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Wm. H. STEWART, Editor and Manager.

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ADVERTISEMENTS to appear on the day of publication should be delivered at the office before 9:30 a. m.

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Communications of public importance are solicited, but will not be published unless the NAME of the writer is given.

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All communications should be dressed to TRUTH-INDEX,
Salisbury, N. C

FEBRUARY 24, 1901.

Mrs. Carrie Nation knows now how it feels to get on a "tare."

If Washington could have attended those birthday exercises in Manilla, he would surely have asked "where am I at?" "Whither have I drifted to!" And like our friend, Rip Van Winkle, he would not have been right sure who he was or whether he was at home or "sumer's else."

Director Merriamannounced Thursday that the Census office is about to publish a bulletin showing the amount of cotton ginned in the United States during the census year (crop of 1899), which has been prepared in the division of manufactures under the personal supervision of Daniel C Roper, of South Carolina. Speaking of this bulletin, the director said that the inquiry has resulted most satisfactorily and that he believed it would be received with the greatest interest in the cotton growing States.

The above sounds very innocent and well, but if such a bulletin is printed by the government and thus gives value for correctness, we fear it will work a great loss to the farmers, most of whom will never see or utilize it, while the broker and dealer in futures will make handsome profits by it. If such should be the case it will not be received with the greatest interest in the cotton growing states, but instead in the stock exchanges and Wall street. No gimner should be compelled to give such information for such a purpose, and not being compelled the farmers might save something by refusing to trade with those who did so voluntarily. Of course the wide awake, intelligent farmer would appreciate such information as

STATE NEWS.

Senator Henderson's divorce bill took up most of the time in the Senate Thursday.

The State Sunday school convention now in session, is well attended and is creating much interest.

The Burke county court house to Morganton caught fire Thursday, but did very little damage before it was extinguished.

C M Roper, alias C D Hartley, claiming Norfolk as his home, called at the Bank of Reidsville Wednesday and asked Cashier Evans to cash an apparently regularly made out voucher of the State penitentiary, drawn in the State treasurer in favor of F B Roper & Co., made payable to C M Roper, by him properly endorsed, for $268.70. The cashier refused to pay the same. A local liveryman identified Roper, who obtained the money and went to Danville. Mr. Evans, feeling uneasy, made inquiries, and found that the man had known the party vouched for only a few days, and went to Danville and obtained the money from the stranger. Roper (or Hartley) will probably be brought back to Reidsville for trial.

The Democratic members of the General Assembly held a caucus in Representatives Hall Thursday night to consider the problem as to whether the State should be redistricted or the additional Congressman to whom North Carolina is entitled under the new census elected at large, thereby leaving the nine congressional districts without change. There was a very general and full discussion, which resulted in the adoption of a resolution, offered by Senator McNeill of Cumberland, instructing the joint committee to proceed at once to prepare a bill which will divide the state into ten Democratic Districts. A number of the members of the committee expressed themselves as of the opinion that this could be done. The caucus was called at the instance of the committee to get the sentiment of the Democraiic members as to the advisibility of making any changes, those opposing a change being of the opinion that it would be best to elect the additional Congressman at large.

REGULATE EVERYTHING.

Here is a bill That will Come Very Near Doing It.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Mr. Ridgely has introduced a bill in the House, "by request," "to regulate commerce and industry."

The preamble of the bill states that "this bill means that forty-five executive departments can be established and operated with great benefit to the people—something like the Post Office Department—that each State in the Union will be represented in the cabinet of the President; that it means public employment for every person who wants it, and public co-operation at labor cost; that the whole people have a right to do any business for labor cost that any part of the people have the right to do for labor cost and profit; that it means the liberation and elevation of the working world, and that the working class, like the capitalist class, have decided to take whatever they want 'by due process of law.'"

The bill establishes in the District of Columbia forty-five executive departments, the head of each "to see that each employe of their respective departments is paid weekly not less than $4 per day of four hours each, with a practical examination for each promotion to each higher grade of pay in the public service, as well as granted leave of absence, with pay for one day after working 3 days; for one week after working three weeks; for one month after working three months; for one year after working three years, during the continuance of that voluntary public employment."

