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THE COMMONWEALTH

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

"EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00.

VOL. XII. New Series--Vol. I.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1896.

NO. 36.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

Women will vote the electoral ticket in three States this year—in Wyoming, Colorado and Utah. It will be quite a while before the Southern people, if ever they do, become reconciled to woman suffrage.

Mark Twain is to continue the adventures of "Tom Sawyer". Thousands of boys and men of older years have read with great interest and pleasure the tales about Tom Sawyer and his friend Huckleberry Fin...

And now they are going to manufacture silk from wood pulp. This may seem an impossibility, but it has already been established that silk can be made from wood, and that it can be used for whatever purposes silk can be used for.

It begins to look like men will have to meet women on every field of competition. Twenty years ago, says Munsey, a report showed nineteen standard occupations in each of which tens of thousands of men were engaged, but not one woman.

In ten years the total annual consumption of distilled liquors in the United States has fallen from 1.48 to 1.33 gallons per head. This seems a small thing, but in the aggregate it amounts to a great deal.

A most unique contrivance by a Chicago man makes the bicycle thieves tell the tale of their pilfering. It is a human skull. Blood red glass has been placed in the eye holes and mouth, and it is arranged so as to be suddenly lighted by electricity, the jaws moving and popping the teeth at the same time.

Despite all that may be said about the "good time coming" either under a governmental system of free silver or free gold, the main fact to be borne in mind by earnest men and women is that living in this world is an individual matter.

AN INGENIOUS RIDDLE.

Some years ago, says the New York Weekly, there was a dispute between an old lady and a gentleman about riddles—he contending that they were useless, many of them silly, and that he had never seen one which he had failed to solve.

The old lady took down her Bible, and told him that by the next day she would produce a riddle which he could not readily solve.

God made Adam out of dust, But thought it best to make me first; So I was made before the man, To answer God's most holy plan.

My body he did make complete, But without arms or legs or feet, My ways and actions did control, And I was made without a soul.

A living thing I then became, And Adam gave to me my name; Then from his presence I withdrew, And more of Adam never knew.

I did my Maker's laws obey, From them I never went astray, Thousands of miles I run, I fear, But seldom on earth appear.

But God in me did something see, And put a living soul in me; A soul of me my God did claim, And took from me that soul again.

But when from me the soul was fled, I was the same as when first made; And without hands or feet or soul, I travel now from pole to pole.

I labor hard by day and night, To fallen men I give much light; Thousands of people, young and old, Will by my death great light behold.

No fear of death doth trouble me, For happiness I cannot see; Nor to heaven I shall never go, Nor to the grave, nor hell below.

The scriptures I cannot believe; If right or wrong, I cannot conceive, Although therein my name is found, They are to me an empty sound.

Answer—A WHALE. —Selected.

Household Hints.

Sandpaper will whiten ivory handled knives which have become yellow from age or usage.

Warm bread and cake should be cut with a knife the blade of which has been heated by standing it in boiling water.

If clothespins are boiled a few minutes, and quickly dried, every few weeks, it will cleanse them and make them more durable.

If a tablespoonful of vinegar is added to the water in which tough meats or fowls are boiled it will tend to make them tender.

If a strip of webbing two inches wide is sewed tightly on the under side of a rug, close to the edge, it will prevent the edges from curling.

A paste made of melted India rubber mixed with shellac varnish is the best thing to use for fastening leather trimmings on wood.

A Jewel of a Wife.

Message. A certain Russian nobleman visiting Paris was noticed to be constantly plunged in deep sadness.

Paris was noticed to be constantly plunged in deep sadness. He wore on his finger a very remarkable ring, large enough for a bracelet, and which extended over his hand like a buckle for the ring finger.

A lady, meeting him in public, ventured to say: "You wear a very handsome ring."

"It is not a ring," he answered, "but a sepulchre."

"This jewel," he continued, "is my wife. I had the misfortune to lose her some years since in Russia. She was an Italian and dreaded the bed which awaited her after this life. I carried her body to Germany, where I was acquainted with a celebrated chemist, whom I directed to make of the body a solid substance which I could carry about with me. Eight days after he sent for me and showed me the empty coffin amid a horrid collection of instruments. The jewel was lying on the table. He had through means of some corrosive substance reduced and compressed that which was my wife into this jewel, which shall never more leave me."

Indigestive poisons are the bane of the dyspeptic's life. When sick, see if your sickness is caused by indigestive poisons. If so, take Shaker Digestive Cordial. This is the only certain way of being permanently cured, because it is the only way that gets rid of the poisons.

You know that fermented food is poisonous. You know that poison is unhealthy. Shaker Digestive Cordial cleans the stomach of fermenting food, and purifies the blood and system of indigestive poisons.

It cures indigestion and the diseases that come from it. Headache, dizziness, nausea, stomach-ache, weakness, flatulence, constipation, loss of appetite, irritability, etc. These are a few of the symptoms, caused by indigestive poisons, cured by Shaker Digestive Cordial.

At druggists, price 10 cents to \$1.00 per bottle.

IN THEIR PLACES.

BALANCINGS OF THE CLOUDS.

A Beautiful Pen Picture on a Subject that Few People Think of.

Richmond Times.

How the clouds are balanced and kept in their levels so, as beautifully, bountifully, and seasonably to serve us is one of the wonders of creation. If the balancing of the air and the density of the vapors, and the affinity of the water drops were not wisely and nicely adjusted, we should have only oceans covering the earth, and light steam driven away to the heights.

