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at \$3.00 per annum, payable in advance by  
THOMAS LORING,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
BENJAMIN I. HOWZE,  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.  
Corner of Front and Market Streets,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.

# THE COMMERCIAL.

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JOB, CARD AND FANCY PRINTING  
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AGENTS FOR THE COMMERCIAL  
NEW YORK: Messrs. BROWN & DEROSSET.  
BOSTON: FREDERICK KIDDER, Esq.

B. I. HOWZE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Will practice in all the Courts of Wayne, Duplin  
and New Hanover Counties.

WILLIAM J. CLARK,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
RALEIGH, N. C.  
Sept. 10th, 1848. 75-w. trl. c.

CARROLL & FENNEL,  
Grocers & Commission Merchants,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
HAVE ALWAYS ON HAND A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF  
FAMILY GROCERIES, LIQUORS, WINES, &c.  
AND WILL PAY PARTICULAR  
Attention to the sale of all kinds of Produce

J. C. CARROLL,  
July 13, 1848. C. N. FENNEL.

FREDERICK CLARK,  
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF  
CABINET FURNITURE,  
CHAIRS, BEDSTEPS, WRITING DESKS, MAT-  
TRASSES, PILLOWCASES, &c.  
FRONT STREET, NEAR MARKET,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
April 11th, 1848. 11-1-y.

DEROSSET & BROWN,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
BROWN & DEROSSET,  
NEW YORK.  
GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS  
March 17, 1848. 1-y.

J. & W. L. MCGARY,  
FORWARDING AND COMMISSION  
MERCHANTS,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
March 17, 1848. 1-y.

GEORGE S. GILLESPIE,  
AGENT FOR THE SALE OF  
TIMBER, LUMBER, NAVAL STORES, &c.  
All articles for cash, advances on all consignments  
of produce.  
March 17, 1848. 1

GEORGE W. DAVIS,  
COMMISSION MERCHANT,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
March 17, 1848. 1

J. C. LATTA,  
COMMISSION MERCHANT,  
AND GENERAL AGENT,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Oct. 10, 1848. 87

CASSIDY, SCHRADER & CO.,  
ENGINEERS AND MECHANISTS,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
THE ABOVE FIRM HAVE ERRECTED AN EXTENSIVE  
IRON AND BRASS FOUNDRY,  
TOGETHER WITH  
Machine and Blacksmith Shops,  
Where orders for every description of work in their  
line of business, will be expeditiously and  
faithfully executed.  
July 25, 1848. 55-1f.

LIFE INSURANCE  
IN THE NATIONAL LOAN FUND SO-  
CIETY, OF LONDON,  
AND  
FIRE INSURANCE  
IN THE ETNA INSURANCE COM-  
PANY, OF HARTFORD, CONN.,  
OR, IN THE  
HOWARD INSURANCE COMPANY,  
OF NEW YORK,  
May be effected by application to  
DEROSSET & BROWN,  
Nov. 25, 1847. 109

ELLS & MITCHELL'S  
GRAIN STORE, Murphy's Building, near  
West's dock.

SEED Wheat and Meal (North Carolina Corn;  
Cow Peas; Fresh Ground Meal and Hominy;  
White Hominy Beans; New Corn Meal and Buck-  
wheat and Rye Meal; Black-eyed Peas; Oats; Psy-  
cedillo and Cash; Peas, Beans and half-bled; a  
crop; Hays; Cow and Horses feed constantly on  
hand, and for sale.  
Nov. 2.

JOHN HALL,  
SHIP AGENT  
AND  
COMMISSION MERCHANT,  
No. 39 GRAVIER STREET,  
New Orleans.  
April 13, 1848. 110-1y.

F. J. LORD & CO.,  
Rice Factors & Commission Agents.  
Nov. 25, 1847. 108-1y-p.

M'KELLER & M'RAE,  
LUMBER AND TIMBER AGENTS, GENERAL  
COMMISSION MERCHANTS, AND GROCERS,  
Store formerly occupied by HALL & ARMSTRONG,  
NORTH WATER STREET,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
HECTOR M'KELLER, Nov. 11, 1848. ALEX. M'RAE, 102

L. MALLET,  
AGENT FOR THE SALE OF  
Timber, Lumber, Naval Stores, &c.,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Nov. 9, 1848. 101

BARRY, BRYANT & CO.,  
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
March 17, 1848. 11-f.

