

THE COMMONWEALTH. N. C. An uncompromising Democratic Journal. Published every Thursday morning. J. B. NEAL, Manager.

THE COMMONWEALTH

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor.

"THE LAND WE LOVE."

VOL. I.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1883.

A PEEP-AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

BY LAURA WILSON SMITH. I braved the wintry wind and sleet. To wander down the icy street. For bitter thoughts surged in my breast. And filled me with a wild unrest.

the Roslyn bower, which solaced his age. Clear, true, forcible to the last, Lowell rightly limned him when he said: And one there was, the Singer of our Crew.

when most men rest from their labors—namely, four score years—was an active participant in the business, in the philanthropy, and in the politics of the day.

PETER COOPER.

Career of the Noted Philanthropist—How He Acquired Wealth—His Long and Active Life—His Princely Beneficence.

The two great works with which Peter Cooper's name will always be connected are the Atlantic Cable and the Cooper Union.

When Mr. Cooper was about sixty-five years old he was President of the North American Telegraph Company, owning more than one-half the lines then in use in America.

Mr. Cooper's belief in his theories was undoubtedly genuine and firmly rooted. It was due to his opinion on finance that he became a nominal candidate for the Presidency in 1876.

Mr. Cooper was saving, without being parsimonious; shrewd, without being sharp; careful, without being timid.

It was because he turned to labor in youth that Washington became useful to all men. We celebrate his birthday because he labored, not for himself, but for his country.

GOOD COOKING. Good cooking is an important element in home life and happiness. Many people think that while a girl must go to school for years to acquire a knowledge of her own and foreign languages, and must have masters for this and that accomplishment, she may be safely left to pick up an acquaintance with cooking after she has a household of her own.

For Dyspepsia, Costiveness, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Rheumatism, Jaundice, Impurity of the Blood, Fever and Ague, Malaria, and all Diseases caused by Derangement of Liver, Bowels and Kidneys.

Persons Travelling or Living in Unhealthy Localities, by taking a dose occasionally of the Eucalypti, will find it a most valuable addition to their medical stores.

It is PURELY VEGETABLE. And has all the power and efficacy of Coleridge's Quinine, without any of the injurious after-effects.

SCOTLAND NECK. Mayor—W. A. Dunn. Commissioners—Noah Biggs, J. R. Ballard, R. M. Johnson, J. V. Savage.

CHURCHES. Baptist—J. D. Huffman, D. D. Pastor. Services every Sunday at 11 o'clock.

COUNTY. Superior Court Clerk and Probate Judge—John T. Gregory.

NOTICE. We have one hundred town lots for sale in this town. Some of them are very desirable.

FREE. THE GREAT REMEDY FOR CONSUMPTION. BIRDS WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.

FREE. BUSINESS UNIVERSITY. For Illustrated Circular, A Free actual Day School.

And from the careless joy I've known, I wake to find myself alone! To-night when coming down to tea, I eat my old chum, Dick, to see, I paused before I touched the bell.

It is impossible to follow further in this place a literary and journalistic career of more than sixty years. Always at work, always a man of convictions, brave, strong, and true, he lived a reverent and pure life, with a large element of deep religiousness.

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT. (From N. Y. Christian Advocate.)

It seems less than five years since the "good gray head, which all men know," was pilloved for burial; yet that period has passed since William Cullen Bryant, at the age of eighty-four, ceased at once to work and live.

The public is fortunate in now possessing, from the pen of Parke Godwin, a plain record of Bryant's biography. He has done well not to be in haste. The life he was to portray was so long, so full, so impor-

tant in literary and political relationship, that its story deserved to be well told, if told at all. It is a pleasure beyond expression to find the biography, which is at length given to the public, worthy of its subject in fullness, accuracy, and style, and equally worthy of Bryant's fastidious taste in its mechanical execution.

At seventeen years of age he was apprenticed to a carriage-maker in this city, receiving the small salary of \$25 per annum. He lived with his grandmother on Broadway, and spent his leisure hours in carving panels and in doing any other work he could get.

The great corporation of Baltimore, known as the Canton Company, was built by Mr. Cooper. Having been induced to buy 3,000 acres of land near the city limits of Baltimore in 1828 for \$105,000, in partnership with two other men, he bought out these two later for about \$15,000, making the total cost him about \$40 an acre.

This venture led Mr. Cooper to build an iron factory, for rolling iron and making wire, on Thirty-third street in this city, but a few years later he moved the machinery to Trenton, N. J., where he purchased a large tract of land (about 11,000 acres), and started blast furnaces and rolling mills on the largest scale.

At the end of three years he had saved enough to buy the right to manufacture these machines throughout the State of New York. In this business Mr. Cooper made enough money to enable him to pay off a large indebtedness which his father had incurred in business, saving the latter from a disastrous failure.

Mr. Cooper had six children of whom four died in childhood. The two who grew up are Edward Cooper, ex-Mayor of this city, and Mrs. Sarah Amelia Hewitt, wife of Abraham S. Hewitt.

Mr. Cooper was never a politician, and, except as Alderman of New York city, he never held any public office.

His financial theories were founded on what is called the "flat" doctrine, namely, that the Government could create money by simply printing it and giving the printed slips of paper arbitrary values.

The institution which will hand Peter Cooper's name down to a grateful and appreciating posterity is the Cooper Institute. Early in life he had felt the difficulties that young people meet in seeking education in art and science.

Mr. Cooper was an enthusiastic supporter of the paternal theory in government. He believed that the National Government ought to provide for the comfort and prosperity of the whole population, so that there should be no more suffering and want.

He passed the winter in preparing himself for his duties, and was employed, when under sixteen, by Lord Fairfax to lay out his large estates beyond the Alleghenies.

In this pursuit he plunged into the wilderness, slept on the ground in chill weather, swam streams on horseback, climbed over rocks, and pro-

ceeded to lay out the plan of the country farm where he could have learned little. His mother was an excellent woman, and taught her son industry and honesty.

His father died when he was a child, and his mother, who was his father's second wife, was left to support herself and her children from her farm.

Washington had never any leisure to learn Latin or Greek, or even French. His object was to make a living. He kept no journal of his youth. He never desired to become a "great man," but he was resolved to be an honest one, and to maintain himself.

At fourteen, Washington became almost accidentally a surveyor. He had already taught himself to write a clear, round hand. He drew well and was a careful mathematician, very correct and methodical in all that he did.

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