

# Roanoke-Chowan Times.

ANDREW J. CONNER, PUBLISHER.

"CAROLINA, CAROLINA, HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS ATTEND HER."

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER ANNUM

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NUMBER 31

## Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

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### What Have You Done?

You are going to do great things, you say—  
But what have you done?  
You are going to win in a splendid way,  
As others have won;  
You have plans that when they are put in force  
Will make you sublime;  
You have mapped out a glorious upward course—  
But why don't you climb?  
You're not quite ready to start, you say,  
If you hope to win,  
The time to be starting is now—to-day—  
Don't delay, begin!  
No man has ever been ready as yet,  
Nor ever will be;  
You may fall ere you reach where your hopes are set—  
But try it and see.  
You are going to do great things, you say,  
You have splendid plans;  
Your dreams are of heights that are far away;  
They're a hopeful man—  
But the world, when it judges the case for you  
At the end, my son,  
Will think not of what you were going to do,  
But of what you've done.  
—S. E. Kiser, in Escondido Times.

### Some of Freedom's Blessings.

A recently published report of the Alabama commissioner of State institutions shows a remarkable increase of insanity among negroes in that State; and following it is a paper by Dr. W. F. Drewry, superintendent of the asylum for the colored insane at Petersburg, Va., read before the American Medico-Phylogic Association, in session at St. Louis, in which, as we see in a contemporary, he states that at the close of the civil war there were only twenty seven colored lunatics in the public institutions of his State, but that at present there are more than 1,200 insane colored people in the one asylum of which he has charge, while half as many more are confined in county jails and asylums through out the State. Speaking for North Carolina, it may be said that the increase of insanity in both races since the civil war has been extraordinary, though far more marked in the black than in the white races. Before that war an insane negro was almost unheard of in this State. Now the Eastern Hospital at Goldsboro, with a capacity for about 250, is crowded to the limit, and it would perhaps be difficult to reckon how many insane negroes are confined in jails and poor houses and at their homes or are wandering at large. Before the war, too, tuberculosis was practically unknown among the negroes; now it is the scourge of the race. Likewise, forty-five years ago and anterior thereto, they all had good teeth; now the teeth of the majority are bad. Causes need not be discussed here but the facts stated are suggestive. Idleness, consumption and bad teeth are some of the blessings that "freedom" has brought the black man.—Charlotte Observer.

### Our President.

A friend complains that we sometimes disagreeably mention some of the past opinions and acts of the President of the United States. The fact is we are trying to educate him humanely against wars—against foot-ball fights—against shooting animals that have never done him harm harm, simply for the fun of wounding and killing them—against teaching the youth of our country to imitate bulldog, prize fighters and savages. [We want them to be more like Abraham Lincoln, whose great heart went out to every harmless creature—like Grant, who would not attend a horse race—like Sherman, who declared that "war was hell"—like General Miles, who has recently told his country men how immensely they could gain by appropriating the cost of defending the Philippine Islands to the improvement of our country.

We are trying to humanely educate our President, and if we succeed it may save our nation tens [and perhaps hundreds] of thousands of human and animal lives and hundreds of millions of dollars.

**GEO. T. ANGELL.**

**No Pity Show.**

"For years fate was after me continuously" writes F. A. Gullede, Vealena, Ala. "I had a terrible case of Piles causing 24 tumors. When all failed Bucklin's Arnica Salve cured me. Equally good for burns and all aches and pains. Only 25c at Rich Square Drug Store, J. L. Outland, Woodland, M. H. Futrell, Conway; T. H. Nicholas Murfreesboro

### THE BLUE SPELLING BOOK.

Webster's Masterpiece 8411 in Popular Demand in Country Schools.

It may strike some persons as a rather remarkable fact that the Webster spelling book, with its familiar blue cover, has sold up to date about seventy millions copies. The spelling book is no more in vogue in this section, where we have taken over all of the many fads of modern pedagogy along with some that are vital and measurable permanent. The spelling book no longer has the place in the curriculum it once had. There are no more spelling bees, no more spelling down in the class. In its place children write out laboriously the words selected from their lesson, whether they spell better than this generation we do not know, but if our own experience is of any value they do not.