WILLIAM NEFF,  
(Late of the firm of NEFF & WARNER.)  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN  
SHIP CHANDLERY, SHIP STORES  
AND GROCERIES,  
CORNER OF DOCK & WATER STREETS,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Dec. 7th, 1848. 113-1f.

W. BRANSON,  
AGENT FOR THE SALE OF  
TIMBER, LUMBER, NAVAL STORES, &c.  
Nutt's Building, North Water Street,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Sept. 23, 1848. 83-c.

N. B. HUGHES,  
AUCTIONEER  
AND  
COMMISSION MERCHANT  
RALEIGH, N. C.  
Solicits consignments, and will attend to all busi-  
ness entrusted to him, and pledges himself that all  
consignments and business shall be strictly done in  
conformity to the wishes of his employers.  
REFERENCE:  
T. Loring, Esq., Wilmington.  
E. W. Williams, Esq., Fayetteville.  
Aug. 25, 1848. 69-1y.

JOHN D. LOVE,  
DEALER IN  
CABINET FURNITURE,  
BEDSTEPS, CHAIRS, MATRASSES, &c.,  
ROCK SPRING,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Oct. 21, 1848. 93-y.

SCOTT, KEEN & CO.,  
MERCHANT TAILORS,  
AND DEALERS IN  
SUPERIOR  
Ready Made Clothing,  
MARKET STREET,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Oct. 21, 1848. 93-y.

CORNELIUS MYERS,  
MANUFACTURER,  
AND DEALER IN  
HATS, CAPS, UMBRELLAS AND  
WALKING CANES, &c.  
WILMINGTON, N. C., Market-st.  
Oct. 17, 1848. 91-1f.

W. L. SMITH,  
(LATE OF THE FIRM OF SANDFORD & SMITH.)  
AUCTIONEER AND  
COMMISSION MERCHANT,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Store on North Water Street, Parsley's block.  
Oct. 14, 1848. 90-yc

J. S. WILLIAMS,  
Fancy & Staple Dry Goods Store.  
ONE DOOR WEST OF WM. SHAW'S DRUG STORE  
MARKET STREET,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Oct. 14, 1848. 90.

JAS. T. MORRIS,  
Lumber and Timber Inspector,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Oct. 12, 1848. 89-6m

JAS. T. MORRIS,  
Agent for the Sale or Purchase of NEGROES,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Oct. 12, 1848. 89-6m

\$25 REWARD.  
RAN AWAY from the Estate of Wm. B. Meares,  
in June last, a negro fellow called HENRY or  
HENRY HILL. He is about 5 4 to 5 foot 6 inches  
high, well made and likely; has quick spoken and  
smart. He is probably lurking about Wilmington,  
where he has good many relations. I will give a  
reward of \$25 for his apprehension and delivery to  
me in Wilmington, or to Wm. T. Bray at Meads  
Bluff.  
T. D. MEARES.  
Nov. 9. 181-1f.

HENRY P. RUSSELL,  
AGENT FOR THE CAPE FEAR  
STEAM SAW MILL,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Strict attention given to the faithful execution of all  
orders for Lumber.  
Jan. 1, 1849. 124-lyc

GEO. HARRISS,  
General Commission Merchant,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
STRICT attention given to procuring Freight  
and purchasing Cargoes for vessels.  
References to:  
E. P. Hall, Esq., } Wilmington.  
O. G. Parsley, Esq., }  
J. A. Taylor, Esq., }  
J. D. Bellamy, Esq., }  
Messrs. Ballard & Huntington, }  
Messrs. Tooker, Smyth & Co., } New York.  
Messrs. Thompson & Hunter, }  
Alexr. Herron, Jr., Philadelphia }  
Messrs. Williams & Butler, } Ch'leston, S. C.  
H. F. Baker, Esq., }  
Jan. 2, 1849. 123-1f.

J. R. BLOSSOM,  
FORWARDING AND COMMISS ON  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Liberal Cash advances made on consignments to Mr.  
Benjamin Blossom New York.  
ALSO.  
AGENT FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT LIFE INSU-  
RANCE COMPANY.  
Capital liable for Losses, about \$700,000.  
Dec. 19, 1848. 119-6m-c.

BENJAMIN BLOSSOM,  
COMMISSION MERCHANT,  
NEW YORK.  
Liberal advances made upon Consignment of all  
kinds of produce.  
References:  
Messrs. J. & D. McRae, } Wilmington.  
G. W. Davis, Esq., }  
J. R. Blossom Esq., }  
Dec. 19, 1848. 116

MARTIN & CRONLY,  
AUCTIONEERS,  
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,  
AND  
GENERAL AGENTS.  
Wilmington, N. C., Oct. 3, 1848. 85-1f.

