

A Gift To Be Regarded Seriously.

There is an old saw which says that you must not look a gift horse in the mouth. But an examination beforehand may sometimes save a kick afterward. Some time ago Mr. John D. Rockefeller gave the stupendous sum of thirty-two millions of dollars to an organization known as "The General Education Board," to be spent by it in the cause of education in such manner as may be approved by the donor and by his son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Of course, this board had much other money before this, but no such enormous sum as that. We confess that the situation thus created is so serious a question and so puzzling to us that we have had no heart to try to make an intelligent discussion of it for our readers. Under the General Education Board there are other boards, among them the Southern Education Board. On this board are men from the South, associated with the general officers in New York, at the head of whom is Mr. R. C. Ogden, president of the board organization. In the South a meeting is held each year and the work is known as "The Ogden Movement." No great amount of money has been spent in the South, the principal part being that devoted to carrying on the campaign for self help, such as local tax in country districts.

The board has been much criticized in the South for its alleged determination to devote too much attention to negro education. We have never paid any attention to this cry, for the reason that it was not true, and also for the fact that had it been true, it could not be objected to as long as the board respected the Southern view of the race question, which it seemed to do. The opposition of the Charlotte Observer to the scheme on the ground that it put us in the position of mendicants, did not seem serious so long as the board was working only to stimulate self help, but with this tremendous amount of money to spend, this objection becomes highly important. It becomes, in fact, the real question at issue, for if people are supplicants they must receive their bonus on the conditions which the donors see fit to lay down. This phrase applies to the whole country and not to the South alone. It is scarcely conceivable that any set of men could use so vast a power in an wholly unselfish way. The far reaching effects of its use can not be more emphatically set forth than is done by Dr. Lyman Abbott, one of the most prominent members of the board, who says:

religion, society, or politics. An enforced standard of education would be more evil than any of these, because it would result in all. And it would not matter, so far as results are concerned, whether that standard were set up by the government or by a board of benevolent inclined gentlemen who were able to enforce it by the judicious distribution of vast sums of money voluntarily contributed by millionaires who had gotten it as a result of our system of uneven distribution of the wealth that the country creates. John Stewart Mill, the most clear writer on the subject of liberty as Americans regard it that we have ever read, while laying down the absolute duty of the State to see that all children are given some educational advantages, equally as clearly denies the right of the State or anybody else to set up a standard of education.

As we have said, this is a puzzling question. One is inclined to feel that it were folly to throw away the chance of using so much money where it is so sorely needed and in so good a cause. But if the results are likely to be as suggested above, to our mind, it would be better to forego the present good rather than risk the ultimate evil. And, after all, self help is the best help; if we of the South are able to help ourselves we should not wish others to do it. And now we are able if we only would. We have noticed too much of a tendency of late to get "some of them rich Northern fellows" interested in us. We are sometimes peripherally near to holding out the hand for alms.

Another thing. Some one has said that we abuse the stingy millionaires who hoard their money like Sage, and we abuse those who give it like Rockefeller, so what shall the millionaires do with their money? The thing to do is to so alter the conditions that there will be no millionaires like Mr. Sage or Mr. Rockefeller. Can we ever do that if we use their money to teach our youth?

Mr. Redwine On Demagogues.

The Bickett anti-lobbying bill, which passed the House but went to sleep in the hands of the Senate committee, was called up and made a special order by Senator Redwine, and the Senate discussed the bill last Tuesday but refused to pass it. The News and Observer says editorially: "But in its death there is one thing that in a sense glorified its departure. There had been an attempt to laugh it out of the Senate, and to make it the object of ridicule. That flippant treatment of a matter of general importance was rebuked in one of the ablest speeches of the session by Senator Redwine of Union, who silenced such methods of making light of what has come in North Carolina to be a serious menace to legislation. There are in Raleigh two score and more lobbyists who are being paid big money to defeat reduction of railroad passenger rates and any anti-trust law that has teeth. Some of them are pretending to be here about some little local measure and using their political pull to influence legislators to betray their people and to violate the solemn pledges of the Democratic party. They ought to be made to come out in the open, disclose their attorneyship, or be guilty of a crime against the noble profession they dishonor, and against the State. The whole State will applaud the statesman-like utterance of Senator Redwine, whose sincerity and high-minded declarations lifted him high above the petty frivolous defense or apology for a crime that is as dangerous as it is insidious, and, in some cases, sneaking."

