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THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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VOL. XIII. New Series--Vol. 2. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1897. NO. 30

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

It is stated that Spain has over 4,500,000 goats, and they are quite valuable there. In England they pedigree the goat as we do the cow here, and some of them have a good record. A quart of milk a day is a good record for the best. It is claimed that goats are less liable to disease than cows; can be kept on much less and in locations where cows cannot.

Strikes and their influences are always to be regretted. Labor is dependent upon capital for employment and capital is dependent upon labor for investment. It is therefore a great pity for the labor and also for the capital of the country that there cannot be perfect harmony. The strikes in Pennsylvania, Illinois and other states have, during the past few days, put thousands and thousands of miners out of employment. Mark Hanna's miners do not obey his wishes as did his political pensioners in the last campaign. It is to be hoped that these labor troubles will soon be settled.

When Mr. Walter H. Page delivered his much-talked-of address at Greensboro Normal and Industrial School commencement on "The Forgotten Man," every one seemed to think the phrase was original. It turns out that Senator Mills of Texas said a good deal about "the forgotten man" in a tariff speech. Neither of these gentlemen gave credit for the expression to any one else; but the Waterbury (Conn.) American puts them both in the position of careless quoters, if not plagiarists, in the following reference to Senator Mills' speech:

Mr. Mills is indebted for this striking phrase, "the forgotten man," to that remarkable little book of Prof. Sumner, of Yale, "Social Problems," although in the newspaper reports of his speech Mr. Mills does not seem to have mentioned its origin. The "forgotten man," as Prof. Sumner describes him, is the quiet, responsible citizen, who goes ahead without fuss and pays all his own bills without complaint, and who has also in the end to pay the bills of all the other fellows who make the fuss and the complaining, and the onus of their extravagant legislation falls at the last on the forgotten man's pocket-book or on himself.

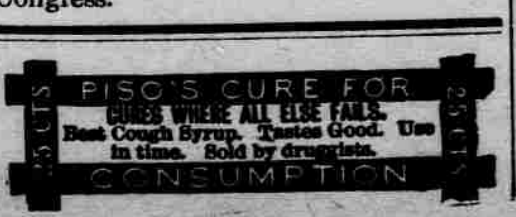
A long and arduous tariff debate was closed in the United States Senate, Wednesday July 7, the vote being taken at 5 o'clock, p. m. The result was affirmative 38, negative 28.

The following interesting history of the debate, which lasted several weeks, appeared in the Norfolk Virginian the day after its close:

"The tariff bill debate began on May 25th, on which day Mr. Aldrich, on behalf of the Finance Committee, made the opening statement on the bill. The actual consideration of the bill began the next day, May 26th, when schedule A, relating to chemicals, was taken up. The debate has been continuous since then, covering six weeks and one day. It has been notable in some respects, although it has lacked many of the dramatic and oratorical features marking past debates. From the outset the advocates of the bill refrained from set speeches, and the discussion was narrowed to a consideration of rates and schedules, rather than general principles. Mr. Aldrich's illness took him from the chamber after the first day and since then the bill has been in immediate charge of Mr. Allison. The opposition has been directed in the main by Mr. Jones, of Arkansas, and Mr. Vest, of Missouri, while Senators White, Caffrey, Gray and Allen have frequently figured in the debate. The bill as it goes back to the House re-enacts the anti-trust section of the Wilson act, while the reciprocity and retaliatory provisions are substitutes for those of the House. One of the most important new provisions added by the Senate is that placing a stamp tax on bonds, debentures and certificates of stock.

"Aside from these important changes the bill as it goes back to the House, has 874 amendments, of various degrees of importance, which must be reconciled between the two branches of Congress."

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IN SWEET CHARITY.

SHALL ONE ACT DAMN?

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS VS. FIVE MINUTES.

Some Rambling Thoughts.

BY "NEMO."

(Copyrighted by Dawe & Tabor.)

Is there not in your neighborhood a person whose past has a blot on it, and whose name is mentioned with a look of holy horror by cronies when together for a chat? It is of such persons I would write this week, and may my pen be dipped in power for the task.

If a man commit a crime, be given a fair trial, be found guilty, and be condemned, what becomes of him? He goes to prison and works out his sentence. And then? Then he is guiltless in the eye of the law, and he is as though he had done no wrong thing. His retention in prison has expiated his crime; he is a pure member of society. But what says society through you? The answer by deeds is this: "The stain of that wrong shall stay on him forever; he shall be hampered in every way; he shall be prevented from getting an honorable position by meddling tongues reviving the story of the past; he shall be hounded by the voices of those who say, 'I am holier than thou'; he shall be made to feel that the world is too small for him to hide himself, and the grave too shallow to purify him; for the stigma of crime shall fasten even on his children after him."

