SUBSCRIPTION: \$150 PER YEAR.

VOLUME IV.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1888.

NUMBER 28

PROFESSIONAL.

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The Mirage.

They view through quivering heat across

Great rocks for shadow in a weary land, And clustering palms, and fairer yet, the gleam

This is a work of tame enchanter's wand,

But that reflected here true visions stand

So, worn with life's hot march, when near at four times. By this time it had be-

A happier world we see upon us beem, Where death and parting need not be our

None here by toil forefought, by grief unmanned. Prophets of Science, hush your stern com-

Oh; bid us not to hold it all a dream. -[The Spectator.

RED AND WHITE

"How's Northwestern this morning, Uncle Zekef' asked Dick Spriggs

across the restaurant table. "Slumped off six points, blame it!" Mabel Austie, Uncle Zeke, a beautiful scowling viciously over his paper at the girl-" seak brought by the waiter.

Ezekiel Spriggs laid down his paper, a quick look of interest. and picking up his fork, stuck it into ATTORNEY AT LAW, brightened. Spriggs was somewhat of to bring you to see her tonight. Say

"Six point's a pretty big drop," said at 8, shall If" Dick, possessing himself of the paper breakfast; "how d'ye come out?"

But Spriggs was busily engaged in tearing off huge pieces of steak and chewing them with much the same expression that a chicken exhibits when taking a drink of water. Business was business, but breakfast was breakfast just then, and while Dick chattered and Read extracts, Spriggs turned his eves to the ceiling at every bite and gave himself up to soulful enjoyment of what was before him. Dick skimmed lightly over the news, took a cursory glance at the editorials and paused at the lower corner of the page, then he read aloud: "Possibly the reason why, when a redheaded girl appears on the street, a white horse soon makes its appearance will have to

girls were justly prized above all-" "Whadz that?" interrupted Spriggs.

chair. "It's a dodgasted funny thing, clearly embarrassed. Spriggs appreciat-

it to fail; straight as a string, too." "Well, what is it!"

quired. Special attention to collection that where ever you see a red-headed was led to whisper to his flance; "Your 3-15 ly. girl there is always a white horse in sunny-headed friend seems to have sight. I believe it now-didn't at first. | caught Uncle Zeke hard." Why only lest Sunday night I went to When Spriggs went home he sat down with a piece of steak ha f-way to his could talk as few women were able, but neck, and, with good care and attenblank wall, "Well, as I was saving, I hair. It was an unmistakable red. went to church; coming out I saw di- Nevertheless, he had asked permisrectly in front of us a girl with hair sion to call and it had cessible to the horse after seeing the red divide I between his investigations and cut and dragged Mabel out the side hard, indeed, that when in her delightcame out the door, sure enough the in- ever, when he took her out driving. legged animal in sight and I didn't see | ment. He was uneasy the whole time, | every chance and never knew it to fail. ' his companion his mind and eyes sadly

Coal, Molasses, Salt, of a red-haired girl brought the subject self scated in close proximity to his when aroused, is the mule. There is no what was in the saying. Now Spriggs ambitions.

> passed his office window; and the fol- were almost unknown." called accompaniments. The result most at hand. The vision was seated sight. This was to be the basis of the heard a horse passing. test. Spriggs reasoned that the chance against the sequence were about two to

In the ordinary day's run, there were fallen into, but now I am bold enough They tell us that when weary travelers | twice as many red-haired girls as white | to hope for something infinitely better." horses. This of course did not allow As Springs in his earnestness leaned for unusual occurrences or for night forward his quick ear heard the distant Where Oil Abounds Under the travel, when there were fewer horses on pit-a-pat of a trotting horse. His first the street. At the end of impulse was to turn and look out, but the first week the, result was; with a mighty effort he restrained him-Practices wherever his services are Where smiles in light to laugh in sound the failures, one; verifications, forty- self, and, leaning still further, he eight. Spriggs did not quite believe in | groped blindly, excitedly for her hand. the thing yet, but the next week was Nearer and nearer came the horse, but Of far-off things that close beside them even more convincing. The record Spriggs now had a firm grasp on her stood: failures, none; success, seventy- hand. come not a definite test to prove the truth of the saving, but a wild hunt after an instance where a failure could be recorded. Night after night Spriggs

