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THE DEMOCRAT.

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VOL 3. | SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25, 1887. | NO 16.

Stick to the old Lines.

The old lines are the right lines,
Though critics rail and fret;
Stick to the honest old lines, then,
Whatever else you do.

By Jefferson and Jackson
The lines were well laid out,
And any man may walk thereon
With not a fear or doubt.

Times change, and men change with them,
As said of old the sage;
But principles can never change
With any time or age.

A river, overflowing,
Obscures its bed below;
But still the bed controls its course,
Though swift it run, or slow.

Along its grooves forever
This rushing world may range;
But good old Democratic truth
No time or stress can change.

Mugwumpia's airy children
In cloudland have their birth;
But brown and broad-backed Democrats
Spring upward from the earth.

While party ends the parties
With steady aim pursue,
Democracy shall lose or win
As it is false or true.

Stick to the honest old lines,
As set out just and fit;
Do well your work upon the earth,
And thus inherit it.

—*Sun.*

TWELVE REASONS WHY PEOPLE SHOULD GO TO CHURCH.

I have never yet asked anybody to come and hear me preach, and never expect to. Though, like the old minister, I should conclude that the Lord had not called me to preach or bless He also called somebody to hear me.

People used to go to church because they did not dare to stay at home.

1. They feared God would be angry with them if they did not join in His public worship.

2. They feared that this anger might bring upon them calamity in worldly affairs, or cause the withholding of some good they might otherwise received.

3 They feared it might cause the loss of their souls.

4. Human laws used to compel church attendance on pain of penalties people did not care to incur.

5. The rights of citizenship once depended on church relations in Massachusetts, as they do still in some parts of the world.

6. Then public opinion regarded neglect in this matter as disgraceful.

None of these considerations, however, have much weight with the average citizen of Boston to-day.

On the other hand, there are some who think that they ought not to go to church.

1. They believe that religion is all superstition, and belongs to an ignorant past.

2. They say that the world is to be saved by science and education.

To people conscientiously convinced of these positions, I have only one thing to say. Do not make your lack of faith in the church an excuse for shirking responsibility. In your own way, see to it that you are as earnest in helping the world as the church is in its way. And when your way is proved to be the better one, we will all walk in it together.

But the great body of the people still believe that the church stands for something worth while, and so long as they believe that, they have no right to let laziness or self indulgence, the morning paper, a favorite book, a drive, a nap, or a poor minister even, keep them away from church.

Note the following twelve suggestions on the general subject:

1. Religion is a permanent part of human nature, and is not likely to be outgrown.

2. If story proves that it is, for either good or evil, one of the mightiest of human forces. Like steam in a ship, it will urge on towards port or drive on the rocks, according as wisdom or folly is at the helm.

3. Those who think they hold intelligent views and right theories concerning it are the ones, above all others, who ought to be present and help guide.

4 Like all other human forces of thought and feeling—like art and science—and charity—religion tends to incarnate itself in organizations and institutions.

5 The church, then, is only the outward embodiment of this force, and is as natural as any other organization whatever.

6 The church, then, is a voluntary association of men and women to help each other and help the world in true thinking, noble feeling and right living. No other organization has this so lofty an aim. The minister is only one of the church, and he is under no more obligation to help his fellow-men than any other man, either in the church or out. It is curious, then, to see people criticising the minister for what he does or fails to do, while they feel at liberty to do nothing.

7. If, then, you believe in your minister, go on and help him in the common work. If you do not believe in him, get another minister, or go to another church.

8. If you regard the wish for an extra nap on Sunday morning, or the fact that there are clouds in the sky, as a sufficient reason for excusing yourself from the common work, extend to the minister the same privilege. Let there be equality of rights, as there is of duty. Do not put the minister to the trouble of preparing a sermon for persons who are not present to hear it.

9. If the sermon does not hit your case on any special day, remember that there are several hundreds of others present, having gone through different experiences and having different needs. There is only one dish that has everything in it at once—that is hash, and all people do not like hash.

10. If you think the sermon preached to-day a poor one, think how much worse it might have been if you had preached it. Think, also, of a thousand other demands; what it means to address the same audience constantly; and have something fresh and brilliant all the time.

11 The church stands for man's ideal dream of a perfect condition of human society. It keeps alive the aspiration, the hope, and seeks to realize them. Is there so much of this ideal in the world, and in yourself, that you can afford to neglect any agency that tends to increase it?