Is there a man or woman of forty in the country who does not remember the thrill which followed in turning over the last page of monosyllables, ending, we think, with "Ax," and beginning the new entry into learning with the magic word "Baker." That, indeed, was an event in millions of lives, and though we must admit that teachers of that age had no conception of the relation between the infantile "percept" and its collateral "concept," they produced a race of young men and women who could spell and cipher and read. We do not claim that it was all of education to learn these three things. We do not deny that the modern curricula have many more and perhaps more advantageous items than the older generation was favored with. We do not think that there is a lack of interest in orthography which ought not to exist in these days of typewriting machines. Many a man has escaped censure by writing obscurely with his pen, but with the machines, which are destined to do away with penmanship, there is no recourse except to practice and the old spelling book.

So far there have been issued over 70,000,000 of the Webster's spelling book, and its popularity is still on the increase. It is true that most of the circulation is in the South, where they are glad to get anything that is cheap and good, but the fact that the elemental in education survives has instructive value. Noah Webster never made a cent, we are told, on his dictionary, but his family have made fortunes on the spelling book. That ought to give some food for thought to the philosophers who think that education began about two years ago.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

### Christ in the St. Louis Convention.

(Presbyterian Standard.)

The Standard is rigid in excluding political themes from its columns save as they may become matters affecting moral and religious principles. In the present instance we are careful to explain that the speech of Mr. Bryan in answer to the address of Governor Black, of New York, is not used in any partisan sense. But the first was an eulogy of war, as the second was of peace. The first two paragraphs are introduced by way of explanation:

Said Governor Black, in nominating Theodore Roosevelt to the Presidency: "The fate of nations is still decided by their wars. You may sing in your schools the gentle praises of the quiet life.

"You may strike from your books the last note of every martial anthem, and yet out in the smoke and thunder will also be the tramp of horses and the silent, rigid, unturned face. Men may prophesy and women pray, but peace will come here to abide forever on this earth only when the dreams of childhood are the accepted charts to guide the destinies of men.

"Events are numerous and mighty, and no man can tell which wire runs around the world. The nation basking today in the quiet of contentment and repose may still be on a deadly circuit, and tomorrow writhing in the toils of war. This is the time when great figures must be in front."

Now, of course there is some truth in this. There are still

wrongs to be righted on earth, the righting of them being resisted until there is no help for the letting of blood in the appeal to arms. But the ridicule of the very hope of peace was what Mr. Bryan opposed in the following striking paragraph:

"This is a eulogy of war. This is a declaration that the time hoped for, prayed for, of perpetual peace, will never come. This is eulogizing the doctrine of brute force and giving denial to the hopes of the race. And this President a candidate for reelection, is presented as an embodiment of that ideal, the granite and the iron, to represent the new idea of militarism. Do you say you want to defeat the military idea? Friends of the South, are you trying to defeat the military idea? Let me tell you that not one of you, North, East or South, more fears the triumph of that idea than I do. If this is the doctrine that our nation is to stand for, it is retrogression, not progression; it is the lowering of the ideals of the nation; it is turning backward to the age of force. More than that, it is a challenge to the Christian civilization of the world and nothing else."

And this is what we are writing to call attention to, the paragraph that follows. It was an immense gathering of all sorts and conditions of men, brave men and weaklings, politicians and statesmen, great men and small men, Christians and those of the world. There were men there of conflicting interests and aims and ambitions. But here was something that no man could quarrel with, and that touched the heart of every man. The silence grew to a great stillness, broken only by the speaker's marvellous voice, quivering itself with the intensity of his emotions as he said:

"Twenty-seven hundred years ago a prophet foretold the coming of one who was to be called the Prince of Peace. Two thousand years ago he came upon the earth, and the song that was sung at his birth was 'peace on earth, good will toward men.' For two thousand years this doctrine of peace has been growing. It has been taking hold upon the hearts of men. For this doctrine of peace millions have given their lives. For this doctrine of peace thousands have crossed oceans and given their lives among savage tribes and among foreign nations. This doctrine of peace, the foundation of Christian civilization, has been the growing hope of the world."

