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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, DECEMBER 9, 1897. NO. 51

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

There is a movement on foot to divide the State of New York when the next Legislature meets. The new State is to be called "Manhattan."

"Five cent cotton" is assigned by many a man this season as the reason for not paying his little debts; and truly in some cases, no doubt it is a good reason.

The Virginia Legislature is in session now, and the chief idea before the "Old Dominion" law makers is a reduction of the State's expenses.

Some one has suggested that a "Board of Pardons" for North Carolina would be a great relief to the Governor. At first thought it would seem a commendable idea, but the people of the State would like to know what such a "Board" would cost the public treasury.

The editor of the Wilmington Messenger and the editor of the North Carolina Baptist have had a little contention over the temperance zeal in the Methodist and Baptist denominations.

Discussing the possibilities of the cotton product in Eastern Carolina, Dr. Kingsbury, editor of the Wilmington Messenger, says:

"We know the late Thomas W. Harris, of Halifax, of blessed memory, an alumnus of the university, more than fifty years a steward on the old Roanoke circuit, the first one formed in North Carolina, and one of the wealthiest men of his county or section, went to Beaufort county after the war, and purchased a large plantation near, we think, the old town of Bath. His object was to plant cotton. He told us after experimenting that the land was positively so rich he could not make cotton profitably, it grew so enormously and so thick that the bolls could not mature. He was forced to abandon cotton and plant corn. We knew Dr. Robert Patterson of Halifax, a nephew of the late Bishop Atkinson, to average more than 100 bushels of corn on some fifteen or twenty acres, and that too in war times. So it is not impossible to make three bales to the acre provided the land like Mr. Harris' and Dr. Patterson's is not too rich for cotton. In Halifax county, as we have more than once mentioned, we know that the late Littlebury Manning made on one acre, enriched by him, three bales and exhibited them at the Weldon fair, taking a premium. So what has been done may be done again."

THE GUIDE POST. IT MUST BE STRONG "EFFORT." MAKE THE MOST OF LIFE. Some Rambling Thoughts.

BY "NEMO." (Copyrighted by Dawe & Tabor.) The strength of a muscle comes from long-continued exercise; the strength of an ideal from years of devotion to it; strength of mind from patient training; strength of character from the markings left by decades of struggle.

Would you seek the royal road to the pinnacle of your life's highest possibilities? Then move forward, watching for a guide-post with the single word "Effort!" Turn in by it and press on, though it does not lead by flowery paths through valley fields.

Some one has suggested that a "Board of Pardons" for North Carolina would be a great relief to the Governor. At first thought it would seem a commendable idea, but the people of the State would like to know what such a "Board" would cost the public treasury.

The sign-post of our duty Is pointing up the hill, Above the valley's beauty, That stretches soft and still. The upward path is dented, Where heroes' feet have trod; Yet we would lie contented Upon the flower-strewn sod.

Effort overcometh the world, for effort is faith—in one's self, and in the value of life, and in the right of the world to the best we can accomplish. Effort well-sustained and well-directed —this is the victory. But would you seek a shorter way? Then use "Longing" as your guide-post. It leads by dream paths to golden glories that vanish when you awake. It woos you with dazzled eyes out into a dreary desert and leaves you to enjoy the substance of a mirage. It weakens your manliness for action, not longing, is life. Far better to toil the path that has been proved by all the ages.

The strong are those who make the most of life as it comes to them; who spurn indolence as they would scorpions; who turn the defeats of life into more certain victories by struggling on when all seems lost; who yield to neither difficulties nor disappointments, not because they stop to argue out advantages, but because the spirit of a true man despises yielding—cannot yield! These are the ones who stand serene after great resistings, whose deeds—no matter about men's names!—are woven into every progress, and whose freely spent efforts are the secret of human triumphs. They are a goodly company, whom no perishable book shall ever fully record, but whose works live through the hands that wrought be dead.

Herein is your hope and mine, humble men of purpose. Shall we credit Luther with the Reformation? No! rather he merely voiced a feeling that was moving restlessly through the awakening European giant. Without that dumb cry for freedom of thought—a cry that was not solely a religious protest—he might well have lingered within the scholastic walls of Wittenburg. Shall we paint the signers of Ayer's Pills, being composed of the essential virtues of the best vegetable aperients, without any of the woody or fibrous material whatever, is the reason why they are so much more effective and valuable than any other cathartics. The best family physic. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

Declaration as heroes? Yes, if you will. Yet surely they came to the front because there was a public opinion back of them, and this was made up of these nameless yet conscientious elements of a country's life that are the substratum and the very substance also of all great forward movements. And—on the other hand—shall we credit Alaric with disrupting the Roman Empire? No! his strength consisted in the weakness of his enemies, who, raised to Heaven by their privileges, brought themselves down to destruction; not by the wickedness of any one man, but the general unrighteousness and consequent feebleness of the many.

