

Spring Time on the old Farm.

It is spring-time on the old farm where the writer has spent the last thirty years of his life; and the flowers are blooming and nodding with a fresh and melancholy sweetness on the circular beds, in dear, dead mother's favorite garden in front of the old farmhouse, where our children were born and reared till they left the parental home—where the writer regularly penned many a communistic note in poetry or prose for the WATCHMAN for fully twenty-five of those thirty years; and where the aroma of past memories is far heavier and more delightful than even the scent of the blessed flowers that were planted and tended and doted upon by the blessed partner of his joys and sorrows, who has been removed to a land of everlasting spring-time.

For thirty-odd vernal seasons have these same familiar flowers been turning their sweet faces up to mine in friendly recognition every time I have passed in or out the door. But now the eyes of a spirit beauty who has gone from the fireside seat to look out from their fairy cups; and every sparkling dew-drop on their tender leaves, seems a counterpart of raiment in heaven. I hear her whisper in the south-wind that fans them at eyefield. —I can almost see her foot-prints in the walk that surrounds them—yes, I can see everywhere, in every shrub and fruit tree and blade of grass the traces of one I loved so well that her very foot-prints in the sand, were they visible now, would be more sacred to me than any other spot on this wide earth.

Under the beautiful shade of these forest trees that cover the landscape in all directions, how many a time I have sat down with her and opened the newspapers from the post-office—read for her the news of the whole world week after week, month after month, and year after year—read from their columns for her sermon after sermon, as they regularly appeared, of Talmage and Spurgeon and other great divines whose eloquence the newspapers brought as it were to our very door.

But the carol of no one of the beautiful birds that fitted in the shrubbery around us could be sweeter than the voice, whose echo I still hear, which so often told me to be a good man, and to be faithful and true to my duty—the voice, now hushed forever, that constantly prayed with and for our children—the voice that never sanctioned a mean act and always praised a worthy deed.

The soil of the old farm, just awakening from a long winter's nap, is yawning and stretching itself for another season's productivity. And while respect for the memory of its former mistress is voiced by even the trees and flowers, I know full well that the highest respect for the dead is shown by the faithful labor of the living.

A Historic Flag.

Richmond, Va., May 18.—The Confederate bazaar recently held at the armory for the joint benefit of the Confederate soldiers and sailors' monument and Jeff Davis museum, realized \$23,418. To-day at a mass meeting of the ladies who participated in the bazaar Mayor Elyson, in a brief but appropriate speech presented to the ladies of the Confederate museum a handsome flag from North Carolina. This flag was made by the young ladies of Edgeworth Female Seminary of Greensboro and through Miss Mary Morehead, one of the pupils, was presented to the Guilford Grays during the early part of the war. Mrs. Morton Wortham Sloane, of Baltimore, in whose possession the flag has been since the surrender at Appomattox, donated it to the North Carolina ladies, who in turn presented it to the museum. It was turned over to the relief committee.

It's Capt. W. E. Ardrey.

The politicians in Charlotte today have worried themselves no little concerning the telegraphic report in all of the morning papers to the effect that President Cleveland had re-appointed Mr. Stuart W. Cramer assayer of the mint in this city. The news at once set about to find out the truth concerning the matter and it gives it officially this afternoon that the report is not true but that Capt. W. E. Ardrey has secured the plum, the President this afternoon having made the appointment. This will in a measure quiet the overflowing tide of political censure that has been heaped upon the president by those who were in the fight of passing events forced to believe that the report this morning was true.

A correspondent of the Wilmington Star says caterpillars and grasshoppers are numerous in Duplin and Sampson counties.

Magnificent Gold Nuggets.

Richard Eames, Jr., M. E. manager of the Gold Hill mines, was in the city this morning with 15 ounces of nugget gold from his Biggar's mine in Cabarrus county. This placer property is the bonanza of the State at present. One of the nuggets weighs nearly 4 ounces and is of a rough character, having some quartz attached showing it has come from near the surface. The mine is in close proximity to the famous Reed mine, where the 23 pound nugget was found. As this is a newly discovered property we look for some large nuggets at the World's Fair, where they will be on exhibit.

People Who Take Offense Easily.

In this world there are a certain class of individuals who roam about with a chip on their shoulders, daring others to knock it off just for the luxury of indulging in a first class quarrel. To the gentle mannered, sweet dispositioned ones this seems a very questionable sort of enjoyment, yet to some a wordy war or a full fledged feud constitutes the chief excitement of their lives.

These people always have a quarrel on hand. If it isn't a family affair, then outsiders must suffer. They are quick to take offense, both in public and private, and have no scruples about expressing themselves on paper when they haven't a chance to do so verbally. It is this penchant for writing letters that helps to keep them continually in hot water, as the black and white characters are decided evidence against them even after their anger has had time to cool.

