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BILL ARP'S LETTER.

Atlanta Constitution.

If two-thirds of a house costs four-fifths of the lot and both together costs $4,400, how much was paid for each? Well, that sum is easy if you know how to do it. Our little school girl has me to help her every night, and some of these tangled up sums strain my old-fashioned mind, for the rule of three is abolished and new new methods adopted. I remember a sum in the old Smiley arithmetic—if six men can cut 4 acres of wheat in three days by working six hours a day, how many men will it take to cut 9 acres in four days and work eight hours a day? These perplexing problems remind me of Judge Bob Strozier's charge to the jury in a horse case, where the plaintiff sued for damages because the horse he bought had the glanders and was a stump-sucker and wouldn't work on the off side. Fourteen witnesses had testified, some for and some against the horse, some for glanders but not for stump-sucking, some for stump-sucking but not for glanders, and some unsound. "Gentlemen," said he, "if you believe that the horse had the glanders but didn't stump suck, or that he sucked stumps but didn't have the glanders, or that glanders is an unsoundness but stump-sucking is only a habit, or if the horse wouldn't pull when worked on the off side and could'nt be cured of it, though this court knows from experience that he could be cured of it; or if you believe from the evidence that the horse was not warranted sound as against stump-sucking and off siding but only against such material things as glanders and swinney and the like, then you must find for the plaintiff or the defendant according to the weight of testimony."

My candid opinion is that some of these miscellaneous problems are too perplexing for children not yet in their teens, and if parents or grandparents of uncles or aunts or somebody don't give help the child would give up in despair. I have often wondered how those pupils got along who have no help. My father helped me all my school life and my wife and I have helped our children. It is impossible for a school teacher to give patient attention to each child where there are thirty or forty pupils in the grade. Only five hours to teach in and four or five different text-books for each pupil and that gives less than five minutes to each pupil and book, while it takes me half an hour every night for one pupil in one book. Hence it is that only a few pupils get a fair education in a graded school, only those who are bright and willing and have help at home. Parents that can't help or won't help lose their home influence over their children. Every phase of their education is turned over to the public school, which is a free machine and teaches books only Morals, modesty and obedience are not in the curriculum. Many little chidren are sent there to get them out of their mother's way, for she has work to do or shopping or visiting or must go to the club. Nevertheless, a few make good scholars and good citizens, and for their sake the system must go on. It is no better in the colleges, for the most charitable estimate is that no more than ten in a hundred ever made a creditable success in life. The ninety had just as well not been born, but the ten will save Sodom, and it will be found that these ten got their best education at home. Good morals, good principles, obedience, self-denial, industry, kindness and good manners are a better foundation to build on than books. To make the home happy and inviting is the secret of all success. The family is a more important institution than the school, and love is the keystone of the family. I scolded a little grandson the other day and he got mad and went off and told his little cousin that grandpa was mean and he was going to tell his mamma on him. Next morning he came to see us again and came to me and kissed me and it made us both happy. A little grand-daughter was troubled because her baby brother was sick and the doctor was sent for. She mourned over it tearfully and then brightened up and said: "Well if baby dies I am going to keep him for a doll." The innocent prattle and sports of these children is my greatest comfort, and it almost grieves me that they have to grow up and encounter trouble and grief and misfortune. George Francis Train may be a crank, but I had rather be him in that park with a score or two of happy children around me every day than to be Pierpont Morgan or Rockefeller. It is pathetic to look at that man who is now past his seventy years, who has traveled all over the world; lived in Australia, lectured in England, Ireland and the United States to laboring men; written and published many books of travel and biography; and at last discarded all contact with men and society and settled down to daily communion with little children in the public parks in New York City. Accompanied by a friend I got quite near him once, for I wanted to hear his conversation with the children, but it turned and saw us, and, taking up his little basket of dainties, walked away to another seat, and soon had another crowd around him, and the only reason he gives for his peculiar conduct is, "For of such is the kingdom of heaven."