Strong men stood with bowed heads and heard that message from the midnight sky of far-away Bethlehem. Eyes unused to tears filled up and overflowed.

There were eloquent tributes paid at that great gathering to the men of their choice by the different advocates of their claims. But there was one supremacy that none disputed. And if out of the turmoil of that political convention this claim of the King hood of Jesus was so freely surrendered, can the day be so far distant when he shall rule in all hearts, and claim the kingdom of this world for his own?

### Pointed Paragraphs.

When a man argues with his wife about all he does is listen. A woman says it is easier to get a husband than to support him.

Nature sometimes saves a woman the trouble of making a fool of a man.

Some business men go away to rest, and some others to avoid arrest.

A woman tells fairy tales to her children and a man tells them to his wife.

The girl who imagines she is good looking thinks that is all that is necessary.

It is human nature to dislike those who are smarter than we are—also to despise those who are not.

Most women would worry themselves to death if they knew what their next door neighbors really thought of them.

Fortunate is the young man who gets badly defeated in a political contest. He gets discouraged and settles down to business.—Chicago News.

### Control of the Kansas River Floods.

The Kansas River floods have called new attention to the methods recently advocated by the Bureau of Forestry for controlling the course of the stream and for repairing the damage to inundated farm lands. The high-water mark this summer is 10 feet lower than that of last season, nor is the property loss comparable to that of a year ago, when the damage wrought exceeded \$20,000,000 and when over 100 lives were sacrificed. But in permanent injury to the productive capacity of the region it may well be that the river has delivered a second blow as serious as was the first. The flood of 1903 was the greatest since 1844. Until a year ago the valley of the Kaw was as fertile as any on this continent. For centuries the strips of woodland along the banks of the river bed impeded the rush of overflows, and the silt that built up the rich land had been precipitated. But under agriculture the trees were gradually cut down, in many cases right to the water's edge. The result was inevitable. In its natural course the river runs rather slowly and with many windings through its flat meadows. But when it overflowed, the water swept straight down the valley. Unimpeded by trees, it increased its velocity, in some places cutting for itself new channels, and for almost the whole 120 miles of the valley not only deeply eroded the river banks but played havoc with the valuable farm lands. In some places the rich soil was cut away to the barrens and gravel; in others coarse sand was laid 6 and 8 feet deep over the fields; in still other places great holes were gouged out and lakes formed acres in extent. Of the 250,000 acres of remarkably fertile lands, worth from \$100 to \$250 an acre, which the valley contained, 10,000 acres were completely destroyed for agricultural purposes 50 per cent of their value, and the whole area was greatly depreciated in value owing to the general sense of uncertainty as to the future. That these fears for the future were well founded the repetition of the disaster makes sufficiently plain.

But the condition of the valley is far from hopeless if they will put into active and general operation plans for the protection and reclamation of their lands. The Bureau of Forestry has devised systems of tree planting for the river banks, the sand-covered lands, and the deeply eroded lands. The object of the first is to prevent washing of the banks, to protect the whole area from the full force of floods, and in time of overflow to check the tendency to gully and cut new channels. The last two systems of planting are for ultimately reclaiming the now destroyed lands and making them produce, in the meantime, a valuable wood product while the work of reclaiming is going on.

The sanded lands are now useless for crops, but will grow cottonwood, which twenty years hence will make valuable sawlogs. In the meantime the trees will be reclaiming the land for field crops. This they will do partly by the fertilizing effect of the decaying forest litter. But should the flood waters return again, the timber would very likely be in a position to render much greater service. Examination of the area affected a year ago shows strikingly that where protective growths of cottonwood checked the rush of the current the land beyond was generally covered not with sand but with silt, and is often if anything more fertile than before. With extensive planting of forest trees another flood would undoubtedly bring back at once to fertility much of the land which has now been made barren.

