

In his report to the legislature on the condition of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, President Winston says that there is a large and growing demand for industrial education, and that this demand is bound to increase for many years to come.

He says: "The rapid growth of manufactures in our State, the certainty of further increase and multiplication, the opening up of new industries, the utilization of water power by mechanical or electrical transmission, the development of intensive and diversified agriculture, especially trucking, fruit growing, stock raising and dairying, the setting up and management of electric plants for light and power, of water works, ice plants, cold storage, laundries, and other small industries requiring machinery, are creating a large and increasing demand for engineers, draughtsmen, electricians, machinists, mechanics, textile workers, dairy men, stock men and farmers. The demand is far greater than the supply. It is our duty to meet this demand, and we are striving to do so; but we lack teachers, tools, machinery and buildings."

The A. & M. College is a college for the people and for the times. It teaches boys to work and produce wealth. It ought to have a thousand students. Every county should have at least ten boys there. As this college is the only one in the State giving industrial education, it should be well equipped for instruction in all industrial lines. It needs a textile building, a chapel, dormitories for students, a machinery building and additional equipment of tools and machines. All these wants should be supplied. The college is a good financial investment, and the State should keep it up to the proper standard of efficiency.

It looks like the United States may be forced to construct the Nicaraguan canal. The following is a dispatch, Dec. 25, from Washington:

When the senate committee on foreign relations and inter-oceanic canals met Jan. 3d. it is more than probable, according to a member of the former committee, that they will be confronted with a telling argument for the enactment of canal legislation at this session of congress.

It was reported last night that the Panama Canal company had informed the state department and a number of prominent senators that Great Britain, Germany and France have decided to take joint stock in the Panama waterway and will complete it whether the United States proceeds to the construction of the Nicaraguan canal or not. This, it was said, was not announced as a threat, but as a piece of good news by the officials of Colombian enterprise. M. Hutin, president of the Panama company, wired his representatives here to the above effect and within an hour the matter had been made known to many senators.

A majority of the members of the canal and foreign relations committees refused to discuss the matter on the mere report from the Panama canal agents, but all agree that if the report is true, there can be no other course for the United States but to pass the canal bill at this session and proceed independently to the immediate construction of an all-American fortified waterway through Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

In speaking of the matter this morning a prominent member on the committee on inter-oceanic canals stated that he hoped the report was true, since the news would arouse the people of the country and force congress to take immediate action.

Compulsory education is regarded by some as an interference with a man's rights—his rights to raise his children up in ignorance.—Durham Herald.

Didn't Know Dore. In discussing the want of comprehension of one branch of art for another Mr. Sutherland Edwards says that when Gustave Dore began to illustrate the "Idylls of the King" Tennyson did not even know him by name.

"I wonder what they are going to do with my 'Idylls' next," he said to a friend. "They have now got a man called 'Dore' (without the accent) to illustrate them."

There is a basis for the claim of the epicure that he can distinguish between American made and French or Italian made macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli, nouilles, etc. The Italian and French makers employ in their manufacture a special hard wheat grown only in Tazanoff, Russia.

No one can reasonably hope for good health unless his bowels move once each day. When this is not attended to, disorders of the stomach arise, biliousness, headache, dyspepsia and piles soon follow. If you wish to avoid these ailments keep your bowels regular by taking Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets when required. They are so easy to take and mild and gentle in effect. For sale by J. E. Hood, druggist.

Curious African Customs. Among the human sacrifices of the delta of the Niger, says Count de Cardi, young girls occupy the most honored place. They are at regular periods offered up to the gods, and instead of shrinking from this horrible doom they accept it with pride and gratitude. Nothing is refused to these girls while they are alive. If one of them sees a handsome dress or ornament on a woman and expresses a desire to have it, the woman must give it to her. Men are also sacrificed, though not for religious reasons, and they welcome death as eagerly as the girls. Count de Cardi once tried to save one of these victims, but instead of thanking him, the man reviled him so bitterly for interfering and scolded the bystanders so heartily for delaying to carry out the sentence that they promptly stopped his mouth by killing him.

The worst insult which one woman can offer to another is to hold out the right hand in front of her with the index and middle finger forming the letter V. This means, "You will become the mother of twins." When twins are born in this region, they and their mothers are killed, as a rule, and when a mother dies in giving birth to a child the latter is also killed and buried with her. It is not superstition which impels the negroes to dispose of motherless infants in this heartless fashion, but the great difficulty of rearing them. Altogether, the information which Count de Cardi has gathered during his residence of many years in this portion of Africa is of rare value, especially to anthropologists.