Now, if there were any sense in this sort of conduct, there would be some excuse for it, but there isn't, and, moreover, it makes you doubly unhappy to be always on the outs with some one. You may pretend not to care, but you do just the same, and though pride and temper keep your spirits up for a time in your secret heart you wish you had not been quite so ready to quarrel.

—New York Commercial Advertiser.

J. S. Clarkson, in his address at Louisville to the Republican politicians out of a job who are gathered there this week, bravely declares that "a majority of the people of the United States are Republicans on the real Republican issues." This is interesting. Did the Republican party, then, fight the campaigns of 1890 and 1892 on the unreal Republican issues? That is the logical inference from Mr. Clarkson's assertion, for on the issues that the party presented the majority of the people, recorded themselves as not Republicans. But if the McKinley act, the Force bill, the Sherman law, the Billion Dollar Congress, Reed's oppression of the Congressional minority, bounties to favor the classes, the squandering of the Treasury surplus, Clarkson's decapitation policy and Blaine's delusive reciprocity are not real Republican issues, what in the name of reason are they? The Republican party made them, gloried in them, challenged the nation's judgment on them and was overwhelmingly defeated on them in the election.—New York World.

The average criminal when convicted on circumstantial evidence protests his innocence to the last, while the man convicted on direct testimony of shooting a man down in the presence of witnesses will assert that some of the testimony was false and prejudiced. In Harris' case we have the direct evidence that his wife died from poison; that she was in possession of the poison and took it by his direction; that it was prescribed by him. He indeed charged that she was addicted to morphine, but the careful examination of every witness on this line showed that there was absolutely no trustworthy evidence to sustain this charge. It is hard to understand how justice could have been satisfied in any other way than by Harris' execution.—Richmond State.

A Frenchman living in this city has been an enthusiastic poultryman, but this season finds him disgusted with the business. Meeting a friend the other day, he said: "You know dat Schoobin pullet wat I buy some day las' week? she's a rooster; she crow like every ting dis morning. I cut his head off and have her for my supper next Sunday morning."—Springfield Graphic.

Charlotte News: The national executive committee of the prohibition party held a meeting at the Sherman House, in Chicago, Saturday. The party intends to begin work for the next presidential campaign at once, and this meeting was called for the purpose of devising and perfecting a plan of state work, which will, when completed, be submitted to the state central committees for their approval.

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

The May crop report of State Department of Agriculture says wheat is 95, oats 55, rye 92, rice 80, cotton 62, corn 96, tobacco 89. The condition of clover and grasses 92, of fruits 554. The increase in the acreage of cotton is 10 per cent., and 17 per cent of improved cattle have been introduced.

Mr. Andrew Broadfoot has 1,000 tea plants growing on his farm near Fayetteville. They were transplanted from the State Experiment farm, and are thriving.

The Co-operative Bank, of North Carolina, with an authorized capital of \$500,000, began business at Fayetteville last Friday. John P. Coffin is president and ex-Auditor Sanderlin vice president.

A Weldon correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch tells this one: Warren county has the smartest hog. During the forest fires last week the hog saw the flames approaching her bed of straw, in which were her young brood. She rooted out a hole near the bed, depositing the pigs in it, and then lay down over them. The fire passed over, singeing the hair of the old porker, but the little squealers were safe.

At the State University commencement in June Judge Thomas C. Fuller will deliver an address on the life and character of Hon. Joseph J. Davis, and Hon. R. T. Bennett an address on the life and character of Walter L. Steele. There will be a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the graduation of the class of 1843, at which Judge Robert P. Dick, of that class, will speak of the memories of 50 years. It is probable that a new chair of history and the philosophy of education will be established.

The Free Press says many farmers in Lenoir county have plowed up their cotton and replanted, the long drought followed by the cold rains having had a disastrous effect.

The secretary of the recently organized State Liquor Dealers' Association says one of the objects of the organization is to elevate the business.

British ship Countess Evelyn a few days ago was struck in a fog by German steamship City of Hamburg and sunk with twenty-five persons. All lost but captain and mate.

The Campania's last voyage from Sandy Hook eastward to Queenstown, broke all previous records by two and a half hours—time 5 days, 17 hours and 42 minutes.

The summer session of the University Law School will begin on July first. Judge James E. Shepherd will be present, and the school will be conducted as heretofore by Hon. John Manning and Judge Shepherd.

News-Observer: We understand that the New York Herald has an article advocating the repeal of the present silver law, and the repeal of ten per cent. bank tax. We are willing that these measures shall go together, and that they be embraced in the same act. That the country needs more currency is apparent, and that the continued purchase of silver is a menace many persons believe. The repeal of the tax will permit such additions to our local currency as are needed, while the repeal of the silver law will remove any doubt as to the continued parity of all our paper currency with gold.

