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# The Chatham Record

## THE CHATHAM RECORD Rates of Advertising

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## BRIEF NEWS NOTES FOR THE BUSY MAN

MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK TOLD IN CONDENSED FORM.

WORLD'S NEWS EPITOMIZED

Complete Review of Happenings of Greatest Interest From All Parts of World

### Southern.

The Florida senate passed the Angle bill, abolishing the convict lease system by the vote of 21 to 7. The bill was recently passed by the house, and now it only remains for Governor Gilchrist to sign the measure to sound the death-knell of the lease system in this state. The bill was passed by the senate only after a long and nard fight. Only one change was made in the bill as it passed the house, and this in nowise affects the sense of the measure as it was originally drafted. The bill has been placed in the hands of Governor Gilchrist, and it is expected that he will take some action in regard to it within the next few palace, and again to disperse a mob great junior sagamore position in line days. Speculation is rife as to wheth- which had stoned the building occu- for presiding officer, there being two er the governor will sign the measure, pied by El Imparcial, and had set it candidates, D. E. Henderson, Newalthough there are enough votes in on fire. El Imparcial, which contin- Bern, and Roy C. Falannagan, Greenfavor of the bill to carry it over the ued to prepare for publication, de- ville, the latter receiving a majority governor's veto.

President Taft, in Washington, touched an electric button and signaled the start of the parade in Mobile, Ala., to 'celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of Mobile by the French. The marchers went around the old limits of the city as marked out by the maps drawn by Bienville and Aberville. Included in the parade were 300 bluejackets and marines from the fleet at Pensacola. They were under Rear Admiral Ward and Rear Admiral Lucien

The executive committee of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen voted unanimously for a strike of the firemen on the Southern railway should the company refuse to accede to their demand for a 20 per cent. increase in wages. The committee will confer again with President Finley, and if he refuses the demand will at once order a strike. When informed of the action President Finney declined to make any statement. A strike will affect 2,400 men on 9,000 miles of road.

the streets of Moultrie, Ga., when a white woman was sentenced to work upon the streets in default of paying a fine after her conviction in the recorder's court. She was convicted of an infraction of the municipal ordinances and sentenced to pay nent bankers ever convicted and sent a fine of \$10 or work twenty days on to Federal penitentiaries under the the streets. Being unable to raise the national banking laws. Not only did required amount she was forced to accept the alternative and was placed at work along with a negro convict. Enraged citizens quickly paid her fine.

W. P. Brown, the well-known bull leader in cotton, one of the first to predict 16 cents for the summer the pardons, the president took a months of this season, is once more a daily visitor on the New Orleans laws or any other laws must be upcotton exchange, and the gossip of the floor is that he has an active interest in the market. He seems to have almost completely recovered from his recent illness which was the cause of his return to his home here from New York, where, during the winter, he was engaged in large operations in the cotton market there.

The South Carolina planters of sea island cotton gathered in Charleston to take action to secure a reasonable market for the staple. It was decided to commence the campaign for a better marketing condition by combining with the National Farmers' Union and attempting to have that body co-operate with the planters in marketing their crop at a profit. President C. S. Barrett of Union City, Ga, who was present, assured the planters of the co-operation of the na tional body.

## General.

Pierre Vedrine, the French aviator, arrived at Madrid, Spain, being the stage of the Paris-to-Madrid aviation lin is the sister of Mrs. Taft. over the Spanish section. Twenty machines were entered.

No effort is made now to disguise wil lleave the country at an early expressed by Vice President Sherman, state board of examiners. There is ent countries in Europe.

nesty to political prisoners.

Canada and Porto Rico.

railroads out of commission.

