

questions of fundamental importance, the existence of which was hardly recognized in its carlier stages. It seemed at first a very simple affair to organize a common-school system, and nobody anticipated that any very serious difficulties could arise in carrying it out. Children were to be taught the rudiments of knowledgechiefly reading, writing, and ciphering. There was but little trouble in finding teachers competent for this work, and no trouble at all in finding any number of men held abundantly qualified to be directors, trustees, managers, and superintendents of such education.

But the system was no sooner entered upon than it began to undergo a series of changes which were, of course, characterized as improvements. There were at first the schools, and these were to be replaced hy better order and closer and more methedical work. The scope of instruction began to widen, and new subjects were intraduced. Courses of study were laid out requiring years to complete them. The pupils were classed and graded, and this ressitated the gathering of larger numbits in the same establishment. Lesser chools were absorbed under the policy of expansion. With more diversified study, complicated system of examinations, markings, and promotions grew up, which required a special apprenticeship of the achers to work in it. The department of normal schools was instituted to meet the new demands on teachers, and, as the sistem was regulated by State authority. t was reduced to constantly increasing uniformity in all details of management. In this way the public schools underwent a radical change, by which what had no existence at first gradually came to be

of supreme importance. Liberty on the part of both teacher and pupil disappeard. and they became the passive subjects of inflexible regulation. Rules grew sacred, and there was no sin so great as to be absent from school a day, or not to be promptly on hand at the moment for start-The officials directed everything, decided what and how much to study, hours of attendance, recesses or no recrosses, and put as much or as little pressure as they pleased upon school operations. As a consequence, a gigantic mechanical system was created, the perfection of which consisted in the mechanical element. There are many who think that the system is now essentially perfected, and that, to gain its highest advantages, nothing remains but to augment its resources, and drive it with increasing vigor. Yet experience is disclosing grave difficultus in its working, and difficulties, moreover, which spring out of the alleged perfections of the method. That which cluricterizes it is the completeness of orutilization for dealing with pupils in and the vice which is now widely recognized in its operations is, that the iniduality of pupils is sacrificed to the letfort working of the mechanical arrange-

\* Of course, in the nature of the case, the greater the number of children operated cult to cast the underlying hypothesis in a apon, the less is the consideration that can more terse form than that embodied in 200en to each personality. Children are one of Dr. Crichton Browne's concluding of by a plan which implies that they while, but the assumption is not true. "y are unlike, the differences among in are great; and, when it comes to the inclumental. The fact which is negoff rences in physical aspect by which is known as an individual extends at the whole nature. Children difthen aptitude for different kinds of babyish, in intellect, and ineducable be-babyish, in intellect, and ineducable be-now the general impression as to railways

up as forever hopeless? We have said "there does not live on the face of the their knowledge relates to what the school

of school-work.

that this defect of our school system is attracting serious attention, and calling ny and oppression than Mr. Mundella, or forth sharp criticism, but is this to avail any one more earnestly desirous of putting nothing for future relief? We are not down all over-pressure as regards women driven to this alternative, for the suffi- and children." Then why, in the name of cient reason that there are men in the com- | common-sense, does not the Vice-President munity well prepared to deal intelligently adopt the suggestion made to him, instead and efficiently with the subject. It is the of fighting what must needs be a losing especial business of medical mento under- battle against his own moral and statesstand the human constitution, and all manly consciousness of right? "Headaches, short-sightedness, neuralgia

