## The Pine Knot.

Suwineri Pines, More Con H. C.
B. A. Goodridge, Editór.

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It is stated that since the enforcement of the Prohibition law in the Capital Club at Raleigh, the membership of the club has increased. That is a good sign. It shows that social men are beginning to disbelieve in social drinking. They are finding out that it isn't necessary for a man to get drunk and make an ass of himself in order to prove that he is a good fellow. The day is coming when it will be considered just as disreputable to drink liquor as to eat opium.

We have no desire to rejoice over the misfortunes of our neighbors; just the opposite, indeed. We cannot, however, help a feeling of thankfulness for our own lot when we hear of the weather in other sections of this State and in the South generally. As we read of the thermometer showing $2^{\circ}$ below 0 in some parts of Western North Carolina, of snow 30 inches deep, roads impassable, buildings crushed, suffering on account of scarcity of fuel, \&c., \&c., we feel profoundly grateful to these big, warmhearted pines, in the midst of which we rest secure. To be sure, we have had snow,-abont four inches-and some cold weather, but we find that all around, south as well as north of us, the snow has been deefer and the cold more intense.

## FROM AN ARCTIC SUFFERER.

[We have just received the following communication from Mr. Lewis A Dodge, of Boston, who has been doing North Carolina since October. Com ment is unnecessary. We will however assure the gentleman that the pitch pine fire and the baked beans shall be ready. We have also decided to stock our lake with codfish and when that is done we shall rest content, knowing that we are prepared for any Boston man who may come this way.-Editor Pine Knot.]

Rutherfordton, N. C., Dec. 10, 's6.

## Prof. B. A. Goodridge,

Dear Sir:-I had intended writing you before, but have only been back a short time from my trip up through Burke, Yancy and Mitchell, and ate so much cow meat up there and was in the saddle for so long that I developed quite a bilious attack which is hardly subdued yet. And then too I had such a mass of letters waiting me here, from Northern friends anxious to hear about chances er er by ability, luck or wit, should for business in North Carolina, that I his entirelv and without restriction have hardly got them all answered during his life. There should be no yet. My friends seem to think that I income tax, which only offers a premam exploring for them instead of for ium on fraud and oppresses the enermyself, but as I make it a point never gy of both labor and capital. myself, but as I make it a point never gy of both labor
to neglect answering a letter I have -Pierre Lorillard.
been hard put to it to keep up my correspondence.
Have you got any snow at Southern Pines? I am glad on one account that I was delayed here to see just what they have for winter in this section They can't tell me anything more a bout the balmy air here, with fifteen inches of snow on a level and fording rivers three feet deep, running ice. 1 am prepared to enthuse over this state, but I can get all the winter I want in the Old Bay State, and I don't want it either. The counties I have visited must be beautiful in summer, with their grand scenery both of rivers and mountans, but I am not a worshipper of "Jack Frost", and escaped over the Blue Ridge in a cyclone of snow, fording Buck Creek thirty-one times on my flight to Marion.
The people up in the mica and cattle counties are a genial set, with their eye teeth fully cut to everything they possess and seem more tike Yankees in this respect than any Tar Heels I have met so far. I formed many very pleasant acquaintances up there, which I propose to renew when they come out like their abundant crop of bears from their winter quarters. Down here in this towa every one is awaiting the advent of the railroads and forming plans based on their advent. They have certainly suffered long and deeply for want of proper and quick transit. The folks are hospitable and kind and hang on to me-a Yankeelike a dog to a root, and don't want to let me go and get warm, but I can't stand this everlasting snow and shall start your way soon. . I have looked this place over thoroughly and hope to be able to do something in directing manufacturing here. Especially is there a good tield for a shoe factory and I think I can send them a man who will make things "hum".
I want to go down your way among those grand old pitch pines and in the dry air of Southern Pines and then perhaps I sha'n't pine for Florida. (Excuse the chestnut.) My folks are about leaving Boston for Florida for their second winter in Sanford, but no Florida in mine. I have had all I want of that malarial place with its fleas and flies. I go from here to Charlotte soon and then in a few day you will hear me knocking at your door. Now have a good pitch pine flre and some baked beans, baked in a pot, not pan and you shall have the thanks of Yours truly,

## Lewis A. Dodge.

Hurry and Cunning are the two apprentices of Dispatch and Skill, but neither of them ever learn their master's trade.-Colton.

Rights of private property should be respected ?

## A GREAT HERBARIUM.

There is in Statesville, Iredell county, N. C., the largest establishment in the world for the collection of medicinal herbs, roots, barks, gums and berries. "Sherman" thus writes of it in the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser:This house does a business of $\$ 100$, 000 annually in these goods, of which it handles more than 2,000 varieties, weighing upward of $2,000,000 \mathrm{pcunds}$. This concern began business in a small way in 1859 , but was broken up by the war. Soon after it ended the firm of Wallace Brothers was formed and the business resumed. At first they dealt in few articles except ginseng, but after a while they added to their variety such things as druggists called for until their cataloguecontained the names of nearly 2,100 articles. Professor Grey, of Cambridge, has said that there were more medicinal. plants in western North Corolina than in any one place in North America and the business of this firm confirms his statement.
The system employed is simple enough, but it required executive ability of no mean order to establish it and keep it in successful operation. The Wallaces were country merchants do ing business with people who had little or no money. The little crossroad traders came to them for goods, and paid their bills with such produce as they could get from their customers. Ginseng was the most marketable article. China never gets too much of it, and has, when it was scarce, given its weight in gold for it. Seneka snake root was another equivalent for ready cash. The Wallaces encouraged their customers to get all of these they could. They in turn sold their stocks to exporters and druggists, and through the acquaintances thus made they learned what the trade would buy and at what prices.
There is a phase to this botanic business of interest to both philanthropists and political economists. The collectors are usually women, children and maimed or broken down men. Most of them have no other means at command for getting store goods. They live, as a rule, remote from all villages or from places where they can earn wages. Were there no wild fruits to dry and medicinal herbs to gather they would be destitute indeed. Time is of no account to them, because there is nothing in their lives togive it value. They will therefore spend hours in gathering a few pennyworths and preparing it for the store. Later they will waik barfooted ten, twelve and sometimes twenty miles, to trade off their little stoek for such things as they need. Between four hundred and five hundred country stores deal with the Wallaces. All of forty thousand persons collect the stock. Here in a small way is a great bereficence.
Never can an error be permanently destroyed by the roote, unless we plant by its side the truth that is to take its place.-Robertson