Dr. B. MUNSEY,  
HOMOEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,  
AND  
DENTIST,  
MARKET St., 6 Doors above Front St.  
Dec. 23, 1848. 120-6m.

JOHN T. RUSS,  
INSPECTOR OF  
TIMBER AND LUMBER,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
Oct. 11, 1848. 90-

F. J. LORD & CO.,  
Agents for the  
NAUTICAL MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE  
Accumulated Capital, \$130,000.  
ALSO FOR THE  
EAGLE LIFE & HEALTH INSURANCE CO.  
Capital, \$100,000.  
Will take risks on lives of Slaves.  
Office 23 North Water Street.  
Oct. 21, 1848.

WM. M. HARRIS, EUGENE B. DRAKE  
HARRISS & DRAKE,  
General Commission Merchants,  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
REFERENCES:  
O. G. Parsley, Esq., } Wilmington, N. C.  
Col. John McKee, }  
Messrs. Ballard & Huntington, }  
Will Peck, Esq., Raleigh, N. C. }  
Messrs. Hall, Sackett & Co., } Fayetteville, N. C.  
Joseph Utley, Esq., } Philadelphia, Mo.  
Messrs. James Corner & Sons, Baltimore. }  
" E. A. Souder & Co., Philadelphia. }  
" Thompson & Hunter, } New York. }  
" Pillsbury & Sandford, }  
" Honing & Tutts, Boston. }  
" J. & G. P. Titcomb, Kennebunk, Me. }  
September 14th, 1848. 77-1f.

COTTON YARN.  
10 Bales, B. C. Yarns assorted numbers, for  
sale by J. C. LATTA.  
Oct. 24. 94-1f.

A Fine Set of Teeth for 25 Cents.  
White Teeth, Foul Breath, Healthy Gums.  
Yellow and unhealthy teeth, after being once or  
twice cleaned with  
JONES' AMBER TOOTH PASTE,  
have the appearance of the most beautiful Ivory, and  
at the same time it is so perfectly innocent and equi-  
libriety fine, that its constant daily use is highly advan-  
geous, even to those teeth that are in good condition,  
giving them a beautiful polish, and preventing a pre-  
mature decay. Those already decayed, it prevents  
from becoming worse—it also fastens such as are be-  
coming loose, and by perseverance it will render the  
loosest teeth delicately white, and make the breath  
deliciously sweet.  
PRICE 25 OR 37 1/2 CENTS A BOX.  
Sold in Wilmington, by Lippitt & Wilkings.

FEATHERS.  
2000 LBS prime live geese Feathers for sale  
by W. L. SMITH.  
Dec. 12. 115-6

JUST RECEIVED.  
A LARGE assortment of fine and the best made  
Frock and Dress coats, warranted to fit, for  
sale at  
SCOTT, KEEN & Co.  
Dec. 12. 115.

LADIES MERINO, and Silk Veers for sale by  
J. S. WILLIAMS.  
Nov. 14. 103-1f

THE HAUNTED CHAMBER;  
OR,  
HOW THEY CHOSE A MAY QUEEN IN  
THE SCHOOL OF PARSON COLE.  
BY C. H. WILEY, A. M.