system ignores-the peculiarities of the and sleeplessness are not normal continindividual. Diagnosis, critical personal gencies of youth, either for pupil-teachers observation, is the basis of all medical or children, yet it is a fact which Dr. practice. Moreover, there is an especial Crichton Browne has demonstrated, and branch of medical study that bears di- which men "engaged in the ordinary rectly and immediately upon the questions practice " among the humbler classes, and here involved. There are physicians who who, according to Mr. Fitch, are "able to much crudeness, laxity, and irregularity in give their lives to the investigation of know something of the children of the mental science with reference to its corpo- poor, their pursuits and their ailments," real conditions and its problems of health can substantiate, that these troubles-the and disease. They are the students of in- direct fruits of over-pressure of worksanity, and all the causes which tend to largely prevail. Nothing can be gained undermine mental soundness and produce by denying this fact, and certainly a lay feeblemindedness in its innumerable | inspector is not the person to contradict an forms. These are the men prepared to able and experienced practitioner on the judge of the working of a school system subject. Dr. Crichton Browne modestly upon the natures of children, and it is says: "I cannot doubt that many of th impossible to see that any reason can be facts which I have brought before you in offered for not invoking their services to this letter will be disputed, and that many this important end. Yet, strange to say, of the principles which I have incidentally our school authorities are the first to re- laid down will be challenged; but the forsist this reasonable policy. They resent mer admit of verification, and in the latthe idea that their system is not already | ter I shall, I believe, have the support of working in perfection, and they virtually the medical profession." We accept the maintain that the ignorance of teachers facts and support the principles. If Mr. and school officials is just as good for Mundella is not satisfied with one of the practical guidance as the knowledge and best professional opinions obtainable, let experience of men especially cultivated to him appoint a small commission of physideal with cases which are constantly aris cians and surgeons, men of mark, in whom ing, where pupils become the victims of he and the public will have confidence, but

an undiscriminating high-pressure system | who are in no sort of way connected with the public service or the department, and An illustration of the subject has re- let the issue be left in their hands. It is cently arisen in London, which is attract- not for Mr. Mundella and his lay inspector ing public attention in the shape of a con- to impugn the judgment of a qualified troversy between an eminent medical man physician. The presumption of so doing and a prominent Government official. Dr. does not beseem these gentlemen: it goes Crichton Browne, a distinguished authority | better with the crass heartlessness-to use on nervous diseases and the treatment of no stronger epithet-of the school manathe insane, pointed out some of the evils ger who, when a wearied mistress venattending prevalent school practices, and tured to sit while teaching her class, oradvocated school inspection by competent dered all chairs to be removed from the physicians. Mr. Mundella, a manufactu- building! While the administration of er, a philanthropist, and Vice-President our educational system rests in hands like of the Government Council, who has large these, there is little hope of success or direction of the school, took issue with safety in its operation. For the sake of Dr. Browne, and there came a public con- children and teachers alike, the schools tention upon the subject. The London ought at once to be placed under medical Lancet reviewed this controversy, and gave supervision. In an able and interesting reasons for maintaining that Dr. Crichton Browne had the right of it. The subject Child," read before the Social Science is so important that we reprint the Lan- | Congress at Birmingham, Dr. Francis Warner has insisted on the urgency of the cet's remarks in full:

"Leaving the personal issues involved in need which exists for medical inspection. the regrettable dispute which has been We cordially indorse and support his arraised by Mr. Mundella's equivocal mode gument. It is the cry of common-sense. of traversing Dr. Crichton Browne's report If the reasonable demand be not met fairon the subject of "over-pressure of work | ly and fully, there cannot fail to be disapin public elementary schools," we turn to pointment and regret when the inevitable the main question: Is it, or is it not, the issue of a mistaken and futile policy is fact that over-pressure exists, and that it fully worked out."

is doing mischief? The case seems to us to lie in a nutshell, and it would be diffi-THE BAILBOAD PROBLEM Has Rather Solved Itself.

Mr. Reagan, of Texas, got the House on sentences. No one alleges, or for a mo-Tuesday to take up the Inter-State Comment supposes, that the Vice-President of merce bill, and moved his own bill as a the Council, or any influential member or substitute. On this motion he made a official of the Educational Department, is long and very earnest speech. The main either willful or careless in the matter. It difference between his bill and that of the is simply a question of policy; and the committee lies in the more drastic provisin machine education is the most most that need or can be justly said is ions of the former. Mr. Reagan proposes is the most said in these words: "It is quite possible to absolutely prohibit discriminations, pooling, and rebates, and to punish violathat a scholar, whose body is twelve years old, but whose brain stopped growing at tions of the law by damages to thrice the eight, might by his pleasing exterior and widely in their mental faculties, in superficial sharpness impress the inspector amount of actual injury and by fines of not less than \$1,000 for each offence. The and capacity of apprehension and reten- with the idea that he is rather clever, measure is likely to attract some attention aptitude for different kinds of while all the time he is childish, not to say this session, but not to get through. Just

Greensboro station-S. W. Crawford. Guilford circuit-T. H. Pegram. East Guilford circuit-J. A. Bowles. Pleasant Garden circuit-J. Tillett, C.

