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THE COMMONWEALTH

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E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor. "EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO. VOL. XIII. New Series--Vol. 1. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1897. NO. 15

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS. Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

We hold that the world is getting better; but we sometimes observe tendencies in some localities that make us conclude that the improvement is in spots.

There are four thousand teachers and two hundred and fifty-six principals of schools in New York City.

The Y. M. C. A. of Philadelphia sticks to the literal meaning of the Bible text which tells of the whale swallowing Jonah.

Perhaps this country has never heard more insincere promises than during the past two years.

The expenses of the Government are enormous and seem to be growing all the while.

A Des Moines paper, The Leader, gives the following figures as to per capita expenses:

We have not only added immensely to the bulk of our Government expenditures, but the per capita expense of the Government has been outrageously increased.

Yet, in spite of this showing, Congress has been called in special session, not to devise ways for reducing Government expenditures, but to provide for the levying of new taxes.

One of the answers to what causes hard times is found in the Government expense account.

BUCKLEN'S ARNICA SALVE. The best salve in the world for Cuts Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Festered Sores, etc.

THE CAPTURED HESSIAN. A STORY OF REVOLUTIONARY DAYS.

What Two Lads Accomplished. Youth's Companion.

In one of the most beautiful parts of the valley of the Brandywine not far from where the historic stream curves around the bold bluff of Point Lookout, there stood in Revolutionary days, and still stands, a farmhouse of the good old colonial type.

As this was Fifth-day, he had ridden off, with his wife behind him, to Birmingham meeting-house, a few miles up the valley, in spite of the danger from roving bands from the British army.

Suddenly David, the elder boy, dropped a walnut-bur on his brother's toe, then, jumping behind a tree to protect his own feet, he shouted, "Let's feed our chickens. I'll race thee to the barn."

In a moment two pairs of brown legs were twinkling in the sunlight as their owners spurred toward the great stone barn, hidden from the house by the grove of maples.

They had reached the threshold nearly abreast when both lads stopped short and stood amazed. Well they might be, for, on a pile of hay just within the doors, lay a redcoat—a Hessian captain, judging from his long boots and his uniform.

With one impulse the boys turned and ran, never stopping until they were safe behind the corn-crib, out of sight of the redcoat, should he awake.

They could not allow a Hessian to sleep in their barn, especially as they had seen some of their pet chickens with twisted necks lying beside him, ready to be carried off.

What should they do? If they went to the Continental camp for aid, he might awake while they were gone and escape with the chickens.

"Ezra," said David, "we must get his sword and pistols, and then force him to go down to the camp. It is the only way."

Little Ezra trembled at the audacity of this proposition, but both felt the case was desperate, and nerved by this they crept stealthily back, until they could again look on the sleeping enemy.

At this juncture the prostrate soldier awoke, and the boys, as if pulled by a string, scampered backward out of the barn.

Again the boys crept softly through the door, and while David hid himself behind some shocks of corn within the

shadow of the corner, Ezra climbed to the haymow, having first, to his great relief, hidden his pistol among the corn.

Ezra, having reached his post, from which he could slip out of sight in an instant, overturned his load, and a catarract of golden wheat descended upon the unprotected face of the soldier.

In an instant he was awake. Confused and blinded by the shower, he sprang to his feet, groping vainly for his weapons.

The redcoat felt sure that the mysterious command must be obeyed. Once before he had heard that Quaker "thee" and the memory was most clear if not most pleasant.

With many muttered oaths and speculations as to who his captors could be, the Hessian strode along, making no effort to escape, for he heard the clink of the sword, and where it was felt the pistols must be also.

A strange and most ludicrous picture the trio presented, as they marched one after another down the path toward the river, over the fields where the shocks of corn stood in the golden October sunshine, and the pumpkins lay changing from green to yellow.

At last they emerged from the bushes into an open grove, beside which rippled the Brandywine. Scattered under the trees were the white tents and the nondescript lean-tos of the Continentals' camp.

No sooner was the queer procession seen than it was surrounded by a laughing, cheering crowd, of soldiers, for discipline was not strict in those days, and the merriment was redoubled when the Hessian, daring at last to look around, went wild with rage and chagrin upon discovering the size of his captors.

But David and Ezra were on their dignity, and without a smile they brought the prisoner up to where the gray-haired colonel stood, drawn from his tent by the commotion. David there called out, just as he had heard the soldiers do, "Halt, prisoner! Attention!"

"What is this, boys?" said the colonel, with a kindly smile. "Have you been raiding King George's camp, and brought back a prisoner?"

