

NATURE'S SOFTENING TOUCHES.

Yet still the wilding flowers would blow,
The golden leaves would fall,
The seasons come, the seasons go,
And God be good to all.

Above the graves the blackberry hung
In bloom and green its wreath,
And hark! as if they rung
The chimes of peace beneath.

The beauty nature loves to share,
The gifts she hath for all,
The common light, the common air,
O'ercrept the graveyard's wall.

It knew the glow of eventide,
The sunrise and the noon,
And glorified and sanctified
It slept beneath the moon.

With flowers or snowflakes for its sod,
Around the seasons ran,
And evermore the love of God
Rebuke the fear of man.

Secure on God's all tender heart,
Alike rest great and small;
Why fear to lose our little part,
When He is pledged for all?

O careful heart and troubled brain,
Take hope and strength from this—
That nature never hints in vain,
Nor prophesies amiss.

Her wild birds sing the same sweet stave,
Her lights and airs are given
Alike to playground and the grave,
And over both is Heaven.

—John G. Whittier.

THE HOLE IN THE WALL.

His neighbors called old Sir Giles Travis a misanthrope and a miser. Not that they knew him, for he never left the high walls which surrounded his estate, and on no account was any one allowed to enter his domain, save the necessary servants and tradesmen.

One warm summer's afternoon Sir Giles was being drawn in his bath chair across the lawn, thence along a narrow pathway until the wall was reached. Under the tree there was a comfortable lounge chair, in which, with the help of his footman, Sir Giles took his seat.

"Push me a little nearer the wall," he cried, irritably. "Now you can go. Come back at 4 o'clock."

The baronet gazed after the footman until he disappeared among the trees. He then proceeded to displace a stone near the bottom of the wall. His fingers groped around, and he gave a sigh of deep satisfaction.

"No letter. They will come, then." A quarter of an hour passed, and he tapped his fingers impatiently on the magazine which lay in his lap.

"That's the boy," he muttered, as there came a soft rustling of dried leaves.

"She is late." The voice was impatient. Sir Giles chuckled softly.

"The impatience of youth." A glad cry was heard, the sound of a kiss, then another kiss.

"The girl now," the old man said softly.

Twenty years of solitude had left their marks on his face. As he listened to the love chatter of the young couple on the other side of the wall his face gradually softened.

Not always had he been the recluse and misanthrope. There was no prouder and happier man than Sir Giles had been some twenty years ago. His life and hopes were centered in his son Jack, a fine, manly young fellow, such as would gladden any father's heart.

The quarrel was a sudden one. The reason—a woman. Hard words were exchanged, for they were both possessed of the Travis temper. A parting in anger and two months afterward news came of Jack's death. Not a line or message had been left for his father.

The blow was a terrible one to Sir Giles. He closed his heart to all human sympathy and retired to the seclusion of Travis Towers.

A few months afterward he was stricken with paralysis, and the long years had been wearisome with suffering and ennui.

For the last two or three months a new interest had come into his life. The whole pretty love comedy seemed to have been played within earshot.

When first they met there was the difference of youth. Their voices at first were louder, but as their love increased their seats on the fallen tree without the wall grew closer together, and their voices were lowered when they began to exchange sweet loving nothings.

A week ago the boy had declared his passion. The old man's heart seemed to unfreeze and grow human again as he listened to the passionate pleading of the lover, the shy, timid answer, and the frenzied kisses that were exchanged.

Only twice since that day had they met, and a cloud had appeared on love's horizon.

"What did he say?" she asked, eagerly.

"He refused absolutely," he answered, mournfully.

"What reason did he give, Jack?" she demanded, indignantly.

"Your guardian told me that I was a penniless adventurer, and that it was your money I was after," he replied, moodily.

"The wretch! But it doesn't matter. We can marry without him."

"I did not know you had so much money, dear one. You are rich and I have nothing."

"But we have love."

"We can't live on that. It is true I have my profession, but I have only just become a doctor, and it is an uphill game unless one has money to buy a practice. I have none."

"Did he not hold out any hope?" she asked, tremulously.