W. King. Yanceyville circuit-R. G. Barrett. Winston station-J. T. Bagwell. Forsyth circuit-S. H. Helsobeck. Stokes circuit-J. R. Scroggs. Snow Creek mission-S. D. Peeler Madison circuit-R. P. Troy. Ruffin circuit-N. E. Coltrane.

Reidsville station-D. R. Bruton. Kernersville circuit-J. C. Thomas, M. Hunt. SALISBURY DISTRICT.

W. H. Bobbitt, Presiding Elder. Salisbury station-James Wheeler. Salisbury circuit-T. A. Stone. Mocksville circuit-G. F. Round. Rowan circuit-H. M. Blair. Tarrington circuit-W. C. Willson. Concord station-W. S. Creasy, T. W. Smith, sup. Concord circuit-Z. Rush. Mount Pleasant circuit-G. A. Oglesby. Albemarle ciruit-T. J. Gattis. Stanly circuit-W. L. Grissom, Big Lick mission-J. E. Underwood, Mount Zion-J. W. North.

> STATESVILLE DISTRICT. L. L. Hendren, Presiding Elder.

Statesville station-J. H. Cordon. Statesville circuit-W. M. Bagley. Mooresville circuit-P. F. W. Stamey Iredell circuit-J. C. Rowe. Rock Spring circuit-M. V. Sherrill. Newton circuit-G. W. Ivey. Alexander circuit-J. T. Abernethy. Caldwell circuit-J. O. Guthrie. Lenoir circuit-J. W. Jenkins. Wilkes circuit-B. A. York, E. J. Eudaily

Roaring River mission-J. F. Craven. Elkin and Jonesville-J. M. Ashby. Mount Airy station-M. H. Moore. Mount Airy circuit-C. P. Snow. Dobson circuit-E. D. Cameron. Yadkinville circuit-J. W. Puett. T. L. Triplett, Principal of Oak Institute, Mooresville.

SHELBY DISTRICT.

M. L. Wood, Presiding Elder. Shelby Station-B. R. Hall. Shelby circuit-M. D. Giles. King's Mountain Circuit-H. F. Wiley. Double Shoals circuit-I. A. White. Cherry Mountain circuit-J. A. Lee. Rutherfordton circuit-T. J. Daily. Columbus mission-T. H. Edwards. Morganton circuit-J. F. England. Burke circuit-C. A. Gault. Hickory and Happy Home circuit-G. W. Callahan. South Fork circuit-R. M. Hoyle.

Dallas circuit-J. B. Carpenter. Gaston circuit-J. C. Hartsell. Lincolton circuit-J. B. Bailey McDowell circuit-C. G. Little. Island Mountain station-J.W. Wheeler.

CHARLOTTE DISTRICT.

T. W. Guthrie, Presiding Elder. Charlotte, Tryon Street-W. M. Robey. Charlotte, Calvary Mission-J. B. Hur-

Charlotte circuit-W. F. Coffin. Matthew's circuit-S. M. Davis. Clear Creek circuit-T. S. Ellington. Pineville circuit-J. Ed. Thompson. Pleasant Grove circuit-M. H. Hovle Monroe station-F. D. Swindell. Monroe circuit-F. B. McCall. Wadesboro station-W. C. Gannon Wadesboro circuit-R. S. Webb. Ansonville circuit-L. E. Stacey. Lilesville circuit-G. W. Hardison.

FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT. S. D. Adams, Presiding Elder. Fayetteville station-F. H. Wood. Campbellton mission-J. J. Grigg. Cumberland circuit-F. L. Townsend. Lumberton circuit-J. F. Finlayson.

Bath circuit-To be supplied by N. H. Guyton.

Plymouth station-W. R. Ware, Columbia circuit-C. C. Brothers. Mattamuskeet circuit-J. D. Carpenter. Fairfield circuit-F. A. Bishop. was to invent some substitute for the hu | fined to people using freestone water; not Hatteras mission-To be supplied by J Y. Pegram. open bolls without damage to the stalk of limestone neighborhoods. In the coal, Portsmouth and Ocrakoke mission-L O. Wyche.

TRINITY COLLEGE DISTRICT. V. A. Sharpe, Presiding Elder. Trinity College station-J. F. Heitman, F. Kurans. Randolph circuit-R. T. N. Stephenson, C. O. Durant, Thomasville and High Point-S. V. Hoyle.

Davidson circuit-D. L. Earnhardt. which they belong must follow. Lexington station-T. S. Campbell. Abbott's Creek mission-J. W. Lewis. Randleman station-R. F. Bumpass. Franklinsville circuit-W. F. Cutchim. Deep River circuit-P. Greening. and negroes-in which the simple machin- try. The frost so far has not had any ap-Uwharrie circuit-C. H. Phillips. West Uwharrie circuit-R. L. Warlick. power derived from the rotation of the sonally acquainted with the condition of Montgomery circuit-To be supplied. Pekin circuit-F. M. Shamberger. Mount Gilead circuit-M. W. Boyles. Trinity College-J. F. Heitman, Professor.

Transferred-J. J. Carden to the Baltimore Conference; S. J. McLeod to the South Carolina Conference; W. P. Mc-Corkle to the West Texas Conference and appointed to El Paso. Conference adjourned with doxology, and benediction by Bishop Parker.

> A NEW SOUTHERN LINE With Raleigh On It.

[New York Times.] RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 2 .- A glance at the map shows a gap in a through line of railway from New-York to New Orleans from Hamlet, in this State, to Cheraw, in

South Carolina. The through lines in this was nearly all gone, safely stored in pen-State are by way of Greensboro and Chardant bags. The result was wonderfullotte and by way of Weldon, Goldsboro, and Wilmington. Raleigh has always almost incredible to any but an eye witness. been upon a side track, and has never re-It could have scarcely been subjected to ceived any of the benefits of the Florida trial under more unfavorable circumstances

travel during the Winter months, nor of -those above mentioned and others that the fast mail. The managers of the seamight be enumerated-and yet at each board system of railroads have not attemptcd a through line by Raleigh, and one to Charlotte over the Carolina Central, because they have no outlet at Charlotte, both roads at that point being under the control of the Richmond and Danville Company. The road from Richmond to Weldon is run in connection with the Atweed, and on the first opening of the cot- amendments proposed by a convention of lantic Coast line, so that it has been impossible to have a through line by way of Raleigh without building a new road from Richmond direct to Ridgeway on the left uninjured. Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, and then by filling in the gap from Hamlet to Cheraw. Moncure Robinson has a charter

mond to Ridgeway, and the bridge across the work of forty hands a day. Roanoke River is very far advanced. The grading from Cheraw is completed and the road is ready for the iron. Both com-panies have ample means and both con-

nections will be made by June next. When all the connections have been made, a through line from New York by Washington to Richmond, thence to Ridgeway over the Virginia and Carolina Road, thence to Raleigh over the Raleigh and Gaston Road, thence to Hamlet over the Raleigh and Augusta Road, thence to

aid of the Asylum.