We have sometimes thought that the Book of Job is not in its place in the Holy Scriptures. There is nothing in it to mark its chronology, except that it was along down in time after the world was peopled, and countries and tribes, and birds, and beasts had names, and men were doing a great deal of observing and thinking of things, and the course of things. It looks as if it might be a grand introduction to the great, early history of mankind.

The balancings of the clouds are a beautiful contemplation, and most interesting study. They bespeak live, intelligent, loving control. At different heights, balanced on their levels, at different speeds, travelling in different directions, they make net work or great masses of glory and beauty.

God's ways seem dark, but soon or late They touch the shining hills of day; The evil cannot brook delay, The good can well afford to wait. —J. G. Whittier.

People look at my six days in the week, to see what I mean on the seventh. —Cecil.

The Holy Spirit can conduct a revival without your aid, but you can have no revival without Him.

It is better to believe that a man does possess good qualities than to assert that he does not. —Chinese Moral Maxim.

Some people are always finding fault with nature for putting thorns on roses; I always thank her for having put roses on thorns.

If a fellow takes the trouble to flatter he expects to be paid for it, and he calculates that he will get his wages out of those he tickles. —Spurgeon.

Ill at Ease. National Temperance Advocate.

"Some time ago," says Professor W. G. Blackie, "I received a letter from an eminent London brewer, a philanthropist, asking for a subscription to the Reformatory Union. I took the liberty of asking some pointed questions regarding the shops belonging to his firm, saying that I humbly thought that by his gin palaces he was helping to tumble into the gutter far more human creatures than all the refugees in the kingdom were picking out of it. He replied and said he was not responsible for the abuse of his wares. He was evidently very ill at ease, and concluded his letter in a way that touched me—by asking me to pray for him."

Maine's Big County. There are many persons perhaps living within the limits of Arcoctook county, Me., who have a faint idea of its size, says the Boston Herald.

The Discovery Saved His Life. Mr. G. Caillouette, Druggist, Beaverville, Ill., says: "To Dr. King's New Discovery I owe my life. Was taken with La Grippe and tried all the physicians for miles about, but of no avail and was given up and told I could not live. Having Dr. King's New Discovery in my store I sent for a bottle and began its use and from the first dose began to get better, and after using three bottles was up and about again. It is worth weight in gold. We won't keep store or house without it." Get a free trial at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug Store.

Coal Consumption.

National Recorder.

An industrious trifer, writing in a French review, has been at the pains to ascertain what is the annual consumption of coal on the railways and steam companies of the country, and has worked out a total of 3,782,850 tons. This, he tells us, would make a pyramid 516 feet high and 894 feet at the base, or nearly 70 feet above the height of the Great Pyramid.

The Cow Lived on Thistles.

Minneapolis Journal.

Mr. Tompson, of Haud County, missed a cow from his herd and diligent search failed to discover her whereabouts. She was gone ten days when a son of Mr. Tompson, in riding after the herd, passed an old open well, the mouth of which had previously been concealed by Russian thistles. Led by curiosity he dismounted and looked in only to discover the lost cow at the bottom hungrily munching the tough stems of the last thistle of which the well had been blown full.

Gems of Thought.

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COUNTRY PEOPLE.

FRESH AIR.

Intelligence of Country People.

City and State.

Country people have time to read, and multitudes of them will sharply read to some purposes if they only have opportunity. They read up on abstruse subjects often, and are far better informed on them than are average city people. In the newspapers nowadays we frequently find sneers at the ignorance of country folk. They are not ignorant, many of them, but it is rather the other way. On questions of sociology, economics and finance they are frequently far ahead of city people.

Taking the Air Without Going Out.

Health Magazine.

Elderly people and others who may be temporarily housebound and prevented from enjoying a regularly daily stroll outdoors can devise a fair substitute as follows: Bundle up as if for the usual constitutional, select a large sunny room, preferable at the top of the house, open wide the windows, shut off the heat and move around briskly, going to the window and inhaling the fresh air deeply through the nostrils. We have often called attention to the fact that house air, with its many impurities, overheated condition and general lifelessness, is one of the principal predisposing causes to colds and catarrhal affections.

The Nutmeg.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The nutmeg tree resembles an ordinary pear tree. It lives seventy or eighty years, and produces continually, regardless of the season, one fine specimen in Jamaica yielding an annual harvest of over 5000 berries. The blossom suggests that of the lily of the valley, and is so fragrant that small birds are said to become intoxicated with its odor.

He Wouldn't Fetch the Milk.

Selected.

A dispute having long subsisted in a gentleman's family between the maid and the coachman about fetching the milk for breakfast, the gentleman one morning called them together before him, that he might hear what each had to say, and decide accordingly.

The maid pleaded that the kitchen was lounging about the kitchen the best part of the morning, yet was so ill-natured that he would not fetch the milk for her, though he saw she had so much to do that she had not a minute to spare.

The coachman said it was none of his business. "Very well," said the master, "what do you call your business?" "To take care of the horses, clean and drive the coach." "You say right," answered the master, "and I do not expect you to do more than I hired you for; so I order that every morning, before breakfast, you get the coach ready and drive the maid to the farm for the milk; and I hope you will allow that to be a part of your business."

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This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy. Sold by E. T. Whitehead and Co., Druggists, Scotland Neck, N. C.



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Tarboro, N. C.

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Reasonable Prices AND All Work Guaranteed First-class. 6 27 1 y

Wanted—An Idea

Wanted—An Idea. Write your ideas, they may be worth something to somebody. Write JOHN WHITEHEAD & CO., 114 1/2 y. 11 4 2 1 y.

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