"Yes. He said that if I could prove to him that I had a practice which would bring in five hundred a year he would give his consent. I must say that he is reasonable, but—"

"Will it take you very long to gain such a practice?"

"Years."

"Let us marry at once," she cried, impulsively. "I don't mind being poor."

There was a silence and Sir Giles looked irritably at the hole.

"I have made up my mind, dear."

"Yes."

"I am going away at once—to-morrow. You must forget me. It is not fair to you."

There was a sound of sobbing.

"Don't cry, darling," he said, pleadingly.

"The fool!" the baronet muttered.

"I can't let you go!" she cried, miserably.

"I will work hard—an-in-time, perhaps—"

The boy's voice broke.

"Don't go to-morrow. Stay till Saturday. It is only four days," she asked, pleadingly.

There was the sound of a passionate farewell, the rustle of leaves, and all was silence.

Saturday afternoon came, and Sir Giles looked anxiously at the hole in the wall. He took a large envelope and placed it in the hole.

They came at last. Their words were few and their voices tremulous.

"The last time, Jack, that we shall meet here," she said, brokenly.

"In the future, perhaps—"

"And I shall have no more use for that dear little hole in the wall, where I have found so many love messages from my darling."

She leaned down as she spoke.

"Jack, there is a letter here," she cried, excitedly.

"To Jack and Joan, with a lonely old man's love," she read in wonder.

"Open it at once."

With trembling fingers he broke the seal.

From the other side of the wall there came a hoarse but gleeful chuckle.

Jack drew a legal looking document from the envelope, which he began to read.

"Good Heavens!" he cried at last.

"Am I mad?"

"What is it?"

"Old Dr. Rutherford has sold his practice to me."

"To you?"

"Yes, and the money has been paid—£2000."

"Jack, what does it mean?"

Again they heard the hoarse chuckle. There was even more glee in it.

Two years have passed.

Jack's most valuable patient is Sir Giles Travis, and once or twice a week the old man sits in his chair near the hole in the wall, while a fair and happy girl plays with her baby on the lawn beside the old baronet.—E. Platt, in Illustrated Bits.

Can't Resist 'Em.

"Children are sometimes more cunning than we think, and when I say 'we,' I am speaking of the men who have a right to know something of children because of the parental responsibilities they wear," said the man with a couple of youngsters. "Close observation and experience have taught me that disobedience, so far from being offensive, is sometimes a virtue, a virtue because of its cleverness and because of the evident good nature of the breach. It would, in my judgment, be decidedly brutal in some circumstances to scold a child for disobedience. Disobedience should be offensive only when intended as an offense, when it is a wilful and purposeful defiance of the parental injunction. I have a case in point which will illustrate perfectly what I mean. My little girl is very fond of sausage. I thought she had consumed enough for one sitting and told her so. In a few seconds she had slipped around behind me, and shoved her head up under my arm. 'Papa,' she said, with a mischievous twinkle in her eye, 'let's play dog' and as she said it she threw out a chubby hand and grabbed a piece of sausage and dashed away with it, laughing as if she thought it the finest joke of the season. What could I do? Stop the laughter by scolding, and suppress the evident good nature of it all? She flanked me and got away with the goods, and since it was evident she meant no offense, no disrespect by her disobedience, there was nothing for me to do but accept the situation and laugh and frolic in her dog's game with her. And so I did. Wouldn't you act in the same way when disobedience is put forth in such sunny garb?"—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Something to Think About.

How to live comfortably with one's neighbor—that is the problem; to avoid the knocks and frictions which draw lines to men's faces and too often contract their souls. It is paradoxical, but true, that the larger the soul becomes the more room it creates for itself—a margin of quietness in which it remains untouched by petty jealousies and hurts. By the practice of charity and unselfishness a life builds for itself "more stately mansions" wherein it may dwell in peace.

A song in one's heart, a smile upon one's lips, cheery, a wholesome message of good will on one's tongue are wonderful helps to all kinds of people. There are so many burdens of sorrow and care and poverty and sin; so many doubting, discouraged, tempted hearts. To comfort and to make strong, to lift up and to bless—these are these no missions worth while? Try it, friend, and prove how truly your own heart and soul are cheered and made brave by your very endeavor to carry sunshine into dark places.