He Remembered Them. "By the way," said the man who had stopped at a farmhouse to water his horse, "15 years ago a poor boy came this way, and you took him in."
"Yes?" queried the farmer, somewhat surprised.
"You were kind to him," went on the stranger; "you fed him, gave him words of encouragement and an old suit of clothes, put a dollar in his pocket and sent him on his way rejoicing. He told you at the time that he never would forget your kindness. Am I right?"

"I reckon you are," replied the farmer.
"He said that if he prospered he would see that you never had occasion to regret your kindness to a poor, struggling lad."

"Land's sakes!" exclaimed the farmer's wife excitedly. "It sounds almost like a fairy tale. don't it? Why, you must have seen him."

"I have," said the stranger, "and he sent a message to you."
"What is it?" they both asked expectantly.

"He told me to tell you that he is still poor."
As the stranger drove away the farmer went out and kicked the pump viciously, while his wife threw a rolling pin at the chickens.—New York World.

What They Deserved. Not very long since an exceedingly well dressed man about 35 was charged in a north London court with being drunk. He promptly paid his 10 shillings fine and went away. A fortnight later a stylishly dressed woman was charged with a similar offense. As she gave the same name and address I concluded they were husband and wife. So I called on them, and my visit was repeated several times. They had a very nice home, kept two servants and had four children. I noticed a bonny lad of 8, as I saw him several times. Some months later I got a letter as follows:

Dear Mr. Holmes—You know my Jack, the 8-year-old. I am sorry to say that he has got into bad ways—steals money from us, stops out late and is very disobedient. Can you get him into any training home or institution of any kind, where his evil propensities will be cured? Kindly oblige us in this.

I could not resist the temptation to reply as follows:

Dear Sir—I know of but one cure for Jack's evil propensities, and that is a thorough application of the horsewhip to both parents.

—Contemporary Review.

Anaesthetizing His Memory. Bobby was spending the afternoon at his aunt's and for some moments had been gazing out of the window in a painfully thoughtful sort of way.

"What makes you so serious. Bobby?" asked his aunt.
"Why, ma told me that I must remember not to ask for anything to eat, and I am trying to remember it."—Union Signal.

The Umbrella. Jack—I made two calls this afternoon, and I must have left my umbrella at the last place I called.
Tom—How do you know but that you left it at the first place?
Jack—Because there's where I got it.—Chicago News.

How to Cure Croup. Mr. R. Gray, who lives near Amelia, Dutchess county, N. Y., says: "Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best medicine I have ever used. It is a fine children's remedy for croup and never fails to cure." When given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough has developed, it will prevent the attack. This should be borne in mind and a bottle of the Cough Remedy kept at hand ready for instant use as soon as these symptoms appear. For sale by J. E. Hood, druggist.

Oxford's Witty Bishop. Two stories are attributed in The Railway Magazine to the witty bishop of Oxford. He was once talking to some boys in a school and said to them "Now, my boys, I dare say you think it's a very fine thing to be a bishop. But I assure you I'm a very busy man. I have to go about all over my diocese, and I haven't time to study like you have. In fact, nearly all my study has to be confined to only one book. It begins with a 'B.' Do you know what it is?" "The Bible, sir; the Bible," shouted the boys all together. "No," replied the bishop, with a merry twinkle in his eye. "It's called 'Bradshaw!'"

The other story is still better. On one occasion when he alighted from the train at Wheatley, the station for Cuddesden palace, an officious porter rushed up to him and asked, "Any articles in the van, my lord?" "Articles," said the bishop grimly. "Yes, 39 articles." Off hurried the porter and worried the guard almost out of his senses by the way he searched the van and detained the train. Presently he came back to the bishop with a crestfallen expression of countenance. "There are only seven, my lord." "Only seven? Ah, you're a Dissenter then, I should think."

A piece of flannel dampened with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and bound to the affected parts is superior to any plaster. When troubled with lame back or pains in the side or chest, give it a trial and you are certain to be more than pleased with the prompt relief which it affords. Pain Balm also cures rheumatism. One application gives relief. For sale by J. E. Hood, druggist.

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Six-fold Spool Cotton, 3 for 10c.
Ladies' Corsets from 20c up.
Ladies' Handkerchiefs, 3 for 5c.
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