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THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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VOL. XII. New Series---Vol. 1.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1896.

NO. 48

SEND YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN NOW.

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Business.

YOUR

Written for THE COMMONWEALTH. THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

There has been nothing in the his ory of North Carolina like her politics of 1896. Nothing in the English language can express the state of affairs hat has existed in this State for the ust six months. The best that can be aid of it all is to call it "North Carolina politics." The future of two or four years may serve to open the eyes of some of our people and show them what egregious folly they have been uilty of for the past six years.

There is no guessing what this age vill see and hear and do next. It does look as if men will learn to use the powers of nature to perfection after awhile. A genius in Colorado now claims that e has found a way to telegraph without wires from one mountain top to another in an east and west direction using atmospheric strata which are already electrified as his conductor. The many forks of small rivers are full of apparatus employed has not been publiely described, but the inventor is said be experimenting in Colorado and Utah, and he says he has transmitted than there is now, the only evidence messages by his method over a distance of which are names without places. of eighty miles.

While the election of Major William McKinley to the Presidency of the Inited States is formally accepted the will of the people of the nation, there are thousands and perhaps millions who do not believe it.

We believe that if there had been no money spent in the election except the legitimate expenses of the campaign on both sides, Mr. Bryan would have been elected by as great a majority as Maj. McKinley's side claimed. It is an illustration of the power of money; and it is a time for grave doubts whether or not any republic can bear such a strain and prosper.

It has been given out from Raleigh hat the Pension Board has made out the following report:

First-class pensioners, 130; last year Second-class pensioners, 240; las

ear, 247. Third-class pensioners, 352; last year,

Fourth-class pensioners, 1,842; last

ear, 1,674. Widows, pensioners, 2,758; last year

Total first-class pensioners this year

Total first-class' pensioners last year.

The Ladies' Home Journal tells of a oncert on board of an ocean steamship. at the close of which the saloon passengers attempted to sing "My Country,

'us of Thee," the national air of America, and "God Save the Queen," the national air of England. There were two hundred and eighty-six American passengers and twenty-four of English birth. Out of the large number of Americans there were not enough familiar with our national air to sing the or more anywhere within when the English air was struck up every single one of the twenty-four,

words through the first stanza; but men and women, knew the words and sang it through with delight. This is rather a sad comment on our American

The State council of Massachusett by the late election is entirely Republican for the first time in fifty years. Isaac B. Alien a colored man who was born a slave 54 years ago in Hampton, work of all kinds. Work done cheap Va., was elected Treasurer. The Republicans were amazed at his election, but his majority was sufficient to turn night for the moon and stars were bake until the vegetables are all cookdown Democratic Treasurer Sullivan. It was printed soon after the negro Treasurer's election that "when he was nominated no one dreamed that he would come within seven rows of apple trees of election," and that the Republicans of the district would never have nominated him had they even dreamed of a possibility of his election.

Moral: Be sure you are right, even in politics, before you go ahead.

LETTER FROM

CALIFORNIA.

CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

Wonderfully Beautiful Land.

This is a beautiful country and a alf of its people don't know how the ther half live, especially in the 180lated mountain towns of Trinity and

not seen for more than seven years and | ileges. he knew me at sight. His name is Mr. J. E. Bates, and his home is in Orlando, Fla. He is a prospector now and has made lots of money. He has ound several mines of gold but says he old his interest in them. He has lots f money. I took a three weeks' trip ith him not long ago through a part I the Trinity and Siskiyou mountains which are called the unknown lands by those who live near the large cities The mountains and the beds of the gold, but it cannot be very thick, or hey would cause roads to be built and owns to spring up. There used to be greater population in this country In the middle of a desolate flat will be a pile of stones, or the remains of mud and rock chimney. That, the people will say, is Peterstown or Lady-Slipper or Lake View or Halfway or alf a dozen other names, as the case may be. They all look alike and are

like desolate and abandoned. In early days there was at each a Now there are three of these deserted illages between every two settlements. the settlements themselvs could hardly nouses; in one somebody lives, the or three times a week on horse-back. The law is very loose in regard to the carriers, and if he forgets to come no me does more than growl a little.

brough these mountains. The mer- serve. chants who live sixty or seventy miles from a railroad station, have 40 or 50 nules going to and fro all the time from June until October. These trains wind in and out among the hills, leaving a part of the load at each mine or settlement. During the other nonths there is no communication with the world except by mail and sometimes a deep snow keeps that out for two or three months. The winters are bitterly cold with snow piled up to the windows and keen winds sweeping lown from the icy peaks. But the people know what to expect, and durng the summer you can hear the beat of the wood-man's ax and the whiz of his saw to fill the sheds with wood. The houses are very rough, sometimes of logs, but the most of them are built of boards slowly cut by the up and down mill turned by a mountain stream. Every house has a big iron cook stove to heat red and besides a leep fire-place with a back log and plenty of pitch knots. (At home we sav fight-wood knots.)