Alas! the strong and the weak together make up a nation, and its continuous power is possible only by an increase of the strong and a decrease of the weak. The weak are those who do not utilize life to the full; who, loving the comfort of the hot house, perish at the sincere chidings of the north wind; who crumble like sand ramparts at the first touch of the ocean of testing that all characters must endure if they would be true; who seek for themselves the quiet niches of life, satisfied to forego the honors if only they can escape the strivings that precede honors; who, like tropic savages, are content with food secured without labor and much sleep with late awakenings; who being weak are selfish, and shut away their compassion from struggling, eager humanity whose efforts they scorn, but whose shoe-strings they are not worthy to unloose; who have the forms of men but the virulent softness of jelly-fish; who have the outer appearance of many grandeur but the attributes of internal parasites, hidden, despised, invertebrate, yet ever fed by others' labor.

CHOSE YE THIS DAY YOUR CLASS! Proper Pronunciation of "Arkansas." Richmond Dispatch.

For many years there was a contention among Arkansas's best informed citizens as to the correct pronunciation of the name of this State. Most persons pronounced it as it was spelled, while others, especially the early settlers and their descendants, pronounced the name as if spelled "Ar-kan-saw," following, as they believed, the pronunciation used by the Arkansas Indians, the aborigines of this country, from whom the territory derived its name.

From 1844 to 1848 Arkansas was represented in the United States Senate by Mr. Chester Ashley and Mr. Ambrose H. Seyler. Mr. Chester Ashley, a New Englander by birth, always pronounced the name of the State phonetically, as it is spelled—"Ar-kan-sas." Mr. Sevier, a Tennessean, the grandnephew of Colonel John Sevier, the hero of King's Mountain and the Governor of the "State of Franklin," as Tennessee was then called, always gave to the last syllable of the name of his adopted State the pronunciation of the broad "a," as if it were spelled "Ar-kan-saw." At that time Mr. Dallas was Vice-President, and he made one of the most curious presiding officers the Senate ever had. Mr. Dallas, in addressing Mr. Ashley, always said, "the Senator from Ar-kan-sas," while Mr. Sevier was always "the Senator from Ar-kan-saw."

The opinions of the Arkansas people differed on this subject, as did the opinions of the senators. Finally, to settle the dispute, the General Assembly of 1881 appointed a learned and able committee to investigate the whole subject. This committee made a critical and exhaustive examination, and, based upon the report of this committee, the General Assembly unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved by both houses of the General Assembly, That the only true pronunciation of the name of the State, in the opinion of this body, is that received by the French from the native Indians, and committed to writings in the French word representing the sound, and that it should be pronounced in three syllables, with the final 's' silent, the 'a' in each syllable with the Italian sound, and the accent on the first and last syllables, being the pronunciation formerly universally and now still most commonly used, and that the pronunciation with the accent on the second syllable, with the sound of 'a' in 'man' and the sounding of the terminal 's' is an innovation to be discouraged."—March, 1881. This closed the discussion. Every body in Arkansas now pronounces the name of the State "Ar-kan-saw."

RESCUED FROM RUIN. NOW IN RALEIGH.

Two Little Country Girls Flee From a Drunken Father.

News & Observer. Little Martha Ganey, aged 13 and her sister Ida, aged 10, arrived here night before last on the train from Goldsboro.

A kind gentleman paid their fare to Selma and two others, Pythians, so a good lady said yesterday, brought them on from Selma, and this morning early the little country girls have happily gone to work to do as best they can, the duties of a factory girl, for Mr. Stanhope Wynne has given them employment. No longer will a cross and cruel father, raging from drunken frenzy, make their lives miserable.

Some months ago these little girls left their father's home at Gully's Mill and reached this city only to be carried home to receive the harsh words of a drunken parent. Soon, however, matters grew even worse than they had previously been and the mother though it broke her heart to part with her loved children, sent them to Goldsboro with her permission to find shelter wherever they could—anything in preference to living in the home with a man fast becoming a beast.