> peds. The fever had grown to such an extent that he was forced to admit to himself that there must be something in it while he professed to believe that the truth needed further investigation. One day Dick dropped in and taking Spriggs aside, with much hesitation and stammering, confided the fact that he

prowled around the streets peering into

the faces of the pedestrians and fre-

be little likelihood of finding quadru-

quenting localities where there would

'Light or dark?' asked Spriggs with

was engaged to be married. "It's

"Well, I guess you'll call her a bruthe meat. As he withdrew it and saw nette, for she has the loveliest black the rich, red juice ooze out, his face hair in the world; but I have promised you'll go, Uncle-Zeke-I'll call for you

It had been many years since Spriggs and alternating between it and his had gone out calling and he was loth to rels. They became so thick around begin now, when he needed all his time for his investigations; however, in amazement. Finally he struck one he promised and sent his nephew away

Springs found Mabel all that Dick had claimed for her, and was well pleased with his boy's choice; yet the evening dragged somewhat, and his dress suit made Uncle Zeke overly conscious of his society shortcomings.

He was standing near the window for a moment alone, when he heard his name called. Turning quickly, he saw Dick approaching with a vision of loveliness on his arm.

One look was enough, and the next instant Springs had wheeled about and irked asile the hangings. Trotting be sought for in history. Away back in the slowly past, and directly under the early Greek and Egyptian days, red-haired street lamp, was the inevitable white He dropped his gun and retreated as

Spriggs was a bacheler and though rich by wanted to present him, and, dropwas not especially addicted to the fair | ping the curtain in great haste, he confronted the pair. The vision had a Dick leaned thoughtfully back in his cold and haughty look, and Dick was Uncle Zeke, but it's a fact, never | knew | ed his awkward o ition fully, and with a great effort made himself exceedingly agreeable, Indeed, in his abject hu-"Why, don't you see, the saying is miliation he was so devoted that Dick

church with Miss Austin-von ought to and went over the events of the evening. see her, Uncle Z ke ... " Dick paused The vision was certainly handsome and and back and gushed from his face and of the rules of the gime is that you called and then called again. In a short hair, so I made an excuse about a short the vision. Spriggs was struck hard, so door. I thought I had the white horse ful presence he almost forgot his hobby. sequence deal this time, but just as we He invariably hired a white horse, howevitable white horse came trotting round | Once he had the temerity to try a bay any the whole way home. I've tried it for while his heart and soul were with consin, in 1878: Spriggs grunted an inau lible response | missed the familiar sequence,

and rose from the table. By noon he One evening as matters were aphad forgotten all about it but the sight proaching a crisis, Spriggs found him- perseverance, and the bird of terror to his mind. In spite of its evident ab- inamorata, He had fully made up his bird that combines more virtues to the surdity there was something odd and mind to settle the matter at once and square foot than the mule. With the uncanny about the notion and Spriggs have done with it. There was just mule emblazoned on our banners, w almost unconsciously began to scan enough of manly conceit about him to should be a terror to the foe. We are the passers-by. Turning the corner he make him feel assure! that his suit a nation of uncomplaining hard workers. came plump a ainst another mail with would not be unsuccessful, but it was We mean to do the fair thing by everyflery hair and sure enough there, hitched with considerable trepidation that he body. We plod along, doing as we to a post, was a rath r scrawny but an approached the subject. The conversa- would be done by. So does the mule. unmistakable white horse. This was tion had drifted, as lover's talk invari- We, as a nation, are slow to anger. So the beginning of his de vn'all for there ably will, to the personal, and Spriggs is the mule. As a nation, we can occaand then he determined to see exactly was expatiating on early struggles and sionally stick our ears forward and fan