12 The church stands for man's noblest, magnificent hope of overleaping the gulf of death and entering on an immortal career. If this is a fact it is the most magnificent fact that the human soul ever believed in. If true, it has the power to comfort, to make strong, to shield from temptation, to become the mainspring of noble living.

If you can find an organization that stands for some nobler things than those join it and work with it. Until you do find out some noble minister, and work with him for those ends.—*Con.*

MILLIONS OF LETTERS.

An Interesting Digest of the Business of the New York Post Office.

There were delivered last year, through the lock boxes and carriers of the New York Post Office 293,233,853 pieces of ordinary mail matter, of which 227,712,403 were letters and postal cards. The value of the money order and postal note business, at the general post office and the branches was $14,049,900.53. There was an increase in the money order business over last year of $698,673.61. The total receipts of the office were $4,528,392.28, and the total expenditures $1,675,497.08 (including $664,178.10 expended for free delivery service), giving a net revenue of $2,922,895.20. The number of employees was 2,046 (including 703 regular and 132 substitute carriers, and 15 substitute clerks). During the year 155,230,960 postage stamps were sold, weighing 11½ tons net; 25,152,290 government stamped envelopes and 41,628,750 postal cards were sold during the same period. The total weight of mails received and dispatched daily during 1886 was 193½ tons, showing, as compared with the figures of 1881 (156 tons), an increase in five years of over 18 per cent.

These facts are shown in the annual report of Postmaster Pearson, completed yesterday.—Ex.

THE SUN'S HEAT.

A Brilliant audience filled the theatre of the Royal Institution last night (Jan. 21) while Prof. Sir William Thomson expounded the latest dynamical theories regarding the "probable origin, total amount, and possible duration of the sun's heat."

During the short 3,000 years or more of which man possesses historic records there was, the learned physicist showed, no trace of variation in solar energy; and there was no distinct evidence of even the globe as a whole, from being nearer the sun, received in January 6½ per cent. more heat than in July.

But in the millions of years which geology carried us back, it might safely be said there must have been great changes. How had the solar fires been maintained during those ages? The scientific answer to this question was the theory of Helmholtz that the sun was a vast globe gradually cooling, but as it cooled shrinking,—and that the shrinkage was the effect of gravity upon its mass—kept up its temperature. The total of the sun's heat was equal to that which would be required to keep up 476,000 millions of millions horse power, about 78,000 horse power for every square metre—a little more than a square yard—and yet the modern dynamical theory of heat shows that the sun's mass would require only to fall in or contract thirty-five metres per annum to keep up that tremendous energy. At this rate the solar radius in 2,000 years' time would be about one-hundredth per cent. less than at present.

A time would come when the temperature would fall, and it was thus inconceivable that the sun would continue to emit heat sufficient to sustain existing life on the globe for more than 10,000,000 years. Applying the same principles respectively, they could not suppose that the sun had existed for more than twenty million years—no matter what might have been its origin—whether it came into existence from the clash of worlds pre existing, or of diffused nebulous matter. There was a great clinging by geologists and biologists to vastly longer periods, but the physicist, viewing it as a dynamic question with calculable elements, could come to no other conclusion materially different from what he had stated.

Sir William Thomson declined to discuss any chemical source of heat, which, whatever its effect when primeval elements first came into contact, was absolutely insignificant compared with the effects of gravity after globes like the sun and the earth had been formed. In all these speculations they were in the end driven to the ultimate elements of matter—to the question—when they thought what became of all the sun's heat—what is the luminiferous ether that fills space, and to that most wonderful form of force upon which Faraday spent so much of the thought of his later years, gravity.—London *Telegraph.*

Superstitions.

If strangers of opposite sexes resemble each other you can wager a thousand to one that they will be married if they meet, provided they carefully avoid using the words "if" and "but," or give them a proper turn when used. You must never give shoes or stockings to any one whom you wish to retain near you, if you do he will be sure to run away. If a lover presents a knife or any sharp instrument to his beloved their love will be cut asunder unless he takes a pin or something similar in exchange. Hence the words of the old song:

"If you love me as I love you
No knife can cut our loves in two."