I am again comforted with new books. George Smith has sent me his last edition of his delightful and instructive book, "The Story of Georgia." It is a contribution to the history of our State that every Georgian should have in the house. It is replete with the romances of our revolutionary history and the biography of our noted men and comes down to the period of the civil war, where Col. Avery and Semmes and Kell took it up. There has just been published another interesting and instructive book by Gen. S. G. French. The title is "Two Wars," an autobiography being the part he and his command played in the Mexican and the Confederate wars. The author was a prominent factor in both, and he is a vigorous, pleasing and graphic writer. The book is happily introduced by Bishop Ellison Capers, of South Carolina. It is published by the Confederate Veteran at Nashville, Tenn. It is dedicated "To the Confederate soldiers, who battled to maintain the cause for which Oliver Cromwell and George Washington fought." It is indeed gratifying to see our own people mutiplying our own histories and thereby fortifying this generation against the malignant and slanderous productions of such authors as the great Goldwin Smith and the small Maclay. It takes a lot of work to keep up with them fellows. I think we are about even with the Roosevelt incident and the miscegenation crowd. Maybe we are a little ahead. We have all had our say and can afford to wait. I still think Roosevelt is a better man than I think he is, but he is in awful bad company.

BILL ARP.

The Child Labor Bill.

Savannah News.

The matter of passing a law to govern the employment of children in factories and mills will again come before the legislature during the current session. It is understood that several bills have been prepared, and a strong effort will be made to pass one of them or one embodying the best features of all. The question, as Governor Candler said in his message, is a delicate one to handle, "and yet present conditions suggest action." Some time ago the cotton mill owners of the state entered into an agreement among themselves respecting the employment of children in their mills. In substance the agreement is that "No childr n under 12 years of age, excepting the children of widowed mothers or parents physically disabled and without means of support, shall, under these rules, be allowed to work in cotton mills until they have shown a certificate that they have attended school at least four months in the year, and no child under 12 years of age shall be allowed to work at night under any circumstances." This received the signatures of practically all of the manufacturers in the state. In the consideration of this matter the legislature, of course, will keep in mind the fact that the state wants more mills—a great many more of them. She ought before the lapse of many years to have mills enough within her borders to work up all of the cotton she produces. When we send our cotton to market in the shape of manufactured products instead of raw material, we shall become richer at the rate of many millions of dollars per year. To assure the building of these mills we shall have to deal as liberally as we can with the owners of the capital that is to make them. Much of the mill trouble in New England grows out of too drastic labor laws. What we need is to avoid the mistakes that have been made there, and at the same time give ample protection to our labor. We want to guard the health and morals of our children and afford them an opportunity to go to school, and we want to assure the mill owner that he may make a profitable investment by placing his plant in Georgia.

Limiting Lawyers' Speeches.

Charlotte Observer.

The Greensboro Record says that Judge Shaw, holding Gilford Superior Court, succeeded last Friday afternoon, in getting the four attorneys in a suit then being tried, to limit their speeches to fifteen minutes each and that thus a half day was saved, and The Record remarks that "the law giving the presiding judge power to limit debate should be restored by all means." This proposition is eminently sound. A great deal of time is consumed unnecessarily in our courts in arguments of attorneys and no one knows this as well as themselves. The best class of them would hail with satisfaction the restoration to the judge of authority to limit the number and length of arguments to the jury. It is so in the United States courts, and nobody suffers. It was formerly so in the States courts but many years ago, as many perhaps, as twenty-five, Judge Watts, holding court in Johnston county, was alleged to have abused the power and out of this grew the present condition. The old order of things should be restored, and in saying this we mean to imply nothing against the lawyers—the salt of the earth. They are not wholly at fault, for a litigant employing say three of them in his case, does not think they have earned their fees unless each of them speaks as long and as loud as his physical condition will permit.

About 5,000 soldiers are to be sent to the Philippines to take the places of short-term men and gaps in regiments.

LI HUNG CHANG.

Charlotte Observer.

The death of Li Hung Chang closes the career of one of the most picturesque characters of the times. Statesman, patriot, diplomat, philosopher, scholar, millionaire, he was altogether a remarkable man. He was, in one sense of the word, more to China than Gladstone ever was to England, Bismarck to Germany, or Crispi to Italy, for he may truly be considered the life-long Premier of the Flowery Kingdom. China was always a lumbering old elephant of a nation, often stumbling, and it was Li Hung Chang who pulled her out of every hole. Like all great men he was often the object of prejudice and hatred on the part of the lesser breed of his countrymen, and more than once they prevailed upon that Chinese Goneril and Regan in one, old Tsi An, the Dowager Empress, to strip him of his yellow jacket and peacock feather, but it would not be long ere the time would come when his wise head alone could extricate the country from some fresh predicament and his honors would be restored to him.

