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Take Ayer's Pills, and you will sleep better and wake in better condition for the day's work. Ayer's Cathartic Pills have no equal as a pleasant and effective remedy for constipation, biliousness, sick headache, and all liver troubles. They are sugar-coated, and so perfectly prepared, that they cure without the annoyances experienced in the use of so many of the pills on the market. Ask your druggist for Ayer's Cathartic Pills. When other pills won't help you, Ayer's is

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THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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VOL. XIII. New Series---Vol. 1.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1897.

NO. 17

IF YOU ARE HUSTLER
YOU WILL
—ADVERTISE—
YOUR
Business.
SEND YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN NOW.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

Since printing in our last issue some statements about Noah Raby, the man who recently celebrated his 125th birthday in New Jersey, we see it stated that he claims to be a native of Gates county of this State. His father was an Indian, it is said, and his mother a white woman.

Farmers and newspaper men have much the same experience in the battle-stretch of life—both are looking for something better in the immediate future. The latest to encourage farmers is the many uses to which corn stalks may be put. Some one estimates that they will soon be worth \$25 an acre.

We suppose everybody will sanction the recommendations in President McKinley's message to congress for relief for the flood sufferers along the Mississippi. It was quick work, too. The message was read and the bill passed and signed before 2 o'clock. It appropriated \$200,000 and proper persons were sent to different districts to ascertain the needs of the sufferers. At that time as many as seven hundred towns and villages had been devastated by the unparallel floods.

The following paragraph taken from the Southerner is worth reading, re-reading and remembering:

"It needs to be proclaimed from every house top and practiced by every parent and teacher that amid all of our needs the one supreme one, is better work. Young man, if you have an ambition and need a world to conquer, begin heroically on yourself and make yourself fit for something. Do some one thing well. Do it well, whether you are under the eye of a master or not. Do it well if it is never seen. Do it well if you get nothing for it. Put conscience into every stroke, whether the work be small or great. All work is great that is greatly done."

Perhaps the attention of the people of the land has been more particularly centred on the great floods in the Mississippi and their results for the past few weeks than upon any other current event. A writer in Leslie's Weekly says that the Government has, during the present century, appropriated more dollars for the levees along the great river than there are persons in the nation. During the past ten years forty million dollars have been appropriated, but all the improvements made are but temporary, and experts think that it will take four hundred millions more to make a good job of it; and after that they think forty millions should be spent each year in keeping the work in repair. This is, indeed, a great drain upon the Government.

When President McKinley announced that he would see every one who went to the White House, no matter what his business, some thought it a very sweeping promise. To be sure, people who know nothing of the duties that belong to the office, sometimes think that the President has little else to do than dress himself, eat the fine food that the best of caterers and cooks can prepare, and talk to any who may wish to see him. Such is not the case. The President is perhaps the hardest worked man in the nation. He certainly has more responsibility than any other man; and it he faithfully meets that responsibility, it follows that he has more to engage his time and thought than almost any other man. This those know who have made observation of a President's great duties; and so they at first thought Mr. McKinley's promise was very broad. It is said that thus far he has kept his promise and holds up well under the strain. The secret of his ability to accomplish much with apparently little effort, is the fact that he works by system every day.

Henry Ward Beecher once in formed a man who came to him complaining of gloomy and despondent feelings, that what he most needed was a good cathartic, meaning, of course, such a medicine as Ayer's Cathartic Pills, every dose being effective. For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, N. C.

ALL TIED TOGETHER.

"NO MAN LIVETH TO HIMSELF."

NEIGHBORS, HOWEVER FAR OR CLOSE.

Some Rambling Thoughts.

BY "NEMO."

(Copyrighted.)