Among the departments proposed to be established by the bill are the following: Department of Public Fluids, to supply the people with gas and water; Department of Public Forces, to supply the people with light, heat and power; Department of Methods, to establish bureaus of observation and suggestion in all departments of the service, for the purpose of publishing the actual facts in the successful conduct and mismanagement of public business, for the reason that any private concern would have the methods of its employes improved wherever and whenever it is possible to do so by wise and judicious management; Department of Public Affairs, to operate affairs in all parts of the republic; Department of Public Lectures, Department of Public Amusements, the Department of Public Comfort, "to provide for the comfort of mankind in every way that human ingenuity can devise;" Department of Public Hotels, Department of public Baths, Department of Public Laundries, "to establish public laundries in all parts of this republic, and operate them in such a way that the water in the tubs will be changed in each new lot of clothing."

The bill proposes to establish several scores of ship canals, deep waterways and improved harbors, all to be paid out of a form of currency issued by the treasury.

The bill covers fortyfive printed pages, and was referred to the Committee on reform in the civil service.

WELFARE OF THE BODY.

Simple Life Conduces to Longevity, Says Dr. Talmage.

RELIGION THE GREAT RENEWER.

Faith in the Providence of God Conquers the Effects of Years—Worry Hastens the Advance of Age—Christian Rejuvenescence.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—In this discourse Dr. Talmage shows how any one can conquer the effect of years and grow younger in spirit; text, Psalms ciii, 5, "So that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

There flies out from my text the most majestic of all the feathered creation—an eagle. Other birds have more beauty of plume and more sweetness of voice, but none of them has such power of beak, such clutch of claw, such expansion of wing, such height of soaring, such wideness of dominion. Its appetite rejects the carrion that invites the vulture, and in most cases its food is fresh and clean. Leveling its neck for flight, in spiral curve, it swings itself toward the noonday sun. It has been known to live a hundred years. What concentration of all that is sublime in the golden eagle, the crested eagle, the imperial eagle, the martial eagle, the booted eagle, the Jean le Blanc eagle! But after awhile in its life comes the molting process, and it looks ragged and worn and unattractive and feels like moping in its nest on the high crags. But weeks go by and the old feathers are gone and new ornithological attire is put on, and its beak, which was overgrown, has the surplus of bone beaten off against the rocks, and it gets back its old capacity for food, and again it mounts the heavens in unchallenged and boundless kingdoms of air and light. David, the author of the text, had watched these monarchs of the sky and knew their habits, and one day, exulting in his own physical and spiritual rejuvenescence, he says to his own soul: "You are getting younger all the time. You make me think of an eagle which I saw yesterday, just after its molting season, swinging through the valley of Jehoshaphat and then circling around the head of Mount Olivet. O my soul, 'thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.'"

The fact is that people get old too fast. They allow the years to run away with them. The almanac and the family record discourage them. Some of you are older than you have any business to be. You ought to realize that as the body gets older the soul ought to get younger. Coming on toward old age you are only in the molting season, and after that you will have better wings, take higher flight and reign in clearer atmosphere. Our religion bids us to look after the welfare of the body as well as of the soul, and the first part as well as the latter part of my subject is appropriate for the pulpit.

Turn the Years Backward.

Many might turn the years backward and get younger by changing their physical habits. The simpler life one leads the longer he lives. Thomas Parr of Shropshire, England, was a plain man and worked on a farm for a livelihood. At 120 years of age he was at his daily toil. He had lived under nine kings of England. When 152 years of age, he was heard of in London. The king desired to see him and ordered him to the palace, where he was so richly and royally treated that it destroyed his health, and he died at 152 years and 9 months of age. When Dr. Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, made post mortem examination of Thomas Parr, he declared there were no signs of senile decay in the body. That man must have renewed his youth, like the eagle, again and again.

All occupations and professions have afforded illustrations of rejuvenescence. Hippocrates, the father of medicine, lived 109 years, and among those eminent in the medical profession who became septuagenarians and octogenarians and nonagenarians were Darwin, Gall, Boerhaave, Jenner and Ruysch, observing themselves the laws of health that they taught their patients. In art and literature and science, among those who lived into the eighties were Plato and Franklin and Carlyle and Goethe and Buffon and Halley. Sophocles reached the nineties. You cannot tell how old a man is from the number of years he has lived. I have known people actually boyish in their dispositions at 80 years of age, while Louis II, king of Hungary, died of old age at 20. Haydn's oratoria, "The Creation," was composed at 70 years of age. Humboldt wrote his immortal work, "The Cosmos," at 75. William Cullen Bryant, at 82 years of age, in my house, read without spectacles "Thanatopsis," which he had composed when 18 years of age. Isocrates did illustrious work at 94. Liontinus Gorgias was busy when death came to him at 107 years of age. Herschel at 80 years of age was hard at work in stellar exploration. Masinissa, king of Numidia, at 90 years of age led a victorious cavalry charge against the Carthagenians. Titian was engaged on his greatest painting when he died in his one hundredth year. How often they must have renewed their youth!