Many ways are open for rendering mateready for work is its extreme simplicity | died. In several, all the children, in othrial service in this work, and most of them combined with strength and durability. ers the parents. The same disease exists will be quickly suggested to the mind that The problem before him at the inception | in a milder form, yet very fatal, in Scott reads this appeal with a view to aiding the of his enterprise, and most pertinacionsly | county, near the Wise line and in the same adhered to through all his experiments, belt of country. So far it has been concause

The Presidents, Principals, Superintendents and Teachers of institutions and man fingers in picking the lint from the a single case that I have heard of in the schools would aid materially by explaining my object to the young under their charge the plant, its leaves, blooms and immature | iron and sandstone regions at all times in bolls. This he has at last fully accomplished | the Fall season the water is low and and requesting contributions on a day early in December. By this course "penby means of rotating points or teeth-mi- | bad, the pools in the river being black nute, but strong and durable-which will as ink from the sulphur and iron. nies," "nickels" and "dimes" will be aginevitably seize upon the fibres of the lint This excessive dry year has dried up gregated in a manner that would prove of great assistance, for "one cent" from each brought in contact with them, but so ad- the creeks and smaller rivers so that they school child in the State would amount to justed to the rotating surface as to pass de not run, and the springs are but muda sum sufficient to give the orphans every harmlessly over every other form of mat | holes, and to this cause I think the origin thing they expect Christmas, and provide ter. Fibres, and fibres alone, can reach of the disease may be in every instance many comforts they are sadly in need of these teeth, and once seized, the bolls to traced. In Scott County the rain on elecand ought to have. tion day so far brought relief that there

The churches, God's chosen mediums This we saw practically illustrated be- was not a new case for several days. Seven fore our own cyes. The present cumbrous, or eight sometimes die per day, and there for influencing us in doing good and directing us to the abodes of the needy, and box-shaped locomotive-jointed, screwed, have been four burials at one graveyard the helpless, would do a grand and holy work and bolted for any conflict with mules | same day, and this is sparsely settled counby taking up a special collection Decemery was mounted and put in action by preciable effect upon it. I am not perper the 14th or 21st in behalf of this object.

Mothers could perform a double work wheels of the locomotive, was hauled by | the people affected by it, but I know from by calling their little ones together and ina single mule over a long cotton row. the surroundings that they need medical lucing them to give a part of their "prec-Frost had more than once fallen on the aid, and some action ought to be taken to ious savings" toward making the Christupright stalks; the bolls were all open, move them out. Many are too poor to mas of the little Orphans happy. Every with the cotton hanging to them loosely and limp. The limbs of the stalks and gift from a child for such a purpose inculcates self-denial and creates that rare symleaves were exceedingly brittle and crisp, of liberal men. There does not seem to pathy which connects its little soul directly with God. To mothers I make no missed the lint-stalks, limbs and leaves | do not know that I have fully answered special appeal for I know their duty will remaining intact. Of course the lint, in your inquiries, but I have given about all be grandly done. The lives of Orphans being drawn frem the bolls, came in con- I know about it. It has been steadily at would be sad indeed did not the purest sympathy for their homeless and helpless conditions form the greater part of the sacred and tender natures of the mothers

To fathers I simply appeal to do as their P. S.-Some cases have a strong resemloved ones ask, for in so doing they will do good and guide aright the tender heart that wishes simply to bestow a part of what God has given him on those He has In some of the counties in which this seen fit to visit with sorrow and affliction. disease exists there are very few, if any, To those whose ears have never heard licensed physicians. In one of these a and will never hear appeals from the lips prominent citizen states that there is not of their own offspring, no words from me a single graduated and experienced mediare required to induce them to respond to the wants of the orphaned, for He who made them barren or decreed their solitary lot, did so that they might have a deeper and purer sympathy for those whom He would make homeless, fatherless and saddest of all, motherless.

To the young and gay I appeal for the value of a cigar or half the value of a box of "bon bons." Will not the ladies collect these values and send them to aid in have seen it work in a field with luxuriant | the Senate, chiefly in the direction of the | making these Christmas offerings the best and grandest ever received at the Asy-

I will need everything that is calculated to please, amuse, improve or make more comfortable the little waifs whose future God has committed to our keeping.

