

State Library

ADVERTISING IS TO BUSINESS WHAT STEAM IS TO MACHINERY,

THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor. "EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00. VOL. XIII. New Series--Vol. 2. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1897. NO. 42

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.

Kind reader, do you ever feel the weight of business crushing you down and the demands of the hour stifling you? Do you feel sometimes that you must get out and breathe some of heaven's free air in the leisure grounds of life like you used to do? Well, then, read the poem in this issue headed "Liesurely Lane," and see if you do not feel like going alone and sobbing out your disappointment in lieu of your much-craved succor from crowded business life.

Nothing pleases the average housewife more than to feel that her carpets, rugs, chamber sets, etc., are up to the latest style. So when we read this morning that the old-fashioned rag carpet is again coming into favor we felt a congratulation for the good women who have been using rag carpets as a matter of economy. They now have the pleasure of knowing that they have been doing a noble thing in practicing economy—a thing so hard for most people to do—and soon will find themselves in the height of household style.

A correspondent writing from Washington to the Richmond Dispatch recently said that so far as Post-Office Department officials know, there had not been any appointments of negro postmasters in Virginia or North Carolina. It seems a little strange that there should be four negro postmasters appointed in Halifax county and the officials in that department not know of it, especially when the papers all through the country, including the New York World, have been discussing the appointment for Scotland Neck. The correspondence referred to said that the department officials have no means of knowing whether an appointee is white or black. But to be sure the President must know.

The question of whether or not county commissioners in this State may exercise their own judgment in the matter of granting liquor licenses, is still being discussed. A case in Chatham county has recently been before the public. Some seemed to think that Judge Adams issued a mandamus compelling the commissioners to grant licenses. Such was not the case. The mandamus ordered the commissioners to pass upon each case, and if the facts agree with the statute, then license must be granted. But we question very much even in Judge Adams' mandamus. If the statute says commissioners may grant license, it would take long and strong argument to make us believe may means must.

It was recently announced in a correspondence from Raleigh to the press of the country that there is a private library in Mitchell county that contains 50,000 volumes. The owner's name was not given, but it is said he is an ex-professor of Harvard University, and that he keeps a librarian and invites people to see and read his books. Commenting on such a large private library in North Carolina, the Wilmington Messenger says: "That is a very great library for a private citizen. Mr. Gladstone had a library reported to be of huge size—placed, we think at 35,000 volumes, most of which was left as a public library, we think, for the public around Hawarden castle, his rural home. A library of 30,000 volumes would probably fill all the rooms and halls of one of Wilmington's large residences. The late Henry Thomas Buckle had a library of 30,000 volumes and it filled his halls, staircases and most of his rooms."

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UNFEATHERED OSTRICHES.

MONEY-LOVERS ARE THEY.

FASHION WORSHIPERS TOO.

Some Rambling Thoughts.

BY "NEMO."

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MORE OSTRICH THOUGHTS.—The long-legged friend of needy milliners, with his downy thighs and tufted tail, is called in again to point a moral by means of that silly head which he bobs into the sand to shut out all sight of the world. Unlike him, his human counterpart ranges through every climate, unfeathered and unhonored. Some even are in your community. Let us at them and be done with our bird pointer for a while.

Thou money-lover, with not only head but heart bent down behind a few ringing coins; through a world whose beauties and noblest joys are to thee invisible, the avenger is stealthily approaching. A little twinge of pain somewhere, a little numbness in your brain, a great deal of turning hither and thither to lamed physicians—what are these but warnings of your fate? Your tiny heap seems so important to you that you thrust away the very thought of death and feverishly desire to feel forever the magic thrill of wealth within your grasp. You long to get more; you build it up around you like a wall. Fool! Helped by wealth you may fly on the wings of the morning to the uttermost parts of the earth, but swifter than the shadow of an eclipse the arrow of death will reach you—and then what have you? The heap that you trusted in, as a fortress with trouble-proof bastions, will not save you from the glazing eye and the rattling throat, the clammy sweat and the vague picking at the bed-clothes. These are yours by a common humanity and when they come to you, nothing material can be taken away into the darkness. *Something* cannot be taken away from *nothing*; your life is *nothing* as you have lived it. You will close your eyes and lie lifeless beside the beloved wealth that has already closed your eyes to the needs of the palpitating world of misery.

But do I intimate that only ordinary death experiences will come to you? Nay, if I do, I lie; for there will be an outstretching of other eager hands toward your golden heap—they are even now waiting for your death in order to scramble for your possessions, and, as likely as not, behind fragments of your soul's-all will crouch another generation of tools. Is that all? No: for if you love wealth more than kindness; if you gather from oppressions; if you wrong and cheat in order to rake more and more around you, your memory will be crusted over with gangrenous hatreds. Pleasant and wonderfully useful though money may be, have you indeed chosen the better part of it in contenting yourself with acquisition? Under the effort for your head, with its noble powers, is bowed lower even than the animals' who by getting give and, having done all, stand to serve humanity. But you get and give not, and the service of humanity in any form is out of your range of vision; your head is too low.