The Rio Tinto copper mine in Spain is the oldest producing mine in the world.

COTTON CROP LETTER

Messrs. Klumpp & Co. Issue Their Regular Report

The following cotton crop letter is furnished by Messrs. W. F. Klumpp & Co.:

The weather conditions the past fortnight have continued unfavorable, and private advices with few exceptions report the crop to be very backward, compared with last season, farmers being unable to work the fields on account of the protracted rains. In the eastern belt, the plant is making better progress than in the central and western belt, but as a rule over the entire region the crop is doing poorly, especially in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, where the plant is badly in the grass, and in Texas and Arkansas, where the outlook in many sections is very discouraging, farmers having been unable to finish planting, and some fields being abandoned on account of wet weather.

The crop is about two weeks later than usual, and considering the reduction in acreage, of about 15, as per our crop letter of the thirteenth ult., the weather conditions of the next thirty days are of greatest importance, as they will throw more light on the chances for a crop in keeping with consumption.

Weather conditions will continue to govern prices for some time to come.

Memorial Exercises at Trinity College

Trinity College, Special.—Trinity College commencement began Sunday morning with services in Craven Memorial Hall in memory of the late Mr. Washington Duke, the benefactor of the institution, these services taking the place of the regular baccalaureate sermon. More than 1,300 students and representative people of Durham assembled in the large hall to hear and attend the services, which were conducted by Dr. J. C. Kilgo, president of the college. An appropriate musical programme was rendered on a magnificent scale by a splendid choir of 25 voices, under the leadership of Mr. A. S. Cheek. On account of the occasion services in the Methodist churches uptown were suspended, the ministers and their congregations uniting in the services here. The graduating class attended in a body, and the remarks of Dr. Kilgo were addressed particularly to them. The address of Dr. Kilgo was a masterful one. Before the address of the principal speaker, Dr. W. P. Few, dean of the faculty, read an appreciation from that body of the work of Mr. Duke.

Big Building Destroyed.

Milwaukee, Wis., Special.—The Milwaukee Exposition Building, occupying a city block, was destroyed by fire Sunday evening. The loss is \$300,000; insurance \$75,000. The building was in the block bounded by Fifth and Sixth streets, running north and south, and by Cedar and State streets, running east and west. The fire is supposed to have been started from an electric light wire. A blaze originated in the northwest portion of the gallery, just at the time the National Skat Congress completed its afternoon session. At the time the flames broke out there were over 7,500 persons in the building, but all got out in safety.

To Repair Ships at Manila.

Manila, By Cable.—The naval board which has examined into the condition of the Russian warships here reports that the Oleg will require sixty days, the Aurora thirty days and the Jemchug seven days to effect repairs. Admiral Enquist has requested permission to repair here, saying that he would be unable to sail except in a smooth sea, on account of his vessels needing patching near the water line. The Japanese consul at Manila called on Governor Wright twice Sunday to make inquiries regarding the disposition of the Russian vessels.

Killed by Train.

Harrisburg, Pa., Special.—John Tittle, a farmer aged 55 years, and his son, James, aged 17 years, were instantly killed, and his daughter, Bertha, aged 13 years, was fatally injured by being struck by an express train on the bridge on the Pennsylvania railroad between Mexico and Port Royal Sunday. Tittle and his children were on their way home from Sunday school at Port Royal.

Togo Visits Rojostvensky.

Tokio, By Cable.—Vice Admiral Togo visited Vice Admiral Rojostvensky at the naval hospital at Sasebo Saturday and expressed his sympathy for the Admiral's wounds. He praised the courageous fight of the Russians and expressed the hope that Vice Admiral Rojostvensky would soon be able to return to Russia. Rojostvensky was deeply moved by the admiral's words, and thanked him. He congratulated Japan on the courage and patriotism of her sailors, and said it lessened his regret and the sorrow of defeat to know the high character of the victors.

Boat in Distress.

Shanghai, By Cable.—A Russian torpedo boat which was towed in here Sunday reports that she had been drifting for six days with 180 men on board and water sufficient for only one day left and with very little food. The vessel was damaged forward. The crew has already been transferred to the Russian transport interned at Woosung.