Send me balls, books, dressed dolls, en-knives, scissors, shears, pictures, gloves, marbles, little chairs, candy, nuts, toys, etc., etc. All perishable articles should be sent immediately before Christmas

Direct everything intended for the Christmas festivities to "W. F. B." care Dr. B. F. Dixon, Oxford, N. C. Send all money contributions to Dr. Dixon, and mark on envelopes "For Christmas," that he may easily keep it separate from other contributions.

In conclusion, I beg you will not wait for your neighbor to act but do what you intend to do at once and with an earnestness calculated to arouse zeal in others.

"God loveth a cheerful giver." Hopefully yours,

W. F. BEASLEY. Oxford, N. C., December 1, 1884. The Press of the State is asked to publish this appeal and aid the cause.

> -----A Cunning Financier.

because it required a two-thirds vote to

A. L. PRIDEMORE.

cal man within the borders of his county.

BANKRUPTCY PROJECTS.

The Bill Before the House. passage over the row about fifty per cent. [New York Times.] of the cotton there standing was bagged. A bankrupt bill was passed by the Sen-Its almost intelligent selection of the open cotton, to the exclusion of almost everyate on the 21st of last April. It was originally prepared by Judge Lowell of Massathing .else, was the most remarkable as well as gratifying feature. Those who chusetts, but was considerably modified in

yct as the machine advanced we only be much alarm near the fatal locality.

ton, testify to this wonderful result. The merchants in January. The bill was dis-seeded lint alone was gathered, while the cussed very carefully in the Senate and I w blooms, leaves and immature bolls were secured a strong majority on its passage. It is, so far as it goes, a good bill. It pro-An intelligent planter from Mississippi who witnessed its performance at this of Bankruptcy, paid by moderate salary for the Virginia and Carolina hailroad stage of the cotton plant offered the high- out of money to be raised by a fixed asauthorizing the construction of a road est prospective price for the machine for sessment on the insolvents' assets, and for from Richmond to Ridgeway and has been his own use in the present cotton crop. the review and inspection of all proceedrapidly building this line. He has also a charter for the Palmetto Railroad, and has gave it as his opinion that, with the ma- brief, the law gives to the business men of been constructing a road from Cheraw to chine then working and three good hands the country a fair set of tribunals in which, Hamlet. The grading is done from Rich- to follow and glean after it, he could do with justice to all, the estate of a bank-

rupt can be administered, creditors can We take pleasure and pride in reporting | obtain what is available, and the bankrupt, that, in our opinion, this great South Car- | if reasonably honest, can be released. This seems to be a desirable thing. It seems olina invention will prove a success. Mr. Mason himself, however, is not yet wholly far more desirable than the complex and satisfied. He believes that with better confused set of varying systems in each tools, which he will soon have all facilities State by which sharp debtors can cheat for perfecting, he can render his machine their creditors and the sharper creditors still more effective. He is now aiming at can get an advantage over the others. gathering all the open cotton at a single The Senate bill after its passage went to passing over a row, and thinks he can do the House, and was considered and unanit. He is sure he can make all the parts imously approved in committee. It failed adjustable, but doubts, from their present of passage in the House, not because it Cheraw over the Palmetto Road, and on perfect state, whether he need improve the had not a majority in its favor, for it had to Charleston and to New Orleans will be strength and durability of those already such a majority, and a strong one, but opened. This line will be shorter than by Wilmington, and the people along the line He showed us several machines of vari-dvance it on the calendar. The motion

tact with and adhered to parts of leaves | work since 1st of last August, and if I almost pulverized. The shafts of the lo- were to write a full description of its comotive were attached to one side of the symptoms and effects it would be such as locomotive, so that the mule moved be- I have read of-cholera in rather severe of the land. tween the rows while the centre of the ma- | form. chine passed over the apex of the row. Of course the return trip threw the mule between the first and second row, and the certainly is far beyond any flux ever Of course the return trip threw the mule machinery passed over the same row known here. twice. After the return trip we noticed no change in the stocks, etc., but the lint

<sup>ad</sup> the great educational machine; and ex- betwee testifies that the policy of ever- shift the mechanical system tends only aggreatates its evils. In this respect there
---