was nothing if not methodical. A long "I had a hard time when I was We allow parties to get on and rate as life of single blessedness and business young," he was saying. 'My nature long as they behave themselves. So does training had made him so, and he en- was not one to make friends readily, the mula. But when any nation sticks tered into the investigation in somewhat and female friends were exceedingly spurs into our flinks and tickles our the sam manner as he would some great rare. Indeed, my mother was the only heels with a straw, we come down stiffwoman with whom I felt really at ease, legged in front, our ears look to the The major part of the next day was Then, as my business grew, I had so beautiful beyond, our voice is cut loose spent in keeping tally of the horses that | much to attend to that social pleasures | and is still for war, our subsquent heels

headed girls without regard to their so- intuitively felt that the time was al- all tyrants. So does the mult!" was that while one horse in every fifteen | facing the deep bay window with her was white, only one female in thirty-one | head just touching the curtains, while | had red hair. A series of afternoon sit- Spriggs sat so that his back was to- that it is about half way along a line tings at his club window brought out | wards the street. He generally sat that | running from the easternmost point of the remarkable fact that for every seven | way when in her company, to avoid the | land to the westernmost owned by the women that passed, two horses were in temptation of looking out when he United States. By drawing a line from

"I do hope for something infinitely better, and-and-" "Well," softly breathed the vision, while her glorious eves gazed dreamily

past him into the deepening night. "And-and now it all rests on a single word. Can you-will you-dear Miss Lucy -- is that a white hor e?"

Dick Spriggs said the other day that if he did not real the papers for himself every morning he would imagine from Uncle Zake's appearance that Northwestern had slumped off about 600 points, - Detroit Free Press,

A Man Attacked by Squirrels. Col. J. L. Culbertson of Edwardsport, Ind., tells this story of his expe-

rience in 1854 or thereabouts, the time of the great migration of squirrels from the east to the west. The Evansville Courier, which publishes the story, says that the colonel is a gentleman of "unquestioned truth and honesty." He was a young man then, and one day took his rifle and went about a mile from town to hunt. He was going through the woods when he met the army of squirhim and seemed so fearless that he stood with a stick. The squirrel uttered a sharp squeak and instantly myriads of quirrels from all directions rushed to the defence of their associate and attacked Mr. Culbertson, who kicked them off and clubbed at them with his gun. They climbed up his legs, jumped upon his back, and on top of his head, He fought desperately, but the more he succeeded in hurting the louder the chattering and screaming around him became, which only brought greater numbers of the infuriated little animals to the attack. They bit his legs and arms and gashed his face and neck and lacerated his hands, fairly scrambling over each other in their flerce assault. fast as he could, fighting desperately as Then he remembered that Dick possi- he went. Blood streamed down his face and neck and hands. They bit him through the ears, and held on until they actually tore their hold loose. He got out of the woods, and still scores followed him and clung to him until they were pulled off by the clerk and others in a store into which young Culbert on rushed for assistance. Some of the friends who helped to pull off the squirrels, and who saw him come into town literally beset with them, still reside at Elwardsport. H friends washed his wounds and stayed the flow of blood which trickled down his legs

The American Mule,

tion, he slowly recovered.

No monument has yet been crected to honor the memory of the American mule. He is not a bad subject for treatment in bronze. His colossal cars, huge frame and expressive countenance would make up extremely well for --- let us say --- a pedestal in front of the War Dept.; nav, why should not at least one coin of the Republic bear his image and superscription, as was suggested in the following eloquent passage from the the corner. There wasn't another four- horse, but he never repeated the experi- Fourth of July oration of Mr. George W. Peck, delivered at La Crosse, Wis-

"The bird that should have been selected as the emblem of our country; the bird of patience, forbearance, and flies off our forhead. So does the mule. play the snare drum on anything within lowing day in an extended hunt of red. There was silence for a moment; both reach and strike teror to the hearts of

A Curious Fact About San Francisco. A curious fact about San Francisco is the western end of the Aleutian Islands Then Spriggs meditatively resumed: to the eastern end of Maine, it will be one, for according to his observations, always move along in the rut I had Pacific is in about the middle of it.

