by the monastic writers till the eleventh century, when the name *Scotia* having passed to modern Scotland, the ancient name of *Hibernia* began to be again used.

The origin of the sandwich is generally ascribed to the Earl of Sandwich, a noted gambler. The old Romans, however, had something like sandwiches, which they called *offula*.

**A Boston Bank Emancipation.**

Many years ago a young man in one of the banks showed such capacity as a teller or cashier that some of its customers got up a bank for him. Everything went on successfully. There was a habit of lending and borrowing between banks, and sometimes between them and reliable individuals, and this young cashier had such a relation with a man supposed to be beyond suspicion. One day this man came to him with a large request, no less than the loan of \$150,000, equal to half the capital of the bank, which was \$300,000. Strange, he got it, and disappeared not to be found; his kindred could give no information about him; telegraphs, railroads, ocean steamers, did not exist to afford inquiry or pursuit. The directors had to be made aware of the loss of half their capital. Their first thought was to reduce their capital to \$150,000. The young cashier submitted himself to their discretion, but proposed if allowed to go on to devote himself, all his means and energies, to the rehabilitation of the capital. The directors acceded to his request. The matter was kept quiet. The bank went on successfully. The cashier paid promptly 8 per cent. dividend on \$300,000, out of \$150,000 business. Watching every opportunity to make a penny, at the end of 15 years he accomplished his purpose. The capital of the bank was restored. When he began his task he was 30 years old, when he finished it he ought to have been in the prime of life, only 45, but the incessant strain of those 15 years left him a wreck, and in less than five years in the height of his usefulness he sunk to his grave.

**One of the most shapely mountains of the Catskill range is High Point. It is said that this mountain was much used by Indians in olden times because of the extended view to be had of the rich farming country of the Dutch settlers of Kingston, Hurley and Marlinton, and that before making a predatory raid in the valley, they awaited the signal of their scouts from the high boulder at its summit. On this rock, as the story goes, one of their captives was sacrificed. He was a sturdy Dutchman who refused to betray his friends by acting as a decoy. The Indians did not dare burn him for fear the smoke would alarm the farmers, so they made use of their tomahawks.**

To the people of this town of Olive the mountain has been a weather indicator. Farmers look to it to see whether it will rain or whether sunshine would prevail, while the fate of picnic parties or excursions is decided by the appearance of its gray summit. If the crest is capped with clouds of a certain color and shape, etc., etc., etc., the mountain will, in certain stages of the atmosphere, take up and give sounds from the lands below, and when thunder clouds cover its summit, and the thunder rolls along it, tremendous roars, growing reverberations are heard as if coming from the very bowels. There are people who claim that this mountain contains a great treasure, caused by a stream that runs into it, and which has worn the rocks away for thousands of feet within the huge mass. This, it is said, causes the roaring, being a reverberation of the thunder as the lightning's spend their fury on its rocky summit.—*Kingston, (N. Y.) Freeman.*

**Epilepsy.**

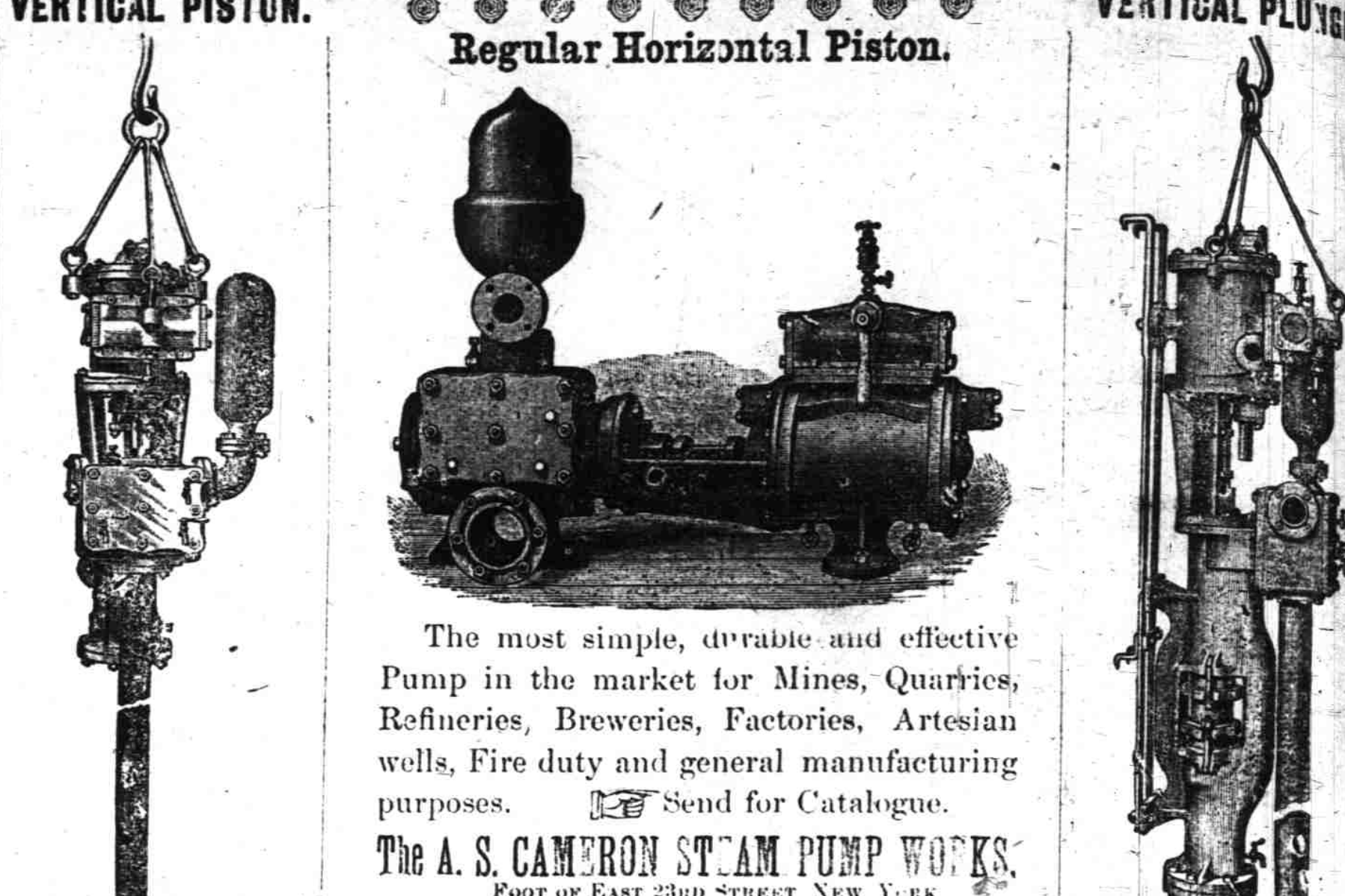
This is what you ought to have, in fact, you must have it, to fully enjoy life. Thousands are searching for it daily, and mourning because they find it not. "Thousands upon thousands of dollars are spent annually by our people in the hope that they may attain it," says Dr. J. W. Taylor, "and yet the good is to be had by all. We guarantee that electric bitters, if used according to directions and the use persisted in, will bring you Good Eights and out the demon Dyspepsia and Instant Euphony. We recommend Electric Bitters for Dyspepsia and all diseases of Liver, Stomach and Kidneys. Sold at 50c and \$1.00 per bottle by T. F. Klutz & Co., Drugists.