Francisco Leon de la Barra, the Mexican foreign minister and former ambassador at Washington, took the oath of office as provisional president of Mexico. He will act as the chief executive in succession to Por ferio Diaz, who resigned, until a general election can be held. Order prevailed throughout the capital. Porferio THIRTEENTH GREAT SUN SES-Diaz, for whom during 30 years ali Mexico has stood to one side, hat in hand, stole from the capital with great secrecy. Only a few devoted friends whom he dared to trust followed him to the station. He was bound for Vera Cruz to take ship for Spain. General Diaz undoubtedly will make

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his home in Spain, probably in Madrid. The Revolution in Mexico will hit the till of that country to the tune of more than \$20,000,000 (American), according to Policarpo Bonilo, former president of Honduras, who arrived in New Orleans from Mexico City. "It looks as though peace will come to Mexico," said he, "but I doubt that it will be permanent. I fea rthe hasty will be permanent. I fear the hasty give rise to many rival ambitions lieved of the restraint to which they City. were subjected by the former chief executive."

For six hours Mexico City was in the hands of a mob until a rainstorm, more effective than police and soldiers, caused the dispersal of most of them. Twice soldiers fired on the ed great sachem and J. R. Anderson, mob, the first time at the Zocalo, the Charlotte, great senior sagamore. The big square in front of the national race of the greatest rivalry was for SI . the attacks made on the build- of six. Retiring Great Sachem W. L. ing, goes so far as to place the esti- Stamey, High Point, was elected great

and Mayor Gaynor participating in of the United States, which meets in the ceremonies, New York's new \$10, 000,000 library was formally opened | Elizabeth City, was re-elected great | The library is the largest, most cost- chief of records without opposition. ly and one of the most beautiful buildings in the world. It is bigger than keeper of wigwam or state treasurer; the congressional library, holding the candidates being W. E. Hendron, shelf room for 1,500,000 volumes and High Point, and the incumbent, E. floor space of 375,000 square feet, against the 326,000 square feet of the congressional library. The land upon which the structure stands is valued at \$20,000,000.

## Washington.

Unless otherwise directed by congress all that remains of the ill-fated battleship Maine, after it has been raised from Havana harbor and stripped of parts of value, will be towed out to sea and sunk in deep water. The board of engineers engaged in raising the vessel, so recommended in their report which the war department submitted to congress. Secretary Dickinson has approved the recommendation An unusual sight was witnessed on and says: "Action will be taken accordingly unless congress directs oth-

> President Taft denied the applications for the pardon of Charles W. Morse of New York and John R. Walsh of Chicago, the two most promithe president refuse to pardon either Morse or Walsh, but he also declined, at this time, to exercise any other sort of executive clemency in these cases or to shorten the sentences imposed upon the two men. In denying firm stand that the national banking held when they affect the rich man, even more than when they affect the

Senator Borah of Idaho, author of the resolution providing for the direct election of senators, which is now the unfinished business of the senate, announced that he would press the consideration of the resolution without interruption to its conclusion. Senator Heyburn of Idaho predicted dire consequences which might befall the country if the direct election amendment to the Constitution were made in the form and manner provided for in the Borah resolution.

Society in Washington has solved to its satisfaction the reason for the ac cumulation of household goods by Maj. Archibald Butt, the apparently confirmed bachelor, who holds the exalted position as aide to President Taft, as well known as the robust figure of the chief executive. It is expected almost any day that the announcement will be made of the engagement of Major Butt and Mrs. it looks now as if it would not be first contestant to complete the third Lucy Herron Laughlin. Mrs. Laugh-

race. The Paris-to-Madrid race was The joint resolution admitting Aribegun on May 21 under the auspices | zona and New Mexico to immediate of the Petit-Parisian, which offered a statehood, but withholding approval Prize of \$20,000. In addition the Span- of the constitutions of both states un- in North Carolina employing probvoce vote. No roll call was demanded

on the final vote. Congress will not adjourn until close held by the county superintendents. the fact that President Diaz of Mexico to September. This is the opinion the questions to be prepared by the Central Highway Stirs Enthusiasm. date. It is expected that he will Representative Underwood, majority to be at the same time examinations spend several months visiting differ- leader, and also Speaker Champ Clark. for the five-year public school cer- be built and will give a new impetus Mr. Underwood said that the house is tificates provided by law for teachers to the good roads cause in North The Mexican chamber of deputies determined to put it up to the senate to avoid annual examinations.