OCEAN OIL WELLS.

Waters of the Pacific. Some Submarine Springs That Have Been Encountered.

With the pilot chart for November

last there was i sued a statement relative to the possible existence of submarine oil springs - as indicated by various reports received from shipmasters on the Atlantic and in the Gulf of Mexico--- which, in view of the possibility of their commercial value, made the matter of general interest. Mention was made in this connection also of a well known spot near Sabine pass, on the gulf coast, called the "oil pond," where small vessels run in and anchor during heavy weather, the water there being comparatively smooth owing to a quantity of oil or oily mul, which rises to the surface. It was also said that no such reports had been received from the Pacific coast. Since then, however, as a result of the interest elicited by the announcement, several reports have been received which are incorporated in the monthly report of the hydrographic

office for February, briefly as follows: The attention of the hyllographers was first called to a letter from Thomas K. Griffin, of San Francisco, published in the New York Maritime Register, in which he states that submarine oil springs exist on the Pacific coast. The most pronounced is off what is known as "Coal Oil Point," about one and a quarter miles west of Goleta and ten miles west of Santa Barbara. Mr. Griffia supplied information from several masters of vessels who have cruised in those waters, and their reports are so clear and consistent as to leave little room for doubt of the existence of such submarine oil springs off that coast.

Captain Van Helmes, of the American steamship Los Angeles, says that when a vessel passes through the region of this spring the smill of oil is so strong low. as frequently to cau e nausea among the passengers and crew, and in certain spots the oil can be distinctly seen bubbling up on the surface.

Captain Wallace, of the American steamship City of Chester, Captain Ingalls, of the American steamship Santa Rosa, and Captain Alexander, of the American steamship Queen of the Pacific, testifiv that there are other though not so pronounced as the former. Captain Wallace locates the large spring about eighteen miles west of Santa tions of the world have been kuit closer Birbara, Cal., and states that the sur- and closer together. Leibnitz tried the face of the ocean is frequently covered task of formulating such a language in for miles with the oil. He has also the latter part of the seventeenth censeen oil floating on the water to the tury, but gave it up in despair. Bishop north of Cape Mendocine, from three | Wilkins, Abbe Sicard, Bachmeier and to five miles off shore, and thinks there | Mezz Manti have at intervals continue ! is another spring there. Captain to rekindle the world's interest in the Plumber, of the American steamship scheme. Leibnitz, Bachmeier, and M. zin these waters, confirms the above iron the same philological nation comes above Santa Barbara can be seen the puk.

darkest night when sailing through it. has also been received from Captain language drawn in part from all civilized Goodall of the Pacific Coast Steamship tongus. Its gram nar is almost noththe bottom of the sea. On a calm day embraces now only a few thousand the water is covered for miles with oil, | words, those of most common use, but bubbles of which can be seen rising to is steadily growing. Interest in this the surface and spreading over it. Al- country has hardly been awakened as though it does not seen to smooth yet, but in Italy, there are already seven the water like animal oil, yet, on a Volapuk societies and others in Spain, windy day, you can see a slick of oil on France, Germany, Austria and lower the surface. This spot is so well known | Russia, numbering 120 in all. Pamphlet by shipmasters that the smell of the oil has followed pamphlet, lecture has sucpetroleum smell being so strong that a published in Volapuk exclusively. The captain can never mistake his position inventor is a humble Catholic priest, Joflow of oil from the bottom of the sea who has taken advantage of his retireoff Cojo Point near Point Conception, | ment to study more or less thoroughly but there the amount of oil is very sixty languages and dialects .-- [Voice, small. It cannot be seen bubbling up from the bottom, but is often visible or the surface, the odor being very per-

Bitumen is known to be generally dissouthward of San Francisco, and petroleum wells and tar springs have been found at places. It seems probable, therefore, that the oil-bearing strata crops out here and there at the bottom of the sea off the coast, or else that the oil escapes through the crevices in the overlying strata and rises to the surface. Such submarine oil springs are known to exist at certain other places, the bay of Cumana, Venezuela, for example, where petroleum rises and spreads upon the surface; and it is said that, off the island of Trinidael, West Indies, there are submarine volcanoes, which occasionally boil up and discharge a quantity of patroleum, -[Commercial Advertiser.