Thou fashionable woman, hiding thy nakedness behind frumpier that change with the changing day; counting thyself with a world limited by patterns and rounded out by flounces; thou art also among the ostriches. Prinking and prinking and philandering, covered with the products of creature more gentle, and with flowers more fair than yourself, you go your way as though the body were more important than the mind, neglectful of the fact that the mind adorned and the spirit sweetly and gently cultivated will last long after the skin has wrinkled and the eyes have lost their sparkle. Compared with the fabric of your mind, your body is but a basting thread. Yet behind a contemptible hillock of clothes you bow your beautiful head until you no more see the wide world of noble womanhood to which you are surely called. How selfish you are! Your father needs must deck you though his aged head calls for rest; you cry, "Give, give;" to both

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father and husband, not that you may make any return either to them or to the world. You circle around yourself, you admire yourself, you get pleasure in humbling those less gorgeous. Do you call that *living*? Can you by any stretch of your perverted mind, satisfy yourself that your powers were given you just to fulfill the function of a dress form? If that were all, bent wires with elicia covering could fill your place in the world. Silly ostrich, when the avenger reaches for you, and your place knows you no more forever, what will you leave? Clothes! whereat even the servants will flout in a little while. Upon my soul, life is not worth the effort of living, if that is all it can be made to bring forth.

Live largely! Let life's current flow Like generous flood from winter snow— Full, swift, and strong, nor lightly bent By any small impediment.

The narrow mind is like the stream, That sparkles bright in summer's gleam;

But tiny rock or fallen tree Will check its journey towards the sea.

Wherefore look wide, and learn to live On height's which true perspective give, So nothing trivial shall hide The clear horizon stretching wide.

Lift up your heads, O ye ostriches! Peep out with blinking eyes from behind your fads and your fables. Raise your heads on high where they belong and then look at life as a whole, with a due sense of proportion, impossible before when you were so near the ground. What do you learn? That no one cares for you, so long as you care only for yourself; that the love of your fellows is bought with a price, a great price whose chief pearl is your own self-forgetfulness; that the soul self-centered has no part in a civilization that is only made of things gained by brain and brawn and then thrown into the common fund of humanity.

California's Gold.

San Francisco Examiner.

Come down to the hard realities of arithmetic and the scales and California will turn out probably three times as much gold this year as the whole of the frozen Northwest. Probably no part of the world will be more the gainer than California by these discoveries. An increase in the production of gold is of little benefit to the world at large. The gold-finders create a new effective demand which is mostly supplied by producers in their immediate neighborhood. The real gain to the world by the placers of California lies in the development of the agricultural, horticultural and industrial resources of this magnificent region, which otherwise might have lain dormant for another half-century. We cannot look for any such gain to the world by turning attention to the bleak, inhospitable shores of Alaska. It is true there are great industrial possibilities in the fisheries and the coal mines, and these no doubt will feel the stimulus; but the country as a whole will never make good residence property. The Californians who go there will all come back to us to spend their money when they have made their everlasting fortunes.

Be Good to Yourself.

Selected.

The Medical and Surgical Reporter gives the following practical advice: "Think deliberately of the house you live in—your body. Make up your mind firmly not to abuse it. Eat nothing that will hurt it. Wear nothing that distorts or pains it. Do not overload it with victuals or drink or work. Give yourself regular and abundant sleep. Keep your body warmly clad. Do not take cold; guard yourself against it. If you feel the first symptoms, give yourself heroic treatment. Get into a fine glow of heat by exercise. This is the only body you will have in this world. Study deeply and diligently the structure of it, the laws that govern it, the pains and penalty that will surely follow a violation of every law of life and health."

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, LaGrippe, 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.

A TALE OF WOE.

THE FIRST GLASS.

How a Bright Young Man at Fayetteville Staggered into the Penitentiary.

North Carolina Baptist.

Last week, at the Cumberland County Criminal Court, there was a young man about 23 years of age sentenced to the Penitentiary for stealing, while drunk, a pair of gloves from the court house during the session of court. We knew the young man, knew his qualifications as a swift and skilled workman and how he had been brought down by liquor. Accordingly, we asked him to write a statement of his career and we give it below. It speaks for itself and is a warning to young men:

"I have been asked to write a few facts in regard to what whiskey and association with bad company have brought me to but I am afraid it is beyond my power to relate it in a manner which may be the means of causing young men and young girls, who are on the road to disgrace, ruin and perdition, to stop and think of the reward they will reap when they reach their destiny.

"Twelve years ago, my chances in the race of life were as bright as those of any young man. I had all that would cause any young man to feel happy and proud. I had a beautiful home, in which were the idols of my heart—father, mother, sister and brothers—and where kind words and advice were given me without limit.