passed the bill providing general am- to vote on the farmers' free list bill The state department replied to the Convicted Using Mails to Defraud. A ban was placed on tipping at a criticism of the German press on mass meeting of barbers in St. Louis, the arbitration treaty between the Bowers was convicted of using the The action comes as the result of United States and France by saying mails for fradulent purposes. He was a student, the prize, a \$5 gold piece, investigation by the International Un- that Germany had herself to blame sentenced to one year and one day for the best essay on the prevention of Journeyman Barbers of Amer- for not being include in the proposed in the Atlanta prison. He ordered and treatment of tuberculosis that ica, representing the United States, convention. It was stated that the furniture and other goods from mail was offered by the North Carolina treaty as now drafted was simply a order houses, to be paid for on the Federation of Women's clubs. On notification that peace had been basis indicating the terms of arbitra- installment plan, sending the orders agreed to, the management of the tion which the United States was dis- in a number of fictitious names from Monument to Hon. R. Z. Linney. National railways of Mexico began posed to discuss with any of the pow- Rosemary, Halifax county, Wilming- At Taylorsville a monument has reconstruction. It is estimated that ers entered. In other words ,the Gerton and Norfolk. He is known to been erected to the late R. Z. Linney the rebels have put 2,472 miles of man government may be included in have obtained over \$6,000 worth of in the town cemetery. It is three the pact if the basis for negotiations goods in this way. He has a wife feet by seven and nearly two feet appeals favorably to the German pee- and children in Wilmington.

## ANNUAL CONVENTION A BANK CASHIER SUICIDES ORDER OF RED MEN

SION AT ELIZABETH CITY. SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

## AN INCREASE OF MEMBERS

Election of Officers-Retiring Great Sachem W. L. Stamey Elected Great Prophet and Great Representative

Raleigh - The thirteenth great sun session of Improved Order Red Men of North Carolina convened in its when the Mexicans find themselves re. first business session at Elizabeth

> One matter of considerable interest was the large number of members admitted, being the largest number in the history of the state organization.

W. J. Leary, Sr., Edenton, was electmate at 30 dead, mostly at the Zocalo. prophet and also by acclamation great With President Taft, Governor Dix representative to the grand council Cleveland, Ohio. W. Ben Goodwin.

> A warm race was made for great P. H. Strunck, Wilmington, the latter winning out by a small majority. Ben W. Taylor, Washington, and W. S. Liddell, Charlotte, were rivals for the vacancy as one of the great repthe United States, the latter being

> Among committee reports of interest to Red Men of the state was that of state of the order and membership. The order is in better financial condition and larger in membership than ever before and plans were approved for continuing the was excedingly gratifying and the announcement elicited great applause and enthusiasm. Upwards of 1,200 new Red Men, have been added

North Carolina Bonds are Sold.

North Carolina 4 per cent forty year bonds to the amount of \$310,000 were sold to Messrs. C. C. McDonald. of Raleigh, and A. B. Leach of New York, for \$310,124. Of this amount, \$250,000 is for the erection of the new fireproof administration building find board in the town. For the sumand \$60,000 for the state school for mer teachers' term soon to begin, the feeble minded. There were sev- fully 50 applicants have been turned enteen bidders for the bonds.

Must Not Bleach Flour. The pure food division of the state flour was shipped into the state by mission well. the Cumberland mill of Nashville. Tenn., and was found in the stock Prize Winners in Auto Contest. of H. J. Ilive of Asheville. The fine for this is \$200. The department W. M. Allen, says. The fact is the low: department proposes now to resume ing as deleterious to the health of the Kuck's Stevens-Durvea tied.