In the discussion Senator McLean of Robeson took occasion to say something about demagogues and got his fingers burned. When Mr. Redwine rose to speak, he turned to the Senator from Robeson and said that: "There are two classes of demagogues in North Carolina: one class that assumes to pose as wise and conservative to please certain interests in the State, the other that sincerely advocates measures demanded by the times. The first class is represented on this floor, and in my opinion is the most dangerous class of all those who pose as wise and continuously warring their seats, disregarding the aggressive necessities and demands of our people." No one has made a more correct statement of the case than this. There are as many demagogues posing as anti-demagogues just now as there are those who pander to popular prejudice. In fact, this is the new phase of demagoguery. And the best lickens are not composed only of the class that runs for office. Lots of them work their mouths overtime for the sake of merely appearing smart and broad minded and not populist. Lots of them own ten cents' worth of stock in a hog pasture and talk about the danger to us capitalists bigger than Rockefeller himself.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is both agreeable and effective. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has no superior for coughs, colds and croup, and the fact that it is pleasant to take and contains nothing in any way injurious has made it a favorite with mothers. Mr. W. S. Pelham, a merchant of Kirksville, la., says: "For more than twenty years Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been my leading remedy for all throat troubles. It is especially successful in cases of croup. Children like it and my customers who have used it will not take any other." For sale by English Drug Company.

Stevens the Wrong Man to Prod. Those who know Representative Stevens know that he speaks best when somebody prods him. Some of his fellow legislators do not know this last week, but they do now. He was speaking in favor of the anti-trust bill, which Mr. Manning of Durham and others objected to because they thought it might drive the American Tobacco Company out of the State, it being, in fact, the meanest trust operating in the State. The debate is thus reported by the News and Observer: Mr. Stevens said he took position that if he could not get a whole loaf he would take half a loaf. If he couldn't throw all trusts he would throw such as he could. He sympathized with Mr. Manning, whose speech was, "Durham is prosperous; therefore the bill ought not to pass. It would ruin Durham. Vases had some of the tobacco crop. The bill is a trap. It would strike at the very vitals of the tobacco trust. The trust has stifled competition and created a monopoly. It is a healthy state of affairs. Can it be justified upon any sound reason? There are no bad trusts or good trusts. There are only trusts. What do you know about tobacco?" Mr. Stevens: I have enough to know that the Democratic party has declared against trusts. The time has come for men to justify the laws that they have passed. The Democratic party took the first question and compelled the Republican party to recognize the necessity of fighting trusts and about the Democratic doctrine. Mr. Grant: Wouldn't the bill stop the Cotton Growers' Association? Mr. Stevens: I don't see how it could stop the farmers. The farmers' association does not control the tobacco market. It is an organization for the dissemination of knowledge and gives advice to individual farmers. That's all they do.

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Graded School Notes. The honor roll for February is given by grades. It includes, as usual, the names of all pupils making an average of 95 per cent, or "E" in attendance, deportment, and scholarship. There is no honor roll for the first grade, as no formal examinations are held in that grade. Second grade: Mrs. Annie Stewart, teacher—Pearl Ayers, Robert Lee, Alice Grier Hudson. Third grade: Miss Emma Lee Nisbet, teacher—Tom Lee, Lizzy Horton, Aline Krauss, Louisa Lee Wolfe, Marcelle Dearing. Fourth and fifth (intermediate) grade: Miss Annie Stewart, teacher—Pearl Ayers, Robert Lee, Alice Grier Hudson. Sixth grade: Miss Florida Morris, teacher—Sam Lee, Annie May Ashcraft, Zula Auhrledge, Daisy Bell, Martha Biggers, Mary Engle, Irene Hinde. Seventh grade: Miss Anna Blair, teacher—Wade Rogers. Eighth grade: Miss Nancy X. Watkins, teacher—Basil McManis, Heath Lee, Harry Blair, Leslie Futch, Adeline Crow, Ruth Greene, Jean Ashcraft, Kathleen Hale, Virginia Lee, Gladys Lacey. Ninth grade: Miss Luez Flow, teacher—Jamie McNeely. Tenth grade: Miss Ellie Grier, teacher—Rosa Blakeneey, Emma Williams, Nannie May McNeely. Eleventh and twelfth grades: Mr. G. C. Seafie, teacher—Kemp Neal, Locke Williams, Leslie Covington, Curtis Lee, Olive Boyte, Lara Heath, Leah Coppel, Lena Greene, Lottie May Blair.

The library has been rearranged and recatalogued. The catalogue will soon be published and distributed in the homes. A new system of charging the books has been installed, so that it will be easy to keep track of them. Many have been lost heretofore. The children have been asked repeatedly to look for these misplaced books in their homes, and quite a number have been found in this way. A general request is hereby made for the return of library books that have gone lost sight of; also for the donation of new or second hand books. Monroe has no circulating library except that of the graded school, and it should be the pride of all citizens to help maintain it and keep it going. The library is very well supplied with fiction, but is behind in reference works, and

works of history, travel, biography, and general literature. It would not be a bad idea for the ladies of the various clubs of the city, and others who are interested in the matter, to meet with the teachers in one of their Saturday morning meetings and discuss the expansion of the library. The library is in charge of Mrs. Julia Price, and is open Tuesdays and Fridays for the distribution of books. Teachers and children, especially in the lower grades, are working away at drawing with a vim. Already signs of talent in this direction are being manifested among the children. Last Thursday Miss Allen of the Greensboro Normal, now representing the North Carolina Educational Journal, spent the day in our schools.