At a moment when thousands of acres are under water, and stock and lives in great danger along the Mississippi Valley, it is most opportune to emphasize the old-time statement that "no man liveth to himself." When the pioneer of the empire of free-men, first swung his axe in the virgin forests of the Mississippi basin, by his strength and by fire he swept away the obstacles to planting until the land lay bare under the sky. His need and his right none will dispute. But where one led, thousands followed, each working his will independently and selfishly, as though there were no natural laws to be considered. The result we see. Where millions of acres were once covered by a spongy flooring of leaves and the intertwining of roots, all uniting to hold back the waters of the rains and of the thawing snows, open fields lie, like spongy drifts, retaining but a fraction of the blessing showered upon them and promptly needing more. The steadily flowing streams of the past become now furious torrents in the spring and dry water-courses in summer. Thoughtful men declare that the only remedy lies in the gradual return of a decided portion of the cleared land to a wooded condition, or, in other words, they preach the truth that the dweller on some remote farm, along the banks of even a minor stream has personal responsibility upon him in relation to the welfare and happiness of the distant valley-dweller. The Mississippi is at this moment thundering out a lesson in material mutual dependence, that is proclaimed less audibly by weeds, insect-pests, and diseases.

May we not recall the story of Robinson Crusoe, and from this everlasting boys' favorite draw a lesson that is needing more and more to be learned? Most readers will remember that this poor castaway, with no hope of any human eye to observe his faithfulness, never failed to carry out his conscientious duties towards his Maker, and it is safe to assume that he would have continued to do so even if no other human being had ever set foot on his lonely island. All the boys—and what are we men but boys grown older?—will confess the thrill of interest that came when Robinson Crusoe suddenly saw before him a foot-print in the moist sand. As boys our chief interest in that foot-print was the possible adventure that it promised to Crusoe, but, as men, a moment's thought will convince us that the discovery of a fellow-creature brought into play for our hero an entirely new set of responsibilities. Not only was he compelled to understand that his territory would now have to sustain another, but there was the possibility that that other would do damage to himself in order to gain complete possession. His study of his Creator was not decreased, but duty to his fellow was super-added. In fact, Crusoe and Friday formed "a state" in miniature and Crusoe had to curb himself in various ways to display kindness, good-will, tact and unselfishness. We know how the adventure resulted. Friday became an orderly and restrained neighbor because the right sort of example was set before him. It may be urged that Crusoe was good to Friday from a selfish motive, but selfish motive or not, the way in which Crusoe conducted himself towards Friday was the only way in which both could live happily together. When other people came to the island Crusoe's responsibility was still more increased and his duties to his neighbors and their duties towards him became more complicated.

Now for the application. There is no such thing as freedom to do as you please unless you live entirely separate from other human beings; and then a paradoxical thing happens, because liberty of action is enjoyed alone it becomes a very flat and uninteresting possession. No civilization can hold together unless the members of it feel a mutual interest and responsibility; or, to express it still more clearly—where there is the highest degree of social service there is the most enduring and most helpful form of government, and therefore, the highest degree of liberty. You can doubtless point me to selfishly prosperous periods in the world's history.

If afflicted with scalp diseases, hair falling out, and premature baldness, do not use grease or alcoholic preparations but apply Hall's Hair Renewer. For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, N. C.

I, on the other hand, can demonstrate to you that selfish individuals are not the right material for an enduring fabric. It is the fond dream of Americans that this great democracy is to go on growing grander with the progress of time—we believe that it is to demonstrate once and for ever the possibility of a people developing in a condition of peace and retaining through all their material growth the strongest kind of love for the institutions of the country as originally laid down by the self-forgetting ones who counted their lives as naught if they could but let the Liberty-bell ring out "Freedom" over the nations. But this dream will remain a dream if we are content with the kind of progress that has characterized the past century, grand though it has been. So much of territory and of prosperity could be acquired by the strenuous toiler that individualism has run riot and the gaining of wealth been the only standard to rally to. If we are to live as a nation, selfishness in our relations to our fellow men must cease or, like the selfish struggles of the unreflecting brute, the weak and the strong will struggle together and destroy one another. Too many of us feel as though we were autocratic monarchs of our lands, our families, ourselves; free to do what we like with every thing we have no matter how much outsiders may suffer. Herein do we err, for we are all tied up together like stocks in a ragot; weak alone, but strong when bound close to even weak neighbors. I care not how great a man you may feel yourself to be, either by your ill-balanced self-approval or by the plaudits of your fellows; you must realize that without others to sustain you and to approve of you there would be no greatness in you at all. The debt is not all on one side. Who are you then that neglect the ill-favored and the unfavorable? All, all are brethren in a democracy like ours!