Statesville Air Line Progressing. The Statesville Air Line is going right ahead. Practically all of the the terminus. In the course of the second. summer the track will be laid, and long before the dreams of some of well, first; H. Y. Righton's Hupmothe citizens will be realized.

Teachers' Examinations July 13-14... There are 175 public high schools called for each of the county seats in this state July 13 and 14, to be at Asheville have been shipped.

In Federal court at Raleigh, J. L.

HITTSBORO, GHATHAM GOUNTY, N. G., MAY 31, 1911.

R. M. Spruill of Tirrell County, Banker and Superintendent of Schools. Short in Accounts.

Raleigh.-R. M. Spruill, cashier of the Merchants' and Farmers' bank at Columbia, Tirrell county, and superintendent of the county schools. was found dead in the woods some distance from that town with a bullet in his brain. By his side was a note stating that two men whose names the authorities are withholding were responsible for his suicide, and directing the disposition of his money and property. He had been dead for some time. Recent examination of the bank's books disclosed complications in the bank's affairs, and a speto Great Council of the United States | cial examiner was sent to work on the books. Sprill turned over everything to the auditor and disappeared. The first evidence of a shortage came in a telegram from the county treasurer to the state treasurer at Raleigh, holding up a state school fund check for \$1,000. Immediately search began for Spruill.

> Getting Ready for Big Legal Battle. As a preliminary proceeding to entering upon the actual trial of the famous Ware-Kramer suit against the American Tobacco company for \$1, 500,000 damages on June 13 in the Federal court here, United States Judge H. G. Connor has directed that contending counsel to appear June 6 and submit all arguments on pending motions, so that all these may be cleared up before the jury trial comes up. Among the motions to be thus disposed of are that each side present certain books and letter files not yet drawn into the litigation. The depositions taken in this case already constitute a record of four thousand fire-eaten woodwork to the stream beor more typewritten pages and there are numerous exceptions noted that are to be disposed of so far as Judge Connor's rulings are concerned before the trial begins.

Enforce Quarantine and Vaccination. The Raleigh school committee has passed an order prohibiting the attendance of any child at the public schools of the city unless there has been vaccination with results satisresentative to the great council of factory to the city physician. The appearance of two cases of smallpox in the schools a few weeks ago brought about this order. At the same time the city authorities have determined to keep up rigid quarantine of smallpox cases and persons exposed as in the past in spite of the recent repeal of the state law requiring quarantine, a change that was brought great work for another year on larg- about by the state board of health on er scale than ever before undertaken. the much criticised ground that vac-The increase in membership during cination is the proper preventative of the past year which closed May 1, the spread of smallpox and that quarantine is an expensive protection for the few who wilfully stand out against being vaccinated.

Teachers' Training School Succeds. East Carolina Teachers' Training school, at Greenville, has a remarkable record for an institution only two years old. The enrollment the past year reached 226, which was 32 more than the dormitories will accommodate, the overflow having to away for want of rooms. Despite the handicap of receiving no appropriation for improvements by the last legislature, treatment not accorded department of agriculture has had any other state school, this school has seized a lot of flour at Asheville be- done a great work. As its name cause it is highly bleached in viola- implies, it is a training school for tion of the state pure food law. The teachers and it is carrying out its

Following a meeting of the technical committee of the Savannah automosome time ago discontinued prosecu- bile club, the winners in the endurtions for slight bleaching but this is ance run from Savannah to Charlotte very much bleached, the food chemist, were announced. The winners fol-

Class A, Morning News trophyprosecutions for even slight bleach- T. A. Bryson's Packard and H. F. Class B, Augusta Chronicle trophy

> -R. V. Connerat's Buick, first; J. E. Finner's Buick, second. Class C, Columbia State tropy-J. H. Ham of Charlotte in Maxwell,

grading is done to three miles from first; I. V. Seckinger in E. M. F., Class D, Charlotte Observer trophy -W. P. Durst of Greenwood in Max-

bile, second.

