

THE PINE KNOT.

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

VOL. 2.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1888.

NO. 26

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HARDLY DECENT.

The people of the great North-west are an enterprising, indomitable race. If they were not, they couldn't stay there. Modesty, however, and good taste are not the most conspicuous attributes of some of them. Witness the following telegrams sent to Mayor Hewitt, of New York, after the recent blizzard:

"Hon. A. S. Hewitt, Mayor of New York: The citizens of Grand Forks, Dak., while enjoying the balmy weather of Spring, deeply sympathize with your people in their unfortunate situation and respectfully tender substantial aid should it be deemed necessary." W. H. BROWN.

President Chamber of Commerce.

"The city of St. Paul, Minn., tenders to New York her sympathy for the damage to life and property occasioned by the blizzard now raging in your city. Unaccustomed to storms of such phenomenal severity as to cause railroad isolation from the outside world, and never having had people frozen to death in the streets, we shall be glad to contribute to any relief fund, which may be started for your afflicted people. The weather here yesterday was mild and beautiful."

"Sympathy indeed! If the reader can detect in these effusions anything sincere, except the desire 'to get even,' and a bragadocio self assertion, he must be very acute. It is as if one should say to his neighbor, when an only child lies dead in the house, 'see my beautiful boy! How full of life and health he is! I am sorry for you, but disease and death never comes to my home.' We think New York and the East will be able to take care of their own blizzard sufferers. At any rate, they do not care for aid which is accompanied by such insulting expressions as these.

Some invalids, after seeing their malady grow steadily worse through the summer and fall come to Southern Pines in winter, and are disappointed not to become better all at once. If no marked improvement shows itself, they become impatient, then disgusted, and perhaps go away to die, when a little patience, a little exercise of good judgment, would have kept them here long enough to obtain the benefit that is sure to come to every one who will give the climate a fair chance to do him good. The person who comes here in winter must not expect to derive benefit as he will later in the year, when the hot sun brings out the odor of the pines, and every breeze is the breath of life. Let him be content if he gains very slowly; at home he would be fast slipping away beyond

the bounds of hope. We do not claim that this climate will perform impossibilities, but we know that it has restored to comparative health those whose lives would not have continued three months longer in their Northern homes.

We have received a copy of the "Proceedings of the N. C. Press Association, at the 15th annual meeting." It contains a full account of what our "molders of public opinion" said in the way of address, essay, history, oration and poem, at Hendersonville, last July; also details of the business transacted, constitution and by-laws of the Association and a list of its officers.

THE WORLD GROWS BETTER.

I have been trying to work out the statistics with regard to crime. I am myself am satisfied that there is less crime than there was ten years since in the United States. On the other hand, law is more stringent, and men are punished for things for which they were not punished then. I wish that young lawyers, young clergymen, or young anybody interested in the truth, would work out the details in the places in which they live. But it is quite clear to me that there is less drunkenness, more disposition to purity, a higher tone of public sentiment, about crime than there was ten years since.

Everybody recognizes the fact that there is more wealth. The country is advancing in wealth by laws which it does not understand, and with results which it does not know how to grapple with. And this is the wealth of everybody, not simply of millionaires. The poor are richer than they were ten years ago, as well as the rich. That is to say, there are more comforts in the homes, and the level of life is decidedly higher. This observation belongs in an answer to your question, for this also is a part of the coming in of the Kingdom of God.

I should say that life was, on the whole, larger than it was ten years ago. I should say that the books that are read are better,—certainly more books are read; that the press is rather better than it was then. And I should say that there is more individual opinion and more readiness to take up the higher and better lines of thought and inquiry than there was then.—E. E. Hale, in *Unity*.

The Wadesboro brown Stone Quarry is on a boom. The company is now filling an order for the Maryland State House at Annapolis, which requires solid blocks of brown stone 10x14 feet and 10 inches thick, and weighing about 14 tons each. Special cars have been improvised for the transportation of these blocks. Each block is worth about \$560.—*Wadesboro Messenger*.