

The Pinehurst Outlook

Published Friday, Twenty-five Weeks
in the year, at

Pinehurst, Moore County, North Carolina,
(Founded by JAMES W. TUFTS.)

Leonard Tufts, Publisher.
Herbert L. Jillson, Editor.

Fifty Cents Annually, Payable in Advance;
Three Cents a Copy.

Address all Business and Editorial Communi-
cations to the Editor.
Make all Remittances Payable to the Order of
LEONARD TUFTS, Publisher.

Entered in the Post Office at Pinehurst, N. C., as
Second Class Mail Matter.
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FRIDAY, JAN. 9, 1903.

ABOUT EIGHTY-TWO PER CENT of our people dwell in the country and engage in agricultural pursuits. Under present conditions the rural public school is the chief hope of educating the rural population. The best people of all classes are going to reside where they can get the best opportunities for their children. The only hope, therefore, of keeping such people of their farms is to be found in the improvement of the public school. These rural schools must be made adequate to the educational needs of the people and equal in merit to the best public schools of the towns and cities before we can hope to stop the disastrous annual drains upon the best blood of the country by these towns and cities. In rocks and trees, and streams, and hills, vales, fields and flowers, nature has provided in the country better companions, better object lessons and better materials for education than can possibly be found or supplied in the towns and the cities.

There is no reason why man should not supply there, in the heart of nature, schools that shall offer as good educational facilities as are to be found in town or city. With such schools, the country would be the ideal place for the education of men. Without such schools it is only a question of time when the best of the country population will leave the country and when there shall be left in our rural districts only the poorest peasant population, too ignorant to know the value and the blessing of an education and too indifferent to care to secure it for their offspring.

This must not happen. The history of all civilization plainly declares that the greatest calamity that can befall any land is the deterioration or the destruction of its bold peasantry—*Hon. J. Y. Joyner, Superintendent of Public Instruction, North Carolina.*

Personal Allusions.

Personal allusions are never safe, and seldom effective or happy. An anecdote that illustrates this fact is that of a solicitor for a charitable institution who went to a woman's door and asked her for a contribution.

"We have," he stated, earnestly, "hundreds of poor, ragged and vicious children, like those at your gate, and our object is—"

"Sir," interrupted the indignant woman, "those are my own children!"—*Youth's Companion.*

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON!

Treasury Department Figures Show Countries Great Wealth.

Colombian Treaty Nearly Concluded— Others News and Gossip from the Capitol.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7, 1903.

Some advance figures furnished by the Treasury Department afford a gratifying indication of the remarkable prosperity of the United States. While no definite statistics have been issued showing the present wealth of the country, it is conservatively estimated that it will aggregate \$102,000,000,000, making a per capita wealth of \$1,186. The total wealth has increased during the year by \$4,500,000,000. The earliest published statistics on this subject are for 1850,

tains the provision for an annual rental for the zone of land which will be virtually transferred to the United States. According to the terms of the convention so far concluded, the United States is to receive a leased hold of the desired zone with the privilege of renewal at its pleasure. An annuity, the amount of which remains to be determined, is to be fixed by the treaty for all time, instead of being subject to increase at the end of every fourteen years, as was provided in the original protocol. The Panama railroad, which under the terms made with the Panama Canal Company was to revert to the Colombian government at the end of sixty years, is to become the permanent property of the United States. From the desired strip of land Colombia claims to receive at the present time an annual income of \$500,000, one half of which is paid out of the proceeds of the Panama Railway. Colombia, therefore, demands that she receive the same income when the territory shall have passed to the United States and Secretary Hay is holding out for an annuity of less than half the amount demanded.



A Similarity.

Sally—Have you perused the new book, "A Bundle of String," Horatio?
Horatio—Yep; it reminds me of "The Lost Chord."

when the total wealth of the country was \$7,135,780,000, the per capita wealth but \$307.69. The total exports of the past year are estimated at \$1,340,000,000, the figures for the first eleven months being now available, and the total imports at \$950,000,000. The imports are greater by \$70,000,000 than those for any previous year, the manufacturers of this country having been unable to supply the demand for manufactured goods notwithstanding the fact that the facilities of production in every industry have been increased to an extraordinary extent. There is an additional reason however, which is found in the immense demand for raw materials, the increased importation of which is represented by \$55,000,000 of the total \$70,000,000. There has been some falling off of exports from the two previous years but that is accounted for by the fact that the drought of a year ago resulted in a greatly reduced production of breadstuffs.

With the exception of a single clause the Colombian treaty is concluded, but that clause is an important one. It con-

State Department officials regard the return of former Minister Concha to his country as menacing the interests of the United States in Colombia and it has been suggested in Colombian press that if the United States is unwilling to pay a reasonable sum for the desired privileges doubtless Germany would and could do so without violation of the Monroe Doctrine since the American diplomats have declared that a perpetual lease would not constitute the relinquishment of territory by Colombia and therefore it could not be construed as the acquirement of territory by Germany.

The consideration of foreign relations promises to add unusual interest to the approaching session of Congress which might otherwise be predominated by the dull routine of appropriation bills. The Cuban treaty is already before the Senate, as is the Newfoundland convention. The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations is likely to call up the Kasson treaties with France and Germany, and it is the hope of Secretary Hay that he will be able to submit the Colombian treaty at an early date.

The Pinehurst Outlook

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