Instruments and Uniform for Bands. In addition to getting new instruments from the war department, the ish Aero Club gave prizes amounting til the people have voted on certain ably more than 600 teachers, and it bands of the three regiments of North 10 \$10,000 and King Alfonso offered proposed amendments to them, passed is for the filling of these positions Carolina National Guard are getting a special prize for the fastest speed the house of representatives by a viva as teachers that the examinations are new full dress uniforms. The new

> The central highway proposition has the state stirred. It is going to Carolina.

> Schoolgirl's Essay Wins \$5 Prize. At the Raleigh Murphy school there was presented to Miss Edith Farmer,

# ON SEABOARD RAIL

DOUBLE-HEADER COAL TRAIN PLUNGES HEADLONG INTO BURNING TRESTLE.

## HAD NO TIME TO STOP TRAIN

Seventeen Cars of Coal Pile on Top of Engines and Men at Bottom of Creek-Two Fatally Injured-One Fireman Saves Himself.

Charlotte, N. C .- A double-header Seaboard freight train plunged headlong through a burning trestle between Bostic and Ellenboro, N. C. Three men, all white, were killed. They were Engineer R. M. Green of Monroe, N. C., Engineer J. M. Lindsey of Cherryville, N. C., and Fireman Roy Docley of Monroe, N. C. Those seriously injured were Early Lewis, colored, a fireman from Monroe, and Lon Neely, colored a brakeman.

Capt. Frank Howell of Charlotte, was conductor of the train, which consisted of 29 cars lcaded with Clinchfield coal destined for various points in this section and to the South. The train was drawn by two engines, owing to its weight. The fact that the trestle was burning was not discovered until too late to halt before reaching it. Both engines and 15 of the cars crashed through the engines. Engineer Green's body was extricated at once. A wrecking train was started from Monroe for the scene of the tragedy as soon as tidings of it reached that place.

The scene of the accident was Watkin's trestle, two miles east of Bostic. No other members of the craw except those specified were injured.

## FARM CROPS OF THE SOUTH.

Growth in Past Decade Pointed Out by Southery Railway's President. Washington.-The astounding progress of the Southern states along agricultural lines is pointed out by to the comparative figures made public by the government showin "he increase in the value of farm os in 1910 as compared with 1899.

The values in the two years referred to with percentages of increase.

are as ionows.		
Value	Value Pe	r. cent
States 1910	1899 of increase	
Ga\$210,192,000	\$72,985,000	188
S. C 140,009,000	51,324,000	173
Ala 136,867,000	62,584,000	119
Miss 134,401,000	75,066,000	79
N. C 122,037,000	53,214,000	129
Ky110,731,000	65,655,000	69
Tenn 102,009,000	56,459,000	81
Va 71,264,000	41,517,000	72
Fla 15,104,000	6,677,000	126

\$1,042,614,000 \$485,481,000 115 President Finley, believing the interests of the Southern Railway company and the people of the territory it serves are identical, states that the Southern is devoting much of its energies toward making Southern development more positive. It has now in operation live stock and cotton culture departments, for the purpose of promoting the raising of live stock and securing larger yields of cotton to the acre as well as aiding in the boll weevil fight. It is now conducting a campaign for good roads throughout the South with a road improvement train with the hope of inducing the construction of a complete system of improved highways.

Civil War Prisoner's Feat. Terryville, Conn .- A memorial cannon and tablet were dedicated here to Dorence Atwater, who was born here. While a war prisoner at Ansonville, Atwater copied for the Confederate government the names of 13,000 Federal prisoners who died while in confinement and secreted on his person a duplicate list. By means of this duplicate list the graves of all the dead were located at the close of the war.

Postoffice Department Out of Debt. Washington.-For the first time in the history of the service, it is said, the deficit in the postoffice deartment has been entirely wiped out and \$1,-000,000 surplus for the current fiscal year, ending June 30 next, is in the treasury to the department's credit. Postmaster General Hitchcock has signed a warrant returning to the secretary of the treasury \$3,000,000, the last of the amount set apart from the public funds to assist in defraying the expenses of the postal service for the present fiscal year.