"No," answered David, "but, these sees, this soldier was sleeping in our barn, and had killed our chickens, and probably meant to do more, so we got his sword and pistols, and made him come down here to thee, and—"

Here Ezra broke in: "Thee won't tell mother, will thee? For she would think it was fighting, and then Friend Cope would speak about us in First-day meeting."

Ezra's voice was drowned by a roar of laughter from the circle of soldiers, and the colonel, smiling, promised to make it all right with their mother by going home with them and telling her what brave boys she had, if they would first honor him by taking dinner in camp.

That dinner! The boys looked back to it with pride for the rest of their lives! How they toasted their country, and Washington and the army, and everything else they could think of, in sweet Delaware cider, and how, much to

Watch the crowd at Whitehead's Drug store buying Dixie Nerve and Bone Liniment. Best on earth for Pains, Strains, Rheumatism and everything where a first class Liniment is required. For man and beast.

their own confusion, they were toasted themselves!

But the crowning touch of all came when the Hessian, who had recovered his spirits after a hearty meal, entered, attended by his guards, and begged leave in very bad English to shake his two captors by the hand, and asked permission to present David with the sword and Ezra with the pistols which they had held before under different circumstances, saying that they were from "vun old soldier to two young vuns." So he was a good-hearted Hessian, after all!

That sword and those pistols, after doing even better service than before for their country in the War of 1812, now hang in an old colonial mansion on the banks of the Brandywine, and many a youth has been inspired to true patriotism by the story of how his ancestors used them in the days gone by.

The Tobacco Habit.

Selected.

A recent issue of "Modern Medicine" presents some statistics from educational institutions concerning the effects of tobacco on the academic youth which point their own lesson as clearly as could the longest homily.

While the figures given may not be sufficiently full to warrant any large deductions, they certainly establish the truth of the fact that the effect of the use of tobacco is to retard the development if not to dwarf the respiratory system; and the conclusion seems fairly to follow that the tobacco habit is to be especially avoided by those who have a hereditary or acquired proneness to diseases of a pulmonary character.

Music with Pins.

National Recorder.

Have you a cigar box, a bit of tissue paper, a paper of pins and a tack hammer? Well, that is all you need to make a pinetta.

First you take the box and nail down the lid, then cover the whole box with bright colored paper so that it will look pretty. Then tack the pins along the edges of the bottom of the box.

Have somebody sing the soprano part of any song, note by note. Use new, straight pins and pound them in until they sound exactly like the singing, just as a violin is tuned with a piano.

Hold the box firmly in your left hand, or better placing it on a table, you take a long pin in your right hand and run the point along the middle of the pins in the box as they stand upright. You should run the pin in your hand according to the time the piece is written in.

There is Nothing so Good.

There is nothing just as good as Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption Coughs and Colds, so demand it and do not permit the dealer to sell you some substitute.

Did You Ever

Try Electric Bitters as a remedy for your troubles? If not, get a bottle now and get relief. This medicine has been found to be peculiarly adapted to the relief and cure of all Female Complaints, exerting a wonderful direct influence in giving strength and tone to the organs.

All Planters of Fine Tobacco Should use HYCO TOBACCO GUANO:

Guaranteed Analysis: Ammonia - 3.00 per cent. Available Phos. Acid - 8.00 per cent. Potash K 2 O—From High-Grade Sulphate - 3.00 per cent.

FOR SALE BY N. B. JOSEY, SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

PAST—FUTURE.

The grandsire's locks in the firelight's glow; His eyes are dim, and drifts of snow Are deeply laid on the weary head.

With her golden curls on his loving breast His dear little grandchild croons at rest, And dreams of the castles that yet shall rise.

On her, cherry lips in a winsome smile, She dreams of a summer still far away, He dreams of a summer that's gone for aye.

The Tramp Printer Didn't do a Thing to the Woodville Blower.

Atlanta Constitution. When the editor of the Woodville Blower got sick and had to leave town for a week, he got Randolph Horton Tucker to get out the paper.

But alas and alack! The tramp printer who was the foreman, printer and pressman and who had not been fully sober for a month, got the news and business notices all mixed in making up, and when the Blower appeared items like the following greeted the astonished citizens:

"Go to Smith's for fresh Jersey butter. Guaranteed to be strictly all wool." "Stubbs & Tubbs dealers in green hides, rags, iron, etc. Meals at all hours."

"Reward of \$10 will be paid for the arrest and detention of one of the most desirable residence lots in town. When last heard from, was working on a steamboat in Alabama."

"Get your meals at the Snide House. Fresh steak and hash every 30 days, made of the finest corrugated steel and warranted to last a lifetime."

"Some very artistic fresco work has just been done on the interior of Judge Hamp Rollins, who was again elected justice of the peace last week."