"Until lately I thought that I should found that the Golden Gate on the something about wanting me to g ntlemen at New York dinner parties crack ber, and I did,

An Old Weather Record.

Mr. J. D. Whitson gives the Chicage Journal these memoranda: 1853, dry summer; following winter

very cold; ice 21 inches. 1854, very hot summer; winter cold-

est ever known. 1855, average summer; winter in-

1856, average summer; winter very

1859, dry summer; winter intensely 1860, average summer; mild full; wis-

ter cold; six weeks' sleighing to And the autumn's dead leaves thicaly strew 1861, hot summer; winter cold; sleighing from December 15 to April 1.

1863, mild and dry summer; winter old; thermometer 34° below zero, and cold to February 15. 1866, hot and day summer; very cold

January and February. 1867, day summer and mild fall; win-

1868, summer hot; severe winter from November 20 to January 10.

1869, summer very dry; winter from D cember 1, steady and col 1. 1871, very dry fall; winter set in D -

cember 8, cold to spring. 1874, dry and mild fall and pleasant; winter set in November 20, and cold to

1876, summer hot and dry; winter very cold, ice 28 inches.

1880, dry summer; severe winter, December 29 extrame cold, and 5" beow z ro in Texas. 1881, average summer; winter very

cold, November 29, ice ten inches, and Snow from Maine to Virginia.

1883 dry and hot summer; severe winter, February 1, 14° below.

1884, average summer; cold winter. December 17, 2° below; January 19, 25 to 35" balaw.

1885, average summer; severe winter, D cember 20° below. 1886, dry summer; c.ld winter, Deember, ice 10 inches, January 20° be-

1887, dry sammer; winter cold from D c mber 20, ice 23 inches and coller

weather predicted.

A New International Language. A common language for the whole civilizat world has been for several centuries one of the dreams of poets, philosophers and religionists. It has last rentering establishment. been one of those ideas that would not failure has continued to recur at inter- probably, " "No, I mean Atoms -the vals with new claims for interest as na- | place where everything is blown to." Gypsy, who has sailed seventeen years | Zofanti all hailed from Germany, and

Volapuk (provounced folapiek) is an A very full and interesting statement attempt to invent an international Company, who refers to the fact that ling, consisting in a few simple rules Goleta Point is known to masters of which have no exceptions or irregularisteamships as "Coal Oil Point" on ac- ties and which, when printed, makes a count of the oil breast of it rising from small four-page leaflet. The vocabulary when off that point. Captain Goodall | hann M. Schleyer, living at Constance,

> A Fine Dinner. The New York Graphic tells about a

fine dinner for eighteen persons, at

which "the center of the table was tributed through the coast ranges to the filled by a large, low glass receptacle some eight feet long, which was imbedded in moss and ferns, and in which swam gold tish and terrapin. In the midle rose a fountain whose spray reached almost to the chandelier. At each lady's plate was a uniquely beautiful bouquet-a palm fern forming the background for a splendil bunch of La France roses. Each place was designated as belonging to a guest by an ivory tablet, on which the name was embossed in silver. The table was ornamented with many rare treasures of silver and china. Each sult-cellar was a silver swan, and in each was an 'apostle spoon,' Mrs. - being the fortunate possessor of a set of those beautiful examples of the skill of silversmiths of the mildle ages. Tankards three or Grandma (coming in unexpectedly) - four hundred years old ornamented the Why, Tommy, what have you been do occasion, and a Naramburg drinkinging to Poll? She looks as if she'd had a horn of a very curious workmanship apconniption at! Tommy-Polly said pealed to a more hardy thirst than are in the nabit of exhibiting."

The Little Grave on the Hill.