Field Mass For Spanish War Dead. Washington.-Military field mass for the Spanish war dead was celebrated in the shadow of the Washington monument before and audience of fully 25,000 people. President Taft, of the kind celebrated in Washington, been going about collecting them.

## MEN'S PLUMED HATS APPEAR

NO. 42.

Downy Adornment for Masculine Attire Is the Greatest Departure in a Century.

Chicago.-Plumed hats for men are the latest. They have made their appearance in Chicago and have caused a great wave of excitement among the fashionable men of the city. They are the biggest departure in masculine adornment made in a century, and are so decided a change from the conventional that leading hatters declare that a complete transformation in

men's formal attire will be the result. The extreme styles in men's plumed hats will not become popular at once, say experts. Extreme styles never do. But observant persons have noticed that for several years many of the better dressed men of Chicago have



The Plumed Hat.

bow of their dress hats. Recently this feather has been made a trifle larger until the leaders of fashion have accepted it as permanent feature of the thoroughly up-to-date

The most striking of the new hats are in the shape of the foreign Alpine hat which comes in all colors and can be had with any style of trimming desired. One shown is of a light pearl gray and trimmed with a dark green plume, with a light border of rich yellow. A Paris milliner would call it striking.

The same style with a long green quille makes another combination becoming to many faces. The Alpine hat President Finley, of the Southern admits of almost unlimited changes Railway company, in calling attention and will permit well-dressed men to show as much individuality in the matter of hats as women do now.

The dent-crown imported soft hat shown, with a novelty wing, is of dark gray and comes in many pretty shades of brown, which will harmonize well with the newer fabrics which t. the tailors have been importing for spring suits. Wearers of the always formal silk hat will also be able to take advantage of fashion's latest caprice and will not be denied the

privilege of ornamenting it. Dignified white and gray aigrettes and other more conservative feathery effects can be added to the latest French style with the flat brim without defying the mandates of Dame

## FOR CROSS-COUNTRY FLYING

Aviators Gradually Turning Their Attention to More Important Phase of Sport.

New York.—Cross-country flying is gradually attracting more and more attention on the part of aviators. This is, of course, as it should be. Mere racing around a track, for hours at a time, goes for nothing in indicating



Pierre Vendrine of France.

the value of the aeroplane. Gradually the short trips, so uncertain and dangerous, have been stretched out, until | before God and frankly before every now 150 miles in an air line is a common occurrence, made in a single non- for any reason. Then we are simply. stop flight. One of the most daring in Christ's strength, to obey Sam cross-country flyers is Pierre Ven- Jones' oft-repeated injunction, "Quit drine, whose feats have astonished your meanness!" We are to "cease France. In one of these cross-country | to do evil, learn to do well." journeys he flew 181 miles and in another 212. Recently he flew from Paris to Pau, a distance of about 500 miles.

## Bargains in Bright Dollars.

Trenton.—Because many foreigners in South Trenton were parting at members of the cabinet, the diplo- half price with bright, new, silver dolmatic corps and of Congress were lars bearing the date of 1879, it has among the participants in the mass, been necessary for some of the banks which was preceded by a parade of to announce that these dollars are not the local veterans' association, the counterfeits. The cry was raised National Guard companies of Wash- among the small tradespeople that ington and members of Catholic or- money of this particular date was ganizations. The event was the first | no good, and several strangers have

## ISRAEL'S PENITENCE

Sunday School Lesson for June 4, 1911 Specially Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT-Hosea 14 MEMORY VERSES 4-6

GOLDEN TEXT-"Thou Art a God Ready to Pardon, Gracious and Merciful, Slow to Anger."—Neh. 9:17. TIME-Hosea began to prophesy toward the close of the reign of Jeroboam II. in Israel, whose reign closed B. C. 733 (Beecher), or 763 (Hastings). His prophetic life extended into the days of Hezekiah

king of Judah, who came to the three (Beecher), B. C. 723 (Hastings), 727.