A young bride must not assist in washing her own linen for the first time after the wedding if she wishes to remain in the land of the living; nor must she help sew her own bridal garments if she would not be unfortunate with her children. Furthermore, no girl who has worn the myrtle wreath in jest will ever become a bride; and if she does this with the silver wreath (used in some parts of Germany) she will never celebrate her silver wedding. If you are to be married in church you must enter the house hand in hand, and be the steps ever so narrow, you must ascend them together; if you let go of each other it will bring separation, either in life or death. He who looks around on the way to the wedding is looking for another; and, if the wedding ring be lost it forebods that the couple will not live long together. If a younger sister is married before the others the latter should take care to dance at her wedding without shoes, otherwise they can never hope to get husbands. —*Con.*

THE ELEVEN.

The promotion in one day of eleven Republican office holders in the New York Custom House under a Democratic Collector from St. Lawrence and a Democratic President from Erie may be considered as a historical document illustrating the definition of offensive partisanship. Of these eleven lucky Republicans, three are secretaries of Republican organizations in this town, one made red-hot speeches in 1885 for blue-cold Ira Davenport, and one was an "active Blaine organizer" in 1884. The other six doubtless have been and are as active and industrious as their comrades in whooping it up for the Republican party according to their lights and their lungs.

In the United States, as formerly conducted, the Eleven would have been discharged as soon as a Democratic Collector got into office and found out what they were: and not only eleven, but ninety and nine out of every hundred Republican office-holders elsewhere would have been put out as rubbish belonging to the former management and not wanted by the new one. But these eleven wild eyed and frothing mouthed Republican officials, instead of being thrown out of the front door, are asked into the counting room and patted on the head and told that their salaries are raised two hundred dollars a year.

It is notorious that an attempt has been made by the Administration to hamper the political activity of Democratic office-holders and to make them political mutes and total abstainers from partisan work. The attempt has not been successful, and for the same reason that a proclamation forbidding water to run down hill or boys to be hungry would not be successful; but it has been made. And now it seems from the case of the Eleven that offensive Republican partisanship in a Government official entitles him to promotion. The reasonable inference seems to be that the best way to get into office and to stay there is to be a Republican.

These Republican placemen ought to be grateful for the magnanimous and forgiving disposition of the Administration. They did all they could to keep the Administration out, and the Administration is doing all it can to keep them in. Was there ever such a heaping of coals of fire upon the heads of your political enemies? Was there ever such truly transcendental and sweetly altruistic politics? We are living, we are moving in a queer and freakish time.

The Eleven were promoted on Friday, which is thus seen not to be an unlucky day—for them. The next Presidential election will be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1888. On the Friday after the last Thursday in January, 1887, Republican office-holders still seem to be the pets at the New York Custom House.—*Sun.*

SOLDIERS OF EUROPE.

"According to tables recently prepared by German statisticians, it appears that of trained soldiers Germany could put into the field 1,425,027 men, France 1,395,500, Russia 2,782,668, Austria 1,043,633, Italy 2,330,989, Turkey 1,093,229, Great Britain 339,517, Belgium 185,561, Servia 134,415. Bulgaria 115,223, Greece 189,000 and Roumania 204,000. The estimate of Great Britain's force does not include the yeomanry and volunteers 268,713 men, nor the troops in India, about 220,000. Adding these she would have a total of 816,960. Altogether nearly 12,500,000 trained soldiers could be called into service if all the countries of Europe were at war, while nearly 3,000,000 are held in permanent readiness for military service at heavy cost, of course, to the peoples unfortunate enough to be burdened with these large standing armies."—*Con.*

Causes All the Trouble.

"Casus Belli has been the cause of more wars than all the other foreigners in this country put together," said the driver of a Blue Island avenue car as he leaned heavily upon his brake. "Who brought on the Revolution? Casus Belli. Who started the war of 1812? Same cuss. Who was it that made us fit the South in '61? Casus Belli. Who was it that tried his darndest to get up a war with Mexico? Bell. I see by the mornin' paper that the same beast is figgerin' on a war with England over a mess of fish. In the country where I was reared a feller named Bostwick used to go round stirrin' up fights between his neighbors. He had heaps of fun as long as it lasted, but one day late in the fall an uncle of mine and the Kendrick family separated themselves in a brush heap and when Bostwick came along they filled him so full of holes that he fell to pieces when they picked him up. Fun for chickin' the gizzard out of this Bell, even if he does come from Roman and Italian stock. He's got no business in a free country. He's wuss'n Satan. How old is he, any how?"—*Chicago Herald.*