What the men do during the long I could never find out. Perhaps they sleep, like the bears.

The school houses are 40 or 50 miles

apart. It was from this land the girl came who, when the first time she saw the telegraph wire, wondered why the chicken is as follows: Cut two chickpeople had their clothes lines so high, ens into large pieces; season them Many of the children are part white with pepper and salt, and put into a and part Indian. There are lots of there I saw a regular "new woman." Joe ion and two green peppers chopped. and myself had ridden late into the night Rub three tablespoonfuls of butter ovand we asked for shelter in the first er the chickens, and pour over the house we came to. It was a beautiful whole two wine glasses of wine. Cover the pan and place it in a hot oven and shining bright. It was ten minutes to ed to pieces and the chicken is tender. twelve and we saw a house at a snort For chartreuse of chicken, chop rathdistance away. When we arrived at the house we knocked at the door and spoonful of chopped parsley, two spoonit was a long time before any one fuls of chicken stock, a suspicion of onwould answer us. At last an old man opened the door with his shot gun in hand and inquired what we wanted. with browned crumbs, and then press We told him and he said we could stay a thick wall of boiled rice around the all night with pleasure. He was butf mould. Fill the space in the centre lines: Indian but we thought him a white with the prepared chicken and cover it man that night. At gray dawn in the place it in a steamer and cook threemorning as I was waking, the door of quarters of an hour. Carefully turn our room opened and I thought it was the cooked chicken out upon a warm a young Japanese boy who had come platter and pour around the form a cel-

voice told us to stay in bed until sh brought us some coffee. She was a slim, brown girl of about fifteen, in overalls and blouse, with long hair braided down her back. A sweeter, more feminine girl I never met. When we had eaten our breakfast and started on our journey she bade us good bye and said she hoped God would be with us.

This unknown land is one of the rare vely climate. It is so large that one beauties. Nature was in poetic mood when she piled those masses of mountains and crowned them with white.

It is is the land of promise for the hunters, and a place to teach one anew On my arrival in San Francisco, after the beauties of nature and send him nearly five years traveling around the home ready to slip into his civilized world. I met a young man whom I had life with a new appreciation of its priv-C. T. CURRIE.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

Various Palatable Ways of Cooking Chicken.

Philadelphia Record.

meats, and perhaps the most useful recitation went on and on, the suspichicken. It is excellent broiled, roast- when the lines were finished, the Presed or fried, and furnishes the founda- ident said : tion for a multiplicity of dainty dish-

ody, take off the wings, and then the specified the occasion. lengthwise through the sides. A small ate ended in 1833, and Lincoln proba e breast may be cut across, leaving the wishbone in one part. The neck of the chicken may be cooked with a friesse, but is not served.

One way of frying chicken is thus: them and leave them in salt and water while a half pound of fat salt pork is cooked in a spider until the grease is be called extensive. There will be two drawn from it. Then take the pork out, wipe the chicken dry with a soft ther is store, post-office and saloon in cloth, sprinkle the pieces with pepper ne. Sometimes the mail is dropped and roll them in flour. Fry the chickbehind a whiskey barrel and stays there en in the hot pork fat until they are or two or three days, or until the par- a nice brown. When cooked arrange cel is moved. The mail comes in two the pieces on a hot platter. Meanwhile rub one tablespoonful of flour

it, and put it into a saucepan with half House I took it with me. a cup of hot water; cover and let it simmer over the fire 15 minutes. evening, and the President being alone, When the chicken becomes cold wipe we settled down for a quiet chat. He each piece and rub it with salt. Make took from a drawer in his table the a batter by beating light the yolks of blue-and-gold Holmes, and went over two eggs with half a saltspoonful of it with much gusto, reading or reciting spoonful of oil, adding one cup of flour cy and lastly half a cup of cold water, and beating vigorously. Put the batter to one side for an hour or longer. Put into a chopping bowl one small onion, and he began to read the poem; but three sprigs of parsley, and two tomatoes peeled and with seeds removed. Chop the vegetables very fine and when ready to use stir them into the batter. Lastly, add the whites of the eggs beaten light. Put the pieces of prepared chicken in the batter and see that each one is is well covered. Set a spider over the fire and melt in it enough butter to cover the bottom. Place the batter-covered chicken in the spider and fry it slowly until the pieces are lark winter, when there is no mining, cooked to a rich brown. Arrange the no garden work and no wood cutting, cooked pieces upon a hot platter, and pour a tomato sauce around them.

A nice accompaniment of plain fried chicken is supplied by hominy balls and crisp bacon, alternating around the edge of the platter.

