

THE PINE KNOT.

LIGHTED FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF TAR HEELS, BOTH NATIVE AND ADOPTED.

VOL. 2.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1888.

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Eaglesfield's Southern Pines BRICKYARD.

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A NATIONAL NUISANCE.

Probably the most hopelessly outlawed creature on the American continent, is the English sparrow. If not now, he soon will be. Read what the Commissioner of Agriculture has to recommend concerning him.

"That legislative bodies of all the States and Territories should repeal all existing laws which afford protection to the English sparrow. The enactment of laws legalizing the killing of the English sparrow at all seasons of the year, and the destruction of its nests, eggs, and young. The enactment of laws making it a misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, to intentionally give food or shelter to the English sparrow, except with a view to its ultimate destruction: to introduce or aid in introducing it into new localities; to interfere with persons, means, or appliances engaged in, or designed for, its destruction of its nests, eggs, or young. The enactment of laws protecting the butcher bird, the sparrow hawk, and the screech owl, which species feed largely on the English sparrow, and the enactment of a law providing for the appointment of at least one person holding civil office, in each town or village whose duty it shall be to destroy, or bring about the destruction of English sparrows in the streets and parks and other places where the use of fire-arms is not permitted."

The reason for this anathema lies in the fact that this vicious little feathered brute is fast spreading over the entire country, driving away useful birds and doing incalculable harm by eating fruit buds and germs. It is evident that the English sparrow must go.

It is gratifying to find that people who have visited Southern Pines, and afterward gone to other health resorts in the South, with the idea of finding better conditions, almost invariably return with a greater appreciation of the merits of the place than ever before. This has been illustrated in several cases lately. A lady, who was here in the fall, and received great benefit, but by the advice of friends, spent the greater part of the winter at different resorts in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama, has come back and is now gaining again in flesh and strength. She found pleasant places, localities where there were greater crowds and excitement, but nowhere did she find a place with absolute restorative properties equal to what she finds here.

There's no denying that the weather has been disagreeable. With high winds, the air from fields of Northern snow and ice was rather penetrating.

This is so different from what is usually experienced at this time of year as to cause some grumbling among those unreasonable persons who think Southern Pines ought always to be mild and balmy, regardless of the kind of weather that prevails North, East, South and West. Considering the terrible state of the weather in the North and North-west, it seems to us that our bright, windy days, with the mercury ranging from 30° to 50° above zero, were not as bad as they might have been. Visitors wear a knowing smile while we remark that this is a very unusual spring, as if to say, "Oh, yes, that's what you've said every year, further back than the memory of man can reach." But if New Yorkers are allowed to maintain that the late storm was the worst in thirty-three years, why may we not claim that this state of things is "unusual" at least?

We have received *Glimpses into Chinese Homes*, by Miss Elizabeth U. Yates. Miss Yates was sent as missionary to China under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, North, and this little book is a partial record of her experiences during the five years she worked among them. She accompanied a lady physician upon her rounds among the sick thus gained an entrance into homes where doors would ordinarily be closed to her. The glimpses of their household customs, religious life &c., she tells in a pleasing manner, and we heartily recommend the book to those who are interested in mission work.

Some of our visitors, especially those who have visited other resorts in the South, express surprise at finding people who have never heard of Southern Pines. This is not surprising when we stop to think of the many places North and South that have celebrity among certain classes of people and in certain localities, but elsewhere are entirely unknown. It is certain however that Southern Pines is much better known in the North than it is in the South.

Ah, the vast difference between *tweedledee* and *tweedledum*! Some of our contemporaries who had loud words to say about the sycophancy of Editor Grady, as shown in a speech delivered at a Northern banquet some time since, speak in the highest terms of his recent reply to Senator Ingalls. In our estimation, both efforts were worthy of the highest praise.