A well-known lawyer of Rocky Mount, was going down town to his office. As he was passing the residence of Mrs. F——, her little boy, about one and a half years old, was running away across the street, and his sister was after him to bring him back. The lawyer said to the girl, "I'd let him go; he is hardly worth the bringing back." The mother of the child, who had not been seen, was standing near the door, and heard the remark; as quick as a flash she spoke to the girl and said, "Yes, you had better bring him back, as we intend to make a lawyer of him."—*Telfair.*

THREE KINDS OF SUBSCRIBERS.

The subscriber who takes a paper year after year, and finally when asked to pay for it refuses, and says he never did like the paper any how and never read it, is, says an exchange, like the man who buys his groceries for years, never paying a cent, and then refuses to settle because the sugar had sand in it, and the tea was not as good as he could get somewhere else, and he had never used a particle of the soap he had bought. He never could get ahead of the grocer like that. It is only the innocent printer who can be gulled so easily.

The second kind of a subscriber is one who reads the paper and then pays for it. He is like the man who buys an overcoat, wears it out and then pays for it. He is 10,000 times better than the first kind, but he is bad enough.

The third kind is the man after the printer's heart. He pays in advance for his paper and is happy. he is the man who pays cash for his groceries, medicines, hardware, jewelry, dry goods and every thing else that he buys. It is this kind of men who keep all kinds business alive, and without whom a town would be as dead as a copy of the Congressional Record.—*Home and School*

The Central Point of Population.

What is the central point of the population of the United States. In what direction is it now moving? R.

The center of population was determined after taking the census of 1880 by mathematical calculation. It was found to be eight miles southeast of the center of Cincinnati, and a half a mile southeast of the village of Taylorsville, or at lat. 39 degrees 4 minutes, and 8 seconds; longitude 84 degrees, 39 minutes, and 40 seconds.

In 1790 the center of population was twenty-three miles east of Baltimore. It has moved westward ever since as shown by the decade from 1870 to 1880, is about six and a half miles per year, but it is now probable greater than that. —*Con.*

THE TALLEST OF KNOWN MEN.

There appeared at the London Pavilion last evening, for the first time in this country, the tallest man whose height has been recorded in modern times. The new giant is an Austrian named Winkelmeier, and his height is 8 feet 9 inches, which is over one foot more than that of Chang, the Chinese giant. Winkelmeier was born at Friedberg, near Salzburg, Upper Austria, in 1865, his parents being in an humble station in life. He is the youngest of a family of five children, none of whom are of abnormal stature, nor are his parents or grandparents unusually tall. His fingers span two octaves on a piano, and the stretch of his arms is enormous. He showed no development of this extraordinary growth up to the age of ten, but since that time he has been growing rapidly, and medical authorities in Vienna and Paris have expressed the opinion that he is likely to grow to ... until he is twenty-five. He ... great. He eats a dozen ... the greatest curiosities of the day, and his appearance ... —*London Standard.*

SOME INTERESTING BEGINNINGS

Envelopes were first used in 1839.

The first steel pen was made in 1830.

The first lucifer match was made in 1768.

The first iron steamship was built in 1809.

The first balloon ascent was made in 1783.

Coaches were first used in England in 1569.

The first steel plate was discovered in 1839.

The first horse railroad was built in 1827.

The first daily newspaper appeared in 1702.

The first telescope was used in England in 1608.

The first watches were made at Nuremburg in 1477.

Lucifer matches were first used in this country in 1829.

Kerosene was first used for lighting purposes in 1823.

The first copper cent was coined in New Haven in 1787.

The first newspaper was published in this country in 1690.

The first printing press in the United States was worked in 1620.

Glass windows were first introduced into England in the eighteenth century.

The first steam engine on this continent was brought from England in 1753.

The first complete sewing machine was patented by Elias Howe Jr. in 1846.

The first telegraph instrument was successfully operated by professor Morse in 1842.

The first attempt to manufacture pins in this country was made soon after the war of 1812.

The first Union flag was unfurled on Jan. 1, 1776, over the camp at Cambridge. It had thirteen stripes of white and red and retained the British cross in one corner. —*Ex.*

DIFFERENCE IN EGGS.