There's a spot on the hillende far away. Where in summer the grass grows green; Where, beneath a rushing elm, free's shade,

A moss covered atoms is seen, Tis a quiet and nufrequented spot A solitude lone and wild

Yet-somebody's hopes are buried there-The the grave of a little child. In winter, alast that meany stone Is /.id neath a shroud of snow;

But around it, in springtime, fresh and The daisies and violets grow; And o'er it the summer breezes blow, With a fragrance soft and mild,

That grave of a little child. And every year there's a redbreast comes, When the month of May is nigh, And builds her nest in this quiet spot, 1 'Mid the elm trees' tranches high.

With her melody sweet by the hour she

trills. As if by the scene begulied; Perhaps-who knows! 'tis an angel comes To the grave of that little child.

ter set in December 38, and cold till. Yes somebody's hopes he buried there, Some mother is weeping in valu-For, the tigh years may come and years may

Twill never come back again Yet ble-sed are those who die in youth,

The pure and undefined; E me road to Heaven, perchance, runs

Michigh That grave of a little child.

HI MOROUS.

The public will surely sour on the vinegar trust.

Old flanes frequently get to ether and make a parler match. The parlor is probably the most fre-

quented of all court rooms. 1882, dry summer; winter cold, De- Don't judge by appearances: A brand

It reads a tride paradoxical to see a

cargo of sait co I noticed under the head of fresh arrivals, The sign "B-ware of the Pau" is not hong up "that he who suns may read,"

but "that he who reads may run. It is a notable fact that however cleanly seamed may be on the water they have a decided didike to being

At the club. Jones-Look at Brown over there in the corner. Smith -Yes; buried in thought. Jones Mighty shallow grave, nin't it! Perhaps some of the people who are

backing for nice, fat jobs could be ac-

commodated if they would apply at a "Papa, where's Atome?" "Atoms? I similar springs on the Pacific coast, down, but which in spite of failure after don't know, my boy. You mean Athens,

> "There is something about you, Mr. S-condshelf, which tells me that you most have had a heart-history!" and she gaz d upon him with intense, soulfuleyes, "No, m'm," he said: "I nin't just right there, but it's only cigar-

The Story of a Rare Plant.

Years ago Dr. Asa Gray was studying

in Paris, and in a herbarium there came statements, and says the belt of oil the latest and tie, the inventor of Vola- across a small, broken and imperfect specimen marked simply "From Amero," which interested him much. From the fragments before him he reconstructed the whole plant, His work was approved by the botanists about him, and he named the little plant "Shortis Galacifolis" in honor of Dr. Charles W. Short, the distinguished botanist. But no live specimens of the plant could be found. Years passed on and it had never been seen. At last a botanist at work in Jupan found and named a plant which seemed to be of a gerrus closely allied to the Shortia. Dr. Gray corresponded with the botanist, and it was concluded that the doctor had been in error and had mistaken a specimen of the Japanese genus. So the Shortia is used as a guide in foggy weather, the ceeded lecture, and nine periodicals are was generally lett out of the list of plants by systematic But twenty years after this, as Dr. Goodale and Professor says also that he has noticed a small G rmany, on a pension of \$250 a year, Watson were one day in the library of the University, they heard a shout of triumph from the herbarium and rushed in to find Dr. Gray waving a small plant about in the windest enthusiasm. "Look at it! What is it? he cried. The two botanists examined it as directed and recognized the characteristics of the much-discussed plant. 'It is the Shortis," they exclaimed. The speci-South which made a business of putting up medicinal herbs. It had been brought in from some hitherto unexplored nook in the mountains by one of their collectors, and sent to the professor for identification. It proved indeed to be the Shortin, which was therefore once more reinstate I in the floral family, greatly to Dr. Gray's delight, Dr. Gray afterward visited the locality in which the plant was found, and procured a living specimen for the botanical garden, - New York Tribune,

A Unkind Cut.

"I hear that you are engaged, Ma-

"It is true." "Then mother was right."

"What about?"

"She said you would be engaged before leap year was ever,"-[Boston

Courier,

3-29-1y,