Eight penitentiary convicts escaped from the work house at Durham. The Globe says: "The gang was camped in a store house about four miles from the cotton mills, this side of Brassfield, and made their escape about 8 o'clock last night. A plank was taken up near the fire-place and they all went out. Something should be done about the management of prisoners at the work house."

The Concord Standard says that on May 5th Mr. T. A. Rogers, of Cabarrus, aged 72, while chopping, about a quarter of a mile from home, accidentally cut his foot through the end of the shoe. Without removing it, he went home and not until the shoe was removed did he know that two toes were cut off. One dropped off into the pan while one remained in the sock when pulled off. A doctor was called in, the toes were put back and are all right.

The Supreme Court of the United States has affirmed its previous ruling in the imported hat trimmings case. It is estimated that the government will have to refund about \$10,000,000.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

President A. Q. Holaday of the State Agricultural and Mechanical college has been tendered the professorship of Latin in the Missouri Military academy. It is believed he will accept it.

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Governor Carr has written Hon. George Davis, of Wilmington, who was attorney general in the Confederate cabinet, inviting him to deliver a brief address May 30, while the Davis remains in state at Raleigh.

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IN EFFECT NOVEMBER 17, 1897.

SOUTHBOUND	No. 9.	No. 11.	No. 37.
Richmond	12:45 PM	1:30 PM	12:30 AM
LY Bureville	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	2:30 AM
LY Keyville	2:30 PM	3:15 PM	3:00 AM
LY Danville	3:00 PM	3:45 PM	3:30 AM
LY Greensboro	3:30 PM	4:15 PM	4:00 AM
LY Goldsboro	4:00 PM	4:45 PM	4:30 AM
LY Raleigh	4:30 PM	5:15 PM	5:00 AM
LY Durham	5:00 PM	5:45 PM	5:30 AM
LY Greensboro	5:30 PM	6:15 PM	6:00 AM
LY Winston-Salem	6:00 PM	6:45 PM	6:30 AM
LY Greensboro	6:30 PM	7:15 PM	7:00 AM
LY Salisbury	7:00 PM	7:45 PM	7:30 AM
LY Statesville	7:30 PM	8:15 PM	8:00 AM
LY Asheville	8:00 PM	8:45 PM	8:30 AM
LY Hot Springs	8:30 PM	9:15 PM	9:00 AM
LY Asheville	9:00 PM	9:45 PM	9:30 AM
LY Charlotte	9:30 PM	10:15 PM	10:00 AM
LY Salisbury	10:00 PM	10:45 PM	10:30 AM
LY Greensboro	10:30 PM	11:15 PM	11:00 AM
LY Durham	11:00 PM	11:45 PM	11:30 AM
LY Raleigh	11:30 PM	12:15 PM	12:00 AM
LY Goldsboro	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	12:30 AM
LY Greensboro	12:30 PM	1:15 PM	1:00 AM
LY Danville	1:00 PM	1:45 PM	1:30 AM
LY Keyville	1:30 PM	2:15 PM	2:00 AM
LY Bureville	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	2:30 AM
LY Richmond	2:30 PM	3:15 PM	3:00 AM

NORTHBOUND	No. 10.	No. 12.	No. 38.
LY Augusta	6:00 PM	6:45 PM	6:30 AM
LY Columbia	6:30 PM	7:15 PM	7:00 AM
LY Charlotte	7:00 PM	7:45 PM	7:30 AM
LY Atlanta	7:30 PM	8:15 PM	8:00 AM
LY Greenville	8:00 PM	8:45 PM	8:30 AM
LY Charlotte	8:30 PM	9:15 PM	9:00 AM
LY Salisbury	9:00 PM	9:45 PM	9:30 AM
LY Hot Springs	9:30 PM	10:15 PM	10:00 AM
LY Asheville	10:00 PM	10:45 PM	10:30 AM
LY Statesville	10:30 PM	11:15 PM	11:00 AM
LY Asheville	11:00 PM	11:45 PM	11:30 AM
LY Salisbury	11:30 PM	12:15 PM	12:00 AM
LY Greensboro	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	12:30 AM
LY Durham	12:30 PM	1:15 PM	1:00 AM
LY Raleigh	1:00 PM	1:45 PM	1:30 AM
LY Goldsboro	1:30 PM	2:15 PM	2:00 AM
LY Greensboro	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	2:30 AM
LY Danville	2:30 PM	3:15 PM	3:00 AM
LY Keyville	3:00 PM	3:45 PM	3:30 AM
LY Bureville	3:30 PM	4:15 PM	4:00 AM
LY Richmond	4:00 PM	4:45 PM	4:30 AM

7 Daily except Sunday.

BETWEEN WEST POINT AND RICHMOND.
Leave West Point 5:30 A. M. daily, and 4:30 A. M. except Sunday and Monday; arrive Richmond 9:00 and 10:45 A. M. Returning leave Richmond 3:30 and 4:45 P. M. daily except Sunday; arrive West Point 5:00 and 6:00 P. M.