\$200,000 Loss by Lightning.

Chicago, Special.—During a thunderstorm Sunday, three churches were struck by lightning and two of them were destroyed. Several other buildings were struck and damaged. The total loss is \$200,000. The two churches destroyed were Unity church in Oak Park, and Sacramento Avenue Methodist Episcopal church. North Englewood Congregational church was damaged. The churches were empty.

STRIKE CHIEF JAILED

Leader of Chicago Striking Teamsters Taken to Prison

WAS LATER RELEASED ON BOND

President Shea, of the Teamsters' Union Together With President MacGee, of the Truck Drivers' Union, is Taken Into Custody on Indictments Charging Conspiracy.

Chicago, Special.—Cornelius P. Shea, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and leader in the strike which has existed in Chicago for the last two months, was arrested and taken to jail Monday night. With him on the journey from the saloon in which he was arrested to the office of the sheriff, and then to the jail, was Hugh MacGee, president of the Truck Drivers' Union. Both men were taken into custody on capias issued on indictments charging them with conspiracy, which were voted by the grand jury that adjourned last Saturday night. When arrested, Shea lost his temper completely and denounced the sheriff and all his works in emphatic language. He was told by the sheriff that he would be given all necessary time to procure bondsmen, but that he would be taken to jail at once unless he moderated his manner of talking.

Shea again broke into violent language, and the sheriff, turning to Deputy Honan and Wilson, commanded them to take Shea to jail immediately.

Shea saw that he had gone too far, and attempted to say something to the sheriff but the deputies took him quickly into hall and from there to the street, where they hailed a cab and conveyed him to jail. President MacGee followed in another cab, and in a few minutes the men were inside the jail. Both were searched, according to the usual custom, by Jailer Whitman and were then taken to cells and locked up.

After being a prisoner for a little more than two hours, both Shea and MacGee were released, their attorneys having procured bonds, which were approved by Judge Tuthill.

Vessels Must Leave Manila.

Washington, Special.—Admiral Enquist will not be allowed to repair his ships at Manila. This Government has decided that as the injuries to the vessels were not caused by either sea or storm they will be obliged to refuse permission for the vessels to be repaired there.

Secretary Taft cabled the following instructions to Governor Wright, at Manila, regarding the ships:

"Time cannot be given for the repairs or injuries received in battle. Therefore the vessels cannot be repaired unless interned until the end of hostilities."

Admiral Train has been instructed accordingly. It is stated by Secretary Taft that if the Russian vessels agreed to leave Manila in their present condition they were welcome to do so, but as it did not appear that they had suffered from any damage caused by sea or storm, this Government was obliged to take the position above outlined.

The President's decision regarding the disposition of the Russian vessels at Manila, that they shall intern or put to sea, is, it is said here, in accordance with the best naval opinion and is in pursuit of the policy of strict neutrality followed by the Washington government from the beginning of the war. It is specially declared that there is no intention to show the slightest favoritism in the matter, and everything possible will be done for the comfort of the wounded Russians. The ships, when interned, will of course be allowed to be put in habitable condition, and such repairs as are necessary to keep them afloat will be allowed.

Matter Rests With Enquist.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—Both the Foreign Office and the Admiralty say the decision whether to disarm the three Russian cruisers at Manila or effect repairs there and endeavor to reach a Russian port, was left in Admiral Enquist's hands, to determine according to his best judgment. Little doubt was felt that the cruisers would be interned until the end of the war, as before the repairs which Enquist cables are imperative could be effected, a Japanese squadron would be off Corregidor Island, waiting to capture or sink them.

More Headed For Manila.

Hongkong, By Cable.—The steamer Zafrio, which has arrived here from Manila, reports having sighted a Russian volunteer fleet steamer, two supposed torpedo boats and a three-funneled cruiser, accompanied by a deeply-laden transport, Monday morning, in latitude 20.59 north and longitude 115.23 east. The vessels were steering southward.

Funds For Kentucky College.