A noted Southern way of cooking dripping pan. Peel four large tomatoes, cut them into pieces, and put

er fine one cupful of the white meat of cooked chicken. Mix with it one ion juice, salt and pepper to taste, and and one egg well beaten. Thickly but- his request, with the description of the ter a mould or hasin, cover the butter with rice. Put the lid on the mould. in for our boots, and while I stared in This makes a delicious course for a lunshocked surprise a very sweet girl cheon or an entree at a dinner.

LINCOLN'S MEMORY. A PECULIAR POWER.

Especially Fond of Poetry.

One of President Lincoln's gifts as an extraordinary memory. As he sed to say, he "couldn't help remembering." Mr. Noah Brooks cites many interesting examples of his power of rctaining things he had once heard. "One of my cousins," he says, "John Holmes Goodenow of Maine, was appointed Consul General at Constantinople early in the Lincoln administration, and was taken to the White House, before his departure for his post, to be presented to the President. When Lincoln learned that his visitor was a grandson of John Holmes, one of the first senators from Maine, he immediately began to recite a poetical quotation which must have been more than a hundred lines

In length. "Mr. Goodenow, never having met the President before was naturally as-The eyer-ready alterative from heavy tonished at this outburst; and as the thing the housewife finds to vary her cion crossed his mind that Lincoln had 9 10 daily bills of fare, is the acceptable suddenly taken leave of his wits. But

"'There! that poem was quoted by your grandfather in a speech which he To cut up a chicken for frying or for made in the United States Senate in fricasse, sever the neck from the -,' and he named the date and

legs; cut the body in two and then "As John Holmes' term in the Senfowl does not require more cutting; a bly was impressed by reading the larger one should have the second speech rather than by hearing it, this joi ts and drumsticks separated and feat of memory appears very remarka-

He used to say, however, that his happening to remember a poem was no sign of any special liking for it. Once he recited to Mr. Brooks a long and store, a blacksmith shop and a saloon. Cut a young chicken into pieces, wash doleful ballad, "In the vein of Vilkins and his Dinah," and on finishing it said, with a deprecatory laugh, "I don't believe I have thought of that before

At the same time he was a great lover of simple and hearty verse. One of his favorites was Doctor Holmes' "Last Leaf." Concerning this poem Mr

"One November day Lincoln and I were driving out to the Soldiers' Home, 4 25 tf with the same quantity of butter, and hear Washington, when the aspect of stir this into the hot fat in which the the scene recalled the lines to his mind. chicken has been cooked; add one cup Slowly and with excellent judgment he Each mine of any importance has of cream and stir until the mixture is recited the whole poem: Enlarging ts own little store, so the people don't smooth, and when it is boiling strain upon the pathos, wit and humor of to to town very often. They use the it over the cooked chicken. Sprinkle Holmes, I found that the President had ack horses for transferring goods chopped parsies over the whole and never seen a copy of the gental doctor's works, so far as he could remember. I Chicken fried in vegetable batter offered to lend him my copy of the makes a delightful change. Cut a poems, a little blue-and-gold book; and plump young chicken into pieces, wash the next time I went to the White

"About a week afterward I called one salt, stirring in gradually one table- several poems that had struck his fan-

"Finally, he said that he liked 'Lexington' as well as anything in the book, 'The Last Leaf' alone excepted when he came to the stanza beginning, Green be the graves where the martyrs are lying!

Shroudless and tombless they sunk to their rest, his voice faltered, and he gave me the book with the whispered request, 'You

read it : I can't' "Months afterward, when several ladies were in the Red Parlor, calling upon Mrs. Lincoln, he recited that poem without missing a word, so far as could remember it. And yet I do not believe that he ever saw the text of 'Lexington' except during the few busy days when he had my book."

Mr. Brook's turnishes also a pretty story about Lincoln's first hearing of one of Lonfellow's poems.

"I think it was early in the war that some public speaker sent Mr. Lincoln a newspaper report of a speech delivered in New York. The President, apparentthem that never saw a train. It was them into the pan with one sliced on- ly, did not pay much attention to the speech, but a few lines of verse at the close caught his eye. These were the closing stanzas of Longfellow's 'Building of the Ship,' beginning with :

> Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State Sail on, O Union, strong and great!

"To my surprise, he seemed to have read the lines for the first time. Knowing the whole poem as one of my youthful exercises in recitation, I began, at launching of the ship, and repeated it to the end. As he listened to the last

Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears, Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,

his eyes filled and his cheeks were wet. He did not speak for some minutes, but finally said, with simplicity, 'It is a wonderful gift to be able to stir men like that."

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NOTICE.

In pursuance of an order of Court made in the special proceedings entitled Amos Cherry vs Levy Cherry and others, now pending in the Superior Court of Halifax county, I will on the 21st day of November, 1896, sell to the highest bidder in the town of Scotland Neck, that store house and lot in which Albert Hill is now doing business, be ing lot No. 12 on Block 46 according to the plot of said town. Said sale is made for the purpose of partition among the devisees of the will of the late Wiley Cherry.

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