Renewal of Youth.

But the average longevity of those in private life, and with less mental strain and no conspicuous success, is much larger than the average longevity of the renowned. There are hundreds of thousands of men and women now renewing their youth like the eagle's, so that the possibility of such a turning back of the years is all around us being demonstrated.

Bismarck, the greatest of German statesmen, a long while before his decease passed his eightieth milestone. When Gladstone was 83 years of age, I ran with him up and down the hills of Hawarden. We started for a walk, but it got to be a run. All those men again and again renewed their youth.

Some one writes me, "Is not threescore and ten the bound of human life, according to the Bible?" My reply is that Moses (not David), who wrote that psalm, was giving a statistic of his own day. Through better understanding of the laws of health and advancement of medical science the statistics of longevity have mightily changed since the time of Moses. and the day is coming when a nonagenarian will no longer be a wonder. Phlebotomy shortened the life of whole generations, and the lancet that bled for everything is now rarely taken from the doctor's pocket. Dentistry has given power of healthy mastication to the human race and thus added greatly to the prolongation of life. Electric lights have improved human sight, which used to be strained by the dim tallow candle. The dire diseases which under other names did their fatal work and were considered almost incurable now in a majority of cases are conquered. Vaccination, which has saved millions of lives and balked the greatest scourge of nations, and surgery, which has advanced more than any other science, have done more than can be told for the prolongation of human life. The X ray has turned the human body, which was opaque, into a lighted castle. It is easier in this age to renew one's youth than in any other age.

Rejuvenate the Soul.

But the body is the smallest and least important part of you. It is your soul that most needs rejuvenation, but that will also help bodily vivification. In order to do this I advise you to banish as far as possible all fretfulness out of your life. The doing of that will make you ten years younger. I know many good, Christian people who are worrying themselves out in managing the affairs of the universe. They have undertaken too big a job. They are trying to drive too long and fiery a team. They have all the affairs of church and state on hand, and they fret about this and fret about that and fret about the other thing. They fear that China will be divided up among the nations and there will be an entanglement causing wars such as we have never heard of. They fear that Edward VII will not be as wise a king as his mother was a queen. They are appalled at the accumulated national debt. They fear society is going to pieces by reason of immoralities. They apprehend that America will be overcrowded with foreigners. They say the newspapers are getting so bad that this country is going to be utterly demoralized. They are all the time apprehensive of social and religious and political calamities, and it is telling on their mental health, depressing their physical health, and, instead of renewing their youth like the eagle's, they are imitating the eagle who would sit in his nest of sticks lined with grass on the rock, mourning about the woes of the ornithological world, the loneliness of the pelican, the filthiness of the vulture, the croak of the raven, the recklessness of the albatross. Would that improve things? No. It would be a molting process for that eagle which would never close, and it would only get thinner and more gloomy and less able to gain food for its young and less able to enjoy a landscape as it appears under a 20 mile flight on a summer morning under the blue heavens.

I do not advise you to be indifferent to these great questions that pertain to church and state and nations, but not to fret about them. Realize that it is not an anarchy that has charge of affairs in this world, but a divine government. At the head of this universe is a King whose eye is omniscience and whose arm is omnipotence and whose heart is infinite love. His government is not going to be a failure. He cannot be defeated. Better trust him in the management of this world and of all worlds. All you and I have to do is to accomplish the work that is put in our hands. That is all we have to be responsible for. In a well managed orchestra the players upon stringed and wind instruments do not watch each other. The cornetist does not look to see how the violinist is drawing the bow over the strings, nor does the flute scrutinize the drum. They all watch the baton of the leader. And we are all carrying our part, however insignificant it may be, in the great harmony of this world and of the universe which our Lord is leading, and we all have to watch his command and do our best and not bother ourselves about the success or failure of other performers. If you want to renew your youth, better stop managing the affairs of the universe.

The National Disease.

Mythology tells us that Jason begged Medea, the goddess, to take some of the years of his life and give them to his father. She promised that without abbreviating the son's life she would prolong his father's life. She filled the caldron with herbs and the blood of beasts and birds and then stirred the caldron and put some of the juices in the mouth of the aged father, and it is said that his hair turned from white to black, the shriveled limbs rounded into robust health, and the rejuvenated man felt as he did at 40 years of age. All that is a poetic myth. But a brightened religious hope and a strengthened faith in God's providence have rejuvenated many a man in disposition and usefulness and renewed his youth like the eagle's. On the contrary, it is thought that worriment is becoming in this country a national disease, and it has been called "Americanitis."