A Linguistic Training.

Forum.

One of the most valuable kinds of training which the college can give is the linguistic. If to think is important, linguistic training, is important. For we think in words. Therefore thinking becomes clear, orderly, profound, as language is adequate. Language represents those methods and results of thought without which thought itself is feeble and inefficient. Therefore training in language is of the highest value. To be able to think in or adequately use the English or any other language one should know the language. He can only know this language as he knows those languages which have made the richest contributions to its structure. Every new science and every new application of any old science goes to the Greek for its very name; hence, a training in Latin and Greek is of the greatest worth. The college is not filling the mind with useless knowledge in requiring students to learn these, not dead, but living languages.

Second, the scientific school is a professional school. Its graduate goes from its commencement, as goes the graduate of the school of law, theology or medicine, directly to his life's work. It is not a school of liberal culture or of general training. It is to be said, and said with the utmost clearness, that the governors of our best technical and scientific schools are beginning to recognize the advantages which the man desiring to enter these schools possesses if he has previously received a general training through the college.

A Card from a Georgia Widow.

The Griffin, Ga., Call publishes the following card of thanks from a heart-broken widow: "Mr. Editor, I desire to thank the friends and neighbors most heartily in this manner of their co-operation during the illness and death of my late husband, who escaped from me by the hand of death on last Friday, while eating breakfast. To my friends and all who contributed so willingly in making the last moments and funeral of my husband a success, I desire to remember most kindly, hoping these lines may find them enjoying the same blessing. I have also a good milch cow, and a roan horse, 3 years old, which I will sell cheap. "God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform. He plants his footsteps on the sea and rides upon the storm." Also a black and white shaft very low.

ARE YOU OUT OF SORTS.

Who is not at times, during this season of the year? How can one help being out of sorts when one is carrying around in his blood all the impurities that have accumulated during the long winter? No wonder you can hardly get up the steps. But there is a relief for this sort of thing. The blood can be relieved of its load. What will do it? David's Sarsaparilla. Sold at Dr. Whitehead's Drug Store.

A BRAVE WIDOW.

SHE HAD TRUE CONVICTIONS,

Warning on a Tombstone.

Kansas City Times.

Out in Oak Hill Cemetery, the fashionable burying-ground of this city, a marble shaft towers far above its neighbors. It is colossal in size, white as the driven snow, delicate in proportions, exquisite in design, airy and graceful as a spire of the Cathedral of Milan when viewed from far away. It is the observed of all those who visit the beautiful cemetery and who tread the flower-lined and shadowy avenues, and they linger at the granite base to admire the delicate carving and ponder upon the strange and suggestive inscription chiseled upon its polished surface:

At last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder.—Prov. 23:22.

This unusual and unique monument marks the grave of a once prominent citizen. He was prominent in business, prominent in politics, prominent in social affairs. He was the personification of business integrity, a leader in public enterprise, the exemplar of the young men of the community.

By and by, even as some insidious disease takes possession of the human body, an appetite for strong drink took possession of this business man, this political leader, this social lion, this model for young men. It came about like this: First, the glad New Year's happy greeting; then the convivial cup at the camp-fire and the club; then the public reception and the cordial entertainment of the city's honored guest. His history is simply the old, old story. He fell from his lofty pedestal, from his high estate, from Heaven to hell.

Prosperity, political standing, social influence, everything was swept into the great vortex wherein sooner or later are engulfed all that has been or is of him who looketh upon the wine when it is red. He died and was buried. The people, a great multitude, stood uncovered by the side of his open grave and listened, reverently, to the words of the preacher, who recounted the many good things the man, now dead, had said and done when living, though some marveled much at his neglect to "adorn a tale and point a moral." And long lines of civic societies, with their plumes nodding in the breeze and their rich regalia, a picture of beauty, threw over the rich casket "the broad mantle of charity," and cast into the open grave the emblems of immortality.