Malta. Next to Gibraltar, Malta is the strongest fortress in the world. After it came into the possession of the English, during the Napoleonic wars, the harbor of La Valetta was defended by a system of works which are considered by competent engineers to be impregnable against any force that can be brought to bear upon them.

By virtue of the power vested in me by the last will and testament of the late P. Eliza Pittman, I will on Monday the 5th day of April 1897, expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash, at the court house door in the town of Halifax, that tract or parcel of land situated in the county of Halifax and known as the "Meritt tract," bounded on the north by Merritt Swamp; the lands of O. C. Stallings on the south and east, and on the west by the tract of land of P. Eliza Pittman known as the 93 acre tract; containing one hundred acres more or less.

PROFESSIONAL. R. A. C. LIVERMON, DENTIST. OFFICE—Over the Station Building. Office hours from 9 to 1 o'clock; 2 to 4 o'clock, p. m. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

DAVID BELL, Attorney at Law. ENFIELD, N. C. Practices in all the Courts of Halifax and adjoining counties and in the Supreme and Federal Courts. Claims collected in all parts of the State.

A. DUNN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. Practices wherever his services are required.

DR. W. J. WARD, Surgeon Dentist. ENFIELD, N. C. Office over Harrison's Drug Store.

EDWARD L. TRAVIS, Attorney and Counselor at Law. HALIFAX, N. C. Money Loaned on Farm Lands.

HOWARD ALSTON, Attorney-at-Law. LITTLETON, N. C.

DR. C. A. WHITEHEAD, DENTAL Surgeon. TARBORO, N. C.

SCOTLAND NECK STEAM DYE WORKS. MOURNING GOODS A SPECIALTY. Get price list. Address: Scotland Neck Steam Dyeing Co. 1-24-ly. Scotland Neck, N. C.

BRICK! HAVING INCREASED MY FACILITIES I AM NOW PREPARED TO FURNISH DOUBLE QUANTITY OF BRICK. Also will take contract to furnish lots from 50,000 or more anywhere within 50 miles of Scotland Neck. Can always furnish what you want. Correspondence and orders solicited.

D. A. MADRY, 1-19-95-ly. Scotland Neck, N. C. MENTION THIS PAPER.

E. W. HEPTINSTALL, ENFIELD, N. C. General Butcher. And Dealer in Fresh Meats of all kinds. ORDERS FILLED PROMPTLY and delivered to any point in the town. PATRONAGE SOLICITED. 3-11-ly.

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures swollen neck, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind. 1-21-ly.

English Spavin Liniment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and Clemsishes from horses. Blood Spavin Surbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring worm stifles, Sprains, and Swollen Throats, Coughs, Etc. Save 50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful Bleemism Cure ever known. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists, Scotland Neck, N. C. 10-1-ly.

RELIEF IN SIX HOURS. Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "NEW GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE." 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.

Compare our Work with that of our Competitors. ESTABLISHED IN 1865. CHAS. M. WALSH, Steam Marble and Granite WORKS, Sycamore St., PETERSBURG, VA. Monuments, Tombs, Cemetery Curb-ing, &c. All work strictly first-class and at Lowest Prices.

I ALSO FURNISH IRON FENCING, VASES, &c. Designs sent to any address free. In writing for them please give age of deceased and limit as to price. I Prepay Freight on all Work. MENTION THIS PAPER. 3-1-ly.

JEWELRY AND SILVERWARE!!! WATCHES AND CLOCKS PUT IN PERFECT REPAIR. We have engaged the services of MR. J. D. PERRY, from the Chicago Watch Makers' Institute, where he took a thorough course, and is prepared to do ALL KINDS OF REPAIRING And Engraving. His office is at our show window in front. All work is guaranteed. GIVE HIM A CALL. E. T. WHITEHEAD & CO., 4-25-ly. Scotland Neck, N. C.

HUDSON'S ENGLISH KITCHEN, 187 Main St., NORFOLK, VA. Is the Leading Dining Room in the City for Ladies and Gentlemen. Strictly a Temperance Place. All meals 25c. Hudson's Surpassing Coffee a Specialty. 1-16-ly.

Sale of Valuable Land. By virtue of the power vested in me by the last will and testament of the late P. Eliza Pittman, I will on Monday the 5th day of April 1897, expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash, at the court house door in the town of Halifax, that tract or parcel of land situated in the county of Halifax and known as the "Meritt tract," bounded on the north by Merritt Swamp; the lands of O. C. Stallings on the south and east, and on the west by the tract of land of P. Eliza Pittman known as the 93 acre tract; containing one hundred acres more or less. This 16th day of Feb. 1897. W. J. Burrows, Executor of P. Eliza Pittman. 2-25-97.