Frankfort, Ky., Special.—Governor Beckham received from Hon. Wm. J. Bryan, of Nebraska, a check for \$400 to be paid to the Kentucky Agricultural and Mechanical and Industrial College, and invested. The annual proceeds are to be purchased a prize for the best essay discussing the principles of free government. The money is part of a fund of \$10,000 left to Mr. Bryan as trustee by the late Philo Sheridan Bennett, of Connecticut, to be distributed among 25 colleges.

NORTH CAROLINA CROP BULLETIN

Weather Conditions Given Out by the Department Observer.

There is increasing diversity in the condition of crops as reported from various sections of North Carolina, but, as a rule, the weather was more favorable for farm work over a large portion of the State than for several weeks. Still rains occurred on the 29, 30 and 31 of May in many central counties, which kept the soil very wet and continued to interrupt farm work. A number of very severe local storms with high winds and hail damaged crops in several counties on May 31, chiefly in Halifax, Sampson, Martin and Craven counties in the eastern district, Scotland, Johnson, Vance, Guilford, and Harnett in the central district, and only Surry and Iredell in the west. Over nearly all the western half of the State, as well as most of the northern and northeastern counties, the week was dry and favorable for work, which progressed vigorously. Many if not most of the fields which have been foul for several weeks were given a thorough cultivation, and crops placed in good condition. On the other hand the temperature conditions have not been favorable for the rapid growth of vegetation. While the average temperature was only slightly below normal, the nights have been quite cool, and unfavorable for both cotton and corn. The day temperatures, while not very high, in connection with more abundant sunshine were more favorable. The coolest days occurred from the 1st to the 4th of June.

Cotton is doing fairly well where it has been kept cultivated; the stands remain good, but growth has been slow on account of the absence of stimulating high temperatures; in the majority of counties where the crop is uncultivated and grassy, and much of it not yet chopped to stands, the condition of cotton is such that a rapid recovery would probably occur with warmer, dry weather. Corn is also improving slowly in growth, but in many counties where originally excellent stands had been secured, the stands are now reported irregular and poor on account of the ravages of cut and bud worms; some farmers are hilling corn in the southern portion; the planting of lowlands could be finished with a week or ten days of dry weather. Peanuts are doing well; early planted are being chopped to stands, late planted are coming up slowly. Wheat, oats and rye are ripening rapidly, cutting has begun, and the harvest will be general in a week or so. While in the west reports concerning these crops continue favorable, in the central portion wheat is said to have suffered considerable injury by excessive moisture, which has caused the plants in many fields to fall to the ground before ripening; rust is also reported in many counties, but attacked the crop too late to do material damage. Irish potatoes are giving a poor yield in the eastern portion of the State where digging is under way, but are reported in good condition in the west. Sweet potatoes have all been transplanted and are doing well. Garden vegetables are generally fine. The prospect for apples has diminished on account of blight. Hay making has commenced with indications for a large and excellent crop.

Order to Sons of Veterans.

The following General Order No. 2 has been issued from the headquarters of the North Carolina Division, Department of the Army of Northern Virginia, United Sons of Confederate Veterans, Fayetteville, N. C., June 3, 1905.

"GENERAL ORDER NO. 2." "It is earnestly hoped that the young men of North Carolina, representing the United Sons of Confederate Veterans in this division, will see to it that the order is duly represented at the annual meeting in Louisville, on June 14-16, 1905, the time set by our fathers, the veterans, for the next annual reunion.

"This order exists to perpetuate memories of a patriotism and devotion to duty, in which our State stands second to none. It is with regret, therefore, that we have to acknowledge a sad lack of interest on the part of the young men in this division, as compared with others about us.

"The safety of our country depends largely upon our young men, native Americans, with patriotism and preparedness; and recent world-events impress this the more upon us; and we know of no better way to inspire our young men than to have them preserve in memory the unsullied record of our veteran fathers.

"We therefore earnestly hope to see the division well represented.

"By order of
"E. R. MacKETHAN,
"Commander N. C. Division
"U. S. C. V.
J. A. MacARTHUR, Adjutant."

Shot Escaped Prisoner.