Another mode of rejuvenescence is much of the time associating with those younger than yourself rather than with those who are as old or older. If you have no children of your own, better adopt a child. There are in this country and in all countries orphans by the tens of thousands. Go to one of the asylums or institutions where friendless children are cared for and select some little one with an honest eye and good disposition and take him to your home. Put around him all the elevating and happy influences you can provide. In two years he will become part of your life, and his company to you will be indispensable. It will make you 20 years younger. He will be an illumination to the evening of your life, and he will speak your praise long after you have departed from this world, and in heavenly places you will have been rewarded by the great friend of children—the Lord Jesus.

It will take all time and all eternity to fully appreciate the work of Van Meter on this side of the sea and of Barnardo on the other side in putting poor orphan children in good homes in America and England. Through that process waifs of the street have passed up from poverty and wretchedness into bright homes and churches and pulpits and legislative halls and senates, and many have already been crowned in a better world, the work begun in asylums on earth completed in the palaces of heav

. Whether by such adoption of children or in some other way, call around you the young. Become their associates, their confidants, their encouragement. While you do them good, they will do you good. The old eagle while companioning in the nest with young eagles will feel new strength coming into its wing, new light into its eye, new ambition to cut a circle nearer the sun, and for the time will forget hurricanes that have ruffled its plumes and storms of many years that have swept over its mountain eyrie. The closing years of life ought to be the best part of it, as an arrival in port ought to be happier than embarkation. It is better to have the cyclones behind you than before you. Some one will say, "David might renew his youth, but I have been through so much there is no such thing for me as revivification." You are wrong. You have not gone through as much as David went through. He had all the experiences of shepherd boy, armor bearer, king's bodyguard, hunter of wild beasts, warrior and monarch. He was 40 years on a rocking throne. He was the oriental hero in many a battle, made moral mistakes enough to destroy him, prostrated a giant with one stroke, was the father of Hebrew poetry and wrote poems which all the subsequent centuries have been chanting, dramatized dementia to escape assassination, ran against Ahithophel's betrayal and Saul's jealousy and Absalom's insurrection and made Jerusalem the religious capital of the world. If after all that he could renew his youth, you ought to be able to do the same.

Cheer For the Aged.

Again, I remark: Going out of this life to the Christian is rejuvenescence. What a holy glee it must be for those who in this world had the aches and pains and limitations of old age, the halting gait of the rheumatic or infirm foot exchanged for wing of celestial velocity, the dimmed vision of worn-out optic nerve exchanged for a sight that takes all heaven at a glance, the mental depression that comes from sense of decay exchanged for the exhilaration of faculties lustrous and ever strengthening, sad reminiscence exchanged for glowing anticipation? How cheery for the aged who love and trust the Lord to think that their last years of taking off and decrepitude are the molting season referred to in the text! Shedding of all weaknesses, shedding of all unholy ambitions, shedding of all dislikes, shedding of all hindrances. If the eagle knew that all, that annual pulling down and taking off and shriveling were preparation for new wings, it would not sit moping in its nest. But you, O son and daughter of God, ought to be wise enough to know that all this process you are going through is to prepare you for wings—substitution of heavenly speed and power for earthly lethargy and faltering. David felt the need of wings when he cried out, "Oh, that I had the wings of a dove, that I might fly away and be at rest!"

My text suggests that heaven is an eternal youth. A cycle of years will not leave any mark upon the immortal nature. Eternity will not work upon the soul in heaven any change unless it be more radiance and more wisdom and more rapture. A rolling on from glory to glory! In anticipation of that some of the happiest people on earth are aged Christians. The mightiest testimonies have been given by the veterans in the gospel army. While some of the aged have allowed themselves to become morose and cynical and impatient with youth and pessimistic about the world and have become possessed with the spirit of scold and fault finding and are fearful of being crowded out of their sphere many of the aged have been glad to step aside that others may have a chance and are hopeful about the world, expecting its redemption instead of its demolition, and they are inspiration and comfort and helpfulness to the household and to the neighborhood and to the church. The children hail the good old man as he comes down the road. His smile, his words, his manner, his whole life, make the world think better of religion.

Noah Webster, the greatest of lexicographers, departing this life at 85 years of age, exclaimed: "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed to him against that day." The venerable Daniel Webster, the greatest of American lawyers and statesmen, in his last hours said: "I had intended to prepare a work for the press to bear my testimony to Christianity, but it is now too late. Still, I would like to bear witness to the gospel before I die." Being too weak to hold a pen, he dictated to a scribe his words of triumphant faith.