He was long reputed to be the richest man in the world, and, with the vanity characteristic of his race, it pleased him to know that such was his reputation. But his wealth was doubtless greatly over-estimated. What he possessed he acquired from his rule as governor of the one fat province or other which he held sway over from time to time, and robbed as he pleased by heavy taxation. All the other mandarins did it; why shouldn't he? It was the custom of the heathen Chinee—with his ways that are dark and tricks that are vain—in authority.

In his earlier career Li Hung Chang was the right hand man of "Chinese" Gordon in suppressing the Tai-Ping rebellion. Li's characteristically Chinese methods and modes of dealing with rebels were sometimes a source of vexation and irritation to Gen. Gordon. We have somewhere heard a story to this effect: When a body of Tai-Pings had surrendered to Gordon on a sacred pledge from thim of life and amnesty, Li Hung Chang sent secretly by night and had the leaders, perhaps all the prisoners, beheaded. When Gordon heard of it the next day he seized his pistols and would have shot Li if he could have found his treacherous ally before the edge of his indignation wore off, but the wily Chinese, knowing Gordon like a book, had taken the precaution to get safely out of the way.

Li Hung Chang was the friend of Gen. Grant, having been called on by the latter on his trip around the world, and was extremely proud of his friendship. His favorite photograph was that which showed the soldier and himself seated side by side.

It was while Prince Li had gone to Japan to represent his defeated country in the conclusion of the treaty of Simononoseki that he was seriously wounded by a fanatical Japanese who shot him. It was destined, however, that he should live longer to serve his people, and there was sore need of his services in the winding up of the Boxer uprising, the negotiations of which have so recently been concluded. Li made the best terms for his country that were practicable, probably better than any other man in China could have made.

One of the most interesting events of his life was his tour of the world. In America he met all the big men. He was particularly pleased with the then Secretary of the Secretary, John G. Carlisle, whose conversation elicited the fact that he was marvellously intimate with the Chinese tariffs and customs. Li took the liberty of punching Mr. Carlisle in the ribs and asking if all the female clerks in the Treasury Department were his wives. It was on this journey that Li Hung Chang out-interviewed the interviewers, getting decidedly more information from the newspaper reporters than they did from him.

Li Chung Chang was the head of a school of political thought which tended toward liberalism and reform. The most eminent of his disciples, so far as the Occident knows them, is United States Minister Wu-Ting-Fang, recalled by his home country only a few days before the death of his chief. It is to be doubted if a wise counsellor to China can be found to take Prince Li's place than the Hon. Mr. Wu, and perhaps this place of honor awaits him. His many American friends will hope so, although this post of duty is one of vast responsibility.

Prince Li was extremely well disposed toward Russia and countenanced that country's virtual gobbling up of Manchuria. His successor at the helm of the ship of state may port or starboard the helm and steer another way. It will be interesting to note the international readjustment in the Orient consequent upon Li's death.

Since the death of Confucius, more than two millenniums ago, the caravan of white horses has not awaited a greater Chinaman than Li Hung Chang.

"Now," said the inconsolable widow, "I want you to add to the death notice, 'Gone to rest' in an appropriate place." "Yes, madam," replied the bright young clerk of the Daily Squirt, and the next morning she read, "Gone to rest in an appropriate place."

STATE NEWS.

Mr. John Glover, says the Saulisbry Sun, took the wrong medicine Thursday and was in great danger but learning his mistake at once secured medical aid and had himself emptied in time to suffer only temporary distress.

Is the use of the word "staggering" in this item from the Monroe Enquirer pointed? It says: "The dispensary did a staggering business last Saturday. Receipts amounted to about $500. That does not sound like hard times. And of course the men who patronized the dispensary did not need the money for anything else."

Prof. David Anderson, a well known school teacher from near Fort Mills, S. C., was found dead in a small stream near his home Saturday afternoon. Prof. Anderson disappeared from home a few days ago. The deceased had not been sound mentally of late, but it seemed he had been greatly improved during the last few weeks.