Winston-Salem, Special.—James Galloway, colored, who was sentenced to the county roads last week for larceny, attempted to make his escape Monday and was shot by one of the guards, Mr. Robert Shore. Nineteen shot took effect in the negro's back and his right side and his condition is regarded as serious. Galloway, when asked why he attempted to escape, replied that he did not know, except that he had decided that road work did not agree with him. His term was four months for larceny and one month for attempting to break out of jail.

Will Contest Lease.

Goldsboro, Special.—At a meeting of magistrates here, resolutions were adopted authorizing the county commissioners to take steps to contest the lease of the Atlantic & North Carolina Company on grounds of non-fulfillment of contract in their refusal to reduce rates. C. T. Foy is credited with being instigator of the movement and it is expected that the old warfare of the lease question has broken out again.

NORTH STATE NEWS

Many New Items Gathered From all Sections.

Charlotte Cotton Market.

These figures represent prices paid to wagons:

Good middling	.....8 1/2
Strict middling	.....8 1/2
Striding	.....7 1/2 to 8
Tinges	.....6 1/2 to 7 1/2
Stains	.....6 1/2 to 7 1/2

General Cotton Market.

Galveston, quiet	.....8 1/2
New Orleans, easy	.....8 1/2
Mobile, firm	.....8 1/2
Savannah, steady	.....8 1/2
Charleston, steady	.....8 1/2
Wilmington, steady	.....8 1/2
Norfolk, steady	.....8 1/2
Baltimore, normal	.....8 1/2
New York, quiet	.....8 1/2
Boston, quiet	.....8 1/2
Philadelphia, steady	.....9.00
Houston, quiet	.....8 1/2
Augusta, quiet	.....8 1/2
Memphis, steady	.....8 11-16
St. Louis, firm	.....8 1/2
Louisville, firm	.....9.00

New Enterprises.

Raleigh, Special.—The State charters the South Atlantic Terminal Company, to construct and operate a railway between some point in New Hanover county and Southport, a distance of 30 miles, of which three miles are in New Hanover and 27 in Brunswick. The capital stock is \$150,000, and H. H. Dougherty, of New York city, holds all the shares except five. Another charter is granted the Buck Shoals Company, of Arden, Henderson county, this being granted general privileges, such as building a town, operating factories and manufacturing, developing water power, etc., the capital stock being \$50,000. J. W. Sluder and others of Asheville, being the stockholders. Charters are granted to two rival Republican papers, both of which, it is said, are to be printed in Greensboro, which is Republican headquarters in North Carolina. One is to be the Industrial Publishing Company, the name of which was at first The North State, of this the capital stock being \$50,000, and among the stockholders being J. M. Millikan, of Greensboro, the largest stockholder, next coming E. C. Duncan, Spencer Adams and Tyre Glenn, each with 10 shares; J. Elwood Cox, A. E. Holton, Harry Skinner, H. C. Dockery and Thomas S. Rollins, with 40 shares each. The other charter is to the Tar Heel Publishing Company, also with \$50,000 authorized capital, Spencer Blackburn having 238 shares, and E. A. Miller, H. L. Grant, R. B. Samms, 40 each.

A charter is granted the Greensboro Fire Insurance Company, capital stock \$100,000, J. W. Fry and others being the stockholders; also a charter to the Lanier Club, of Tryon, Polk county, which will build a library and establish a circulating library, there being no capital stock, the incorporators being a large number of ladies and gentlemen of that section, and some other towns. Another charter is granted the Pipe-Bending Machine Company, of Charlotte, authorized capital \$100,000, J. W. Conway being the principal stockholder.

High Point's Growth.

High Point, Special.—The following is the official report of the buildings erected here the past year and their cost: Dwellings, 194, at a cost of \$172,800; stores, 10, at a cost of \$30,000; factories, 13, at a cost of \$83,000; churches, 3, at a cost of \$22,000; hotels, 2, at a cost of \$35,000. Total, \$342,000, or over one-third of a million dollars invested in buildings here in 12 months. This shows the rapid growth of the town. One of the substantial evidences of growth is that residences alone are not built, as in the case of some towns, but along with them are factories to support the rapidly growing population. The factories are built first and then the houses for the employees to live in.

Secretary Parker's Report.

Secretary T. B. Parker, of the Farmers'