And so it came to pass that without work the little women would be without food and they were sent here. Yesterday a News and Observer reporter called to see them at the Union House, near the Passenger depot and little Martha talked freely. She is a cute little being with bright sparkling eyes, rosy cheeks and waving sable locks, and looking at you with that frank glance and speaking in sincerest tones she tells a story of a life pitiable in the extreme. In speaking of her home life and why she left the little tot said: "Dad cut up, rared and messed so much, Mur told us if we could get us a home we might go to it, and now we've found work. I want to work, that's what I can do."

"Was your father bad to your mother?" I asked. "He never was bad to Mur," she continued, "for if he tackled her she was man enough to down him." "But I thought your mother was a trail woman?" "Oh, she don't look so good and strong, but if you'd hang on to her you'd find out. She's no puny thing and dad ain't crabbid with her, but he's right smart and crabbid with us."

Just here Officer Rogers said the time to leave had arrived and little Martha said good-bye to the kind lady who cared so tenderly for her, but Ida who was older, feared the brass buttons and shied past the big policeman. The two were finally ready to go and with a merry laugh the two began their journey through the sterner life.

Wouldn't Spank Him. Father, what does a printer live on? Live-on? The same as other folks of course, why do you ask Johnny? Because you said you hadn't paid anything for your paper and the printer still sends it to you. Wife, spank that boy. I shan't do it. Why not? Because there is no reason to. No reason? Yes there is. Spank him I tell you and put him to bed. I shan't do any such thing. What in the world do you want him spanked for? He is too smart. Well, that comes of your marrying me. What do you mean? I mean just this, that boy is smart than his father, and you cannot deny it. He knows enough to see that no man, printer or no printer, can live on nothing; and I should think you would be ashamed of yourself not to know as much.

HOW TO PREVENT PNEUMONIA. At this time of the year a cold is very easily contracted, and if let to run its course without the aid of some reliable cough medicine is liable to result in that dread disease, pneumonia. We know of no better remedy to cure a cough or cold than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. We have used it quite extensively and it has always given entire satisfaction.—Oolagah, Ind. Ter. Chief.

This is the only remedy that is known to be a certain preventive of pneumonia. Among the many thousands who have used it for colds and influenza have never yet learned of a single case having resulted in pneumonia. Persons who have weak lungs or have reason to fear an attack of pneumonia, should keep the remedy at hand. The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

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Hygienic Value of Singing. N. Y. Home Journal. When one considers how many thousands of young men and women are studying the art of singing, and how very few of them ever learn it well enough to earn their living by it, or to give anybody much pleasure, one feels inclined to look on the vast amount of time spent on vocal exercises as so many hours wasted. But there is another point of view which is not often enough emphasized. In a recent number of a German journal devoted to laryngology Dr. Barth has an article discussing with German thoroughness the utility of singing from a hygienic point of view. Every bodily organ is strengthened by exercise; singers exercise their lungs more than any other people; therefore, he says, we find that singers have the strongest and soundest lungs. The average German takes into his lungs 3,200 cubic centimeters of air at a breath, while professional singers take in 4,000 to 5,000. The tenor Gunz was able to fill his lungs at one gasp with air enough to suffice for the singing of the whole of Schumann's song, "The Rose, the Lily," and one of the old Italian sopranists was able to thrill up and down the chromatic scale two octaves in one breath. The singer not only supplies his lungs with more vitalizing oxygen than other persons do, but he subjects the muscles of his breathing apparatus for several hours a day to a course of most beneficial gymnastics. Almost all the muscles of the neck and chest are directly involved in these gymnastics. The habit of deep breathing cultivated by singers enlarges the chest capacity, and gives to singers that erect and imposing attitude, which is so desirable and so much admired. The ribs, too, are rendered more elastic, and singers not in old age suffer from the breathing difficulties to which others are so much subject. By exercising so many muscles singing furthermore improves the appetite, most vocalists being noted for their inclination to good meals. The nose of a singer is kept in a healthy condition by being imperatively and constantly needed for breathing purposes, the injurious mouth breathing so much indulged in by others being impossible in this case. That the ear, too, is cultivated, need not be added. In short, there is hardly any kind of gymnastics that exercises and benefits so many organs as singing does.

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Fifty Years Ago. President Folk in the White House chair, while in Lowell was Doctor Ayer; Both were busy for human weal. One to govern and one to heal. And, as a president's power of will sometimes depends on a liver-pill, Mr. Folk took Ayer's Pills I trow For his liver, 50 years ago.

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