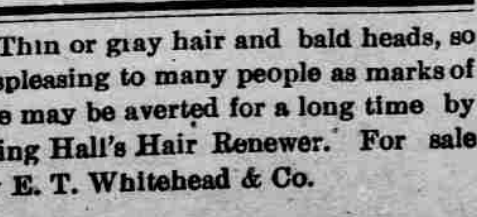
If a man commit a sin and no one knows it, he is as pure as the unsullied snow in the eyes of the world; but if it be known, though he weep over it until its very substance is washed away by the flood of grief, though he agonize with regrets, though he spend his last effort to right a wrong, yet in every neighborhood are those whose memories are long as death or whose hearts are hard as adamant, whose cool, calculating ways save them from sin or whose clever concealments save them from discovery, these Pharisees, I say, will summon the ghosts of a man's past from the grave, though it all be buried deep beneath accumulated years of remorse and unhappiness. Like mythical ghoul and real hyenas, these lovers of carrion will dig till they find the treasure they seek, the sin spot; and they rejoice with howlings that all the world can hear.

If a life of probity be lived for 25 years or more, and the deeds of good be plentiful as grain in harvest-time; if the citadel of character be held by keen conflict with evil, until some weary moment of sloth, and evil then rush in through unguarded spot, though only for a few moments, the world through the deeds of the world, says that the years of probity count for naught. Thereafter the spot shall be larger than the character it is on, the fragment be larger than the whole, the five minutes of evil blot out the whole memory of a quarter of a century of good. "An earthquake rends in a moment the works put up by a patient process of accretion, and there is nothing then but dust and disaster where beauty stood before; and so it is with the dazed man who is the sufferer from the moral upheaval of bitterness and uncharity in a community. One moment he rightly stands before them all, worthy of confidence and recognized as a power for good, the next moment his character lies bruised and mangled, never to be well again so far as the Levites and Pharisees care, never to live and move and have full being again unless some barred-out Samaritan with goodness, far exceeding that of these aloof ones, comes to the rescue with sympathy and love.

If a girl kept intentionally ignorant of herself, by those who train her, and who know not the difference between ignorance and purity, makes a faux pas under the stress of feelings that she does not understand and the pleadings of the man who ought to be worthy of trust, then her own kith and kin too often turn on her like ravening beasts, driving her out into the world to further wrong-doing and certain destruction. Upon her head, fair and inexperienced, are visited the sins of omission committed by those who raised no warning voice to tell of the pitfalls of life.

If the All-Father takes note of the fall of a sparrow, and tenderly bears with our misdeeds, giving solace to the

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wounded spirit when those who should cherish it turn from it, how grimly must he smile when he sees little mites of humanity, and frail as small, usurping the power of God and dethroning Him to sit themselves in harsh, unforgiving, unrelenting judgment on their fellows, whose conditions of stress and temptation none but the All-Wise can know. And those of us whose hearts have sorrowed and suffered, whose feelings have grown tender under affliction, whose feet linger nearer and nearer the source of all gentleness and kindness, meekness and peace, have the growing sense that much of the evil in the world is fostered and strengthened by those who falsely conclude themselves to be good, barriaging as they do by their sacro-sanct manners the way of hope and life and labor and happiness to the sinner, who sorrows and would do better. The wandering one grows hardened at exposure, callous to the gain of the race once honored, fierce in enmity to society; and so on from bad to worse until the end confirms the evil theories of the professedly good.

Though uplifted,
Freely gifted
With the power of prophecy,
Naught availeth
Him who faileth
In divinity's Charity.

Boldly spurning
Stripes and burning,
Striving to live righteously;
Each endeavor
Lacketh ever,
If untouched by Charity.

Dove-eyed maiden
Pity laden,
Greatest of th' abiding three,
All-forgiving,
Ever living,
Holy, blessed Charity.

May all nations
Four obligations
To thy sweet divinity,
Healing others
Friends and brothers,
In the name of Charity!

Hints to Farmers.

Philadelphia Record.

In 1850 the average annual yield of milk per cow in this country was 1,400 pounds; in 1890 it had increased to 2,600 pounds. But to be very profitable a cow should yield during the year at least 5,000 pounds of milk.

The burdock, considered a nuisance in this country, has been cultivated as an article of food in Japan for centuries. The roots, leaves and tender shoots are cooked and eaten, and the annual value of the burdock crop is said to be about \$400,000.