PLACE—Hosea was a prophet of the northern kingdom. PROPHETS-Isalah and Micah; perhaps

What was the iniquity of Israel from which Hosea exhorted her to return unto the Lord? The degradation. of religion into a sensual and revolting worship of idols, and the foolists and weakening separation from the Southern Kingdom. The period was one of frightful violence and confusion; all ties of social life were loosened; immorality, irreligion, superstition, panic and despair contributed to the common misery and ruin; it hardly needed prophetic insight to foresee the inevitable end in the total dissolution of the state.

Their reliance upon Assyria for salvation instead of upon Jehovah; their reliance upon Egypt, the land of horses; their reliance upon idols, the work of their own hands. All the inner woes of the nation sprung from its idolatry, and all its woes from without sprung from the mischievous foreign alliances against which the prophets continually protested. Note that this is more than a confession; it is a promise of amendment, a vow of total abstinence from th

God promises to the repentant nation, promises for the past, forgiveness. I will heal their backsliding that horrible disease of apostasy from the Father's love; for the present, love; I will love them freely, "without money and without price," for what price could pay for this inestimable blessing? for the future, ever-increasing progress and blessedness: God will be to his restored people an enriching, stimulating, reviving dew. causing them to throw out new branches, strike new roots deeper into the soil, blossom in beauty and fragrance, and bring forth fruit in abun-

What is the significance of the three comparisons used of the restored people? 1. They are to be like the lily, in its purity and beauty. 2 They are to be like Lebanon, rooted deep in the earth, with its foothills stretching forth like roots; or perhaps the reference is to the firmly rooted cedars of Lebanon; at any rate the comparison signifies strength, which is to be added to beauty. 3. They are to be like the olive tree, which is not lovely as the lily but is gnarled and ugly; nor strong and imposing like the mountain and its great cedars, but feeble and insignificant to the eye; but it is green when other trees are bare, and it brings forth abundance of

rich fruit. The confident statement (whether made by Jehovah, or, as some commentators and both authorized and revised versions hold, by Ephraim himself) that Ephraim (that is, Israel, the leading tribe being put for the entire Northern Kingdom) has nothing more to do with idols; he is through with them; they are laid away with his unhappy past. This actually happened after the exile; the returned Jews had had enough of idolatry, and never again lapsed into that sin.

Hosea certainly did not mean, as he is so often misunderstood to mean. that Israel was so firmly fixed in idolatry that the nation could never be moved from that iniquity. The prophet was addressing Judah, the Southern Kingdom, and bidding her hold aloof from her idolatrous neighbor and let him alone, lest she herself contract the foul disease.

The sum of wisdom, according to Hosea, is that wisdom consists of three things: Understanding, knowing the things that Hosea had been setting forth, namely, God's dealings. with his children. Understanding that God's ways are always right, straight alike when they spread themselves out in an unbroken level for the plous, and when they oppose themselves in rocky stumbling-blocks to the ungodly.

Hosea began his warnings at the point where we feel the most pride. Our nation is proud of its wealth and power, but these two things lead to worldiness, which is our greatest peril.

What would be the substance of Hosea's message to the nation and to each one of us? "Take with you words, and return unto the Lord." Our sins must be acknowledged, humbly one who should hear the confession

There is a story of an ancient king who lighted a lamp and had it hung in his palace; he then sent heralds forth to bring into his presence every criminal and rebel, that they might obtain pardon. Those that came while the lamp was burning were set free; but those that delayed till the lamp had gone out, or altogether neglected the invitation, met with a terrible death. Unlike this, God forever holds forth his offer of mercy, and his loving heart always yearns after the sinner; but with each wilful delay we harden. our hearts till at last they are fixed in the ways of sin.