

# THE DAILY FREE PRESS

THE FREE PRESS CO., Publishers

DANIEL T. EDWARDS, Editor

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## MOVEMENT OF TRAINS.

<b>NORFOLK SOUTHERN R. R.</b>			
No. 15	Lv.	5:27 A. M.	
No. 8	Lv.	7:50 A. M.	
No. 7	Lv.	10:27 A. M.	
No. 10	Lv.	3:58 P. M.	
No. 9	Lv.	7:36 P. M.	
No. 16	Lv.	11:22 P. M.	
<b>ATLANTIC COAST LINE R. R.</b>			
No. 58	Lv.	7:10 A. M.	
No. 73	Ar.	2:25 P. M.	
No. 72	Lv.	4:25 P. M.	
No. 59	Ar.	7:40 P. M.	
<b>KINSTON CAROLINA R. R.</b>			
No. 1	Lv.	4:00 P. M.	
No. 2	Ar.	8:55 A. M.	
<b>CAROLINA R. R.</b>			
No. 333	Lv.	4:30 P. M.	
No. 332	Ar.	7:35 A. M.	
<b>Friday Evening March 20, 1914.</b>			

## OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

The following illuminating discussion of an acute social problem is taken from the Greensboro News:

"This paper some days ago took notice of a remarkable paper that was published recently in The Outlook, signed 'A Southern Woman.' The theme of the article was the basis of adjustment between the races in this section, and it was severe in the justice with which it viewed the attitude of the southern people toward their black neighbor, in many things.

"But nowhere did it touch a tenderer spot than in discussing the problem of domestic service in this section. Nothing is easier than to sit off and criticize but can southern white women deny that this is anything but the plain truth?

We demand too little in the way of honest work of the negroes in our employ. Shirking, untidy habits, petty and often serious pilferings—we wink at all of them, and continue to pay honest money for dishonest work. We do not like to discharge negroes. It grates on our pride to be talked about by a negro, and talk about us they certainly will, frequently with scant respect for truth. And as to discharging them—where shall we get a better one? we ask; they are all alike. And you can't possibly do the work yourself; yet if you make them mad they may keep you out of a cook for weeks. And, besides, 'darkies are darkies.' White people always have put up with them, and always will. So we mourn in secret over the departed flour, and sigh for the land that used to be in the bucket, and tell Jane or Lucinda how nice her cake was last night, and give her the cold biscuit to take home to her grandmother and a few cookies for the children. And when Eliza Ann brings in the wash with three of the best towels gone, and half of the handkerchiefs, and tells us blandly that she 'know she done bring back ev'ry las' thing she took out, 'cause she hung 'em on her own line an' dey ain't been nobody near 'em but her an' de chillun, we fatter meekly that it doesn't matter, and that the tablecloths look nice; and we give her a pair of stockings with just one tiny hole in them, and the dress she has searched in two in the back breadth to make over for little Susan; and we pay her the full week's wages.

"The southern woman does that, declares this writer, because she knows that the negroes look up to her as 'quality' and she feels that she cannot afford to appear mean. But what of the effect upon Eliza Ann? What chance is there of Eliza Ann's ever doing an honest week's work as long as the people who should set up ideals for her gloss over dishonesty? Is it right to let the negro get the idea that in him, at least, peculation is a sort of right, for which he is not to be held responsible?

"The writer goes on to say that she once had a perfect treasure of a negro cook. She was neat and clean industrious and absolutely honest;

but when her white employer praised her for it she laughed and amusedly explained that she had worked in the north for twelve years, where the white women 'don't put up with nothin'; they fire you an do the work themselves."

"It's you white people's fault we colored people are so triffin'," she burst out. "You-all scold us, but put up with us. We don't need to do any better because we got along just as well as if we did honest work. You-all say, 'Oh, what can you expect of darkies?' But we can be honest, and up there they make us. I warn't no manner of account till I went north. An' if the Yankees had some of these other servants, 'round yere they'd learn 'em somethin'. We can do better if we mu-t!"

"The question then arises, how many southern women are capable of a declaration of independence? A young girl who cannot make fudge is something of a rarity, but we have an idea that even they are common indeed by comparison with the number who can make biscuit. 'Domestic economy' is something of a fad in our schools, but in many of them i better deserves the name of a course in domestic extravagance, for while salads and candies, and deserts are well enough in their way, chopped nuts can never replace beefsteak, not lettuce leaves potatoes.

"But until the time comes when the average southern woman is able and willing to discharge instantly a worthless negro and catch hold of the culinary department of her home herself, the southern white people will never be able to do their plain duty toward the negro. When we begin to abuse negro domestic servants for their shiftlessness, it is always well to stop and consider that everything that the negro has learned of civilization he learned of his white neighbors."

We white folks of the south have a greater share of responsibility for the proverbial shiftlessness of the negro—both male and female than we are accustomed to think. The negro is an apt student, in a way. He learns from example more than from precept. The race has not yet reached its maturity, indeed it has not passed beyond its childhood days. Like the child, it is developing and something is bound to be the outcome. In the course of its instruction certain lessons and characteristics, will be impressed and they will become a permanent part of his characteristics. We are his teachers. Our habits, customs, methods and practices will have practically all to do with the education of the race. So whether it be through act of commission or of omission we are the schoolmaster.

Foley Cathartic Tablets are entirely effective, thoroughly cleansing and always pleasant in action. They contain blue flag, are a remedy for constipation and sluggish liver, and a tonic to the bowels, which are improved by their use. Try them. They do not fail to give relief and satisfaction. J. E. Hood & Co. (adv)

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## Notice.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Kinston Loan & Real Estate Co., will be held at four o'clock p. m., March 20th, 1914 at the office in Kinston for the election of officers and directors and such other business as may come before them. R. C. STRONG, Secretary. March 20.

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