The chemists at the New Jersey experiment station claim to have proved by analysis that a crop of crimson clover six inches high has accumulated nitrogen per acre that would cost \$15 to buy; at 13 inches high, \$25.50 per acre, while at full maturity the nitrogen taken from the air by the clover is worth \$30 per acre.

It will pay any farmer to read about his business; no matter how experienced he may be there are many things he will never know from his own ventures. Especially in such work as dairying is reading beneficial, because there are so many problems which require scientific attainments, and which many farmers can hear of only through constant reading.

At the rates at which wheat bran always sells for in spring it is quite as profitable for feeding to buy wheat and have it ground whole without bolting. If this makes too heavy a feed some more bran added to keep it from cloying the stomach, or perhaps some oats ground with the wheat, may be added. Yet for the nutrition afforded the whole wheat ground makes a cheaper feed than does the bran, and for both horses and cows it can be safely fed with cut hay, cut cornstalks or cut straw.

A good milk cow has broad hind quarters and thin forequarters, thin and deep neck, pointed withers, head pointed between the horns, flat and fine boned legs and fine hair. Choose one with udders well forward, wide apart and large enough to be easily grasped. A medium-sized cow will give more milk in proportion to the food she eats.

Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption.

This is the best medicine in the world for all forms of coughs and colds and for consumption. Every bottle is guaranteed. It will cure and not disappoint. It has no equal for whooping cough, asthma, hay fever, pneumonia, bronchitis, la grippe, cold in the head and for consumption. It is safe for all ages pleasant to take, and, above all, a sure cure. It is always well to take Dr. King's New Life Pills in connection with Dr. King's New Discovery, as they regulate and tone the stomach and bowels. We guarantee perfect satisfaction or return money. Free trial bottles at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug Store. Regular size 50 cents and \$1.00.

ABOUT CHARLIE ROSS.

A GREAT MYSTERY STILL UNSOLVED.

A Story of Twenty-Three Years.

Recently in a paragraph THE COMMONWEALTH referred to the death of Charlie Ross' father and the mystery of the strange abduction of the little fellow 23 years ago. We recently clipped from the Wilmington Messenger the following interesting facts about Charlie's abduction:

The death at his home in Philadelphia, of Christian K. Ross, father of Charlie Ross, whose abduction from his parent's home was one of the most mysterious and sensational crimes ever committed, has recalled public attention to that remarkable occurrence. Just twenty-three years has passed since the crime was committed which wrecked the life of Christian K. Ross, cost him a fortune and made his name a household word all over the world. On July 1, 1874, Charlie and his elder brother, Walter, were playing in front of their home on East Washington lane, Germantown, when two men came along in a buggy or light spring wagon.

Charlie had, according to the story told by Walter, asked the men for a ride. The men told him that they would give him a ride from the top of the hill, and also promised to give him some fire-crackers. The two boys walked to the top of the hill and they were then taken into the wagon. Walter wanted the men to take them to Main street for the fireworks, but they said they would take them to "Aunt Susie's," a fictitious person.

The men plied the boys with candy while the team was rapidly driven toward Kensington. Charlie cried and begged to be taken home. At Palmer and Richmond streets Walter was given a quarter and directed to get the fireworks in a cigar store. The boy obeyed, and returned to find the wagon, the men and his curly haired brother gone. His tears brought a crowd and in the crowd was H. C. Peacock, a friend of the family, who took the boy to his parents.

Walter told an accurate and coherent story of the abduction and gave a full description of the abductors. The police were unable to discover any trace of the child and it was not until July 4th that anything in the nature of a clue came to the searchers. This was in the shape of a letter from the supposed abductors. It was grossly illiterate and evidently purposely so. It informed Mr. Ross they held the boy so securely that no earthly power could reach him, and that he would not be delivered without the payment of a big ransom. The father was warned that any attempt to recover the boy by detectives would result in his instant death. The writers promised to communicate with Mr. Ross within a few days.

Two days later they wrote demanding \$20,000 ransom for the return of the boy. This sum was promptly raised by the friends of Mr. Ross, but the police stepped in and asked to be given the conduct of the case. This was granted and Mayor Stockley offered a reward of \$20,000 for the arrest of the kidnappers and the return of the boy. This immense reward attracted worldwide attention and set thousands of detectives at work and millions of tongues wagging.

During several weary months Mr. Ross received sixteen letters from the abductors, but they were so carefully disguised that no clue could be found to the writers.

The entire community had become intensely excited over the case, and volunteers stood guard over almost every letter box in the city, but with no result. Public interest was at fever heat and meetings of citizens were held in every part of the city.