A writer in "Our Country Home" says that he witnessed the weighing of a dozen eggs taken from a basket of them produced by Brahmas only nine months old, which weighed 2 pounds and 2 ounces. The twelve eggs taken from a basket of Cochin eggs, so called, which weighed upon the same scale, 1 pound and 12 ounces. Now, here is a whole pound of difference. Where is the justice of selling eggs by the dozen? Farmers would have to feed their hens eggs at a single week to drive their owners to comply with the law now on our statute books.

But many eggs weighed fifteen to the pound. They are over 20% larger, according to the weight of the produce than the average.

Brahmas of 7½ pounds (average weight) produce 2 pound and 2 ounces per dozen; common Cochins of 6½ pounds (average weight) produce 1 pound and 2 ounces per dozen; Cochins of 8 pounds (average weight) produce 12 ounces per dozen.

Were eggs sold by the pound it would be an easy question to settle that Brahmas and Dorkings would become the most profitable of all the fowls as egg producers. They also produce their eggs in winter in greater proportion, which would materially balance the greater number from Leghorns in summer.

One of the ravishing bloodsuckers of Greenville is the use of foreign fertilizers. The habit among our farmers of using these extraneous guanos has grown so strong that it has become to be second nature with them. It is like the whiskey habit though ruinous, they will stick to it until they die.—Snow Hill *Enterprise.*

WHAT TO TEACH OUR DAUGHTERS.

A [illegible] says the [illegible] since one [illegible] asked [illegible] daughters." The following [illegible] were handed in:

Teach her that 100 cents make a dollar.

Teach her how to arrange the parts of a dress.

Teach her to say "No," and mean it, and "Yours," and stick to it.

Teach her how to wear a calico dress, and to wear it like a queen.

Teach her how to sew on buttons, darn stockings and mend gloves.

Teach her to dress for health and comfort as well as for appearance.

Teach her to love flowers and cultivate the kitchen garden.

Teach her to make the nicest bread in the house.

Teach her how to have nothing to do with the [illegible] rake of dissipated young men.

Teach her that right living is important, as well as fortunes to begin with.

Teach her to regard the morals of a man, and not money, in the choice of associates.

Impress upon her the rule: "A place for everything, and everything in its place."

Teach her that music, drawing, calisthenics and [illegible] are real accomplishments, but that these are not to be regarded of more importance than [illegible].

Teach her how to [illegible] with economy, for economy will save many a man from the [illegible] and many a poor husband from [illegible].

Teach her that a good, healthy, cheerful home is worth more than [illegible] and that a good wife is worth more than a dozen [illegible] of incompetence in household.

Teach her to embrace every opportunity for reading, and to select such books as will give her the most useful practical information, in order to make the best progress in such a way as later years and [illegible] N.

IN TERESTING BIBLE STATISTICS.

The books of the Old Testament, 39.

Chapters in the Old Testament, 929.

Verses in the Old Testament, 23,214.

Words in the Old Testament, 592,439.

The letters in the Old Testament, 2,728,100.

The books in the New Testament, 27.

Chapters in the New Testament, 260.

Verses in the New Testament, 7,959.

Words in the New Testament, 181,253.

The letters in the New Testament, 838,380.

When our farmers learn to exercise the care which is necessary to production of higher grades of tobacco, they will receive more for their labor. It will not pay, however, in this part of the country, to cultivate any one product to the exclusion of all others. But the first object should be to make the farm yield a sufficiency for man and beast, and cultivate tobacco or cotton as a surplus. The family, with a crop of tobacco on hand with prices ruling low as they are now, who has corn in the crib, no wheat in the granary and no hay in the mow, may be denominated a poor man. The same applies to cotton.—Salisbury *Watchman.*

Girls must be taught that their persons are sacred, that men must be made to keep at a distance, not by boldness and false modesty, but by a lady like dignified bearing, which all men respect and fear. God pity the girl who has not the benefit of careful training at home! The fact is that mothers should encourage a mutual confidence between their daughters and themselves, and this once thoroughly established we shall hear less of wrong daughters and immature marriages.—Danville Va., *Register.*

A few acres of land well cultivated will produce more than a greater number of acres poorly cultivated. A fact many of our farmers are slow to understand.—*Reflector.*