PARSON COLE was an eccentric sort of char-  
acter, though a learned divine and an ex-  
cellent man. He lived in the country, on  
his own farm, being a man of substance,  
and he and his amiable wife taught a  
private select school for young ladies. The  
girls were boarded and lodged by Mr. Cole  
at his own house, and in all respects  
treated as members of his own family; and  
the situation was healthy, and in sight of  
the beautiful village of I—, the school  
was considered a very desirable one by  
those who knew the merits of the teach-  
ers. The number of scholars was limited  
to twenty, and as no girl under the age of  
ten was admitted, and as those who did  
come were generally handsome and well  
off, the Parson's residence became a spot  
consecrated in the imaginations of all the  
young men in that region of country.—  
The Parson's daughters, as they were  
called, were a lively, romping, happy set,  
and as they walked out in the afternoons  
to gather flowers, they knew they were ob-  
served by watching eyes, but this did not  
in the least restrain their gaiety, or prevent  
them from indulging in that "frolic glee"  
of which school misses are fond, their mer-  
ry voices rung softly and sweetly over hill  
and dale. Now as we said, the Parson  
was eccentric; he had a place for every  
thing, it's true, but every body else thought  
every thing in the wrong place. That he  
might enjoy his books without the fear of  
interruption, and indulge, at times, in so-  
litary study and holy meditation, he had  
fitted up a chamber in one end of his house,  
a chamber admirably suited to the purposes  
for which it was designed, being removed  
from the noisy part of the labyrinthine edifice,  
and approached through long, narrow,  
dark and crooked passages. In this chamber,  
for purposes best known to himself, the  
parson kept some rare curiosities; but it is  
not our purpose to give a description list or  
catalogue of these natural and artificial  
wonders. Suffice it to say they lent an air  
of quaintness to the place, and induced the  
servants and others who had been there,  
readily to believe that, as Mrs. Cole asserted,  
the chamber was haunted. The good  
lady often, at table and in presence of her  
boarders, urged her spouse to fit up a study  
somewhere else, but the old man declared  
that he liked to spend his time where fa-  
miliar spirits of another world seemed fond  
of holding counsel, though he earnestly  
urged his pupils to obey his injunctions,  
and not to venture in a place where their  
superstitious fancies might discover the  
most frightful apparitions. It became a  
rule of school, in fact that no girl was to  
visit, on any pretence, the haunted cham-  
ber, and thus, as parson Cole flattered him-  
self, he could there have every thing his  
own way, and enjoy his studies uninterrup-  
ted.

The parson had a nephew residing in a  
distant part of the country, the only son  
and heir of an eminent citizen of great  
wealth, and a young man famous for his  
accomplishments and manly beauty.—  
Of this youth, whose name was Edward  
Cole, every girl in school had often heard,  
and the announcement that he was shortly  
to visit his uncle, created quite a stir and  
excitement. There were many hearts that  
beat quicker at the intelligence, and there  
were some even that began already to feel  
a new and tender sensation. There was,  
for several days, an unusual attention paid  
to the adornment of their persons by  
parson Cole's daughters, and every arrival  
caused a sudden and violent agitation. One  
day the girls got intelligence that a strange  
young man had arrived, and as may be ex-  
pected, they came to dinner dressed with  
unusual care, and with hearts wildly beat-  
ing; but judge of the disappointment of  
each, as she entered and was presented to  
a plainly dressed young man, by the name  
of Henry Williams. He was a modest,  
simple-hearted lad, but learned withal, and  
won largely on the affections of Parson  
Cole, who strenuously urged him to study  
divinity, and declared that, young as he  
was, he intended to have him appointed tu-  
tor to his nephew. The youth bore these  
commendations meekly, and as he had  
come to see Parson Cole to solicit the lat-  
ter's influence in getting him the situation  
of principal of the village academy, he  
agreed to wait until the parson could see  
his nephew. In the mean time he amused  
himself with books, seeing the young la-  
dies only at table, at which times he and  
the parson discoursed at length on literary,  
historical, and religious subjects.

"What a bore that youth is," said Emma  
Walters one night while in company with  
several of her companions.

"He seems to be a thousand years old,"  
remarked Susan Standish, "and in his sub-  
lime meditations entirely abstracted from  
the world. I get so sick of his everlasting  
talk about the immortality of the soul, the  
nature of man, and the chief good, and all  
such antiquated stuff. I wonder when Ed-  
ward Cole is coming?"

"And would you think it," again spoke  
Miss Walters, "Ellen Saunders is delight-  
ed with him?"

"With whom?" asked Agnes Thorpe,  
the belle of the school; "not Mr. Cole, I  
hope, for I want to see him first."

"Edward Cole, indeed," exclaimed Miss  
Walters; "poor Ellen never aspires so high.  
She is a meek creature, and listens to the  
mystic philosophy of Williams as if his  
words were the sweetest music."

"Yes, and I have observed," said Jane  
Anderson, "that she has begun to take un-  
usual pains with her dress, and that the  
sentiments of Mr. Williams have already  
affected her mind. She will not do what  
he thinks is wrong, and what he praises is  
her delight. But here comes the lovelorn  
lassie. Ellen, they say you are in love."

The girl spoken to blushed crimson, and  
exclaimed, "What I in love?"

"Yes, you little saint," said Miss Thorpe,  
and all with his holiness Mr.—what's his  
name?"

"I don't know what you're talking about,"  
said Ellen quietly; "you are all disposed to  
joke, I see, but I'll forgive you, for you no  
doubt do not intend to wound my feelings."