Miss Bettie Coward, of Greene county, a pupil at the State Normal and Industrial College, died last week of yellow chills—or more properly hemorrhagic fever—after ten days' illness. Her mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Darden, were advised of her illness but before they could get to Greensboro the young woman died.

Mrs. Flora McNight, aged about 20 years and married, was burned to death at her home near Clemmonsville, Forsyth county, Wednesday. The unfortunate woman was subject to fits and while at home alone she was seized with one and fell in the fire. When her husband returned from the field he found his wife lying on the floor with every garment, including her stockings, burned off. She died a few hours later.

E. C. B. Hambley, superintendent of the Whitney Reduction Works, at Gold Hill, last Saturday began the entertainment of a house party of eighty persons. Mr. Hambley built and furnished a house especially for the accomodation of his guests, who are mostly capitalists from New York and Pittsburg. The capitalists compose a company to engage in gold mining operations and also to develop the water power at the falls of the Yadkin river.

When the new revenue act was passed it was the expectation that its new provision of a particular tax on corporations, never before levied, would yield a great sum. So far only $7,500 has come in and the fiscal year ends this month. The tax fails to materialize. Chairman McNeill, of the Corporation Commission, says he is now preparing the statement to show the gain in revenue to the State in general this year under all the new legislation and that it will be very considerable.

The Legisiature last spring made, for the first time, a direct appopriation of $200,000 for the public schools. Half of this will be apportioned this week, but the other half will not be apportioned until after the middle of January, as the law requires it to be used solely for the purpose of bringing the terms of all the public schools up to four months, which the constitution requires. There must be sworn statements of the amount needed by each school district to effect this.

Raleigh correspondent Charlotte Observer: "Peg Leg" Williams, who twelve years ago induced 30,000 negroes to leave North Carolina to go further South to work, arrived here to-day and wants large numbers of negroes to go to Kansas, Tennessee and other States. When last in North Carolina he had several narrow escapes from mobs, as then there was violent opposition to the exodus he was promoting. His license as labor agent was made $1,000 for each county. The Legislature three years ago repealed this law and "Peg Leg" is now welcome.

Sentenced For Foul Abuse of the Late President McKinley.

"To be confined 10 years in such a place as the Secretary of the Navy may direct; to do extra police duty during that time; to lose all pay except $2 a month for prison expenses, and the further sum of $20 to be paid him at the expiration of his confinement, and to be dishonorably discharged from the service of the United States," is the sentence imposed by court-martial upon John W. Stoll, a third-class electrician on the receiving ship Columbia, lying at the New York navy yard for foul abuse of the late President McKinley. He will be confined on the prison ship Southery, at Norfolk, Va.

Czolgosz Was Sane.

Drs. Fowler, Crego and Putnam, the specialists who were requested to examinto the mental condition of Leon F. Czolgosz, the assassin of President McKinley, have made public their report, in which they state as the result of frequent examinations of Czolgosz, of the reports of his watchers and of his behavior in court, that they have "concluded that he was sane at the time he planned the murder, when he shot the President and when he was on trial."

In order to attract the attention of the people of Atlonta to what it has to tell, the esteemed Atlanta Journal has added a megaphone to its plant. The Journal is determined to be heard at least.

Religious Awakening in Iredell County.

Statesville Landmark.

There seems to be quite a religious awakening in the county. A correspondent in Tuesday's paper told of the great religious interest manifested in North Iredell, and reports of successful revival meetings come from other points in the county. Two successful revival meetings have recently closed in Statesville and one is now in progress. All right-minded people, whether they are Christians or not, are always glad to know of the success of the Master's cause, and it is always gratifying to hear that many have turned into the straight and narrow path with their faces toward the wicket-gate.

Love is blind. That is why so many women marry men to reform them.

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Baptist—Rev. George W. May, pastor, services 2nd Sunday (morning and night) Sunday School at 3 p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday evening.

Primitive Baptist—Elder M. B. Williford, pastor, services on 4th Sunday and Saturday before at 11 o'clock, a. m.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

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Treasurer,	E. J. Braswell
Surveyor	John C. Beal
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Standard Keeper,	P. W. Lincke
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