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Richmond & Danville Railroad.  
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IN EFFECT OCT. 21, 1888.  
TRAINS RUN BY 75° MERIDIAN TIME

| SOUTHBOUND    |             | DAILY      |  | N. E. |  |
|---------------|-------------|------------|--|-------|--|
| Lv. New York  | 10:15 A. M. | 7:30 P. M. |  |       |  |
| Philadelphia  | 11:45 "     | 9:15 "     |  |       |  |
| Baltimore     | 1:15 "      | 10:45 "    |  |       |  |
| Washington    | 2:45 "      | 12:15 "    |  |       |  |
| Charleston    | 4:15 "      | 1:45 "     |  |       |  |
| Norfolk       | 5:45 "      | 3:15 "     |  |       |  |
| Richmond      | 7:15 "      | 4:45 "     |  |       |  |
| Danville      | 8:45 "      | 6:15 "     |  |       |  |
| Greensboro    | 10:15 "     | 7:45 "     |  |       |  |
| Winston-Salem | 11:45 "     | 9:15 "     |  |       |  |
| Charlotte     | 1:15 P. M.  | 10:45 "    |  |       |  |
| Columbia      | 2:45 "      | 12:15 "    |  |       |  |
| Augusta       | 4:15 "      | 1:45 "     |  |       |  |
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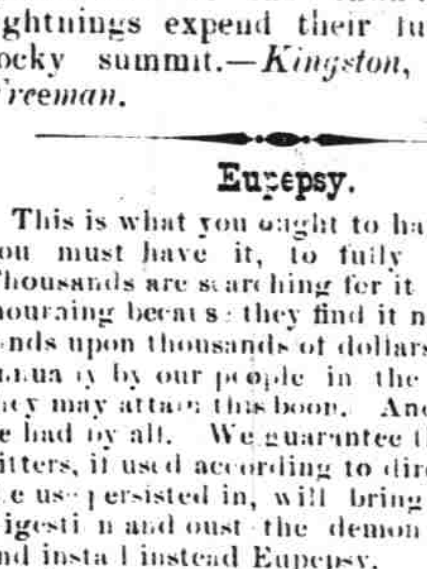
**Piedmont Air-Line Route.**  
Richmond & Danville Railroad.  
**CONDENSED SCHEDULE.**  
IN EFFECT OCT. 21, 1888.  
TRAINS RUN BY 75° MERIDIAN TIME

| NORTHBOUND  |            | DAILY      |  | N. E. |  |
|-------------|------------|------------|--|-------|--|
| Lv. Augusta | 5:55 A. M. | 8:30 P. M. |  |       |  |
| Augusta     | 7:25 "     | 10:00 "    |  |       |  |
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| Augusta     | 10:25 "    | 1:00 "     |  |       |  |
| Augusta     | 11:55 "    | 2:30 "     |  |       |  |

**Richmond and Danville Railroad**  
W. N. C. Division  
Passenger Train Schedule  
Effective May 15th, 1888.

| Train No. 8 | West Bound    | Train No. 10 | East Bound    |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 8:00        | Richmond      | 8:30         | Richmond      |
| 8:30        | Danville      | 9:00         | Danville      |
| 9:00        | Greensboro    | 9:30         | Greensboro    |
| 9:30        | Winston-Salem | 10:00        | Winston-Salem |
| 10:00       | Charlotte     | 10:30        | Charlotte     |
| 10:30       | Columbia      | 11:00        | Columbia      |
| 11:00       | Augusta       | 11:30        | Augusta       |
| 11:30       | Greensboro    | 12:00        | Greensboro    |
| 12:00       | Danville      | 12:30        | Danville      |
| 12:30       | Richmond      | 1:00         | Richmond      |

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