Church Notices. Subjects at the Baptist church next Sunday: 11 a. m., "Current Criticisms of Christian Missions"; 7:30 p. m., "Birthday Thoughts"; 8:30 p. m., Sunday School. Wednesday, 7:30 p. m., "Fifty Years of Baptist Growth." The public cordially invited. Latheran—Rev. G. D. Bernheim, pastor. Regular services next Sunday. Subjects: 11 a. m., "How the Lord Proves His Disciples," St. John vi, 5, 6; evening, "The Jewish and the Christian Churches," Galatians iv, 25, 26. Sunday school at 3:30 p. m. Every member of the church urged to be present, together with a cordial invitation to all friends and strangers. The difference between men who do things and those who do not, is that the one goes ahead and acts and the other sits and waits and hopes for something easier to come along. If a man has a desire to own a home for himself, and has only moderate means, he can gratify that desire by taking advantage of opportunities that are now being offered. At the big lot sale on the 19th by English & Blair, a man who bids off a lot is not required to pay much cash down, but is given a good time to get up the money. Then he can take his time and build a house. But if he sits and waits to do all at once, he may never get the chance. It's worth something to own some dirt in a fast growing town like Monroe. Even if you should want to sell it some time, there is certain to be a big profit in it.

There is a Saying: "The next time I build a house, I'll build the Bath Room first and the house around it." A Bath Room is no longer a luxury to the privileged few, but a common necessity for the many.

It's Surprising to see what a nice Bath Room Outfit we furnish for a comparatively small sum of money. Better consult us if you want a good job. Heath Hardware Co.

JUST RECEIVED: 500 pounds of good Tobacco at 23 cents per pound, 200 lbs. evaporated Peaches, two cars of the best Flour bought before the advance in price, fifteen bags of fine Irish Potatoes at 30 cents a peck. See me before you sell your Chickens, Eggs, and all other country produce. I will pay you more than any one else; get their prices and then see me. I buy all kinds of Hydes; see me before you sell. M. C. BROOM. The People's Bank

They Are Special! Big Showing in White Goods. Special lot nice assorted patterns White Madras, leader at 10 cts. Better quality and better designs at 15 cts. Excellent quality, great variety of patterns, Mercerized Cloth, so nice for waists and dresses, special prices 20 and 25 cts. 15c 40-inch White Lawn 10c. A lot of beautiful 40-inch White Lawns, regular price 15c., for this week, 10 cts. Big assortment Figured Percels and Colored Madras for school dresses 10 cts. \$1.25 Long Cloth, great value. 98 cts. a bolt. Sheets and Pillow Cases. Defender Mfg. Co. make. 81 x 90, Hemmed, Full Seamless Sheets, 65 cts. 81 x 90, Defender Full Seamless Hemstitched Sheets, splendid value, 75 cts. 45 x 36 good quality Pillow Cases, hemmed, 12 1/2 cts. 45 x 36 Heavy Domestic Hemstitched Pillow Cases, 15 cts. White Counterpane Specials. One case extra fine bleached, extra size counterpanes, \$1.25 quality, special price 98 cts. New Laces and Embroideries. Pretty Linen and Torchon Laces. Edges and with Insertions to match. 5c. yard. Specials in French Vals and English Round Thread Match Sets, 5, 7 1/2 and 10 cts. Big showing in Ladies' Belts, all the new kinds, 25 and 48 cts. You can stumble on values and find just what you want here in any department. Just come and see. BELK BROTHERS

THE NEW GOODS. The kinds wanted for early Spring wear are coming in every day. These purchases were bought before the great advances and cannot be duplicated. NEW WHITE GOODS. Forty-inch White Lawn, at the yard, 10c. Linen Finish Waisting, at the yard, 10c and 15c. Very Fine All Linen Waisting, 36 inches wide, smooth quality and a 50c value, at the yd. 35c. Twenty-five cent quality Mercerized White Goods, at the yard, 5c to 15c. yard lengths, 15c. Yard-wide Percels, 12 1/2c quality, at the yard, 10c. Yard-wide Madras, at the yard, 8 1/2c. Audrey Suiting, at the yard, 10c. Mercerized Gingham in solid colors. This is decidedly the best value in Gingham we have ever seen, at the yard, 10c.

...GROCERIES... In our Grocery Department you will find almost anything in the line of Heavy and Fancy Grocery line. Mr. Thomas P. Smith has charge of this department and will take pleasure in quoting you prices. All kinds country produce wanted at The Cash Mercantile Company The House That Saves You Money!

CABBAGE plants, celery plants, all kinds of garden plants. We are now prepared to furnish the well known varieties of cabbage plants, the extra early Wakefield, the Charleston or large type Wakefield, Henderson's Success and flat Dutch. These plants are grown in the open air and will stand great cold. We guarantee quality and count. Prices in small lots \$1.50 per 1000, in large lots \$1.00 to \$1.25 per 1000. F. O. B. Meggetts. The express company has granted us a reduced rate to all points. Unless cash accompanies order plants will go C. O. D. The department of agriculture established an experiment station on our plant farm for testing cabbage. N. H. Blitch Company, Meggetts, S. C.

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