The true solution of the question (to the satisfaction of the police) came many years ago. Superintendent of Police Walling, of New York, found a clue that ended in fixing the crime of the abduction on William Mosher and Joseph Douglass, two notorious burglars, who had long had their headquarters in Philadelphia. Detective Sharkey and his surviving partner, Detective Charles F. Miller, of Philadelphia, were convinced of the authenticity of this clue, and confirmed it to the satisfaction of nearly every one connected with the case.

Some people are constantly troubled with pimples and boils, especially about the face and neck. The best remedy is a thorough course of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, which expels all humors through the proper channels, and so makes the skin become soft, healthy, and fair.

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ed with or interested in the famous case.

This confirmation came through Wm. Westervelt, a brother-in-law of Mosher, who acted as go between in the attempted negotiations with Mr. Ross and the burglars. Westervelt was evidently willing to sacrifice Douglass, but wanted to save his brother-in-law. The police of the country were looking for the two burglars when the residence of Judge Van Brunt was entered by burglars on December 14, 1874, and were attacked by a brother of the judge and several servants. One of the burglars was shot and the other was mortally wounded.

They were Mosher and Douglass. Mosher was dead when their slayers reached them and Douglass was in death throes. The latter gasped: "It's no use lying now, Mosher and I stole Charley Ross. Mosher knows all about him."

The dying burglar was told that his partner was dead.

"Then God help his poor wife and family," gasped the dying man. "He knew about Charley. The child will be returned in a few days."

The child was never returned. The bodies of the dead burglars were identified by Walter Ross. Former associates of Mosher and Douglass were arrested all over the country, but they could or would not, throw any light on the mystery. Westervelt was taken to Philadelphia, tried and convicted of complicity in the conspiracy to abduct the boy, and was sentenced to seven years in the eastern penitentiary.

In the presence of detective Miller the wife of the convicted man begged him to tell what he knew of the crime, and if he ever knew anything he never told it. He served his sentence, and is supposed to have returned to New York.

Don't Start Rumors.

Durham Sun.

Damaging truths are bad enough. Damaging untruths—or truths maliciously exaggerated or purposely colored—are worse still. In these times, when business confidence is none too firmly established, it ill becomes any man to endanger by word or insinuation the confidence that may exist between creditor and debtor. Many a bank has gone down in consequence of a run excited by false alarm; and the shores of commercial history are strewn with the wrecks of countless firms whose downfall was brought about by the sudden commercial demands of suspicious creditors.

Business is built on credit.

Credit is built on confidence.

There is no surer way of undermining a man's business than by giving credence to and circulating rumors about him. The man who stealthily applies the torch to a building is no more despicable than he who applies the firebrands of distrust to the reputation of a business establishment. It is with this thought that we say that those men who indiscriminately disseminate uncorroborated rumors are guilty of an act for which there should be a fitting punishment.

That Good Name.

S. S. Times.

Integrity is prized by those who lack it as well as by those who have it. There is a certain commercial value in personal character, even though it cannot be purchased with money. Many who are themselves not willing to be bound by the laws of right, have increased confidence in those who are thus bound. A band of robbers would want an honest man for their treasurer. The reputation of unflinching fidelity is a power in the world, even though so few are ready to strive for it. It is in this sense as well as in another that "a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." He who is in a position of responsibility before the world needs "clean hands" and "a good report of them that are without." If a man does not realize this himself, those whom he represents should realize it for him. Those who consent to be represented by one who lacks a good name are themselves not deserving of a good name, nor can they long retain one if they have it to begin with.

A Valuable Prescription.

Editor Morrison of Worthington, Ind., "Sun," writes: "You have a valuable prescription in Electric Bitters and I can cheerfully recommend it for constipation and sick headache, and a general system tonic it has no equal." Mrs. Annie Stehle, 2625 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, was all run down, could not eat nor digest food, had a backache which never left her and felt tired and weary, but six bottles of Electric Bitters restored her health and renewed her strength. Prices 50 cents and \$1. at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s drug store.

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Origin of the "Boycott."

Youth's Companion.

The recent death of Captain Boycott in England recalls the origin of a term which has become so familiar as to seem much older than it is. It was in 1880 that Captain Boycott, then a small squire and land agent in Connemara, Ireland, incurred the hostility of the people by what was regarded as severe treatment of his tenants. The plan was devised of refusing all dealings with him, and was so successfully carried out that no one dared harvest his corn or do any work for him or supply him provisions. His servants all left him, and the tradesmen even of neighboring towns would sell him nothing. The practice then began was afterward widely extended into trade disputes; and the word "boycott" has now an established place in the language.



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