The lower part of the Kansas Valley was devoted chiefly to the production of potatoes. Crops of 300 to 400 bushels per acre were not uncommon before the flood. Thousands of acres of potato fields were buried 2 to 6 feet beneath coarse river sand, causing the farmers to abandon much of this land. Of 1,000 acres of once valuable sweet potato land in one body near Wamago, Kan., only 35 acres were cultivated last year after the

flood, and this is probably all that will be fit to cultivate for many years to come.

The Bureau of Forestry is now sending to the citizens of the Kaw Valley a mimeographed circular of recommendations for guidance in forest planting on their damaged lands, in which it is said:

"Wherever the river has changed its course and straightened its channel, every possible effort should be put forth to keep it straight. Much of the damage that was caused in the great flood of 1903 is directly traceable to crooks in the stream. The soft, bare banks should be covered with willows at the earliest possible moment to prevent the stream from again becoming crooked. In addition to the protection of the caving river banks and the reclamation of the sanded and eroded lands, the land-owners of the Kansas River Valley should immediately cooperate to secure continuous belts of timber 250 feet wide on both banks of the stream. Such protective belts will be far more serviceable than dikes of earth or masonry in mitigating the destruction that may occur from overflows. The future wealth and productiveness of the valley as a whole will be largely dependent upon the practice of forestry for protection against devastation by floods."

The conditions are peculiarly favorable for the success of tree planting in the flooded regions. The flood prepared an excellent seed bed for trees, and willow and cottonwood seedlings are growing thick on ground that was too wet to plow last year. The young cottonwoods can be taken up and set out on sandy ridges which the flood has damaged. Thus the nursery stock will cost nothing but a little labor.—United States Bureau of Forestry, Washington, D. C.

### The Eager Appointive Office Seeker.

Just why the average man of ability, and fair business equipment, will become an anxious and eager pursuer of a job under municipal, State or government, in preference to following an independent business or trade of his own, has never been explained.

There seems to be a glamor about an appointive office which makes it fascinating. The salary is not usually a consideration for the majority of appointive positions pay small wages.

The talk of the unhealthy situation at the Panama Canal, might be thought to offer obstacles to securing men by the Isthmian Canal Commission, but already the Commission has a hundred applicants for every position it has to fill. The salaries on these jobs are not much as to warrant a rush for them, for few of them pay over \$1200 a year.

And the chances of promotion are very slim, though the civil service tenure may assure those securing positions some safety in keeping them.

Take it in every city where there is some appointive office, either under the municipality, or where the government may have one, and if a vacancy occurs, there will be a rush of men seeking the place who are willing to give up other business, where their chances of advancement are greater if industriously worked, but the appointive office is too attractive, and they enter the contest for it with an eagerness that is surprising.

It may be that the idea of comparative certainty of pay, with a prescribed routine of work and hours of labor, makes this desire for appointive offices. If this is the reason, it is a lazy man's reason, the satisfied desire of getting a specified wage within a defined range of hours, instead of an ambition which seeks to make of every opportunity in life something of value and the chance of individual advancement.

If there is a certainty of a tread will exist, it is some appointive office, and not merely a tread mill to follow but the complete parting with every personal ambition for advancement, for once in an appointive office, the average man would nearly as soon part with life, as to surrender his job.—New Bern Journal.

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"Well pleased, no possibility of exploding or firing. In Horse, runs with less expense. Will drive the Steam Engine out of business."  
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WINSTON, N. C., Jan. 20, 1904.  
Received from the Security Life and Annuity Company \$125.00 in payment of the first quarterly installment of a life annuity of \$600, under policy No. 147, on the life of my son, the late Rev. Robert Ernest Caldwell, of Winston, N. C.  
(Signed) Nannie Weatherly Caldwell.  
The income begins immediately upon receipt of satisfactory proof of death. Dr. Caldwell died Jan. 3, 1904, and the first installment was paid Jan. 20th.

**J. VAN LINDLEY, R. E. FORSTER, GEO. A. GRIMBLEY,**  
President. Actuary. Secretary

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**FUTRELL & ODOM,**  
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Thanking you for past patronage,  
Yours truly,  
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