"Not for the world, dear Ellen," said  
Miss Thorpe; "you are an angel in heart,  
and had indeed would be ours if we could  
wantonly hurt the feelings of our gentle  
sister. But tell me, dearest, what is the  
name of this modern Plato we have here?  
I never can remember his name; this sage  
boy who is to be Erasmus the second?"

"Do you mean Mr. Williams?" asked  
Ellen meekly.

"That's the man!" cried Agnes;  
"Phoebus, what a name!"

"To fill the sounding trumpet of fame."  
"I came to call you all to prayers," said  
Ellen Saunders, "and they are waiting for  
us."

A few days after the above conversation,  
the parson put his school in a flutter, by in-  
forming his pupils that his nephew would  
be at their approaching examination, and  
that he intended to give him a party.

"I inform you of this," said Mr. Cole,  
"that you may write to your parents in  
time, and be prepared with dresses suited  
to the occasion. The party will be on the  
first night of May, and you may have a  
May Queen, if you choose; what say you?"

"Agreed! agreed!" cried all the girls at  
once.

"And you shall select the Queen," said  
several of his pupils to the parson; "and  
might not be able to agree?"

"I was thinking," replied the parson,  
"that we had better have no Queen; it's an  
invidious honor, and might cause heart-  
burnings."

The young ladies protested that it should  
not, each one declaring that she would be  
satisfied with the choice of the parson.

"I cannot distinguish among my chil-  
dren," said the good old man; "you are all  
my eyes, equally fair."

"But then some may be better than oth-  
ers," replied Miss Anderson.

"So they may; but that's for the world,  
not me, to determine," answered the teach-  
er.

"Suppose we let your nephew choose,"  
said Mrs. Cole.

"Oh, that's the very idea," exclaimed  
Miss Agnes Thorpe, her eyes sparkling  
with conscious superiority; "Mr. Cole is  
the very man to choose—and as he is a  
stranger to us all, he will have no preju-  
dices."

"My nephew would not like the task,"  
said Mr. Cole; "he would not wish to say  
that one of you is more handsome than the  
rest."

"Yes, but father," interposed Miss Agnes,  
"you know that some are handsomer than  
others, and so do we—and I'm sure I for  
one will not be offended at any choice your  
nephew can make."

"Nor I," said Miss Anderson.

"Nor I, nor I," put in all the others.

"Suppose Mr. Williams choose?" said  
the parson. "The girls uttered, Mr. Wil-  
liams blushed, and the parson continued,  
"Mr. Williams is a prudent young man, and  
one of excellent judgment, and I'm certain  
would make a good choice. Will none of  
you speak? What say you, meek-eyed  
dove of Glen-Mary?"

"Do you mean me?" asked Ellen Saun-  
ders, who was from Glen-Mary.

"I do," answered the parson; "as you  
have not yet spoken, I should like to have  
your views."

"Indeed," said Ellen, "I'd be so glad to  
have a May-day frolic, that I'll be perfectly  
satisfied with any sort of arrangements you  
all may agree upon."

"Would you not like for Mr. Williams to  
choose the Queen?" asked Miss Standish,  
with a sly glance at the other girls.

"If the rest of you would," replied El-  
len.

"But tell me, dear," said the parson,  
"who would you prefer to choose the Queen?"

"I'll declare—I have but one choice about  
it," answered Ellen; "I want the others to  
be satisfied, and all to be happy; and then,  
and not until then, I'll be satisfied and hap-  
py also."

"Well spoken," said Mrs. Cole; "those  
are excellent sentiments, and I hope all  
sympathize in them."

"No doubt all do," said the parson, "but

I think I can easily settle the whole mat-  
ter to the satisfaction of all. I desire to  
see preferences made; you are all hand-  
some enough, and agreeable enough; we  
are none of us good as we might be. So  
that beauty, goodness, or agreeableness,  
shall not be the test; the matter shall be  
determined by accident, and in a way that  
will give general satisfaction. To-morrow  
morning each one of you shall go sepa-  
rately into the garden, and bring me a  
present; and the one whose present most  
becomes female royalty, shall be the  
Queen."

"But who is to determine this?" asked  
Miss Thorpe.

"All of us," replied the parson; "if we  
do not all agree, then the choice shall be  
determined in some other way. You will  
find violets, tulips, roses, pinks, hyacinths,  
and other flowers in bloom."

"But suppose more than one of us bring  
the same thing?" suggested Ellen Saun-  
ders.