I congratulate all aged Christians that the molting season will soon be over, and you will mount higher than eagle ever ascended. What a good thing that you are soon to get rid of winter's cold and summer's heat and drenching rain and hovering clouds and live in superbest climate of the universe, whether it be this world made over as to atmosphere and contour or in some star which mighty telescope hails from the observatory or in some center around which all worlds wheel. It is all ready and has been ready, as near as I can calculate, since 1,871 years ago, when Christ went up after saying, "I go to prepare a place for you." What a good thing to get rid of this world's vicissitudes and to have no surprises except those that are exhilarant, as when Milton may ring a new canto or Chrysostom may speak with a new eloquence or Handel may render a new symphony, for I do not suppose that those who were mighty on earth are going to be idlers in heaven.

What a good thing it is, all ye aged Christians, that you can soon get rid of dulled ear and sight that requires strong eyeglasses and infirmities which make you hold on to the banister, leaving you panting at the head of the stairs, and enter a land of eternal health, where the most rubicund cheek of robust life on earth would be emaciation compared with the vigor of the immortals. What a good thing to get beyond being misunderstood and blamed for what you could not help and picked at by a hard world and then pass into a heavenly society where all think well of each other and friendships are eternal, depreciation and slander and backbiting unknown, for the gate of heaven was shut against them in the statement, "Without are dogs." What a good thing to have satisfying and glorious explanation of things that puzzled you 20 or 40 or 80 years, to have the in[illegible] abolished and all myst[illegible] God's government vindic[illegible] will see why he allowed si[illegible] to come into the world, a[illegible] bad were permitted to live s[illegible] the good were cut off in th[illegible] their greatest usefulness and [illegible] many of the consecrated find [illegible] struggle, while many of the infa[illegible] ride prosperously, princes afoot [illegible] beggars a-horseback, and the last l[illegible] est question shall have been answered.

Gibbon in his history says that Mo[illegible]hammed had a dream in which he thought that, mounted on the horse Borak, he ascended the seven heavens and approached within two bow shots of the throne and felt a cold that pierced him to the heart when his shoulder was touched by the hand of God. That might do for Mohammed's heaven, but not for a Christian heaven. No cold hand put upon your shoulder there, no cold hand of repulse or doubt, but the warm hand of welcome, the warm hand of saintly communion, the warm hand of God.

Youth Renewed.

I congratulate all Christians who are in the eventide. Good cheer to all of you. Your best days are yet to come. You are yet to hear the best songs, see the grandest sights, take the most delightful journeys, form the most elevating friendships, and after 10,000 years of transport you will be no nearer the last rapture than when you were thrilled with the first.

In heaven you will have what most pleases you. Archbishop Leighton's desire for heaven was a longing for Christ and purity and love, and he has found there what he wanted. John Foster rejoiced at the thought of heaven, because there he could study the secrets of the universe without restraint, and he has been regaling himself in that research. Sou[illegible] thought of heaven as a place where he would meet with the learned and the great—Chaucer and Dante and Shakespeare. He no doubt has found that style of communion. That great and good Dr. Dick was fond of mathematics, and he said he thought much of the time in heaven would be given to that study, and I have no doubt that since ascension he has made advancement in that science. The "twelve manner of fruits" spoken of in Revelation means all kinds of enjoyment in heaven, for twelve manner of fruits includes all the chief fruits that are grown on trees. I suppose there will be as many kinds of enjoyment in heaven as there will be inhabitants.

You will have in heaven just what you want. Are you tired? Then heaven will be rest. Are you passionately fond of sweet sounds? Then it will be music. Are you stirred by pictures? There will be all the colors on the new heavens and on the jasper sea, and the walls imbedded with what splendors! Are you fond of great architecture? There you will find the temple of God and the Lamb and the uplifted thrones. Are you longing to get back to your loved ones who have ascended? Then it will be reunion. Are you a home body? Then it will be home. Here and there in this world you will find some one who now lives where he was born, and three or four generations may have dwelt in the same house, but most people have had several homes—the home of childhood, the home they built or rented for their early manhood, the home of riper and more prosperous years. But all homes put together, precious as they are in remembrance or from present occupancy, cannot equal the heavenly home in the house of many mansions. No sickness will ever come there, for it is promised "there shall be no more pain." No parting at the front door, no last look at faces never to be seen again, but home with God, home with each other, home forever. And that right after the molting season when "thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

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