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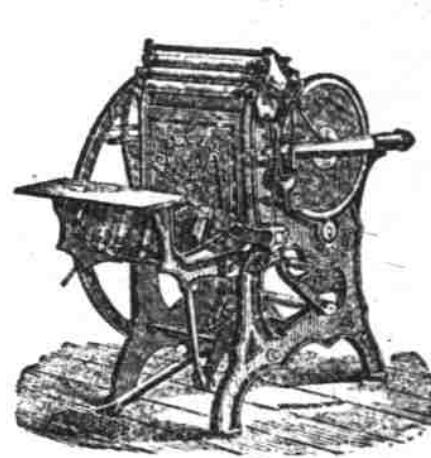
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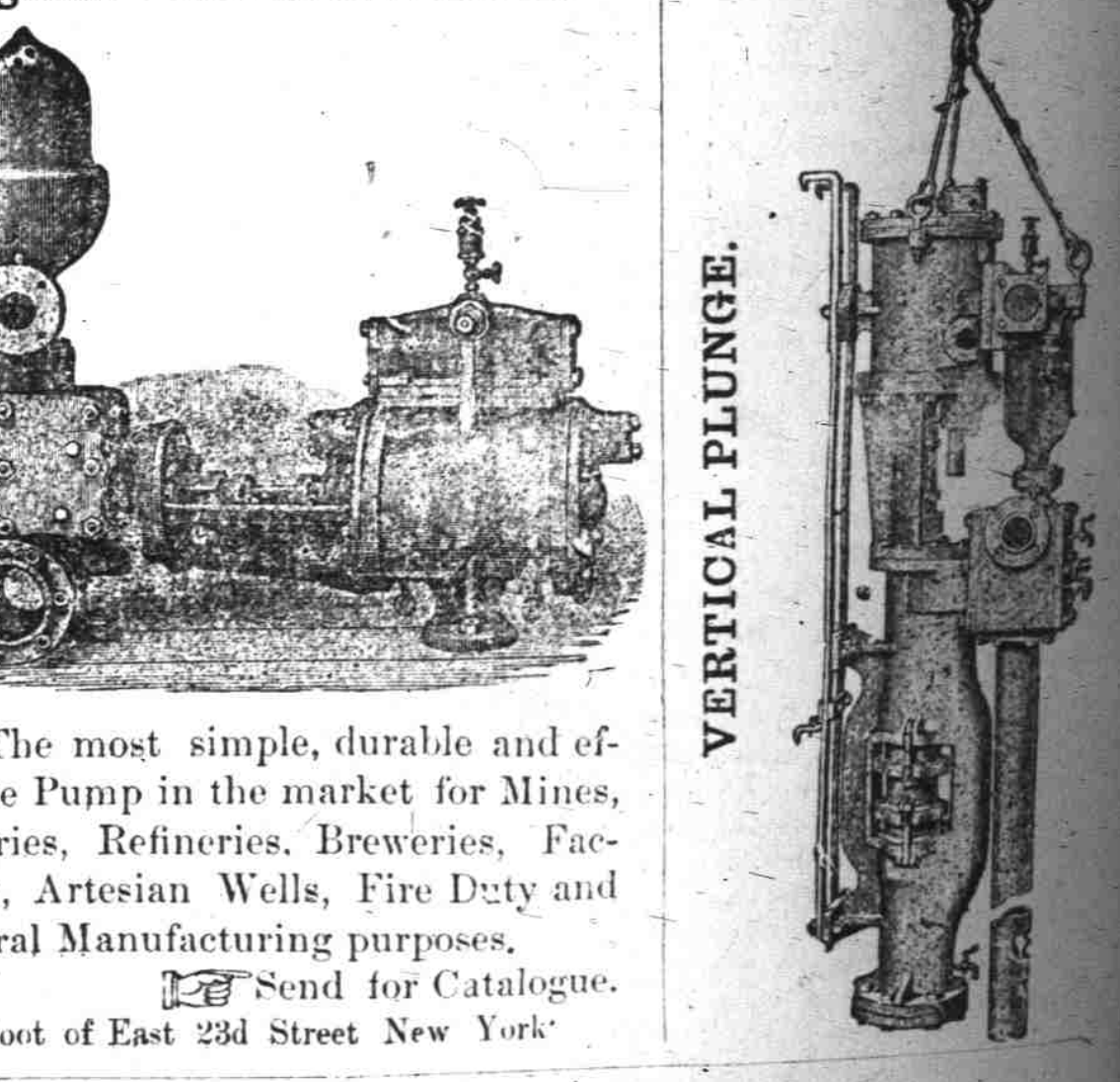
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