"At the age of 15 years I launched out upon the sea of life. I entered an establishment in this State to learn a trade, and by being obedient, and catering to the welfare of my employer, in the course of a few years I rose to be a trusted employe of the establishment, so much so that I was allowed to make collections for the firm and was also allowed to carry the keys of my employer's private office. I continued with this firm quite a while, when one day some young men, whom I thought were the best friends I had, prevailed upon me to accompany them to a social gathering of young ladies and gentlemen, which I decided to do and when I did, I decided upon taking my first step to ruin and disgrace. I met my so-called friends at the appointed hour, and they decided that before we proceeded to where I expected to pass a few hours in pleasant conversation with some Christian people, that I join them in a few glasses of wine, which I would not do. They persuaded and insisted that it would do me no harm to drink a glass of wine, so I yielded. That was the first glass of intoxicating liquid that ever touched my lips, and that glass is the cause of my present ruin and downfall. After drinking the wine we started to the "social gathering" and on our way there we indulged in a few drinks of whiskey, the effects of which made me feel hilarious. Finally we reached the "gathering", and a gathering it was—men and women from the lowest and most degraded slums and dives of all parts of the globe—Italians, Hungarians, Swedes, Norwegians, and, last of all, I am sorry to say, Americans, all reveling in sin and debauchery. I joined the crowd and drank whiskey and wine to the toasts of liars, thieves and murderers. After the lapse of a few hours I staggered through this crowd with my head dizzy and whirling, from the effects of that demon—whiskey—to the door and upon the street, and how I reached home God only knows. Next morning I was unable to report for duty, and lied to my dear old father, whose mortal remains now lie in the cold clay in the beautiful "City of the Dead"—by telling him my employer had given me a holiday.

"I kept up this pace until I lost my position. My appetite for drink began to grow stronger and stronger until I became an outcast and was ordered to leave home. Dear friend, my heart is so full I fear I will not be able to proceed farther, and I will be compelled to cut this letter short.

"I had lost my position and social standing in life—lost money, honor, friends, and, last of all home—I roamed the country over, a tramp and vagabond, with hardly anyone to offer me a word of consolation; and for what? because I would not listen to their advice and craved for that which has brought sorrow, poverty and death into the household and blasted and blighted the hopes of many a pure and virtuous life—whiskey.

O, young men and young women, look at me to-day. What is my re-

ward for what I thought was having a "good time?" A SENTENCE TO THE STATE PENITENTIARY FOR NEARLY A YEAR FOR LARCENY. "Young men and young women, the hand of destruction has cut me down before I have reached the prime and maturity of manhood. Take this as a warning and turn your face toward the church and God. Young men, when asked to take a "social" drink or do anything else that will lead to so much dissipation and debauching sin, reply: "Boys, I will not do what I know to be wrong and dangerous." There are times—and this is one of them—when you, young man, must say, 'Thus far I will go and no farther.' Oh, I tell you if all young men and young women would only meet temptations with such brave words and unyielding resolves, even those who tempt you will admire you more. When night falls do not go in search of the sparkling glass and card tables, for there are no laurels or honor to be won at either.

"I thank every one who has helped me in this my hour of trouble, and believe me, dear friends, and I call God to be my witness, that another drop of intoxicating liquid shall never touch my lips again.

"I bid you all farewell and ere you have read this I will have begun serving my sentence."

Snakes in Her Boots.

Buffalo Commercial.

The wife of the late Professor Agassiz was one morning putting on her stockings and boots. A little scream attracted the Professor's attention. Not having risen he leaned forward anxiously on his elbow and inquired what was the matter. "Why, a little snake has just crawled out of my boot," cried she. "Only one, my dear?" interrogated the Professor, calmly lying down again. "There should have been three." He had put them there to keep them warm.

What it Means.

When we advertise that we will guarantee Dr. King's New Discovery Electric Bitters, Bucklen's Arnica Salve, or Dr. King's New Life Pills, it means that we are authorized by the proprietors to sell these remedies on a positive guarantee that if purchaser is not satisfied with results, we will refund purchase price. These medicines have been sold on this guarantee for many years and there could be no more conclusive evidence of their great merit. Ask about them and give them a trial. Sold at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug Store.



At an enormous expense, we have issued a beautiful Carpet Catalogue, lithographed in colors, which is so natural that the colored plates in this book look exactly like the carpets—every color and every flower is reproduced. Every grade is included in this catalogue (50c. to \$150) and you run no risk in buying from the mill. Drop a postal note for our catalogue and save the big profits you are paying the middleman. Our Furniture Catalogue is also free. JULIUS HINES & SON, Baltimore, Md. Please mention this paper.

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Our I's are just as strong as they were fifty years ago, when we have cause to use them. But we have less and less cause to praise ourselves, since others do the praising, and we are more than willing for you to see us through other eyes. This is how we look to S. F. Boyce, wholesale and retail druggist, Duluth, Minn., who after a quarter of a century of observation writes: "I have sold Ayer's Sarsaparilla for more than 25 years, both at wholesale and retail, and have never heard anything but words of praise from my customers; not a single complaint has ever reached me. I believe Ayer's Sarsaparilla to be the best blood purifier, that has been introduced to the general public." This, from a man who has sold thousands of dozens of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, is strong testimony. But it only echoes popular sentiment the world over, which has, "Nothing but words of praise for Ayer's Sarsaparilla."

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