"That you will hardly do; but to pre-  
vent it, you must each bring a 'compound  
present. You have studied the same bot-  
any, and you all therefore attach the same  
language to the flowers; but if you do not,  
you may each translate for yourselves."

On the morning appointed, Miss Agnes  
Thorpe, who was the first to enter the gar-  
den, was somewhat startled as she passed  
the gate by the questions, "Who are you?"  
uttered in a hoarse, unnatural voice above  
her head. She cast her eyes up, and saw  
sitting among the tangled vines over the  
arbor a large green parrot, to whose inter-  
rogatory, often repeated, she made no reply,  
and passed on, still a little flurried, to cull  
and arrange a bouquet worthy of a queen.—  
Miss Standish was the next to enter, and  
she too, like Miss Thorpe, was alarmed by  
the strange porter at the gate, nor did she  
make any reply. Indeed every girl that  
passed was in her turn frightened by the  
strange voice above her—some, in their agi-  
tation, not even casting their eyes upward  
to see the mysterious questioner who ve-  
liciferously demanded their names.

The last to enter was Ellen Saunders,  
who, when questioned at the gate, instan-  
taneously looked up, being more curious than  
fearful, saying as she did so, "I'm Ellen Saun-  
ders; who are you?"

"I'm the Parson—I'm the Parson," re-  
plied the bird, in great glee at finding a  
polite interlocutor; "I'm the Parson—I'm  
the Parson, fearing God—fearing God—who  
are you? who are you? who are you?"

The girl was astonished, and greatly am-  
used at the discourse of the learned bird,  
and nearly forgetting her errand, while  
filled with a sudden desire for a frolic, she  
immediately overruled his feathered rever-  
ence—and running into the house, im-  
moderately laughing, flung the solemn  
bird into the midst of the assembly, at the  
same time asking it who it was. "I'm the  
Parson—I'm the Parson," instantly replied  
the parrot, to the infinite amusement of the  
whole company—the real parson himself,  
though some what confused, joining in the  
laugh.

"After what do you bring for the Queen?"  
asked parson Cole.

"Crown of Love, Crown of Love," re-  
plied his feathered holiness; "Who are  
you? who are you?"

And they had all admired the bird for a  
while, Parson Cole suddenly turned to El-  
len, saying, "But, my dear, there's your  
present for the Queen?"

"Indeed," answered Ellen, "I had total-  
ly forgotten it, I was amused by your re-  
verend rival there. Where on earth did it  
come from—I never saw it before!"

"Did any of you?" asked the parson.—  
"Tell me truly, my beloved pupils, have  
any of you seen that bird before? How  
come it that it did not excite your curi-  
osity, and that none of you, except Ellen, stop-  
ped to question it?"

"Father," said Miss Agnes Thorpe—a  
proud majestic beauty—"father, will you  
forgive me, and still call me daughter?—  
Will you love me still?" continued she, the  
tears starting in her eyes, and her frame  
heaving with evident emotion; "I have  
disobeyed your orders, but God only knows  
how I have suffered for it. I have been  
unbearable ever since; I can bear it no  
longer, and I feel that it is a relief to me to  
confess my crime before the whole assem-  
bly. I was tempted—I could not restrain  
my curiosity, and in an evil hour I looked  
into the haunted chamber. As soon as I  
opened the door, I saw that bird sitting on  
your arm-chair, and his questions so  
frightened me that I ran down stairs, and  
have never yet got over my alarm. When  
I saw it yesterday, I thought the bird knew  
me and knew my guilt, and I avoided it—  
Will you forgive me? I know I will never  
again disobey."

"And I know it too," replied the parson,  
the tears streaming down his cheeks as he  
took Agnes in his arms; "daughter, I will  
say to you as one more mighty and more  
holily said to one of your erring sex, thy  
sins are forgiven thee, go and sin no more."

There were now other and similar con-  
fessions to be made—the example of Agnes  
inspired her more timid companions with  
moral courage, and soon it appeared that  
every one except Ellen Saunders had taken  
a peep into the haunted chamber.

"And how comes it you never transgressed?"  
asked the parson of Ellen; "were you  
afraid of witches and goblins, or had you  
no curiosity?"

"I never thought the chamber was haun-  
ted," answered Ellen; "I supposed you did  
not wish me to intrude into it; and though  
my curiosity was great, I restrained it, hop-  
ing that before I left school you would let  
me see the curiosities of which I had heard  
so many strange reports."

"And so you shall, you shall look now