The man had lived and was dead and buried, and the great world, forgetting his faults and frailties, remembered only his excellencies. But the widow! She remembered—even if she did not remember the virtues of her husband—the cursed cause of ruin. And one day by her orders, the imposing monument above his grave was erected, and around it, from apex to granite base, the sculptor had chiseled from the inanimate marble a snake of many coils, whose forked tongue, ever protruding, and stony eyes, never closing, are a constant warning to all who look upon it and read the strange device upon the polished surface of the granite base, that "At last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

More of Them Needed.

The Monroe Journal recently published some results of a revival of religion in that town, which show what real heart religion will do for anyone. Here is the item:

"The late revival meeting has been the means of putting some conscience money into circulation. One gentleman living in the country called at the postoffice a few days ago and asked for his mail. He was handed a letter containing \$12 and a scrap of paper with only these words on it: 'This is your money.' He did not understand why any one should be sending him money in that style, and after two or three days' thought, concluded that it was from a man who had got ahead of him about that much in a trade sometime back. The other morning Belk Bros. received a letter containing \$11.06 and a note saying, 'This is for a coat I beat you out of.' Another man living in the country received \$15 which a man had unjustly gotten out of him in a horse trade."

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 wind colic, 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. 121 ly.

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Potash K 2 O—From High-Grade Sulphate	-	-	3.00 per cent.

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SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

TAKE YOUR PLACE IN LIFE.

Let the Community Know What You Are and Where Your Influence May Be Found.

Monroe Journal.

The power of a real christian layman, one whose works tally with his professions, is incalculable. Consecration in business is needed worse than consecration in the church. Mr. James G. Cameron, a banker of New York city, lately delivered a lecture on this subject, from which we quote as follows:

"In this life every man should have his place. The question naturally arises, Have you found yours, and are you maintaining it? Don't be a wanderer or a floater through life. You have seen the driftwood carried hither and thither by the tides; it is tossed about by every turbulent wave. Now it is on the crest, and anon it sinks into the trough of the sea. Does not this remind you of some people you know, whose lives are devoid of ambition and purpose? What we want is more stability of character among young men. Be something. Do something. Have some place in the Christian ranks and community where you can perform your share of God's work.

"Outside of your church and Young Men's Christian Association, take your place in the community as a distinctly religious man. Let it be known that you are a true and faithful follower of the Lord Jesus Christ and soon the world will respect you. It is the weak and vacillating who never takes his stand or place who is most subject to temptation. Take your place outside of the realm of the vile and smutty story-teller. If there is one person to be shunned more than another it is the fellow in college or in business who is continually sapping all that is pure and true in manhood by telling to his fellows stories of a questionable character. I know that many so-called smart men in the community have this despicable and baneful habit, and in my opinion there is nothing too severe that can be said in condemnation of the practice.

"We all like good, pure jokes and occasionally well-pointed puns, but nothing seems to please some men more than an effort to provoke merriment by appealing to the baser side of man. Frown them down; never laugh at shafts which have their origin in the evil one. Let it be known that your place is not among such associates, or among those who make light of religious subjects. Use all your influence to counteract and neutralize their evil tendencies. Let it be known that your place on Sunday is in the house of God; that your place is in the Bible class for the study of God's word; that your place is among the people of God, and your companions who are not Christians will soon cease endeavoring to persuade you to participate in a bicycle run on Sunday, or to frequent places of amusement where you would hesitate to have your dear mother or sister accompany you."

HOW DID YOU GET UP THIS MORNING.

With a bad taste in your mouth? Good for nothing feeling? All run down in spirits? "Yes," you say "and what does it mean." "Well, it means that nature is serving notice on you, that's all. The impurities which have accumulated in your blood through the winter and are there yet, and it is a notice for you to get up and get them out and save trouble. "What will do it," you will ask. "A first class blood purifier." "And what is a first class blood purifier?" "David's Sarsaparilla." "Where can I get it?" "Dr. Whitehead's Drug Store.

Chew Alley's Rosebud,
Chew Rosebud, Sure!

English Spavin Lintment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and all Clemishes from horses. Blood Spavin Surbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring worm tites, Sprains, and Swollen Through, 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.

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